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The Mackinac

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB • AUGUST-OCTOBER 2001



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In Michigan we have the great fortune of living with one of the wonders of the world — the Earth's largest stretches of freshwater sand dunes.

Nearly 300,000 acres of shoreline along Lake Michigan and Lake Superior can be seen from space. It took thousands of years to reach their current size, and if eliminated, they will be gone forever.

The dunes support a greater variety of life than any other Great Lakes ecosystem, making a safe home for many endangered and threatened animals and plants. Migratory birds obtain minerals from the sands and find food and shelter on their journeys. Of course, damage done to the dunes imperils all these plants and creatures.

The dunes face threats from residential development and oil drilling. After a moratorium, the Engler administration and Republicans in the legislature are intent on restarting the oil drilling. (See the Feb.-April "Mackinac").

A third threat is mining of these high-quality, easily mined sands. The auto industry, the greatest user of Lake Michigan dune sands, uses the sand to cast metal parts. Alternative sources exist, and Ford Motor Company has nearly eliminated use of dune sands without affecting the quality of its products or its competitiveness.

SAND DUNE LEGISLATION

Public demand for dune protection in the 1970s and 1980s prompted legislation. The Sand Dune Protection and Management Act of 1976 gave control of sand dune mining permits to the Department of Natural Resources (now the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)). An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be prepared before a permit to mine is given — but the mining company writes the EIS! Mining companies are required to reclaim or restore the area when mining operations end. But "restoration" might mean a golf course. Additionally, up to 3000 tons (about 150 dump trucks) may be mined without a permit.

In 1989 the Act was amended to give some protection to "critical dune areas" of special ecological importance, totaling

S.O.S. (Save our Sand Dunes)

by Mike Johnson, Kalamazoo Valley Group



PHOTO COURTESY OF USEPA GLINPO

The dunes support a greater variety of life than any other Great Lakes ecosystem, making a safe home for many endangered and threatened animals and plants.

70,000 acres. Further study of the dunes was required and in 1996, Michigan State University and DEQ staff recommended an additional 12,000 acres be given critical dune status. The DEQ administration never acted on the recommendation.

HOW ARE THE DUNES DOING?

A recent Lake Michigan Federation study reported the following:

- The area permitted for mining has increased 50 percent since the 1976 Act.
- The amount of sand mined since 1976 would fill 2,300,000 dump trucks.
- Mining companies estimate they have removed just one-fifth of the sand they have permits to mine.
- The 12,000 acres recommended for critical dune protection could be mined at any time.

IS DEQ DOING ITS DUTY?

The DEQ is supposed to monitor mining operations and has the authority to terminate or deny permits to companies that do not meet permitting requirements. The

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Mackinac*, Sierra Club, 109 East Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI 48906.

Annual dues for the Sierra Club are \$35, of which \$1 is for a subscription to *The Mackinac*. Non-member subscriptions are available for \$10 per year from the Mackinac Chapter office. • *The Mackinac* reaches more than 19,000 members and friends of the Sierra Club in Michigan. Both display and classified advertising is accepted. For a current ad rate card, contact: Julie Janeczko-Murphy, Business Manager, 1628 Canterbury Trail Apt. M, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858; phone: 989-772-7939; e-mail: soaringbuteos@msn.com.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF USDA NRCS

The real threat to public health and water quality, however, is the State of Michigan.

CAFO UPDATE: SIERRA CLUB SUES ENGLER ADMINISTRATION OVER ANIMAL FACTORIES

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Staff Director



The Sierra Club has named the Engler Administration as a defendant in its lawsuit to stop water pollution from an Ottawa County animal factory.

The State of Michigan refuses to process water permits submitted under the federal Clean Water Act for River Ridge Farms. This interferes with the Sierra Club's requests to the court to bring the animal factory into compliance with the law.

The amended lawsuit was filed in late June in federal district court for western Michigan. It states a claim under the Michigan Environmental Protection Act against the State and DEQ Director Russell Harding for pollution, impairment and destruction of the state's environment based on their failure to enforce the law.

Sierra Club's lawsuit against River Ridge Farms, filed in April, cites more than 15 years of contamination of the Grand River and its tributaries. River Ridge Farms dairy and beef facilities polluted the waters with manure milking house wastes and other agricultural pollutants. About 200,000 gallons of liquefied manure recently was discharged from a breach in a waste lagoon at River Ridge Farms.

According to Sierra Club's amended complaint filed in July, the State's obstruction of the permitting process for River Ridge Farms requires the state's inclusion as a defendant in the lawsuit in order to allow the court to resolve the issues.

"River Ridge Farms has broken the law, threatening Michigan's water quality and public health, and should be held accountable," said Aaron Isherwood, Sierra Club staff attorney. "The real threat to public health and water quality, however, is the State of Michigan. Governor Engler and Director Harding are violating the Clean Water Act across the board by refusing to require permits for Michigan animal factories and by failing to enforce violations by animal factories."

Anne Woiwode, Staff Director of the Mackinac Chapter, said, "The Engler Administration has charted a course regarding animal factories and water pollution that seems destined for disaster. The Sierra Club is not willing to wait until people are dying from water contamination from animal factories in Michigan to demand that the state comply with and enforce with the law."

Under the state's current program, environmental agency officials usually don't learn of the existence of an animal factory until after neighbors file complaints or a major spill happens.

The Sierra Club's amended complaint also cites violations of the Michigan Environmental Protection Act (MEPA) by the state

because Director Harding and MDEQ are refusing to obey federal and state standards and requirements under the Clean Water Act.

The Sierra Club contends this conduct results in pollution, impairment and destruction of Michigan's natural resources. The Club calls on the court to appoint a Special Master under state law to step in and make recommendations for preventing further discharges and restoring the damaged waterways.

EPA TELLS STATE TO OBEY THE LAW

"Under the Clean Water Act and EPA's 1973 approval of Michigan's NPDES program, MDEQ is required to issue NPDES permits to CAFOs (concentrated animal feeding operations)."

— April 26, 2001 letter from David Ullrich to Russell Harding

Before this notice was sent, many people thought the Bush Administration would interfere with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's work. In 1999, Sierra Club, Michigan Land Use Institute, Michigan Environmental Council and two individuals petitioned the EPA to withdraw Michigan's authority under the Clean Water Act. The letter, addressed to DEQ Director Russ Harding, reportedly had been reviewed by Administrator Christie Todd Whitman's staff prior to being signed and sent by Region 5 Acting Administrator David Ullrich.

The letter clarified "the fact that EPA has not taken final action on the petitions does not mean MDEQ should tarry in resolving the problems described in the interim report" issued in September 2000, which found the Michigan program for addressing water pollution from animal factories to be "seriously lacking."

"MDEQ should not be deterred from aggressively pursuing the issue of NPDES permits to CAFOs that are subject to existing, 25-year old regulations." Ullrich's letter directed MDEQ to respond by May 23 "with your plans for CAFO permitting, compliance evaluation, and enforcement consistent with MDEQ's responsibilities under the Clean Water Act."

Director Harding responded to EPA in a May 30 letter that showed a slight shift in the state's position, but a continued resistance to complying with the law. Harding admitted for the first time that large animal factories meeting certain criteria are, in fact, point sources requiring permits under the law. But he made clear that the state will not process those applications any time soon, and failed to provide substantive responses to the other EPA requests. EPA Region 5 staff members are reportedly preparing a recommendation for EPA's next step on this matter. ❁



Michigan's great forests: they deserve a second chance

by Anne Woiwode, Program Director and Marvin Roberson, Forest Policy Specialist

TIMBER MANDATE VICTORY!

We are happy to report a positive turn in the debate over mandated timber levels on state forests in the Michigan Department of Natural Resource's Appropriation Bills. While the mandate still exists, the amount of mandated timber marking in the Fiscal Year 2002 Budget has been reduced to the level the DNR actually expects to cut in 2002.

In addition, the Legislature added language encouraging the DNR "to continue workgroup efforts to develop an old growth forest stewardship strategy." A change in the makeup of the Michigan House Appropriations Subcommittee contributed to the new attitude on this issue in Lansing. The subcommittee seriously deliberated on this issue and crafted the language, which ultimately was signed into law.

DNR OLD GROWTH PROCESS STUCK

The DNR has missed the first deadline for the Old Growth and Biodiversity Stewardship efforts. It failed to appoint the Public Advisory Team (PAT) identified in the plan and convenes its first meeting by June. DNR staff said it is compiling a list of potential public advisors, and an invitation letter will soon go out. However, the agency is not willing to commit to a new deadline.

Sierra Club and others are anxious to see the process begin after more than 10 years of delays in old growth protection at the state level. The DNR's February 2001 proposal for developing an old growth and biodiversity stewardship plan spelled out a very tight schedule over two years' time. Delays could mean that timber sales tentatively scheduled, pending completion of the old growth plan, will in fact fall to the axe prior to completion of the process. Also of grave concern was the recent sudden reorganization within the DNR that merged major parts of the Forest Management Division and the Lands and Minerals Division into a new Forest, Minerals, and Fire Management Division.

The reorganization, which occurred without public review, leaves many questions unanswered. Does the new structure mean that oil, gas and other mineral development will be given higher priority than the already weak protection mandate for the state forests? After a couple of months under the new regime there has been little public reaction to the reorganization, apparently because the action has drawn little public attention.

TOO MUCH ASPEN NOW A REGIONAL ISSUE

Management of aspen is one of the most contentious issues in forest management in the upper Great Lakes today. While natural disturbances would create an aspen component of about 3 percent over the region, current and past management has caused this short-lived tree species to make up close to 30 percent. This is many times the natural level.

The timber industry, which uses aspen to make paper and chipboard, lobbies for high levels of aspen. Organized hunting interests join them, since deer and grouse prefer aspen forests. The overabundance of aspen contributes to vast overpopulation of deer. The U.S. Forest Service, across seven National Forests in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, has made a large number of decisions to manage for aspen, which individually may not be of concern. Taken together, however, these decisions produce an overall excessive amount of aspen in the region.

For five years, the Mackinac Chapter has requested that Regional Office of the Forest Service begin an assessment process to document the effects of managing for excess aspen levels on the health of our forests. Currently discussions are underway between the agency and the Mackinac Chapter to begin a region-wide assessment.

BUSH ADMINISTRATION UNDOES ROADLESS PROCESS

As feared, the Bush Administration has begun dismantling the Clinton Administration's roadless area protection plan. This is happening despite the overwhelming public support for the Clinton plan that was garnered through the largest, most open public input process in history.

Using the excuse of an adverse court decision in Idaho, the Bush Administration has proposed to undermine the fundamental premise for roadless area protection on National Forests nationwide. It is turning decisions about protection of these public lands over to local interests, without the critical criteria developed through the national public input process. In Michigan, decisions about the 16,000 acres identified in the three Michigan National Forests likely will be put off until, and unless, the National Forest Plans are updated. Plan updates are expected to begin during the next few years, but no firm plans are in place. ♣



Environmental activists rally in June when Vice President Cheney visited Howell.



Michigan citizens reject Bush energy plan

By Dan Farough, Political Director & Public Education Campaign Coordinator

President Bush's full court press to sell his energy plan has not been well received by Michiganders, even with help from Representative Mike Rogers and former Senator Spencer Abraham. The Bush plan heavily emphasizes oil drilling, nuclear power, and more coal-fired power plants while short-changing renewable sources and efficiency programs. This raises eyebrows about the health of the Great Lakes, the quality of life in our major cities and energy security.

Volunteers from the Sierra Club and other concerned organizations had multiple opportunities to directly communicate their concerns over this dangerous plan to the administration in several high-profile events.

On June 18, Rep. Mike Rogers (8th district) hosted a \$1,000-per-plate fundraiser in Howell with Vice-President Dick Cheney as keynote speaker. About 60 activists from Sierra Club, PIRGIM, the AFL-CIO and other groups rallied behind a giant inflatable power plant to protest the Bush energy plan. The environmentalists and the Vice-President engaged in a high profile press duel over the merits of Bush's energy plan.

Activists called for more than showboating and talk about renewables and efficiency. They demanded the restoration of funding to these programs that Bush has slashed by one-third. The group told Cheney and Rogers that slant drilling the Great Lakes for an incredibly small amount of oil was a bad idea. Slant drilling would spur industrial development along Michigan's fragile shoreline and put drinking water sources at

risk in the event of an onshore spill.

One week later, Sierra Club volunteers rallied in Detroit for a visit from President Bush to the Conference of Mayors. More than 100 activists urged the President to tell the mayors about the true impact of his energy plan on the nation's cities. Coal-fired power plants, a central part of the Bush plan, are a major reason for the skyrocketing asthma cases among children in cities like Detroit. Burning coal also causes acid rain, global warming and mercury deposition. Every lake in Michigan is under an advisory for mercury contamination.

THE BALANCED ALTERNATIVE:

Fortunately for Michigan and the country, the Bush energy plan is not our only option. There are balanced alternatives that can meet our energy needs, protect the environment and strengthen our energy security. A balanced alternative includes increasing (not slashing) funding for renewable and efficiency programs. Energy-efficient appliances, using today's technology, could save Americans \$100 billion. Renewable energy such as wind and solar quickly is becoming competitive. By 2001 the Department of Energy estimates wind power will produce enough power for 1.7 million more households.

The single most effective step Americans can make in improving our energy security and fighting global warming is making our cars go further on a gallon of gas. Raising fuel efficiency standards to 40 mpg for cars and light trucks would cut carbon dioxide pollution by 600 million tons and save

more oil than we import from all Persian Gulf countries combined. Also, by improving transmission lines, we could carry up to three times as much electricity.

If we make the right choices, we can have cleaner air, less global warming, and lessen our dependence on fossil fuels. Unfortunately, President Bush's energy plan makes the wrong choices and puts our Great Lakes, environment and energy security at risk. We can have clean energy and a healthy environment, but we need to follow the lead of our volunteers in Michigan and urge our leaders to choose wisely — for our families, for our future. ♣

TAKE POSITIVE ACTION!

Call Representative Rogers at (517) 702-8000. Tell him the Bush energy plan makes the wrong choices for Michigan. Tell him slant drilling the Great Lakes for Oil is a bad idea. Tell him we need a balanced energy plan — instead of the Bush plan — and that he should go to www.sierraclub.org for more information.

Monica Evans and Lynn Livingston are the brains and hearts behind the newly organized Traverse Group.



PHOTO BY BARBARA YARROW

“Pinkie” activist reaches out to form new group

by Sherry Hayden, Mackinac Editor

Absence makes the heart grow fonder. In Monica Evans’ case, absence made her resolve grow stronger as well. When she returned to her native Leelanau County in 1999 after a four-year hiatus, she found the ‘pinkie’ peninsula’s environment to be in imminent danger, and decided to devote her life to protecting it.

“My parents always stressed to us how lucky we are, living two miles from Lake Michigan and five miles from the sand dunes and rivers,” she said. “We didn’t have money but there was incredible beauty around us. I grew up knowing it had to be protected and couldn’t be squandered.”

Both Monica and husband Chad’s families were among the earliest settlers of Leelanau County. The National Park Service purchased their farms in the 1970s. “We’d always counted on that land being in the family,” she said. “But it’s the best thing that could have happened. Otherwise it could have ended up as condos from shore to shore.”

Sprawling development typifies Kalamazoo, where the Evans family relocated during Chad’s return to Western Michigan University. While the city provided their home-schooled sons with diverse cultural experiences, it posed hard ecological questions for Monica.

“The Kalamazoo River is so polluted,” she said. “There’s a lot of waste and trash, fast food places on every corner. The quality of air and water is ruined. Then I came home and was surrounded by wilderness and pristine nature. But I was amazed at the amount of sprawl in Empire and I could see my home becoming developed. I decided somebody’s got to do something about it.”

A year later she saw a flier organizing a protest at Northport State Park. A proposed lighthouse development would pave over the rustic campground. There she met Lynn Livingston, the main organizer. Although her only experience as an environmental activist had been to write letters and attend meetings, Monica volunteered on the spot to help start a local Sierra Club group. Early this year, the group held its first meeting, drawing 50 people.

“Lynn Livingston deserves so much credit for this group coming together,” she said. “It never would have happened without him.

Sometimes it happens that you find yourself surrounded by people with same kind of ideas, and it falls into place, it comes together. It’s been such a blast.”

About 30 people attend the monthly meetings, and about 14 comprise the conservation committee. “Five of those are kids. It’s so reassuring to see these teenagers proactive with the environment,” she said. “We are getting the outings committee going and we need a publicist. Lots of people don’t know we are here yet.”

While the lighthouse development is tabled for now, several other threats quickly took its place.

This winter she found herself again in Northport, during a blizzard, protesting road construction through a critical dune of the South Fox Island. Like-minded activists from about a dozen environmental groups joined in successful opposition to the land swap. “The Foxes won,” she said.

Now the group has turned its attention to preventing a 30-mile bypass around Traverse City. “It would run through wetlands and farm lands, and would be devastating to the city in the long run,” she said.

The Traverse Group opposes the Leelanau County Road Commission plan to open roads on South Manitou Island that were closed to protect a stand of 528-year-old virgin white cedars. “The commission wants to give tours; it is monetarily motivated and there are questions of conflict of interest,” she said. “It’s not the environment that would benefit.”

The group claimed victory in the tire-burning controversy in Cadillac. “There may end up being a statewide moratorium on tire burning as a result,” she said. “There are so many issues, I want to jump in and address all of them. It’s so hard to turn your back when something is staring you in the face.”

“I could no more sit back than pave 20 acres and put up a parking lot,” she said. “I have to do something to ensure that it’s here for my children, so their kids will be able to enjoy it the way I did.”

From the looks of the new Traverse Group, she won’t have to do it alone. ♣

The Traverse Group monthly meetings resume at the district library in Traverse City on the fourth Saturday in September. Information is available at (231) 325-6812 or imagine@bignetnorth.net.

Great Lakes State Updates

OIL AND WATER DON'T MIX

Should the Great Lakes, which holds one-fifth of the Earth's freshwater and stretches across eight U.S. states and two Canadian provinces, and every day supplies more than 25 million people drinking water, be subject to oil drilling?

Michigan is the only state among these that allows drilling. Currently there are five wells in Manistee County at Lake Michigan and two in Bay County at Lake Huron. Since 1979, 13 oil wells in Michigan have produced less than 500,000 barrels.

The process requires a shaft to be drilled down 4,000 feet and within 1,500 feet from the shore. Beyond the concern that oil or gas might leak into the water is the possible damage to our already fragile shorelines. Chemicals leaking from these wells could contaminate groundwater and streams, and pollute the entire Great Lakes ecosystem. Our Great Lakes are now threatened with threats of water diversion, shoreline depletion, contamination from acid rain and airborne toxins, fluctuating water levels, and introduction of exotic species.

Recently Vice President Dick Cheney came here to push oil drilling. We must insist on other options to lessen U.S. dependence on foreign oil. Meanwhile, sales of SUVs escalate. We must insist that the U.S. creatively conserve to reduce our over-consumption of oil. For example, those who purchase hybrid vehicles should be rewarded with tax incentives.

Fortunately, the U.S. Congress passed an amendment to prevent drilling for oil or gas beneath the Great Lakes. Hats off to David Bonior (D-MI Minority Whip), Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), Steven LaTourette (R-OH), Bart Stupak (D-MI), and Senators Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), and Carl Levin (D-MI) and all who voted their conscience.

- Jan O'Connell, Sierra Club National Board of Directors

UTILITY OFFERS GREENWISE RENEWABLE ENERGY

Lansing's Board of Water & Light electric customers now may choose part or all of their electricity needs to be supplied by clean, renewable energy from environmentally friendly sources such as water, wind or biomass-produced gas.

Participants will make significant contributions to the environment. Over a one-year period each 250 KWH block of energy will displace the following emissions if compared to coal-fired plants: 40 pounds of sulfur dioxide, 16 pounds of nitrogen oxide, and 6,000 pounds of carbon dioxide. For information about the BWL's Green-Wise Electric Power, check their website at www.lbwl.com or call them at (517) 702-6006.

Citizens are urged to contact their utility company to request similar renewable energy programs in their area.

DISEASE FORCES REMOVAL OF TREES ALONG I-75

Maybe you've seen the dying trees along I-75 at the 45th Parallel near Gaylord. An infestation of pine bark beetles is killing the red pines, forcing the Michigan Department of Transportation to remove up to 6,000 trees.

The trees were planted as a monoculture crop, to reforest some of the vast area that had been clearcut. Red pine is native and an important species in Michigan, but it doesn't come packaged in rows like corn fields. The intent was to grow them to be more productive for timber values, not for biodiversity. The lack of diversity within these stands make them remarkably vulnerable to insect infestations — same genes, packed tight as can be.

When one monoculture tree has the sniffles, the forest gets pneumonia. A massive storm broke the weakened trees like matchsticks. One of the great challenges of such plantations is to figure out what to do with them — some of the best ideas involve trying to restore some diversity (age, species) by cutting out some to allow other plants to move in, simulating nature.

BUSH WANTS TO PIPE GREAT LAKES WATER TO SOUTHWEST

President George W. Bush is meeting with Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien to propose diverting Great Lakes water to the dry Southwest states. As the Detroit Free Press said in an editorial, Great Lakes water is not a commodity. "It's a resource, to be protected, not drained." In fact, it is mining of the stored waters, not diversion.

The Great Lakes contain 20 percent of the world's supply of fresh surface water. However, this statistic considers the volume, not the supply. Supply is runoff, not how much is stored. While the Great Lakes hold a large volume of water, we cannot use that water and maintain the volume (level). We can only use that which falls as rain and runs off into the lakes and isn't evaporated. The fresh water supply from the Great Lakes is a low percentage of that of the United States, and certainly less than 1 percent of the world's supply.

GROUPS ASK AUTOMAKERS TO REMOVE TOXIC MERCURY

The Clean Car Campaign, with the support of 26 environmental organizations including the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club, has called on Ford and other automakers to remove toxic mercury from vehicles in for service, repair, or recall. The Campaign supports the 26 state attorneys general who urge Ford to remove mercury-containing devices as part of their Fires-tone tire recall.

Mercury is a potent toxic chemical that causes brain, lung and kidney damage in humans. It has been used in switches for hood and trunk lighting, becoming a contaminant when vehicles are scrapped. The AG's recommended replacements would remove up to 2.5 tons of mercury from the environment. To date, Michigan's AG, Jennifer Granholm, has not signed on to the campaign. More information is available at cleancarcampaign.org. 🌱

Mackinac Chapter News



JAN O'CONNELL WINS NATIONAL ELECTION

Jan O'Connell of Grand Rapids, a Sierra Club leader in Michigan and nationally, has been selected to serve as the Secretary of the Sierra Club's National Board of Directors. This spring, Jan was elected by Sierra Club members nationwide, garnering the second highest number of votes among the candidates. For several years, Jan has chaired the Organizational Governance

Committee of Sierra Club, which oversees the administration of the Club at all levels. For 25 years, Jan has served in the West Michigan Group working on various local issues. Her "day job" is producer/agent at an insurance agency, and with her husband, she raises their two children, Collin and Sierra.

ALISON'S NEW DIGS

Alison Horton settles into Midwest Regional Director work for the Club full time this summer, which includes relocating the Midwest office to Traverse City. She said, "As my travels take me back and forth across the Midwest (from the airport hub of the Cherry Capital Airport), I intend to spend plenty of time in Detroit, southeast Michigan, Lansing and elsewhere in the state on the job. We have Midwest regional field offices in Madison and Michigan now as well as a dozen organizing office locations around the region." Alison said she looks forward to getting to know Club activists in the Traverse Group better. You can reach her at alison.horton@sierraclub.org.

HELP DETERMINE ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES IN MICHIGAN

The Mackinac Chapter's Nominations Committee is actively searching for candidates for the Chapter's 2002 Chapter Executive Committee. Four new members of the Executive Committee will be elected at-large in a mail ballot to be conducted in December. Chapter Committee members elected at-large serve two years and are responsible for setting Chapter policies and priorities, approving and monitoring the Chapter's budget, overseeing Chapter staff, and representing member concerns. Executive Committee members are expected to participate in quarterly meetings of the Executive Committee, assume responsibility for Chapter Committees and activities, and attend Chapter functions.

Nominations must be submitted by September 22. The committee will report proposed candidates to the Chapter Execu-

tive Committee by October 1. Candidates who agree to run submit a brief statement (250 words) for the Mackinac election issue by October 8. Candidates' statements include experience, interests, and vision for the chapter. Anyone may run as a petition candidate.

Please contact Lynn Livingston (248) 541-6830 or redwingnut@sprintmail.com; Karen Briggs (616) 948-8840 or mike-johnson52@webtv.net, or Anna Holden (313) 331-0932 or mqk@umd.umich.edu.

OUTINGS LEADER TRAINING WORKSHOP

The National Sierra Club will sponsor a leader training workshop near Ft. Wayne, Indiana November 2-4. It costs \$35 to attend and would be very beneficial for those who would like to become outings leaders at any level. The workshop runs from 8 pm Friday to 2:30 pm Sunday. For more information or to register visit the website: mitchell.sierraclub.org/outings/Training/index.asp or contact steven.shewach@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5711.

NOMINEES NEEDED FOR THE CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The National Nominating Committee is seeking Sierra Club leaders to run as candidates for the Board of Directors in the April 2002 National Sierra Club Election. These 15 elected volunteers comprise the governing body of the Sierra Club.

Our membership continues to grow in response to globalization and the Bush political agenda. It is the job of the Board of Directors to guide the Club and to respond to the wishes of its members and to shape effective policies.

The Board has the legal responsibility and authority to oversee all staff and volunteer activities of the Club, to establish the Club's conservation priorities and internal policies, and to adopt and implement the annual budget.

*Nominations for candidates
for the 2002 Mackinac
Chapter Executive Committee
must be submitted by
September 22.*



People interested in serving as a Director should be:

- Dedicated to the purposes and goals of the Sierra Club;
- Willing and able to accept the legal and fiduciary responsibilities of a Director;
- Able to listen and communicate effectively and work in a team environment;
- Able and willing to dedicate sufficient personal time to Board duties;
- Able to think and plan strategically and politically;
- Knowledgeable regarding critical environmental and political issues;
- Knowledgeable of the structure and operations of the Club at all levels;
- Experienced as a Club leader; and
- Able and willing to deal with the broad range of issues that come before the Board.

Are you, or do you know of someone who is an experienced, effective leader, who has a clear vision for the Club's future and a proven capacity to work with people to achieve goals and resolve problems? If so, please contact Lydia Fischer of the Nominating Committee at (313) 863-8392 or email at lydfisch@mindspring.com.

SIERRA CLUB MEMBERSHIP INCREASES TO 700,000

It's official. About 100,000 recently joined the Club, swelling our membership to more than 700,000 now! In Michigan's Mackinac Chapter, we are approaching 19,000 members.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE NEW SIERRA CLUB CURRENTS

A new Sierra Club listserv provides information about national issues. You can subscribe and unsubscribe yourself via our web site at lists.sierraclub.org/SCRIPTS/WA.EXE?SUBED1=sierraclub-action&A=1.

CLUB PRODUCES KILLER BEE DOCUMENTARY

"Lethal Swarms: Killer Bees" airs on The Learning Channel on September 4 at 10 pm. The film is a production of GRB Entertainment in association with Sierra Club Productions. West Hollywood-based Sierra Club Productions, a division of the Sierra Club, creates diverse, quality dramatic and non-fiction film and television entertainment.

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR TAX REFUND

Soon millions of tax rebate checks will be sent to many American taxpayers. Meanwhile, the Bush administration is abandoning a long list of projects that would help protect the planet.

You can do something that would be a "win" for your wallet, a "win" for the planet and a "win" for your spirit. You could invest in energy-efficient upgrades for your home or business or support the work of Earthjustice to defend poor communities from toxic air pollutants. You could help Trust for Public Land preserve wildlands or support the Sierra Club's work to shed light on the environmental record of the Bush administration. Our pledge Web page will take you to all these options! Take the tax-rebate pledge today at www.sierraclub.org/brighteridea. 🌱

Soon millions of tax rebate checks will be sent to many American taxpayers. Meanwhile, the Bush administration is abandoning a long list of projects that would help protect the planet.

PHOTO COURTESY RALPH POWELL



**New friends, new location, new fun!
Reserve now for the Autumn Retreat
September 14-16**

The Mackinac Chapter's 12th Annual Autumn Retreat is at the Kettunen Center in Tustin, just south of Cadillac. The Kettunen Center is a 4-H Camp on a private lake surrounded by 160 wooded acres.

Join us to meet old and new friends, learn something new, hike or just relax and get away for a fun-filled weekend. The Kettunen Center is the perfect place to renew your spirit and connect with other like-minded people.

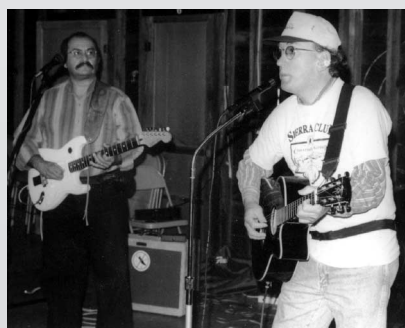
Choose from camping, dorm/bunk rooms, or treat yourself to a "premium room" with double beds and private bath. Towels, linens and housekeeping service are included with all rooms! No clean up for anyone this year! Price also includes five meals and all events.

Workshops at the 2001 retreat will include old favorites and some new additions. Tentative workshops and events include:

- Friday night Game Night
- Live auction and silent auction (bring your donations)
- Live music and jam sessions
- Stories of Michigan's history and conservation legacy
- Healing the Earth with Rainbow Eagle and the Peace Shield
- Bob Guiliani's Isle Royale Photography and Backpacking
- Yoga and orienteering

There will still be plenty of time for swimming, hiking, stargazing and visiting! Please send in the registration form and fee by September 1, 2001. The registration fee covers food and lodging for the weekend, with the option of camping, dorm/bunk rooms, or a "premium room" with double beds and private bath. In September you'll receive confirmation of your registration and additional information about the weekend.

Julie Janeczko-Murphy, 1628 Canterbury Trail Apt. M, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858; Phone: 989-772-7939; e-mail: soaringbuteos@msn.com. 🍁



Bring your musical instruments for jam sessions.



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REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME(S):

Please include all names in your group, including ages for children.

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

VEGETARIAN MEALS? (circle one): yes no

AGE/CATEGORY	FEE	TOTAL
0-4 years old	Free	\$ _____
5-17 years old	\$45	\$ _____
Adult tent	\$65	\$ _____
Adult regular dorm	\$105	\$ _____
Adult premium room	\$145	\$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____



SEND TO:

Sierra Club Autumn Retreat
c/o Julie Janeczko-Murphy
1628 Canterbury Trail Apt. M
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Send registration form with payment by August 25 and get a \$5 discount per person!

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Sierra Club

Dempsey's environmental history of Michigan inspires and informs

by Sherry Hayden

Every trip I make “up north” raises new questions. Why are those red pines planted in perfect rows near Cadillac? Who is Ralph MacMullan, and why does he have a DNR Conference Center near Higgins Lake named after him? How did we end up with so much state forest land in Michigan? I always intend to find out, but never get the time.

Now comes Dave Dempsey, a seasoned Michigan environmentalist, to answer all those “how did we get here” kinds of questions in his brilliant new book, “Ruin and Recovery: Michigan’s Rise as a Conservation Leader.” In the bargain, we get a dose of optimism, encouragement and inspiration.

Dempsey is the Policy Advisor for the Michigan Environmental Council and served as environmental adviser to Governor James Blanchard. His two decades of environmental research really show in this book. From 1837 to the present day, the book describes myriad cycles of exploitation and restoration:

- Lumberers skinned more than 90 percent of the state’s primeval forest by the early 1900s, leaving waste that caused repeated massive fatal forest fires.
- Forestry pioneers promoted state ownership of the ruined lands now comprising 18 million acres of Michigan forestland.
- Industrial and municipal pollution nearly killed rivers and choked urban skies in the mid-20th Century.
- Citizens championed reforms that banned long-lasting pesticides, curbed phosphorus pollution, required bottle and can recycling, and protected wetlands.

But rather than presenting an arid chronology of Michigan’s history, Dempsey brings the past to vivid life with his storytelling magic. He introduces us to the sportsmen, environmental activists and conservationists whose struggles, failures and celebrations live on throughout the peninsula.

Like in a fast-paced novel, Dempsey shows us aspects of these characters’ personalities that make us care about them and indeed, imagine ourselves in their shoes. Stories of those who ruined and those who recovered are not presented as dichotomies of good or evil. Hindsight makes it easy for us to come out on the side of environmental heroes. Instead, Dempsey’s stories show in subtle, brilliant ways that in the same circumstances, the “bad guys” could have been ourselves. Like our ancestors, we sometimes don’t consider the long-term effects that our daily decisions create. “Ruin and Recovery” reminds us that astonishingly similar dramas and choices exist today. Dempsey’s heroes are saying we can envision and create a healed land and healthy way of being if we choose. Dempsey says grassroots citizen action for conservation is and always has been the primary force in Michigan’s national leadership.



Dave Dempsey

Especially inspiring are the stories of the conservationists who were continually frustrated in their efforts but were tenacious nonetheless. As an activist, I grow weary after a couple of years on a project. I am inspired by Genevieve Gillette, who worked her entire life to protect vast areas of the Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore. I am encouraged by Ralph MacMullan, who risked his job to wage a public crusade against DDT and other pesticides. I am delighted by the image of Alex Sagady as a student on a rickety bike at MSU raising awareness (and establishment hackles). The book chronicles not only environmental heroes of the past, but also of the present, and it’s great fun to look up familiar names. All of these heroes demonstrate, with their clarity and purpose, that it’s not the short-term reactive situations that define us, but our long-term proactive vision that inspires us.

The book’s title contrasts ruin with recovery, which offers hope that we will choose a healthy environment to pass along to future generations. “Recovery” also can mean recognition of an addiction and the intent to change. The “use-it-up-as-we-see-fit” culture long ago outlived its usefulness. We are, in essence, called to free ourselves of the addiction to attitudes that decimate the Earth.

Dempsey brings to the project a rare spirit who heeds the call to enlighten and enrich ours. In the process of learning about our heritage, readers may find themselves feeling lighter and more hopeful about our future. Dempsey’s message seems to be this: if we our hearts and eyes are open, if we can dream it, we can make it happen. It is up to us to save ourselves and the places we love.

“Ruin and Recovery” provides us the foundation of what has come before. We can proudly take our place alongside our environmental activist ancestors, writing the next chapter of the book, knowing we, too are part of a living legacy. ♣

Ruin and Recovery by Dave Dempsey with a foreword by Former Governor William G. Milliken. 6 x 9, 368 pages, 20 photographs; cloth, \$42.50 US; paper, \$19.95 US. published by the University of Michigan Press at www.press.umich.edu and available in Michigan bookstores. Copies will be available at the Mackinac Chapter Autumn Retreat.

Ruin and Recovery
Michigan's Rise as a
Conservation Leader
Dave Dempsey

"Dave Dempsey has sketched the story of how Michigan's leadership in protecting its natural heritage came to be. ... It is a hope that [this] book will inspire others to carry on their conservation tradition and to ensure the quality of life and beauty of landscapes that we leave to Michigan for into the future."

—Former Governor William G. Milliken,
State Historical Journal

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Conservation Updates

SUBURBAN SPRAWL COMMITTEE RAISES AWARENESS

By Bob Duda, Southeast Michigan Group

Did you know that about 13 square miles of southeast Michigan are "developed" each year? Amazing, isn't it? Sickening too. While the inner, older areas of Michigan's metropolitan areas lose people and jobs, more and more of our state is gobbled up by "development."

To address suburban sprawl, the Mackinac Chapter's Conservation Committee began an anti-sprawl subcommittee. In the spring we hosted a symposium at the University of Detroit Mercy and a wetlands outing at Kensington Metro Park. The subcommittee helped form a grassroots coalition of groups and individuals that meets regularly.

Even if you don't live in southeast lower Michigan, there are several things that you can do to keep suburban sprawl from ruining our state.

- Shop in the older areas. Just because somebody builds a megamall on a cornfield doesn't mean that you have to shop there. Take your business downtown.
- Try to live close to where you work.
- Buy an existing home in a neighborhood that is already built up. Building new houses also increases demands on our state and national forests. So save our trees too!
- Demand that your city council fix up your neighborhood. Volunteer to get rid of existing blight. Plant trees. Make your existing neighborhood attractive to folks looking for housing.
- Demand that your county government establish Urban Growth Boundaries.
- Demand that your governor stop state-sponsored sprawl efforts, such as tax breaks for sprawling companies, malls, unneeded highways, and new suburban developments.
- Write your state senator, state repre-

sentative, county commissioner, county executive, mayor, city council, and complain about suburban sprawl.

- Demand that your community improve its mass transit.
- Join us! We are actively fighting to stop sprawl, improve public transportation, and to make the inner parts of our metro areas better, healthier places to live, work, and shop. Give me a call and I'll sign you up for the sub-committee: (734) 464-0076, early evenings only please.

NEWEST CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE TO FOCUS ON GREAT LAKES

By Rita Jack, Crossroads Group

The Mackinac Chapter's newest conservation subcommittee met in June to learn about Great Lakes issues in Michigan. Issues include directional drilling for oil and gas, sand dune mining, toxic sediments, and air deposition of toxins. Emily Green and Jennifer Feyerherm, of the Sierra Club Midwest Regional Office, trained activists on issues. A representative from Lake Michigan Federation, Tanya Cabala, discussed destruction of sand dunes from mining (see "SOS: Save Our Sand Dunes," page 2.) Chapter Senior Director Anne Woiwode led us in planning strategy.

The subcommittee decided to work on several issues, one of which concerns putting an end to the mining of Michigan's coastal sand dunes. These globally unique formations are an irreplaceable part of Michigan's Great Lakes heritage. Complete removal of critical dunes has had devastating consequences for some coastal communities.

Efforts to coordinate attendance to public meetings held around the state on oil and gas drilling are ongoing. We are working with Sierra Club members to submit written comments on Great Lakes legislation and EPA's Great Lakes Strategy document.

If you want to help on Great Lakes issues,

please contact committee chair Rita Jack at ritaj@umflint.edu or (810) 714-1628, or call the Mackinac Chapter office at (517) 484-2372.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION NOT THE SAME

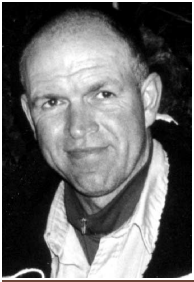
With all the reporting on energy issues, there has been little discussion of the difference between energy conservation (behavior changes) versus energy efficiency (using technology to reduce energy use). Both together can significantly extend our nation's energy supply.

Does energy conservation bring to mind images of sacrifice, deprivation, and discomfort? We now know that energy efficiency, mixed with basic energy consciousness, can help us avoid the drama and trauma of the 1970s. Energy efficiency does not mean doing with less or doing without; being uncomfortable or less comfortable. Like the technological strides in computers and electronics, energy efficiency provides better, smarter services with less energy.

Smart, basic energy consciousness (conservation) uses natural resources wisely, which means turning off anything that you're not using. Compact fluorescent lights, programmable thermostats, and ENERGY STAR labeled (symbol for energy efficiency) TVs, VCRs, appliances, air conditioners, and computers help reduce energy use and energy bills. Using energy wisely provides us with less air pollution, less greenhouse gas emissions, and lower total cost. Energy efficiency incentives could help significantly extend the nation's energy supply on the oil, natural gas, and electricity fronts.

The Alliance to Save Energy offers home energy-efficiency and conservation tips in a free booklet, Power\$mart: Easy Tips to Save Money and the Planet at www.ase.org/powersmart. ♣

Even if you don't live in southeast lower Michigan, there are several things that you can do to keep suburban sprawl from ruining our state.



Don't rely on the thin, six-inch-long aluminum or steel stakes that come with many backpacking tents — they are useless in most conditions.

Outdoor Ingenuity: Wind-proof your tent with stakes and guy lines

by Michael A. Neiger, Central Upper Peninsula Group
Copyright © 2001

While stakes and guy lines aren't needed to hold a freestanding backpacking tent up in the wilderness, they are needed to hold it down when the wind cranks up.

ALWAYS STAKE IT DOWN

Don't rely on the thin, six-inch-long aluminum or steel stakes that come with many backpacking tents – they are useless in most conditions. Use tough, high-quality aluminum or plastic T-, Y- or I-shaped stakes. Six-inch-long ones work well in most situations, but the stouter 8- to 12-inch ones offer more holding power in high winds.

One of the toughest, most indestructible plastic stakes I've used is the Canadian-made Durapeg. This I-beam-shaped stake bends around obstructions, cracks only after extreme abuse, and then only on a perimeter flange. Beware the cheap, plastic, T-shaped stakes available as they easily break, despite their guarantee.

IMPROVISING STAKES

On soft surfaces, such as sand, mud, or compacted snow, conventional stakes won't hold. Make field-expedient stakes from sturdy, two-foot-long sticks sharpened on one end with your knife. Practice your leave-no-trace skills by collecting only dead-and-down limbs. By using a rock or heavy log to pound them in, these handmade stakes make excellent foul-weather anchors.

In deep snow, use skis, ski poles, snowshoes, and long, sturdy limbs as stakes. Since most tent stake loops won't accommodate larger-diameter stakes, attach a 4- or 5-foot-long piece of 1/8-inch-diameter cord, such as a nylon bootlace, to each stake loop ahead of time. By attaching the cord to the stake loop with a bowline knot to create a fist-sized loop, you'll have a ready-made, large-diameter stake loop to accommodate unconventional anchors like skis and stout sticks.

USE NATURAL ANCHORS

On rock or frozen ground, tie the trailing end of the stake loop cord to an exposed stump or trunk. A large rock positioned so it won't roll makes a great anchor. When only smaller rocks are available, simply tie off to a small rock or sturdy stick and pile rocks on top of the anchor and in front. A large log is another option, just make sure you shore it up with several rocks or

a berm of dirt so it can't roll. Or, you could simply position the log so it's in line with the direction of pull instead of perpendicular to it. In a pinch, campers have also been known to simply place large boulders in the interior corners of their tents.

BURY AN ANCHOR

An option in loose sand and snow is to use a dead-man, or an object buried perpendicular to the direction of pull. For example, you could tie the cord from a stake loop to the center of a stout stick, dig a 12-inch-deep trench perpendicular to the line of pull, and then bury the stick. Other objects that work well include paddles, water bottles, skis, or stuff sacks filled with snow or sand.

RIG HIGH-WIND GUY LINES

Once you've staked the perimeter of your tent down, the next step is to guy out any high-wind pullouts located midway up the exterior walls of the tent. The most secure way to use these pullouts is to attach two, 10- to 15-foot-long pieces of 1/8-inch-diameter nylon cord to each pullout. Then, extend these lines out so they form a 90-degree angle to each other at the tent end and a low angle to the ground at each anchor end. For maximum effectiveness, high-wind pullouts on a tent fly should have a means of being anchored to the underlying pole frame of the tent, such as a loop of Velcro. If your tent lacks high-wind pullouts, or the Velcro pole loop, consider adding these to your tent. To get an idea of how to retrofit a tent, simply inspect a high-quality tent at a sports shop.

SOURCES FOR STAKES

If your local sporting goods store doesn't have the stakes you need, check with REI at 1-800-426-4840 or point your Internet browser to www.rei.com and search the term "stakes." A properly anchored and guyed-out tent sheds rain and wind much more effectively than one that is not. Protect your investment: Take the time to wind-proof your tent with stakes and guy lines.

See you in the bush. 🌲

Michael Neiger of Marquette is a Central Upper Peninsula Group wilderness trip leader who welcomes your comments and opinions via e-mail at mneiger@hotmail.com or at his Web site www.geocities.com/sierraclub2.

**Environmental
Justice:
Mackinac activists
join in growing
the movement
within
a movement**

by Lydia Fischer, Environmental
Justice Committee

Mackinac Chapter volunteers joined other activists in New Orleans for the second annual Sierra Club Environmental Justice meeting. In frank and free-flowing discussion, we shared our accomplishments, projects, and obstacles. Participants enjoyed diversity rarely found in traditional Sierra Club meetings. We were moved by the prayers of Navajo and Hopi Native Americans, sang along with a sister from Appalachia about the plight of the miners, and were shocked by the modern-day stories of an African-American pastor from Tennessee.

The Environmental Justice movement aims to make the environment clean and safe for people of color and those with low-incomes. Often this means the same community, and often their living conditions are disproportionately impacted by pollution. The Chair of the EJ National Committee, Kirstin Replogle, said, "This is about the Sierra Club making a commitment to the people as well as to the natural environment. When we advocate for environmental protection, we're protecting human life and communities as much as we are protecting grizzly bear habitat."

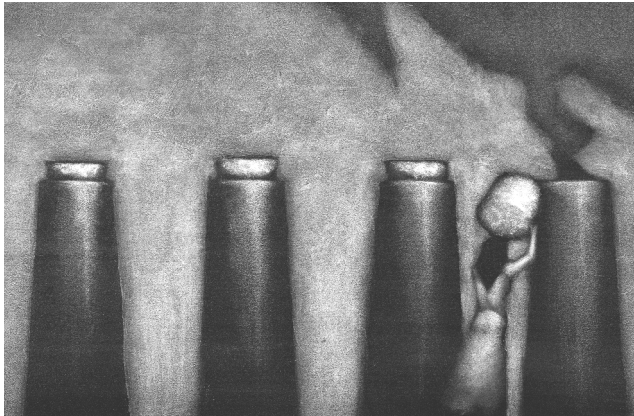
The EJ Grassroots Organizing Program works to lend a helping hand to community struggles. A couple years ago it hired staff organizers in four sites: Detroit, Los Angeles, Memphis and

Washington D.C. The program has expanded to Central Appalachian and Southwest Native American people, and is expected to add four sites in the next two years. Recognizing that many environmental justice issues end up as court battles, the EJ program is the only one in the Sierra Club to have an attorney dedicated entirely to its work. Denise Hoffner-Brodsky joined the Club's legal team earlier this year.

Representing Southeast Michigan were EJ-Detroit-based organizer Rhonda Anderson; community partner Jim Henderson; Alison Horton, our former Chapter Director and new Midwest Regional Director; and Lydia Fischer. Rhonda discussed Helping neighborhoods with the "Stop Dumping in Detroit" campaign, and conducting "toxic tours" for the media.

In addition to being one of the EJ Grassroots Organizing sites, our Chapter has an active EJ Conservation Subcommittee chaired by Anna Holden, who is also SEMG's Conservation Co-Chair. The Subcommittee is engaged in fighting medical waste incineration by a commercial company that runs the Hamtramck Medical Waste incinerator. If you want to join us or want more information, e-mail Rhonda Anderson at rhonda.anderson@sierraclub.org or Anna at mqk@umd.umich.edu. ♣

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Group Meetings & Programs

AG: Algonquin Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

CMG: Central Michigan Group

General meetings are held the 3rd Monday each month at the Harris Nature Center, off Van Atta Road in Meridian Township. Come at 5:30pm for supper (small donation requested) or at 6:15 for the meeting. Call Pete Pasterz, 517-676-3339.

The Conservation Committee usually meets the 2nd Monday each month in Wells Hall on the MSU campus. Call Maria Lapinski, 517-569-3302.

The Executive Committee meets the 1st Monday of the month. Call Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796.

CUP: Central Upper Peninsula Group

Sierra Club members in the central and western counties in the Upper Peninsula are invited to participate in the CUP group activities. General membership and executive committee meetings are held 7pm in West Science, Room 270, on the Northern Michigan University campus. Call John Rebers, 906-228-3617.

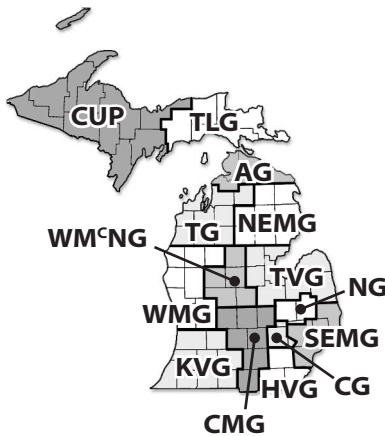
To receive news about outings or other Club activities in the Central UP, send \$5 for a subscription to the CUP newsletter to Sierra Club, 338 West Crescent, Marquette, MI, 49855.

CG: Crossroads Group

The Sierra Club members of Livingston, southern Genesee, and western Oakland Counties meet monthly at the Brighton District Library, 200 Orndorff Dr, Brighton, for informative and entertaining programs. These meetings begin at 7pm and are open to the public.

The Conservation Committee also meets monthly to discuss and address local issues. Call Emily Gobright, 517-548-0595 or David Wright, 810-229-1685.

The Executive Committee meets the last Wednesday of the month. Call Rick Pearsall, 810-227-6298.



Group boundaries of the Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club

HVG : Huron Valley Group

The General Meetings of the Huron Valley Group of the Sierra Club are held 7:30pm the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor. Non-members welcome. Call 734-480-7751 or visit our website at www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro.

The HVG Sierra Club Book Club meets every 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. at Nicola's Books in Westgate Shopping Center, Ann Arbor. Read a selected book about nature or the environment on your own and then discuss it in a small group. Call 734-332-0207 for information.

- 8/2 Executive Committee Meeting. 7:30pm. Michael Sklar, 248-354-3842 for location.
- 8/21 General Meeting. 7:30pm. Jennifer Wolf will talk on "What You Can Do at Your House to Save the Huron River."
- 8/23 Conservation Committee Meeting, 7pm. Annie Hannan, 734-484-4906 for information & location.

KVG: Kalamazoo Valley Group

General membership meetings are usually held 7:30pm the 3rd Thursday of each month at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Texas Twp Campus, Room 4370. Call Mike Johnson, 616-948-8840.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Wednesday of each month. All members are welcome. Contact Verne and Cindy Mills, 616-344-4279.

NG: Nepessing Group

Meetings are held 7pm the 2nd Wednesday each month at Mott Community College in the "New Students" Prah Building, Genesee Room, 1401 E Court St in Flint. These meetings are free and refreshments are available. Non-members are welcome, and parking is free of charge. Find out what local volunteers are doing and hear our featured speakers. Call Ann Crane, 248-634-8641.

Current projects include working to get curbside recycling in Flint, water testing in the Flint River watershed, fundraising, trail repairs and great outings. Come help us and meet some fun and interesting people! Check the Nepessing web page at www.gfn.org/sierrang.

The Nepessing Group weekly hiking schedule is available on our web page.

NEMG: Northeast Michigan Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

SEMG: Southeast Michigan Group

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Royal Oak Senior Citizens' Center, 3500 Marais, in Royal Oak. Contact Bob Duda, Chair, 734-464-0076.

Conservation Committee meetings are held monthly at 7:30pm at the Royal Oak Senior Citizens' Center, 3500 Marais, in Royal Oak. Call Anna Holden, 313-331-0932; Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645; Bob Duda, 734-464-0076 for dates.

The Outings Committee holds quarterly planning meetings. If you're interested in planning or leading outings, contact coordinators Joanne Spatz, 248-932-5370 or Philip Crookshank, wanderphil3@netzero.net, 313-562-1873.

Political Committee meetings are held 6:30pm the last Thursday of each month (no meeting in October) at Jimi's Restaurant on Washington, one block north of Lincoln (10.5) in Royal Oak. All are welcome! Contact Tim Killeen, Political Chair, 313-526-4052.

General meetings are held 7pm the 1st Thursday of each month, Sept-June, at Northwest Unitarian-Universalist Church, 23925 North-

TAKING ACTION: YOUR WORDS COUNT!

western Hwy (southbound M-10 service drive) between Southfield and Evergreen roads and Nine and Ten Mile roads in Southfield. Social time: 7-7:30pm; Business meeting: 7:30-8pm; Program: 8-9pm. Contact Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

9/6 General Meeting: Welcome New Members Meeting. Native plant-sale: Come early for limited quantity of seedlings and larger rescued plants. Interesting speaker, refreshments & Committee updates.

10/4 General Meeting. TBD.

11/1 General Meeting: Meeting sponsored by SEMG Political Committee.

TG: Traverse Group

The General Meetings of the revitalized Traverse Group are held at the Traverse City Public Library. Call for dates and topics. Monica, 231-325-6812 or Pam, 231-275-3322. Also check our website: www.michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse.

Executive Committee meetings are held at Horizon Books, downstairs café, Traverse City. For details call Monica, 231-325-6812 or Pam, 231-275-3322.

The Conservation Committee meets at Horizon Books, downstairs café, downtown Traverse City. Call Monica, 231-325-6812.

For information on Political Committee meetings call Monica, 231-325-6812.

The Outings Committee has several service outings planned for the summer months including invasive plant eradication, native species seed gathering, historic structure restoration and Adopt-a-Trail at Sleeping Bear Dunes. Call Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344 for information and dates.

TLG: Three Lakes Group

Sierra Club members in the Upper Peninsula counties of Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac and Schoolcraft are welcome to attend meetings of the Three Lakes Group. Business meetings are held monthly at various locations in Sault Ste Marie. Programs are held the 1st Wednesday each month from Sept-May at the Walker Cislser Center on the Lake Superior State University campus. Floyd Byerly, 906-632-0218.

TVG: Thumb Valley Group

No group meetings planned at this time. Call group chairs Craig and Janis Kendziorski, 517-631-5170 for updated information or if interested in participating on the leadership team or leading an outing.

WMcNG: Wakelin McNeel Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Julie Janeczko-Murphy at 989-772-7939.

WMG: West Michigan Group

Meetings are held 7pm the 2nd Thursday each month at Kent Community Hospital meeting room. Everyone welcome! Call Marty Lore, 517-682-1316.

see MEETINGS, page 20

Get your free copy of "A Citizen's Guide To State Government" to find out who your legislators are. Call House Speaker Rick Johnson at 517-373-1747, mention that you are concerned about environmental protection, and ask him to send you a copy!

THE WHITE HOUSE

President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500
202-456-1414

White House fax line:
202-456-2461
White House comment line:
202-456-1111
White House e-mail:
president@whitehouse.gov

US CONGRESS

US Capitol switchboard: 202-224-3121

The Honorable _____
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable _____
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

MICHIGAN

Governor John Engler
State Capitol
Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-3400

The Honorable _____
Michigan Senate
State Capitol
Lansing, MI 48909

The Honorable _____
Michigan House
State Capitol
Lansing, MI 48909

RESOURCES FOR ACTIVISTS

Sierra Club National Legislative Hotline: 202-675-2394

- ENVIRO-MICH is the Mackinac Chapter-sponsored Internet list and forum for Michigan environmental and conservation issues. For a free subscription, send e-mail to: majordomo@great-lakes.net with a one-line message body of "subscribe enviro-mich" (leave your signature file off).
- Sierra Club's National Web Page is at: www.sierraclub.org. Check out the daily War On the Environment postings.
- Find our Mackinac Chapter Web Page at: michigan.sierraclub.org
- Get a free subscription to The Planet by promising to write at least 3 letters a year to your elected officials in support of the environment. Send your name and address to Sierra Club Planet Subscription Request, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968.

Mackinac Chapter Outings

Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group that is planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map on page 16 to determine a group's location. Trips begin at the trailhead. Outings are open to everyone.

AUGUST

8/12 NG Proud Lake Canoe Day Trip. 10am. 8 easy miles. Canoe rental fee. Heavener's Canoe Rental, east of Milford off Wixon Rd by the river. Meet 9am at Fenton Kmart, US-23 & Owen Rd. Bring sunscreen, bug spray, sunglasses, water, snacks. Lunch at Milford Memories Arts & Crafts Festival. Reservations by 8/6: Tim Gundlach, 810-232-0917

8/12 SEMG Nature Photography 101. 10am to mid-afternoon. Raymond will repeat his nature photography workshop. Geared for SLR users, but point & shooters benefit. Informative presentation & shooting. Bring: camera & instruction manual, 1 roll 400 color print film, fresh or spare battery, shutter cable or tripod (if you have them), something to sit on & mask or drape. Clean the lens. Bring water, snacks, lunch. Reservations by 8/7: Joanne Spatz, 248-932-5370. \$5 fee includes handouts but not park admission. Raymond Abramson, 248-738-5595.

8/12 HVG Crosswinds Marsh Hike. 7:30am. Easy summer day hike. Meet at Village Theatre in Maple Village Shopping Center. Barb Schumacher, 734-994-5456.

8/14 HVG Sierra Club Book Club. 7:30pm. Nicola's Little Professor Bookstore, Westgate Mall, Ann Arbor. We'll discuss "Blue Frontier: Saving America's Seas" by David Helvarg. Parma Yarkin, 734-332-0207.

8/15 (Wed) SEMG Detroit Zoo Tour. 5-8pm. Meet at the Royal Oak zoo for picnic & zoo walk. Park west of Woodward & 696. Meet near the ticket booth. BYO picnic. Tour & evening animal feedings. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

8/17-19 NG Beaver Island Backpacking &/or Base Camping. Ferry service from Charlevoix. Many long & short trail loops with isolated shore miles. Time, fees & other info TBD. Reservations: Jim Ledtke, 517-624-9195.

8/18 (Sat) SEMG Proud Lake Canoeing. 9am. Develop/refine canoeing skills on easy outing. Beginners receive on-the-water instruction. Bring lunch & change of clothes. Park fee. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile. Reservations & \$15 payment by 8/13: Don Dahlin, 3556 Tothill, Troy, 48084. 248-644-2746.

8/18 NG Murphy Lake Hike. 10am. Restaurant stop. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

8/18 HVG Portage Lake to Delhi Rapids Canoe. 9am-1pm. Join the fun on the Huron River. Dress for

weather. Suitable for beginner, with authorization of the leader. BYO canoe or rental available. Norm Roller, 734-426-5737.

8/19 SEMG Pickerel Lake Eye-opener. 11am. 5-mile hike in Pinckney Recreation Area along Crooked Lake trail to view ecosystems of Pickerel Lake slated for "improvement" by DNR. Conservation Co-Chair will explain importance of retaining the pristine character of one of the few wild lakes in southern Michigan. Optional restaurant stop. Park entrance fee. Meet in Livonia between Walmart & Jiffy Lube, SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96 (Jeffries Fwy). Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

8/20-23 NG Les Cheneaux Islands Kayaking. Cedarville. 30 miles E of Big Mac in Lake Huron. Day kayak from Loons Point Campground to explore channels of these 35 islands. Kayak rental available. No experience necessary but canoe experience helpful. Non-kayakers welcome. Full details available. Reservations by 8/1: Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

8/24 HVG Fri Night Hike. 6:30pm. Leisurely hike in Gallup Park & Parker Mill Park. Meet at bridge between main parking lots. Cancelled if rain. Kathy Guerreso, 734-994-7030.

8/24 (Fri) SEMG Lunar Observing & Stargazing. 6pm dinner, 7:30pm departure. Join the Warren Astronomical Society for a lecture & lunar observing, utilizing their 22-inch telescope. Lecture & slide show if cloudy. Dress warm! Meet in Sterling Heights at Metro-Pkwy (16 Mile Rd) & Van Dyke (SE corner) in SMART parking lot between the banks. Observatory is near 30 Mile & Romeo Plank (maps provided). Bring binoculars or scopes. Campout optional. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313, Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

8/25 TG Brown Bridge. 10am. 2-3 mile hike. Lovely area high above Boardman Pond south of Traverse City. Many steep steps down to River Trail. May combine with portions of Muncie Lakes Pathway. Meet at General Store in Mayfield north of Kingsley, south of Traverse City on Country Road 611. John Lewis, 231-947-9104 or JohnBetty@bignetnorth.net.

8/26 SEMG Jonathon Woods Nature Preserve. Noon. Hike half the preserve near Lapeer with wooded, rolling terrain & the only waterfall in southern Lower Peninsula. 1.5 hours, 3-4 mile loop, rain or shine. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop. John Kalam, 248-681-9160.

8/30-9/3 CUP Backpacking & Caving: Pictured Rocks (Alger Co). Hike Beaver Lake to Miner's Falls shoreline & explore remote inland caves like 2,000-person Amphitheater. Strenuous trip: bushwhacking, river fording & bush bivouacs — no campsites. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker, very physically fit, foul-

weather ready, adventurous & fully equipped, including rations, stove & CLIMBING HELMET. 8am Thur to mid-day Mon. \$10. More info at www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, mneiger@hotmail.com, Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W.

SEPTEMBER

9/1 NG Davison Lake Moonlight Hike & Tailgate Party. 7:30pm. 4-5 miles. Ortonville Rec Area (permit required). Go 4.1 miles south of Hadley on Hadley Rd. Left on Fox Lake Rd. 1/4 mile to trailhead on corner of Big Fish Lake Rd. Bring lights & good batteries. BYO beverages & snacks. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

9/2 SEMG Heritage Park Exploration. Noon. Moderate 2 to 2-1/2 hour hike in Farmington Hills park. Wetlands, meadows, small hills & the Rouge River. Optional restaurant stop. Farmington Rd. south of 11 Mile, turn west at the park, left on first road to parking lot. Call if weather is doubtful. Tom LaFramboise, 734-464-7899.

9/7-10 NG Two-Hearted River Canoe. 5pm Fri. Easy. Camp at State Forest campground at mouth of Two-Hearted River on Lake Superior. Canoe Sat, hike North Country Trail Sun. Canoe \$29, camping \$6/day. BYO food & gear. Reserve by 8/20: Lynn Livingston, 248-541-6830.

9/8 NG Hadley Hills Lookout Mountain Hike. 10am. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

9/8 TG Vasa Trail. 10am. Hike portions of the trail at the home of world famous Vasa Ski Race. 2 mile & 6.5 mile routes. Anybody for the 15-miler? Meet at Burger King on N US 31 & Holiday Hills Rd, between Traverse City & Acme. John Lewis, 231-947-9104 or JohnBetty@bignetnorth.net.

9/8 (Sat) SEMG Outings Scheduling Meeting & Potluck. 6pm. Planning meeting open to all interested in leading or learning about doing outings. Bring dish to pass & ideas for winter & early spring outings. Joanne Spatz's, 29640 Middlebelt, #2604, (Woodcreek Village Condos) Farmington Hills, east side of Middlebelt, north of 13 Mile Rd. Inside the complex, turn right at stop sign, left at 2nd drive. Take sidewalk to building on right, 248-932-5370.

9/9 SEMG Holly Rec Area Hike. 10am. 7-8 miles, moderate to brisk. Hike both parts of somewhat-hilly, forested & swampy park. Bring trail lunch. May bail out about 2/3 of the way at lunch. Meet behind the CVS on SE corner of Woodward & Square Lake in Bloomfield Hills. Call if weather doubtful. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

9/15 NG Holly North Hike. 10am. 6 moderate miles. Restaurant stop. Tim Gundlach, 810-232-0917.

9/15 HVG Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup. 9:15am. Help make a positive change to keep M-14 beautiful. Meet at Big Boy Restaurant on Plymouth Road near US-23 in Ann

TO EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PROTECT



Arbor. About 3 hours. Kathy Guerreso, 734-994-7030.

9/16 SEMG Brighton Hike. Noon. Hike 5-mile loop at moderate to brisk pace, stopping to view birds & wildflowers. Bring water, trail snacks. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop. Michael Scanlon, 313-884-2214.

9/22 HVG Bird Hills Hike. 9am. Join us for 3-mile leisurely hike. Wear boots. Cancelled if rain. Meet at City Hall parking lot. Ken Morley, 734-995-7714.

9/22 NG Murphy Lake Hike. 10am. Holly Lubowicki, 810-232-3609.

9/22 (Sat) SEMG Hines Drive Parkway Bike Ride. 10am. 15 miles from Dearborn to Northville along Lower Rouge River. Closed to cars on Sat. We'll ride 20-25 miles at 12mph pace & picnic. Meet at Helms Haven picnic area. Take Southfield to Ford Rd, west on Ford to Hines Park entrance, west past Outer Drive to first parking area. Bring lunch & drink. Mary Stoolmiller, 248-879-6004.

9/23 (Sun) KVG Kalamazoo River Canoe Trip. 10:45am. 3-3.5 hour trip. Relaxed paddle down Kalamazoo River near Fennville. Meet at Fennville livery. Bring lunch & drink. First canoe costs \$25 & price goes down for each additional canoe. Kayaks, \$20. Transporting charge for own canoe or kayak is \$15. Reserve by 9/9: Karen, 616-948-8840.

9/28-10/3 WMG Joint service outing with North Country Trail Association. We'll work on restoration projects in & around Eagle Harbor in the UP for local Historical Society. Sleeping accommodations in house near Eagle Harbor Marina & lighthouse keeper's house; meals prepared in township hall. Come for all or part of the week. Tom Learmont, 616-984-5917, uper76@pathwaynet.com; Elaine Goodspeed, 616-784-1754, goodspeed001@msn.com.

9/23 SEMG Highland Rec Area Naturalist Hike. Meet 10am at Goose Meadow parking area with binoculars & field guides. We'll hike in Haven Hill natural area to old Ford Lodge. Easy to moderate pace. Rolling country with one big hill. Optional restaurant stop. Call if weather is questionable. Park is on M-59 west of Alpine Valley ski area (14-15 miles west of US-24), south side. Follow entrance road to Goose Meadow area, first picnic area on right. Ken Jacobsen, 248-684-8844.

9/29 NG Old Bloomer Campfire. Weiner Roast & Hike. 6:30pm. Hike 4 miles. Ortonville Rec. Area. BYO food to cook, beverage, chair & flashlight. State Park vehicle permit required. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

9/29 (Sat) SEMG Bald Mountain Hike. 1pm. 6-mile fast-paced hike on Bald Mt south trails. Meet in Troy behind Michigan Nat'l Bank on 14 Mile Rd, just east of I-75

(south edge of Oakland Mall). Restaurant stop. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

9/30 NG Paint Creek Trail Bike Ride. 11am. 18 easy miles. Trail surface is packed gravel best suited for fat tires. Trailhead in downtown Lake Orion behind parking lot of LS Family Food store on M-24 just south of Atwater St. Restaurant stop in Rochester halfway. Reservations: Barb Niemi, 248-693-5785, niemirb@msn.com.

9/30 SEMG Huron Meadows Hike. 10:30am. Moderate-paced 5-mile hike in Metropark for fall colors. Bring trail snacks & water. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Optional restaurant stop. Lee Becker, 810-294-7789.

OCTOBER

10/5-10/7 CUP Wilderness River Canoeing: Fox River (Schoolcraft Co). We'll paddle a 20-mile section of the Fox River made famous by Ernest Hemingway in "Big Two Hearted River." Paddlers face numerous challenges including a seemingly impenetrable section of brushy spreads, tight log-choked turns & numerous short drags around logjams. Wilderness bivouacs, no campgrounds. Non-smoking, challenging canoe trip suitable for experienced wilderness river canoeist who is at least 18, physically fit, adventurous, foul-weather ready, a swimmer who agrees to wear a life vest & who is fully equipped including rations, stove & solo or tandem canoe. Trip starts 8am Fri; ends mid-afternoon Sun. \$5 Club donation. Info at www.geocities.com/sierraclub2_mneiger@hotmail.com. Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W.

10/6-7 SEMG High Country Pathway Fall Color Backpack. Linear 2-day, 14-mile backpack trip along east segment of High Country Pathway. Explore giant sinkholes near Shoepac Lake, then hit the hills. Bring backpack, cooking gear, water filter & food—enough for 3 meals on 10/6, 2 on 10/7. Night temperatures can reach freezing, rain possible; bring appropriate gear & clothing. Drive up & camp on Fri night (optional & not covered in trip costs). Limit 6. \$5 fee covers club & camp fees. Call by 9/22 for equipment list, directions, details. John Calandra, 248-391-8973, johndcal@worldnet.att.net.

10/6-7 NG Jordan River Backpacking. 9:30am. 18 miles. Meet at Deadman's Hill Rd parking area. M-32 W out of Gaylord to US-131. Turn left (south) to Deadman's Hill Rd, about 1/2 mile. Turn right (west) to end of road. Don Persson, 810-659 0516, donald.persson@delphiauto.com.

10/7 SEMG October Autumnfest. Register 10:30-11am. Meet at Kensington Metropark west boat launch (picnic area) for a fun-filled fund-raiser: hiking, potluck picnic, fun & games! \$15 registration fee or get sponsors for \$ per mile hiked. Hiking (up to 8 miles) begins at 11:15. Potluck picnic: bring lunch & dish to pass. Soft drinks,

snacks & appetizers provided. Door prizes, raffles, contests, games. Christine Pawyl, 248-288-5839.

10/7 NG Seven Lakes State Park Hike. 1pm. 5 moderate miles. I-75 to Grange Hall Rd (exit 101), west 3.5 miles to Fish Lake Rd, north 1 mile to park entrance. Meet at Big 7 Shelter parking lot. State Park vehicle permit required. Restaurant stop. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

10/13 (Sat) SEMG Pontiac Lake Hike. 10:30am. 6-mile, moderately-paced hill-hopping hike. Meet in Bloomfield Twnshp in Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side) north of Square Lake Rd. Optional restaurant stop. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

10/13 NG Picture Party & Potluck. 6:30pm. Bring dish to pass, drinks & adventure photos. Call for directions. Kathy Dockter, 810-767-6405, k.l.dockter@att.net.

10/14 (Sun) KVG Sand Dune Ecology Hike. 12:30pm. Explore Lake Michigan's sand dunes. Learn about sand dune ecology & threats posed by sand mining as we hike some of Berrien County's most picturesque dune country. Meet in NE corner of KVCC's Texas Township campus (9th St & O Ave). Verne, 616-344-4279 (evenings).

10/14 SEMG Potawatomi Trail Tenner. 9am. 10-mile version of beautiful fall color trail in SE Michigan. All day trip; hike about 3 mph. Wear sturdy shoes & dress for weather. Trip goes rain or shine. Bring trail lunch & drinks for entire day. Meet in Livonia between Walmart & Jiffy Lube (near Jeffries), SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96. Call before 8am if weather looks doubtful. Optional restaurant stop. Donna Kolojeskie, 313-336-7529, Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

10/20 NG Metamora-Hadley Hike. 10am. 4.5 miles. Take M-15 to Hill Rd near Goodrich. East on Hill (changes to Pratt Rd) for 7 miles. Hurd Rd south 1/2 mile. Or M-24 to Pratt Rd. West 2.5 miles to Hurd Rd, south 1/2 mile. Meet in camp store parking lot. State Park vehicle permit required. Restaurant stop. Christina Withrow, cell 1-810-614-0207, home 517-795-2650.

10/20 (Sat) SEMG Green Lake Overnight Campout. Rustic camp north of Chelsea; Waterloo hike on Sun. Arrive Sat (or Fri), set up, paddle the lake, fish, do local hiking & supper cookout. Break camp Sun after breakfast & drive 10 miles to trailhead. \$20 fee includes camping & 3 meals. Reserve by 10/14. Philip Crookshank, 17916 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, MI. 48125. 313-562-1873, Tom Griebel, 248-349-8782.

10/21 SEMG Waterloo Rec Area Hike & Crane Watch. 1-8pm. Brisk, 6-mile hike in hilly Waterloo area. Then drive to Haehnle-Audubon Sanctuary to watch sandhill cranes fly in at sunset. Bring trail snacks, water, binoculars & layers of warm clothes. Meet in Livonia between

see OUTINGS, page 20

OUTINGS *continued from page 19*

Walmart & Jiffy Lube (near Jeffries) on SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96. Optional restaurant stop. Max Nemazi, 734-421-4397.

10/24 NG Bald Mt Rec Area Hike. North Unit, Lake Orion. 10am. 6 moderate miles. No dogs. M-24 to Lake Orion. Left on Flint St to Orion Rd, left on Stoney Creek Rd, left on Harmon Rd. Trailhead parking lot at corner of Harmon & Predmore. Restaurant stop. Barb Niemi, 248-693-5785 or niemirb@msn.com.

10/27-28 NG Hoist Lakes Backpacking. 9:30am. 9 miles on Sat, 6 miles on Sun. Start at Hoist Lakes Foot Area parking lot on M-65, 7 miles N of Glennie. \$5 recreation fee demonstration project required (purchase at Glennie party store). Don Persson, 810-695-0516, donald.persson@delphiauto.com.

10/27 NG Linda's Halloween Party. The best Halloween costume party starts at dark. Call for directions. Linda Berker, 810-653-8242.

10/28 SEMG White Lake Hike. 10am. Begin at Pepper Ridge Farm & explore adjacent farmlands, meadows & lakes for 5-mile walk. Warm up with cider & donuts at nearby cider mill. Meet in Bloomfield Twnshp in Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side), north of Square Lake Rd. Restaurant stop. Glory Havlin, 248-851-9324.

NOVEMBER

11/2-11/4 CUP Backpacking: North Country Trail (Mackinac & Chippewa Cos). Explore 25/30-km Kenneth Rd to USFS 3139 section of foot trail & adjoining bush: East Lake, Bear Creek, Maple Hill Overlook & Biscuit Creek. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker, very physically fit, foul-weather ready, adventurous & fully equipped, including rations & stove. 8am Fri to mid-day Sun. \$5. More info at www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, mneiger@hotmail.com, Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W.

11/3 NG Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge & Price Nature Center Hike. 10am. 6 easy miles. Take M-13 N, left on Curtis Rd. Go 3 miles to end of road then 1/4 mile north to parking lot. Tim Gundlach, 810-232-0917.

11/4 SEMG Proud Lake Hike. 11am. Moderate-brisk, 5-mile hike stopping to observe birds, plants & animals. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop. Michael Scanlon, 313-884-2214.

11/10 NG Schedule Meeting. 10am. Flint Public Library, 1026 E Kearsley. Hike Grand Blanc Commons, 1pm. Meet behind McFarlen Library, 515 Perry Rd, Grand Blanc, for 3.5 mile hike. No restaurant plans. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

11/11 SEMG Howell Nature Center Hike. 1pm. Slow 4-mile hike. Tour animal compound & view non-releasable owls, hawks & mammals. No entrance fee, but volunteer docent will collect \$2 at sign-up (\$1 for Sierra Club, \$1 for Nature Center). Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Restaurant Stop. Tom & Pat Skinner, 517-552-9121.

12/1-3 CUP Backpacking: High Country Pathway (Otsego & Montmorency Cos). Explore 26-km Sturgeon Valley Rd to E Branch Black River section of foot trail & adjoining bush: Pigeon River Lookout Tower & a 1240' peak. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker, very physically fit, foul-weather ready, adventurous & fully equipped, including rations & stove. 8am Sat to mid-day Mon. \$5. Info at www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, mneiger@hotmail.com, Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W. 🌿

MEETINGS *continued from page 17*

CHAPTER EVENTS

9/14-16

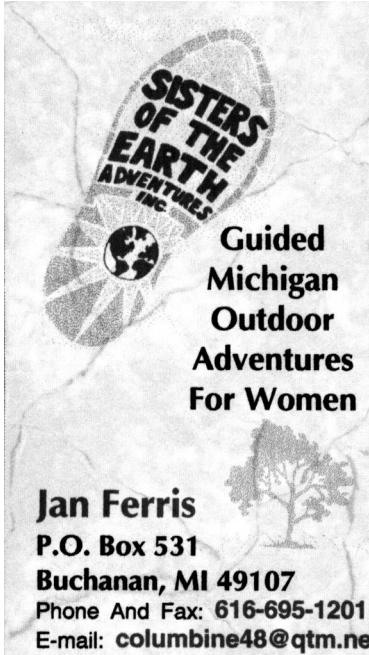
Mackinac Chapter Fall Retreat. Check in 2pm Fri; depart after lunch on Sun. Kettunen Center in Lustin, south of Cadillac. See more information on page 10. Julie Janeczko-Murphy, 989-772-7939.

10/20

Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee Meeting. Detroit. Joyce McIntosh, 517-484-2372 or joyce.mcintosh@sierraclub.org.

11/2-4

National Outings Leadership Training at Camp Potawatomi, South Milford, IN (35 miles north of Ft. Wayne). \$35. Workshops begin 8pm on Fri through Sun at 2:30pm. For info visit mitchell.sierraclub.org/outings/Training/index.asp or contact steven.shewach@sierraclub.org, 415-977-5711. Registration forms are on the website. 🌿



Guided Michigan Outdoor Adventures For Women

Jan Ferris
P.O. Box 531
Buchanan, MI 49107
Phone And Fax: 616-695-1201
E-mail: columbine48@qtm.net

S.O.S. *continued from page 2*

Lake Michigan Federation study found that DEQ files show a number of cases where companies were not meeting requirements. Yet only one permit has been denied since 1976, and only after public protest. In 1994 the state attorney general sued a company for mining on state park land for nearly 10 years after its lease had expired. The company illegally had removed 250,000 tons of sand worth about \$1,000,000. In response, the DEQ granted the company a new permit.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Legislation introduced by Senator Gary Peters (SB 487) and Representative Julie Dennis (HB 4795) would do the following:

- Prohibit Michigan's Great Lakes sand dune mining after January 1, 2006.
- Eliminate the 3000-ton mining without a permit.
- Provide critical dune protection to an additional 12,000 acres.

This legislation would greatly protect Michigan's Great Lakes dunes, which also are threatened by residential development and drilling.

It is again time for citizens to demand protection of this marvelous natural resource. Contact your Senator and Representative in Lansing and ask them to cosponsor these bills. Ask also that they insist the DEQ do its duty in issuing, monitoring, and enforcing permits.

The Mackinac Chapter's Great Lakes Subcommittee is developing a campaign to increase the dunes' protection. If you value Michigan's spectacular and precious dunes and all the creatures depending on them, please join us. Contact Subcommittee Chair Rita Jack at (810) 714-1628. 🌿

Shop to Stop Sprawl!

“What a great idea! Local grassroots action to preserve nature is what the Sierra Club is all about. I encourage every Sierra Club member in Michigan to participate in Shopping for the Earth.”

- Carl Pope, Sierra Club Executive Director

Believe it or not, your next shopping trip could help stop sprawl. How? By taking part in the Sierra Club/Huron Valley Group's **Shopping for the Earth** program. Companies that participate in the program will donate at least 5% of your purchases to the Sierra Club.

We'll use these funds to fight the out-of-control development that is devastating Michigan. Each year, you can contribute hundreds of dollars to the fight against sprawl – at no cost to you.



Start shopping to stop sprawl today! All you have to do is mail in a check with the order form below. We'll send you EarthCash vouchers of equal value for the selected stores. Then you spend the vouchers just as if they're cash. You can return the unused vouchers for a refund if you're not completely satisfied.

For more information, please contact Michael Sklar by phone at (248) 542-1789 or by email at mssklar@home.com.

“I use EarthCash vouchers. I haven't changed what I buy or where I shop. But now we're contributing over \$200 each year to make our community a better place to live. It's easy, and it doesn't cost us a penny.”

- Gwen Nystuen

Sierra Club/Huron Valley Group "Shopping for the Earth" Order Form

Indicate the number of EarthCash vouchers of each dollar amount you want for each store in the table below. Please enclose your check payable to "Huron Valley Group - Sierra Club." Total order (\$500 maximum): \$ _____.

Kroger	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
Whole Foods/Merchant of Vino	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	
Meijer (store & gas station)	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
Farmer Jack (& affiliated stores)	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
Hiller's Markets (NEW!)	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
Ann Arbor People's Food Co-op	_____ @ \$5	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20
Busch's	_____ @ \$5	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20
Borders Books & Music		_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$25 _____ @ \$50

Your Name: _____
 Your Address: _____
 Your Phone & email: _____

Mail to:
 Michael Sklar
 10404 Kingston Avenue
 Huntington Woods, MI 48070

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VACATION TOURS

NEW ZEALAND-AUSTRALIA TOURS Walking, Wildlife, Garden. Small escorted groups or individual custom itineraries. PACIFIC PATHWAYS 650-595-2090 www.pacificpathways.com.

HELP WANTED

Musicians for jam sessions. Bring your guitar, sax, fiddle, etc. to the fall retreat. Contact Julie at 989-539-1676 or soaringbuteos@msn.com.

Office Volunteer to work in the Lansing Sierra Club office. Call Joyce McIntosh at (517) 484-2372.

Photographers. The Mackinac needs photos of people on outings and taking part in activism. Please contact Sherry Hayden at (810) 767-9904 or hayden@tir.com.

Members in northern lower Michigan are needed to help start a Sierra Club group. Contact Dan Farough at (517) 484-2372.

AUCTIONS

Bring items to our Autumn Retreat on Sept. 12-14 for our live auction and silent auction. All proceeds go to fund projects in the Mackinac Chapter.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

Raise funds for your group by selling raffle tickets in our Chapter Raffle. First prize is \$1,000, Second Prize is \$500 and 5 Third Prizes of \$100. Letters will be going out to groups soon, and the raffle will take place in January. Contact the Chapter Office at (517) 484-2372 if you can help us with fundraising for the environment.



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Chapter Directory

MACKINAC CHAPTER OFFICE

109 East Grand River Avenue
Lansing, MI 48906
Phone: 517-484-2372
Fax: 517-484-3108
E-mail: mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org
Website: michigan.sierraclub.org

Director: Anne Woiwode
**Political Director/Public Education
Coordinator:** Dan Farough
Office Manager: Joyce McIntosh
Environmental Justice Organizer:
Rhonda Anderson
Detroit Office, 313-821-1064
(temporary number)

SIERRA CLUB MIDWEST OFFICE

214 N. Henry Street, Suite 203
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: 608-257-4994

Midwest Regional Staff Director:
Alison Horton
Great Lakes Program Director:
Emily Green

SIERRA CLUB NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

85 Second Street, Second Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: 415-977-5500

ADDRESS CHANGES

Please include old mailing label and send to:
PO Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80321-2968

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Officers
Lydia Fischer, Chair..... 313-863-8392
Sue Kelly, Vice Chair..... 810-227-9563
Helen LeBlanc, Treasurer..... 517-655-6454
Fred Townsend, Secretary..... 248-627-3587
Mike Keeler, 5th Officer..... 810-767-9904

At-Large Representatives

(Terms expire January 2003)
Lydia Fischer..... 313-863-8392
Mike Keeler..... 810-767-9904
Helen LeBlanc..... 517-655-6454
Anna Holden..... 313-331-0932
Bob Duda..... 734-464-0076
(Terms expire January 2002)
Sue Kelly..... 810-227-9563
Judy Shazer..... 734-487-5548
Fred Townsend..... 248-627-3587
Barbara Yarrow..... 248-932-9164

Group Representatives

Central Michigan
John Veenstra..... 517-339-1427
Central Upper Peninsula
John Rebers..... 906-228-3617
Crossroads
David Wright..... 810-229-1685
Huron Valley
Nancy Shiffler..... 734-971-1157
Kalamazoo Valley
Mike Johnson..... 616-948-8840
Nepessing
Ann Crane..... 248-634-8641
Southeast Michigan
Denise Harris..... 810-606-3557
Three Lakes
Floyd Byerly..... 906-632-0218
Thumb Valley
Craig Kendziorski..... 517-631-5170
Traverse Group
Monica Evans..... 231-325-6812

Wakelin McNeel
Julie Janeczko-Murphy..... 989-772-7939
West Michigan
Martha Lore..... 616-682-1316

REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRS

Central Michigan
Pete Pasterz..... 517-676-3339
Central Upper Peninsula
John Rebers..... 906-228-3617
Crossroads
Rick Pearsall..... 810-227-6298
Huron Valley
Doug Cowherd..... 734-662-5205
Kalamazoo Valley
Paul Haas..... 616-664-5417
Nepessing
Linda Berker..... 810-653-8242
Southeast Michigan
Bob Duda..... 734-464-0076
Three Lakes
Floyd Byerly..... 906-632-0218
Thumb Valley
Janis & Craig Kendziorski..... 517-631-5170
Traverse Group
Monica Evans..... 231-325-6812
Wakelin McNeel Group
Julie Janeczko-Murphy..... 989-772-7939
West Michigan
Martha Lore..... 616-682-1316

CHAPTER COMMITTEES

Awards
Bob Duda..... 734-464-0076
Conservation
Sue Kelly..... 810-227-9563
Elections: Open
Fall Retreat
Julie Janeczko-Murphy..... 989-772-7939
Finance
Julie Janeczko-Murphy..... 989-772-7939
Information Systems
Alex Sagady..... 517-332-6971
Inner City Outings
West Michigan: John Pulver..... 616-453-2480
Washtenaw: Peter Bednekoff..... 734-480-9285
Legal: Open
The Mackinac Newsletter
Lydia Fischer..... 313-863-8392
Sherry Hayden..... 810-767-9904
Julie Janeczko-Murphy..... 989-772-7939
Joyce McIntosh..... 517-484-2372
Davina Pallone..... 801-961-9939
Anne Woiwode..... 517-484-2372
Barbara Yarrow..... 248-932-9164
The Mackinac Website
Davina Pallone..... 801-961-9939
Mackinac Chapter History
Gwen Nystuen..... 734-665-7632
Member Programs
Bob Duda..... 734-464-0076
Nominations
Anna Holden..... 313-331-0932
Outings
Ralph Powell..... 734-971-9013
Personnel
Lydia Fischer..... 313-863-8392
Political
Tim Killeen..... 313-526-4052
Raffle
Mike Keeler..... 810-767-9904
Sexual Harassment Investigation
Lydia Fischer..... 313-863-8392
Sierra Club Council Delegate
Judy Shazer..... 734-487-5548
Sierra Club Delegate to MRCC
Sarah Houwerzyl..... 616-361-5943

NEXT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1

SEND ARTICLES AND PHOTOS TO:

**Sherry Hayden, 813 Maxine St., Flint, MI 48503,
810-767-9904, hayden@tir.com**

SEND GROUP MEETINGS AND OUTINGS TO:

Barbara Yarrow, 248-932-9164, SEMGYarrow@aol.com

Cover:

FIRST PLACE, MICHIGAN LANDSCAPES

Miner's Castle at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in the Upper Peninsula. Photo by Gary De Kock, Fruitport.

Clockwise from top right:

FIRST PLACE, MISCELLANEOUS

An injured owl was displayed on Earth Day 2001 at Natarino Nature Center in Wisconsin. Photo by Robert A. White of Laurium.

FIRST PLACE, SIERRA CLUB ACTIVISTS IN ACTION

Brian Barchus displays the wing of a red-winged blackbird prior to banding at the Inn on Kelleys Island. The banding was sponsored by the Kelleys Island Audubon Club. Photo by Carla Dunlap, Muskegon.

FIRST PLACE, BLACK AND WHITE

A farm threatened by urban sprawl on Walsh Road in Dexter, MI. Similar farms in the area have already been converted into subdivisions. Photo by Jill L. Love, Dexter.

FIRST PLACE, SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

"End of trail," Marquette County, MI. Photo by Cheri Wallace, Plymouth.



PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO SENT IN ENTRIES!



POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SIERRA CLUB, 109 East Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI 48906

**What does the
Sierra Club work to do?**

To explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the Earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the Earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.