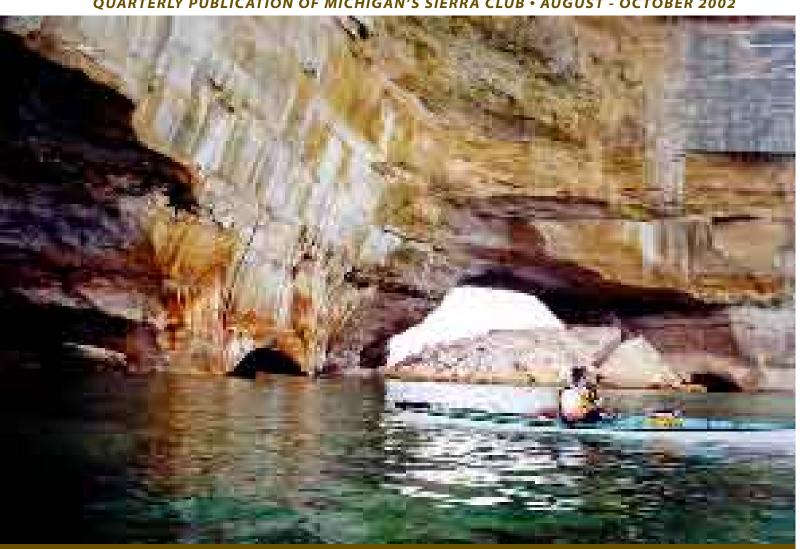


Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

The Mackinac



Kayaking at Grand Portal Point at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore during the National Board Meeting in Marquette (see story, page 5). PHOTO: JOHN REBERS

The Mackinac

OUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB • AUGUST - OCTOBER 2002

As you read through this edition of The Mackinac, watch for issues that you care about. Don't just read and get mad. Instead, write a letter, make a phone call.

Renewed by Nature, We Are Motivated To Protect It

by Mike Keeler, Mackinac Chapter Co-Chair

I'm writing from my cabin in the middle of nowhere, on my week off in July. It's a lazy week of sleeping in and catching up on much-needed relaxation. It seems a luxury to have such a simple life—no phones, no email, no demands. My 12-inch black-and-white TV picks up one station that I watch for ten minutes nightly, to hear the weather forecast and the exact same Cherry Festival report as last year, and to catch David Letterman's monologue before drifting off to sleep. This news junkie hasn't seen a newspaper for days.

A friend from work drops by with his teenager on their way to a nearby fishing hole. The kid says, "Dad, when I get older, I want to live in a shack just like this one!" I protest his choice of words, but I know what he means. It is beautiful and small. The cabin was originally a general store in the 1930s, and when I bought it, 16 years ago, it was a mess. I've since torn down a collapsed barn for a woman and recycled its wood for my cabin walls. I bought second-hand materials and installed everything myself.

My closest human neighbors are about a mile away. Outside the screened-in porch, Eastern Phoebes are raising another brood, just as they have for years; the returning hummingbird dives to ward off competitors; a wild turkey waddles through the clearing at dawn. Tall aspens dance in the winds while the forest beneath is so still I can hear the faintest sound. I need only to breathe to let the place renew

When it gets to be 90 degrees, Sherry and I head toward Lake Michigan for a swim. We find a little village that transports us to an earlier era. At a public beach we drink at "Old Facefull," the artesian well that flows exactly as it has since 1931. A bumper sticker on a nearby car reads, "The best things in life aren't things.'

Then on our way home, we are jolted into the 21st Century in a way that makes us sad and frustrated. Replacing orchards and dunes, newly built subdivision McMansions scream, "Look at me!" We wonder how long it will be before the wild areas and rural charm—the reasons people are drawn to the place—are completely consumed and forever altered. Our formerly favorite beach is now surrounded by an industrial park.

We are renewed by Nature, and we are motivated to work to protect it. More than 100 years ago, John Muir championed the Nature Outing. He took groups of people out on hiking trips, and they learned intimately of the power of Nature to restore the soul. Participants returned to their towns, determined to save the wild places they had experienced.

So we continue today.

As you read through this edition of The Mackinac, watch for issues that you care about. Don't just read and get mad. Instead, write a letter, make a phone call. Can you write the DNR or Forest Service to protect your favorite place? Can you attend a Zoning Board or city council meeting? On August 6 and November 5, make sure you get out and vote for environmental candidates.

And make reservations for the Autumn Retreat on September 13-15. Sierra Club members from all over the state (friends you don't know yet) have lots of fun and relaxation on the dunes and in the waves of Lake Michigan. At Camp Miniwanka, we play together and learn more about how we can help protect this wonderful place we call Michigan.

Mike Keeler of Flint is the co-chair of the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club. He serves with Sue Kelly of Brighton. Together they serve in the highest volunteer position of the statewide Sierra Club.

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Sierra Club's sexual harassment policy can be found on the Chapter website at http://mitchell.sierraclub.org/ leaders/policies/sexual-harassment.asp or by contacting the Lansing office.



Detail of a photograph by Scott Spink, one of seven Great Lakes artists to circumnavigate Lake Superior on the Aliwihta. See page 18 for the whole story.

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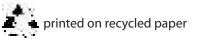
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CORRECTION:

The photo at the top of page 23 in the May - July 2002 issue was taken by Eric Hansen at Trap Hills.



NEXT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1

SEND ARTICLES & PHOTOS TO:

Eric Lagergren mackinac.editor@prodigy.net 6055 Carriage Hill Drive East Lansing, MI 48823

SEND MEETINGS & OUTINGS TO: Barbara Yarrow 248-932-9164

SEMGYarrow@aol.com

Independence Day Kicks Off Forest Campaign

by David Holtz, Mackinac Chapter Media Coordinator

Grand Rapids and Traverse City families love and live near some of Michigan's great forests, and over the Fourth of July holiday some of those tree lovers—who explore and enjoy Michigan's wilderness—may have learned more about how to care for Michigan's forests.

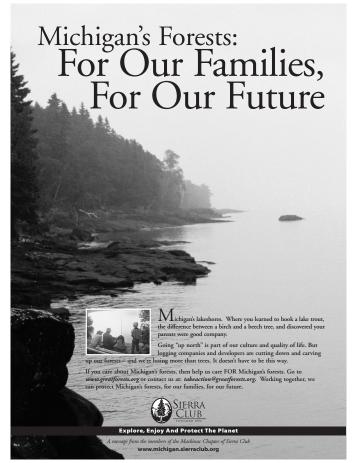
Using radio, television and newspaper ads, Sierra Club's Mackinac Chapter highlighted the enduring values Michiganders place on "Going Up North," and urged western and northern Michigan families to take action against logging and other threats to our forests. The campaign was launched as the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which oversees state forests, considers new rules that for the first time would protect Michigan's oldest and most endangered forest areas from logging and development.

"Michigan's forests are more than trees," Anne Woiwode, staff director of the Mackinac Chapter, told reporters as part of one press conference held in Traverse City announcing the Care for Michigan's Forests campaign. "They provide us with fresh air, clean water and places to enjoy with our families, as well as being home to wildlife we all enjoy. The forests are worth protecting." An additional press conference was held in Grand Rapids.

Woiwode was joined at the Traverse City press conference by Marvin Roberson, Sierra Club's forest policy analyst, and Tim Flynn, President of Flynn Lumber Company of Gladwin and a longtime Club activist for forest protections. Woiwode said the Sierra Club wants the DNR to place a hold on logging the oldest stands until new rules covering rare forests are adopted. She said it could be several months before the DNR will consider permanent protections. In the meantime, thousands of acres of endangered forest areas are potentially at risk from logging.

Michigan has six state forests covering more than 3.9 million acres—the largest in the United States. Timber sales, however, are scheduled on about 60,000 acres of state forest land each year, Roberson told reporters. Michigan's old growth white and red pine forests and old growth northern hardwoods are considered so rare, he continued, that each has been listed as an Endangered Ecosystem by the National Biological Service.

"Industrial logging is degrading and carving up Michigan's beautiful forests," said Sierra Club's Roberson. "These are healthy, productive ecosystems that support life and provide a balance of nature. We really can't afford to lose them."



The newspaper ad campaign.

A committee established by the DNR is preparing recommendations expected to call for the identification of rare forest areas in northern and western Michigan in order to protect them from logging.

Woiwode said Sierra Club hopes the public response will help convince the DNR to enact proposed new protections for Michigan's forests. In 1991 the state Natural Resources Commission began consideration of a policy to protect the state's older, mature forests from industrial logging. Those rules were never implemented, said Woiwode, because of pressure from logging and game interests and a lack of funds to complete the process.

Because of lobbying from logging interests, the Legislature has imposed a mandate on the DNR that makes logging their top priority in managing Michigan's forests. Woiwode said now is the time for the DNR to protect Michigan's rare forests. "The DNR can always go back and cut a stand of trees later," she said. "But it takes at least a hundred years to recover an old growth forest once it's been clearcut. That's damage that can never be undone."

For information on Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter and the Forest Biodiversity Program: http://michigan.sierraclub.org

For information on the Michigan DNR Old Growth and Biodiversity Stewardship Program: www.michigan.gov/dnr (go to Forests, Land & Water > Conservation & Restoration > Specific Projects > Old Growth and Biodiversity Stewardship)

NATIONAL BOARD MEETING HELD IN MARQUETTE— THEY CAME, THEY SAW, THEY LIKED

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

The Sierra Club Board of Directors and the Sierra Club Foundation Board of Trustees met in Marquette in mid-July, introducing Club leaders from around the country to Michigan's spectacular Lake Superior coastline and forests. The respective boards held their summer retreats and a joint meeting in Michigan for the first time ever, and came away impressed with the beauty of and challenges facing Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Between meetings, members of the two boards and other participants were able to get out and enjoy the natural resources of the region. Walt Loupe led a hike in Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, drawing on his years of studies of the area both as Pictured Rock's former top scientist and in his current work with the US Geological Survey. Chapter Director Anne Woiwode guided a biodiversity hike of the Little Presque Isle tract of the Escanaba River State Forest through hemlock, pine and hardwood forests, next to granite cliffs, on sandy beaches and above awe-inspiring red and white sandstone cliffs.

John Rebers, CUP Group Chair, Jan O'Connell, Sierra Club Board Secretary and Marty Fluharty, Sierra Club Foundation President, deserve many thanks for their roles in planning the event and assuring its success. Many Chapter leaders, including Sue Kelly, Kim Waldo, Julie Murphy, Marty Lore, Craig Ressler, Dave Allen and staff members Rita Jack, Marvin Roberson, David Holtz, Sarah Baker and Dan Farough helped bring the Mackinac Chapter to the Board members as well.





Top: Walt Loupe (back) talks about the ecology of Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore to Jan O'Connell, Craig Ressler and others.

Above: Marty Fluharty, Michigan Sierran and Sierra Club Foundation President, enjoys a rare quiet moment during the Board retreat in Michigan's northwoods.

Auto Accountability Campaign Begins in Detroit

by David Holtz, Mackinac Chapter Media Coordinator



announced the campaign June 12 at Detroit's Cobo Hall. The goal is to pressure Ford, General Motors and DaimlerChrysler to give American consumers the choice to buy more fuel efficient vehicles. Tele-

vision, radio and newspaper ads by Sierra

A three-year national campaign urging

automakers to improve the fuel efficiency of

their cars and trucks kicked off in Detroit

with plans to turn up the heat this summer

Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope

on the Big Three.

Club demand that the Big Three automakers improve the fuel efficiencies of their vehicles in order to cut our dependence on foreign oil, save money at the pump and create a cleaner environment.

The campaign will also focus on creating demand among consumers to improve gas mileage with currently available technologies. Pope said that the national campaign was the most ambitious of its kind and prompted by Congress' failure to adopt new fuel efficiency standards.

Carl Pope, Sierra Club Executive Director

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HOW WE DO POLITICS—MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS RESPONSIBILITIES

by Tim Killeen, Chair, Mackinac Chapter Political Committee

We know that a cleaner environment can start with greener public officials, and most of you know that Sierra Club endorses political candidates. But some of you may be wondering just how we decide on which candidates to endorse. What do we do when we see an opportunity to take a House or Senate seat—one that for years may have consistently voted against the environment—and turn it into one that consistently supports our causes? The task arduous and fraught with many hours of closely scrutinizing candidates, is as follows...

For the State Legislature, we start by sending questionnaires to declared candidates. Those candidates who would like our support return the questionnaire and our volunteer Group political committees sort through the responses. Occasionally we conduct interviews to select candidates worthy of Sierra Club's support. After approval by Groups, the endorsements next move to the Chapter political committee, and then eventually on to the Chapter executive committee. Along the way, it takes a two-thirds majority to approve an endorsement.

Once candidates have Sierra Club's endorsement, they can then use our name to let voters know where they stand. As well, the candidates can use whatever resources the

Club can muster to help promote them. Club volunteers can call members in that district to inform them of the endorsement. We can also mail a notice to the membership, recruiting them to give valuable volunteer time to the candidate's campaign. Members are also encouraged to host "Meet and Greet" gatherings in their homes so voters can get to know the candidates.

Through the Sierra Club's PAC, we have the ability to reach beyond our membership and take our candidates directly to the voting public through media ads. Sierra Club posts endorsements on its website, on bumperstickers, and on buttons and other public modes of expression. The ability of the Club to raise a candidate's profile gives that candidate a better chance at success. That success, in turn, can result in a Legislature more attuned to environmental concerns.

This kind of political work also sends the message to environmental opponents in the Legislature that they will be held publicly accountable for their actions. Sierra Club's participation in the democratic process assures concerned citizens that issues regarding the environment get their deserved scrutiny during the campaigns. Candidates will have to explain themselves on environmental issues more than they would otherwise. Sierra Club participation also means that the voting public will be

more aware of, and thus consider, environmental issues as they cast their ballot.

How do we get green candidates elected? By getting involved in the political process and by conducting ourselves in an honorable manner in the political arena. The Sierra Club endorsement has meaning because we have a credible reputation as a voice for the environment. This combination of reputation and resources can make the difference in who's elected in some of these races.

Through our active participation in the political process, candidates can no longer hoodwink the voting public with "greenwashing." Our opponents have been put on notice, the environment cannot be safely ignored.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO GET INVOLVED?

- Commit to four hours of volunteer time this year working for a Sierra Clubendorsed candidate. Volunteers are still the backbone of campaigns.
- · Put up a lawn sign for a Club-endorsed candidate.
- Contact your Group Political Chair. Make it known that you're available to help.
- Donate \$20 to the Mackinac Chapter PAC (the form is provided below).
- Vote on Election Day, and take a friend with you!

MAKE 'EM ALL GREEN: GIVE TO THE SIERRA CLUB MACKINAC CHAPTER POLITICAL COMMITTEE

2002 promises to be an extremely interesting and active year for environmentalists! The Governor's race is wide open, the State House and Senate are ripe for a "greening," and there are great opportunities to weigh in on our congressional races. In all cases the environment promises to figure like never before. Help us make 2002 the "Year of the Environment" with a generous donation to the Mackinac Chapter Political Committee!

YES! I WOULD LIKE TO HELP ENSURE THAT WE ELECT ENVIRONMENTAL CANDIDATES!

Please accept my generous donation of: __\$25 __\$35 __\$50 __\$100 __\$200 __Other

Federal Law requires the following information:

Name
Address
Phone
Occupation
Employer

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter Political Committee. SEND TO: Sierra Club, Mackinac Chapter, Attention: Dan Farough, Political Director, 109 East Grand River, Lansing, MI 48906

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND!

Please contact either Dan Farough (information above) or Tim Killeen to find out ways to get involved!

Tim Killeen **Political Chair** 16260 Lappin Detroit, MI 48205 313-526-4052



Detroit Office Celebrates Grand Opening

by David Holtz, Mackinac Chapter Media Coordinator

A June 27 Grand Opening celebration of Sierra Club's new Detroit office was highlighted by honoring four Detroiters with Urban Legend awards.

Vicky Burton, of the Greendale Community Association, was recognized for her leadership in organizing the community against Canflow Industries' discharging of industrial wastes into residential Detroit sewers. Professor Charles Simmons, of the Coalition for the Political Resurrection of Detroit, was honored for his work on the west side of Detroit in conducting neighborhood cleanups and establishing a citizen's newsletter. James Williams, of the Virginia Park District Council, won the award for leadership in closing the Henry Ford Hospital medical waste incinerator. Jay Henderson, President of the Riverbend Association, was recognized for his work to stop air quality violations by Continental Aluminum Corporation in Detroit.





Top: Simmons, Williams, Sierra Club's Rhonda Anderson, and Henderson at the grand opening.

Above: Martha Gruelle of Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision listening to an attendee.

Litigation Update

VICTORY! RIVER RIDGE FARMS SETTLEMENT

Settlement of a lawsuit brought by Sierra Club against River Ridge Farms guarantees the use of technology as well as enforces practices to prevent future pollution at three animal factories in Ottawa County. The decision also secures \$12,500 for independent water quality monitoring in waterways previously polluted by the facilities. The Sierra Club litigation prompted both state and federal enforcement actions against the facilities, and it put additional pressure on the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to comply with federal laws regarding regulation of concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs).

ASPEN LAWSUIT PRO BONO ATTORNEY MOVES ON

The Sierra Club has reluctantly found it necessary to dismiss our lawsuit over the Yaba Timber Sale in the Ottawa National Forest in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The pro bono attorney on the case, Leigh Haynie, left the region because her husband has been hired by the FBI and assigned to a post in Louisiana. The Forest Service and intervening organizations agreed to the lawsuit dismissal, filed in late June.

Sierra Club volunteers and staff continue to work through the administrative processes and all other available means in order to protect our natural treasures and restore healthy and diverse forest ecosystems to Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

SAVE THE BOARDMAN RIVER VALLEY!

The Sierra Club in Michigan turns to litigation only when all other avenues for protecting the environment are closed. Lawsuits are costly, even with the help of pro bono attorneys and shared costs with other organizations. The effort to block the construction of the Hartman-Hammond Bridge is a perfect example. More than a decade of citizen protests—helped by Sierra Club activists from the Traverse Group have not stopped the Grand Traverse County Road Commission from plowing ahead with its plans to build a bridge across a pristine stretch of the Boardman River just outside Traverse City. The litigation alone, even with private attorneys and experts providing services at a reduced cost, is expected to run more than \$100,000.

HELP SUPPORT SIERRA CLUB'S EFFORTS TO SAVE THE BOARDMAN RIVER VALLEY

Your tax-deductible donation is greatly appreciated and goes a long way in helping to fight our battles in the courtroom for the Boardman River Valley, as well as funding other Mackinac Chapter litigation.

Make donation payable to: Sierra Club Foundation

Send to: Sierra Club Foundation

c/o Sierra Club

109 East Grand River Avenue

Lansing, MI 48906



Keeping an Eye on CAFOs: Why & How It's Done

by Janet Kauffman, Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan (ECCSCM)

Kathy Melmoth of ECCSCM takes a water sample from a site downstream of a CAFO in Lenawee County.

After a manure discharge contaminated Lake Hudson State Recreation Area in March 2000, Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan (ECCSCM) discussed the need to monitor streams and drains adjacent to nine new dairy CAFOs in the Hudson area. At the time, no monitoring was being done, and no one knew what was going into the water or how often.

Several ECCSCM members joined the Bean Creek/Tiffin Watershed group and attended a Watershed Watchdog day in Ohio, where the Ohio EPA offered training in water monitoring. ECCSCM concurrently applied for Community Action Grants and received a grant to monitor the water for dissolved oxygen (DO) for sites adjacent to CAFOs in the Bean/Tiffin watershed area, as well as a grant to monitor for E. coli bacteria, the presence of which indicates risk for humans.

Since January 2002, every two weeks ECCSCM volunteers have sampled ten sites adjacent to CAFOs. The sites are chosen depending on where manure has been applied, or where residents with concerns about the water have asked the group to sample. Using a handheld DO meter for in-the-field DO and temperature readings to check for risks to aquatic species, volunteers gather samples and document conditions with photographs. The E. coli samples are then transported to D&A Environmental, a private, certified lab in Jackson, Michigan.

Volunteer monitoring is crucial in getting specific data to the public and to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the EPA. The results are emailed to both agencies, and to local county health departments (ECCSCM also publishes results in their newsletter). Because samples are taken

routinely at numerous sites, snapshots of water quality adjacent to CAFOs are starting to come into focus.

ECCSCM now re-samples sites that test extremely high and finds serious spikes in E. coli contamination at drains coming off of CAFOs. One E. coli sampling at an inlet to Lime Lake tested at 166,320 colonies/100 ml on April 22 of this year. Two weeks later, the site was down to 99 colonies/100 ml, then was back up two weeks later, on May 15, to "Too Numerous to Count" (TNTC). Extremely low DO numbers, as well as extremely high E. coli numbers, have prompted investigations from MDEQ. As a result, the MDEQ and EPA have documented several illegal discharges of silage and of manure from CAFOs.

Monitoring has given a whole new view of the watershed. Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan now knows which way the crick runs, as they say, but also what's in it and what's not, and who to call if the water looks, smells or tests bad. At a time of stress in this agricultural community, with so much at risk, ECCSCM and its volunteers find it fulfilling to take positive action by protecting our streams, wetlands and lakes.

ACCEPTABLE LEVELS OF E. COLI
The state sets "acceptable" limits of
exposure to E. coli—at swimming
beaches the state says there must
be less than 300 E.coli colonies /
100 ml of water in order for it
to be swimmable (full body
contact). For more information, visit
the Michigan Department of
Environmental Quality website at
www.michigan.gov/deq (go to the
Water > Water Quality Monitoring
section).

WATER SENTINELS PROJECT EXPANDS TO CAFO MAPPING & WATER MONITORING

by Rita Jack, Water Sentinels Project Coordinator

The Mackinac Chapter Water Sentinels Project will begin water quality monitoring downstream from concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) in some western and central Michigan counties.

Following the lead of a Lenawee County citizens' group that monitors water quality in their community (see article at left), volunteers are needed to regularly sample the streams and to occasionally take samples when it rains. The samples will then need to be taken to certified labs.

Volunteers will be needed in Mecosta, Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon, Allegan, Barry and Kalamazoo Counties, as well as other locations as they are identified.

We continue to map the locations of CAFOs in Michigan. Last year, Water Sentinels began identifying and mapping CAFOs to learn which waterways might be affected by animal factory waste. To do this, volunteers drive past possible large factory farms and make a series of observations that may identify the farm as a CAFO. Thus far, these and other volunteer efforts netted 92 possible CAFOs in Michigan. However, the state believes there are closer to 250 such operations. Agencies either do not keep or will not release lists of which facilities are CAFOs, so the Water Sentinels location and mapping endeavors are extremely important.

Sierra Club members who wish to participate should contact Rita Jack at 517-484-2372 or rita.jack@sierraclub.org.



Threats range from hastening the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria to contaminating ground and surface water to releasing ammonia gas.

Medical Society Calls for Moratorium on Animal Factories

by Dan Farough, Political Director, Michigan Sierra Club

The Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) is calling for a moratorium on all new concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs)—or animal factories—in Michigan. The group passed a strongly worded resolution at its House of Delegates meeting in May. The House of Delegates is the MSMS' governing body. "Animal factories pose very significant public health and environmental risks to communities and the general public," said Dr. Leland Wolf, the original author of the resolution. "Threats range from hastening the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria to contaminating ground and surface water to releasing ammonia gas. Michigan must impose an immediate moratorium on animal factories until public health and environmental risks are addressed."

The Medical Society's resolution critiqued the State of Michigan for its development of a system that fails to contain animal factory pollution. Included in the resolution are concerns that there is no permit system for discharges in waters, no public input mechanism for the people impacted by animal factory pollution, and no monitoring of adjacent drains, streams or wells.

In light of these failings, the resolution calls for an immediate moratorium on new CAFOs, a mandatory permit process, mandatory monitoring of adjacent waters and a phase out of open-air lagoons. "Policies enacted by the State of Michigan are encouraging, not limiting, public health and pollution problems in Michigan," continued Dr. Wolf. "Doctors know the seriousness of these threats. That is why we feel it's necessary to act to protect the health of Michigan communities."

Family farmers who have been fighting animal factory pollution for years warmly received the Michigan State Medical Society's call for a moratorium on animal factories and the phase out of open-air lagoons. "Doctors know what animal factory owners refuse to acknowledge," said family farmer Lynn Henning. "These guys profit from pollution, and that hurts people and communities."

Seeking More Than A Few Good Farms

by Kathy Boutin-Paterz, Mackinac Chapter Administrative Assistant

As Sierra Club members, we're well informed of the dangers of concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) as well as problems of pesticide use on our produce. Following the rally for a moratorium on CAFOs last May, the Sierra Club received many inquiries from members who wanted to know where they can purchase meat and produce from farmers and distributors who do not add to the mega-farm, mega-pollution problem.

So, we're starting a list and we need your help. Where do you buy your meat? Have you been able to find organic produce in your area? Are there restaurants nearby that serve free-range meat and organic vegetables? If you've discovered a wonderful farm in your area that practices sustainable agriculture, let us know. And, we want to hear from you if you're a member of a Community Supported Agriculture organic farm!

We'll post responses on the Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter's website.



GO ONLINE!

You can search the web for locally grown, pesticide-free, antibiotic-free, non-CAFO and organic foods near you.

The national site for the Organic Consumers Association has listings for organic food, farmers markets, natural food stores, co-ops, organic farms, seeds, rBGH free dairies, organic cotton, and Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs). www.organicconsumers.org/purelink.html

Michigan State University Extension maintains a Sustainable Food and Farming Systems Directory of Michigan Expertise. This 70-page document is arranged by county; it also lists farmers markets, CSA's and organic farmers. www.msue.msu.edu/msue/imp/modae/ae089401.html

The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) and the Natural Resources Defense Council provide lists on which fish to eat to prevent overfishing and overfarming of fish. To see the list at EDF, go to "oceans" and then click on the toolbox. www.environmentaldefense.org

For the NRDC list, go to the following address: www.nrdc.org/wildlife/fish/gwhichfi.asp

Check out the Green Seal site. This group was formed in 1989 to provide credible, objective and unbiased information to direct the purchaser to environmentally responsible products and services. www.greenseal.org

The Mackinac Quarterly • August - October 2002

cafo Update

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

MDEQ GENERAL PERMIT IN THE WORKS

An initial draft statewide General Permit, under the Clean Water Act for concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), has received almost entirely negative feedback from affected communities and environmental groups. The draft, floated informally for comments while under consideration by the agency working group, has been criticized as having insufficient detail for enforcement, and virtually no teeth.

No date has been set for public comment on the draft General Permit. Sierra Club requested that at least one public hearing be held; however, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has made no commitments at this time.

WHERE'S THE BEEF

(OR DAIRY OR SWINE OR POULTRY) ENFORCEMENT?

In January, MDEQ Director Russ Harding committed to EPA Region 5 Administrator Tom Skinner that the state would conduct "proactive inspections" of all concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) in Michigan. Yet it is now six months later, and no proactive inspections have occurred. Complicating matters, significant departmental budget cuts and the early retirement of many state workers have forced an exodus of experienced staffers, and a reorganization plan for the department raises questions about what's next.

Citizen water monitoring near CAFO sites (see Water Sentinels article, page 8) continues to be the primary trigger for enforcement.

INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING IN CAFOS?

Residents along the border of Michigan, Indiana and Ohio, are finding their quality of life and the quality of their air and water drastically diminished by a scheme that might best be described as international trafficking in immense amounts of animal wastes. In what seems a throwback to another century, old world dairy farmers are being lured to the Midwest. But this plan has a decidedly new millennial twist.

Twenty-five members of the Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan (ECCSCM) gathered on July 10 with Ohio CAFO fighters and Sierra Club members outside the massive Vreba Hoff Dairy LLC animal factory in Lenawee County. The protesters brought their concerns to 35 Dutch farmers, who were in America on a Vreba Hoff-sponsored tour designed to encourage them to move their operations from the Netherlands to the Midwest.

The enticement for European farmers to move their dairy operations to the tri-state area has much to do with a combination of strict environmental standards in Europe and woefully inadequate protection for health, water and air quality in this region of the United States.

The protesters, mainly farmers and retirees, made it clear to the touring farmers that Hoff's existing operations harm the local community, badly polluting their water and threatening their health.

The sentiment of protest at Vreba Hoff was not anti-immigrant, but instead anti-animal factory.

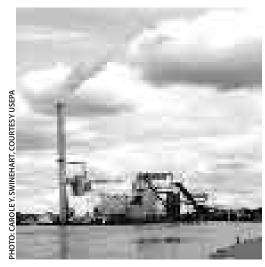
From August 2001 through May 2002, Vreba Hoff's two main facilities in Lenawee County violated the Clean Water Act seven times. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has documented each violation. Violation letters have been sent or are pending, although MDEQ has yet to follow up with any enforcement.





Top: Protesters rally in front of Vreba Hoff CAFO.

Above: A Dutch television crew gets the perspective of the protesters at the Vreba Hoff CAFO.



The Michigan Senate's 2002 Great Lakes Conservation Task Force's Final Report specifically asks for the reduction of mercury and other airborne toxins from waste incinerators and coalburning power plants.

MEETING THE MERCURY CHALLENGE

by Anna Holden, Southeast Michigan Group

Mercury is a recognized, potent neurotoxin that can cause permanent brain damage at low levels of exposure. At high levels, it can cripple. Ridding Michigan of the sources of mercury contamination is critical to our state's clean air, its clean water and its citizens' health.

Both Michigan Houses passed a bill banning mercury thermometers in June, but the Senate's amended version did not get House approval by July 2, when the legislature started summer recess. House Bill 4599, introduced by Jack Minore (D-Flint), outlaws the sale, use and promotion of mercury fever thermometers, except in instances where prescribed by a doctor. In addition to this bill, several other pieces of important legislation for the reduction of mercury contamination are also before the Michigan legislature.

- Senate Bill 11: Requires lower toxic air emissions from medical waste incinerators. This bill passed the Senate unanimously in April, but it was not scheduled for a vote in the House by before adjournment.
- Senate Bill 693: A proposal to limit pollutants—including mercury—from coalfired, electric utility plants is stuck in the Senate Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee as of this writing.

Major sources of mercury pollution are well known. According to the National Wildlife Federation (NWF), 52 percent of Michigan's current airborne mercury pollution comes from coal-burning power plants. The 1996 Michigan Mercury Pollution Prevention Task Force found municipal trash burners responsible for 28 percent of the state's mercury pollution; hospital waste incinerators were responsible for 12 percent. All onsite hospital waste incinerators in Michigan have since closed, but five large solid waste and demolition incinerators are still in operation in the state, as well as one commercial medical incinerator in Hamtramck. The Detroit solid waste incinerator alone can legally emit 3,600,000 pounds of regulated pollutants per year.

The Michigan Senate's 2002 Great Lakes Conservation Task Force's Final Report specifically asks for the reduction of mercury and other airborne toxins from waste incinerators and coal-burning power plants. By early summer, five primary gubernatorial candidates had signed or voiced support for NWF's mercury phase-out plan for Michigan. This plan calls for a 90 percent reduction of mercury pollution by 2010, with a "virtual elimination" of mercury releases by

With so much emphasis on mercury reduction, Sierra Club and its allies need to mobilize to pass mercury related bills. The House reconvenes on August 13, and then again September 17-19. Please contact House Speaker Rick Johnson and Majority Floor Leader Bruce Patterson to calendar votes on the thermometer bill and the medical waste bill (see below). These bills have the strong support of state health and environmental organizations.

WHO TO CONTACT...

Contact House Speaker Rick Johnson and Majority Floor Leader Bruce Patterson and ask them to schedule votes on HB 4599 (Thermometer Bill) and SB 11 (the Medical Waste Bill):

Rick Johnson, House Speaker 517-373-1747, or toll free in his district at 877-MICH102

Bruce Patterson, Majority Floor Leader 517-373-2575, or toll free in his district at 800-555-5021

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

In addition to contacting your legislators now, you can also...

- Educate other club members and citizens in your community about mercury by holding activities such as mercury thermometer exchanges. The Michigan Mercury Thermometer Exchange Program provides digital thermometers at a discount if exchanges include acceptable collection and disposal.
- Contact the Michigan Association for Local Public Health at www.malph.org

- or Julie Zdybel at 517-485-0660 or jzdybel@malph.org.
- Do some reading up on the subject!
 Check out this online resource:
 How to Plan and Hold a Mercury
 Fever Thermometer Exchange from Health Care Without Harm
 (www.noharm.org).

If you have furthur questions, you may also contact Anna Holden, Sierra Club Health Care Without Harm Chair, at 313-331-0932 or mgk@umd.umich.edu.

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Great Lakes Report

by Mike Johnson, Kalamazoo Valley Group

THE "CITIZENS AGENDA" AND THE ELECTION

The Great Lakes define the state of Michigan and its people. We rely on the Lakes for so much; yet, we often have not taken the steps necessary as effective stewards. The problems of maintaining the quality of the water and the related resources can be seen in the spread of aquatic nuisance species, raw and partially treated sewage and other pollutants pumped into our Lakes, and the loss of important habitat along and in the Lakes. Surely we can do more to conserve this precious resource. The Michigan Constitution charges the Legislature with the responsibility to protect and conserve the natural resources of the state from pollution, impairment and destruction.

A quote from the Sierra Club? The Lake Michigan Federation? Republicans for Environmental Protection or Great Lakes United? No! This text is from the executive summary of the Great Lakes Conservation Task Force 2002 Final Report produced by...our state legislature! Really!

The Report, subtitled "The Citizens Agenda...An Action Plan to Protect The Great Lakes," is authored by a bipartisan group of state senators—the "Task Force"—and came about from citizen input, including eight public hearings held in 2001. Hoping to voice the ideas and opinions of Michigan citizens, the Task force submitted the report with the intention of presenting "a blue-print" developed by the people, because ultimately, citizen passion "will be the real fuel for change."

Identifying 17 major categories of issues and giving its findings and recommendations on each, the report acknowledges that the Great Lakes suffer from serious environmental problems. The Task Force goes on to acknowledge that the state government has a significant and essential role in solving the problems; it counsels that "the greatest challenge may be redirecting the minds and attitudes of those who do not care passionately for our Lakes." The implication here, it seems, is that the minds that need redirecting include the members of our state government.

Of course, the Report isn't perfect. Some issues are not given

much coverage, and some recommendations are not as strong as environmentalists would like. But these weaknesses can be seen as a recognition of—and confession to—the failings of present, and past, elected officials. The Citizens Agenda is a call for our officials to correct their failings and for Michigan citizens to make sure they do.

In this election year, many of our officials will not be returning because of term limits. New faces are asking for our votes and those who hope to return to their offices in Lansing need our votes once again. We must let candidates know that their views on protecting the Great Lakes will be important to us as we enter the voting booth. We need to be sure they're aware of the Task Force Report; and, we need to find out how they stand on the report's recommendations.

What can you do? Obtain a copy of The Citizens Agenda from your senator or representative—and if she or he doesn't have a copy, request one. Copies can also be obtained from Senator Ken Sikkema, Task Force Chairperson, at 800-774-1174. Find out what the report says about issues important to you. Contact candidates for the governor's office, the House and the Senate and let them know what the Report says has to be done. And, if you find the recommendations in The Citizens Agenda aren't strong enough, let them know that, too!

We are likely to see a new governor who is more concerned about the environment than the one we've had these past 12 years. A large number of new legislators will want to be re-elected, and incumbents who are eligible for another term or who will want to end their careers favorably need to hear from us. The legislature has given us a document with which we can hold them all accountable—a tool with some powerful potential. Use it before the election. Use it after the election. Use it until our state government acts to assure the protection and restoration of our precious Great Lakes.

The future of the Great Lakes may be looking brighter!

Notice of Dissolution

Motions to dissolve the Algonquin and Thumb Valley Groups will be considered on October 5, 2002, at 9:30 a.m. at the Wittenbach Agriscience Center in Lowell, MI. The motions will be heard during the quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Mackinac Chapter. At

the same Executive Committee meeting, Chapter members will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed action.

This action is being undertaken with the knowledge and approval of the past leaders in each area. The Algonquin and Thumb Valley Groups have been inactive for several years and are no longer able to conduct the responsibilities required for group status. Such action shall not affect the standing of individuals as members of the Club or Chapter and they may be assigned to another group.



Sand Dune Legislation has been introduced to phase out the mining of sand, as well as to preserve the last of our vanishing dunes.

News From the Dunes Drifts In

by Mark Janeczko, Chair, Great Lakes Committee

The Great Lakes Committee has decided to make the protection of the Michigan Sand Dunes a priority issue. On June 10, a Sand Dune Forum was held at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids to inform the general public and fellow environmentalists about Sand Dune issues.

Michigan Dunes are virtually unique in the world. Our state is home to the largest expanse of freshwater dunes on the planet, and dune preservationists will be glad to know that they have some friends in the State Legislature. Sand Dune Legislation has been introduced to phase out the mining of sand, as well as to preserve the last of our vanishing dunes.

However, we need public support on dune preservation issues. Representative Julie Dennis reminded the audience about the ban on oil drilling under our Great Lakes. She emphasized how, when it became time, Michigan's citizens showed overwhelming support for the ban, and then the legislature followed suit due to the public's wishes. Now is the time for Sand Dune legislation to gain the same importance in the public eye.

The Great Lakes Committee would like to thank Jan O'Connell, Craig Ressler and all the other volunteers who made the forum a success. If you would like more information about Sand Dune issues, check out the Lake Michigan Federation website, www.lakemichigan.org, or the Preserve the Dunes at www.daac.com/sosdunes.

Guest speakers at the Sand Dunes Forum included:

- Julie Stoneman, Executive Director of the Land Conservancy of West Michigan
- Barbara VanderVeen, State Representative District 89
- Julie Dennis, State Representative District 92
- Tanya Cabala, Executive Director of the Lake Michigan Federation.

The forum also included a presentation on the history of sand dune mining and sand dune development. Participants in the forum discussed the need to protect the remaining 12,000 acres of critical dunes, 4052 of which are on public land, the rest falling under private properties.

STAND UP FOR MICHIGAN'S WATER!

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

How do you assure that candidate promises turn into the actions of an elected official? The Sierra Club is joining with the Public Interest Research Group in Michigan (PIRGIM), the League of Conservation Voters, the Michigan Environmental Council and many others in asking Michigan's candidates for state offices to Stand Up For Michigan's Water!

Go to the Mackinac Chapter webpage at www.michigan.sierraclub.org, or contact the Chapter office for details on how to become part of the Stand Up for Michigan's Waters Pledge Campaign.

Make sure YOUR local candidates will be part of the solution to water pollution in Michigan if elected!

The Pledge calls on candidates to:

- Support tougher enforcement of state waters
- Reinstate citizen oversight and access to information to better involve the public in agency decisions
- Hold polluters accountable
- Safeguard Michigan's wetlands
- · Ensure safe, clean beaches

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Fundraising Spotlight

by Sarah Baker, Mackinac Chapter Development Associate

RETREAT SPONSORS NEEDED

The Mackinac Chapter is seeking sponsors for our annual retreat. We offer various gift levels and will use the funds to offset retreat expenses not currently met by registration fees, as well as market the annual activity and offer scholarships as part of our Inner City Outings program.

The Inner City Outings (ICO) is a community outreach program of the Sierra Club that provides low-income, inner city youth with trips to wilderness.

If you or your employer are interested in making a special scholarship gift or would like more information on becoming a sponsor, please contact Sarah Baker, Development Associate, 616-329-3289 or sarah.baker@sierraclub.org.

FINE-TUNING YOUR GROUP FUNDRAISING EVENT

Whether your group sells organic hot dogs at a Balloon Fest or fights sprawl with a sock hop, there's always room to improve your fundraising event.

The Grassroots Handbook suggests considering the following points each time you plan your function:

- What are your goals? Is it to generate money? To have fun? To publicize an issue? (Maybe all three!)
- Who will attend? Who came last year, and can we count on their attendance again this year? How can we expand to reach more people?
- Timing! Does your event conflict with other events in the community? Is your audience available? If there's a conflict, should you hold your fundraiser anyway?
- Your image and mission. The event must relate to the Sierra Club mission.
- Do you have a Master Plan? Many fundraisers suggest planning 18 months in advance for your first event. Although often this isn't a realistic timeline, be sure to give your group enough time to plan a successful event.
- Do you have good follow-through? After planning comes doing. It's important to assign tasks to various members and give them deadlines.
- Evaluation. Take time soon after the event (within a week) to sit down with the committee, the group or the attendees and discuss what worked, what didn't and how you can improve!

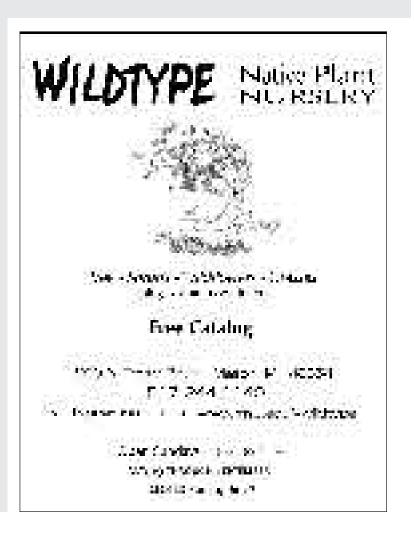
MARCH APPEAL A SUCCESS: THANK YOU!

This past March, Sue Kelly and Mike Keeler asked our members for their annual Chapter support. To date, 1117 donor households generated \$24,453 in support. The average gift: \$21.89. The Chapter is very excited that 773 members made their first gift and have contributed a total of \$10,770.

Julie Murphy, the new Mackinac fundraising chair, said, "We are pleased with the results so far. The Michigan Sierra Club depends on this income to meet the challenges of running such a large Chapter." Murphy hopes to recruit members from all of the groups who can help raise money for the Chapter and the groups. "We also hope to create some new fundraising activities and recognition," Murphy said.

Gifts from the March appeal will be used to support the Chapter's Greatest Needs.

To become involved in the fundraising committee, or to learn more about the Chapter's development program, please contact Sarah Baker, Development Associate, 616-329-3289 or sarah.baker@sierraclub.org.



Attend the Mackinac Chapter Autumn Retreat: Best party of the year! September 13-15, 2002

Return to Camp Miniwanka! Rolling hills, woods and Lake Michigan are once again the setting for members, friends and families to relax, enjoy the outdoors and learn about environmental issues.

REGISTER EARLY!

Get your registration form in now! Sign-in at camp begins Friday, September 13. Registration fee covers three meals on Saturday and two on Sunday. The Camp is located north of Muskegon, just off the M-20 exit.

IMPROVED FOOD AND LODGING

The Miniwanka staff has been revamping their menu. so we look forward to delicious, nutritious meals. Some improvements have been made to the facilities as well.

INNER CITY OUTINGS

Help fund a scholarship for kids who are active in the Sierra Club's Inner City Outings (ICO)! Your donation can help a child who otherwise wouldn't get to enjoy the wonderful experiences our Autumn Retreat has to offer. Please add your gift to this year's early registration (see form below).

QUESTIONS?

Contact Julie Murphy at 989-539-1676 or soaringbuteos@msn.com.





2002 Autumn Retreat Registration Form

Please include all names in your group, including ages for children. ADDRESS: PHONE: (E-MAIL FOR CONFIRMATION: VEGETARIAN MEALS? Yes No Send registration form with payment by August 25 and get a \$5 discount per person!

AGE/CATEGORY FEE **TOTAL** 5-11 12-17 Adult Rustic/Tent **Regular Dorm** Lakeside TOTAL ENCLOSED. **DONATION TO ICO...**

> SEND TO: Sierra Club Autumn Retreat c/o Lisa Wickman 959 Barclay Lane East Lansing, MI 48823-1375

Make checks payable to: Sierra Club



An aspen nurse log succeeds to a young hemlock.

Americana Foundation Supports Michigan Forest Policy Work

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

The Mackinac Chapter wishes to express its appreciation to the Americana Foundation for its grant of \$25,000 to the Sierra Club Foundation in support of the Michigan Forest Biodiversity

Michigan's original native forests, including vast expanses of white and red pine and northern hardwoods, were virtually eliminated during the era of the lumber barons at the turn of the last century—one of the worst ecological disasters in history. Today, the second-growth forest that reappeared in much of the state is ready to succeed to later-stage forest types, such as white pine. The primary challenge for forest managers in the Northwoods region is deciding how much of this second-growth to allow to succeed, and how much to keep artificially young, thus holding back the forests' ecological clock.

Grants and donations help the forest managers maintain biodiversity in our state's forests. This is the Americana Foundation's second grant to support the forest policy and educational work of Sierra Club in Michigan.

More information about the Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program can be found at

NettieBay Lodge

9011 W. 638 Hwy. Hawks, MI 49743

(989) 734-4688

nettiebay@george.lhi.net

www.nettiebay.com

http://michigan.sierraclub.org/greatforests/secondchance.

Learning Vacations!

NettieBay Lodge prides itself as a learning center specializing in hands-on craft schools specializing in a

variety of courses on techniques to start or encourage an already existing outdoor hobby.

School of Birding: During the month of May - The guiding principle of the school is to help people get in touch with nature by: acquainting them with the beauty of

birds, then providing information about birds and their habitat, and finally showing how each individual has a stake in continued existence of bird populations. Surveys

Split Bamboo Rodmaking: April - Arrive with Enthusiasm. Return home with your own handcrafted Split Bamboo Rod and the skills to continue a time-



"It's vitally important that we pay attention to recruiting and encourage members to be active," Lisa says. "Even though membership may not seem glamorous, our numbers are what make us strong."

Secluded Lake Michigan Log Cabin





\$950/week Memorial Day to Labor Day \$900/week or \$135/night before Memorial Day/after Labor Day \$50/week or \$10/night reduction if cleaned thoroughly

> For a brochure, contact: Jim & Jane Waun 2335 Sapphire Lane, East Lansing, MI 48823 Phone 517-333-6967 E-mail j.waun@attbi.com

Between Ludington Manistee

Sleeps 4-5

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ACTIVIST INTERVIEW: LISA WICKMAN

by Joyce McIntosh, Chapter, Group and Volunteer **Development Coordinator**

For Lisa Wickman, activism and environmental protection are a basic part of life. As a child, she spent many summers on her grandparents' farm in Missouri, and because there wasn't a lot to do, found herself taking long walks through beautiful wooded areas. Amidst the woodlands, Lisa found something that didn't quite fit in—trash dumps. At an early age she decided that we need to be better stewards of the land.

MACKINAC: How did you first become involved with the Sierra Club?

LISA: I was involved with a social justice organization and I felt that working with an environmental group was the next logical step. Sierra Club had a good reputation and it was winning important battles to pave the way for the Clean Air Act. I started attending monthly meetings of the Central Michigan Group (CMG) and realized there was a lot to do, so I jumped in.

Since joining Sierra Club in the mid-90s, Lisa has been involved on both the local and state levels. She's volunteered for leadership roles with CMG as membership chair, newsletter editor, secretary, executive committee member and outings chair. Lisa is currently the Chapter Membership Chair.

Having also worked as the Volunteer Director for the Mackinac Chapter in 1993 and 1994, she knows first-hand the importance of volunteers. "It's vitally important that we pay attention to recruiting and encourage members to be active," Lisa says. "Even though membership may not seem glamorous, our numbers are what make us strong."

MACKINAC: If you had to list two or three things an individual can do to have the greatest impact on the environment, what would they be?

LISA: Be informed. Vote your conscience. Get off your duff.

MACKINAC: What are your interests outside of the Sierra Club?

LISA: In addition to raising my sons, Gage (7) and Jace (13), I am involved in Meadowood—Lansing's co-housing project. Meadowood is an intentional community, which is an inclusive term for ecovillages, cohousing, residential land trusts, communes, student co-ops, urban housing cooperatives and other related projects and dreams. The individuals in Meadowood own their own condominiums and collaborate to plan an environmentally sensitive, pedestrian friendly, neighborly commu-

Lisa is also on a continuing path of spiritual growth, and has an exciting year ahead. She recently announced her engagement to Pat Hudson, Director of Urban Options (an environmental nonprofit in East Lansina).

workshops aimed at helping women learn and gain confidence in outdoor skills, skills usually associated with hunting and fishing, but useful for many outdoor pursuits.

show more than 80% of NettieBay's birders are almost guaranteed with new life birds.

School of Stone Masonry: June - NettieBay Lodge is committed to preserving the

honored craft. The Genesis School of Split Bamboo Rodmaking is a five-day, intensive, hands-on craft

relationship between man's ingenuity and nature by offering courses that are essentially a hands-on

Twig Furniture Making: Day & Weekend Programs - Check web site for dates and times.

School of Photography: May & June Classes - This photographic weekend is a guided tour

designed to give photographers the opportunity to capture images of the common loon.

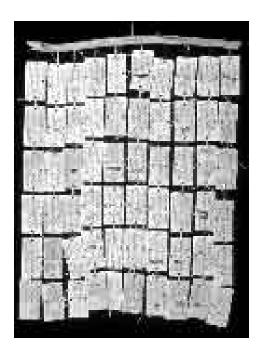
Women in the Outdoors Workshop: September - Women in Nature programs are

school. The participants will learn the skills and techniques needed to complete a split bamboo fishing rod.

Become a Twigger! Learn basic twig construction techniques from an experienced twigger. Create a twig

Chair, table, or headboard from natural growing sticks. Class will cover tools, adhesives and twig selection.

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From top: Work by Cynthia Coté, Mary Brodbeck, and Ladislav Hanka.

REFLECTIONS OF SUPERIOR: ARTISTS UNDER SAIL SCHEDULED EXHIBITIONS

September 13 - November 4, 2002 South Haven Center for the Arts, South Haven, MI

January 8 - February 28, 2003 Finlandia University, Hancock, MI

March 14 - April 11, 2003 Peter White Library, Marquette, MI

May 2 - June 14, 2003 Holland Area Arts Council, Holland, MI

July 11 - August 31, 2003 Saginaw Art Museum, Saginaw, MI

Artists Set Sail on Superior

by Brad Garmon

When Mary Brodbeck, a shy, energetic woodcut artist and self-proclaimed "farm girl" from Woodland, Michigan, was first approached about sailing the entire coast of Lake Superior in a homebuilt wooden boat, she admits to having some reservations. "I'm kinda useless when a boat's moving," Brodbeck, now teaching part-time at the Kalamazoo Art Institute (KAI), admits over a cup of coffee. "If I'm not nauseous, I'm drowsy."

Taking a group of artists along for a circumnavigation of Lake Superior was the brainchild of Fritz Seegers, a stocky, bearded sailor and digital artist who built the small sailboat, Aliwihta, and longed to take it around Lake Superior. Seegers invited his friend and videographer, Mark Spink, along for the ride. Word spread through Spink's sons to their friends at KAI, and by the spring of 2001, a vision for a veritable floating artist commune had formed.

Seasickness was just one potential hazard Brodbeck considered as she contemplated joining the trip. She also faced at least a month cramped in a sailboat so small two people can reach across it and touch each other, with two men she didn't know—artists whose nautical abilities were unknown at best—sailing along a rugged 1,600 mile coastline comprised primarily of treacherous rocks and secluded forests.

But for Brodbeck, who has been working on an ambitious series of painstaking woodcut prints since visiting Japan and studying the techniques with native masters, the offer was too good to pass up. "My husband convinced me to pack a tent and backpack and campstove—just in case. If things got bad socially, I had a way out," she shrugs. "This was such a great opportunity, I thought, 'I don't care if I get sick or not'."

The excursion proved enticing for seven Great Lakes artists all together. The group had to divvy-up the four-month voyage, since the Aliwihta could only hold three to four people at a time. They traveled in small groups, photographing, painting, sketching and video-taking, eventually bringing it all together to create one large and engaging collection of work that documents the entire four month trip (see sidebar for exhibition schedule).

Aboard ship, the groups established routines, splitting up the sailing duties and negotiating the delicate social, physical and artistic nuances aboard their frail sailing community: from borrowing the small dinghy to head ashore for restroom breaks and sketching, to sleeping and cooking warm meals to counteract the frigid temperatures.

"The air is so clean, the water so cold and pure, we drank it unfiltered," says Brodbeck, who sailed on the first leg of the trip with Seegers and painter Brent Spink. She fondly recalls a host of wild animal sightings, such as moose, caribou, otter, bear and eagles. "Most of my work is interpretive," she says of her woodcuts—a series of stark images suggestive of the permanence and strength of the stone she often takes as her subject. "It's simplified into composition, drawing shapes that are representative of the geography. After two weeks my eye focused in. I had an easier time seeing what I wanted to

Though clearly a powerful voice for nature, Mary is reticent to talk about her woodcuts in terms of environmental protection of the Great Lakes. "There is political art, and my art isn't political art," she asserts. "There is no manifesto. I do consider myself an environmentalist, but art has its own language. I just do it and hopefully [the viewer] can interpret it in some kind of special way."

"Lake Superior is more spiritual than political for me," she continues. "I'm drawn to the area because of what I feel. I connect with the rocks and the cold, cold water. I've heard people say, when they see the show, 'I had no idea this was up there, that it looked like this, that there were these cliffs.' So there is some educational aspect to it, a feeling of respect for nature and the lake. If you respect something, you don't violate it, whether it's people, animals, or nature.'

The project, partially funded by the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo and the Community Arts Grant of Pharmacia Foundation, is continuing an exhibition tour throughout the region. For further information, contact Mary Brodbeck at 616-344-6654, marybrod@aol.com. Visit the website at www.lakesuperiorcircum.org.

Outdoors freelance writer and editor Brad Garmon (bradmec@voyager.net) lives in East Lansing. He is the Special Projects Coordinator with the Michigan Environmental Council.

WILDERNESS SKILLS: FORDING A WILDERNESS RIVER

by Michael A. Neiger, Central Upper Peninsula Group

Have you ever come upon a river and wondered what lay beyond the opposite bank? Maybe a secluded camping spot lurking among some old growth? If you're drawn to the opposite bank, read on.

LOCATE A SAFE CROSSING POINT

Look for a wide, slow-flowing, obstruction-free crossing area. They're usually shallower and less swift than narrow areas or sharp bends. Make sure you can clamber up the opposite bank.

Avoid wading across an area of swift water that reaches above your knees, since drowning from foot entrapment is a real hazard. Never cross a river in flood stage or one strewn with logs and other debris.

If in doubt, don't try it—scout out a better location. A topographic map may reveal a more promising area, like a placid, meandering section where contour lines are far apart. Another good location is where a river divides into several smaller, less challenging channels.

CHECK FOR HAZARDS DOWNSTREAM

Before crossing, check for hazards just downstream in case you get into trouble. Avoid crossing just upstream of bends in the river, waterfalls, dams, violent rapids, log jams or sweepers (overhanging trees). Also watch out for strainers (submerged trees, exposed roots, brush and vegetation), cliffs, undercut banks, dangerous hydraulics, fences (across the river), old bridge pilings and standing waves. Scout out a secondary landing spot as well as a good, safe "washout" area further downstream, like a calm pool of water.

DRESS PROPERLY

Loose or baggy clothing traps water and creates resistance, making it difficult to swim. Cross in shorts or a tight-fitting layer of polypro underwear and avoid wearing cotton.

Some form of footwear is important for ankle support, traction and to protect your feet from sharp underwater debris. Tennis shoes, agua socks and strapped sport sandals work well. Once you reach the opposite bank, be prepared to dry off, change into dry clothing, consume some snacks and start moving to warm up.

USE A WALKING STICK FOR SUPPORT

A couple of walking sticks or a long pole balanced against your shoulder can be used on your upstream side to create a stable, three- or four-point stance when crossing. For maximum stability, move only one contact point at a time. Poles are also handy for probing the river bottom for hidden hazards such as logs, exposed roots, rocks, quicksand-like areas and drop-offs.

FACE UPSTREAM & SLIDE FEET ALONG

By facing upstream, you can read the current and prevent your legs from buckling at the knees. Move in a slow and deliberate manner, like a crab. To minimize the chance of foot entrapment, slide or scoot your feet along instead of lifting them up. Cross at a slight angle to the current, either up- or down-current. Whatever you do, keep moving to maximize your balance and control.

AVOID SLIPPERY LOGS & BOULDERS

Sometimes it's safest to simply get your feet wet and wade across a river, rather than trying to stay high and dry on a slippery surface.

LOOSEN RUCKSACK STRAPS

If you're wearing a rucksack, loosen the shoulder straps and undo

the waist belt and sternum straps so you can jettison it quickly if needed. Keep your hands free of equipment—this allows you to use a walking stick effectively. Double-bagging the contents of your rucksack will keep things dry and provide floatation.

PLAN FOR PROBLEMS

Unless you're wearing a personal floatation device (PFD), can swim well, and are knowledgeable about swift-water safety, don't attempt to cross anything but calm, shallow creeks. Beware hypothermia. Learn to avoid, recognize and treat its early-warning signs: slurred speech, confused thinking, shivering, fatigue and poor coordination.

If you end up swimming in rocky rapids, float on your back, with your feet near the surface, so you can avoid foot entrapment and fend off rocks. Around a logiam or strainer, reverse your position and approach it hands-first, on your stomach, so you can immediately clamber up on top of the deadly mess. You must act quickly to prevent entanglement beneath these deadly sieves.

A stream without a manmade crossing does not have to represent the end of your journey. By learning when and how to safely ford a wilderness waterway, you'll be in a position to visit some of Michigan's less-traveled backcountry.

See you in the bush.

Michael Neiger of Marquette is a wilderness trip leader with the Central Upper Peninsula Group. His trips are listed at http://therucksack.tripod.com. Your comments and opinions are welcomed at mneiger@hotmail.com.

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Group Meetings & Programs

FOLKS AT THE 2001 AUTUMN RETREAT ENJOY THE LIVE AUCTION. REGISTER FOR THIS YEAR'S RETREAT ON PAGE 15! PHOTO BY ANNE WOIW

AG: ALGONQUIN GROUP

If 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. Call Maria Lapinski-LaFaive, mlapinsk@wmich.edu, 517-374-4444.

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

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

CG: CROSSROADS GROUP

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. Meetings begin at 7pm and are open to the public.

The Conservation Committee 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.

HVG: HURON VALLEY GROUP

HVG General Meetings are held 7:30pm the 3rd Tuesday of the month at UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor, Nonmembers welcome. Check the HVG Hotline at 734-480-7751. www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro.

The HVG Sierra Club Book Club meets every 2nd Tuesday, 7:30pm at Nicola's Books in Westgate Shopping Center, Ann Arbor. Read a selected book about nature or the environment on your

CMG

Group boundaries of the Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club

own and then discuss it in a small group. Call 734-332-0207 for information.

- 8/20 General Meeting. "Stop the Chainsaws! Saving Alaska's Tongass Rainforest," presented by Mike Johnson. Come see the Tongass, learn of threats, and find out about the Alaska Rainforest Conservation Act. Learn what you can do to help.
- General Meeting. "This Sierra Club! Are You Out There America?" Our annual multimedia review of HVG activities. Designed to inform newcomers and reiuvenate friends to the Sierra club with pictures, handouts and answers.

10/15 General Meeting. Speaker and topic TBA.

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.

8/15 Potluck dinner and twilight hike. 6:30pm. We're moving our August meeting outdoors to enjoy a warm evening at Texas Drive Park. Bring dish to share, your table service & beverage. Afterward, we'll go for a twilight walk in nearby Sabo Preserve. Park is on Texas Dr in Texas Twp, about 0.5 mile east of intersection of Texas Dr & 8th St. Verne, 616-372-5268(D), 269-344-4279(E).

The Northern Rockies Bioregion –

Reconsidering Boundaries. 7:30pm. A new way of determining national park boundaries may protect the Northern Rockies Bioregion based on wildlife rather than scenery. We'd like to see new faces at this meeting, so we'll present a Sierra Club canvas tote bag to first 10 people who arrive and an Endangered Species Chocolate Company chocolate bar to everyone who attends. Mike, 616-948-8840.

10/17 The 2002 election: How green are the candidates? 7:30pm. Meet local candidates who have won Sierra Club endorsement based on their records and responses to Sierra surveys. Don, 269-344-3738.

NG: NEPESSING GROUP

Meetings are held 7pm the 2nd Wednesday each month at Mott Community College in the "New Students" Prahl Building, Genesee Room, 1401 E Court St in Flint. Meetings are free and refreshments are available. Non-members are welcome, parking is free. Learn about local conservation issues, local watershed monitoring and great outings. Meeting dates are: 8/14, 9/11, 10/9, 11/3. Ann Crane, 248-634-8641.

Check the Nepessing web page, with our weekly hiking schedule, at http://michigan.sierraclub.org/ nepessing.

NEMG: NORTHEAST MICHIGAN GROUP

If 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

General meetings are held 6:30 or 7pm the 1st Thursday of each month, Sept-June, at Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy (southbound M-10 service drive) between Southfield and Evergreen roads and Nine and Ten Mile roads in Southfield. Social time followed by business meeting and program. Visit the SEMG website at http://michigan.sierraclub.org/semg for the

latest group activities.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Thursday of each month at 2727 Second Avenue in Detroit. Contact Tim Killeen, 313-526-4052, timk@bikerider.com.

Conservation Committee meetings meets at 2727 Second Avenue in Detroit. Contact Mary LaFrance, 734-282-6935.

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

Political Committee meetings are held 6:30pm the last Thursday of each month at Jimi's Restaurant on Washington, one block north of Lincoln (10-1/2 Mile) in Royal Oak. All are welcome! Contact Tim Killeen, Political Chair, 313-526-4052.

- 9/5 New Members Meeting. 6:30pm. Welcome back after the summer and an opportunity for new members to get to know more about the local activities of the Club. Potluck supper (bring a dish to share), live music and "tales from the trails."
- 10/3 Pasta Dinner. 6:30pm. The Political Committee hosts the group's annual all you-can-eat pasta dinner. \$20. Political quests TBA.
- 11/7 Speaker and topic TBA. 7pm. Contact Program Chair Carol Izant, 248-352-6137, cogknot@yahoo.com.

TG:TRAVERSE GROUP

General Meetings are held at the Traverse City Public Library, Call Monica, 231-325-6812, or Lynn, 248-547-0842, or visit http://michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse.

Executive Committee meetings are held following general meetings at the library. Call Monica, 231-325-6812, or Lynn, 248-547-0842.

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 outings planned. Call John Lewis, 231-947-9104.

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 Cisler Center on the Lake Superior State University campus. Floyd Byerly, 906-632-0218.

TVG: THUMB VALLEY GROUP

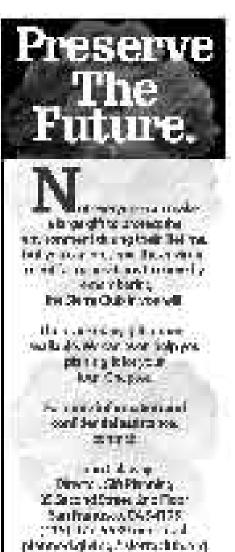
No group meetings planned at this time. Call group chairs Craig and Janis Kendziorski, 517-631-5170 for updated information or if interested in participating on the leadership team or leading an outing.

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 Murphy, 517-539-1676.

WMG: WEST MICHIGAN GROUP

General meetings are held 7pm the 2nd Thursday each month at the Grand Valley Blood Center on Fuller NE, near Leonard St in Grand Rapids. Everyone welcome! Call Marty Lore, 517-682-1316.





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Mackinac Chapter Outings

Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group that is planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map on page 20 to determine a group's location. Trips begin at the trailhead. Outings are open to everyone.

AUGUST

8/16-18 NG Lapeer Days. Help at our booth passing out literature & recruiting new members. Linda Berker, 810-653-8242(D), 810-653-0142(E),

8/17 TG Old Indian Trail Hike. 1pm. Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Two loops, each 2.2. miles through hemlock, pine, oak forest, plus 1 mile to Lake Michigan. Bring swimsuit. Off M22, south of Platte Rd (County Rd 706), & intersection of Sutter Rd north of Crystal Lake. Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344, andread49684@yahoo.com.

8/17 NG Chippewa Nature Center Hike. 10am. I-75 north to US-10, west to Bus-10. Bus-10 to Poseyville Rd, turn right. Follow signs 3 miles. Or, meet at 9am at commuter lot: I-75 & M-57, Clio exit. Tim Gundlach, 810-232-0917.

8/18 SEMG Maybury State Park Hike. Noon. 4 miles, meadows & woodlands. Rain or shine. Meet at park concession building, Eight Mile Rd entrance, west of Beck Rd (and Northville); 5 miles west of I-275. Optional restaurant stop. Tom Griebe, 248-349-8782.

8/18 HVG Lakeland Rails to Trails Bike Ride. Bike pathway through Pinckney-Stockbridge area. Trail bikes recommended. Bike helmet required. Bring snack. Meet 9am at City Hall parking lot. John Schumacher, 734-662-8007.

8/18 SEMG Waterloo-Pinckney Rec Area Hike. 9am. 14-miles for dedicated hiker. Extended, brisk hike. Bring lunch, water & trail snacks. Waterproof boots recommended. Meet in Livonia between Wal-Mart & Jiffy Lube on SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96. Optional restaurant stop. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

8/21 SEMG Detroit Zoo Tour. 5:30pm. See alligators & polar bears on moderate-paced walk, stop for food, then tour exhibits 'til 8pm. Meet at admission gate (corner of Woodward & 10 Mile) at 5:30, bring food, dress for weather. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

8/23 HVG Friday Night Hike. 6:30pm. Leisurely-paced 4-mile hike. Meet at Gallup Park main bridge. Kathy Guerreso, 734-994-7030.

8/23-25 Mackinac Chapter Wilderness State Park Service Trip. North Country Trail work and/or projects to remove trees, clear trails, etc. Camp on Lake Michigan with time to enjoy lakes & trails in remote park. Meals provided. Limit 10. Send \$20 check to cover food payable to Sierra Club/Huron Valley Group by 8/15. Ralph Powell, 2887 Dalton Dr, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. 734-971-9013, chm_powell@online.emich.edu.

8/23-26 TG/NG Two-Hearted Canoe/Hike. Easy. Starts 5pm Fri. Car camp at State Forest campground at mouth of Two-Hearted River on Lake Superior. Canoe Sat, hike North Country Trail Sun. Agate hunting & salmon starting to run. Campfires, group potluck Sun night. Camp \$6/day, outings \$1; canoe rental \$40 from Rainbow Lodge. Campsites first come/first served. BYO food & gear. Expect rain, nights can be cold. Limit 14. Reserve by 8/10. Lynn Livingston, 248-547-0842, redwingnut@sprintmail.com.

8/24 WMG Hartwick Pines State Park. Hiking & overnight stay. Hike old growth forests, trail tours & demonstrations, informative visitor center & logging museum. Reserve own campsite. Visitor Center, 517-348-2537. Crawford County NE of Grayling on M-93. Exit 259 off I-75. Lisa Symons, 616-942-6549; Sue, 616-891-9055, snorman942@aol.com.

8/25 SEMG Highland Rec Area Hike. 9am. Slow 2-hour wildflower hike in Haven Hill Natural Area. Meet at park entrance station parking area south of M-59 (East Highland Road), west of Alpine Valley ski area (14-15 miles west of US-24). Call if questionable weather. Optional restaurant stop. Ken Jacobsen, 248-684-8844.

8/26-29 NG Sixth Annual Pictured Rocks Service Outing. Moderate. Car camp at Twelve Mile Beach & put in two new campsites at Seven Mile Creek backcountry campground. 2.8 mile hike each way daily between campground & work site. Limit 10. No dogs. Reserve by 8/2. BYO food & gear. Jean Gaffney, 810-695-6529, virginia.gaffney@gm.com.

8/29-9/3 NG Porcupine Mountains Car Camping. Camp & moderate to strenuous day hikes in Porcupine Mountains. Reserve by 7/15. No dogs. Limit 10. Sharon Gibson, 810-635-4284.

8/30-9/3 CUP Intermediate-level Backpacking: Pictured Rocks (Beaver Basin), Kingston Plains, Sink Holes & North Fox River trail (Alger Co). Includes off trail sections, river fording & map/compass instruction. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker (3 recent trips), physically fit (good aerobic endurance), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped (stove, rations, etc.). 8am Fri to midday Tue. \$10. See photos/journal from prior trip at http://therucksack.tripod.com. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620.

SEPTEMBER

9/1 SEMG Wolcott Mill. 10am. 3 moderate miles. Visit old mill, eat lunch & enjoy folk music. Meet in Sterling Heights at Metro Pkwy (16 Mile) & Van Dyke (SE corner) in SMART parking lot between banks. Bring lunch & drink. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

9/6-8 NG North Manitou Island Backpacking. Easy. Hike 7 miles to west side of island. Camp overlooks Lake Michigan for 2 nights. Day hike interior on Sat. Early hike out Sun. Reservations required. No dogs. Meet 9:30am 9/6 at Manitou Island Transport Ferry Dock at Fishtown in Leland. Ferry leaves 10am. Ferry reservations: 231-256-9061 (\$22 round trip). National Park entrance fees, Don Persson, 810-257-7441(D), 810-695-0516(E), donald.persson@delphiauto.com.

9/7 TG Pyramid Point Hike. 1pm. 2.8-mile hilly loop, views of Lake Michigan & islands, meadow & beechmaple forest. M-22, 5 miles east of Glen Arbor, 10 miles west of Leland to Port Oneida Rd, north to trailhead. Lynn Livingston or John Lewis, 231-947-9104, johnbetty@bignetnorth.net.

9/8 HVG Bird Hills Park Hike. 10am. Leisurely 3-mile hike in woodlands. Wear boots. Cancelled if rain. Meet at City Hall parking lot. Ken Morley, 734-677-7791.

9/8 SEMG Island Lake Recreation Area Hike. 9am. 14-miles for dedicated hiker, Extended, brisk hike, Bring lunch, water & trail snacks. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile. Optional restaurant stop. John Herrgott,

9/8 NG Davison Lake Hike. 1pm. Moderate. Ortonville Rec. Area. 4.1 miles south of Hadley on Hadley Rd. Left on Fox Lake Rd. 2.5 miles to trailhead, corner of Big Fish Lake Rd. State Park permit required. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304, glorypepper@yahoo.com; Mary Downey, 810-664-4917, marydowney@blclinks.net.

9/8 SEMG Independence Oaks Trails. 10am. Moderate 5-mile hike through wetlands. Goes rain/shine. Meet in Troy behind Michigan Nat'l Bank on 14 Mile Rd just east of I-75 (south edge of Oakland Mall), or at park main entrance on Sashabaw at 10:45. Restaurant stop. Sudha Chhaya, 248-680-0975; Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

9/8 WMG Kirk Park, Ottawa County. 2pm. Interested in leading an outing? We'll brainstorm ideas for future outings. Join us for hike, swim in Lake Michigan & potluck. Bring a friend. Meet at 2pm for hike. Bring dish to pass, table service & drinks for potluck at 4pm.

9/8 SEMG Stony Creek Bike Tour. Noon. Rolling hills & dirt roads. Ride 18 miles at moderate pace from Rochester Hills to Stony Creek MP & back. Bring lunch. Meet in Rochester Hills at library parking lot, one block NE of Rochester Rd. Canceled if heavy rain. Don McHarness, 248-814-9937.

9/13-15 Mackinac Chapter Annual Autumn Retreat at Camp Miniwanka in Shelby on Lake Michigan.

Great opportunity to meet other Sierra Club members from around the state and attend interesting & educational workshops. See details on page 15.

9/14 NG Paint Creek Trail Bike Ride. 11am. 18 easy miles. Packed gravel trail, best suited for fat tires. Trailhead in downtown Lake Orion behind parking lot of former LS Family Food store on M-24, just south of Atwater St. Restaurant stop in Rochester. No dogs. Holly Lubowicki, 810-767-4004(D), 810-424-3609(E), hollyhiker@hotmail.com.

9/14 SEMG Outings Scheduling Meeting. 6 pm. Quarterly planning meeting & potluck dinner open to all interested in leading, or learning about leading, outings. Bring dish to pass & ideas for winter & spring outings. Cindy Gunnip's, 3992 Kenmore, Royal Oak. 1 block west of Coolidge, north of 12 Mile, 248-336-2984.

9/15 HVG Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup. Make a visible & positive change along M-14 in Ann Arbor, Meet at Big Boy's restaurant on Plymouth Rd near US-23 in Ann Arbor at 9:15am. About 3 hours. Kathy Guerreso, 734-994-7030.

9/15 SEMG Heritage Park Stroll. Noon. 3 leisurely miles along Rouge River through meadows & woods. Meet on west side of Farmington Road, south of 11 Mile. First left to parking lot. Optional restaurant stop. Call if weather questionable. Mary Holmes, 248-335-0573, Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

9/20-24 SEMG Fox River Pathway Backpack.

27.5-mile moderate backpack through scenic Hemingway country. Drive up 9/20, backpack 3 days, return 9/24.4 nights camping. Leader approval required. Limit 6. Contact leader John Herrgott, 810-735-9313, johnherrgott@msn.com.

9/21 KVG Walking Survey of Portage Creek to Help Improve Urban Environment. Help guide City of Kalamazoo in its creek improvement project. Walk portions of Portage Creek & record ideas for environmentally sound improvements of area. Time & meeting place TBD. Don, 269-344-3738.

9/21 WMG Muskegon State Park Hike with Outdoor **Enthusiast Mary Payne.** 10am, Snug Harbor. RSVP: Mary, 231-773-6986; Lisa, greensymons@yahoo.com.

9/21-22 NG Shingle Mill Pathway Fall Backpacking. Easy. Sat 9:30am at trailhead. Backpack 7 miles Sat, 4 miles Sun. Vanderbilt, I-75 to Exit 290. Left at blinking light on Sturgeon Valley Rd, 10 miles to trailhead at Pigeon Bridge. Don Persson, 810-257-7441(D), 810-695-0516(E), <u>Donald.persson@delphiauto.com</u>.

9/22 SEMG Gemology, Botany & Hiking. 10am. Visit gemology exhibit/fair at Waterloo State Rec Area Eddy Center, lunch, hike 5-6 miles in woods. Bring food & beverage, comfortable walking shoes & your checkbook. Meet in Livonia between Wal-Mart & Jiffy Lube on SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96 or at 11am at Eddy Center. Lydia Fischer, 313-863-8392; Gloria Scicli, 248-642-3069.

9/28 TG Jordan Valley Pathway. 10am. Meet at Burger King on US-31 & 72 east of Traverse City. Hike from Dead Man's Hill Trailhead, 6 miles north of Mancelona on US-131, then west on Dead Man's Hill Rd. 4-5 mile section begins with spectacular view of river valley. John Lewis, 231-947-9104, johnbetty@bignetnorth.net.

9/28 WMG Harvest Festival at Lubbers Family Farm. 6pm. Hay rides, barn dance, bonfire, apple cider pressing. Bring potluck & table setting. Lisa Symons, 616-942-6549; Lubbers, 616-453-4257.

9/29 SEMG Huron Meadows Metropark Hike. Noon. Easy 5-mile hike through woods & meadows. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile. Optional restaurant stop. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789.

9/29 HVG Dexter Cider Mill Bike Ride. Ride paved roads from Ann Arbor to Dexter Cider Mill for fresh cider, doughnuts & candied apples. Meet 1pm at Barton Park parking lot on Huron River Drive, one mile west of N Main Street near Bird Road. Bike helmet required. Milton French, 313-295-6321.

OCTOBER

10/3-7 CUP Advanced-level Backpacking: McCormick Wilderness Tract (Marquette/Baraga Co). Strenuous, remote, 100% off-trail route includes waterfalls, rocky peaks, pristine lakes, old growth, moose, wolves, river fording & map/compass instruction. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker (3 recent trips), physically fit (good aerobic endurance), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped (stove, rations, etc.). 8am Thur to midday Mon. \$10. See photos/journal from prior trip at http://therucksack.tripod.com. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620.

10/4-6 SEMG Manistee River Trail Backpack. Leave trailhead at 4pm Fri, hike Sat 10 miles down Manistee River Trail. Return 11 miles along North Country Trail on west side of river. BYO gear & food for 3 days. Water filter & ability to carry 3gts of water a must! Limit 6; reserve by 9/29. \$4 trip fee + approx \$20 ride share. John Calandra, 248-391-8973, John.calandra@worldnet.att.net.

10/5 TG Betsie River Pathway Hike.1pm. 3-4 mile loop, rolling to hilly through beech & maple. On M-115 4.5 miles SE of US-31 at Benzonia or 3 miles NW of Copemish. Just beyond Crystal Mountain, take King Rd south .5 mile to Longstreet Road, left .6

miles to trailhead on left. Monica Evans, 231-325-6812, imagine@bignetnorthnet.

10/5-6 NG Jordan River Pathway Fall Backpacking. Moderate. Sat 9:30am at trailhead. 10 miles on Sat; 9 miles Sun. M-32 west of Gaylord to US-131. Turn left (south) for 1.5 miles to Deadman's Hill Rd. Turn right (west) to parking area. Don Persson, 810-257-7441(D),

810-695-0516(E), Donald.persson@delphiauto.com.

10/5 SEMG Potawatomi Trail Tenner. 9am. Strenuous 10-mile loop on Potowatami, Silver Lake & Crooked Lake trails in Pinckney Rec Area. Ups & downs. Bring trail lunch & drinks for 5-6 hour hike; we usually hike about 3mph. Wear sturdy shoes & dress for weather. Meet in Livonia at 9am between Wal-mart & Jiffy Lube on SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96 (Jeffries Fwy). Call leader before 8am at (313-410-7157 cell) if weather looks doubtful. Optional restaurant stop. Donna Kolojeski, 313-336-7529.

10/5 NG For-Mar Nature Center. 10am. 5 easy miles. 2142 N Genesee Rd, Burton, just north of Davison Rd. Restaurant stop. George Yurek, 810-232-8009.

10/6 HVG Crooked Trail Hike. Hike glacial terrain, enjoy fall weather & colors. Meet at City Hall at 1pm. Milton French, 313-295-6321.

10/6 SEMG Pontiac Lake State Park Hike. 11am. 5-6 hilly miles. Bring trail snacks & beverages. Meet in Bloomfield Twp in Costco parking lot near McDonald's on Telegraph, north of Square Lake Rd. Optional restaurant stop. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

10/12 SEMG Green Lake Overnight Campout. Rustic camp north of Chelsea followed by Waterloo hike on Sun. Arrive Sat (or Fri), set up, paddle, fish, hike & supper cookout. Break camp Sun & drive to trailhead. \$20 fee includes camping & 3 meals: Sat supper, Sun breakfast & lunch. Reserve by 9/28. Philip Crookshank, 17916 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, MI. 48125. 313-562-1873.

10/12 NG Hadley-Metamora State Park Hike. 10am. 5 easy miles. M-15 to Hill Rd, east on Hill Rd (changes to Pratt Rd), 7 miles to Hurd Rd, south .5 miles to park. Meet in Camp Store parking lot. State Park permit required. Restaurant stop. Christina Withrow, 810-614-0201.

10/12-13 SEMG Waterloo-Pinckney Area Backpack. Hike scenic portion of Waterloo-Pinkney Trail, then join Sierra basecampers to observe sandhill cranes on Sun. Meet Sat morning for 2 days hiking, 1 night campout. BYO equipment. Contact John by 10/5:810-735-9313. johnherrgott@msn.com.

10/13 SEMG Waterloo Rec Area Hike & Crane Watch. 1-8pm. Brisk, 6-mile hilly hike. Then drive to Haehnle-Audubon Sanctuary to watch sandhill cranes fly in at

see OUTINGS, page 24



THE SLEEPING BEAR DUNES AS SEEN FROM EMPIRE BLUFFS DURING A RECENT TRAVERSE GROUP WILDFLOWER HIKE. PHOTO BY MONICA EVANS

OUTINGS, continued from page 23

sunset. Bring trail snacks, water, binoculars & layers of warm clothes. Meet in Livonia at 1pm between Wal-Mart & Jiffy Lube on SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96 (Jeffries Fwy). Optional restaurant stop. Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

10/13 HVG Crosswinds Marsh Hike. 1pm. Leisurely 5-mile hike through wetland interpretive preserve. Meet SEMG & hike together. Cancelled if rain. Meet at City Hall parking lot. Kathy Guerreso, 734-994-7030.

10/13 KVG Local Trailways Driving & Bicycling Tour. 2pm. Drive portions of proposed route that would bring Kalhaven Trail into downtown Kalamazoo. Bike along existing trail starting at 10th St terminus. Meet at parking lot behind Powell Branch Library, 1000 W

Patterson, Kalamazoo. Don, 269-344-3738.

10/19 SEMG Potawatomi Trail Hike. 8:30am. Fastpaced, hilly 14-mile hike. All day trip; we usually hike about 3mph. Wear sturdy shoes & dress for weather. Trip goes rain/shine. Bring lunch & drinks for entire day. Meet in Livonia between Wal-Mart & Jiffy Lube on SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96. Cindy Gunnip,

10/19-20 NG Hoist Lakes Backpacking. Moderate. Meet Sat, 9:30am at trailhead. Hoist Lakes foot area parking lot on M-65,7 miles north of Glennie, 9 miles Sat; 6 miles Sun. \$5 recreation permit required (purchase at Glennie Party Store). Don Persson, 810-257-7441(D), 810-695-0516(E), Donald.persson@delphiauto.com.

10/19 SEMG Brighton Rec Area Hike. Noon. Moderate-quick 5-mile hike over rolling hills. Wear stout hiking boots, dress for weather. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd. Restaurant stop. Mike Scanlon, 313-884-2214.

10/19 NG Corn Maze. 3pm. Meander through 3.9 mile corn maze. Restaurant stop. Details in Sept. Jean Gaffney, 810-695-6529, virginia.gaffney@gm.com.

10/19-20 SEMG High Country Pathway Backpack.

Linear 2-day, 18-mile backpack beginning Sat 9am at Clear Lake State Park; ends at Town Corner State Forest Campground. South segment is hilly; cross streams & rivers. BYO gear & food for 2 days. Water filter & ability to carry 2 qts of water a must! Limit 6; reserve by 9/29. \$3 trip fee + approx. \$20 ride share. John Calandra, 248-391-8973, John.calandra@worldnet.att.net.

10/20 HVG Waterloo Recreation Area Hike. Leisurely-paced hike, under 5 miles. Dress for weather. Meet at City Hall parking lot at 1pm. Nellie Emery, 734-485-5286.

10/20 SEMG Fall Color Kensington Hike. Noon. Slowto-moderate, 5-mile hike on trails & around Wildwing Lake. Call if weather questionable. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile. Optional restaurant stop. Jean Mercier, 313-581-6648.

10/20 NG Hogback Hills Hike. 1pm. 5 difficult miles. Meet at fishing parking lot: 12406 E Stanley Rd, 3 miles east of M-15. Restaurant stop. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304, glorypepper@yahoo.com.

10/20 SEMG Hines Drive Bike Tour. 1pm. Bike 20 miles to Newburgh Point. Gentle hills, moderate pace. Meet in Dearborn Heights at Henry Ford Community College parking lot, one block north of Hines Dr & Outer Dr on Ann Arbor Trail. Bring snacks & drinks; canceled if heavy rain. Don McHarness, 248-814-9937.

10/26 TG Potluck & Bonfire at Evans Home.

6pm. US-31 to Honor, north on Indian Hill Rd, right on Ryan Rd, left on Blueberry Lane, 1st house on left (#3840). Monica Evans, 231-325-6812, imagine@bignetnorth.net.

10/26 SEMG Maybury State Park Hike. 11am. 2-hour moderate hike. Meet at park concession bldg, Eight Mile entrance, west of Beck Rd (& Northville); 5 miles west of I-275. Goes rain/shine. Optional restaurant stop. Tom Griebe, 248-349-8782.

10/26 NG Otter Lake Hike. 10am. 4 difficult miles. I-69 to M-15. North to Willard Rd (2.8 miles north of M-57). East 2.6 miles. Left at fork. 1 mile to trailhead parking lot. State Park permit required. Restaurant stop. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

10/27 SEMG Two Preserves Hike. 11am. 5-miles. Hike West Bloomfield Nature Preserve & trails, stop at Heron Rookery. Continue to Orchard Lake Nature Preserve. Bring trail lunch & meet in Bloomfield Twp in Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side) north of Square Lake Rd. Joy Lovio, 248-470-0229; Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

NOVEMBER

11/1-4 CUP Intermediate-level Backpacking: North Country Trail (Chippewa Co). Explore trail & adjoining bush between Pine River & M-28. Some off-trail, river fording & map/compass instruction. Must be: 18, nonsmoker, experienced 15-degree backpacker (3 recent trips), physically equipped (stove, rations, etc). 8am Fri to midday Mon. \$10. See photos/journal from prior trip at http://therucksack.tripod.com. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620.

11/2-3 SEMG Jordan River Pathway Backpack. Tough, 2-day, 18-mile backpack in Lower Peninsula's "Grand Canyon." Hike begins Sat 9am at Dead Man's Hill trailhead parking. BYO gear & food for 2 days. Water filter & ability to carry 2qts of water is must! Limit 6; reserve by 9/29.\$3 trip fee + approx. \$25 ride share. John Calandra, 248-391-8973, john.calandra@worldnet.att.net.

11/2 NG Flushing Twp Nature Park Hike. 10am. Easy. Hike new park north of Flushing along Flint River. McKinley Rd .5 mile north of Mt. Morris Rd on west. Denny Crispell, 989-624-5038.

11/3 SEMG River Bend Hike. Noon. 4-5 mile moderate pace, easy hike near Utica. Meet in Sterling Heights at Metro Pkwy (16 Mile) & Van Dyke (SE corner) in SMART parking lot between banks. Restaurant stop. Lee Becker,

11/9 NG 2003 Hike Schedule Meeting & Picture Party. Schedule meeting at 5pm. Potluck & picture party at 6:30pm. Bring completed forms for 2003 outings, pictures from 2002 outings, your favorite CDs & dish to pass. Jean Gaffney, 810-695-6529, virginia.gaffney@gm.com.

11/9 SEMG White Lake Hike. 10am. Hike 5 miles at Pepper Ridge Farm through meadows, woodlands & country roads. Stop at cider mill. Hike goes rain or shine. Meet in Bloomfield Twp in Costco parking lot behind McDonald's on Telegraph (east side) north of Square Lake Rd. Optional restaurant stop. Glory Havlin, 248-851-9324.

11/10 NG Holly Recreation Area Hike. 1pm. 7-10 moderate miles. Dixie Hwy to Grange Hall Rd. East on Grange Hall to McGinnis Rd. Right on McGinnis to park entrance. Meet in Overlook Parking Lot. Bring lunch. State Park permit required. Dave Mansfield, 810-658-0406, dmansfield@intouchmi.com.

11/10 SEMG Addison Oaks Hike. Noon, 5-mile moderate hike Meet in Rochester Hills west side of Meijer parking lot on Rochester Rd near Auburn (north of M-59). Historic restaurant stop. John Kalam, 248-681-9160.

PREVIEW OF WINTER BACKPACKING

See photos/journal from prior trips at http://therucksack.tripod.com. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620.

12/6-9 CUP Intermediate-level Backpacking: High Country Pathway (Montmorency Co). Explore trail & adjoining bush between Rattlesnake Hills & Sink Holes. 8am Fri to midday Mon. \$10.

1/16-20 CUP Intermediate-level Winter-camping: Green Timbers Wilderness Tract (Otsego Co). Snowshoe, pulling sleds. 8am Thur to midday Mon. \$15.

Shop to Stop Sprawl!

Your next shopping trip could help stop sprawl! How? By joining the Sierra Club/Huron Valley Group's Shopping for the Earth program, like hundreds of other people. At least 5% of your purchases will be donated to the Sierra Club.

We'll use the funds to out-of-control fight the development devastating Michigan. Each year, you can contribute <u>hundreds of dollars</u> to the fight against sprawl - at no cost to you!

To join the program, just mail in the order form below with your check. You'll get EarthCash vouchers of equal value for the stores you select. Then you spend vouchers (accepted nationwide) just as if they're cash. You can return 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 email at redmike1@yahoo.com.

"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

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

Indicate the number of EarthCash vouchers you want by dollar amount for each store below, and 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	@ \$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:	Mail to:
Your Address:	Michael Sklar
	10404 Kingston Avenue
Your Phone number:	Huntington Woods, MI 48070
Your email address:	

UNCLASSIFIEDS

CREEKS RUNNING, ONTARIO Quaint Log Chalet daily or weekly. Ideal for groups of up to 6, couples welcome. From \$60 U.S. Located in the Algoma Highlands, 1/2 hour north of Sault Ste. Marie. The area is a treat for bird watchers and outdoor enthusiasts. Explore the Voyageur Trail, Robertson Cliffs, The Goulais River and Lake Superior Provincial Park. Our schedule permitting we offer informal guided hiking and canoe tours. Call Detlef or Daniela at 705-64-2186 or fax 705-649-1852.



JOB OPENING AT MACKINAC CHAPTER The Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter is seeking an Administrative Assistant to work full-time out of the Lansing office. The Administrative Assistant performs administrative and general office duties, coordinates chapter activities and meetings, interacts with volunteers, and responds to routine inquires from members, volunteers and the general public. Send résumé and cover letter to: Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter, Attn. Anne Woiwode, 109 Fast Grand River Ave, Lansing, MI 48906. By fax or email: 517-484-3108, mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org. The deadline for accepting applications is August 19, 2002.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS needed to work in the Lansing Sierra Club office. Call Kathy Boutin-Pasterz at 517-484-2372.



EARTH SHARE OF MICHIGAN

is a non-profit federation comprised of Michigan's leading environmental and conservation charities working collaboratively with national and international organizations.

Earth Share of Michigan is active in the charitable giving drives of over 350 Michigan

workplaces. Employees have the ability to make a single donation at work that will reach the full spectrum of conservation causes, from the Red Cedar River to the Amazon River, from the rainforests of Borneo to Sleeping Bear Dunes. Michiganders should take advantage of this simple way to do their "Earth Share" and give to the cause of their choice

To learn how your company can host an Earth Share of Michigan payroll deduction campaign, or for more information about the organizations involved, please call 1-800-386-3326, or visit www.earthsharemichigan.org

TAKING ACTION: YOUR WORDS COUNT!

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

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Washington, DC 20510

MICHIGAN

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

The Honorable Michigan House State Capitol Lansing, MI 48909 The Honorable Michigan Senate 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, e-mail majordomo@great-lakes.net with a one-line message body of "subscribe enviro-mich" (leave your signature file off).
- Sierra Club's National Website is at: www.sierraclub.org. Check out the daily War on the Environment postings.
- · Visit our Mackinac Chapter Website: 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.
- · E-mail activists needed!

The Michigan Action Project (MAP) is an electronic rapid response system to enhance communication with state and federal officials.

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The Mackinac Quarterly • August - October 2002 The Mackinac Quarterly • August - October 2002

Three Lakes

Floyd Byerly.

2002 Photo Contest Winners

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO SENT IN ENTRIES!

Like last year, it was hard to pick just one photo from each contest category. Look for larger reproductions of each of these, and others, in future editions of *The Mackinac. Clockwise from top right*:



BLACK & WHITE

A morning view found while travelling in south-central Michigan. Linda L. Waltenberger, Ann Arbor

MISCELLANEOUS

A loon seen while canoeing in Tobin Harbor at Isle Royale. Don Spezia, Whitehall

ACTIVISTS IN ACTION

A solitary backpacker during a SEMG Outing to Hoist Lakes. Steve Taylor, Dearborn

MICHIGAN LANDSCAPES

A December sunset at Oval Beach in Saugatuck.
Douglas Neuman, Holland

SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

Birch trees seen during an SEMG Outing to Hoist Lakes. Steve Taylor, Dearborn









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.