



CLIMATE SKEPTICS

Don't ignore climate skeptics – talk to them differently

By Andrew Hoffman

The American debate over climate change turns on two main themes. One is the science of the problem; the other is government measures to fix it. Many believe these themes cover the entire debate. They're wrong.

Far more than science is at play on climate change. At its root is a debate over culture, values, ideology, and worldviews. One of the strongest predictors of an American's beliefs about global warming is political party affiliation. According to a 2009 Pew survey, 75 percent of Democrats believe there is solid evidence of global warming compared with only 35 percent of Republicans.

Climate change has been enmeshed in the culture wars where beliefs in science often align with beliefs on abortion, gun control, health care, evolution, or other issues that fall along the contemporary political divide. This was not the case in the 1990s and is not the case in Europe. This is a distinctly American phenomenon.

Based on some of my recent work on the cultural and ideological issues of the climate debate, I analyzed the ways that climate skeptics frame the issue both at a major conference and in US newspaper editorials from 2007 to 2009. What emerged was a set of cultural themes that reflect the deeper ideological undercurrents of this debate.

For skeptics, climate change is inextricably tied to a belief that climate science and policy are a covert way for liberal environmentalists and the government to diminish citizens' personal freedom.

A second prominent theme is a strong faith in the free market, an overriding fear that climate legislation will hinder economic progress, and a suspicion that green jobs and renewable energy are ploys to engineer the market.

The most intriguing theme is strong distrust of the scientific peer-review process and of scientists themselves: "Peer review" turns into "pal review," and establishment scientist-editors

More scientific data won't convince doubters of climate change. But reframing the debate as one about values could make a difference.

only publish work by those whose scientific research findings agree with their own. Scientists themselves are seen as intellectual elites, studying issues that are beyond the reach of the ordinary person's scrutiny. This should not come as a surprise, although it seems to have mystified many climate scientists.

Time to form the debate in a new way

It is time to see the form of the debate in a different way. While anthropogenic climate change is reaching a certain scientific consensus, it has not yet achieved a social consensus – one that emerges from accepted values and beliefs. Scientists do not have the definitive word in this cultural realm. The relevant constituencies go far beyond scientific experts and extend to broader members of society. And the way that these audiences understand and assess the science of climate change goes far beyond its technical merits.

Climate skeptics who ask critical questions for whatever reasons (as differentiated from disbelievers who engage in a close-minded campaign to debunk the science) should not be ignored or dismissed. In a representative democracy, diverse world views and constituencies must be heard and engaged.

To do otherwise risks burying climate change in a "logic schism," an intractable and stalemated debate in which the two sides are talking about

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Dr. Hoffman presented his recent findings at the January, 2013 monthly public meeting of the Huron Valley Group.

Climate Change continued from page 1

different issues (such as life and choice in the abortion debate). They then seek only information that confirms their opinion and discounts those of others.

Instead, the discourse of the debate has to also be framed in ideological terms. Studies show that providing more contrary scientific evidence to people disinclined to believe the science could actually make them more resolute in resisting conclusions at variance with their cultural beliefs.

Move away from positions toward values

Andrew Hoffman is the Holcim (US) professor of sustainable enterprise at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business and its School of Natural Resources & Environment.

So, the focus of the discussion must move away from positions (climate change is or is not happening) and toward the underlying interests and values at play. It must engage at the deeper ideological levels where resistance is taking place, using new ways to frame the argument to bridge both sides.

For example, when US Energy Secretary Steven Chu refers to advances in renewable-energy technology in China as America's "Sputnik moment," he is framing climate change as a common threat to economic competitiveness. When Pope Benedict links the threat of climate change with threats to life and dignity, he is painting it as an issue of religious morality.

When the Military Advisory Board, a group of retired military officers, refers to climate change as a "threat multiplier," it is using a national-security frame.

And when the Pew Center refers to climate change as an issue of risk management, it is promoting climate insurance just as homeowners buy fire insurance. This is the way to engage the debate; not hammering skeptics with more data and expressing dismay that they don't get it.

"Climate brokers" can also help bridge the divide. People are more likely to feel open to consider evidence when it is accepted or, ideally, presented by a knowledgeable member of their cultural community. Given that a majority of Republicans do not believe there is solid evidence of global warming, the most effective broker would best come from the political right. At present, no one is readily playing this role.

Make academic science accessible

Finally, the debate must include a way to educate an American public that is relatively uninformed about the scientific process. For example, many people do not understand the nature of uncertainty, probabilities, and the standards of scientific proof.

Scientists will never be able to say with complete certainty that anthropogenic climate change is happening without a controlled experiment, one that requires another planet Earth. When it comes to understanding something as complex as the global climate, they will have to rely on the preponderance of evidence suggesting a prudent course.

Unfortunately, few academic scholars seem to possess the skills or inclination to play the role of educator to the general public. And given the level of vitriol, who can blame them? I and many of my colleagues are regular recipients of climate-skeptic hate mail and a few of us have even received death threats.

Despite such intimidation, we need another Carl Sagan, someone who can take complex scientific ideas and make them understandable to a lay audience. Unfortunately, whenever I mention this to my colleagues, the reply is derision: Sagan was a hack, a popularizer, and a lightweight. I see this as part of the arrogance of the academic community that has contributed to the mess we are in now.

As the prevailing logic goes, scientists develop data, models, and conclusions and expect acceptance because their interests should not be questioned. But science is never socially or politically inert, and scientists have a duty to both recognize its impact on society and communicate that impact to those who must live with the consequences.

For more on this topic, please see Dr. Hoffman's recent article: http://www.ssireview.org/articles/entry/climate_science_as_culture_war



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Ginny Maturen



*Nancy Shiffler
Chair*



Jay Schlegel

**The
Huron Valley
Group ExCom
for 2013**



Ed Steinman



*James D'Amour,
Vice-Chair*



Joel Dalton



Robert Gordon

At our December 2012 meeting Ed, James, Joel, and Robert were elected to serve on the ExCom in 2013 and 2014 - two-year terms. Nancy, Ginny and Jay were elected in 2011 and are serving the second year of their terms. For the organization and conservation, publicity, program, membership, ICO, and other committees see page 15.

Farewell to Winter With Washtenaw ICO



By
Barbara Powell

Washtenaw Inner City Outings (WICO) had great plans to try sledding at Kensington Metro Park on Saturday, February 16, but the weather did not cooperate with sufficient snow. However, that was not a problem because the park has many other winter activities. WICO leaders Joan Wolf, Cecilia Trudeau and Barbara Powell organized the outing for five children ages 5 to 11 plus a mother, grandmother and two staff members from the Bryant Community Center.

The nature center was the first stop for our group. A park naturalist showed us a live garter snake and a box turtle which are kept on display for the public. We learned that neither of them can



be released to the wild because they have been kept in captivity too long. Next we went out on a nature trail and encountered chickadees which took a few sunflower seeds from our out-stretched hands. Cardinal, titmouse, nuthatch and downy woodpecker were some of the other bird species observed nearby.

We learned that we should not feed the other wild animals in the park or throw the sunflower seeds on the ground. We also learned that Mother Nature may not always provide us with what we are hoping for on any particular day (in this case snow for sledding), but she will provide us with unexpected surprises if we keep our eyes and ears and minds open to possibilities.

After a healthy tailgate snack in the parking lot, we drove to the park farm. There were newly born farm animals to pet including piglets and lambs. The park farmer was shooing the chickens inside for the evening during our visit and she held a hen so the children could pet the bird's soft feathers. The park visit offered a good opportunity to demonstrate the differences between wild and domesticated animals.



WICO has recently been awarded a small grant by the national Sierra Club office for future outing expenses, but WICO needs additional volunteers and leaders.

Please consider sharing your interest in the out of doors with WICO. Contact joanwolf@umich.edu for more information.



Opposite page:
Feeding the birds
Below: Holding a turtle

Top: Petting the chicken

Below: Ohhh!
I can almost touch those two woolly little lambs.

Clean Car Chronicles - One Road Ends

This is the final report on my Honda Civic natural gas 'clean car'. I sold it in December 2012 after driving it for over 12 years and 154,000 miles. My new 'clean car' is a Ford C-Max Energi plug-in hybrid, but that's a story for the next issue.

By
Alan Richardson

My goal when I bought the natural gas Civic was to minimize my environmental impact of driving. I think I achieved that, as you can see from the final scorecard. The tailpipe emissions (measured by the EPA) for my car are about 5% of the cleanest gasoline car I could buy in 2000 and about 1% of the average car on the road in 2000.

There were significant economic benefits as well. Compressed natural gas is cheaper than gasoline so I saved thousands of dollars in fuel costs. The added purchase cost of the natural gas fuel system was more than offset by government rebates and the cheaper fuel. The rebates have changed since 2000, but they are still significant and can be expected to give a similar payback time as I attained.

Alan has reported every few months on the difference a low emission fuel car can make in reducing pollution and in cost efficiency. He has maintained a meticulous record for twelve years! Thank you Alan for sharing the information with the Sierra Club. .

Scorecard by Alan Richardson

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 18 December 2012

Distance driven:	154,672 miles
Fuel purchased:	4787 gallons gasoline equivalent (GGE)
Fuel economy	32.3 miles/GGE
Fuel cost of CNG used	\$7078
Average fuel cost:	\$1.479 per GGE
Cost economy:	21.9 miles per dollar
Savings over gasoline	\$3886 (\$1946 over payback amount)
Payback mileage*:	86,905
Payback date*:	15 April 2006

* Payback of \$4500 purchase premium for natural gas fuel option reduced by \$2000 lean Cities cash rebate and \$2000 federal income deduction at 28% marginal tax rate in effect at time of purchase.

Estimated exhaust emissions of different passenger vehicles driven 147,655

	<u>miles on road in 2000**</u>		
(pounds)	Average car	CA LEV***	Civic GX****
25.6	1158.4	68.1	1252.1
1.02	54.51	6.81	62.34

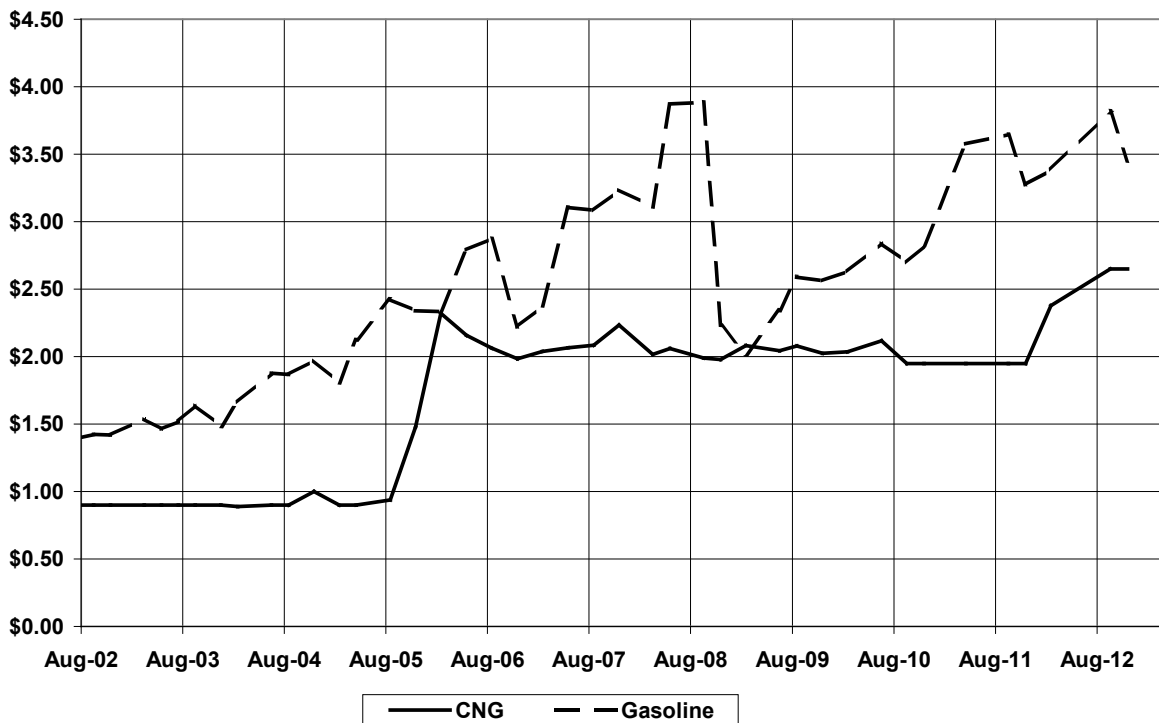
References

** Average emissions for all passenger cars and light trucks on the road in 2000 found in "Average Annual Emissions and Fuel Consumption for Passenger Cars and Light Trucks" EPA 420-F-00-013, US EPA, April 2000

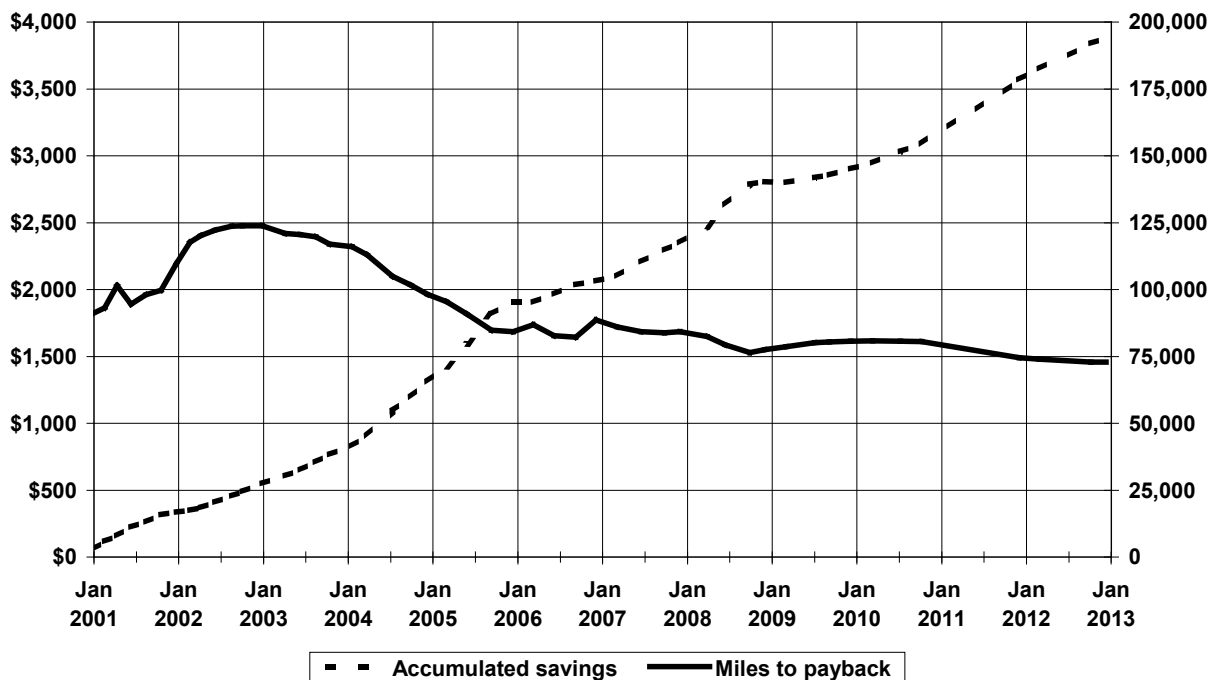
*** Standard for 'Low Emission Vehicle' passenger car required by California in 2001 found in "Federal and California Exhaust and Evaporative Emission Standards for Light-Duty Vehicles and Light-Duty Trucks" EPA 420-B-00-001, US EPA, February 2000

**** Results of testing by US Department of Energy found in "Fact Sheet: Honda Civic Dedicated CNG Sedan" NREL FS-540-2600S, US Dept. of Energy, May 1999

Cost of natural gas and gasoline in SE Michigan



Purchase cost paid back by reduced fuel costs for Honda Civic natural gas car in SE Michigan





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, ride sharing 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/>**

Tuesday April 9, 2013 -- 7:30 pm -- HVG: Sierra Club Book Club. Book: "American Canopy: Trees, Forests, and the Making of a Nation," by Eric Rutkow -- the story of the relationship between Americans and their trees across our history. Contact: Nancy Shiffler (734) 971-1157. How to get involved? It's easy. Read the book and come to discuss it. Nicola's Books (Westgate Shopping Center, 2513 Jackson Ave Ann Arbor, MI).

Tuesday April 16, 2013 -- 7:30 pm -- HVG Monthly Program: "Trees-to-Ethanol." The quest to find non-food renewable fuel sources brings a new threat to the nation's forests, and Michigan is ground zero. Under the guise of a green project, Valero Refinery, the nation's largest, is building a massive wood-to-ethanol plant in the Upper Peninsula to convert millions of tons of trees into ethanol. If the project proves commercially viable, forests will be "feedstock" and under tremendous new pressure. Pat Egan, retired journalist, UP resident, will describe the pending project. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). Contact: 734-665-0248, ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Sunday April 21, 2013 -- 11:00 am -- Joslin Lake Road Esker Hike. Hike this local esker with ace outdoorsman Barry Lonik. The surrounding wetlands are among the best for picnic tables in front of Zingerman's Roadhouse at 11:00 am to carpool or at 11:45 at the trail. From Chelsea take M-52 north to Werkner Rd, turn right; turn right at Island Lake Rd; turn left on Stofer Rd; north to N.Territorial, turn left; west to Joslin Lake Rd, turn right; 1-mile to trailhead. Non-members welcome. Pinckney State Recreation Area Saturday May 4, 2013 -- 11:30 am -- Scio Woods Preserve Hike. Join us for a moderately paced 3 mile hike. Woodlands, some hills, streams. Camaraderie. Meet at the trailhead at 11:30 am. Parking on site. Just west of Wagner Road on Scio Church Road in Ann Arbor. Call Outings Chair, Kathy Guerreso, at 734-677-0823 for details. 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Scio Woods Preserve (Scio Church Road, Ann Arbor, MI). Contact: kathyguerreso@hotmail.com

Tuesday May 14, 2013 -- 7:30 pm -- HVG: Sierra Club Book Club. Book: "The Forest Unseen: A Year's Watch in Nature," by David George Haskell -- what can you learn from observing a square meter of forest over the course of a year? A mixture of nature writing, science and poetic prose. How to get involved? It's easy. Read the book and come to discuss it. Nicola's Books (Westgate Shopping Center, 2513 Jackson Ave, Ann Arbor, MI). Contact: Nancy Shiffler (734) 971-1157.

Sunday May 19, 2013 -- 12:00 pm -- Sugarloaf Hill Secret Hike. Join ace outdoorsman Barry Lonik to hike five miles through mature woods and quality wetlands with views of two lakes. Either meet at the picnic tables in front of Zingerman's Roadhouse at noon to carpool or at 1:00 pm at the trailhead. From Ann Arbor, take I-94 west to M 52, exit north. Go through Chelsea. Take Waterloo Rd west three miles to Guinan Dr., turn left to trailhead. Non-members welcome. Waterloo State Recreation Area. Contact: jayhschlegel@comcast.net

Tuesday May 21, 2013 -- 6:30 pm -- Washtenaw Inner City Outings meeting. We welcome folks to get involved with Washtenaw Inner City Outings, and encourage you to become an outings leader. It's easy, fun and the trips we take create lasting, positive memories of time spent outdoors for the children we serve. Business/Organizational meetings are held five times per year (Jan., Mar., May, Sep., and Oct.), just prior to the monthly HVG general meeting. Room 164, Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). Contact: joanwolf@umich.edu

Sierra Club—Huron Valley Group Calendar continued

Tuesday May 21, 2013 -- 7:30 pm -- HVG Monthly Program: "Huron River Water Trails." Paddlers, towns, businesses and community groups are working together to create Water Trail, a 104-mile inland paddling trail connecting people to the environment, its history and the communities it touches. Elizabeth Riggs, Deputy Director of the Watershed Council, will share trail facts and unveil new information and education materials about the HRWT including the Paddler's Companion, a new waterproof map book for paddlers on the Huron River. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). Contact: 734-665-0248, ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Thursday May 23, 2013 -- 10:00 pm -- North Manitou Island Service Trip backpack base camp. Friday May 24th-Monday May 27th. Base camp backpack service trip to North Manitou Island, Sleeping Bear National Lake Shore. Primitive camping, ferry travel, backpacking, moderate physical activity while volunteering. Trip limit 16, adults only Work on service projects Saturday, day off Sunday. Common commissary. Good physical condition is required to participate. Reservation deadline early April due to needing ferry ticket reservations. Betsy Foote, trip leader. Drive to Leland area Thursday the 3rd. Ferry Fri. am 24th. Return noon May 27th, more info available upon request. North Manitou Island (Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore, Leland, MI). Contact: 734-904-7314 gebfoote@att.net

Saturday June 1, 2013 -- 11:30 am -- Nichols Arboretum Annual Peonies Hike. Join us for a moderately paced 3 mile hike amongst the wonderfully landscaped Arb. Meet at Mitchell Field east end parking lot at 11:30 am. located at Cedar Bend and Fuller Road in Ann Arbor. Call Outings Chair, Kathy Guerreso for details at 734-677-0823. Bring your own water and snack. 11:30 am.-1 pm. Nichols Arboretum. Contact: 734-677-0823, kathyguerreso@hotmail.com

Tuesday June 18, 2013 -- 7:30 pm -- HVG Monthly Program: "Caribou Summer: Secrets of the Tundra." Join retired biologists Jim and Kathy Bricker as they share their seven- week-long canoe trip to a single lake on the tundra's barren grounds. Near Canada's Arctic Circle, they camped alone in the vast land of Nunavut. They experienced Arctic wildflowers and birds, grizzly bears, muskox, other wildlife, and the artifacts of native Inuit people. The Brickers were fortunate to spend many days among the barren ground caribou during the herd's migration. The Brickers will narrate the DVD in person. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). Contact: 734-665-0248, ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Sunday June 23, 2013 -- 1:00 pm -- Annual Pickerel Lake Hike/Swim. Hike 4-5 miles around ickerel Lake in the Pinckney State Rec Area with ace outdoorsman Barry Lonik; optional swim afterwards. Either meet at the picnic tables in front of Zingerman's Roadhouse at 1:00 pm to carpool or at 1:45 at the trail. Take Dexter-Ann Arbor Rd west through Dexter; continue west on Island Lake Rd 3 miles to Dexter-Townhall Rd; turn right, north, to N. Territorial Road; turn left, go west 1.5 miles to Hankerd Rd; turn right, go north 1 mile; turn right onto access road. Non-members welcome. Pinckney State Recreation Area. Contact: jayhschlegel@comcast.net

Tuesday July 16, 2013 -- 7:30 pm -- HVG Monthly Program: "The North Country Trail, a Well-kept Secret." The North Country National Scenic Trail, a part of the congressionally-created and federally-funded National Trails System (think the Appalachian and Pacific Crest Trails), is over 30 years old and relatively unknown to the American public. Michigan contains the lion's share of the NCT's roughly 4,600 miles. Mike Dundas, President of the Chief Baw Beese Chapter of the NCT in southern Michigan, outlines the beauty, diversity, challenges, and opportunities associated with The Trail's development. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). Contact: 734-665-0248, ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Sierra Club—Huron Valley Group Calendar continued

Tuesday August 20, 2013 -- 7:30 pm -- HVG Monthly Program: “Focus on Your Back Yard.” How do plants and animals respond to ever-smaller habitats, based on our human encroachment? We can observe and capture examples of their adaptations, close to home. Nellie Emery, naturalist/conservationist, will show us ways to view flora and fauna in our backyards and surrounding areas. Nellie has a lifelong passion for the land and its wildlife. She studied Fisheries and Wildlife Management, worked for the MDNR, and now uses a camera to “shoot” the natural world. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). Contact: 734-665-0248, ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Tuesday September 17, 2013 -- 6:30 pm -- Washtenaw Inner City Outings meeting. We welcome folks to get involved with Washtenaw Inner City Outings, and encourage you to become an outings leader. It’s easy, fun and the trips we take create lasting, positive memories of time spent outdoors for the children we serve. Business/Organizational meetings are held five times per year (Jan., Mar., May, Sep., and Oct.), just prior to the monthly HVG general meeting. Room 164, Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). Contact: joanwolf@umich.edu

Tuesday September 17, 2013 — 7:30 pm -- HVG Monthly Program: Topic, TBA. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). Contact: 734-665-0248, ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Sierra Club of Huron Valley Honors No Paxton, Growing Hope, and Gwen Nystuen

Last winter the Sierra Club of Huron Valley recognized citizens involved in special efforts and renowned service in protecting the environment and helping to build practices to preserve the environment for many generations to come.

No Paxton, a grassroots organization of Saline and Lodi Township citizens (southern Washtenaw-County) received the **Conservation Activist Award** in recognition of their work educating neighbors and citizens on the impacts of hydrofracking and oil drilling. No Paxton has been defending their community in education of neighbors on aggressive and misleading efforts by the extractive industry’s “land men” to sign away their rights. With their own resources, a major effort by Mitch Rohde and others have conducted an exhaustive effort to educate the public over the processes used in drilling and hydrofracking, and the side effects of this industry not shared by the “land men” of Paxton Oil (and other players). Clive Wooten accepted the award on behalf of No Paxton at our December general meeting. We applaud No Paxton’s efforts to preserve the natural resources and quality of life in the area.

Growing Hope received the **Conservation Accomplishment Award** in promoting and actively building the local food movement. This Ypsilanti-headquartered organization has been a leader empowering local communities to grow and eat healthy foods. **Amanda Edmonds, Growing Hope’s Executive Director**, accepted the award at our December general meeting.

Perhaps there is no else more recognized in her long-term leadership with the Sierra Club, but **Gwen Nystuen** continues to make a difference. In honor of her work on the Parks Advisory Committee, as well as her ongoing efforts to protect Ann Arbor city parkland, Gwen received the **George Sexton Public Servant of the Earth Award**. Gwen accepted the reward at our December meeting.

We are proud of these organizations and individual’s ongoing efforts. And we are deeply grateful.



by
James D’Amour,
Vice-Chair

The Local Food Summit: “Re-imagining a Fair Food System” It’s a Growing Thing!

By
Dorothy Nordness
&
Ginny Maturen

You are probably aware that your choices of what you eat make a difference to your health, to Michigan’s economy, and to the environment. In fact, with every meal you are essentially “voting” for or against a sustainable food system. A coalition of Michigan organizations connected to the food system, which includes the Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club, is pushing our legislators to stop the tax subsidies that go to factory farms and to redirect those benefits to smaller farmers who produce locally grown meat, dairy, and eggs. Read about the “Less=More” program here: <https://sites.google.com/site/farmswithoutharm1/news/newsustainableagriculturecoalitioncallsforreformsoffundingprioritiesformichiganfarmsubsidies>

The recent Local Food Summit (held February 22, 2013 at Washtenaw Community College), a project of our local Slow Food organization (the ones who put on the HomeGrown Festival), focused on the elements of our food system which strive to provide access to fresh, locally produced food to all of Michigan’s citizens. This push is a win-win-win for the health of our citizens, local economies, AND is a kick-start for sustainably managed, small-scale farms. The good news is ...

- Farmers markets are growing in number every year around the state. According to a map from the Union of Concerned Scientists, Michigan appears to rank 3rd in the nation in the number of farmers markets – topped only by New York and California.
- Around the state, people on SNAP (formerly the food stamp program) are taking advantage of various “double bucks” programs that allow them to get double the value of their food dollars for fresh produce at many farmers markets.
- Small scale farms and farmers markets are making inroads into both rural and urban communities in Michigan that formerly have had little or no access to fresh produce.
- In areas of Detroit where homes have been torn down and there is little or no access to fresh produce, community gardens are being planted, maintained, and harvested by local residents.



When the auto companies closed their doors and the recession struck hard in Detroit, many of the large chain groceries closed their doors and left residents with no place in their neighborhood to buy fresh meat, dairy, and produce. What remained were small corner convenience and liquor stores. A recovery from that scene is underway, but much still needs to be done.

The keynote speaker, Malik Yakini, is a native of Detroit and the director of the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network. The organization focuses on influencing public policy, encouraging co-op buying, promoting urban agriculture, and promoting healthy eating habits. He stressed the importance of developing community leaders that can expand efforts to make fresh, healthy food available to residents all over the city.

Work sessions at the Summit highlighted local organizations’ efforts to support these efforts. Food Gathers handle an immense quantity of fresh foods collected from grocery stores, restaurants, and gardens which are then distributed to people in need. Their organization, which is heavily volunteer dependent, has grown into a major source of nutrition for many, including a large number of schoolchildren, in Washtenaw County.

Washtenaw County Health Department heads a joint project to bring fresh fruits and vegetables, purchased at local farmer’s markets. The Prescription for Health program partners with area community based health clinics. Patients at risk for or diagnosed with a chronic disease agree to voluntary enrollment in the program. They are given a prescription for a health book of vouchers. These vouchers enable people to purchase seasonal fresh fruits and vegetables at local farmer’s markets. Additionally, they can use SNAP coupons and receive a 2 for 1 exchange. Data, to date, shows an increase in the number of servings of fruits and vegetables, plus gains in blood pressure reduction and weight loss.

Another high point of the day was the lunch, with food provided by a variety of local farms and served by the students in the culinary arts program at WCC, which was terrific. Being served deliciously prepared and attractively arranged food went a long way to make 350 “foodies” feel great on a snowy, cold winter’s day.

Read about the “Less=More” program here:
<https://sites.google.com/site/farmswithoutharm1/news/newsustainableagriculturecoalitioncallsforreformsoffundingprioritiesformichiganfarmsubsidies>



Sierra Club 2010 Updated Edition of Edible Landscaping

Since Rosalind Creasy popularized the concept of landscaping with edibles a quarter-century ago, interest in eating healthy, fresh, locally grown foods has swept across the nation. More and more Americans are looking to grow clean, delicious produce at home, saving money and natural resources at the same time. And food plants have been freed from the backyard, gracing the finest landscapes – even the White House grounds!

Creasy's expertise on edibles and how to incorporate them in beautifully designed outdoor environments was first showcased in the original edition of *Edible Landscaping* (Sierra Club Books, 1982), hailed by gardeners everywhere as a groundbreaking classic. Now this highly anticipated new edition presents the latest design and how-to information in a glorious full-color format, featuring more than 300 inspiring photographs.

Drawing on the author's decades of research and experience, the book presents everything you need to know to create an inviting home landscape that will yield mouthwatering vegetables, fruits, nuts, and berries. The comprehensive *Encyclopedia of Edibles* – a book in itself – provides horticultural information, culinary uses, sources, and recommended varieties; and appendices cover the basics of planting and maintenance and of controlling pests and diseases using organic and environmentally friendly practices.

Rosalind Creasy is a landscape designer, garden writer and photographer, and leading au-

thority on edible landscaping. She is the author of numerous acclaimed Sierra Club Books, including the groundbreaking original edition of *Edible Landscaping* (1982) and *Cooking from the Garden* (1988), both Garden Writers Association award winners. In addition to sixteen other gardening titles, she has written for countless national publications, including the *Los Angeles Times*, *Organic Gardening*, and *Fine Gardening*. A much sought-after speaker and consultant, Creasy lectures extensively and serves on the board of directors of the Seed Savers Exchange.

Edible Landscaping
By Rosalind Creasy
Paperback, 384 pages
ISBN: 978-1-57805-154-1

More than 300 color photographs, 7 color garden-plan illustrations, and 20 black-and-white illustrations.

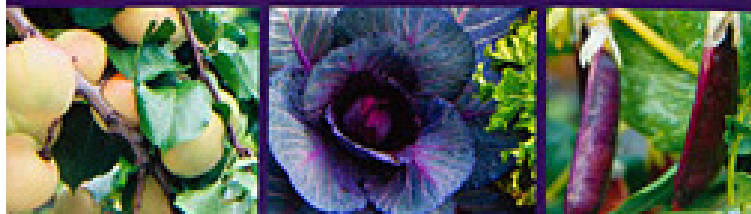
Sierra Club Books; Second Edition edition
(November 1, 2010)



Rosalind Creasy

Edible Landscaping

Now You Can Have Your Gorgeous Garden and Eat It Too!



Shopping for the Earth and Support for your Huron Valley Group's Conservation Efforts

With spring upon us, my thoughts turn to gardening and a home improvement project, i.e., remodeling a bathroom

I'm planning to support the Sierra Club Huron Valley Group's "Shopping for the Earth" program by utilizing the shopwithscrip.com fundraising opportunities.

Briefly, your local Huron Valley Group supports many local conservation efforts. During 2012, HVG supported Earth Day, Ann Arbor Art Fair, ProtectA2Parks, Slow Food Huron Valley, the Home Grown Festival, and Growing Hope Garden Fair. Thanks to all who have supported the Shopping for the Earth effort.

My gardening project includes fencing in a raised vegetable garden from a cute little bunny who ate every green bean, and all the romaine and leaf lettuce last summer. Then he tried the peppers and basil. I plan to purchase the posts and fence plus other gardening supplies at Lowe's, The Home Depot or ACE.

My bathroom remodel will include the replacement of the tub, toilet and sink and the construction of some shelves and cabinets. Sources for these items can be as above but may also include Sears or Target. There is an added special category titled "Spruce up your home" which includes more retailers.



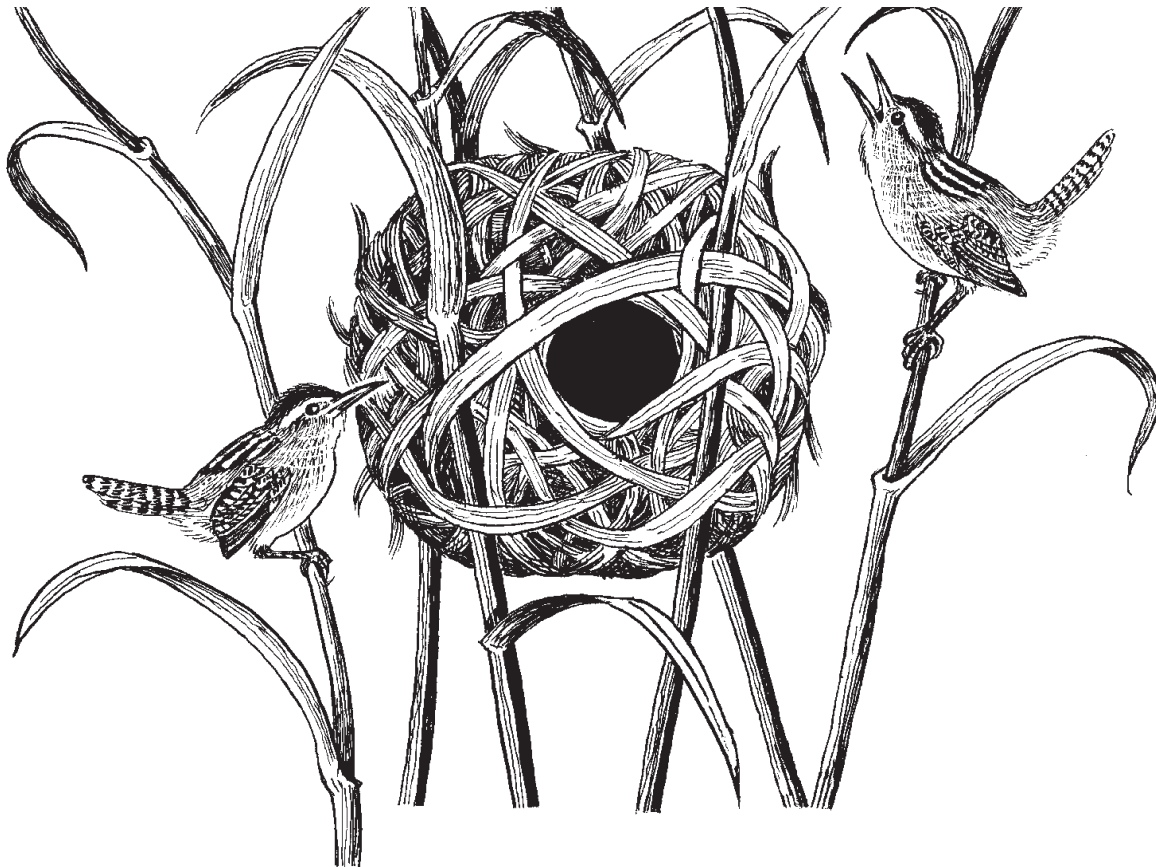
By
Ginny Maturen

Check the
shopwithscrip.com

website for over 730
retailers for all your spring
shopping needs.

Not signed up? Go to the
above website and click on

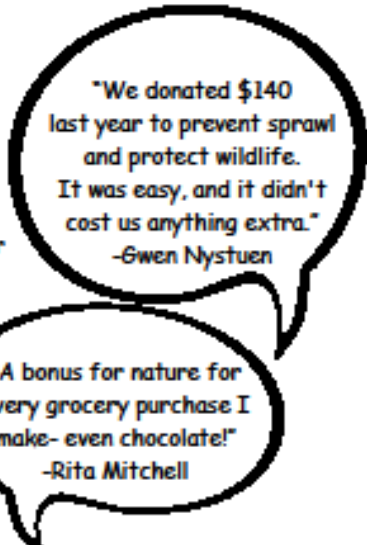
'get started'





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

- Over the past 15 years the Sierra Club Huron Valley Group's Shopping for the Earth has been a very successful program for supporting our efforts to protect parks, natural areas and local farmland, and to address local and regional environmental problems.
- 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 \$4.60, depending on the merchant, for the Sierra Club.



Two ways to order cards:

1. **Mail-In Order Form** for local and national stores--see below and other side.
2. **Online ordering** for national stores and some local stores including Amazon, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Land's End, Sears, and many more including department stores, restaurants, hotels, and more. Please visit:
michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/glscrip.htm

Great for:

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



Mail-in Order Form

Many more cards available--see michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/glscrip.htm

Ann Arbor People's Food Co-op **	_____ cards @ \$25 ea	_____ cards @ \$50 ea	_____ cards @ \$100 ea
Arbor Brewing Company **	_____ cards @ \$25 ea		
Arbor Farms *	_____ cards @ \$20 ea		
Busch's *	_____ cards @ no cost - add money when shopping at Busch's		
Hiller's Markets *	_____ cards @ \$50 ea		
Produce Station **	_____ cards @ \$25 ea	_____ cards @ \$50 ea	
Kroger *	Obtain card at Kroger's and register it at www.krogercommunityrewards.com so that the Sierra Club receives a donation from your reloads.. see http://michigan.sierraclub.org/kroger.htm		
Meijers †	_____ cards @ \$25 ea	_____ cards @ \$50 ea	_____ cards @ \$100 ea
Whole Foods *†	_____ cards @ \$25 ea	_____ cards @ \$100 ea	

† can order through Shopwithscrip - see: <http://michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/glscrip.htm>

* 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: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____

- Please send me local Sierra Club email updates
- Please send me the local Sierra Club newsletter

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/

- Chair
Nancy Shiffler* 971-1157
- Vice-chair
James D'Amour*
- Treasurer
Ginny Maturen* 730-2947
- Secretary
Ed Steinman* 665-0248
- Chapter Representative
Ed Steinman* 665-0248
- Alternate Chapter Representative
Joel Dalton* 945-8132
- Conservation Chair
Dorothy Nordness 668-6306
- Inner City Outings Chair
Joan Wolf
- Outings Chair
Kathy Guerreso 677-0823
- Inner City Outings Liaison
- Membership Chair
Ed Steinman* 665-0248
- Political Chair
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- Political Committee
Robert Gordon*
- Publicity
Joel Dalton* 945-8132
- Program Co-Chairs
Ron Sell
Rita Mitchell 665-0248
- Shopping for the Earth
Ed Steinman** 665-0248
- Fund Raising Co-Chairs
Jay Schlegel* 477-5715
Ed Steinman* 665-0248
- Website
Ed Steinman* 665-0248
- Newsletter Team
Jay Schlegel*, Editor 477-5715
Kim Waldo 971-1941
Gwen Nystuen 665-7632
Ed Steinman* 665-0248

* = 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 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 Category	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<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 if they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.00 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 413441, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041
or visit our website www.sierraclub.org #840 W _____



Huron Valley Group
Newsletter
The Sierra Club
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Ann Arbor, MI 48103

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SPRING 2013 Inside:

- Climate Skeptics - page 1-2
- ICO Farewell to Winter - page 4-5
- Calendar of Events - page 8-9
- Local Food Summit- page 11



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:

- host a fold & staple work party
- article writer
- photography/graphics
- proofreading - ad wrangler
- 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