



Proposed Gravel Mine Operation in the Chelsea Area Draws Opposition

On March 13th of this year, nearly 500 people attended a Lyndon Township (Washtenaw County) Planning Commission hearing to express opposition to a gravel mining operation proposed by McCoig Material on private land east of M-52 and south of North Territorial Road. The proposed special land use permit would allow operation of the gravel mine for 30 years and would result in Stofer Hill, one of the highest points in Washtenaw County, turning into a lake some fifty feet deep.

The proposed site lies at the junction of Waterloo State Recreation Area, Pinckney State Recreation Area, the county's Park Lyndon, and the Green Lake camping area. The Waterloo-Pinckney Hiking Trail runs along the south boundary of the site. The northern boundary of the site overlaps the southern tip of Park Lyndon's Lake Genevieve, a glacial lake named in honor of Genevieve Gillette, an untiring and formidable advocate for the establishment of Michigan state parks. All of these park and recreation lands have been carefully acquired over time to protect the unique local ecosystems they represent.

From the several geologists and environmental scientists testifying at the hearing came particular concerns about the impact of the project on the complex hydrology of the area, affecting the wetlands and lakes on and adjacent to the site, including the fen in Park Lyndon North. The loss of Stofer Hill could have a particularly negative impact on the ability of these lakes and wetlands to recharge water levels.

Given the variety of recreational and nature study opportunities drawing local, county, and state residents to the area, many speakers expressed concerns about the impact of noise and dust from the mining operation on these activities. For citizens of Chelsea, one of the biggest concerns was the impact of gravel trucks making 60 to 80 round trips through downtown Chelsea each day, as proposed in the permit application.



By Nancy Shiffler



The proposed gravel site is the same directly across this favorite park lookout site on Lake Genevieve.

continued page 2

Gravel Mine Project continued from page1



Source: <http://www.imrivers.org/hrwc/>

If the township planning commission and the township board were to deny the special use permit, McCoig by law could appeal the decision, but would have the burden of proof that “no very serious consequences” would result from the project. The intent of those testifying at the public hearing, including the Sierra Club, was to assert that these very serious consequences in fact exist, a position also reinforced by a resolution from the county Board of Commissioners.

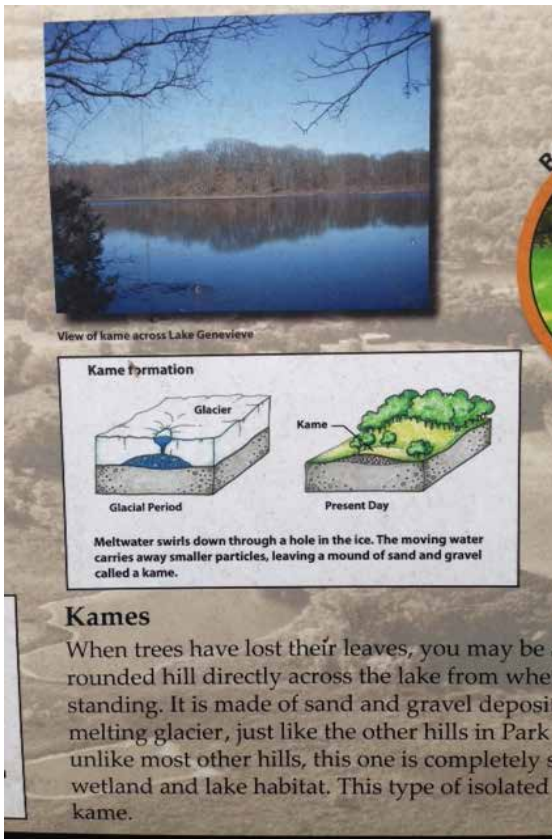
The township planning commission will be submitting additional questions to McCoig as well as awaiting completion of other reports required for the permit application. They project that this special land use permit will not be on their agenda again until their May 15 meeting, with a decision expected for their June 12 meeting at the earliest.



A gravel mine site



The Lookout Vol.36 No.1 Spring 2014
 The Huron Valley Group Newsletter is published 3 times a year by Huron Valley Group, Michigan Chapter, Sierra Club, 621 5th Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48103



The proposed mine would operate 6 days a week. 60 to 80 tandem-trailer gravel trucks would make round trips to and from the proposed mine daily. This would result in an additional truck traveling on Main Street through the heart of Chelsea every 3 minutes and 45 seconds.

Friends of Chelsea and Lyndon Township have set up a website:

<http://www.denythemine.org/>

encouraging every citizen to become informed and voice their opinion to the Township and to DEQ (Michigan Department of Environmental Quality) because every voice counts.

**Meeting:
May 19, 2014 6:00 PM**

Public Lyndon Township Planning Commission Meeting on the McCoig Special Land Use Request. Washington Street Education Center Auditorium, 500 E. Washington St., Chelsea, MI

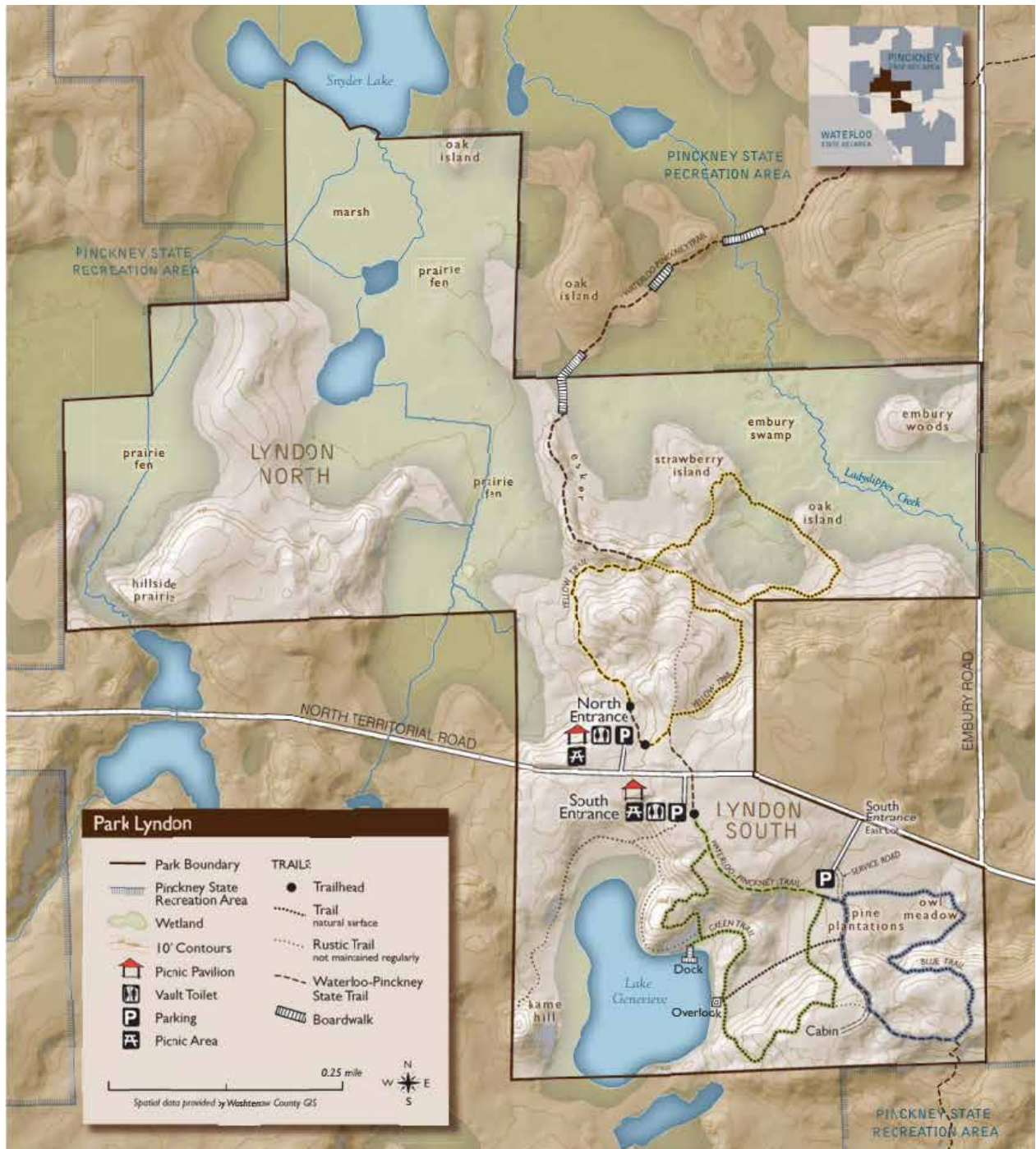
At this meeting, the Planning Commission will be asking McCoig's representatives verbal questions about the proposed mine. View Lyndon Township's Written Questions to McCoig, sent on March 27, 2014.

June 12, 2014 12:00 PM (noon)

Deadline for public written submissions (expert reports, studies and comments) to be submitted to Lyndon Township regarding the McCoig Special Land Use Request.

There is no "scheduled" vote date. When the commissioners are comfortable with the information, reports, answers, public input and information from their professional team, etc., then and only then, will a motion be made to proceed with a vote.

LYNDON PARK MAP



Western Washtenaw's Lyndon Park is a favorite site for local Huron Valley Group Sierra Club outings.

Sierra Club Endorses AAATA Transit Millage

By
Nancy Shiffler

The Sierra Club, Huron Valley Group at its March 10, Executive Committee Meeting endorsed the upcoming May, 2014 ballot proposal submitted by Ann Arbor Area Transit Authority (AAATA) to raise an 0.70 property tax millage to expand services for the “urban core” of Washtenaw County – City of Ann Arbor, City of Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Township.

Nancy Shiffler, Chair of the Sierra Club, Huron Valley Group, remarked on the endorsement

“It is a national policy of the Sierra Club to promote mass transit. We support a robust but effective and cost-efficient mass transit system, both on the local level as well as nationwide.

“To that end, we made it a point to carefully review the new millage, We met with both supporters and skeptics among our members to understand their points of view.

“Members of our group had several meetings with AAATA officials as well as reviewed media and citizen concerns regarding the new millage.

“The issues of where additional service was needed, the profile of bus users, the specifics of what additional services would be provided under the new millage, how the new monies would be retained in each city, as well as other issues, were discussed in detail.

“After thorough review, in our indepen-

dent judgment, we concluded that the new millage will be a benefit to the community and the environment in encouraging and facilitating non-automotive transit, important in addressing the issue of climate change and sustainability.

“We hope to continue a dialogue and have a strong working relationship with the AAATA going forward in the near future to help build a better local transit system in our community. Five years from now we hope to see a better local mass transit system.

“On this basis we endorse this millage and encourage our members and the community to support it.”

The Sierra Club, founded in 1892, is the oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization in the nation. Its mission is to explore, enjoy and protect the planet. It has many opportunities for individuals to participate in local and national outings to explore and enjoy the natural environment, as well as take direct action on environmental issues. For more information contact us at hvgsierraclub@gmail.com. Our website is <http://michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/index.html>

By James
D'Amour, Vice-
Chair, Sierra
Club, Huron
Valley Group

Reapportionment Creates New State Senate District for Western Washtenaw Voters

Western Washtenaw voters face changes and many environmental challenges this fall. For folks living in western Washtenaw County, issues of the environment are at the forefront of the 2014 campaign. From the issues of oil drilling and hydrofracturing in Scio Township, Saline Township and Whitmore Lake, to the proposed McCoig Materials Inc. permit in Lyndon Township, protecting the local environment is a central issue.

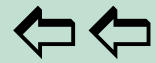
Western Washtenaw voters will find themselves in a new 22nd State Senate District.

It includes voters in the townships of Dexter, Lyndon, Sylvan, Webster, Northfield, Scio, Sharon, Freedom, Lodi, Manchester, Bridgewater, and Saline. It will also include the Villages of Dexter and Manchester, and the City of Chelsea.

As this article went to press, attorney Sheri Pollesch, a Democrat (who as of this writing is seeking our endorsement and active in anti-hydrofracturing activities) may face incumbent Republican Joe Hune from Livingston County.



NEW Clean Car Update!



This scorecard is a direct comparison of winter driving and summer driving. My last article (Winter 2013 issue) analyzed data from a summer-time fill-up and this one does the same for winter. As expected, the vehicle was less efficient in cold weather. The chemical efficiency of the battery is reduced when it is cold and the cabin heater takes a lot of battery power. When the gasoline engine is running, it uses more fuel in cold weather to reach and maintain operating temperatures. So, while I drove 1015 miles on one tank of gas in summer, I only drove 807 miles in winter (still not bad!). The driving profile was similar in both cases, mainly commuting and short trips. Surprisingly, I still saved almost 10 cents in fuel costs for mile driven electrically.

**By
Alan
Richardson**

Here is some basic data from the trip computers on my Ford C-Max Energi plug-in hybrid between two recent refuelings.

807 Total miles driven between gasoline refuelings 27 February and 26 March:
519 Electric vehicle miles driven
288 Hybrid vehicle miles driven
12.17 Gallons gasoline used
150 kWh electricity used by vehicle
206 kWh electricity taken from wall outlet to charge vehicle (applying 37% conversion loss)

My energy costs:

\$3.499 Gas cost /gallon

\$0.12 Electricity cost /kWh

Here are some of my calculations using the basic trip computer data:

84.9 MPGe electric fuel economy (519 miles/(206 kWh/33.7))*

23.7 MPG gasoline hybrid fuel economy (288 miles/12.17 gallons)

\$0.147 Gas fuel cost/mile (\$3.499/gal /23.7 miles/gallon)

\$0.048 Electricity cost/mile (\$0.12/kWh / (519 miles/206 kWh))

\$0.099 Savings per mile for every mile driven by electricity rather than gasoline

Between two gasoline refuelings:

\$42.58 Gasoline cost (12.17 gallons @ \$3.499/gallon)

\$24.72 Electricity cost (172 kWh @ \$0.12/kWh)

\$51.38 Avoided cost (\$0.099 saved per electric mile X 519 electric miles)

*Using 33.7 kWh electricity as equivalent in energy to 1 gallon gasoline

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 15, 2014 -- 7:30 pm – “Ambystoma Salamanders: How Do They Do That?” Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). All-female Ambystoma salamanders, known as -unisexuals-, are a fascinating part of Michigan's biodiversity. While most animals have two sets of chromosomes (one from mom, one from dad), these salamanders can have three, four, or even five. Stranger, the -extra- chromosome sets are -stolen- from other salamander species that breed in the same ponds. Katy Greenwald, Assistant Professor of Biology at Eastern Michigan University, will discuss the biology and conservation of these unique animals. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Sunday April 20, 2014 -- 1:00 pm -- Cassidy Bog Secret Hike. Waterloo State Rec Area. Venture through a huge field, mature woods and a blueberry bog on this five mile 'secret' hike with ace outdoorsman Barry Lonik. Meet at Zingerman's Roadhouse at 1:00 pm to carpool or at 1:45 pm at the trail: Take I-94 west to M-52, exit north; go north through Chelsea to Waterloo Rd, turn left; go west 1 mile to Cassidy Rd, turn right; go NW 3/4 miles and meet at Waterloo-Pinckney Trail crossing. No membership required. Contact: jayhschlegel@comcast.net.

Saturday April 26, 2014 -- 11:30 am -- Scio Woods Preserve Hike. Scio Woods Preserve (Scio Church Road and Wagner Road Ann Arbor, MI). Join us for a moderately paced hike amongst 91 acres of woodlands, some wetlands, and Spring wildflowers. Dress for the weather. Just west of Wagner Rd on Scio Church Rd. Bring your own water. About 3 miles. Contact: 734-677-0823.

Sunday May 11, 2014 -- 1:00 pm — Half Moon Lake Hike. Hike seven miles around Half Moon Lake and Blind Lake with ace outdoorsman Barry Lonik, crossing the Portage River twice on tall wooden bridges. Meet at Zingerman's Roadhouse at 1:00 pm to carpool or at 1:45 pm at the trail: Directions TBA (check HVG website). No membership required. Contact: jayhschlegel@comcast.net.

Tuesday May 13, 2014 -- 7:30 pm -- HVG: Sierra Club Book Club. Nicola's Books (Westgate Shopping Center, 2513 Jackson Ave, Ann Arbor, MI). Book: “Windfall: The Booming Business of Global Warming,” by McKenzie Funk. As one reviewer described it ... “Meet the peculiar characters who are making the biggest moral hedge of our time: finding the value and opportunity hidden in all this ecological upheaval.” Contact: Nancy Shiffler (734) 971-1157. How to get involved? It's easy. Read the book and come to discuss it.



Sierra Club—Huron Valley Group Calendar continued

Sunday May 18, 2014 -- 3:00 pm -- Brauer Preserve Hike. (Preserve entrance is on west side of Parker Rd. Ann Arbor, MI.) Join us for a moderately paced hike amongst 2 miles of trails, some sandy knolls, and wetlands. Lake Isabelle is situated on the south end of this 226 acre property. Dress for the weather. Wear boots and bring your own water. Call for details and more directions. Contact Kathy Guerreso, Outings Chair: 734-677-0823.

Tuesday May 20, 2014 -- 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 May 20, 2014 -- 7:30 pm -- "The Nuclear Option: Issues and Alternatives." Nuclear energy is occasionally presented as an option to fossil fuels. The life-cycle risks of nuclear energy, from mining, transportation, enrichment, use, and disposal, far outweigh the direct disturbance of the environment, and minimally effective storage of radioactive waste. Kevin Kamps, of Beyond Nuclear, will describe issues of environmental justice, safety and security risks of nuclear energy, and the trend to move toward use of sustainable, benign and democratic energy sources. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Friday May 23, 2014 -- 8:00 am -- North Manitou Island Service Basecamp Backpack Trip. Take ferry from Leland, MI to N. Manitou Island in Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lake Shore. Backpack, primitive tent camping, volunteer for park for Saturday. Explore island other days. Common commissary, must help with group preparation and cleaning up when it's your turn. Should be in good physical shape. Enjoy the wilderness on the Island! \$85 fee, includes ferry ticket price. Contact: 734-904-7314 gebfoote@att.net

Tuesday June 17, 2014 -- 7:30 pm -- The Art of Interpretation. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). "The care of rivers is not a question of rivers, but of the human heart," Tanako Shozo. Learn the art of interpretation used by the National Park Service to help visitors care about natural resources so that they might support the care for them. Nancy McKay is an interpretive artist, nationally recognized for her ability to engage folks in producing transformational art. She uses simple artistic tools to teach others to become interpreters, connect to the landscape, and share its significance. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Sunday June 22, 2014 -- 1:00 pm -- Crooked Lake Hike/Swim. Waterloo State Rec Area. Join us for our annual hike-then-swim (swim is optional) at Crooked Lake with ace outdoorsman Barry Lonik. Either meet at the picnic tables in front of Zingerman's Roadhouse at 1:00 pm to carpool or at 1:45 pm at the trail. Take I-94 west to Kalmbach Rd exit. Turn right, go north 1/2-mile Cavanaugh Lake Rd. Turn left, go 2 miles to Loveland Rd. Turn right, go north 1 mile to Crooked Lake access. Follow access road, park near the boat launch. No membership required. Contact: jayhschlegel@comcast.net.



Sierra Club—Huron Valley Group Calendar continued

Friday June 27, 2014 -- 5:00 pm -- North Central State Trail Camp/Bike Trip. Burt Lake State Park (6635 State Park Drive Indian River, MI). Explore parts of the North Central State Trail by bicycle. Car-camp at Burt Lake State Park starting Friday evening. Then bike Saturday and earlier part of Sunday on this Rails-to-Trails path with crushed limestone surface through wetlands, along the Sturgeon River, through fields, and past lakes and small towns. Must be able to bike at least 20 miles/day, provide your own bicycle and helmet. Cost: \$40/ person which includes camping fee and 3 meals. Trip limit: 12 adults. Registration deadline is June 11. Cancellation of your registration will incur a \$5 fee unless cancelling after June 18th, then no refund. Contact: 734-904-7314 gebfoote@att.net

Tuesday July 15, 2014 -- 7:30 pm — Politics of the Environment, 2014. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). Find out what the Michigan legislature has been up to in regard to our environmental issues, what the 2014 election is going to look like, how the political races in your group's area are shaping up, and how it will impact us. Mike Berkowitz, Chapter Organizer, and Richard Barron, Political Committee Chair, will speak on the coming year's key races and issues. Join in the discussion and learn how to make a difference in local, state and national elections. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Wednesday July 16 thru Saturday July 19 -- Ann Arbor Art Fair volunteer information booth. Join us on "non-profit row" to distribute information and discuss environmental issues with passersby. If you would like to help, please contact: jayhschlegel@comcast.net

Saturday July 26, 2014 -- 7:00 am -- Isle Royale Backpack Trip. Isle Royale National Park. We will be hiking in the eastern portion of the island. Distances covered on any given day will vary from 3 to 8 miles. Camping on inland lakes or Lake Superior shoreline. The terrain is rocky, with a fair amount of up and down hiking, affording good views of the island and Lake Superior. Leave from Isle Royale Queen boat dock. Cost is \$350 per person; includes boat tickets, fees, and meals. Contact: 734-971-1157 nshiffler@comcast.net

Tuesday August 19, 2014 -- 7:30 pm — Permaculture Design and the Garden. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, MI). Permaculture design provides protocols for decision making and problem solving based on the patterns of nature. Permaculture relates, not just to the garden, but to all the needs of human culture -- waste management, food, water, energy, and more. Come learn more about permaculture and some practical gardening techniques for the temperate climate. Jesse Tack of Abundant Michigan, Permaculture Ypsilanti, will talk about perennial plants, soil building, water catchment, and more! Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com



The Spring Shout Out



After so long and hard a winter, will there still be peepers? These tiny creatures do survive freezing tem-

peratures. You might say they earn the description, “cold-blooded”. The peepers, wood frogs, chorus frogs and the northern tree frogs respond to freeze by secreting glucose from the liver into the blood where it serves as an antifreeze permitting them to overwinter under logs, leaves, brush, and snow. Wood frogs and Siberian salamanders are the most accomplished of amphibian cold region dwellers and are found in Alaska and the northern provinces of Canada, and some populations are found above the Arctic Circle. From a human perspective this is a true miracle since if we suffer a frozen finger or toe for over a few hours there is permanent damage and we may lose the digit. Other amphibians survive the long cold at the bottom of ponds or underground where their temperature is very low and bodily functions are barely perceptible.

The peeper chorus is late this year, but it is in full swing after some spring rain and a thaw. Most people have heard the peeper chorus. A great chorus can be heard for a quarter of a mile. Fewer have seen the singer. While it is rather nice to call it a chorus, the peeper is really shouting with each peep. His little throat swells up into a shiny bubble and he bleeps a sharp very high short note and in competition with even a handful of others makes a deafening crescendo of sound. Have you come over to the edge or into his patch of icy cold water? If you have, it likely will have suddenly become totally quiet. Likely you will not have seen a single one of the callers.

Only if you stay very still and patient, and have made certain that you are not casting a shadow like a big, big bird, will the chorus slowly restart. Or you can come in the dark with flash light. Now you will try to focus on a single voice, and that sounds simpler than it is. It helps if you know what you are looking for. Peepers are usually on the edges of the ponds or ditches amidst dead grass, cattails, leaves and shrubs. They are often not fully out of the water, and are quick to duck under if alarmed. They are camouflaged in exactly the same tones of beige, tan, and various browns as the end of season plants they are sitting on. Say you have zeroed in on your peeper, but you still can't find him. The loudness of his

By
Gwen Nystuen



chirp makes you think you are searching for a creature of some substance. However his chirp is much big-

ger than he is. A full grown peeper is just an inch and a half long from snout to tail, with a pinkish tan body and a darker brown cross on his back, hence the scientific name *Hyla crucifer*. Often the first you notice is the little shiny bubble of his throat repeatedly filling and deflating. Your patience is rewarded. It is not only a miracle that this little fellow has survived this cold icy winter, but also a miracle you have found him. Very satisfying.

In Ann Arbor there are eight species of frogs, and each has distinctive calls so you can identify what frog you are hearing. The males are calling to attract the females. The earliest three of the season are the chorus frogs, wood frogs and peepers. However you often hear only the peepers because they are so loud. The chorus frog has an ascending trill sometimes described as running your finger over a comb, and they are in the ditches and shallow ponds like the peepers. The wood frog sounds very like someone chuckling or ducks quacking, an entirely different and distinct call that does not carry as far and is usually in a wooded wetland pond.

Yes, they made it. Spring is here.

Take the Step and Become a SFTE (Shopping for the Earth) Participant

When you become a SFTE participant, there are 2 winners: you and the Sierra Club Huron Valley Group. Below are 3 ways you can take part in this vital program which supports the activities of our group. Choose any or all of these opportunities.

1. Purchase Gift cards from the Huron Valley Group for use at area vendors. You pay the displayed price and redeem merchandise for the same value. How does it work? The Huron Valley Group purchased that card at a discount, so approximately 5% of the sale proceeds are returned to the HVG for use supporting our local efforts. See order form enclosed in this issue for more details.

2. Become a participant in the Shop With Scrip program. Go to shopwithscrip.com. Follow the instructions to become a member and have access to over 700 national merchants for a wide variety of goods and services: clothing, specialty, dining, electronics, office, entertainment, gas, groceries, home improvement and décor, online & catalogue, travel, vacations, etc. The donation to the Huron Valley Group can range from 1 - 16%; with special offers generally in the donation range of

10-16%. Go to michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/glscrip.htm for complete details and enrollment instructions. Many of these cards can be reloaded once you have made your initial purchase. The reload process takes 5 minutes or less. The Sierra Club HVG receives a donation every time you reload.

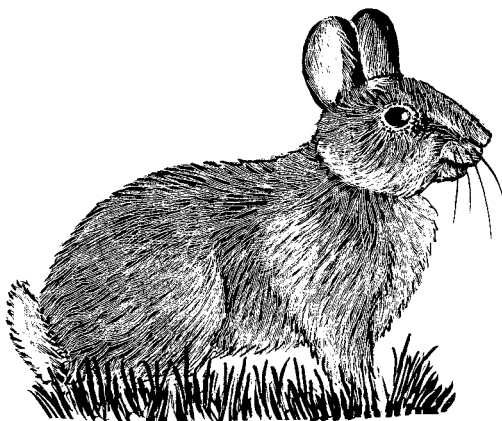
3. Join the Community Support Programs at area merchants: Busch's, Kroger, Hiller's and Meijer. If you are a current Kroger participant, please remember to re-enroll in April 2014. Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com, click on "Michigan" and click on "Enroll." To become a Kroger participant establish an online account at Kroger.com and sign up online, to participate.

See our Shopping for the Earth flyer in this issue of The Lookout for more complete instructions to join any or all of the above programs.

Thank you for your support of the Sierra Club Huron Valley Group's many environmental activities to "explore, enjoy and protect the planet."



By
Ginny Maturen



Check the
shopwithscrip.com
website for over 730
retailers for all your fall
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.
- 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.

"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 groceries
2. **Online ordering** from over 600 national merchants including Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bath & Body Works, Best Buy, Cabela's, Chipotle Mexican Grill, CVS/pharmacy, Econo Lodge, Glen's Market, Groupon, Home Depot, iTunes, Kohl's, L.L.Bean, Lands' End, Lowe's, Noodles & Company, Office Max, REI, Rite Aid, Sears, gas stations, Starbucks, Tim Hortons, United Artist Theatres, Walgreens, Whole Foods.. 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

Please fill out the number of cards you'd like for each store below. Your total order: \$ _____

Ann Arbor People's Food Co-op	_____ cards @ \$25 ea	_____ cards @ \$50 ea	_____ cards @ \$200 ea
Arbor Brewing Company	_____ cards @ \$25 ea		
Arbor Farms	no card--just tell the cashier that you're donating to the Sierra Club		
Busch's	_____ cards @ no cost - add money when shopping at Busch's		
Produce Station	_____ cards @ \$25 ea	_____ cards @ \$50 ea	
Meijers	Please order both through Shopwithscrip - see: michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/glscrip.htm		
Whole Foods	For help with Shopwithscrip contact Ed Steinman (esteinma@umich.edu)		
Hiller's Markets	Obtain card at Hiller's and register it at hillers.reachoffers.com then donate your rewards		
Kroger	Obtain card at Kroger's and register it at krogercommunityrewards.com so that the Sierra Club receives a donation from your reloads - see http://michigan.sierraclub.org/kroger.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: _____

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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

MichiganTrailMaps.com Focuses on Pictured Rocks

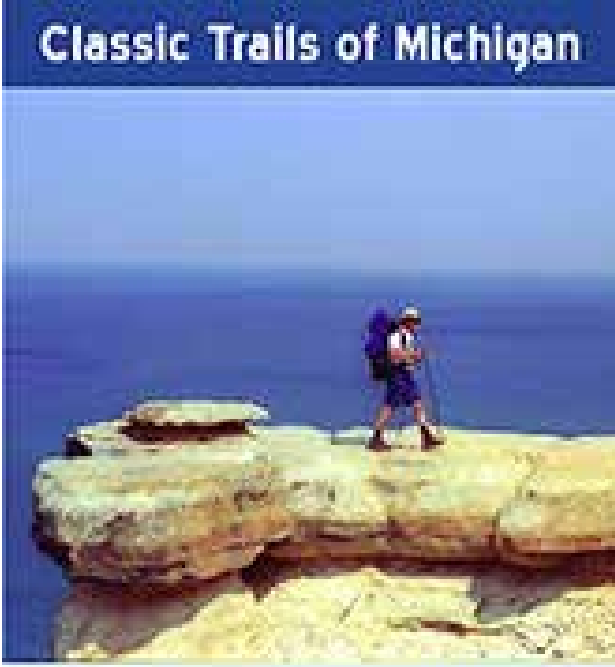
In one of the most spectacular regions of the state, the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, you have one of the most spectacular paths to hike and MichiganTrailMaps.com's newest map covers it: the Lakeshore Trail.

For many, the only way to view and appreciate Pictured Rocks' dramatic scenery is to strap on a pack and hike the 42.4-mile trail that doubles as part of the North Country National Scenic Trail. This is unquestionably one of Michigan's classic hikes. The trek is a walk between two towns, Grand Marais and Munising, past lighthouses and shipwrecks, giant sand dunes and towering sandstone cliffs, beaches on Lake Superior and beaches 200 feet above it. And except for a five-mile stretch from the Grand Sable Visitor Center (the eastern trailhead), you're almost never out of sight of the largest Great Lake of them all.

The scenery is so amazing and at times so exhilarating that the Lakeshore Trail is often considered the crowning jewel of the NCT's 4,600 miles. The Lakeshore Trail map is part of the Classic Trails of Michigan series from MichiganTrailMaps.com. The large format map measures 11 by 17 inches, is printed on durable card stock and coated to be water resistant. The map includes all distance markers, contour lines, historic buildings and ruins. Best of all, when folded it fits in your back pocket or the side pouch of your pack. It is available at outdoor stores or online at www.michigantrailmaps.com.


By
Jim DuFresne

Classic Trails of Michigan




Lakeshore Trail
part of the North Country
National Scenic Trail
**Pictured Rocks
National Lakeshore**

*Michigan's finest
backpacking trek,
a 42.4-mile adventure
from Grand Marais to
Munising along Lake
Superior and the famed
Pictured Rocks.*



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The 6th Annual Local Food Summit

The 6th Annual Local Food Summit was another success. Sunday night featured a potluck with lots of variety and even a little bit of food left over. The highlight of the evening was a documentary film about the life, thoughts and actions of Grace Lee Boggs – a living icon of Detroit-based activism. The film included a series of recent interviews with Grace about the many and varied civil rights actions in which she has been involved. She is now well into her 90s, is still a strong presence in Detroit and continues to speak to audiences elsewhere as she is able. The activist center created by Grace and her husband, Jim Boggs (the Grace Lee and Jim Boggs Center), remains alive and well in Detroit, and is currently active in efforts to create community gardens and build the bonds of community through people working together.

The featured speaker on Saturday was an “ecological economist”. One hardly ever sees or hears those two words together, but this guy, Josh Farley of the University of Vermont, was excellent. His talk highlighted the ways in which the market economy has failed to take account of the value of the diversity of nature and of the earth’s natural resources. At the close, he had a few min-

utes to point out the ways in which a strong local economy can evade some of the negative consequences of the large market economy. Local food sourcing, support of local and sustainable farming, community gardens, and the consequent fostering of a stronger sense of community along with an appreciation for the natural surroundings contribute positively to a more sustainable way of life.

By
Dorothy
Nordness



Oil Drilling Company Targets Scio Township

Scio Township residents have received requests to lease their mineral rights in order for West Bay Exploration Company to explore for oil. **The township is sponsoring an informational meeting Thursday, April 24, 6-9 pm at the Washtenaw Intermediate School District building at 1819 S. Wagner Road.** The panel of presenters was still being developed at our press time, but will include Curtis Talley from the MSU Extension Service.

A set of township residents are forming a group opposing the drilling. **More information can be found at no-drill.com.**



Huron Valley Group Directory

www.michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/

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Gwen Nystuen 665-7632

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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,
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Contributions, gifts and dues to Sierra Club are not tax deductible. They support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$9.00 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.

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SPRING 2014 Inside:

- Gravel Mine Opposed - page 1-4
- New Clean Car Report- page 5
- Calendar of Events - page 7-8
- Michigan Trail Maps - page 13

DIDYOU KNOW... that this newsletter is ENTIRELY volunteer-written, volunteer-edited and formatted for printing? The Huron Valley Group could really use your ideas and help on future issues of "The Lookout" with any of the following tasks:

- desktop & design
- article writer or recruiter
- photography & graphics
- proofreading - ad wrangler
- preparation for web and press

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 or if you have any questions, please contact us at hvgnews@yahoo.com

