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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

TheMackinac

Quarterly Publication of Michigan's Sierra Club • February - April 2005



COURTESY ANNE WOIWODE

inside:

FRESH FACES, FAMILIAR FRIENDS
Active Environmentalism in 2005

Dear Michigan Sierrans: Welcome to 2005

by Sue Kelly, Mackinac Chapter Chair

Every once in awhile a phrase or a song lyric resonates perfectly with what is happening in my life. Last fall before the election my husband and I and a bunch of our Crossroads Group friends went to a concert fund-

raiser for Bob Alexander, the Democratic candidate for the 8th District. One of the performers was Michael Masterson, who played a song honoring activists around the world. A line in the chorus of that song has stayed with me and inspired me since: "Some make the music while the rest of us dance." This issue of *The Mackinac* highlights some of the activists, or "music makers," in our midst.

Gwen Nystuen epitomizes sustained long-term activism with clear vision of how to change the world. She has gently encouraged many of us, myself included, to take greater leaps into activism and leadership. Hearty congratulations to Gwen on receiving a 2004 Special Service Award from the national Sierra Club for strong and consistent commitment to conservation. Read about Gwen's award on p. 8.

Lynn Henning's leadership on water and air pollution in rural Michigan communities is a model for the rest of us. After experiencing poisonous airborne contaminants and witnessing fecal runoff from unregulated animal factories, she educated herself and many others about the issue. Her understanding that there was something she could do to change the way the state of Michigan addresses concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) is resulting in regulation of these huge operations. We welcome Lynn to the staff of the Mackinac Chapter to work on this effort. Read about Lynn on p. 11.

As a child, Dave Woodward was imprinted with a love for nature, camping extensively and being a Scout. This progressed to activism and eventually his election to political office, where he is considered a true friend of the environment. His leadership on policy is appreciated and we congratulate him on

his election to the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. See his interview on p.15.

Sherry Hayden and Mike Keeler have just completed their eighth year of working on our chapter raffle. Their efforts over the years have resulted in more than \$50,000 to support our environmental programs. A sincere thank you to them for their dedication and commitment.

Mike Keeler and I have served as co-chairs for the past three years. Many also know Mike as the auctioneer at our annual retreat. Other life demands are drawing his attention and, at this time, he will not be returning to Chapter leadership. He has assured me that he will not be missing any more retreats and will serve as our auctioneer in the future with pleasure. Mike has always been an active Political Committee member and will continue there as well. Mike, you will be missed.

There are countless more stories of people working on projects and issues that will have a lasting but largely unacknowledged impact on our lives—cleaner air to breathe, monitoring water to keep it safe, parks to enjoy with our families, places for wildlife, and on and on. To all of the Sierra Club members that worked hard on the election and will continue to fight for our issues, you are the music makers.

I would like to extend a personal welcome to Jean Gramlich, who has been elected to serve as Chapter Secretary. Jean joins continuing Steering Committee members Dave Llewellyn (Vice-Chair), Helen LeBlanc (Treasurer) and David Holtz (5th Officer). This is a great, knowledgeable bunch of folks who also just happen to have wonderful senses of humor. I am honored to serve with them.



COURTESY ANNE WOIWODE

Mike Keeler, who is stepping down as co-chair of the Mackinac Chapter, will continue to serve as auctioneer at the annual retreats.

To all of the Sierra Club members that worked hard on the election and will continue to fight for our issues, you are the music makers.

Sue Kelly lives in Brighton with her husband Mike and two dogs, Maggie and Oscar. She can be reached at sue.kelly@michigan.sierraclub.org.



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MACKINAC CHAPTER OFFICE
Phone: 517-484-2372
Fax: 517-484-3108
Email:
mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org
Website:
<http://michigan.sierraclub.org>

.....
MACKINAC EDITOR

Eric Lagergren

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Sherry Hayden

David Holtz

Anne M. Woiwode

LAYOUT/DESIGN

Davina Pallone

ADVERTISING

Sheldon Green

CALENDAR EDITOR

Cheryl McConnell

PHOTO EDITOR

George Hazen McCann

EDITORIAL BOARD

Kathy Boutin-Pasterz

Lydia Fischer

Sherry Hayden

David Holtz

Davina Pallone

Anne Woiwode
.....

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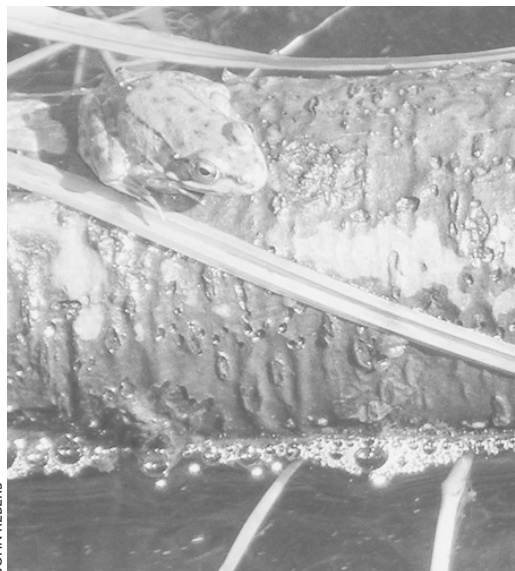
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JOHN REBERS

A frog, and outspoken environmentalist, on a log in a branch of the Salmon-Trout River.

Cover: Governor Jennifer Granholm signs the Non-Metallic Mining and Reclamation Act (Public Act 449 of 2004) in a ceremony at the State Capitol, as legislators, environmental and conservation representatives, mining company representatives and agency staff look on. See page 5 for more on mining.

NEXT DEADLINE: APRIL 1

ARTICLES & PHOTOS: Eric Lagergren, 517-896-5321, eric@eblwrite.com, 621 Brooks Street, Apt. 1, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

MEETINGS & OUTINGS: Cheryl McConnell, 517-552-1464, mcconnell_cheryl@yahoo.com

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Capitol Watch 2005

GROUPS CRITICIZE DOW-GRANHOLM DIOXIN DEAL

by Rita Jack, Sierra Club Water Sentinels Project Coordinator

Sierra Club joined with citizens and environmental groups to sharply criticize an agreement between Dow Chemical Company and the Granholm administration. The criticism is due to the agreement's failure to deliver a cleanup of dioxin contamination in the Saginaw Bay basin, and because it derails dioxin

cleanup timelines and initiatives that had been promised already by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

"This agreement is a failure," said Michelle Hurd Riddick, a Lone Tree Council member who lives in the basin. "It's promoted as results-oriented, but the only results are further delays, more studies, and it does little to protect the health of residents and children. Dow's dioxin contamination is a public health threat and an economic mess and Dow needs to start cleanup now We know Governor Granholm cares about children, dioxin's most vulnerable population. But kids are not guinea pigs who should be forced to wait for more years of testing and data collection by Dow Chemical."

"All this agreement promises is a house cleaning, some lawn services and more studies," said James Clift, Michigan Environmental Council Policy Director. "It doesn't even rise to the level of a short-term fix. It's no fix at all and, in fact, moves us backward on a public health issue of monumental importance. Instead of imposing cleanup deadlines, it focuses on Dow's strategy of more study, more public relations, more delay."

Dioxin, one of the most toxic chemicals known to science, has been found in the Saginaw Bay watershed in levels as high as 80 to 125 times the level deemed safe for Michigan families. Yet families in Saginaw Bay watershed living in three counties along the 58 miles of dioxin-contaminated rivers leading to Lake Huron are once again told by the state of Michigan that they must continue to wait for a cleanup.

Right now, kids can't play in the dirt in their backyards, and schools have been told to stop activities like cross-country running and science field trips because it's not safe to be exposed to the soil, it's not safe to breathe it in. This agreement does not bring Michigan any closer to making kids safe in their own backyards. Sierra Club will continue to push for a comprehensive dioxin cleanup sooner rather than later.

In December, the Lone Tree Council, Michigan Environmental Council, Clean Water Action, Ecology Center, Citizens for Alternatives for Chemical Contamination and Sierra Club outlined a seven-point set of criteria to guide dioxin cleanup by Dow. The groups, along with the Tittabawassee River Watch, Citizens Against Toxic Substances, Environmental Health Watch and PIRGIM, said the Dow-Granholm deal fails to meet any of the cleanup guidelines. The guidelines are:

- 1) Will the final goal of any cleanup result in rivers that we can swim in, fish in, and know are safe as drinking water sources?
- 2) Will the public have a strong, direct role in ensuring a comprehensive cleanup is undertaken?
- 3) Will the cleanup begin immediately? Are the most contaminated areas that affect public health and Michigan's waters being cleaned up first? What is the specific cleanup schedule?
- 4) Will the current lawful cleanup standard of 90 parts per trillion be used? If not, what scientific basis exists for using a standard less protective?
- 5) Will contaminated soils and sediments be removed using methods, procedures and containment sites that ensure dioxin poisons will not be reintroduced into our neighborhoods by the next major flood event?
- 6) Will the dioxin cleanup agreement be legally enforceable? What, if any, impact will it have on other existing cleanup agreements between Dow and the state? What are the consequences if Dow or the state fail to comply with the agreement?
- 7) Will the cleanup agreement protect economic growth, public enjoyment and sustainable development along the riverfront into the future? Or is it a short-term fix that leaves pollution behind for future generations to deal with?

For more information about the Dow dioxin contamination in the Saginaw Bay watershed, see www.trwnews.net. If you want to be involved in Sierra Club Water Sentinels projects related to the Dow Dioxin Cleanup Campaign, or the statewide campaign to make all rivers fishable and swimmable, contact Rita Jack at rita.jack@sierraclub.org.

THIS LAND MAY NOT BE YOUR LAND

by Marvin Roberson, Forest Policy Specialist

As regular readers of *The Mackinac* have seen, mining is making a comeback in Michigan. After decades in which no new mines have opened in Michigan, at least seven companies are exploring for minerals in the Upper Peninsula. In response to the renewed interest in mining, legislation crafted by a working group including Sierra

Club was passed by the Legislature last November. In December Governor Granholm signed Public Act 449 of 2004 into law, establishing the toughest environmental regulations in the nation for mining of non-ferrous minerals.

Pollution problems, however, are not the only concerns with regard to mining in Michigan. Numerous companies have purchased or leased mineral rights under land that they do not own, and they are able to explore and extract minerals without the permission of the landowner. In most cases the landowner will not receive any of the income from the minerals extracted.

How can it be the case that a landowner can be forced to allow someone else to explore for and extract minerals from under land they own? In Michigan, the law allows for "severed mineral rights." This means that a landowner can sell the land to one party and the rights to the minerals under the land to someone else entirely. Michigan law gives precedence to the mineral owner over the surface owner. Therefore, if there is conflict over extracting underground resources, the law says that the owner of the mineral rights gets to extract the minerals, even over the objection of the surface owner. This unfortunate fact is being discovered by landowners in Michigan every day.

To understand how this happened, one needs to look at the history of the state. In the early days of the state, when the Constitution and most of the fundamental property laws were written, the mining industry was the major economic engine of the state of Michigan and had great influence over the Legislature and the laws passed. Most of the emphasis was on making development of the minerals needed in a growing society easier to get to. Consequently, the "severed" mineral rights were enacted in order to allow mining companies to purchase the minerals without having to



ANNE WOJWODE

Sierra Club's Marvin Roberson (far right) served on the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Metallic Mining Work Group with representatives from the mining industry, local units of government, state agencies and the environmental and conservation community. At the bill signing ceremony on January 27, Roberson was joined by (from left) Andy Buchsbaum of the National Wildlife Federation, James Clift of the Michigan Environmental Council, MDEQ Director Steve Chester, Michelle Halley of the National Wildlife Federation, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Director Becky Humphries, Rich Bowman of the Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited and Donna Stine of Michigan United Conservation Clubs. Work Group members were praised for providing an excellent model for addressing complex and contentious environmental issues.

pay for the surface land. In addition, in order to speed development without impedance, giving the mineral owners priority was seen as reasonable, especially since in most areas of the state where mining occurred, there was little settlement and very few surface owners in residence to object.

Today that has all changed. The mining industry is a very minor player in the economy of Michigan. Many more people live and have vacation homes in the areas of the Upper Peninsula where mining is likely to occur. The severed minerals are already owned by numerous people, rarely the surface owners. In order to protect mining compa-

nies' knowledge of where valuable minerals might be, it is often extremely difficult to even find out who owns minerals under a particular surface parcel. The potentials for conflict are much higher now than in the 19th century, when these laws were enacted.



For further information on mining in Michigan, you can contact Marvin Roberson at marvin.roberson@sierraclub.org.

Conservation & Litigation Update

MDEQ DENIES HAMTRAMCK INCINERATOR AIR PERMIT

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has denied a request by Michigan Waste Services (MWS)—a medical waste incinerator located in Hamtramck—that seeks to convert this facility to a co-fired combustor incinerator. Southeast Michigan Group leaders Anna Holden, Ed McArdle and

dozens of other volunteers have long worked to see this facility cleaned up or closed down. Sierra Club activists have worked closely with HEAT, the Hamtramck Environmental Action Team, and many other organizations in the area to protect the health of the people living and working around the facility.

MDEQ's press release on January 24 said that the facility's "failure to demonstrate a commitment to comply with the conditions in the draft permit, as well as their

continued failure to comply with a current permit and consent order for the existing incinerator, led to the decision to deny their application." More specifically, according to the release, MDEQ indicated MWS's "failure to implement a mercury waste reduction plan, failure to perform required preventative maintenance activities, and failure to complete maintenance records."

MDEQ also announced that they are proceeding with steps to revoke the

Hamtramck incinerator's operating permit. "Michigan Waste Services history of operating far outside the boundaries of environmental regulations played a large role in the decision to deny this permit application," said G. Vinson Hellwig, Chief of MDEQ's Air Quality Division and decision maker on the permit application. "Their continued violations are unacceptable to the community, and are unfair to the many businesses in Michigan that take pride in their environmental efforts."

Mackinac Chapter Priorities in 2005

The Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee set conservation priorities for the Chapter's work in 2005. In upcoming issues of *The Mackinac* look for focus features, interviews, activism and education articles, and regular chapter news and info on the following issues:

CLEAN WATER: Focusing on concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), regulation of sulfide ore mining; protection of the Great Lakes, and river pollution and cleanup (e.g., the Pine River, the Tittibawassee River and the Saginaw River).

SPRAWL AND LAND USE: With attention to land use legislation, sustainable agriculture and transportation.

FORESTS, HABITAT AND PUBLIC LAND CONSERVATION: In particular National Forest plan revisions for Michigan's three National Forests, including protection of the Trap Hills area in the Ottawa National Forest.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: Involving advocacy for a Michigan state policy on environmental justice, clean air and toxics reduction (for example, lead and mercury).

ENERGY ISSUES: With education of members, action against coal-fired utility plants, and work toward a Michigan Renewable Portfolio Standards.

Other issues to be addressed by the Chapter, especially in our contacts with legislators and lobbying:

POLLUTER PAY POLICY: Applicable to permits for air, water, hazardous waste and CAFOS.

SUPPORT FOR MDEQ: Including adequate funding, cooperation and trust.

MICHIGAN BOTTLE BILL: Expansion efforts.

Remembering a True Environmental Hero



COURTESY ECOLOGY CENTER

by David Holtz, Michigan Director of Clean Water Action;
Mackinac editorial board member

For many, losing Mary Beth Doyle—so suddenly in November to a car accident—still seems like a bad dream. Except, of course, it's real. Awful real.

Mary Beth was 43 when she died. She was one of the most accomplished environmental advocates in Michigan and, perhaps, the most beloved. She began her 15-year career briefly with Sierra Club, and then Greenpeace, but will be known for the incredible energy, intelligence and leadership she brought to environmental health for the past 12 years with the Ecology Center in Ann Arbor.

Quoting from just a portion of the Memorial Service Program for Mary Beth provides a glimpse of the depth of her involvement:

Among the most notable of her accomplishments was her work as a leader of a successful campaign to shut down the Henry Ford Hospital incinerator in Detroit. She also worked with residents in Hamtramck to close a troubled, dirty and polluting commercial incinerator there. In Romulus, she helped local residents fight the establishment of a toxic waste injection well. And she was a leader of the Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition, a Detroit-based coalition fighting for environmental justice....

She was a leader in national and international coalitions including Health Care Without Harm, Be Safe Coalition, Coming Clean Coalition, Stop Dioxin Campaign, the Dow Campaign, the Alliance for Safe Alternatives, Safe Home-towns Campaign, and the Childproofing Campaign, each of which was designed to protect people from toxic substances. She recently worked on a nationwide campaign to test the dust of homes and offices to demonstrate the toxic components of everyday consumer products and to lobby for safer alternatives. She worked with communities across the country to shut down polluting incinerators and to develop uniform standards for alternative waste treatment technologies.

Contributions to a Memorial Fund in Mary Beth's honor to continue her work may be sent to:

**The Ecology Center
c/o Mary Beth Doyle Memorial Fund
117 N. Division
Ann Arbor, MI 48104**

Chapter Funding Update

INVEST IN SIERRA CLUB THIS SPRING!

In early March you'll receive a letter asking you and all other Michigan Sierra Club members to make a contribution to support the

Mackinac Chapter's work for the coming year. It seems fitting that this request for your vote of confidence in the work of Sierra Club volunteers and staff to protect Michigan's environment comes at the time Michigan-ers are all eagerly anticipating the return of spring.

As the ice jams clear and the buds begin to swell, Michigan's Sierra Club will be engaged in securing the clean and healthy future that all Michiganders need. Sierra Club members will be participating in a Lobby Day in Lansing to talk about restoring our rivers and lakes (see p. 13), protecting our wild places, and reinvesting in and sustaining existing communities, both urban and rural. Volunteer water sampling will be underway around the state, with the results playing a critical role in protecting and cleaning up our precious waterways.

Dozens of Sierra Club members who care deeply about our state's public forests will be scrutinizing the proposed plans for the National Forests to provide effective comments to shape the future management of these lands. Others will be preparing to learn how to comment on proposed rules for implementing the newly enacted sulfide mining law in the state to assure that some of our state's most pristine streams stay that way. People fighting pollution from animal factories around the state will convene under Sierra Club's auspices to share their knowledge and to plan for the future. And our Political Committee will develop its plans in preparation for coming elections.

Work like this goes on all year long in the Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter. Just once a year we ask you to help contribute to support these and many other activities. Please respond generously when you receive the request for your contribution this year!

Contributions are accepted at any time. Please send checks, made out to the Sierra Club, to:

**Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter
109 East Grand River
Lansing, MI 48906**

For credit card contributions, contact Amanda Hightree at 517-484-2372.

Chapter Founding Member Gwen Nystuen Receives National Award



Congratulations to Gwen Nystuen, recipient of a Sierra Club National 2004 Award. The Special Service Award honors Gwen's strong and consistent commitment to conservation over an extended period of time.

Gwen joined the Sierra Club in 1954. When she and her husband John moved to Ann Arbor, seven Sierra Club members met in their house to form a Michigan Chapter. It officially became the Mackinac Chapter in 1968.

Over the years Gwen has led a number of important activities, including service on the National Political Committee. She has chaired national political workshops, and reviewed the recent high-profile National Board of Directors election. She is known for her work on the Huron Valley Group newsletter and for establishing a candidate endorsement process.

She also is famous for her hospitality and gourmet cuisine, which makes activism a true pleasure.

"Gwen has always had one of most clear-eyed understandings of anyone in the Club of why we engage in electoral politics. She draws a direct connection between elected officials who can and do act to protect the environment and the ability of environmental activists to make this world a better, cleaner place. She embodies what is best in Sierra Club: a deep commitment to protection of the environment and a deep caring and joy in the people who work for that cause alongside her."

– Anne Woiwode, Chapter Director

"Gwen inspired my generation of leaders to become involved with the Sierra Club. Her charm made it a pleasure to join the activist ranks, and her personal commitment to Sierra Club work provided a model of how volunteers could change the course of our community."

– Doug Cowherd, Co-Chair of the Huron Valley Group

"Gwen deserves this award. In many ways, her Sierra Club activism is responsible for many of the leaders currently serving in the Mackinac Chapter and we owe her a great debt of gratitude."

– Sue Kelly, Chair, Mackinac Chapter

"Gwen is known for really rewarding volunteers for the work they've done for the environment. Many a time Gwen has hosted an event dinner at her home."

– Jan O'Connell of Grand Rapids,
Treasurer of the Sierra Club National Board of Directors

"Just saying that Gwen is hosting a meeting automatically boosts attendance."

– Nancy Shiffler, Vice-Chair, Huron Valley Group

Groups Allowed to Remain in Tondu Lawsuit

A federal judge upheld the right of the Little River Band of the Ottawa Indians and

the Manistee Citizens for Responsible Development to intervene in a lawsuit opposing the proposed coal-fired power plant on the shore of Manistee Lake. The judge said that these citizens groups have a substantial interest in the case. While acknowledging that Sierra Club also has a substantial interest in the case, the court concluded that the other interveners will be able to represent the Club's interests and allowed the Club to submit briefs as a friend of the court.

Preserve The Future.

Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering the Sierra Club in your will.

There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more information and confidential assistance, contact:

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Director, Gift Planning
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor,
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 977-5639 or e-mail:
planned.giving@sierraclub.org

Building Environmental Communities

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS AROUND US: SPOTLIGHT ON NEIL MATOUKA

by Leigh Fifelski, Community Organizer

Approximately one year ago Ferndale High School welcomed its first recycling club onto campus. Neil Matouka, the 16-year-old founder of the Ferndale Recycling Club, said he looked around and noticed there was a lack of recycling options so he talked to his biology teacher about what he could do. He found that gaining



LEIGH FIFELSKI

Matouka has attended Lobby Day and would like to become more involved in politics. "It's the place where change can occur," he said.

support for the club was not that hard. "We are all tree huggers," he said, referring to himself and his friends. Once his friends got on board, some classmates joined in as well.

Today the club has equipped all of the high school's rooms with boxes for paper recycling; the club collects ink and toner cartridges, which they then send in for money for the school; and they are working with the local recycling center, Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority (SOCRRA), which has provided the school with large recycling bins and canisters in the shape of bottles for recycling aluminum cans and glass bottles.

"There are three types of students," Matouka said. "Those who are really concerned about the environment and take action, those who care and know about the problem, and those who say things like, 'The only problem is listening to environmentalists complain about how we are going to die.'" He pointed out that if you want the support from those who

care but do not act, "You have to mortify them . . . like in the Truth Campaign—they show people in body bags and it's really effective. We need to show the visuals, give a worst-type scenario."

Matouka is a member of the Sierra Club and is active with the Building Environmental Community effort. He has also attended Lobby Day and would like to become more involved in politics. "It's the place where change can occur," he said.

Neil Matouka is one of the future generation's environmental leaders. The future is here. It's time we listened.



DAVE CHAPMAN

Leigh Fifelski is Community Organizer for the Mackinac Chapter and works out of the Oakland County Field Office. Reach her at leigh.fifelski@sierraclub.org.

Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee Welcomes At-Large Members

Congratulations go out to Mike Johnson (Kalamazoo), Lorne Beatty (Brighton), Dave Llewellyn (Detroit), Helen LeBlanc (Williamston) and Bill Rodgers (Ann Arbor) as the top five vote-getters in the recent Mackinac Chapter election.

They will be joining Jean Gramlich (Birmingham), Anna Holden (Detroit), David Holtz (Grand Rapids) and Sue Kelly (Brighton) to serve on the Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee as at-large members.

The Chapter Executive Committee is composed of the at-large members elected by the full Chapter membership and Group Representatives from each of the ten regional groups in Michigan. The Executive Committee meets quarterly; the Steering Committee, consisting of the Chapter officers, meets monthly. Sierra Club members are welcome to attend all meetings.

NEW CHAPTER OFFICERS WERE ALSO RECENTLY NAMED. THEY ARE:

Sue Kelly, Chair	Helen LeBlanc, Treasurer
Dave Llewellyn, Vice Chair	David Holtz, 5th Officer
Jean Gramlich, Secretary	

Protect the Trap Hills and Michigan's National Forests

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

Sierra Club leaders John Rebers and Dave Allen of the CUP Group represented the Sierra Club in the Trap Hills Alliance, a coalition that has drafted proposals for protection of this beautiful and wild part of the Upper Peninsula. The Alliance plan calls for a proposed wilderness study and semi-primitive designations, protection of the

The Trap Hills area is a significant part of the Ottawa National Forest, and in March the Forest Service will release proposed Forest Plans for the Ottawa, Hiawatha and Huron-Manistee National Forests.

diverse species and rare habitat, as well as protection of the scenic beauty of the area. Links to the conservation proposal prepared by the Trap Hills Alliance are available at www.michigan.sierraclub.org.

The Trap Hills area is a significant part of the Ottawa National Forest, and in March the Forest Service will release proposed Forest Plans for the Ottawa, Hiawatha and Huron-Manistee National Forests. Public comment regarding the management of Michigan's

three million acres of National Forest lands will be taken this spring, and will set the management of these lands for at least the next 15 years. The Mackinac Chapter plans workshops this spring to discuss the three Michigan National Forest Plans and provide members with information and skills to effectively comment to the Forest Service. Contact the Mackinac Chapter at mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org for details on upcoming meetings and plans.



JOHN & KAREN HOLLINGSWORTH; USFWS

Experience the Forests Up Close

The Trap Hills of the western Upper Peninsula offer an opportunity for you to “explore, enjoy and protect” in keeping with the purposes of the Sierra Club. The revised Forest Plan for the Ottawa National Forest will be out for public comments in March, so this is a critical time to learn about and prepare to speak out for protection of

this spectacular area. *The Mackinac* has previously introduced Sierra Club members to the Trap Hills, and below you can learn about two day-hikes through the area that allow you to both enjoy and explore. In the “Protect the Trap Hills” article, above, learn how to advocate for protection of this special place so that people today and in the future may also enjoy and explore. The excerpt below provides you with a chance to join Sierra Club's efforts to secure sound management of all three million acres of Michigan's National Forest lands.

An excerpt from “Short, Sweet, and Spectacular: The Best One-Mile Hikes in the Trap Hills,” complements of Eric Hansen and Doug Welker—

The Trap Hills feature vast swaths of mature forest, notable rare plants, and historic sites such as Old Victoria, a restored mining village. This quiet escarpment, nearly 20 miles long, is six miles southeast of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, in the western corner of the U.P. Nestled between two Ontonagon County towns, the ridgeline rises three miles north of Bergland,

and runs east to a point four miles southwest of Rockland. For more information on exploring the Trap Hills go to the web site of the Peter Wolfe Chapter of the North Country Trail Association, www.northcountrytrail.org/pwf, which has extensive hike planning information including maps, pictures, and detailed descriptions.

HIKE #1: THE HACK SITE

This two-mile round-trip hike leads to a broad opening on the top of a south-facing cliff, and memorable views. “Hack Site” refers to the release of peregrine falcon chicks on a nearby ledge. Highlights include broad views stretching past Lake Gogebic; quiet forest in the wild core of the Trap Hills; solitude.

HIKE #2: NORWICH BLUFFS

A two-mile round-trip hike with elevation gain of 450 feet, ending in a broad opening on a cliff top with sweeping views characterized as among the Trap Hill's and the U.P.'s finest. Highlights include outstanding views from a beautiful escarpment; solitude.

WELCOME TO A NEW STAFF SENTINEL!

by Rita Jack, Water Sentinels Project Coordinator

Sierra Club wants to extend an enthusiastic welcome to Lynn Henning, a tireless Michigander who recently joined the staff of the Mackinac Chapter. For the past three years Henning has sampled water in drainage field tile inlets and outlets as well as in ditches and streams near concentrated animal feeding operations



RYTA JACK



JOHN REBERS



JOHN REBERS

TOP: Lynn Henning, the newest staff Sentinel. MIDDLE & ABOVE: Lynn and Lon Emerick (Skandia) and Jeff Knoop (Negaunee) test Yellow Dog River waters during a Yellow Dog Sentinels Outing on August 13, 2004.

(CAFOs) in her community of Clayton, looking for fecal coliform bacteria and depressed dissolved oxygen. Last spring she documented severely depressed dissolved oxygen levels that led to a fish-kill in Lime Lake after numerous episodes of nutrient-laden runoff into Lime Lake inlet.

Henning has assembled an impressive alert system that includes the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, the health department and the USEPA. "Lynn Henning knows as much about the causes and sources of water and air pollution from animal factories as anyone in Michigan," says state Club director Anne Woiwode. "She has perfected the skills needed to identify polluting operations out of necessity. She and her husband Dean are family farmers who have been growing field crops next to polluting CAFOs for five years." Henning's family members and neighbors suffer from hydrogen sulfide poisoning and have seen their well water and streams destroyed by CAFO wastes.

"Lynn is an extraordinary citizen activist who doesn't give up," continued Woiwode. "Her persistence and skill are respected by regulators and feared by polluting CAFOs. We are extraordinarily lucky to have Lynn Henning join Sierra Club as our CAFO Water Sentinel."

Henning and other volunteers with the Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan have brought to light more than 100 violations of the Clean Water Act from animal factories in Lenawee and Hillsdale county (see www.nocafos.org for more information). People throughout Michigan and Ohio living with CAFO pollution call Henning day and night for help. She is a voice for those who are often too afraid

of the repercussions of speaking for themselves. Henning has been targeted with vandalism and unfounded legal harassment from those who oppose her efforts. She does not back down. Her dogged persistence helps prove that almost all CAFOs pollute and that they are a threat to the environment and to human health. We're very glad to welcome Lynn Henning to the Sierra Club family as the Club's official CAFO Water Sentinel!

OTHER WATER SENTINEL PROJECT UPDATES

A number of monitoring projects are ongoing around the state, including the Pine River Water Sentinels, the Pinnebog River Sentinels, and the Yellow Dog Sentinels, all of which are working on Saturdays in May. Two new additional projects are under discussion: one in the Kawkawlin River; the other a collaborative project with the Clinton River Watershed Council. Also, new CAFO monitoring projects are underway or are being planned, and a meeting for CAFO activists is in the works for March. For details on all of these opportunities, plus current issue updates, see the Water Sentinels website at www.michigan.sierraclub.org under the "Get Involved" section.

See you streamside!



DAVE CHAPMAN

Rita Jack, the Mackinac Chapter's Water Sentinels Project Coordinator, can be contacted at rita.jack@sierraclub.org or 517-484-2372.

Opportunity is Knocking: Getting

by Gayle Miller, Conservation Program Coordinator

Every two years in Michigan, opportunity knocks at the doors of environmentalists. This year, more than ever before, it behooves us to answer. And not just answer, but to stick our hands out, shake and start talking.

The doors I'm referring to, specifically, are those of 40 Michigan citizens, all of whom have new jobs—in the Michigan House of Representatives.

Remember the last time you started a new job? If you're smart, you listen and absorb knowledge from many different sources. During this process you're formulating your own opinions and finding out who to consult for answers. You're scoping out what people think and whose lead to follow. As environmentalists, we can't afford not to be part of this process!

We have a job to do. We need to communicate our environmental values and vision with these new legislators. We have stories to tell, concerns to voice and knowledge to share. Our input is valuable. It's critical we open a dialog between regular citizens who care about the environment and our elected officials.

Oh, I can already hear your objections! "I can't talk to my legislator." "I'm not political." "They might ask me a question I can't answer." "Are you kidding? My representative is a Republican!"

OK, stop and take a deep breath. Each and every one of our state's 148 house reps and senators, freshmen or otherwise, Democrat and Republican, are regular people like you and me. All of them hear from paid lobbyists every single day. These slick, hired guns show up in thousand-dollar suits and spew facts and figures on behalf of industries who pay them lots of money.

One reason lobbyists and corporations so often win, and the environment loses, is because your legislator hears far more from lobbyists than they do from us. How can we expect legislators, whether new or re-elected, to protect the environment if we don't ask (or, if necessary, demand) that they do so?

We may not have fancy suits or all the facts, but we have something that no paid lobbyist will ever have: authenticity. We have a deep concern for the living systems on this planet, a vested interest in the outcome of legislation affecting our air and water, and of legisla-

It's our kids who get asthma from air pollution, hyperactivity from pesticides, and compromised IQs from mercury-tainted fish. It's our grandchildren who won't get to see virgin forests if they're cut down for pulpwood.

tion affecting the children whose lives will be impacted by those decisions.

It's our kids who get asthma from air pollution, hyperactivity from pesticides, and compromised IQs from mercury-tainted fish. It's our grandchildren who won't get to see virgin forests if they're cut down for pulpwood. There isn't a lobbyist on the planet who could make a bigger impression than a five-year-old and her mom whose visit to the beach was spoiled because of e-coli bacteria from a sewer overflow! Now that's lobbying!

While we're on the subject of opportunity, here's another one: Republicans. Environmentalists have gotten into a bad habit of assuming the best about Democrats and the worst about Republicans when it comes to the environment. This is very unwise.

While this bias might have some unfortunate grains of truth, we neglect Republican legislators at our own peril, risking a self-fulfilling prophesy. Without open dialog with environmentalists, minus facts or personal testimony, and lacking any public pressure or personal insights, why would any legislator bother to vote for the environment?

What if a legislator simply doesn't understand a particular issue? You can help. What if they don't know the impact of a particular decision on their constituents? You can tell them. What if they think that nobody is paying



Environmentally Active in 2005

attention? You can assure them that you are! Remember the Lorax? We need to speak for the trees. Nobody is going to do it for us. Neither the Sierra Club nor any other environmental organization has an army of eco-warrior lobbyists doing battle for them. This is our job—we need to be citizen lobbyists for the environment.

The onus is on us, the opportunity before us: to knock on our legislators' door and begin a productive relationship to benefit the environment. Each of us has just one state repre-

sentative and one state senator. Can you fit two additional people into your life?

Opportunity has knocked. Please answer!



DAVE CHAPMAN

Gayle Miller is Conservation Program Coordinator for the Mackinac Chapter. See below for her contact information and to get involved.

Activist Resources

SIGN UP FOR THE MICHIGAN ACTION NETWORK

You can help assure that your voice is being heard on environmental issues in Michigan by signing up for the Sierra Club Mackinac Action Alert system. You'll receive periodic email alerts on critical issues, with all of the details you need to send your message advocating environmental protection. Sign up at <http://mackinac.sierraclubaction.org> (note that there is no "www" in the address).

CONTACT YOUR MICHIGAN SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES

To find your member of the Michigan House of Representatives, go to http://house.michigan.gov/find_a_rep.asp.

To find your Michigan State Senator, go to <http://senate.michigan.gov/SenatorInfo/find-your-senator.htm>.

KEEP UP WITH MICHIGAN LEGISLATION

For information about legislation, including copies of bills and Legislative session schedules, visit the Michigan Legislature website, www.michiganlegislature.org.



Participants at the 2004 Lobby Day.

SIERRA CLUB LOBBY DAY

Join Sierra Club members from throughout the state on Wednesday, April 20, for Lobby Day in

Lansing. On this important day we visit scores of legislators and their aides to talk about our key issues and encouraging legislators to vote for the environment on bills moving in the Legislature. All members visit legislators in teams, accompanied by an experienced spokesperson. Lunch and snacks provided.

To sign up or request more information, contact Gayle Miller, 517-484-2372 or gayle.miller@sierraclub.org.

The Lobby Day brochure is available online at <http://michigan.sierraclub.org/legislative/lobbyDayBrochure.pdf>

Knock Knock! Join the Sierra Club for In-District Meetings

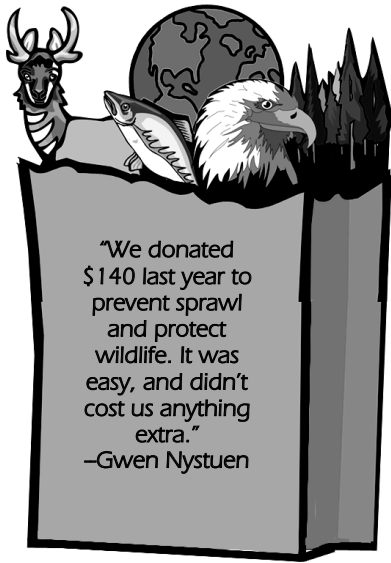
Group leaders and Chapter staff are helping organize "meet and greet"

gatherings between legislators and small groups of Sierra Club constituents. Meetings take place at a convenient location, such as a local coffee shop, on Mondays, Fridays or weekends when legislators are in their home districts.

Our goal is simple: to have Sierra Club members get to know their legislators. It's early in the legislative session, so discussion of specific bills is not necessary. We want to make friends, offer our assistance and ask for advice on how we can help our legislators support the environment.

Each meeting will have a primary spokesperson who feels comfortable leading the conversation—so you can talk, or just listen and learn. The format is simple: a round of introductions, a very brief discussion of three target issues, and discussion of any local issues members want to address. A one-page backgrounder is available on each of the issues: protecting the Great Lakes from diversion; factory farms; and the concept of polluter-pay opportunities to address state budget shortfalls in environmental protection programs.

Our goal is simple: to have Sierra Club members get to know their legislators.



Shop for the Earth!

Living creatures need space to live. Over the past decade, Shopping for the Earth has helped generate \$110 million to preserve natural areas and farmland.

You can help us do more by buying EarthCash vouchers for the stores where you already shop.



For every \$20 of vouchers you buy, you get \$20 in store credit and earn \$1 for the local Sierra Club.

Complete details are available at <http://michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/sfte.htm>

Help preserve nature at no cost to you!

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 "Sierra Club-Huron Valley Group." Total order (\$500 maximum): \$ _____.

	\$5	\$10	\$20	\$25	\$50	\$100
Ann Arbor People's Food Co-op						
Arbor Brewing Company						
Arbor Farms						
Borders Books & Music						
Busch's* - Limit 1						
Farmer Jack (and affiliated stores)						
Hiller's Markets						
Holiday Market (Royal Oak)						
Kroger* (and affiliated stores)						
Whole Foods (and affiliated stores)						

* Reloadable electronic cash cards

Please contact us if you want to contribute through the Meijer Community Rewards program.

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 Your Address: _____

 Your Phone number: _____
 Your email address: _____

Mail to:
 Michael Sklar
 10404 Kingston Avenue
 Huntington Woods, MI 48070
(Your data will not be shared)

Politician Profile: Oakland County Commissioner Dave Woodward

by Melissa Damaschke, Sierra Club Student / Conservation Organizer

Met Dave Woodward, currently an Oakland County commissioner and former three-term state representative with an outstanding voting record on the environment. But before you become too impressed by this, let me add that he is only 28 years old, and that Sierra Club has endorsed him since he ran in his first primary. I sat down



MELISSA DAMASCHKE

After serving as a state representative for three terms, Dave Woodward is now an Oakland County commissioner—and he's only 28!

“If youth was my only weakness, I would eventually outgrow it. If that was the only flaw I have, I won't have it forever. I think you need to have racially-, gender- and generationally-balanced representation.”

with Dave Woodward in January to discuss politics and the environmentalist energy of America's younger generations.

As a student at Kimball High School in Royal Oak, Woodward got involved with Students for Environmental Awareness (SEA). It was there that he became familiar with environmentalism, the complexity of the issues, and how far-reaching they are. “We went to IJC [International Joint Committee] conferences, marches on the Fermi plant, and interacted with local candidates running for office.” About this time Woodward met State Representative John Freeman, who became instrumental in helping pass state legislation to permanently prohibit the reopening of the incinerator in Madison Heights. Woodward did not know he was working with his predecessor, nor did he know that this good friend in the SEA would help him run his first campaign for the State House.

“When I ran for the state house, I was 21,” said Woodward. “By the time the election was over, I was 22.” During his campaign he was criticized for being young and not having any life experience. His good friend from SEA put this criticism into perspective, telling Woodward: “If youth was my only weakness, I would eventually outgrow it. If that was the only flaw I have, I won't have it forever. I think you need to have racially-, gender- and generationally-balanced representation.”

QUESTIONS FOR DAVE WOODWARD:

Not in your case but in general, our nation believes that young people are apathetic. What do you think?

Young people are involved in their own way. I think it's just different than it was in the 1960s. The passion is still there, however. In this last election, young people turned out in record numbers. Percentage-wise, older people turned out in even larger numbers than before, so people downplay the younger vote. Look at the raw numbers—it was very refreshing.

What one specific environmental issue needs the attention of future generations?

I don't think there is just one. Future genera-

tions do need to drive the demand for energy efficiency, fuel efficiency and higher standards. It has pained me for a long time. I've always enjoyed and will always be very strongly in support of organized labor—for the auto industry in general. For the life of me, no one can ever explain to me why pushing to increase the energy efficiency of the automobile translates into less jobs. No one has been able to make that argument to me. I don't understand it. If anything, aren't we going to be investing in new jobs to create the technology, and then, doesn't someone have to build it? Or are you telling me energy efficient cars involve fewer parts? It makes no sense. We can put people in space and we can't put most cars on the road to get more than 25mpg? The very fact that the first hybrid vehicles were not U.S. manufacturers' is embarrassing.

Why should we continue to fight to protect our natural environment?

I don't believe there's anyone out there opposed to the environment. It's so intertwined in so many other things. I think the challenge to the environmental community is to communicate our environmental concerns and the issues in a way that people can understand them and integrate them with the issues that are first and foremost on peoples' minds: quality of life, their family's quality of life. And when we can do that, that's where we will have success on environmental issues.

Is there anything you do in your life to be more environmentally responsible?

I am a die-hard recycler. In my house I have the most energy-efficient windows I could find, the most energy-efficient washer I could find—a little Neptune. I'm also getting the tankless water heater system. And I don't have an SUV. They usually make me grumpy. They don't see me in my little Ford Taurus.



Contact Melissa Damaschke, the Mackinac Chapter's Sierra Club Student/Conservation Organizer, at melissa.damaschke@sierraclub.org or 248-435-5277.

Group Meetings & Programs

[HTTP://MICHIGAN.SIERRACLUB.ORG/GROUPS.HTML](http://michigan.sierraclub.org/groups.html)

Outings, political and conservation activities and general interest meetings are hosted regularly by groups throughout the state. There are numerous ways to get involved in your local group. Meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome. Contact group chairs (page 23) or those listed below. Up-to-the-minute outings and activities may be found on group websites or on the Mackinac Chapter website at www.michigan.sierraclub.org. [E] = educational content, [C] = conservation focus.

2005-06 Executive Committee Meetings

The Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee (Ex-Com) meets quarterly at locations around the state. Contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz at the Chapter office for details. Members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

SPRING: April 2 in the Lansing area (location TBD)

SUMMER: July 9 or 17 (location TBD)

FALL: October 15, Sierra Club office in Clawson

AG: Algonquin Group

Interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area? Contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, 517-484-2372.

CMG: Central Michigan Group

GENERAL MEETINGS: Feb 15 meeting (Tuesday) will be 5:30pm at the East Lansing Public Library. Otherwise, meetings are 5:30pm for supper (small donation requested), meeting at 6:15, third Monday. Harris Nature Center, off Van Atta Rd in Meridian Twp. Pete Pasterz, 517-676-3339.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: 5:30pm monthly, second Monday. Maria Lapinski-LaFaive, 517-374-4444 or mlapinsk@wmich.edu.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Meets monthly, first Monday. Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796.

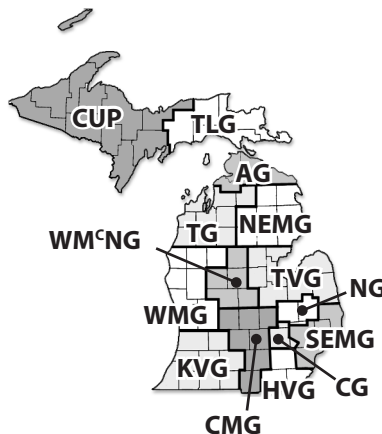
CUP: Central Upper Peninsula Group

GENERAL MEETINGS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 7pm in Community Room, Peter White Library, Marquette. John Rebers, 906-228-3617 or jrebers@nmu.edu.

CUP GROUP NEWS & OUTINGS: Mail \$5 for newsletter subscription to Sierra Club, 338 West Crescent, Marquette, MI. 49855.

OUTINGS: Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Contact John Rebers, jrebers@nmu.edu. Webmaster: Establish & maintain a web site for CUP Group including listings of meetings & outings. Newsletter parties: Help fold, staple, label newsletter prior to mailing. Requires a 2hrs 4x a year. Prepare newsletters for mailing. Requires 2-3hrs 4X a year. Little Presque Isle Cleanups. Come pick



Group boundaries of the Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club

up trash at the Little Presque Isle Tract north of Marquette monthly May to October. Contact Dave Allen (dallen@nmu.edu) to be placed on an email list to be notified of cleanup dates. Publicity Coordinator: Post publicity flyers in downtown Marquette & other locations. Takes 30-60min each month.

CG: Crossroads Group

www.michigan.sierraclub.org/xroads

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7pm fourth Wednesday at Brighton Public Library, 200 Orndorff Dr, Brighton.

1/26 Influencing Michigan's Lawmakers

3/23 The Huron: Our Natural River

5/25 Babes in the Woods

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Meets monthly. Jeremy McCallion, jeremy.mccallion@michigan.sierraclub.org.

OUTINGS: Cheryl McConnell, cheryl.mcconnell@michigan.sierraclub.org, 517-552-1464.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Meets monthly. Chair: Rick Pearsall, rick.pearsall@michigan.sierraclub.org or 810-227-6298; vice-chair: Ron Smith, ron.smith@michigan.sierraclub.org or 734-878-3689.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Lorne Beatty, lorne.beatty@michigan.sierraclub.org or 810-632-7766.

HVG: Huron Valley Group

www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro

HVG Hotline: 734-480-7751

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7:30pm monthly, third Tuesday, at UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor. Free & open to the public. Non-members welcome!

2/15 Fact, Fiction, & Politics," by Henry Pollack, University of Michigan.

3/15 "Great Past, Uncertain Future: The Fate of the Great Lakes," by Dave Dempsey, Michigan Environmental Council Policy Advisor.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: First Thursday of each month. 7pm. Doug Cowherd, 734-662-5205.

HVG BOOK CLUB: 7:30pm monthly, second Tuesday at Nicola's Books in Westgate Shopping Center, Ann Arbor. Small group book discussion about nature or the environment. Parma Yarkin, 734-332-0207.

INNER CITY OUTINGS: 7pm, second Sunday every month. Room 302 Halle Library on the EMU campus. Inner City Outings volunteers introduce urban children in Washtenaw County to outdoor & environmental experiences that might not otherwise be available to them. Interested chaperones, sponsors, planners, & contributors are always welcome.

CONSERVATION TEAM: 5/24 7pm Conservation Committee meeting. Nancy Shiffler, 734-971-1157; Bill Rodgers, 734-769-0163.

KVG: Kalamazoo Valley Group

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7pm monthly, third Wednesday, at Kalamazoo Public Library, Oshtemo Branch, 7265 W Main. Verne Mills, 269-344-4279 (evenings); 269-488-4268 (days); vmills@kvcc.edu.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 7:30pm monthly, second Wednesday. Chair: Paul Haas, 269-664-5417 or paulhs@aol.com.

NG: Nepessing Group

www.michigan.sierraclub.org/nepessing

GENERAL MEETINGS: Second Wednesday each month, 7pm, Mott Community College, 1401 E Court St, Flint, Prah Center, Genesee Room. Guest speaker. Refreshments served. Public welcome.

OUTINGS: Dave Mansfield, 810-658-0406 or mansfieldd@chartermi.net.



DAVINA PALLONE

NEMG: Northeast Michigan Group

Interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area? Contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, 517-484-2372.

SEMG: Southeast Michigan Group

www.michigan.sierraclub.org/semg

GENERAL MEETINGS: 6:30 or 7pm monthly Sept-June, first Thursday, at Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield. Carol Izant, 248-352-6137 or cogknot@yahoo.com.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 7:30pm monthly, second Thursday at 2727 Second Avenue, Detroit. Jim Nash, 248-471-3759 or nashlibdem@msn.com.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Monthly meetings at 2727 Second Avenue, Detroit. Mary LaFrance, 734-282-6935.

OUTINGS COMMITTEE: Outings Chair Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873 or wanderphil3@netzero.net; Outings Coordinator Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

3/19 Quarterly planning meeting/potluck. Non-committee members are welcome. Bring a potluck dish to pass at 5pm, then participate in the next quarter's planning meeting (May-Sept.) at Joanne Cantoni's house in Farmington Hills, 248-932-5370.

6/11 Quarterly planning meeting/potluck. Non-committee members are welcome. Bring a potluck dish to pass at 5:30, then participate in the next quarter's planning meeting (Aug-Oct). Mary Stoolmiller's house, 248-879-6004.

TLG: Three Lakes Group

GENERAL MEETINGS: Monthly Sept-May, first Wednesday, at Walker Cislser Center on the Lake Superior State University campus. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316 or rblanchard@LSSU.edu.

BUSINESS MEETINGS: Monthly in Sault Ste Marie. Floyd Byerly, 906-632-0218.

OUTINGS: Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316 or rblanchard@LSSU.edu.

TVG: Thumb Valley Group

Interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area? Contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, 517-484-2372.

TG: Traverse Group

www.michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held the 4th Tuesday 7-9pm at the Traverse Area District Library. Our group is frequently involved in community forums, informational meetings concerning local environmental issues & special educational events. Monica, 231-325-6812.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED: Contact Monica Evans, 231-325-6812 or imagine@betsievalley.net Outings leaders: lead local hikes, canoe/kayak or camping trips. Staff information & merchandise tables at local events. Publicity Coordinator: handle publicity for General Membership Meetings. General Membership Meeting program coordinator: set up speakers, reserve library room, handle publicity

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Meetings second Sunday of each month at Horizon Books.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Conservation Committee meets as decided by the committee. Monica, 231-325-6812.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE: Jim Stricko, 231-275-7596

OUTINGS COMMITTEE: Andrea Dean, 213-947-9334

WMcNG: Wakelin McNeel Group

<http://michigan.sierraclub.org/wakelin-mcneel>

For information about the Sierra Club in this area, contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, 517-484-2372.

WMG: West Michigan Group

www.westmichigansierraclub.org

GENERAL MEETINGS: 6pm monthly, second Thursday, at downtown YMCA, 33 Library NE, Grand Rapids. Marty Lore, 616-682-1316.

OUTINGS COMMITTEE: Lisa Symons, greensymons@yahoo.com.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

Sierra Club Board of Directors Election ballots will come to all Sierra Club members this spring. For more information about the candidates and ballot issues, please visit www.sierraclub.org/bod/2005election.

- CLEAN LAKE
- TOXIC DUMPSITE



Humans have a choice when it comes to protecting our water. Nature doesn't.



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Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club

Please charge my Mastercard Visa

Exp. Date ____/____/____

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____

Membership Categories	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

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SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Enclose check and mail to:
Sierra Club
P.O. Box 52968
Boulder, CO 80322-2968

MackinacChapterOutings

[HTTP://MICHIGAN.SIERRACLUB.ORG/OUTINGS.HTML](http://michigan.sierraclub.org/outings.html)

Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map, page 16, to determine a group's location. [E] = educational content, [C] = conservation focus, [T] = trail maintenance. Trips begin at the trailhead. Fees are a suggested donation. Outings are open to everyone. More detailed outing descriptions may be found at <http://michigan.sierraclub.org> or at individual group websites. All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the liability waiver before you choose to participate in an outing, please go to: www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms, or contact the Outings Department at 415-977-5528 for a printed version.

February

2/12 NG Holdridge Lakes Bike Trail Hike. 10am. Mod 6mi hike. Dogs allowed. State Park vehicle permit required. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

2/13 CG Winter Paddlefest. 12-4pm. Paddle down scenic stretch of the Huron River. Rentals available in advance from Heavner's 148-685-2379. Dress for weather, bring dry clothes. Picnic afterwards. Ron Smith, 734-878-3689.

2/13 SEMG Seven Lakes State Park Hike. 1pm. Rain or shine 6mi hike through rolling terrain, woodlands & high meadows. Opt restaurant stop after. John Herrgott, 248-766-9575.

2/19 NG Corsair-Silver Valley Cross Country Ski Trip. Noon to 4pm. Moderate. Park vehicle permit required. \$3 donation at trailhead. Denny Crispell, 989-624-5038.

2/19 SEMG Holly Rec Area Hike. 9:30am. 5-6 mile mod-paced hike through the rolling wooded hills. Opt restaurant stop after. Mary Powell, 810-732-3884. [E]

2/19 SEMG Winter Family Fun Outing. 1pm. Heritage Park, Farmington Hills. Sledding, cross-country skiing, & snowshoeing. Bring your own equipment. If no snow, we hike! Dress for weather. Hot cider, hot chocolate, & donuts provided. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984; Melissa Damaschke, 248-435-5277.

2/21 NG Hadley Hills Hike. 10am. 6 miles, difficult. Ortonville Recreation area. State Park vehicle permit required. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304 or glorypepper@yahoo.com.

2/26 NG Holly North Hike. 10am. 6mi, mod. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

2/26 SEMG Lapeer Winter Backpack. 10am. Backpack Sat & Sun in Lapeer State Game Area, 1/2 hour north of Troy. Previous winter backpacking experience & equipment required. Registration required. Limit 6. Milton French, 313-295-6321.

2/27 SEMG Ice Hike-Pointe Pelee. 9:30am. 14th Annual Ice Hike. Dress warmly for 2-3hrs. exploring interior trails of Pointe Pelee & climbing snow piles out on the pointe. Bring passport or picture ID. Restaurant stop after. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579. [E]

2/28 KVG Tillers International—Working for a More

Peaceful Earth. 7pm. People's Church, Kalamazoo. Exec Director, Dick Roosenberg, will describe Tillers' research & training programs. Annual joint program with Audubon Society of Kalamazoo. Verne Mills, 269-344-4279.

March

3/3-8 CUPG Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore Winter Camping & Caving (Munising area). Winter camping & caving (ice & wilderness caves; helmets required) via sleds & snowshoes for the very fit, equipped, advanced-level, minus 20- to 30-degree winter camper. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

3/5 CG Potluck/Owling. Meet 3pm for potluck at home of Lee Burton & Roberta Shaw-Reeves. Bring dish to pass. 5:30pm owl expedition on their property & nearby Brighton State Rec Area. Lee & Roberta, 810-231-9045.

3/5 NG Crim Hike. 10am. Urban hike on hard pavement. Mike Haley, 810-686-6354 or thaley@gfn.org.

3/6 SEMG Riverbend Twp Park, Rochester. 11am. Slow 4mi walk. Look for wildflowers & birds. Trails lead from nature center to the river, floodplains, wetlands, hilly areas & upland meadows. Bring binoculars. Opt restaurant stop after. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789. [E]

3/10 WMG Paul Henry Trail Walk. 6pm. Easy 2.5mi with Sharon Wilson. Dogs welcome. Sharon Wilson, 616-532-0753.

3/12 NG Hadley Hills Jasmond Rd. Hike. 10am. 6mi, difficult. Ortonville Rec. Area. Dogs allowed. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

3/12 TG Brown Bridge Quiet Area. 10am. Join us as we hike the Brown Bridge Pond hiking trail, a diverse area with white cedar, black spruce, tamarack & balsam fir trees. This area is known for an abundance of wildlife: heron, woodpecker, loon, eagle, osprey, hawk, turtle, deer, bear, bobcat, coyote, fox, otter, beaver, mink. Dress appropriately & be prepared for wet trails. Sign up by 3/11. Andrea, 231-947-9344; Monica, imagine@betsievalley.net.

3/13 SEMG Wolcott Mill Hike. 1pm. Look for early

signs of Spring in this Metropark. 4-5mi hike, rain or shine on level trails. Opt restaurant stop after. Milton French, 313-295-6321.

3/19 SEMG Great Blue Heron Walk. 9:30am. Walk 3 miles of the highland nature trails. Stop at West Bloomfield Heron Rookery overlook. Bring binoculars, water bottle. Restaurant stop after. Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

3/20 SEMG Proud Lake Spring Equinox Hike. 11am. Moderate paced 5mi hike. Look for spring blooms. Dress for muddy trails. Call if weather is questionable. Restaurant stop after. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984; Jenny Cromie, 248-231-5133.

3/24 WMG Paul Henry Trail Walk. 6pm. Dogs welcome. Sharon Wilson, 616-532-0753.

3/26 NG Otter Lake Hike. 10am. 5mi, mod. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

3/26 SEMG Lakeville Swamp/Addison Oaks Hike. 9:30am. Look for early signs of spring in "a full featured conveniently located southeastern Michigan swamp." Easy 5mi. If too wet due to spring flooding we'll hike on roads. Opt restaurant stop after. Mary Powell, 810-732-3884.

3/26 TG Pyramid Point. 10am. One of our favorite places to hike. Rolling meadows, beechwood forests & incredible bluffs high above the shores of Lake Michigan. 2.7 easy-mod miles. Sign up by 3/25. Andrea, 231-947-9322; Monica, imagine@betsievalley.net.

3/27 SEMG Stony Creek Hike. Noon. First hike of spring on NEW Inwood trails. Restaurant stop after. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789; Jenny Cromie, 248-231-5133. [E]

April

WMG Trail Maintenance. Join Sierra Clubbers in maintaining our sponsored portion of the North Country Trail. Sue Norman, 616-891-9055.

4/1-4 CUPG Pigeon River State Forest (Vanderbilt area). Backpacking for the fit, equipped, intermediate-level, foul-weather, off-trail hiker. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

4/2 NG Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge Hike. 10am. 4.5mi, easy. Park Permit Required. Denny Crispell, 989-624-5038.

4/3 NG Hogback Hills Hike. 1pm. 5mi, difficult. Restaurant stop. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304 or glorypepper@yahoo.com.

4/3 SEMG Henry Ford Estate Walk. 1pm. Experience the wonders in this Estate Nature Preserve. 4mi, moderate. Restaurant stop after. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

4/3 WMG Yankee Springs Walk. Easy/mod hike at Yankee Springs. Dogs welcome. Sara Houwerzyl, 616-698-8639.

4/9 NG Seven Lakes State Park Hike. 10am. 5mi, moderate. Park at Big 7 shelter parking lot. State Park vehicle permit req. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

4/9-10 NG Jordan River Pathway Early Spring Backpacking. Moderate. Meet Sat 9:30am at trailhead. 10mi on Sat & 9 mi on Sun. Dave Mansfield, 810-658-0406 or mansfieldd@chartermi.net.

4/9 SEMG Maybury State Park Spring Wildflower Hike. 10:30am. 4-5mi, mod pace. Look for spring wildflowers & learn plant ID as we hike through hills, woods & open terrain. Opt restaurant stop after. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370. [E]

4/9 TG Treat Property Trail, Empire. 11am. This family farm, once owned by the Treat family, was claimed by the National Park & is protected & preserved from development by the park. The trail follows hills, meadows & offers incredible Lake Michigan shoreline views. Sign up by 4/8. Andrea, 231-947-9344.

4/10 SEMG Crooked Lake Trail to Pickerel Lake. 10am. 5-6mi, mod pace. Giant white & red oaks line the hilly, wooded trail. Pickerel Lake north of Chelsea was recently saved from DNR's planned "improvements." Bring a trash bag for trail clean-up. Possible restaurant stop after. Ed, 313-388-6645. [C,E,T]

4/15-17 SEMG Traverse City Camp, Canoe & Hike Weekend. Base camp in a state forest campground; hike the Muncie Lakes Trail on Sat. Canoe the Boardman River on Sun. Canoe rental available. Cost approx \$45 + canoe rental. Mary Powell, 810-732-3884 or powell_mm@hotmail.com.

4/16 WMcNG Tree Planting. Plant Jack Pine, White Pine, & White Cedar trees along the rail trail between Alma & Greenville. Jerry Duran, 989-427-5605.

4/16 NG Hadley-Metamora State Park Hike. 10am. State Park vehicle permit required. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

4/16, 23 & 30 Service Project in Edmore. Help repair & maintain the Rails to Trails area. 4th annual Sierra Club service project for this trail. Bring shovels &

snack. Wear long sleeves & pants (poison sumac & possibly poison ivy in the area). Pails, coffee & some snacks will be provided. LD Hollenbeck, 989-875-5005; Jerry Durand, 989-427-5605

4/17 HVG Spring Warm-Up Hike, Discovery Center to Hankard Road. 9am. 12mi, rain or shine. For last 6mi only, meet at 12:30 at Park Lyndon North parking lot. Ron Killebrew, 734-429-0671 or rkillebrew@provide.net.

4/17 SEMG Highland Rec Area Hike. 10am. Slow/mod 4-5mi hike. Be prepared for muddy trails. Call if weather is questionable. Restaurant stop after. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789.

4/23 WMcNG Tree Planting. Plant Jack Pine, White Pine, & White Cedar trees along the rail trail between Alma & Greenville. Jerry Duran, 989-427-5605.

4/23-24 NG Shingle Mill Pathway Early Spring Backpacking. Meet Sat 9:30am at Pigeon Bridge trailhead. 7mi Sat & 4mi Sun. Easy, flat, beautiful trail in Vanderbilt. Don Persson, 810-257-7441 (D), 810-695-0516 (N) or donald.persson@delphi.com.

4/23 SEMG Waterloo Overnight Backpack. 10am. Backpack Sat & Sun in Waterloo State Park, NW of Ann Arbor. Must have previous winter backpacking experience & personal cold weather equipment. Registration required. Limit 6. Milton French, 313-295-6321.

4/23 TG Celebrate Earth Day and the Birthday of John Muir. 7pm. Full moon bonfire at the home of Monica Evans, weather providing. Bring your own drinks, campfire snacks—birthday cake provided! Monica, 231-325-6812.

4/24 SEMG Proud Lake Day Hike. 11am. 5mi mod pace, pausing to listen for spring peepers, birds & to look for wildflowers. Dress for weather. Restaurant stop after. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

4/29-5/2 CUPG Hiawatha National Forest (Trout Lake area). Backpacking for the fit, equipped, intermediate-level, foul-weather, off-trail hiker. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

4/30 WMcNG Tree Planting. Plant Jack Pine, White Pine, & White Cedar trees along the rail trail between Alma & Greenville. Jerry Duran, 989-427-5605.

4/30 SEMG Biking the Macomb Orchard Trail. 11am. Leisurely 17mi ride on mostly paved trail from downtown Rochester to 29 Mile Rd. & back. No ride if raining; call leader if weather is questionable. Bring helmet, water & snack. Restaurant stop after. Mary Stoolmiller, 248-879-6004.

see OUTINGS, page 20

OUTINGS LEADER TRAINING

According to Sierra Club policy adopted in 2004, all SC outings leaders must complete a basic leader training program. Mackinac Chapter would like to host a training near Ann Arbor or Flint in June, 2005. The cost for the official Sierra Club Leader Training program is approximately \$45 per leader and requires about 40 participants. The program will begin on a Friday evening and end on a Sunday at noon. If you are interested in attending, preregister with Cheryl McConnell, cheryl.mcconnell@michigan.sierraclub.org. This is not a commitment—we just need to see if there is interest for this training.

WILDERNESS FIRST AID TRAINING

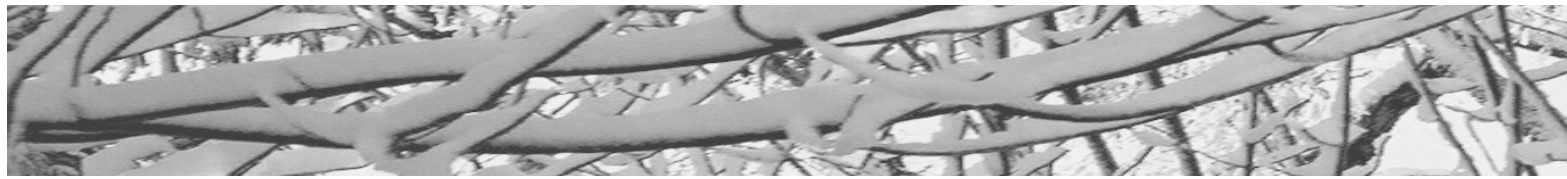
If you are interested in attending a Wilderness First Aid training weekend in 2005, contact Cheryl McConnell, cheryl.mcconnell@michigan.sierraclub.org, stating your preferred time and location. We need to assemble 20 participants.

OUTINGS LEADERS LIST

Join an email discussion list for Mackinac Chapter Outings Leaders. Go to <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives>, click on the list name (MI-OUTINGS-LEADERS-FORUM), then click "join."

OUTINGS PARTICIPANTS LIST

Receive once-a-month email announcements of upcoming outings by joining the Mackinac Chapter Outings News List. Go to <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives>. Click on the list name (MI-OUTINGS-NEWS) then click "join."



OUTINGS, continued from page 19

May

5/1 SEMG Maybury Flower Walk. 9am. Take the hilly interior trails so we can see the elusive Dutchman's Breeches & others. 5mi easy walk with brief stop at the living farm after. Restaurant/ice cream stop after. Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

5/7-11 TLG Service Trip-North Country Trail between the mouth of the Two Hearted River & Muskellunge Lake State Park. Be prepared for considerable physical labor. Dress for weather. Roger Blanchard, 906-635-2074 (W), 906-253-9316 (H) or rblanchard@LSSU.edu.

5/7 SEMG Urban Tour. 8:30am. Join Preservation Wayne's 2.5 hour guided walking tour of downtown Detroit. See "awesome buildings & learn about Detroit's rich history. Skyscrapers, sculptures, & much more." Possible downtown restaurant stop after. Tour cost \$10. Call if weather is questionable. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370. [E]

5/8 SEMG Brighton Rec. Area Mother's Day Hike. Noon. Two level hike: a brisk 7mi hike & a slower 5mi walk, taking time to scan for birds, etc. Moderate to brisk walks, with stops to observe nature. Marsh Marigolds & Trilliums will greet us. Wear good hiking boots, bring water, dress for spring weather. Restaurant stop after. Mike Scanlon, 313-884-2214; JoEllen Lane, 586-773-3104.

5/14 TG TBA (but you can bet it will be special!). 10am. Check www.michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse.

5/15 SEMG U of M Nichols Arboretum Hike. 11am. Visit a premier flora museum, especially known for its lovely, mature trees. Slow 4mi hike on rolling trails. Search for native & non-native trees shown on arb trail map. Possible restaurant stop. Max Nemazi, 734-421-4397. [E]

5/22 SEMG Kensington Metropark Heron Hike. 11:30am. Moderate pace, 5mi through woods & around Wildwing Lake. Great blue herons will be nesting. Other migrants are likely. Bring binoculars & field guides. Restaurant stop after. Jeanne Mercier, 313-581-6648. [E]

5/27-6/6 CUPG 19th Annual Canadian Backpacking Expedition (Agawa Canyon & Montreal River Gorge). For for the very fit, equipped, expert-level, foul-weather, off-trail hiker. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

5/28 TG Annual Wildflower Hike at Empire Bluffs. 10:00am. Join us for our most popular hike with Pam Smith, botanist, as we walk the Empire Bluff trail. Pam will identify plants & trees as we hike the trail to the bluffs of Lake Michigan for a spectacular view of the Sleeping Bear Dunes shoreline. Monica, 231-325-6812 or imagine@betsievalley.net.

5/29 SEMG Metro Beach Metropark Hike. Noon. 2 level hike: 5mi brisk hike through the nature area, hiking trails & perimeter of the lakeshore & 4mi slower walk, taking time to scan for birds, etc. Dress for May weather, call if weather is questionable. Restaurant stop after. JoEllen Lane, 586-773-3104.

June

6/5 SEMG Canoe the Lower Huron. 9am. Identify wildlife coming to life as we drift down the river. 4hr easy paddle from Hudson Mills Metropark down to Delhi. Stop halfway for picnic lunch. Some canoe experience required. Reservation of \$17 must be sent to Phil Crookshank, 17916 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, MI 48125 by 5/25. Bring river lunch, dry clothes. Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873. [E]

6/11 TG Sleeping Bear Point Hike. 10am. If you've never been on this trail, now's the perfect chance! One of the best trails in the National Park. Amazing views, changing terrain & we should be just in time for the blooming of the Pitcher's Thistle, Michigan Lilies & Twin Flowers. Don't forget your camera & canteen! Monica, 231-325-6812 or imagine@betsievalley.net

6/12 SEMG Heritage Park Family Nature Exploration. 1pm. Easy 2-3mi looking for wildflowers & birds, observing natural habitats. Bring a picnic lunch & drink for an after-outing meal in the park. Those who wish can visit the nature center afterwards. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

6/24-26 TG Camping & hiking Weekend at Tubbs Lake in Mecosta County. Celebrate the summer

solstice. The area has become an important nesting area for wood ducks, bald eagles, osprey, swans, geese, loons & other water fowl. During spring & fall migration periods, the area is an important resting & feeding area for 1000s of birds. Tubbs Lake has a naturally occurring stand of wild rice—only about a half dozen good stands still exist in the state. Don't forget your binoculars & hiking boots! RSVP by 6/22 to secure campsites. Monica, 231-325-6812.

6/25 SEMG Oakland County Prairie Visit. 10am. Slow walking over mostly level terrain for 2-3hrs. Visit Golden Prairie, an Oakland Land Conservancy heritage prairie, with an OLC docent. See lovely lupines & other prairie flora. OLC donation suggested. Opt restaurant stop after. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370. [E]

July

7/7 SEMG 7-Lakes Hike, Swim, Picnic. John Herrgott, 248-766-9575.

7/16 TG Canoe/Kayak the Boardman River. 10am. Bring your paddles & join us as we paddle our beloved Boardman River. We'll put in at the bridge on Keystone & end at the bay! Lunch optional at the Mackinac Brewing Company afterwards. 12 person limit, RSVP by 4/10. Andrea, 231-947-9344; Monica, imagine@betsievalley.net.

7/20 TG North Country Trail. 11am, 4.8mi. Grab your camera, canteen, trailmix & hiking boots & join us as we hit the trail. Sign up by 6/19. Monica, 231-325-6812 or imagine@betsievalley.net.

August

8/6 TG Our 5th Birthday/Reactivation Celebration! Noon-whenever. Join us where it all began: the beautiful Leelanau State Park. Pot-luck at noon. Veggie & regular hot dogs, tableware & drinks provided. Bring a dish to pass & hiking boots for a great hike after lunch. Campfire at dusk at one of the campsites. Want to make a weekend of it & camp, too? Leelanau State Park is a quiet, clean, rustic campground with quite a few sites on the shoreline. Fall asleep to the sounds of the waves meeting the shore & the wind rustling in the pines. Bring binoculars as this is a favorite habitat for Great Blue Herons. Reservations starting May 2005. Go to www.midnrreservations.com.

ADVERTISE IN THE MACKINAC AND REACH 20,000 HOUSEHOLDS IN MICHIGAN! CALL 231-352-4931 FOR OUR RATE CARD, OR EMAIL [SHeldonJulie@hotmail.com](mailto:sheldonjulie@hotmail.com).



SNOWY BRANCHES. SHERRY HAYDEN

com/campgrounds/selectcampingdate.cfm. Monica, 231-325-6812 or imagine@betsievalley.net.

8/13 TG Catch a Falling Star and Put it in Your Pocket. 7:30pm. Join us as we enjoy the Perseid Meteor Shower of 2005. Potluck picnic dinner on the shores of Lake Michigan, swimming & a bonfire to warm us as we count falling stars. Peterson beach, in beautiful Benzie County. Monica, 231-325-6812.

8/26-29 TG Annual UP Camping & Canoe Trip. Join us at Two-Hearted River State Forest Campground near Newberry as we spend the week-end hiking, canoeing the Big Two-Hearted River & enjoying the great outdoors. Jim DuFresne lists this campground as one of the best campgrounds in Michigan. On the shores where the Two-Hearted River empties into Lake Superior. Pot-luck dinner Sat night. Our annual trip is known for great food, great conversation around the campfires, & making & meeting great friends. Because the campground does not accept reservations, we need to know how many to count on to ensure enough campsites. RSVP by 8/24. Lynn, 810-574-5306 or redwingnut@sprintmail.com.

ANNE WOJMODE

Don't Move Firewood!

Help stop the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer and other woodland pests!

Moving any firewood of any species out of these emerald ash borer quarantined counties is punishable by fines:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
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| Macomb | St. Clair |
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| Washtenaw | Shiawassee |
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DAVID CAPPAERT

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Taking Action: Your Words Count!

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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 email:
president@whitehouse.gov

U.S. Congress

The Honorable _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

or U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

U.S. Capitol switchboard:
202-224-3121

Michigan

Governor Jennifer Granholm
State Capitol
Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-3400

The Honorable _____
Michigan House
or Michigan Senate
State Capitol
Lansing, MI 48909

Resources for Activists

- Get your free copy of "A Citizen's Guide To State Government" to find out who your legislators are. Call House Speaker Craig DeRoche at 517-373-0827 or Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema at 517-373-0797. Tell them you are concerned about environmental protection, and ask them to send you a copy!
- Check out the Daily Scoop at www.sierraclub.org/scoop/ to keep up on current environmental news and ways you can take action.
- ENVIRO-MICH is the Mackinac Chapter-sponsored Internet list and forum for Michigan environmental and conservation Issues. For a free subscription, email majordomo@great-lakes.net with a one-line message in the body of "subscribe enviro-mich" (leave your signature file off).
- Visit our Mackinac Chapter Website for updates on the issues in *The Mackinac*, and to find out how to get involved: <http://michigan.sierraclub.org>
- Get a free subscription to *The Planet* by promising to write at least three 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.
- Email Activists Needed! Join the Sierra Club's Mackinac Action Network. Members receive periodic legislative updates and respond to alerts when critical environmental bills are being acted upon in the Michigan House and Senate. When the Sierra Club needs you most, we'll contact you via email through the Mackinac Action Network. To respond to alerts, simply follow the web link, customize a suggested message to the targeted legislators, and press Send. It's that easy! Sign up at <http://mackinac.sierraclubaction.org> (note that there is no "www" in the address). For more information, send an email to gayle.miller@sierraclub.org.

UnClassifieds

ENJOY FUNDRAISING? You can help your local group raise money by selling Sierra Club calendars, recycled paper stationery and T-shirts. Contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, 517-484-2372.

GET YOUR PICTURES IN OVER 20,000 HOMES! *The Mackinac* seeks volunteers to take photos of outings, landscapes and images to accompany articles about conservation issues. For guidelines contact George Hazen McCann, photo editor, at hazenmccann@netscape.net.



Earth Share
OF MICHIGAN

THANK YOU, EARTH SHARE DONORS! We wish to thank the all the individuals who support our work each year through payroll deduction via Earth Share of Michigan. If you have just completed your annual payroll deduction campaign at work, and Earth Share of Michigan was not listed as an option, please call the Earth Share of

Michigan office at 800-386-3326. They will be glad to discuss how you and your fellow employees can support Sierra Club Foundation-Mackinac Chapter and other earth-friendly organizations at work. For more information, visit www.earthshare-michigan.org.

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Mackinac Chapter Directory

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MACKINAC CHAPTER MAIN OFFICE

109 East Grand River Avenue, Lansing, MI 48906

Phone: 517-484-2372

Email: mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org

Fax: 517-484-3108

Web site: michigan.sierraclub.org

Director

Anne Woiwode.....anne.woiwode@sierraclub.org

Conservation Program Coordinator

Gayle Miller.....gayle.miller@sierraclub.org

Water Sentinels Project Coordinator

Rita Jack.....rita.jack@sierraclub.org

CAFO Water Sentinel

Lynn Henning.....517-605-7740

Membership/Volunteer Coordinator

Kathy Boutin-Pasterz.....kathy.boutin-pasterz@sierraclub.org

Forest Policy Specialist

Marvin Roberson.....marvin.roberson@sierraclub.org

Administrative Assistant

Amanda Hightree.....amanda.hightree@sierraclub.org

MACKINAC CHAPTER DETROIT OFFICE

2727 Second Avenue, Metropolitan Center for High Technology, Detroit, MI 48201

Phone: 313-965-0055

Environmental Justice Organizer

Rhonda Anderson.....313-965-0052, rhonda.anderson@sierraclub.org

Southeast Michigan Media Coordinator

Kim Hunter.....313-965-0055, kim.hunter@sierraclub.org

SIERRA CLUB MIDWEST OFFICE

214 N. Henry Street, Suite 203, Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-257-4994

SIERRA CLUB MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

400 West Front Street, Ste 204, Traverse City, MI 49684

Phone: 231-922-2201

Midwest Regional Staff Director

Alison Horton.....alison.horton@sierraclub.org

Administrative Coordinator

Shelly Campbell.....shelly.campbell@sierraclub.org

OAKLAND COUNTY FIELD OFFICE

100 N Crooks Rd., Suite 105, Clawson, MI 48017

Phone: 248-435-5277

Student Community Organizer

Melissa Damaschke.....melissa.damaschke@sierraclub.org

Community Organizer

Leigh Fifelski.....leigh.fifelski@sierraclub.org

SIERRA CLUB NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

85 Second Street, Second Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: 415-977-5500

ADDRESS CHANGES

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

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Officers

Sue Kelly, Chair.....810-227-9563, suekelly77@comcast.net

Dave Llewellyn, Vice Chair.....248-366-1884, dllewell8@aol.com

Helen LeBlanc, Treasurer.....517-655-6454, helen.leblanc@sierraclub.org

Jean Gramlich, Secretary.....248-646-4113, jeangramlich@msn.com

David Holtz, 5th Officer.....517-203-0758, dholtz@cleanwater.org

At-Large Representatives

(Terms expire January 2006)

Jean Gramlich.....248-646-4113, jeangramlich@msn.com

Anna Holden.....313-331-0932, mqk@umd.umich.edu

David Holtz.....517-203-0758, dholtz@cleanwater.org

Sue Kelly.....810-227-9563, skelly316279MI@comcast.net

(Terms expire January 2007)

Mike Johnson.....269-948-8840, mike-johnson@webtv.net

Bill Rodgers.....wrodgers@isr.umich.edu

Lorne Beatty.....810-632-7766, lbeatty@blue-chip.us

Helen LeBlanc.....517-655-6454, helen_48895@yahoo.com

Dave Llewellyn.....248-366-1884, dllewell8@aol.com

Group Representatives

Central Michigan Group

John Veenstra.....517-339-1427

Central Upper Peninsula Group

John Rebers.....906-228-3617, jrebers@nmu.edu

Crossroads Group

Lorne Beatty.....810-632-7766, lbeatty@blue-chip.us

Cheryl McConnell.....517-552-1462, mconnell_cheryl@yahoo.com

Huron Valley Group

Nancy Shiffler.....734-971-1157, nshiffler@comcast.net

Kalamazoo Valley Group

Karen Briggs.....269-948-8840, mike-johnson52@webtv.net

Nepessing Group

Thomas Haley.....810-686-6354, thaley@gfn.org

Southeast Michigan Group

Dave Llewellyn.....248-366-1884, dllewell8@aol.com

Three Lakes Group

Roger Blanchard.....906-253-9316, rblanchard@gw.issu.edu

Traverse Group

Monica Evans.....231-325-6812, imagine@betsievalley.net

West Michigan Group

Martha Lore.....616-682-1316, naturelore@comcast.net

REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRS

Central Michigan Group

Pete Pasterz.....517-676-3339, pasterz@msu.edu

Central Upper Peninsula Group

John Rebers.....906-228-3617, jrebers@nmu.edu

Crossroads Group

Rick Pearsall.....810-227-6298, rick@pearsall.com

Karen Pierce.....810-227-8521, karenpierce@comcast.net

Huron Valley Group

Doug Cowherd.....734-662-5205, aheise@wccnet.org

Mike Sklar.....248-542-1789, mssklar@comcast.net

Kalamazoo Valley Group

Paul Haas.....616-664-5417, paulhs@aol.com

Nepessing Group

Dennis Crispell.....989-624-5038, jpbkey@aol.com

Southeast Michigan Group

Jim Nash.....248-471-3759, nashlibdem@msn.com

Three Lakes Group

Roger Blanchard.....906-253-9316, rblanchard@gw.issu.edu

Traverse Group

Monica Evans.....231-325-6812, imagine@betsievalley.net

West Michigan Group

Craig Ressler.....616-891-9055, craig_ressler@yahoo.com

CHAPTER COMMITTEES

Conservation

Anna Holden.....313-331-0932, mqk@umd.umich.edu

Elections

David Holtz.....517-203-0758, dholtz@cleanwater.org

Fall Retreat

Lisa Wickman.....517-374-8089, wickmall@haslett.k12.mi.us

Wanda Bloomquist.....517-655-3380, wbloomquist@briarwoodrealty.com

Forests

Nancy Shiffler.....734-971-1157, nshiffler@comcast.net

Information Systems

Rick Pearsall.....810-227-6298, rick@pearsall.com

Inner City Outings

West Michigan: John Pulver.....616-457-5999 (days); 616-453-2480 (evenings)

Paula Ballast.....231-861-6548, logcabinballast@aol.com

Washtenaw: Susan Hollar.....washtenawico@yahoo.com

Legal

Nancy Shiffler.....734-971-1157, nshiffler@comcast.net

The Mackinac Newsletter

Kathy Boutin-Pasterz.....kathy.boutin-pasterz@sierraclub.org

Lydia Fischer.....313-863-8392, lydfisch@mindspring.com

Sheldon Green.....231-352-4931, sheldonjulie@hotmail.com

Shery Hayden.....810-767-9904, hayden@tir.com

David Holtz.....517-203-0758, dholtz@cleanwater.org

Eric Lagergren.....517-896-5321, eric@eblwrite.com

Davina Pallone.....801-580-7815, davina@dharmatech.org

Anne Woiwode.....517-484-2372, anne.woiwode@sierraclub.org

The Mackinac Web site

Davina Pallone.....801-580-7815, davina@dharmatech.org

Mackinac Chapter History

Gwen Nystuen.....734-665-7632, gnystuen@umich.edu

Membership

Lynn Livingston.....586-795-1678, lynn.livingston@michigan.sierraclub.org

Nominations

Sue Kelly.....810-227-9563, skelly316279MI@comcast.net

Outings

Cheryl McConnell.....517-552-1464, mconnell_cheryl@yahoo.com

Personnel

Sue Kelly.....810-227-9563, skelly316279MI@comcast.net

Sexual Harassment Investigation

Sue Kelly.....810-227-9563, skelly316279MI@comcast.net

Dave Llewellyn.....248-366-1884, dllewell8@aol.com

Sierra Club Council Delegate

Mike Johnson.....269-948-8840, mike-johnson52@webtv.net

Sierra Club Delegate to MRCC

Fred Townsend.....248-627-3587, fhtownsend@aol.com

In a Nutshell: See What You Can Do for Michigan's Environment!

The Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club has approximately 20,000 members, only a few hundred of which we refer to as "active." These are the volunteers who play parts, big and small, in the powerful machine that is the Michigan Sierra Club.

Most Sierra Club members start small, dabbling their toes in volunteerism. Some wade in deeper, moving into leadership positions, while others dive in head first, without reservation, fully engaged in the Club's many activities. Whatever your interest or ability, there are hundreds of ways to get "active." Here are a few suggestions:

DABBLE YOUR TOES

- Attend a group program or participate in an "outing."
- Help mail your Group's newsletter.
- Show up for a letter-writing event or an activist night.
- Make phone calls to members, inviting them to upcoming programs.
- Attend the Chapter's fall retreat.
- Distribute literature in your community.
- Be an on-line activist through the Mackinac Action Network (<http://mackinac.sierraclubaction.org/>).

GO IN UP TO YOUR KNEES

- Help plan a program for your group.
- Participate in a rally.
- Staff a Sierra Club table at a local summer festival.
- Coordinate a "meet up" at a coffee shop or pub.
- Send a letter to your legislators telling them what you care about.

UP TO YOUR BELLY!

- Write for your Group's newsletter or help with their web site.
- If there isn't an established Group in your area, pull together a few environmentalists you know and see where it leads. (It is possible to have Sierra Club activities without the administrative structure of a Group.)
- Join your Group's fundraising, membership, programs, outings or political committee.
- Learn to be a Sierra Citizen Lobbyist (in Lansing, March 10)
- Participate in Lobby Day (in Lansing, April 20)

As a active Sierra Club volunteer, you'll meet great people, make friends and know you've accomplished something important for the environment. An ocean—or Great Lakes—of volunteer opportunities are available. Come on in!

To find out how to contact your group, see pages 16-17. If you want further information on any of the ways to get active mentioned above, you can email Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, kathy.boutin-pasterz@sierraclub.org.

- Organize or participate in an in-district meeting with your legislator.

DO THE BUTTERFLY!

- Volunteer for a leadership position within your Group.
- Start a Group if your area doesn't have one.
- Lead a Citizen Lobbying event, like an in-district meeting, with your legislator.
- Learn the issues and lead a campaign. Together we can make things happen!

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

The Sierra Club's members are 700,000 of your friends and neighbors. Inspired by nature, we work together to protect our communities and the planet. The Club is America's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization.



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.