



# THE LOOKOUT

Vol. 32 No.3 Summer 2010



## INNER CITY OUTINGS CELEBRATES SUMMER EVENTS

By Barbara Powell

National Trails Day on Saturday June 5 was celebrated by Washtenaw Inner City Outings (WICO) with children from Green Baxter Community Center. The plan was to hike from Gallup Park East into Parker Mill County Park. However, once the children got started they were determined to explore all the trails in the park. They found garter snakes along Fleming Creek, snails on the plants and a deer hiding in the brush. They also had lunch in view of the old mill and learned about the history of the area. The trip was led by Barbara Powell with assistance from Becky Morr, Brandon Nascimento, Cecilia Trudeau and Ralph Powell.

On Saturday June 12 WICO participated in the Michigan DNR Free Fishing Weekend at Silver Lake (Pinckney State Recreation Area) with children from Hikone Community Center. The DNR staff provided

all the fishing gear and bait. Summer intern Erica provided guidance with the fishing. It was a hot day and the children eventually joined the fish in the water for cooling. The WICO trip leader was Tom Dayss.

Huron River Day, Sunday, July 11, was perfect for WICO to plan a canoe trip with the children from Hikone Community Center, going from Argo Pond to Gallup Park. This trip was also led by Tom Dayss. WICO volunteers Joan and Jon Wolf met the canoeists at Gallup Park with a picnic lunch. After lunch there were plenty of Huron River Day activities to explore, and the monarch butterfly display was a favorite with everyone.

WICO has planned additional canoeing, fishing, and nature center trips for the remaining days of summer. New volunteers are welcome to join the activities. Please consider sharing your outdoor skills with youth who otherwise will not experience the natural world. WICO volunteers meet monthly to plan outings. Visit our website <http://ico.sierraclub.org/washtenaw> or email [washtenawico@yahoo.com](mailto:washtenawico@yahoo.com) for details.



# Mission Zero: The Oldest Net Zero House in America

By Matthew Grocoff,  
www.Greenovation.TV  
(originally posted on  
Concentrate)



My wife Kelly and I are renovating our 110-year-old home on Ann Arbor's historic Old West Side to be a restorative part of our community. By the end of this year we will, possibly with the help of a new Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program [<http://www.annarbor.com/news/opinion/michigan-must-keep-pace-on-energy-efficiency/>], add solar panels to our ultra-efficient home. Once complete, we will produce more energy than we consume and become the Oldest Net Zero House in America.

But, there is no such thing as a green home in a brown community.

Thoreau once said, "What use is a fine house if you haven't got a tolerable planet to put it on?"

We'd like our home to give back more to the Earth and our community than we take. As part of this restorative vision, Kelly and I would like our home to be a model and an inspiration for Ann Arbor.

## Mission Zero

Ann Arbor needs to make a promise to ourselves, our neighboring communities, and to generations that follow that we will eliminate any negative impact our city has on the environment by 2030. Mission Zero.

This is no easy task. But, the enormity of the task is matched only by the urgency of the circumstances. There are no cities that we can look to for examples of success in this mission. There is no blueprint.

Nevertheless, we can find inspiration in the vision of the self-proclaimed "radical industrialist" Ray Anderson, chairman and founder of Interface, Inc., the world's largest manufacturer of commercial carpets. In 1994, after reading Paul Hawken's *The Ecology of Commerce*, Ray experienced an epiphany and challenged his company to begin a journey toward zero environmental footprint.

Since Ray Anderson's bold call to action, Interface has cut net greenhouse gas emissions (in absolute tons) by an astonishing 71%. In contrast, the Kyoto Treaty, which the U.S. did not ratify, called for only a 7% reduction.

If you think there is no business case for sustainability, consider that during this transformation Interface's sales increased by two-thirds and earnings doubled. Profit margins expanded as GHG emissions and waste were reduced.

For Ann Arbor, Mission Zero will take extraordinary imagination. We are fortunate to be home to some of the most brilliant and creative minds on the planet. I have no doubt we can succeed and lead the world in this effort.

Here's what Mission Zero for Ann Arbor might be: A vibrant city which is:

- Powered by 100% renewable energy,
- Creates zero waste, and
- Creates a community that sustains our economy and is restorative to the environment.

It's a simple but vital goal. Our Take-Make-Waste economy is not viable. But, incremental bullet-pointed actions will not be enough. Every decision we make as a community must be guided by a compelling, realistic vision.

For now, Mission Zero begins at home. Your home. I hope Kelly, our little Baby Jane and I can inspire you to create your own Mission Zero.

Let the vision be your guide. Don't be overwhelmed. We're proving that it's possible.

Saving civilization is not a spectator sport. As Ray Anderson preaches: "Do something. Anything! Then do something else. And something else."

Undoubtedly, your actions will then inspire the community.

Remember that, in the end, we all share the same home.

(Visit [www.Greenovation.TV](http://www.Greenovation.TV) for free videos and tips to help bring your home closer to net-zero. You can also view Matt and Kelly's live energy consumption. Find more articles and videos by Matt Grocoff at [www.OldHouseWeb.com](http://www.OldHouseWeb.com))

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Articles are for informational purposes only. No endorsement of particular positions, groups, or activities is implied.

## Women and the Environment: Ellen Swallow Richards

By Nancy Bishop

*Greetings Everyone! I hope that this edition of The Outlook finds you happy and well. It is hard to believe that we are yet in another season! I don't know about you, but I find the warm days and beautiful sunsets invigorating after the long winter. Summer is definitely the time to enjoy longer days as well as fresh produce from local roadside stands.*

Ellen Swallow Richards was not only a courageous trailblazer in the field of ecology (she is considered one of the founding eco-feminists) but also a pioneer in the study of the importance of water purity. The great accomplishments of Mrs. Richards are truly remarkable considering how dependent our society is on modern conveniences that we take for granted, such as clean drinking water, flush toilets, and laws regulating the food industry. Mrs. Richard's achievements were also significant considering the enormous barriers she had to overcome as a woman in the late 19th and early 20th century. Born in 1842 to schoolteacher parents on a farm in Dunstable, Massachusetts, young Ellen was home-schooled, enabling her to gain a hands-on education perhaps not possible otherwise. Ellen thrived in her environment, taking in everything that nature had to offer, from exploring local streams and woods to avidly collecting and classifying all types of fossils, plants, and animals that she came in contact with. Ellen's thirst for exploration and knowledge ultimately led her to Vassar College and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she was the first woman admitted (though as a woman she was considered a "special student" for years).

While attending school Ellen faced numerous hardships. From lack of financial resources to gender-based discrimination, Ellen overcame enormous obstacles while working in the field of science. Ellen strongly believed that a scientist's work should somehow benefit humankind and be applied to alleviate suffering and sickness. Ellen also knew of

the importance of clean water. In 1911 she stated,

"Water is a national asset. Preservation of quality of water for man's uses is a public duty... The very life of the nation depends on its water supply... The time is here, already come, when the preservation of the quality and quantity of such water as remains to us is of paramount importance." (p. 50, Women Pioneers for the Environment, Mary Jo Breton, 1998)

This is of great concern for us today, considering the global fight for clean water, the fight against bottled water companies, and the current oil-spill crisis in the Gulf of Mexico. Ellen worked to educate the masses on the great importance of human health, making enormous scientific strides in demonstrating the connection between clean air, water and food, and the prevalence of sickness and death. Ellen was also a strong believer in education and spent much of her life opening doors for women to enter the field that would come to be known as ecology.

Ellen was often called a reformer, a term not taken too kindly before women won the right to vote. However, I like to think of her as a human being who strived for greatness in the face of adversity. Due to her hard work and efforts, we are able to live a longer, healthier life. She taught us what we can achieve if we believe in ourselves and our abilities. Elise Boulding, a prominent sociologist and feminist scholar who passed away last month, once said, "Women, out of their own culture, can initiate action to change their life situation and the nature of society itself." (p. 50, Breton). I believe this statement well describes the life of Ellen Swallow Richards.

## Shopping for the Earth: Now, Even Easier!

You already know all about HVG's award-winning\* "Shopping For The Earth" program (aka "SFTE"), right? You know, the program where we purchase gift cards and gift certificates at a discount from both local and national merchants and then sell these to our members at face-value as a fund-raising project? SFTE has raised umpteen hundreds of dollars towards local land preservation efforts over the years. What could be better than that?

Well, perhaps the SFTE program itself? After all, admit it: you find the program confusing. Or you just don't remember to use it. Maybe it is the order form? Or maybe it is ordering online which gives you pause? Or maybe it's the presence of our third-party vendor Great Lakes Scrip -- who are they anyway, and why are they named after our lakes?

Well, there's good news: you can just show up at one of our monthly public meetings and purchase select gift cards/certificates right there. No waiting! No forms to fill out

(OK, maybe Ed or Rita will still make you fill out a form for our records)! No planning ahead! No dangers-of-the-internet! No running to the dictionary to look up the word 'scrip'! Just show up, pick out your favorites, pay, and then go! Here is a partial list of some of the cards which we currently have in-stock for immediate delivery:

Arbor Brewing - \$25  
Border's - \$25 or \$50  
Busch's - \$5, reloadable  
Hiller's - \$50, reloadable

One thing is certain: the SFTE program will never be the same\*\*! Drop by the next HVG monthly meeting and see what we have on-hand.

\*: No, not really.

\*\* : Yes, it will: you can still order via the web or order form; see page 14 for details.

# How the Sierra Club Endorses Political Candidates

By James D'Amour,  
Chair, Huron Valley  
Group--Political  
Committee

*If you would like to discuss Sierra Club political matters, please contact Political Committee Chair James D'Amour at northernbutterfly1@hotmail.com.*

The primary mission of the Sierra Club is to protect the environment. As one part of our work to pursue this mission, all across the country the Sierra Club endorses candidates for elected office at the national, state and local levels. You may be interested in how the Club determines which candidates are endorsed.

## Endorsement Criteria

The Sierra Club's endorsement criteria are tightly aligned with our environmental mission. We make endorsement decisions based on candidates' responses to a detailed questionnaire about environmental issues, plus an evaluation of candidates' records if they have been in elected office. We focus our attention on high-priority environmental policy issues.

Consider the case of the current election cycle in Ann Arbor. We are particularly concerned with issues that include:

- Plans to convert city park land into a parking structure
- Slashing park funding so severely that this violates City Council's own resolution
- Building two parking structures that encourage commuting by car and damage the potential for a better mass transit system
- Genuine efforts to create the proposed Allen Creek Greenway for biking and walking
- Proper implementation of the Ann Arbor Parks and Greenbelt ballot proposal that voters passed in 2003

The Sierra Club also considers a broader set of environmental issues, in addition to candidates' statements about their environmental priorities and achievements.

Candidates for elected office are often embroiled in controversy and their personal conduct can be the subject of withering criticism. The Sierra Club

cannot attempt to sort out the truth about candidates' personalities based on conflicting, incomplete, and biased second-hand accounts that circulate in the media or elsewhere. Our organization's mission requires that we focus on what candidates for elected office say they will do regarding environmental issues and what they actually do while holding office. Not on speculation about their character flaws.

Sierra Club endorsements apply to particular election dates. The endorsements we announced last July were for the recent August primary only. This fall we will release a final set of endorsements for the general election in November.

## Who Decides?

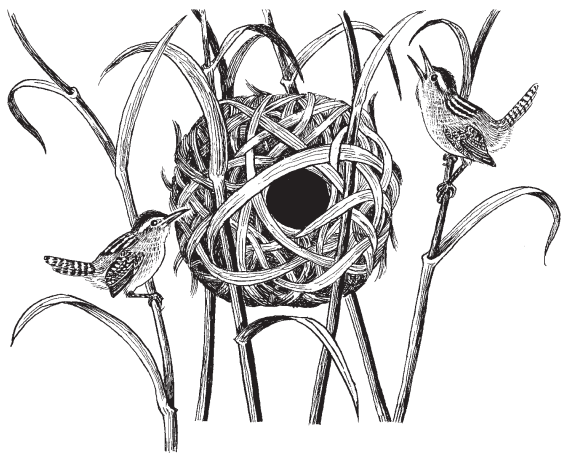
The Sierra Club endorsement process for candidates in the state of Michigan involves two committees at the local "Group" level and two at the state "Chapter" level. This year more than twenty five people evaluated candidates based on the extent to which their questionnaire responses and track records in elected office are consistent with the Sierra Club's environmental priorities. Approval at both the local and state levels is required for a candidate to gain the Sierra Club's endorsement.

## Trying Hard To Get It Right

There will always be people who are disappointed by particular Sierra Club endorsement decisions. That should come as no surprise. People with strong environmental convictions sometimes reach different conclusions about what candidates will do in office. After all, we can have different priorities, and we do not have the same information on which to base our judgments.

The Sierra Club follows a rigorous process that involves a large number of activists at multiple levels of the organization. They have diverse backgrounds and perspectives. As an environmental organization, the Club focuses on environmental issues. We try hard not to get lost in the many other factors that individuals quite rightly take into account when deciding how to cast their votes.

Still, the Sierra Club's decisions sometimes turn out to be wrong. It's not always possible to figure out what is really on the minds of politicians who are running for office. When we make mistakes, we try to hold politicians accountable for their actions in the next election cycle. But although we cannot promise to be perfect in our evaluation of candidates, we are confident in the thoroughness and objectivity of the Sierra Club endorsement process.



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# 2010 North Manitou Island Service Trip

By Betsy Foote

May 28th-31st, 2010, was the 22nd annual service trip to North Manitou Island, the largest island found within Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Since 1989, more than 21 Sierra Club service trips have been led by Denny Burr to North Manitou Island. In 2009, Denny retired from leading the trip. Thank you Denny! Projects worked on at N. Manitou under Denny's leadership include hauling the flag storage shed miles across the island for restoration at the village site, fencing and preserving the island cemetery, repairing a porch on a summer house, and much more.

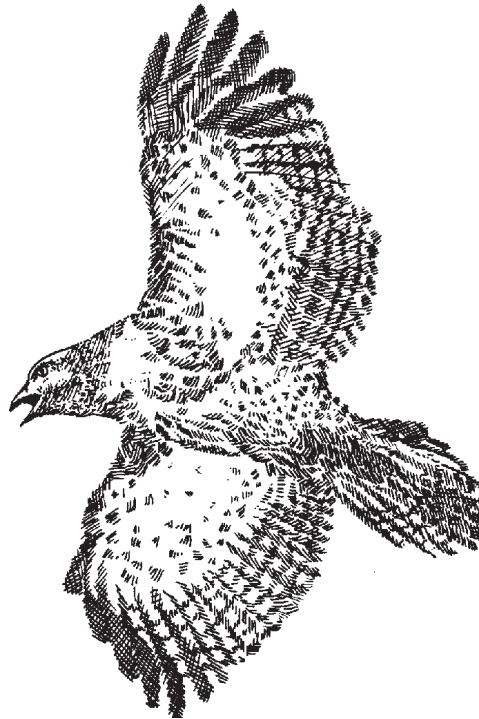
This year, eight backpackers caught the ferry Friday morning in Leland and arrived on North Manitou Island an hour and a half later. North Manitou is designated wilderness except for the village situated on the northeast shore where the original lighthouse saving station and summer homes were built. Now the ranger station, visitors' center, dock and surviving summer homes make up the village. A gun- and mace-carrying ranger with body armor oriented us to the island. After our welcome and orientation, we backpacked a little over a mile south of the village to set up our base camp. We then ate lunch and explored the miles of beach and forest.

Saturday morning we were greeted by 5 eagles in camp confronting crows who were scolding the eagles. The crows seemed to win, because the eagles took off, flying north along the beach. Saturday is our work day on the island. Under direction and encouragement by Kim Mann, Sleeping Bear's architectural historian and de facto volunteer coordinator, we cleared trail to the village campground, cut lumber to make boards for restoring the privy at Lake Manitou, painted those boards and hauled them about 4 miles to the south end of inland Lake Manitou. A delightful addition to our volunteers occurred when 4 young men that we struck up conversation with on the trail assisted the (over 50-year-old) women by taking our boards and carrying them to Lake Manitou for outhouse repair later. When we arrived at Lake Manitou, garter snakes abounded in the hollowed-out log by the lake. Fishermen fished for bass. Teenagers waded and we swam in the inviting inland lake. Saturday evening we downed spaghetti at the guest house (the converted old boat house) hosted by Kim Mann, while enjoying a calming and striking view of Lake Michigan and the Leelanau County shoreline from the boat house living room and porch.

Sunday was our day to explore the island or do more volunteer work, whichever we desired. Some of us hauled more lumber to the Lake Manitou privy and then rewarded ourselves with a swim. Others hiked to the west side of the island, enjoyed miles of empty, sandy beach, and even went swimming. Monday morning after breakfast we packed up camp and backpacked to the village to catch the ferry, returning to civilization

all too soon. We celebrated another successful trip to the island with dinner on the mainland before heading home.

There are so many joys to experience on North Manitou Island: hunting for morels, hearing bird calls and seeing birds we don't often see at home, researching and discussing the animal tracks up and down the beach sand, and returning annually to gauge the progress of growing plants. This year the false Solomon seal were gigantic and blooming, and false lily of the valley flowered and carpeted the woodland floor. Some years it is the trillium which are blooming. Fortunately, few invasive species have yet found their way to the island, so native plants can thrive. I did spot a hardy autumn olive bush in a field! Perhaps this will be next year's project - rooting out autumn olive!



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# Huron Valley Group ExCom Election

The Executive Committee (ExCom) of the Sierra Club Huron Valley Group (HVG) is responsible for the administration and operation of the group. The seven members of HVG ExCom serve two-year terms, with an annual election of either three or four members. The election is at the end of the year, but the process leading up to the election starts many months earlier. The group bylaws and standing rules describe the schedule of events for each election and require that the schedule be announced to all members.

Any group member can seek nomination to be a candidate in the annual HVG ExCom election. Members willing to serve can be nominated either through the HVG Nominating Committee or by petition signed by at least 15 group members. No member may be nominated or elected against their will.

The HVG Nominating Committee recruits and selects candidates. This committee consists of at least three HVG members, at least one of whom shall not be an ExCom member, and none may be a candidate in the upcoming election.

The HVG Election Committee is responsible for the production, mailing, receipt, and counting of ballots. It also consists of at least three group members, at least one of whom shall not be an ExCom member, and none may be a candidate in the upcoming election.

HVG members who wish to be considered for nomination before the Nominating Committee is appointed may inform the group secretary (Joel Dalton). The secretary will also assist members seeking nomination by petition. Ballots are normally counted at the conclusion of the December HVG general meeting, but the Election Committee may choose another time and place. Candidates or their representatives may observe the counting. Ballots and nomination petitions are retained until ordered destroyed by ExCom at their next regular meeting.

This schedule is defined by the group bylaws adopted April 6, 2000, and standing rules adopted October 5, 2000.

<u>Election event</u>	<u>Deadline to complete</u>
· ExCom appoints Nominating Committee	August ExCom meeting
· Nominees inform Nominating Committee of interest	September general meeting
· Nominating Committee selects nominees and informs ExCom and nominees of selection	September general meeting
· Nominees not selected by Nominating Committee deliver petitions to NomCom for consideration	2 weeks after Sept. general mtg.
· Nominating Committee declares final candidate list	October ExCom meeting
· ExCom appoints Election Committee	October ExCom meeting
· Election Committee prepares eligible voter list	15 October (or when newsletter list is prepared)
· Ballots mailed to all eligible group members	15 November (or when newsletter is mailed)
· Election committee accepts ballots	December general meeting
· Election committee counts ballots and informs secretary of results	31 December

## Award Nominees Sought

At the end of each year, the Huron Valley Group recognizes outstanding achievements and contributions by Sierra Club members and members of the community at large for their continuing efforts to help protect, preserve, and share the wonders of the natural environment.

The Recognition Committee is looking for nominees for the following awards:

### HURON VALLEY GROUP SERVICE AWARD

Recognizes individuals active in local service outings.

### KEN LANGTON ACTIVIST DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Recognizes individuals who have excelled at identifying, recruiting, and developing Huron Valley Group activists.

### CONSERVATION ACTIVIST AWARD

Recognizes individuals for new or ongoing work on conservation issues.

### CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD

Recognizes activists whose efforts have yielded a tangible conservation victory over the past year.

### CARE AND FEEDING AWARD

Recognizes those individuals whose behind-the-scenes work helps keep the Group functioning.

For ideas and suggestions for nominees, please feel to contact the Recognition Committee Chair James D'Amour at the following email address: [northernbutterfly1@hotmail.com](mailto:northernbutterfly1@hotmail.com)



# Sierra Club—Huron Valley Group Calendar

Participants in Sierra Club outings will be asked to sign a liability waiver. If you wish to read the waiver before coming to an outing please see <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/> or call 415-977-5630. When carpooling is used to facilitate logistics for an outing, participants assume the risks associated with this travel, as well. Carpooling, ridesharing and the like are strictly a private arrangement among participants. Park fees may apply. **For up to date information, visit our website at <http://www.michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/>**

**Monday August 16, 2010 - 7:00 pm - Washtenaw Inner City Outings - Monthly Business Meeting.** REI Community Use Room (970 West Eisenhower Parkway Ann Arbor, MI). Washtenaw Inner City Outings (ICO) is a Sierra Club community outreach program providing opportunities to explore, enjoy and protect the natural world for those who would not otherwise have them. ICO volunteers work with agencies such as community centers, churches and neighborhood youth groups. ICO plans outings and provides equipment and trained leaders who are enthusiastic to share their love of the natural world. Contact: [vhernan@umich.edu](mailto:vhernan@umich.edu).

**Tuesday August 17, 2010 - 7:30 pm - HVG Monthly Public Program: "Raptors in Our World: Up Close and Personal With Live Raptors".** Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 North Dixboro Road Ann Arbor, MI). Prepare to be amazed, as well as educated, when Francie Krawcke, Raptor Specialist and Camp Director at Leslie Science and Nature Center introduces us to several live raptors. Francie will explain how these birds live in a way that even non-birders can understand, while sharing tales that reveal aspects of their behavior that even bird experts may not know. The event is co-sponsored with the Washtenaw Audubon Society. Free. HVG Monthly Public Program; 3rd Tuesday of every month. Non-members welcome; refreshments provided. Contact: [doug.cowherd@michigan.sierraclub.org](mailto:doug.cowherd@michigan.sierraclub.org).

**Friday September 3, 2010 through September 12 - Isle Royale National Park Backpack trip. Isle Royale National Park (Eagle Harbor, MI).** 10-day (including traveling time) backpack adventure. This is an island without roads, where the moose and the wolves live in a natural balance with each other. Loons, with their eerie, demented laugh and distinctive checkered back, are synonymous to backpackers. It is one of Michigan's most pristine settings, with 165 miles of hiking trails. It is the only National Park completely closed down in the winter, and is Michigan's best wilderness experience, to remember forever. Contact: 734-756-5362 [ewarosz@yahoo.com](mailto:ewarosz@yahoo.com).

**Saturday September 11, 2010 - 1:00 pm - Mitchell Field Through Arboretum Hike. Mitchell Field** (Fuller Road and Cedar Bend Road Ann Arbor, MI). Join us for a moderately-paced hike about 3 miles from Mitchell Field through Gallup Park through the Arboretum and back. Meet at Mitchell Field at 1:00 p.m. Contact: 734-677-0823.

**Tuesday September 14, 2010 - 7:30 pm - HVG: Sierra Club Book Club. Nicola's Books** (Westgate Shopping Center, 2513 Jackson Ave Ann Arbor, MI). Book: **"Plenitude: The New Economics of True Wealth," by Juliet B. Schor**. The author is a sociologist and economist who argues for a reassessment of business as usual to create a more satisfying and sustainable model. Contact: Nancy Shiffler 734-971-1157.

**Sunday September 19, 2010 - 1:00 pm - Crooked Lake Hike/Swim. Waterloo Recreation Area.** Join us for our autumn hike-then-swim at Crooked Lake in the Waterloo Recreation Area with ace outdoorsman Barry Lonik. Either meet @ picnic table in front of Zingerman's Roadhouse at 1:00 pm to carpool or 1:45 pm @ the trail. From Ann Arbor take I-94 west to Kalmbach Rd. Turn right and go north one-half mile to Cavanaugh Lake Rd. Turn left and go two miles to Loveland Rd. Turn right and go north one mile to the Crooked Lake access. Turn right and go down the long road to the boat launch. Free. Non-members are welcome. Contact: 734-477-5715 or [jayhschlegel@comcast.net](mailto:jayhschlegel@comcast.net).

**Monday September 20, 2010 - 7:00 pm - Washtenaw Inner City Outings - Monthly Business Meeting.** REI Community Use Room (970 West Eisenhower Parkway Ann Arbor, MI). Washtenaw Inner City Outings (ICO) is a Sierra Club community outreach program providing opportunities to explore, enjoy and protect the natural world for those who would not otherwise have them. ICO volunteers work with agencies such as community centers, churches and neighborhood youth groups. ICO plans outings and provides equipment and trained leaders who are enthusiastic to share their love of the natural world. Contact: [vhernan@umich.edu](mailto:vhernan@umich.edu).

# Sierra Club—Huron Valley Group Calendar continued

**Tuesday September 21, 7:30 pm - HVG Monthly Public Program: "Researching and Rafting the Grand Canyon".** Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 North Dixboro Road Ann Arbor, MI). Science and outdoor recreation combined! Join two experts on their rafting experience of the Grand Canyon. Tim Clarey, Geology specialist at Delta College, and Hal Wolfe, avid outdoorsman, will show us the rock layers, and rafting, swimming, and hiking in one of our best-loved national parks. Find out about the "Great Unconformity," a 1.2 billion year gap in geological time, as well as rim to rim running. You'll hear about fun and learn fascinating facts about the Grand Canyon. Free. HVG Monthly Public Program; 3rd Tuesday of every month. Non-members welcome; refreshments provided. Contact: doug.cowherd@michigan.sierraclub.org.

**Saturday September 25, 2010 - 1:00 pm - Lillie Park Hike.** Lillie Park (Platt Road Ann Arbor, MI). Meet at Lillie Park, South Park, at 1:00 p.m. Meet at the trailhead, at the far end of the park. Hike for about 3.5 miles amongst oaks, marsh, on a limestone and woodchip path. Bring your own water and dress for the weather. Moderate pace. Contact Kathy Guerreso at 734-677-0823 for more info. (Third entrance from Ellsworth and Platt). Canceled if raining at 12:30 p.m.

**Monday September 27, 2010 - 7:00 pm - Conservation Team Meeting.** Zingerman's (422 Detroit St Ann Arbor, MI). We meet the 4th Monday of every month except August at Zingerman's Next Door. Get yourself a treat on the first floor and join us on 2nd floor for lively discussions about how we can help the environment locally and regionally. Contact: 734-668-6306 or dorothyk@umich.edu.

**Sunday October 17, 2010 - 1:00 pm - Pond Lily Color Tour.** Join us for an autumn color tour with ace outdoorsman Barry Lonik. See spectacular Fall colors from one of the best high viewing spots and hike through mature woods. Either meet @ picnic table in front of Zingerman's Roadhouse at 1:00 pm to carpool or 1:45 pm @ the trail. From Ann Arbor take I-94 west to Clear Lake Rd. Turn right and go north two miles to Green Rd. Turn right and go east one-half mile to the trailhead. Free. Non-members welcome. Contact: 734-477-5715 or jayhschlegel@comcast.net.

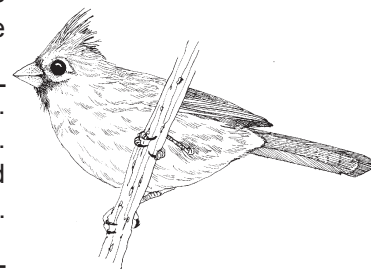
**Monday October 18, 2010 - 7:00 pm - Washtenaw Inner City Outings - Monthly Business Meeting.** REI Community Use Room (970 West Eisenhower Parkway Ann Arbor, MI). Washtenaw Inner City Outings (ICO) is a Sierra Club community outreach program providing opportunities to explore, enjoy and protect the natural world for those who would not otherwise have them. ICO volunteers work with agencies such as community centers, churches and neighborhood youth groups. ICO plans outings and provides equipment and trained leaders who are enthusiastic to share their love of the natural world. Contact: vhernan@umich.edu.

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**Tuesday November 16, 2010 - 7:30 pm - HVG Monthly Public Program: "Topic: TBA".** Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 North Dixboro Road Ann Arbor, MI). Check website for more details. Free. HVG Monthly Public Program; 3rd Tuesday of every month. Non-members welcome; refreshments provided. Contact: doug.cowherd@michigan.sierraclub.org.





# Sierra Club—Huron Valley Group Calendar continued

**Sunday November 21, 2010 - 1:00 pm - Cedar Lake Esker Hike. Waterloo Recreation Area.** Join us for our annual autumn Cedar Lake Esker hike in the Waterloo Recreation Area with ace outdoorsman Barry Lonik. Hike the tallest esker in our area with stunning views of three lakes, and around the Eddy Discovery Center. This four mile hike is on trails off-limits to hunting. Either meet @ picnic table in front of Zingerman's Roadhouse at 1:00 pm to carpool or 1:45 pm @ the trail. From Ann Arbor take I-94 west to the Pierce Rd. exit, go north one mile to Cavanaugh Lake Rd., turn left and head west one mile to the Cedar Lake access. Turn right, follow the sign for Cedar Lake and park at the trailhead or near the lake. Free. Non-members welcome. Contact: 734-477-5715 or jayhschlegel@comcast.net.

**Monday November 22, 2010 - 7:00 pm - Conservation Team Meeting. Zingerman's (422 Detroit St Ann Arbor, MI).** We meet the 4th Monday of every month except August at Zingerman's Next Door. Get yourself a treat on the first floor and join us on the 2nd floor for lively discussions about how we can help the environment locally and regionally. Contact: 734-668-6306 or dorothyk@umich.edu.

**Sunday December 19, 2010 - 1:00 pm - Cassidy Road Bog Hike-or-Ski. Waterloo Recreation Area.** Join us for a Solstice sojourn in the Waterloo Recreation Area with ace outdoorsman Barry Lonik. Identify six native Michigan conifers on this 2.5 mile hike past a bog and through mature woods. We'll hike and/or ski, depending upon trail conditions. Either meet @ picnic table in front of Zingerman's Roadhouse at 1:00 pm to carpool or 1:45 pm @ the trail. From Ann Arbor take I-94 west to M-52. Go north through Chelsea and turn left on Waterloo Rd. Go west just over a mile and turn right onto Cassidy Rd. Follow Cassidy 1.5 miles to the trailhead. Free. Non-members welcome. Contact: 734-477-5715 or jayhschlegel@comcast.net.

**Monday December 20, 2010 - 7:00 pm - Washtenaw Inner City Outings - Monthly Business Meeting.** REI Community Use Room (970 West Eisenhower Parkway Ann Arbor, MI). Washtenaw Inner City Outings (ICO) is a Sierra Club community outreach program providing opportunities to explore, enjoy and protect the natural world for those who would not otherwise have them. ICO volunteers work with agencies such as community centers, churches and neighborhood youth groups. ICO plans outings and provides equipment and trained leaders who are enthusiastic to share their love of the natural world. Contact: vherman@umich.edu.

**Tuesday December 21, 2010 - 7:30 pm - HVG Monthly Public Program: "Topic: TBA".** Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 North Dixboro Road Ann Arbor, MI). Check website for more details. Free. HVG Monthly Public Program; 3rd Tuesday of every month. Non-members welcome; refreshments provided. Contact: doug.cowherd@michigan.sierraclub.org.



## CLEAN CAR UPDATE

Here is the running total of the economic and environmental consequences of my choice to purchase and drive a Honda Civic GX fueled by natural gas.

**Period covered: 18 October 2000 (purchase date) to 15 July 2010**

Distance driven: 132,869 miles  
 Fuel purchased: 4,088 gallons gasoline equivalent (GGE)  
 Fuel economy: 32.5 miles/GGE  
 Fuel cost of CNG used: \$5,529  
 Average fuel cost: \$1.353 per GGE  
 Cost economy: 24.0 miles per dollar  
 Savings over gasoline: \$3,032 (\$1,092 over payback amount)  
 Payback mileage\*: 86,905  
 Payback date\*: 15 April 2006

\* Payback of \$4,500 purchase premium for natural gas fuel option reduced by \$2,000 Clean Cities cash rebate and \$2,000 federal income deduction at 28% marginal tax rate in effect at time of purchase.

**Estimated exhaust emissions of different passenger vehicles driven 132,869 miles**

Pounds of:	Average car on road in 2000	CA LEV**	Civic GX
Hydrocarbons	819	22.0	0.88
Carbon monoxide	6,117	995.1	46.8
Oxides of nitrogen	407	58.5	5.85
Total (pounds)	7,343	1,075.6	53.33

\*\* Standard for 'Low Emission Vehicle' passenger car required by California starting in 2001

# "Can I Help HVG?" Yes YOU Can!

The local Huron Valley Group needs YOUR help. We are a completely volunteer-run organization. There are no paid staff working on HVG's behalf. Here are several ways that you can help out HVG in the coming weeks/months (or years, but why wait that long)...

- Lobby Day (Go to Lansing, meet yer makers--lawmakers, that is.)
- Conservation Team (Wanna protect something? Talk to these folks)
- Political Team (Help elect good environmentalists--makes lobbying a lot easier)
- Outings Leader (Wanna hike? Let's go! Where can you take us?)
- Executive Committee, "ExCom" (Help decide what we do and why.)
- Monthly Public Meeting (Got any ideas for presentations? refreshments?)
- Event Outreach (Info booth at Art Fair, Huron River Day, etc.)
- Washtenaw Inner City Outings, "WICO" (Help get kids outdoors!)
- Fundraising--Coffee/tea (sales, marketing, ordering, keeping records)--Shopping for the Earth, "SFTE" (sales, marketing, ordering)--Calendars (sales, marketing, ordering--notice any trends?)
- HVG Newsletter, "The Lookout" --Advertising--Final proofreading--Write an article--share your photos/graphics
- Fold-n-Tab (Can you fold a piece of paper or stick on a label? Then you can help!)

If you would like to help, or maybe just find out more, contact the appropriate person listed in the HVG directory on page 15 or come to a meeting or outing and let us know what interests you.

# Conservation Corner

## May and June Activities:

In June, while BP continued to spill countless gallons of crude oil into the Gulf of Mexico, some of our group joined folks from the Monroe area at a "Hands Across the Sands" event – a joint effort of Clean Water Action and the Sierra Club. Statewide, over two hundred people gathered at beaches all around Michigan and joined hands to protest drilling in the Great Lakes.

In late May the Sierra Club "Beyond Coal" organizer, Tiffany Hartung, arranged a demonstration outside the CMS Energy headquarters in Jackson, MI, to protest CMS's proposed new coal plant in Holland, MI. About a week after the demonstration, we heard that CMS had put the proposed coal plant on hold primarily because the Public Service Commission felt that the need was not there. Governor Granholm is due praise for insisting that new energy plants must meet projected needs.

While the rally took place outside headquarters, inside a stockholder meeting was held. At this meeting a stockholder resolution was voted on requiring the company to increase its output of green energy to a certain level. According to reports, the resolution, which had been introduced in previous years, this time captured a significant increase in stockholder support; it was felt by observers that the level of support was such that the company would be wise to pay attention.

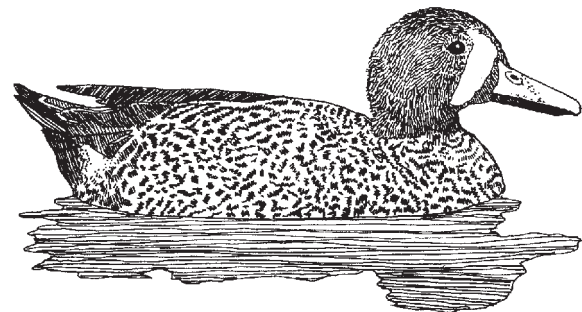
## Coming Up:

It's coming 'round again -- Saturday, September 11th will be the 3rd annual HomeGrown Local Food Festival at the Ann Arbor Farmer's Market. This year the event will run from 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Help support local agriculture and sample some fine eatin' – culinary creations by local chefs made with 50% or more local ingredients. Admission is free and the food and ambience are wonderful.

The upcoming November 2nd ballot will in all likelihood include a millage renewal for Washtenaw County's Natural Area Preservation Program (NAPP). Moneys from this millage go to the upkeep and preservation of the county's currently designated natural areas -- 17 unique treasures that provide us with a bit of a wilderness experience in our own backyard. In addition, the millage provides for acquiring additional unspoiled properties for preservation and for the support of a small staff including Washtenaw's

terrific naturalist and hands-on educator, Faye Stoner. The HVG Conservation Team is currently engaged in discussions with county commissioner Conan Smith about how we can support the effort to get the millage passed in November. If you have time and/or money, and an interest in helping keep this excellent program alive for the next 10 years, contact Dorothy Nordness at 734-668-6306 and leave a your contact information; please mention the Natural Areas millage in your message. You will be added to a list of people willing to help with the campaign.

By Dorothy Nordness



# DEAL, NO DEAL? FULLER PARK TO BE SITE OF HUGE GARAGE



By Rita Mitchell & Gwen Nystuen

**For more information:**  
<http://a2fits.weebly.com/>

Also see several articles on Fuller Station on the Ann Arbor Chronicle web site that covers local meetings of County and City, the AATA, DDA, PAC, and more.  
<http://annarborchronicle.com/2010/08/02/site-plan-filed-for-fuller-road-station/>

## What is the Fuller Road Station Project?

It is a proposed 1000 space five-level parking structure to be built on three acres of Fuller Park, constructed to last 75 years. Designed to support the future addition of 3 more levels for a total of 1600 spaces and 8 stories. The majority of parking spaces, 78%, will be reserved for multiple shifts of University of Michigan staff.

## How does a parking garage meet the goal of reducing automobile use in the city?

It doesn't. In fact, it would increase automobile use by supporting single vehicle travel. Hundreds of additional cars and buses will contribute to increased vehicle congestion in the area. The city's traffic analysis projects 500 bus trips daily.

## Why has the Huron Valley Group opposed FRS?

The Huron Valley Group supports parks and alternate transportation. Opposition to the FRS is based

on the public's understanding that the city's park land would never be sold without a vote of its citizens.

In 2008, over 80% of Ann Arbor citizens voted to implement a city charter amendment that requires a vote on whether any park land can be sold.

The FRS is being developed under a lease or use agreement with the University, an approach that circumvents the required ballot initiative. The use agreement prevents citizens from making the decision on whether to sell park land. The approach being used very clearly violates the spirit if not the fine print legal definition of the city's charter. It is a breach of trust by the city with its citizens to protect and maintain its parks and open space for present and future generations. The precedent set would mean that no parks are protected from changing their use for recreation or natural open space.

At this point, Ann Arbor City Council has authorized and spent well over half a million dollars for consultants to develop the "concept" of an intermodal train station built on dedicated city park land. The decision to proceed with the project and to use our park land for a parking structure was made without a single public hearing.

## How did this plan develop?

The University initially planned to build two large parking structures in the Wall Street area, near Kellogg Eye Center. In response to citizen complaints, the city suggested that a structure could be built on the Fuller Road parking lot. The University went along with the proposal, and deferred, at least for a time, construction of parking structures in the Wall Street area.

See: [AnnArborChronicle.com](http://AnnArborChronicle.com), Site Plan Filed for Fuller Road Station, August 2, 2010

<http://annarborchronicle.com/2010/08/02/site-plan-filed-for-fuller-road-station/>

## But Isn't This Site Just A Surface Parking Lot?

The area along the Huron River has been park land for years. It was acquired as part of the purchase from Detroit Edison in 1963. Over 945 acres above and below the water level of the Huron River from Barton Pond, to the Argo, Geddes and Superior Dams were purchased because the city wanted the land along the river for parks and open space as well as to protect the water resources and to provide floodwater protection. The vision was for the above water land along the Huron River to serve as a core public park.

The specific area targeted to support a parking structure was green open space, once part of the Huron Municipal Golf Course. The existing parking lot on the site was intended to be temporary.

In 1993, the Veteran's Administration expanded

its hospital and added a parking structure to the east of the main buildings. The location of the VA's new parking structure required moving the old north-south road, Oakway. The University owned land east of Oakway and granted it to the VA. A new road was planned to be adjacent to the new VA buildings.

Environmental review prior to building the new bypass road identified a grove of very large and old Bur and White Oak trees in the proposed right-of-way. Local environmentalists, including many Sierrans, campaigned to save the grove by locating the road farther to the east on University property. This was very controversial and eventually the University agreed to the realignment, provided the city provide temporary parking on the south side of Fuller Park while the UM was constructing and expanding the medical campus. In September 1993 the city signed a 15-year lease for the UM to build a 250 space surface lot and to pay the city \$25,000 a year for its use M-F until 4 pm leaving it available evenings and weekends for park users. That lease expired in 2008 and a similar lease for 2 years ends August 2010.

On Fuller Road, after you pass the Veteran's Administration building going east, Fuller takes a long sweeping curve south toward the river and Huron High School. The long sweeping curve passes around the magnificent grove of very old and very tall oaks that were spared in 1993. The Sierra Club was one of the leading groups that worked to retain the oak trees.

### **Isn't this a commuter train project?**

NO. "Phase I" is a parking structure only, estimated to cost \$46 million. The city agreed to provide the site and to pay 22% of the construction cost, and all of the infrastructure costs to support the building and operations, with the UM to pay 78% of the construction costs. The source of the city's \$11 million share is not clear.

The qualification of "intermodal" rests on 5 bus bays in the lower level and some bike areas. In reality it is a parking garage!

### **Is a parking structure on Fuller Road in the city master plans?**

NO. The PROS (Parks, Recreation and Open Space) plan addresses park land, and while parking is allowed on park land, it is intended to support recreational parking needs. No park requires over 1000 parking spots. The city's consolidated master plans and the Natural Features Master Plan, which calls for open space and recreational lands, do not include parking structures in parks. Land in the Huron River valley has been the highest priority park land for years.

### **Waiting for the train...when will we see it?**

Not in Phase I. There is a footprint on the site plan showing a driveway and drop-off area at the west end of the parking structure and to the west of that at the narrow end a space labeled for a future train station. There are no funds, no drawings, no agreement with the rail systems, and no upgrades to rail tracks that would support a new station.

### **What about the Border-to-Border Trail?**

The county Border-to-Border Trail is in master plans

for this area. The plan to implement a non-motorized trail in a narrow location of heavy motor vehicle traffic is inadequately addressed in the FRS plans.

### **Has there been consideration of pollution from the heavier traffic?**

Not that we have heard of. Additional cars and buses will certainly add to air pollution. In addition, plans lack adequate assessment of the long term inclusion of impermeable surfaces in the Huron River valley. The requirements for environmental assessment are not clear.

### **How much would the whole project cost?**

This question was asked at a presentation in July that focused on the cosmetic aspects of the parking structure design. The answer was an estimate of \$75 million in addition to Phase I. That would bring the grand total to \$120 million.

### **If the commuter train is started, will it be high speed?**

That is an easy one: NO. High speed rail requires specially built and maintained tracks that are non-existent in the United States. Construction of high speed rail is not on any drawing board for this project.

SEMCOG and MDOT are heading the Ann Arbor-Detroit Commuter Rail project that is a 3-year demonstration project funded by local sources and using existing facilities, designed to show sufficient ridership to qualify to apply for the federal funds. Currently ridership is not sufficient to apply. The plan to start a 4 round-trip per day service with stops at Detroit, Dearborn, near the airport, Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor in October of this year is on hold. There are two stations needed, four sidings, equipment, operating funds and agreements without funding. It is questionable whether an adequate number of riders are available to support commuter rail, and even then public subsidies are projected to be \$8 million per year.

### **What can you do?**

Write or telephone your city council members and the mayor. Tell them that you oppose a parking structure in park land. Tell them to work with the University to support alternatives to our car-dependence that we want to keep our air and water clean, and to retain our open space. Talk with your friends, and encourage them to speak out in support of parks, too. The park nearest you is equally at risk as this park land in Fuller Park along the Huron River. Once built upon, open space can not be returned. We oppose the FRS in order to protect this part of Fuller Park, and to prevent setting a precedent that "park land" may be taken by changing the use without a consenting vote from the people.

We have a wonderful, creative community. We should work together to use our common resources to reduce dependence on single occupancy oil-dependent vehicles, rather than build parking facilities that will continue to encourage their use.



## You can help the earth at no cost to you — through your regular shopping!

- Over the past decade, the Sierra Club Huron Valley Group's **Shopping for the Earth** program has helped generate \$110 million to preserve natural areas and farmland.
- You can help us do more by buying **Shopping for the Earth** cards for the stores where you already shop.
- For every \$20 of cards you buy, you get the full \$20 in store credit—and earn from \$0.80 to as much as \$3, depending on the merchant, for the local Sierra Club.

"We donated \$140 last year to prevent sprawl and protect wildlife. It was easy, and it didn't cost us anything extra."  
-Gwen Nystuen

"A bonus for nature for every grocery purchase I make- even chocolate!"  
-Rita Mitchell

### Two ways to order cards:

1. **Mail-In Order Form** for local stores -- see below.
2. **Online ordering** for national stores and some local stores including Amazon, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Land's End, Sears, and hundreds more - department stores, restaurants, hotels, and more.  
Visit <http://michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/glscrip.htm> to learn more & get started!

### Great for:

- ✓ Regular purchases like grocery shopping
- ✓ Giving as gifts
- ✓ Planned purchases like appliances
- ✓ Making online purchases



### Mail-in Order Form

Please fill out the number of cards you'd like for each store below (maximum \$500 total per order).  
Your total order: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ann Arbor People's Food Co-op **	_____ cards @ \$25 each	_____ cards @ \$50 each
Arbor Brewing Company **	_____ cards @ \$25 each	
Arbor Farms *	_____ cards @ \$20 each	
Borders Books & Music **	_____ cards @ \$25 each	_____ cards @ \$50 each
Busch's *	_____ cards @ \$5 each	
Hiller's Markets *	_____ cards @ \$50 each	
Kroger *	Obtain card at Kroger's and register it at <a href="http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com">www.krogercommunityrewards.com</a> so that the Sierra Club receives a donation from your reloads.. see <a href="http://michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/kroger.htm">http://michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/kroger.htm</a> for instructions	
Produce Station **	_____ cards @ \$25 each	_____ cards @ \$50 each
Whole Foods **	_____ cards @ \$50 each	_____ cards @ \$100 each
Meijer	A rebate program - please see: <a href="http://michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/docs/SFTE_Meijer.pdf">http://michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/docs/SFTE_Meijer.pdf</a>	

\* Reloadable cards! The Sierra Club receives a contribution each time you reload, so only one card is needed per person.  
\*\* Not reloadable—consider ordering several!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me local Sierra Club email updates

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me the local Sierra Club newsletter

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Your information will not be shared with any group.

Mail with your check payable to "Sierra Club - Huron Valley Group" to:  
Ed Steinman (esteinma@umich.edu)  
621 5th St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103



**Huron  
Valley  
Group  
Directory**

[www.michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/](http://www.michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/)

- Chair  
Doug Cowherd\* 662-5205
- Vice-chair  
Nancy Shiffler\* 971-1157
- Treasurer  
Ken Morley 677-7791
- Secretary  
Joel Dalton\* 945-8132
- Chapter Representative  
Nancy Shiffler\* 971-1157
- Conservation Chair  
Dorothy Nordness 668-6306
- Inner City Outings Chair  
Outings Chair  
Kathy Guerreso 677-0823
- Inner City Outings Liaison  
Membership Chair  
Ed Steinman\*\* 665-0248
- Political Chair  
James D'Amour\*
- Publicity  
Joel Dalton\* 945-8132
- Program Co-Chairs  
Doug Cowherd\* 662-5205  
Rita Mitchell 665-0248
- Shopping for the Earth  
Ed Steinman\*\* 665-0248
- Fund Raising Chair  
Jay Schlegel\* 477-5715
- Website  
Ed Steinman\* 665-0248
- Newsletter Team  
Jay Schlegel\*, Editor 477-5715  
Mary Roth  
Kim Waldo 971-1941  
Gwen Nystuen 665-7632  
Ed Steinman\* 665-0248

Executive Committee

Ron Sell\*

\* = HVG Excom Member

**How to Get HVG reminders via email!**

At each HVG general meeting, there is an email sign up list. For those who missed it, or haven't joined us at a meeting, here's how you can get our general meeting reminders.

If you would like to receive email notices of each month's Huron Valley Group general meeting and occasional notices about other local Sierra Club activities send an email to Doug Cowherd at [dmcowherd3@comcast.net](mailto:dmcowherd3@comcast.net) with your name and "HVG email list" in the body of the message.

**Are You A New Member?**

Welcome to the Huron Valley Group of the Sierra Club. When you join the Sierra Club you are automatically a member of a local group, as well as a state chapter and the national organization. Membership entitles you to this newsletter as well as all editions of the state and national member publications. Check this page for our Directory with contacts on conservation, outings, political action, and the Inner City Outings program. Check the calendar in the middle of this issue for announcements of Monthly Public Program topics and our calendar of activities. We will be glad to see you at our next meeting or answer any questions if you care to call. Please take advantage of your membership as an opportunity to enjoy, preserve and protect our natural environment!



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



**With your help,  
we can clean up our water.**

Over the last 30 years, we've made great progress cleaning up our water. But the Bush Administration is threatening that progress, proposing that "isolated" small streams, ponds and wetlands no longer be covered under the Clean Water Act. Work with us to strengthen the Clean Water Act and its enforcement. Together we can leave our children a legacy of clean water, air and wild lands.

**Keep our water safe. Join Sierra Club.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!**



Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club.  
Please charge my:  Visa  Mastercard  AMEX  
Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
<b>Special Offer</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

Contributions, gifts and dues to Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

or visit our website [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org) F94Q W 2103 1



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## Summer 2010

### Inside:

- Inner City Outings Summer Events - page 1
- The Oldest Net Zero House - page 2
- Calendar of Events - pages 7-9
- Deal, No Deal? in Fuller Park - pages 12-13



*DID YOU KNOW... that this newsletter is ENTIRELY volunteer-written, volunteer-edited, and volunteer-assembled? The Huron Valley Group could really use your help on future issues of "The Lookout" with any of the following tasks:*

- *ad wrangler*
- *article writer*
- *photography/graphics*
- *proofreading*
- *folding/assembling/mail-preparation*

*And, no, you do not have to do something "every issue" (unless you want to!); just help out as you can. If you are interested in helping us out, or if you have any questions, please contact us at [hvgnews@yahoo.com](mailto:hvgnews@yahoo.com)*