



Huron Valley Group Sets Its Conservation Agenda

The Huron Valley Group Conservation Committee has worked on a variety of issues over the years. Recently committee members worked through a planning process to organize our efforts around a set of broad themes and to identify the specific activities our members will work on to address these issues. What follows briefly describes these themes and our current and expanded activities, along with some of the people working in these areas.

Climate Change & Sustainability

This area of effort includes a broad array of interests and efforts. The Ann Arbor area is lucky to have leadership in the local government on some of the efforts to reduce our community's carbon footprint.

- Engage in and support effective implementation of community Climate Action Plans.
- Support the effective implementation of Ann Arbor's Urban Forest Management Plan (James D'Amour and Rita Mitchell).

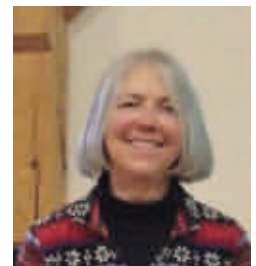


- Support efforts to expand use of renewable energy options and energy efficiency in new and retrofit construction (Bill Kidd).
- Support the Chapter's "Beyond Coal" campaign (Brad van Guilder). individual solar projects (John Ford, Bill Kidd).
- Advocate for local and state legislation that promotes renewable energy and energy efficiency and conservation.
 - Promote increased recycling and re-use (Robert Gordon).

Extractive Industries Oil, Gas, & Minerals)

There's much to do here as fracking and pipeline transportation of hydrocarbons continue to pose threats to the environment in all sorts of ways.

- Advocate against fracking and other destructive drilling practices (Nancy Shiffler, Dick Brown).
- Work with township citizens to promote more local control of and public participation in decisions about oil and gas drilling in their communities (James D'Amour, John Ford, Nancy Shiffler).



By
Nancy Shiffler
and Dorothy
Nordness

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- Fight the permitting of unnecessary and destructive pipelines locally (e.g., the ET Rover and Nexus natural gas pipelines), statewide (e.g., the Line 5 oil pipeline under the Straits of Mackinac), and nationally (e.g., the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline) (Nancy Shiffler, Dick Brown).



Local Foods & Sustainable Agriculture

Here's an area where your everyday actions can make a difference by choosing to purchase your food fresh from small local farmers. The Chapter has recently partnered with other organizations working to support and increase sustainable food production in Michigan and to educate the public about the large role that big agriculture plays in our carbon footprint – a big job. (<http://moreformichigan.org>)

- Encourage members to support locally and sustainably grown foods through farmer's markets, community supported agriculture (CSA's), shopping at local co-ops, buying organic, etc. (Dick Brown, Dorothy Nordness, Ginny Maturen).
- Support sustainable agricultural practices, e.g., organically grown crops, hormone-free meats, non-GMO crops (Dick Brown, Dorothy Nordness, Ginny Maturen).
- Advocate against subsidies that favor factory farms over small farms (John Ford, Dorothy Nordness).



- Advocate for stronger controls on air and water pollution from factory farms (John Ford).
- Educate about and encourage members to grow native plants (Toni Spears, Dick Brown, Dorothy Nordness).



Parklands, Public Lands, and Open Space

This topic spans issues in the city of Ann Arbor as well as township and tri-county efforts to provide and maintain excellent parks and open space for residents and visitors.

- Protect funding for parkland acquisition and maintenance (James D'Amour, Toni Spears, Rita Mitchell, Lydia Fischer).
- Oppose repurposing, leasing, or sale of parkland for non-park uses (James D'Amour, Nancy Shiffler, Rita Mitchell).
- Support the protection and stewardship of natural areas through programs such as the Ann Arbor NAP program, the Washtenaw County Natural Areas and Open Space program, and the work of local land conservancies.
- Support good stewardship and oversight of local parks, Metroparks and county and state parks and recreation areas (Toni Spears, Lydia Fischer).
- Support trail systems such as the Ann Arbor Greenway and the county Border-to-Border trail (Rita Mitchell, Dorothy Nordness).

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Transportation

Getting involved here means continually urging local officials to work towards more safe and sustainable forms of transportation in your area which results in more people walking, bicycling, and taking public transportation.

- Support effective public transit (Robert Gordon)
- Monitor the expanded AAATA transit operations (Robert Gordon).
- Encourage the development of infrastructure that supports biking and walking.
- Support sustainable regional transit, including bus and train service (Lydia Fischer, Robert Gordon).



Water Resources

If there is one thing Michigan is about, it is water. We are surrounded by the world's largest freshwater lakes and they need our constant and committed protection. Where do our rivers and streams go? Right into those lakes. Don't sit by -- help our water resources be clean for now and into the future.

- Advocate for stronger cleanup measures for the Pall-Gelman pollution (James D'Amour).
- Support planning and improvements for water and sewer infrastructure.

- Encourage localized storm water management, such as rain gardens and porous pavement (Toni Spears, Lydia Fischer, Rita Mitchell).
- Encourage localized storm water management, such as rain gardens and porous pavement (Toni Spears, Lydia Fischer, Rita Mitchell).
- Support efforts to reduce phosphorus and fertilizer run-off in rivers, particularly as related to algae blooms in Lake Erie (Dorothy Nordness, John Ford).
- Support effective wetlands protection (Dorothy Nordness).

Protect Those Wonderful Lakes (All of us!!).

This is an ambitious agenda, and we will provide periodic updates about our efforts on our website and in our newsletter.

The bottom line – there is plenty of room for you to join our efforts. We meet on the fourth Monday of the month with a usual break in August. If you are interested in joining us and helping with any of these issues, please contact ... Dorothy Nordness (734-668-6306) or Bill Kidd (734-883-0633)



Big Day Birding at Magee Marsh

I had never heard of Magee Marsh or Black Swamp, and we have lived in Ann Arbor for over 60 years. We have been to Pt. Pelee several times during spring and fall migrations, and to the Metro Parks for the hawk migrations and Haenle Reserve for the sandhill cranes. I am stunned that we didn't know about the remarkable marshes of Lake Erie. Even more surprising is that our son, Jeff, visiting from Seattle, didn't know of it either as he has gone birding all over the world. He said *"I have never seen so many birders at one spot. There were HUNDREDS of birders, all with binoculars and many with very large camera lenses. There were 'warbler jams' on the boardwalk at Magee Marsh."*

We drove the auto road routes around Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge from 8-10 am, and then went on to Magee Marsh, and after stopping at the entrance for information and maps drove on to the immense and nearly full parking lot and had some lunch before three hours on the impressive Magee Marsh boardwalk.

Jeff recorded 62 bird species for the day including the fifteen warblers listed below. The checklist for Magee Marsh has 348 species recorded in the area.

WOOD WARBLERS:

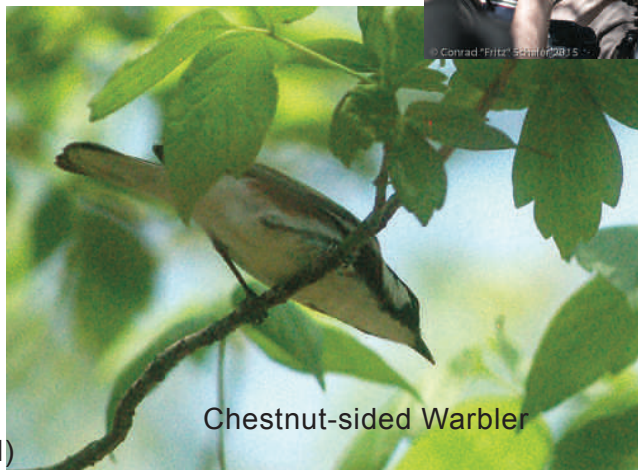
- Northern Waterthrush
- Prothonotary Warbler
- Kentucky Warbler
- Common Yellowthroat
- Hooded Warbler
- American Redstart
- Cape May Warbler
- Northern Parula
- Magnolia Warbler
- Bay-breasted Warbler
- Yellow Warbler
- Chestnut-sided Warbler
- Palm Warbler
- Black-throated Green Warbler
- Myrtle Warbler (Yellow-rumped)



By Gwen Nystuen with bird notes from Jeff Nystuen and photos by John Nystuen

Above, Magee Marsh boardwalk, Jeff on right.

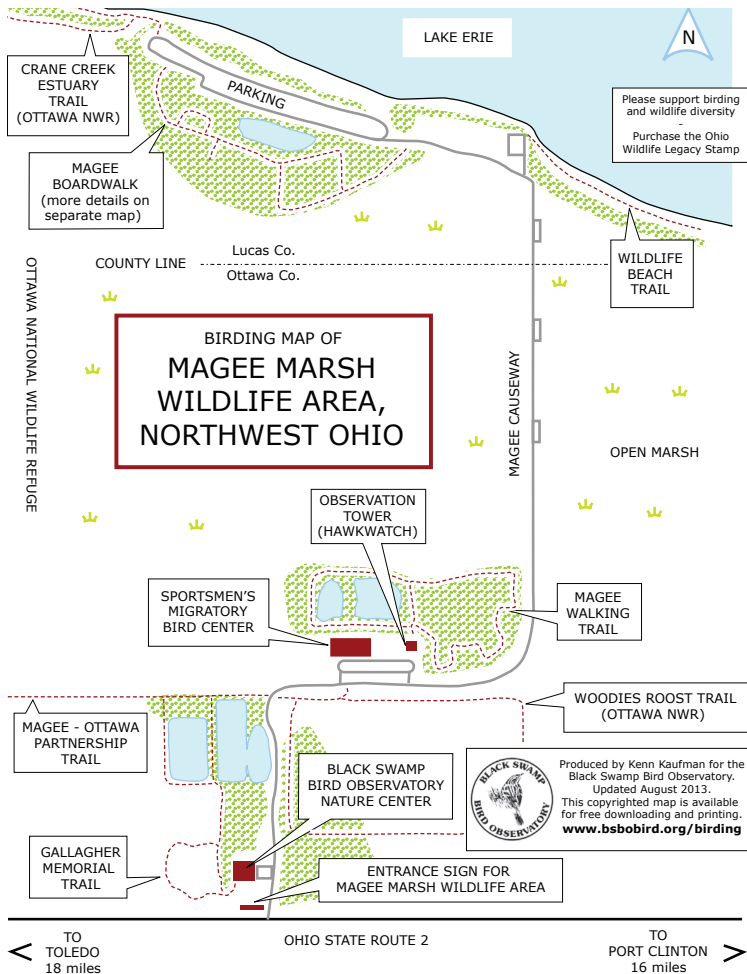
Below, Warbler Jam on the Magee Marsh "Bird Trail"



Chestnut-sided Warbler

continued pg.5

Magee Marsh Birding continued from page 4



Magee Marsh attracts visitors for the great variety of birds, orioles, thrushes, vireos, flycatchers, and raptors and most of all for the unusual number of warblers, about 37 species.

"Due to their reluctance to cross Lake Erie, the birds pile in on the forested beach ridges in large numbers and provide spectacular bird watching opportunities. Magee Marsh covers about 2000 acres and provides critical stopover habitat for migrating birds. It is like a giant rest stop where they can rest and re-fuel before continuing on their journey! Most of the over 300 species of birds sighted at Magee Marsh are just passing through! Some warblers do nest at Magee but most are going farther north to raise their families."

The birds come based on temperature and prevailing winds and the greatest migrations occur between the end of April and the first weeks of May. While it may appear too crowded, it turned out to be very rewarding. Birders tend to be quiet and polite and the

boardwalk is over a mile long and wide enough to pass along. Also unless you are a serious "birder" having "birders" all around makes it possible to see many more. I saw only half the species Jeff saw, but definitely twice as many as I would have on my own. The "birders" found species and pointed them out for others to see.

"The key to spectacular bird watching is weather! When low pressure cells build up in Arkansas and we have good southwest winds with a sharp increase in temperature as a front moves in, one is most likely to witness the heaviest migration."

"Although all of the trails offer the chance to see the birds, it is the Magee Marsh Bird Trail, or Boardwalk, that is the most popular. The Boardwalk takes you through a seven acre wood lot and when conditions are right it can literally be 'raining warblers!'"

"Magee marsh is one of only four remaining beach ridges along the southern shore of Lake Erie. It is unique because it provides all of the components vital to a marsh system -... It is also one of the few remaining remnants of the Great Black Swamp."

Quotes are from a brochure of The Friends of Magee Marsh, At the Sportsman Bird Center, open year around are checklists, maps, field guides, and information on the current birds and best locations for viewing. Their website offers many links to additional information, as well as hours the Center is open as well the best times of the year to see different species.

<http://www.friendsofmageemarsh.org>

The Battle of Trumpeter vs. Honkers



A pair of Trumpeter swans have a nest on the far side of this pond in the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge. Suddenly, while we were admiring the huge swans, one of them rushed out toward a pair of geese quietly paddling near the road. The swan made a vicious attack with beak open, wings out and a great lunge. Dramatic! One goose turned to meet the attack; clearly a brave move as the Trumpeter was fierce and immense. The second goose joined the fray. The battle continued with great lunges and splashes, but the Honkers could not hold their own. After several attacks and maneuvers, there was a lull that the Honkers used to cruise back to the road side. The geese climbed out of the pond and through the grass up to the road and started chirping and clucking. Previously invisible, out popped three goslings from the high side of the road. We left the family marching up the road.



Photos by
John Nystuen



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/>**

Thursday June 11, 2015 -- 7:00 pm -- How you can become a Sierra Club Outings Leader. SE corner of Stone School Road and Eisenhower (3039 Stone School Road Ann Arbor, MI). Do you likespending time in the great outdoors? Like seeing new places and revisiting known places? Camaraderie? Learn how you can become an Outings Leader for the Sierra Club Huron Valley Group. 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Enjoyable video. Information. Call KathyGuerseso at 734-677-0823. About an hour. Free to non-members and members.

Tuesday June 16, 2015 -- 7:30 pm – “The Impacts of Biodiversity Loss on Humanity”. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd Ann Arbor, MI). How many species, and which ones, are needed to support higher life on Earth? How will species extinctions affect the production of food, purification of air and water, or other benefits of nature that are often used to justifyconservation? Bradley Cardinale, Assoc. Prof. UofM SNRE, will discuss his research and meta-analyses that have helped build a scientific consensus on how biodiversity loss affects ecosystems and their ability to provide society with the goods and servicesneeded to prosper. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Tuesday July 21, 2015 -- 7:30 pm – “The Role of the Great Lakes Gardens at Matthaei Botanical Gardens”. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd Ann Arbor, MI). The Great Lakes Gardens at the U of M's Matthaei Botanical Gardens were developed to showcase a range of native plant communities of Michigan and the Great Lakes Region. The gardens provide opportunities for the public to learn about these natural communities, and play an important role in the conservation of numerous uncommon native plants. Our tour will focus on the ecology of the natural communities and some of the characteristic and rare plant species in the Great Lakes Gardens. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com June 16, 2015, 7:30 PM

Tuesday August 18, 2015 -- 7:30 pm – “Hunters of the Sky”. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd Ann Arbor, MI). It's all about survival! Three engaging raptors (such as hawks, owls, and falcons) from Leslie Science and Nature Center will visit with us to demonstrate and model their amazing survival characteristics and techniques. Hands-on explorations of feathers, skulls, and other bird parts will provide a stimulating introduction to the Hunters of the Sky. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com

September 15, 2015, 7:30 PM Matthaei Botanical Gardens TBD (1800 N Dixboro Rd Ann Arbor, MI). Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com

October 20, 2015 Matthaei Botanical Gardens Microplastics in the Great Lakes! We have heard of the effects of plastic in the oceans. Melissa Duhaime, Research Scientist at UofM will discuss her study of ecosystem-level impacts of aquatic plastic debris and its associated microbial communities and organic pollutants in the Great Lakes.

Sierra Club—Huron Valley Group Calendar continued

November 17, 2015 Matthaei Botanical Gardens Hiking Isle Royale Isle Royale National Park is a Sierra Club favorite destination: remoteness; unique history and ecosystems; and challenging hiking terrain provide interests in abundance. Jim DuFresne, one of Michigan's best outdoor writers and explorers, will describe his favorite hikes and experiences on this unique archipelago.

December 15, 2015 Matthaei Botanical Gardens Tales and Travels from Around the Globe The annual HVG member program. Share and inspire us with your travels! Send a Powerpoint presentation, or 10-15 digital photos to Ed Steinman lighthawkpilot@gmail.com and tell us about your adventures, near and far.

The HVG Gang of Seven also known as The ExCom



In December 2014, Ed Steinman, Bill Kidd, James D'Amour and Robert Gordon were elected to the Huron Valley Group of the Sierra Club Executive Committee for two-year terms. They join Nancy Shiffler, Jay Schlegel, and Ginny Maturen elected in December 2013.

Top row, Ed, Nancy, Ginny and James. Lower row: Jay, Robert and Bill.

How to Close a Gap in Ann Arbor's Border to Border (B2B) Trail

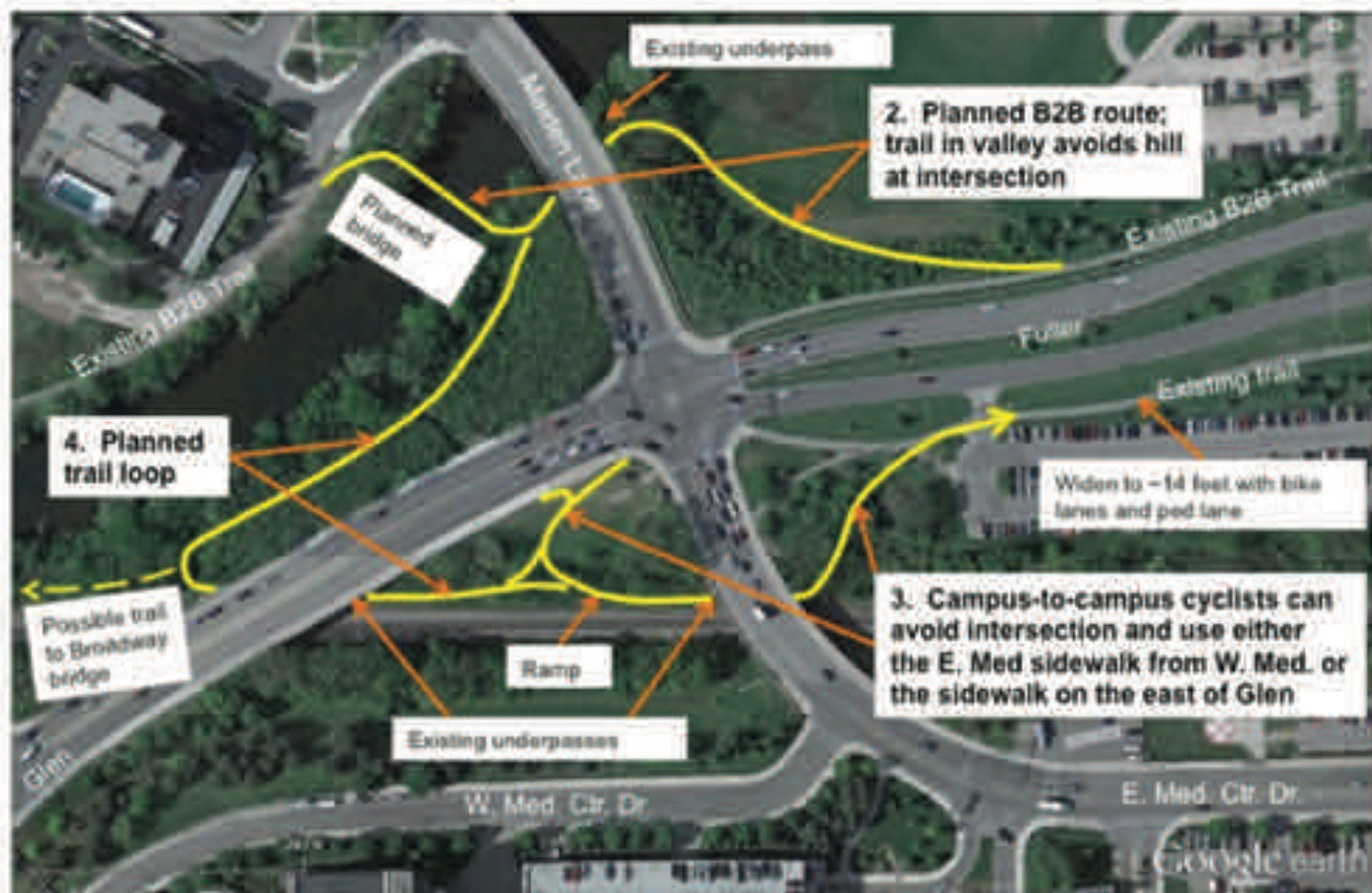
The Border-to-Border (B2B) Trail is a 35-mile greenway under development across Washtenaw County along and near the Huron River. Most of the trail has been built, and additional parts are scheduled for construction. Of the remaining gaps, three of the most annoying and dangerous are in Ann Arbor parks. The three gaps in the trail are:

- 1) on the west side connecting between Barton Park and Bandemer Park,
- 2) in the center connecting between Riverside Park and Fuller Park (getting around the Maiden Lane/Fuller Rd/East Medical Center Drive intersection heavily used by motor and non-motor traffic,
- 3) and on the east connecting the trail coming from the east at the Fuller bridge.

The Central Gap—Getting around the Maiden Lane/Fuller Rd/East Medical Center Drive Intersection needs:

1. Non-motorized bridge over Huron River (just west of Maiden Lane) connecting Riverside Park to Fuller Park, with trail connecting the bridge to the existing trail in Fuller Park via the existing Maiden Lane underpass.
2. Trail connections to the existing underpass where East Medical Center Drive crosses the railroad.
3. Completing the trail loop to the existing underpass where Fuller/Glen crosses the railroad to connect to the new river bridge.

By Gwen Nystuen with map and information provided by Larry Deck of the Washtenaw Biking and Walking Coalition (WBWC)



Save the planet: One forkful at a time!

By
Laurel Hopwood

Laurel Hopwood is a Volunteer in Northeast Ohio Sierra Club <lhopwood@roadrunner.com>

Adopting a plant-based diet is the simplest and cheapest way to combat global warming, reduce water pollution and even save the rainforests.

In light of mounting evidence that the raising of cows, pigs and chicken in factories generates enormous amounts of greenhouse gases, we are calling for a Meat-Free Monday Campaign. A 2010 United Nations report concluded that a shift toward a vegan diet is necessary to combat the worst effects of climate change.

The recent shutdown of drinking water for the entire city of Toledo, Ohio, raises a huge red flag. Manure run off from factory raised animals and fertilizers used to grow feed-crops can cause algae-excreting deadly cyanobacteria. Rather than spending our hard earned dollars to upgrade sewer systems, there is another way. People can take personal responsibility and choose what they put on their dinner plates.

The immense amount of water required to raise animals and feed-crops is depleting a crucial resource: water. If we continue pumping out the Ogallala Aquifer at current rates, it's only a matter of time before most of the wells in the midwest and southwest will go dry.

That's not all. Livestock production is responsible for 70% of deforestation in the Amazon region of Latin America, where rainforests are being cleared to create new pastures and crop production.

We encouraged the city of Cleveland, Ohio, to pass a resolution calling for residents to refrain from eating animal prod-

ucts one day per week. It recognizes the benefits of a diet consisting of nuts, seeds, grains, legumes, fruits and vegetables to improve personal health and the health of the planet.

We encourage families, schools and restaurants to go meat-free (at least) one day per week.

To read our fact sheet, actions to take, resources, meal ideas and sample city resolution, please visit:

- <http://www.neosierragroup.org/meat-free-mondays/>

- Click here to join the Grassroot Network:

- <https://content.sierraclub.org/grassroot-network/teams/meat-free-monday-campaign>



(Note: Sierra Club's updated Agriculture policy includes this statement: "Personal dietary choices that minimize or eliminate meat and animal products should

be encouraged, due to their many benefits, including reducing greenhouse gas impacts, water pollution and inhumane treatment of animals.")



DTE Rate Case Could Impact Energy-Efficient LED Streetlight Solutions

In 2011, the City of Highland Park, MI, home to the world's first automated assembly line, first mile of paved road, and first depressed urban freeway, lost over 1,000 city streetlights to repossession by DTE Energy. The city had been unable to pay a \$65,000 per month energy bill for some time and racked up \$4 million in municipal electric debt. Amidst already staggering poverty and collapsing infrastructure, residents of this majority black city in the center of Detroit had to sit and watch their streetlights be removed and carted off. Go to youtube and search for "Highland Park in the Dark: DTE Removes Streetlights" if you don't believe me.

In response, I helped to form Soulardarity, a community organization formed around the installation of community-owned off-grid solar streetlights. Since 2012 we have installed two pilot projects and inspired the city and county to collaborate on an off-grid solar lighting project for the Ernest T. Ford Recreation center. Soulardarity is currently in the process of forming into a membership organization that will pursue off-grid solar street lighting, energy efficiency, and community education and organizing to build a democratic and equitable energy system.

Recently, Highland Park invested in high-efficiency LEDs for some of their remaining lights, along with many other municipalities in southeast Michigan. DTE publicly encouraged this investment. The city of Ypsilanti, for instance, spent \$500,000 converting their streetlights to LEDs on a promise of saving at least \$120,000 annually. Now, DTE has put forward a rate case that would raise the operating rates of LED lighting, while lowering the operating rates of sodium bulbs, significantly diminishing the payback for cities which invested in upgrading their lighting. 24 municipalities are intervening in this rate case for lack of any good reason

that LED lighting should be so much more expensive to maintain.

It is almost convenient that Highland Park was so brutally wracked by the repossession - at least the con didn't cost us as much. Starting from scratch, it is actually more affordable to install off-grid solar-powered lighting than lighting tied to the rising cost of fossil fuels and the desperation of an obsolete monopoly. It indicates to me that cities everywhere should be paying attention to places like Highland Park, where the devastation wreaked by an economy designed for gambling addicts is most acute, and where the transformation to a new one is actually possible.

At a DTE shareholder meeting last week, I asked Gerald Anderson, DTE's board chairman, face-to-face, why this rate case is being advanced. He said, and this is almost word-for-word, that LED streetlights used such little energy that they need to raise fixed costs to pay for their infrastructure.

Let that sink in.

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By Jackson
Koeppel

Jackson Koeppel is Co-Director of Soulardarity, a community organization working on solar lighting and energy democracy in Highland Park, MI. You can learn more at www.soulardarity.com and reach him at 917 554 3741 or jackson.soulardarity@gmail.com

com



DTE Rate Case continued from page 11

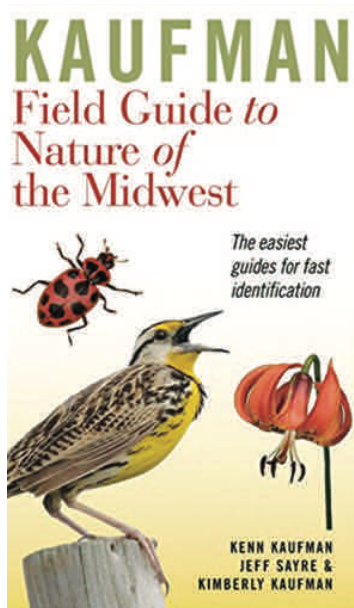
If your community reduces its energy use, DTE is going to raise rates to pay for their coal plants and nuclear plants, transmission lines, transformers - even though you're using them less. The message is clear: DTE cares more about their investors than the communities they serve. They aren't going to help us make an energy economy that works for our communities unless we demand it.

This is not the first, or the last, time that DTE will double-cross our communities. We know that they will fight tooth and nail against efforts to make our own energy. We know that they have money

- but we have something better. This regional collaboration to intervene in the LED rate case could be the beginning of the transformation I've been having fever dreams and powerful conversations about. I hope it is, because I'm keenly aware that we are on a tight schedule to avoid catastrophic, old testament, seven plagues-style climate collapse. We're already feeling it - last year, Highland Park got six inches of rain in 24 hours in an event that cost Michiganders over \$1 billion. So Michigan, it's time to get serious. Let's work together to build a new energy economy like our lives depend on it - because they do.

New Midwest Field Guide

This is a very attractive new field guide, designed for the Midwest. It is general, but quite handy for identification of the birds, mammals, trees, wildflowers, insects, reptiles, amphibians, fish, spiders, mushrooms, ferns, rocks, and sky of the Midwest. It was just published, May 5, 2015.



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 each April. Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com, click on "Michigan" and click on "Enroll." To become a Kroger



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 web-
site 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 Nystrom

"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 food groceries
2. **Online ordering:** from over 500 national merchants including Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bath & Body Works, Best Buy, Cabela's, Chipotle Mexican Grill, CVS/pharmacy, Estate Lodge, Glen's Market, Groupon, Home Depot, iTunes, Kohl's, L.L. Bean, Lands' End, Lawr's, Noodles & Company, Office Max, REI, Rite Aid, Sears, gas stations, Starbucks, Tim Hortons, United Artists Theatres, Walgreens, Whole Foods. Please visit: michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/giscrip.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 @ \$100 ea
Arbor Brewing Company	_____ cards @ \$25 ea		
Arbor Farms	no card—just tell the cashier that you're donating to the Sierra Club		
Beach's	_____ cards @ no cost + add money when shopping at Beach's		
Produce Station	_____ cards @ \$25 ea _____ cards @ \$50 ea		
Meijers	Please order both through Shopwithaarp—see: michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/giscrip.htm		
Whole Foods	For help with Shopwithaarp contact Ed Steiman (esteiemo@sierraclub.org)		
Hillier's Markets	Obtain card at Hillier's and register it at hilliers.redeffers.com then donate your rewards		
Kroger	Obtain card at Kroger's and register it at kroger.com/rewards.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: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

- 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 Steiman (esteiemo@sierraclub.org)
621 5th St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108



Huron Valley Group Directory

www.michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/

Chair * = HVG Excom Member

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

Conservation Chair

Dorothy Nordness 668-6306

Inner City Outings Chair

Joan Wolf

Outings Chair

Kathy Guerreso 677-0823

Inner City Outings Liaison

Membership Chair

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James D'Amour*

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Fund Raising Co-Chairs

Jay Schlegel* 477-5715

Ed Steinman* 665-0248

Website

Ed Steinman* 665-0248

Newsletter Team

Jay Schlegel*, Editor 477-5715

Gwen Nystuen 665-7632

Ed Steinman* 665-0248

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!

With your help, we can clean up our water.

Check the link to learn more about your company's cleaning up our water. See the State Administration's upcoming the program preparing the "what-if" small business grants and rebates to help to clean up the Clean Water Act. Work with us to encourage the Clean Water Act and investments. Together we can have our children enjoy a clean water, as well as fish.

Keep our water safe. Join Sierra Club.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____
 Zip: _____ Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Membership Bag

Check online Download Join Renew Cancel

Cardholder Name: _____
 Card Number: _____
 Exp. Date: _____
 Zip: _____

Membership Program	Initial	Renewal
Special Offer	\$15	\$15
Student	\$15	\$15
Supporting	\$15	\$15
Contributing	\$15	\$15
Life	\$1500	\$1500
Senior	\$15	\$15
Student/Young Professional	\$15	\$15

Check for more information on Sierra Club membership and how to join. We are currently accepting applications for membership. Please contact us at 1-800-426-4866 or visit our website at www.sierraclub.org. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Member Name: _____
 Title: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____



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- HVG Conservation Agenda - page 1-3
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- DTE Impact on Energy Policy - page 10

DID YOU 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



Photo by John Nystuen, Black Swamp, May 2015