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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

# TheMackinac

Quarterly Publication of Michigan's Sierra Club • May-July 2003

**CLEARING OUR WATERS  
A Chapter Priority in 2003**

# We're enjoying and protecting our water

by Mike Keeler, Mackinac Chapter Co-Chair

**W**ith our income tax return in hand, I finally convinced my wife that we should buy some kayaks. You could call it “three years of relentless nagging,” as she did, but I prefer to think of it as “informed and focused salesmanship.”

There are about seven rivers within 30 minutes of our Manistee cabin. Two of them have a Wild and Scenic designation—the Pere Marquette and portions of the Manistee—and each of them empties into Lake Michigan. We are really looking forward to exploring the waterways this spring, summer and fall.

## TESTING THE WATERS

More important than recreation, however, is that Michigan's waterways are the source of the water we drink and use in our daily lives. This issue of *The Mackinac* focuses on water, one of our chapter priorities. Inside you will find in-depth articles about the many ways the Mackinac Chapter is working to protect water quality, offering opportunities for volunteers to get involved across the state. For instance, Rita Jack, the Water Sentinels Project Coordinator, seeks volunteers to help test water from the Pine River. Mark Janeczko chairs a Great Lakes Committee that is looking for active volunteers across the state. (See page 23 for contact information.)

## DON'T TRASH MICHIGAN

Other club priorities this year include sprawl, the focus of the last issue of *The Mackinac*, as well as forests and environmental justice, priorities you'll find spotlighted in upcoming issues.

We urge members to help out on as many levels as they can. Dozens of volunteers are needed in Ann Arbor and Royal Oak to follow up after the “Don't Trash Michigan” door-to-door canvas. Veteran club members will visit new Sierra Club members and invite them to send in postcards and put up yard signs. When Sierra Club volunteers welcome new members, it's an excellent way to build community at the grassroots level. Contact Dan Farough, Public Education Coordinator, if you are interested in helping.

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

In early April, the Mackinac Chapter hosted a Strategic Planning weekend. About 35 members from throughout the state gathered to complete the first step of the process. We have written a plan of our priorities for the future, and the next step is to enact them, piece by piece. We hope to involve more volunteers and grow our grassroots base.

## LETTER-WRITERS NEEDED

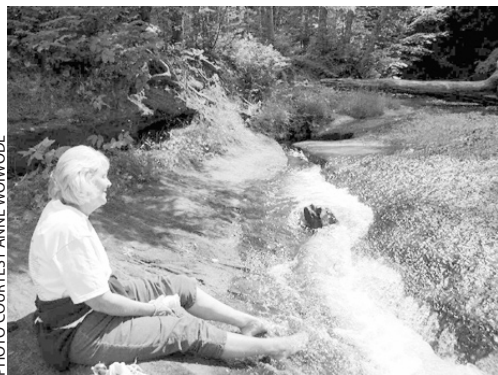
With our new governor, we expect to have a stronger voice than we had in the Engler years. Many environmental groups hire professional lobbyists to work in the Michigan House and Senate. But we in the Sierra Club decided instead to create a Legislative Committee comprised of volunteer “lobbyists.”

You can sign up to get email updates to be informed of new House and Senate Bills, and we will send alerts when we need your phone calls, emails and letters. Dan Farough, organizer of the committee, will help set up groups of members to meet with local elected officials in their home districts about specific environmental bills. If you can make a phone call, write a letter, or even meet with a local official, Dan would love to hear from you (see his contact information inside the back cover).

## KEEP IN TOUCH!

I hope you get an opportunity to enjoy Michigan's rivers, streams and lakes this season. As always, you can check out a comprehensive list of outings throughout the state, keep up to date on new Club developments, and find ideas on how to volunteer on our website, <http://michigan.sierraclub.org>.

*Mike Keeler and Sue Kelly serve as co-chairs of the Mackinac Chapter.*



**Top: Marty Fluharty, long-time Mackinac Chapter activist, enjoys the cool clear water of a stream in Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore.**

**Above: Participants prepare for the next exercise during a short break at the April Mackinac Chapter Strategic Planning Retreat in Hastings, Michigan.**

Inside you will find in-depth articles about the many ways the Mackinac Chapter is working to protect water quality, offering opportunities for volunteers to get involved across the state.



# TheMackinac

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB  
MAY - JULY 2003

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PHOTO: LYNN HENNING

**Above: Manure waste from the Jelsma Mericam Dairy washes on top of a frozen county drain in Lenawee County. Water tester Janet Kauffman prepares to take a sample. See page 12.**

**Cover: Bill Leichner of Saginaw (left) and John Johnson of Midland (right) take a core sediment sample from the Pine River in Alma, Michigan. See page 11.**

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### CORRECTION:

The photograph at the top of page 17 of the February-April issue of *The Mackinac* was taken by Mary Powell.

## NEXT DEADLINE: JULY 1

**SEND ARTICLES & PHOTOS TO:** Eric Lagergren, 517-896-5321, [eric@eblwrite.com](mailto:eric@eblwrite.com)  
122 Stoddard Avenue Apt B, East Lansing, MI 48823-4633

**SEND MEETINGS & OUTINGS TO:** Barbara Yarrow, 248-932-9164, [semgyarrow@aol.com](mailto:semgyarrow@aol.com)

# Forest Update

## PLAY A PART IN SHAPING YOUR NATIONAL FORESTS

by Marvin Roberson, Forest Policy Specialist

Today's Michigan forests are vastly different than those that were here 150 years ago. Back then the forests were much larger and older and home to an incredible array of species. During the mid-to-late nineteenth century, however, in a Paul Bunyan era of unrestrained logging, Michigan was virtually shaved of its trees from shore to shore, a drastic alteration of forest ecosystems that had taken millenia to develop.

One of our opportunities to effect change is upon us.

Every once in a while, citizens have an excellent opportunity to decide whether our forests will remain as they currently are—an immature variety—or be allowed to return to their former grandeur, like those which thousands travel each year to see in places such as Hartwick Pines State Park. Since Federal Law mandates that every 10-15 years the plans that guide how National Forests are managed be updated and revised, one of those opportunities is upon us. Management plans are critical for Michigan Forests, for within them are contained limits on timber harvesting, recommendations for habitat treatments and goals for recreational usage.

Michigan has three National Forests, each of which adopts its own management plan: the Hiawatha and Ottawa National Forests in the upper peninsula and the Huron-Manistee in the northern lower peninsula. These three forests contain over three million acres of land owned by the public, and include wilderness, old growth, lakes, rivers and streams. They are home to countless varieties of wildlife, including endangered species such as Kirtland's Warbler, Karner's Blue Butterfly and Hill's Thistle. And, Michigan's National Forests serve as some of the most heavily used recreational areas in the state.

The public has numerous opportunities to be involved in shaping the management of Michigan's National Forests, and Sierra Club has already begun its commenting process. Overall, the Club believes forests that approximate those produced by natural conditions are healthier, more resilient and able to provide habitat for a wider variety of native species than those produced by current over-management. Sierra Club also believes that resource management decisions are best served by having the widest possible public input.

To this end, the Sierra Club will be advocating for bigger, older forests in Michigan with less roads overall. The Club will also be assisting volunteers and helping them provide input for the management of our National Forests. Trainings and other assistance is available. If you or someone you know might be interested in more information, please contact Marvin Roberson at 810-424-3575 or [marvin.roberson@sierraclub.org](mailto:marvin.roberson@sierraclub.org).

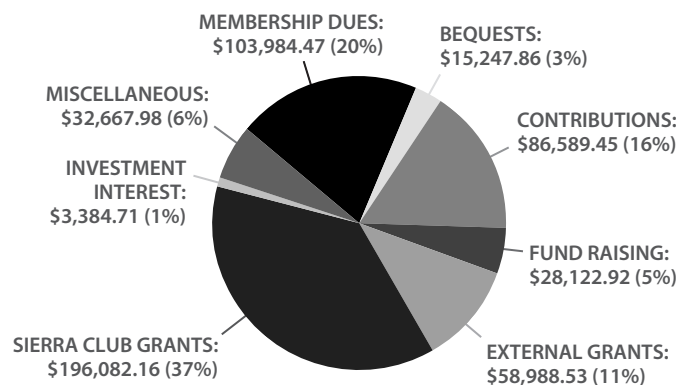
## Chapter Funding Update

### CHAPTER ASKS FOR ANNUAL SUPPORT

Each March, the Mackinac Chapter reaches out to you, our members, to ask for your financial support. The gifts that you make through this appeal—and throughout the year—help fund the important conservation work done right here at home.

This spring, the Chapter sent appeal letters to 15,000 households. We have already heard from 525 members who've responded by donating \$18,775. Your contribution, no matter what the size, helps your Sierra Club activists keep our issues a top priority in our communities.

### WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



Earth Share  
OF MICHIGAN

### WORKPLACE GIVING

Do you work with others who are concerned about the environment but not sure what they can do? Earth Share is a way to contribute to the work of the Sierra Club—and many other local and national environmental organizations—through workplace giving. A growing number of businesses opt now to offer environmental giving options alongside United Way

see CHAPTER FUNDING, page 21

# Those Smokestacks Affect More Than Our Air

by Fred Townsend, Midwest Regional Conservation Committee Delegate

In an issue of *The Mackinac* focused on water quality, one might not think a discussion of coal-fired power plants would fit. But in fact, the pollution emitted from these facilities poses a serious risk to the health of the Great Lakes region.

Mercury, one particularly troublesome emission from coal-fired power plants, begins to recycle freely when burned. It can then adversely affect human and animal health, attacking the reproductive, cardiovascular, immune and central nervous systems, the kidneys and liver, and posing a threat to the gastrointestinal tract and respiratory system. Mercury is also known to cause developmental abnormalities in infants.

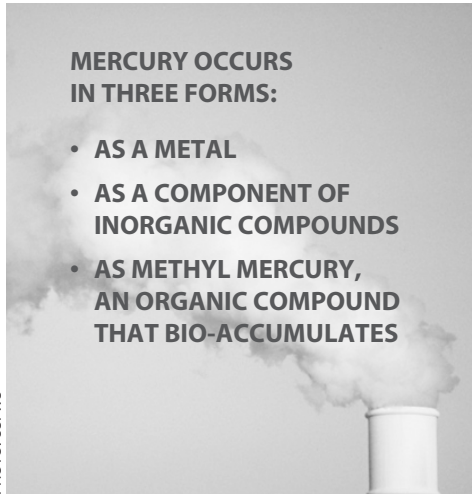
## MORE COAL-FIRED PLANTS?

Canada recognizes the seriousness of the release of mercury into the environment, and Ontario has decided to phase out its five coal-fired power plants.

### MERCURY OCCURS IN THREE FORMS:

- AS A METAL
- AS A COMPONENT OF INORGANIC COMPOUNDS
- AS METHYL MERCURY, AN ORGANIC COMPOUND THAT BIO-ACCUMULATES

PHOTO: USFWS



Meanwhile, in the United States, the Bush energy plan proposes adding 1,200 fossil-fueled power plants by 2020, a move that would seriously weaken the New Source Review provision of the Clean Air Act, which requires new sources of pollution to use the latest control technology. The Act also requires existing sources to upgrade if they increase capacity. This Bush plan also proposes a "Clear Skies" plan that would actually increase mercury emissions by another nine tons.

## THE SOLUTION

Since no one is immune to mercury poisoning, and since certain communities are more susceptible than others to mercury's ill effects (highly vulnerable are children, women and communities reliant on fishing, such as Native Americans), we need to make the transition to clean renewable sources of energy. Proven alternatives, such as photovoltaic-, hydro- and especially wind-power are already in use (Denmark derives 16 percent of its electricity from windmills). An interim solution is to use the latest control technology and to convert coal-fired power plants to natural gas.

## New Legislative Committee Will Carry Out Lobbying, Advocacy Work

by Lydia Fischer, Legislative Committee chair

**The Chapter's Executive Committee created the Legislative Committee as a subcommittee of the Chapter Conservation Committee in January of this year. Its mandate is to develop and carry out plans for implementing the legislative objectives of the Chapter's conservation campaigns and other Chapter conservation goals.**

These new plans call for a network of volunteer District Watchdogs will conduct visits with legislators, hold letter-writing campaigns, attend and testify at hearings, and pursue any other actions to influence legislators on behalf of our conservation goals. The Committee also plans to build on the Southeast Michigan Group's practice of holding lobbying days in Lansing by inviting other Groups from across the state to join in and participate.

The new Legislative Committee conducts most of its business by e-mail or telephone. Thus far, they have held a tabling event at Rep. Kathleen Law's "Don't Trash Michigan" hearing in her 23<sup>rd</sup> District, organized participation of Regional Groups in the planning of Tour de Sprawl events for the benefit of the Governor's Land Use Council, and spearheaded in-district visits with Michigan legislators who hold key votes on issues we support.

**The Committee's primary strategy will center on building a strong volunteer infrastructure for home district advocacy and the lobbying of Michigan legislators.**

A new administration in Lansing has sparked hopes that the state's many conservation problems will be addressed in an environmentally sound manner. In collaboration with other state organizations, the Legislative Committee is involved in Chapter campaigns such as curbing sprawl, stopping out-of-state trash, as well as water discharge fees (in collaboration

see *LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE*, page 21



# 14th Annual Mackinac Chapter Retreat

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- Live entertainment
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## **QUESTIONS?**

Contact Wanda Bloomquist, 517-655-3380 or [wbloomquist@BriarWoodRealty.com](mailto:wbloomquist@BriarWoodRealty.com), or Lisa Wickman, 517-374-8089 or [wickmall@haslett.k12.mi.us](mailto:wickmall@haslett.k12.mi.us).



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 LAKE MICHIGAN FEDERATION

# GreatLakesReport

## **A FISH STORY: NO EXAGGERATION IN SAYING THE PROBLEMS ARE GROWING**

by Mike Johnson, Kalamazoo Valley Group

**I**n an effort to produce a sustainable supply of fish, many fisheries have started to employ what is known as aquaculture. The human population has far outgrown the ability of the planet's oceans, lakes and rivers to sustainably provide us with fish (a major source of protein in many of our diets), and our waters can no longer keep up with our demand. This is evidenced by the collapse of numerous fisheries around the globe and accompanied by the tremendous destruction to the ecosystems these creatures call home.

### **WHAT IS AQUACULTURE?**

Aquaculture consists of two general types: pond aquaculture, in which fish are grown in artificial ponds, and cage aquaculture, where fish are raised in cages in open bodies of water. Aquaculture's threats to the environment vary somewhat by type, but generally include animal waste and nutrient pollution, spread of disease to natural populations, and the escape of a non-native fish species into the natural environment.

In the Great Lakes region, aquaculture is not as extensive a practice as it is in other parts of the country and world, but it is now considered significant and growing. For instance, Canadian aquaculture operations in Lake Huron currently have production levels that are at least equal to that of the entire conventional Ontario commercial fisheries industry. Therefore, just as it is so important to regulate concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), it is important to regulate aquaculture as well. Yet to date, few regulations exist.

### **AQUACULTURE'S POLLUTION**

The feeding and raising of large quantities of fish in a small volume of water leads to high concentrations of phosphorous and nitrogen, which serve as nutrients to aquatic plants. Bodies of water can become over-nutriented by farm fertilizer runoff or by detergents containing phosphorus. (Remember "dead" Lake Erie due to detergent phosphates?) Cage aquaculture can easily cause this to happen, but the condition also arises in pond aquaculture because the ponds have to be drained as fish waste levels rise. That draining is often into nearby natural bodies of water. One way of reducing the impact of pond drainage is to direct the drainage into artificial wetlands, which would then act as a filtering system (with the added bonus of creating wetland habitat).

### **THE SPREAD OF DISEASE IN AQUACULTURE**

When the population of any animal is concentrated, the incidence of disease increases. Even if fish do not escape from their ponds or cages, water-borne transmission can still infect natural populations.

### **WHEN FISH ESCAPE**

Fish escape in aquaculture is inevitable and common, and can displace natural populations and wreak havoc upon food webs.

Storm damage to a cage in Lake Ontario in 1997 released 360,000 fish, but escapes also occur from ponds, as evidenced by the entry of Asian carp into the Mississippi River when nearby ponds flooded over. Asian carp are a species which cause terrible disruptions to the habitats and food webs they enter. (These same fish, incidentally, are known to have traveled to within 25 miles of Lake Michigan and may have already entered the Lakes.)

Unknowable is the effect that escaped genetically modified fish would have on their natural brothers and sisters and the ecology of the aquatic ecosystems. (See the Feb-April 2003 issue of *The Mackinac* for discussion of the effects of invasive species upon the Great Lakes.) Though impossible to eliminate, there are ways of reducing escapes and their impacts:

1. Prohibit ponds in flood plains;
2. Require cages to withstand the strongest of storms;
3. Prohibit the aquaculture of non-native fish;
4. Just say no to genetically modified fish.

### **WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

In our efforts to apply technological fixes to the problem of our overpopulation, we have, as usual, created multiple problems. So what can be done?

1. Read Bill McKibbin's book *Maybe One*, which argues that we should seriously consider having just one child.
2. Eat less animal protein. The raising of beef, pork, fish and poultry causes tremendous environmental problems.
3. Write letters to elected officials asking that strong regulations be enacted and enforced to control the aquaculture industry.

Thanks to Great Lakes United ([www.glu.org](http://www.glu.org)) from which the information in this report comes.

# Capitol Watch 2003

## **LEGISLATIVE ISSUES TO KEEP AN EYE ON**

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

### **DON'T TRASH MICHIGAN!**

Hundreds of Michigan residents concerned about the environment posted yard signs at the start of Earth Week proclaiming "We can do better! Don't Trash Michigan!" These signs, which peppered lawns throughout southeastern Michigan—along with thousands of postcards—were distributed by Sierra Club volunteers and members of other environmental groups in an attempt to end Michigan's dubious role as the second largest importer of waste in the nation.

The outreach effort kicked off on April 21 when Governor Jennifer Granholm spoke to hundreds of environmentalists, union members, local officials and members of the faith community at a union hall in Madison Heights. Sierra Club put together the event, working in conjunction with other members of Don't Trash Michigan, a campaign of organizations trying to reverse Michigan's dismal standings in the solid waste arena. This campaign emphasizes the critical need to revitalize the state's once strong commitment to waste reduction and recycling. Visit the Don't Trash Michigan website at [www.stoptrash.org](http://www.stoptrash.org) to keep up to speed on this fight.

The Legislature has shown a great deal of interest in imported trash, and three bi-partisan bills have drawn particular attention from environmentalists. Representative Paul Gielegem (D-Macomb County) and Senator Liz Brater (D-Washtenaw County) have each introduced bills (HB 4098 and SB 98) to require that any waste from other states or Canada meets a regulatory regime at least as stringent as Michigan's. Representative Jerry Kooiman's (R-Kent County) bill, House Bill 4152, sets up "tipping fees" of \$3 per ton to increase the cost of dumping in Michigan and to raise funds to help improve recycling in Michigan. Both House bills have been referred to the House Land Use and Environment Committee and are awaiting hearings.

### **FIGHTING SPRAWL**

The Michigan Land Use Leadership Council (MLULC), jointly created by the Governor and Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema and House Speaker Rick Johnson, began efforts in late March to lay the groundwork for land use reform in Michigan. Public input on land use issues is being sought by the Council to help shape its recommendations. Clip and send the card on page nine or go to the MLULC website, [www.michiganlanduse.org](http://www.michiganlanduse.org) and submit your comments directly.

Michigan Department of Transportation Director Gloria Jeff announced the Preserve First program that sets the goal

of having 90 percent of existing roads and bridges in good condition and sustaining that level before starting new projects. Sierra Club is also calling on the Governor to cancel sprawl-inducing projects such as the Hartman Hammond Bridge proposal across the Boardman River valley near Traverse City.

Legislators are already trying to give communities critical tools to fight sprawl. Representative Chris Kolb (D-Ann Arbor), with bi-partisan support, has brought back a bill that would allow neighboring communities to create joint planning commissions as a way to increase cooperation in planning and zoning. House Bill 4284 was heard in the House Land Use Committee before their spring break.

### **COASTAL WETLANDS THREATENED**

An effort to exempt shoreline-grooming activities from obtaining permits passed the Michigan House in early April. House Bill 4257, nicknamed the Coastal Wetland Destruction Bill by organizations united in opposing it, would allow shoreline owners to plow up and cut plants growing in the publicly owned bottomlands of the Great Lakes. Low lake levels have left these plants exposed, and the damage to the Great Lakes ecosystem posed by open season on the coastal wetlands (where these plants live) has prompted alarm among scientists who study the lakes. The US Environmental Protection Agency has also warned that passage of HB 4257 could cause Michigan to be in violation of federal coastal zone and water quality laws, resulting in sanctions and possible loss of up to 30 percent of the state's federal grants in these areas. The bill now goes to the Michigan Senate.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM PERMIT FEES**

One idea to help plug the state's \$2 billion budget hole is to charge the cost to polluters of preparing the permits and enforcing the law to protect our water resources. Representative Andy Meisner (D-Oakland County) and Senator Liz Brater (D-Washtenaw) are each sponsoring legislation to establish the authority to charge fees for water permits, a critical step before



**Please fill in your name and address on the back side of this form, then clip it, put it in an envelope and mail it to our offices today to encourage sound land use decisions for Michigan.**

**Dear Governor Granholm & the Michigan Land Use Leadership Council:**

Over the last two decades urban sprawl has undermined Michigan's communities, threatened the Great Lakes and caused the loss of more than a million acres of farmland. These trends must be reversed. I am joining the call for cooperative solutions across all levels of government. I urge you to support them, too.

Without a clear vision for the future we cannot succeed. Statewide Leadership can guide long-range change and make sure that everyone is moving in the same direction. Give us statewide goals that protect Michigan's quality of life and an Office of Smart Growth to coordinate and secure more federal funding for planning and preservation.

Regional Cooperation brings together cities, suburbs and countryside to address the problems that we cannot solve alone. We need planning tools that cross jurisdictional lines and new incentives to encourage multiple units of government to cooperate.

Finally, our communities all face unique challenges in protecting our natural and cultural resources. Expand access to Tools for Local Governments to reinforce the front line against urban sprawl.

Thank you!



fees can be assessed. The bills, HB 4313 and SB 252 respectively, haven't yet had their first hearings. At the same time, the Governor's Department of Environmental Quality budget proposal eliminates all taxpayer subsidies for several regulatory programs, demanding new or increased permit fees to pay for the programs or risk having them revert to the federal government. The initiatives were met immediately by opposition from manufacturers who object to any fees for permits.

Proposed fees for the more than 1,500 water quality permits under the Clean Water Act are being hailed by environmental organizations, who note that only one other Great Lakes state continues to give away permits for polluting waterways. Environmental groups praised Meisner, Brater and the Granholm Administration for recommending permit fees designed to reward pollution reduction, and called for any measure enacted to be based on the amount and toxicity of the wastes. Sierra Club joined Clean Water Action, PIRGIM, Michigan Environmental Council and others in demanding that fee levels also be adequate to make up for gross underfunding of the programs over the past decade. Debate on these measures is expected this spring and summer; the budget bill must pass before the beginning of FY 2004.

*For information about Sierra Club's Legislative Program, including volunteering, contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office at [daniel.farough@sierraclub.org](mailto:daniel.farough@sierraclub.org).*

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Lansing, MI 48906

Please fill in this form and mail it in an envelope to Sierra Club, 109 East Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI 48906.

The cards will be delivered to the Michigan Land Use Leadership Council as they continue their deliberations over the next few months.

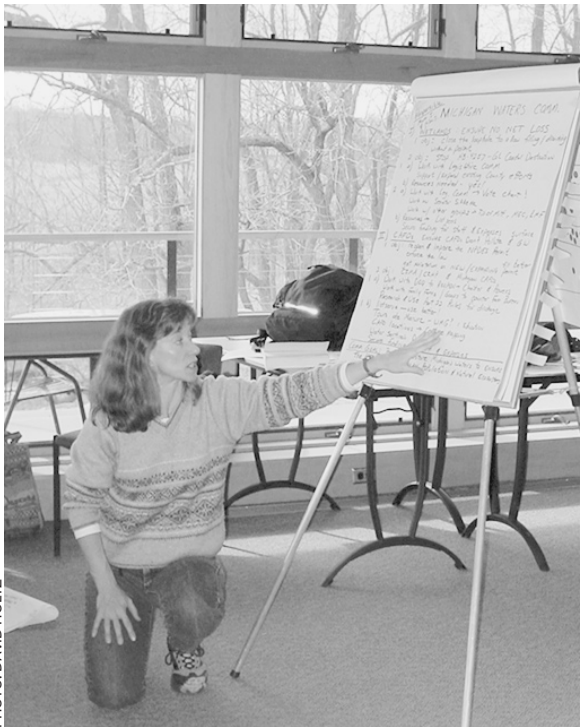


PHOTO: DAVID HOLTZ

Rita Jack leads a discussion of water strategy at a Sierra Club retreat.

## Michigan Waters Committee Organizes

by Rita Jack, Water Sentinels Project Director

The Great Lakes Committee has become the Michigan Waters Committee. At the April Mackinac Chapter Strategic Planning meeting in Hastings, members of the Great Lakes Committee acknowledged that because the Great Lakes are downstream from many threats, it makes sense to focus attention on inland waters as well, including wetlands, inland lakes, and rivers and streams.

Among the many water issues on which the Mackinac Chapter is currently working:

- The Great Lakes coastal bottomlands destruction bill
- Getting the Velsicol Chemical Superfund and Total Petroleum Oil Refinery sites on the Pine River cleaned up
- Monitoring water quality downstream from concentrated animal feeding operations
- The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality budget and water permit fees
- Water privatization
- Wetlands issues

Please join us in these and other efforts! To join the Michigan Waters Committee, send email to [rita.jack@sierraclub.org](mailto:rita.jack@sierraclub.org) or call 517-484-2372, or contact committee Chair Mark Janeczko at [ravenhillacres@i2k.com](mailto:ravenhillacres@i2k.com). The committee will announce a meeting time and location soon. Check out the Mackinac Chapter calendar at <http://michigan.sierraclub.org>.



PHOTO COURTESY RITA JACK

**October 12, 2002: Water sentinel Bill Leichner of Saginaw collects a core sediment sample from the Pine River in Alma, Michigan.**

## **VOLUNTEER TO HELP MONITOR & DOCUMENT WATER QUALITY**

**The nation is focusing much attention on homeland security, protecting our way of life and promoting volunteerism. In Michigan, our way of life includes enjoying our water resources—we fish, swim and boat, and every hotel and bed & breakfast owner will tell you that our tourist industry is dependent on our clean, fresh water.**

In these days of state budget deficits and cuts in Michigan Department of Environmental Quality field staff, it is more important than ever for dedicated volunteers to step forward. As volunteers, we can provide the eyes, ears and noses to help monitor water quality in our communities.

The Michigan Sierra Club Water Sentinels project is growing—and volunteers are stepping forward all over the state. Yet we need more of you! The project needs more volunteers to help take water samples and deliver them to labs; to help find and map locations of concentrated animal feeding operations; and even to help take the lead on organizing the largest of these efforts.

To help, contact Rita Jack at 517-484-2372 or [rita.jack@sierraclub.org](mailto:rita.jack@sierraclub.org).

# **Michigan's Waters Need Our Help**

by Rita Jack, Water Sentinels Project Director

**T**he Bush Administration's policy to remove Clean Water Act (CWA) protections from "isolated waters that are intrastate and non-navigable" will reverse 30 years of water quality progress. In January 2003 the Bush administration issued an immediate policy guidance to remove from CWA jurisdiction many of our nation's "isolated" streams, ponds and wetlands—those not visibly connected to major rivers and lakes.

To make matters worse, January also saw the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers issue an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning the CWA's definition of "waters of the United States." The agencies claim the Supreme Court's 2001 decision on CWA jurisdiction in *Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (SWANCC)* prompted these actions to establish regulatory clarity. But these policies go far beyond the limits established by the Court and threaten the CWA's goals of restoring and protecting all the nation's waters.

### **WATERS AT RISK**

At risk are many types of wetlands, natural ponds, small creeks and streams, as well as waterways that dry up part of the year or that are too small or rocky to use for boating. An additional category of vulnerable waters is man-made conveyances that connect to waterways, such as canals, culverts, drainage ditches and pipes—a high percentage of which exist in Michigan's agricultural areas.

### **WHAT HAPPENS IF WE FAIL TO PROTECT OUR WATERS?**

If we as concerned citizens and activists don't stand up for our waters now, it is only inevitable that more waters will be polluted. Almost half of Michigan's rivers, lakes and coastal estuaries are already unsafe for fishing, swimming or boating. Community drinking water sources will be threatened, and treatment costs to remove pollutants will increase. Further, the public's health faces serious threats from contact with bacteria, pathogens and toxics in waters no longer protected from discharges.

You can also add to this scenario an increase in flooding (as filled-in wetlands—nature's sponges—are no longer able to absorb excess water); depletion of our many aquifers (which are recharged via playa lakes and wetlands); and further destruction of an already endangered wildlife habitat that depends on wetlands for its survival.

### **WHAT CAN WE DO?**

Contact your senators and representatives. Urge them to protect all waters of the United States. For more information, see [www.sierraclub.org/cleanwater](http://www.sierraclub.org/cleanwater), or contact the Mackinac Chapter at [mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org) or at 517-484-2372.

## **BLACK PARROT PADDLING, LLC.**



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**Pinckney, Michigan**



# Ridding Michigan's Waterways of Animal Waste

by David Holtz, Southeast Michigan Media Coordinator

Exiting I-94 onto US 127 south toward the Michigan-Ohio border on a brilliant early spring day, it doesn't take a great leap of faith to believe you have crossed over into an earthly heaven. The rolling hills, sprawling pastures and quiet beauty speak to the soul. But for residents of Hillsdale and Lenawee counties, this pastoral scenery masks an environmental nightmare that has turned area waterways into what one local farmer calls "a stinking cesspool."



PHOTO: DAVID HOLTZ



PHOTO: LYNN HENNING

**Top: Janet Kauffman, Lynn Henning and Kathy Melmoth.**

**Above: A drain in Lenawee County on March 19, 2003 at 8:20 p.m. The water should be clear, but is full of manure instead.**

In just five short years, a herd of 10 huge animal factories, with thousands of confined livestock, rode into Hillsdale and Lenawee counties, following a trail of Republican-inspired deregulation of factory farms in Michigan. This international industrial farming juggernaut has turned portions of the River Raisin watershed into a sewer of feces and urine. Two of the largest concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) in Hillsdale County—owned by the Dutch-based conglomerate Vreba-Hoff dairies—have more than 4,000 confined livestock that produce an estimated 43 million gallons a year of manure and milkhouse waste.

Like other CAFOs, animals at Vreba-Hoff that spend their entire lives in buildings have their pathogen-laced waste dumped outdoors into lagoons and spread over tilled fields upland of creeks, rivers and lakes.

All of this has created a backlash from local farmers like Lynn Henning of Lenawee County, who began taking notice about the time the Henning Drain—named after her family—became a sewer pipe for animal waste.

"I took an interest because people started asking questions at the neighborhood grocery store," she said. "People wondered what was going on here. I got actively involved because I am a farmer; I live in the neighborhood."

What was going on was politics on a grand scale that left communities like Henning's unprotected. Under pressure from the indus-

try's lobby, the Michigan Farm Bureau, the Engler administration and the Legislature passed a new Right to Farm Bill in 1999 that tossed out local zoning controls and substituted voluntary programs housed in the agriculture industry's favorite bureaucracy—the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

At the same time the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality was effectively benched when it came to enforcing the Clean Water Act's pollution rules on factory farms. Large factory farms—with an eye toward profits—were now disposing of animal wastes by spreading liquefied manure over tilled fields that have a tendency to drain into waterways.

The results were telling, said Anne Woiwode, Sierra Club's Mackinac Chapter director. "The kinds of complaints we heard were of people spreading manure a foot thick on fields, people dumping dead cows in swamps, people dumping waste," she said. "Because of the water monitoring we have done, it is absolutely crystal clear that spreading manure waste with field tiles underneath them is a source of pollution in waterways."

That all of this began to take place in November 1999 as Hurricane Floyd swept through eastern North Carolina seems more than ironic. Thousands of dead hogs and manure from that state's then unregulated animal factories triggered highly publicized massive waste spills, fish kills, and contaminated drinking water as huge hog farm waste

## NOVEMBER, 1999

The Michigan Legislature adopts a new Right To Farm bill that continues "voluntary" programs within the Michigan Department of Agriculture to control animal wastes at factory farms and removes all local zoning and controls over mega-farms.

## SEPTEMBER, 2000

Eleven months after Sierra Club challenges Michigan's Clean Water Act status with the EPA, the federal agency notifies the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality that Michigan's water quality programs at factory farms are "seriously lacking."

## MAY, 2001

U.S. EPA orders Michigan to begin complying with the Clean Water Act's requirement that factory farms be regulated for water quality.

## 1999

Sierra Club and other environmental groups file petition with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) asking that authority for enforcing the Clean Water Act be removed from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) because of failure to comply with clean water laws.

## 2000

**NOVEMBER, 2000**  
Walnutdale Farms in Wayland, MI is sued by the Sierra Club in federal court for pollution-related violations of the Clean Water Act.

## 2001

**APRIL, 2001**  
Sierra Club sues River Ridge Farms Inc. of Coopersville, MI for repeated violations of the Clean Water Act.

lagoons overflowed. So while North Carolina's governor was refusing to allow hog facilities to be rebuilt in the aftermath of Floyd, Michigan's governor was swinging the barn door wide open to globalization's latest entry—international mega-farming.

The result was that three years later, in May, 2001—after being petitioned by the Sierra Club and other environmental groups—the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency concluded that Michigan's voluntary water quality policy for factory farms posed "a threat to the public health and water quality." Michigan, the Great Lakes State, was now facing the embarrassment of having the feds take over Clean Water Act enforcement in the state.

While the mega-farm industry has plowed a deep trench in Michigan with as many as 300 or more animal factories, the Sierra Club's success at getting the EPA to force the state to agree to begin permitting animal factories under the Clean Water Act was—and is—significant. A combination of lobbying, lawsuits, citizen monitoring and the gritty determination of a handful of local farmers and activists is a textbook case of effective environmental advocacy that is beginning to produce results.

The state's deeply flawed Right to Farm Act, however, still keeps in place the voluntary programs of controlling animal wastes, but permits and inspections of factory farms by environmental regulators will eventually be required for polluting operations once the process of finding them and notifying them has been completed.

Yet until the concentrated animal feeding operations begin using effective waste treatment, Michigan's waterways will continue to be threatened. That is why the Sierra Club has asked that a moratorium be placed on allowing new factory farms to locate in Michigan. It's

**The Sierra Club is a volunteer organization that needs your help to clean up Michigan's waters and make a difference in the animal factory waste issue. You can find out how to help by contacting Sierra Club's Volunteer Coordinator Kathy Boutin-Pasterz at [mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org).**

**The Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan and the Sierra Club would also appreciate your financial support. Contact the Lansing office or write the Club's development associate, Sarah Baker, at [sarah.baker@sierraclub.org](mailto:sarah.baker@sierraclub.org).**

also why during a recent weekend strategy session, 40 Sierra Club volunteer leaders and staff ranked water quality as the club's top concern in Michigan and voted to continue the battle to clean up the state's dirtiest little secret—the CAFO factory farms.

If there were any doubt of the need for continued vigilance, it ended in early March. With spring thaws, local residents in southern Michigan this year witnessed a torrent of animal feces and urine flowing from at least six factory farm fields into the headwaters of Lake Erie.

Local residents, however, didn't just watch as their waterways were illegally polluted; they took action. Water samples were scooped up at drains, creeks and rivers, then scientifically tested for contaminants with funding from Sierra Club (one drain tested at 35,000 times the allowable limit for E coli).

Additionally, volunteers documented many Clean Water Act violations. The most dramatic: farm machines captured on videotape as they dumped silage leachate—feed waste—onto a hill near a county drain at one Vreba-Hoff animal factory.

All of this material was collected and published over the internet by a trio of smart, savvy Sierra Club members who helped spearhead a group called Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan (ECCSCM).

ECCSCM's founders—Janet Kauffman, Kathy Melmoth and Lenawee County's Henning—all live on farms, but their roots spread wide. Kauffman, a writer and university instructor, was raised on a tobacco farm in Pennsylvania and has been planted in the soil nearly ever since. Melmoth grew up in the Detroit suburbs, has farmed part-time since 1986, but in 1991 quit her nursing job to farm full time with her husband in Hillsdale County. Henning's folks ran a party store in Deerfield, Michigan, where she met her husband, a life-long farmer, 23 years ago. Together they work a 300-acre farm.

Melmoth said that since Engler left office she has seen a change in attitude on the part of the state—a willingness to enforce pollution laws and levy fines. "We get responses from people at the higher levels," she said.

But no one in the Granholm administration has promised to stop the influx of mega-farms, said Melmoth. Kauffman said that until these large factory farms, which produce as much waste as cities, begin using waste treatment systems, farming communities will continue to see their rivers, streams and lakes degraded.

"What really needs to happen is a push to change the system," she said.

*For more information on animal factory pollution please visit the Sierra Club at <http://michigan.sierraclub.org> or go to ECCSCM's site: [www.nocafos.org](http://www.nocafos.org).*

#### JANUARY, 2002

Under pressure from the EPA, the MDEQ agrees to abandon its policy of voluntary compliance with the Clean Water Act and says it will begin regulating factory farms for water quality.

#### MAY, 2002

National Wildlife Federation and Sierra Club bring lawsuits against Hartland Farms and Mericam Dairy for violations of the Clean Water Act.

#### JANUARY, 2003

A permitting system for factory farms under the Clean Water Act goes into effect but it will take up to three years before facilities can be required to obtain permits.

2002

2003

#### AUGUST, 2001

Sierra Club sends warning letters to 92 of Michigan's largest factory farms, telling them they could face lawsuits and fines if they fail to comply with the Clean Water Act.

#### JUNE, 2002

Sierra Club settles its lawsuit with River Ridge Farms after the animal factory owners agree to implement immediate water quality improvements.

#### FEBRUARY, 2003

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality issues fines totaling \$30,000 against two Vreba-Hoff factories in Hudson.

# Shop to Stop Sprawl!

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

**- Carl Pope, Sierra Club Executive Director**

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

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

To join the program, just mail in the



order form below with your check. You'll get EarthCash vouchers of equal value for the stores you select. Then you spend the vouchers (accepted nationwide) just as if they're cash. You can return unused vouchers for a refund if you're not completely satisfied.

For more information, please contact Michael Sklar by phone at (734) 717-8040 or by email at [mssklar@comcast.net](mailto:mssklar@comcast.net).

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

**- Gwen Nystuen**

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

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

	\$5	\$10	\$20	\$25	\$50	\$100
<b>Ann Arbor People's Food Co-op</b>						
<b>Arbor Farms</b>						
<b>Borders Books &amp; Music</b>						
<b>Busch's</b>						
<b>Farmer Jack (and affiliated stores)</b>						
<b>Hiller's Markets</b>						
<b>Holiday Market (Royal Oak)</b>						
<b>Kroger (and affiliated stores)</b>						
<b>Meijer (store and gas station)</b>						
<b>Whole Foods (and affiliated stores)</b>						

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

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



# WildernessSkills

## TOOLS FOR ROAD TRIPS GONE BAD

by Michael A. Neiger

Sooner or later, if you drive a rugged back road in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, your vehicle ends up stuck in a mud hole or hung up on a rock. Naturally, your cell phone is going to be out of range, and since help will likely be miles away, it's wise to plan ahead and stow essential wood tools in your vehicle before your next road trip.

### SHARP SHOVEL

A spade or round-point shovel will allow you to do some serious digging, as well as fill in ruts and holes. Sharpen the blade with a file so it will be easy to dig with as well as chop roots. A shovel with a long, sturdy handle is best, since it affords better leverage when prying. It can also reach further under a vehicle.

### BOW SAW

Carry a large, 36-inch bow saw for removing trees that block your route. To prevent accidents, always use a scabbard to protect an exposed saw blade.

### SINGLE-BIT AXE

For chopping, splitting, and de-limbing trees, carry a good-quality axe with a 3.5-pound head. The hammerhead on a single-bit-style axe is useful for heavy-duty pounding. Like the saw, protect the business end of the axe with an edge guard or leather sheath. A light coating of oil will prevent it from rusting.

### PORTABLE, HAND-OPERATED WINCH

A portable, hand-operated, steel- or cast-iron-framed winch can snatch a vehicle from a mud hole with surprising ease.

High tension winching can be dangerous, so be careful. Always wear gloves and safety glasses, and make sure every component of the winch setup, from the anchor points at both ends, to the cables, chain, straps and connectors in-between, are adequately rated. If a tree is used as an anchor point, always use a nylon strap around it. Don't wrap a cable or chain around a tree, as it will injure or kill it.

### HEAVY-DUTY TRUCK JACK

Sold under a variety of names including "Hi-Lift," "Handyman," and "Jack-All," these long, stout jacks are essential for lifting a

vehicle that's hung up on a rock or stump, or that's broken through the wooden deck of an aging bridge. The most useful models can lift a 7,000-pound load over four feet. A thick, flat block of wood makes a good base in muddy areas. Most of these heavy-duty jacks are designed to double as strong, in-line winches too. I never stray very far from a paved road without mine.

### TOW STRAP OR CHAIN

For maximum flexibility, carry an assortment of 10- to 20-foot-long, heavy-duty cables, chains, and tow straps. The more the better since your vehicle may be located a good distance from a suitable anchor point.

### SURVIVAL KIT IN DAY PACK

Keep a well-stocked, oversized day pack in your vehicle in case you are forced to spend the night or have to walk out. Your pack should contain a sturdy knife, matches, fire starters, candle, flashlight with spare batteries, basic first-aid kit, compass, map, whistle, warm clothing, rain gear, water bottle, small cook pot, long-lasting snacks, small PVC tarp and 100 feet of tarp-rigging rope. In cold weather, be sure to stow a sleeping bag in your vehicle.

### SPARE TIRE

Once you've assembled your equipment and stowed it securely, check to make sure your vehicle has a full-sized spare tire, properly inflated, and an appropriate-sized lug nut wrench. It's also a good idea to carry a set of long jumper cables and a small toolbox containing an assortment of repair tools and parts. Of course, you should always let a responsible person know where you're going and when you plan to return. With a little forethought

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

**The Sierra Club reminds readers to drive vehicles only on properly designated roadways. If you use off-road vehicle trails, comply with state and federal laws, including obtaining a state ORV permit and complying with "closed unless posted open" policies. Michigan's public and private forests are full of illegal roadways that damage habitat and sensitive ecosystems, threaten water and air quality, increase risks of human-caused forest fires and interfere with recreational enjoyment of Michigan's wild places.**

and some planning before your next road trip to the Upper Peninsula, you can prevent an adventure from becoming a survival situation.

See you in the bush.

*Michael Neiger is a wilderness trip leader with the Michigan Sierra Club's Central Upper Peninsula Group. Visit his website, The RuckSack (<http://therucksack.tripod.com>) for bush skills info, trip photo-journals, and upcoming adventures. He welcomes your comments and opinions at [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com), or 313 Jonathan Carver Road, Marquette, Michigan 49855.*

# Group Meetings & Programs

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: <http://michigan.sierraclub.org>. [E] = educational content, [C] = conservation focus.

## 2003 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.

SUMMER EX-COM..... July 11-13, Leelanau State Park

FALL EX-COM..... October 4, Flint

WINTER EX-COM..... January 9-11, 2004

## 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: 5:30pm for supper (small donation requested), monthly meeting at 6:15, 3rd Monday. Harris Nature Center, off Van Atta Road in Meridian Township. Pete Pasterz, 517-676-3339.

5/19 Program at 6pm. County Commissioner Marc Thomas and Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann: "Wetland Protection." Bring beverage and tableware for supper at 5:30.

6/16 Picnic at Eastgate Meridian Park. We'll have a charcoal fire; bring food and beverage.

July No meeting.

8/18 Picnic at Lake Lansing North, Oak Knoll Shelter. We'll have a fire going; bring food, beverage and tableware.

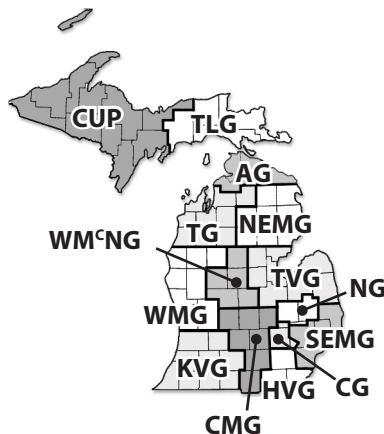
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: 5:30pm monthly, 2nd Monday. Maria Lapinski-LaFaive, 517-374-4444, [mlapinsk@wmich.edu](mailto:mlapinsk@wmich.edu).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Monthly, 1st Monday. Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796.

## CUP: Central Upper Peninsula Group Central and western counties in the Upper Peninsula

GENERAL MEETINGS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 7pm in Community Room, Peter White Library in Marquette. John Rebers, 906-228-3617, [jrebers@nmu.edu](mailto:jrebers@nmu.edu).

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



## Group boundaries of the Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club

## CG: Crossroads Group

<http://michigan.sierraclub.org/xroads>

Livingston, southern Genesee and western Oakland Counties

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7pm monthly at Brighton District Library, 200 Orndorff Dr, Brighton.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Monthly. Cheryl McConnell, Conservation Chair, 517-552-1464.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Monthly. Co-Chairs: Lorne Beatty, 810-632-7766; Rick Pearsall, 810-227-6298.

## HVG: Huron Valley Group

<http://mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro>

HVG Hotline: 734-480-7751

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7:30pm monthly, 3rd Tuesday, at UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor. Non-members welcome!

HVG BOOK CLUB: 7:30pm monthly, 2nd Tuesday at Nicola's Books in Westgate Shopping Center, Ann Arbor. Small group book discussion about nature or the environment. Call 734-332-0207.

CONSERVATION TEAM: 7pm monthly, 4th Monday. Dave Brooks, 734-475-9851; Nancy Shiffler, 734-971-1157.

5/20 [C,E] "Preserving Urban Nature in U-M's Nichols Arboretum" presented by Bob Grese, Director of the University of Michigan's Nichols Arboretum.

6/17 [C,E] Topic to be announced. Presenter, Bobbi Low of the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment.

7/15 [E] Tentative program: "Three Tours of the Matthaei Botanical Gardens: Forest, Stream, and Greenhouse."

## KVG: Kalamazoo Valley Group

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7:30pm monthly, 3rd Thursday, at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Texas Twp Campus, Room 4370. Mike Johnson, 616-948-8840.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 7:30pm monthly, 2nd Wednesday. Verne & Cindy Mills, 616-344-4279.

## NG: Nepessing Group

<http://michigan.sierraclub.org/nepessing>

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7pm, monthly, 2nd Wednesday, at Mott Community College in "New Students" Prah Building, Genesee Room, 1401 E Court St, Flint. Free parking, refreshments. Linda Berker, 810-653-8242, [lberker@earthlink.net](mailto:lberker@earthlink.net).

No general meetings in July and December.

## 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

<http://michigan.sierraclub.org/semg>

GENERAL MEETINGS: 6:30 or 7pm monthly, Sept-June, 1st Thursday, at Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy (southbound M-10 service drive) between Southfield & Evergreen and Nine & Ten Mile in Southfield. Carol Izant, 248-352-6137, [cogknot@yahoo.com](mailto:cogknot@yahoo.com).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 7:30pm monthly, 2nd Thursday at 2727 Second Avenue, Detroit. Jim Nash, 248-471-3759, [nashlibdem@msn.com](mailto:nashlibdem@msn.com).

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

OUTINGS COMMITTEE: Quarterly planning meetings. Outings Chair Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873, [wanderphil3@netzero.net](mailto:wanderphil3@netzero.net); Outings Coordinator Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE: 6:30pm monthly, last Thursday, at Jim's Restaurant on Washington, one block



TAKING TURNS DURING THE APRIL MACKINAC CHAPTER STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT IN HASTINGS, MICHIGAN. PHOTO: RITA JACK

north of Lincoln (10-1/2 Mile), Royal Oak. Tim Killeen, Political Chair, 313-526-4052, [timk@bikerider.com](mailto:timk@bikerider.com).

**6/5** Celebrate UN-designated World Environment Day. This year's theme is WATER. Lake Michigan Federation's Cheryl Mendoza will discuss the global water crisis, how it affects us and issues related to Great Lakes water diversion. Sweet Water Alliance has an update on Ice Mountain. Discussion on latest plans for a Detroit regional water authority and possible privatization. Members & friends are invited to bring potluck for meal at 6:30. Beverages provided.

No general meetings in July & August.

### **TLG: Three Lakes Group**

Upper Peninsula counties of Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac and Schoolcraft

GENERAL MEETINGS: Monthly Sept-May, 1st Wednesday, at Walker Cisler Center on the Lake Superior State University campus. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [rblanchard@LSSU.edu](mailto: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**

<http://michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse>

GENERAL MEETINGS: 1-3pm monthly, 2nd Saturday, Traverse Area District Library, 610 Woodmere Ave, Traverse City. Monica, 231-325-6812; Lynn, 248-547-0842.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Meetings held following general meetings.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: 1-3pm monthly, 4th Sunday, Horizon Books, downstairs café, downtown Traverse City. Monica, 231-325-6812.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE: Monica, 231-325-6812.

OUTINGS COMMITTEE: John Lewis, 231-947-9104; Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344, [deana@elmo.nmc.edu](mailto:deana@elmo.nmc.edu).

### **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**

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7pm monthly, 2nd Thursday, at downtown YMCA, 33 Library NE, Grand Rapids. Craig Ressler, 616-891-9330, [craig\\_ressler@yahoo.com](mailto:craig_ressler@yahoo.com).

# Preserve The Future.

**N**ot 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:

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



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phone: 586.776.2540 • fax: 586.776.2620  
toll-free: 888.283.4447

## **Thank You Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club Members!**

The work you do each day on behalf of our environment adds real meaning to my work as a Socially Responsible Investment Advocate.

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# MackinacChapterOutings

**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.**

## May

**5/14 WMG Wildflower Walk.** 6pm. Meet at Aman Park (off Lake Michigan Dr, west of Standale). Dinner after. Paula Ballast & Joan Conway. Paula, 231-861-6548, [logcabinballast@aol.com](mailto:logcabinballast@aol.com).

**5/16 NG Davison Lake Full Moon Hike & Tailgate Party.** 7pm. 4-5 easy miles. Ortonville Recreation Area. Bring flashlight, beverage, snacks, chairs, music. Vehicle permit required. Cindy Engelmann, 810-715-0660.

**5/16-18 SEMG [E] Backpack South Manitou.** Base-camp & dayhiking. Learn history of island & ID emerging leaves & wildflowers. \$45 fee covers ferry, National Park fees, camping. Register by 5/1; limit 8. Bring equipment & food. Prepare for cool, wet weather. 8am ferry from Leland. Mary Powell, 810-732-3884, [powell\\_mm@hotmail.com](mailto:powell_mm@hotmail.com).

**5/17 CG [T] Howell Nature Center Construction project.** We'll build an enclosure for Nature Center's Barred Owl, Black Crowned Night Heron & Snowy Egret. Karen Pierce, 810-227-8521, [karenpierce@comcast.net](mailto:karenpierce@comcast.net). (Date is tentative.)

**5/17 WMG & KVG Canoe Upper Branch of Kalamazoo River.** Rich Koster, 269-353-5960, [richkoster2@aol.com](mailto:richkoster2@aol.com).

**5/18 SEMG [E] Kensington Bird Watch Hike.** 9am. Learn best areas for nesting residents. Bring binoculars; ID osprey, blue herons, sandhill cranes, swans, ducks. 3 easy woods & wetlands miles. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd. Restaurant stop. Jean Gramlich, 248-646-4113; Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

**5/18-24 CUP [T] Women's Canoe/Service Trip to Sylvania Wilderness.** Trail & campsite maintenance in pristine wilderness dotted with jewel-like lakes, primeval woods. Cost: \$90; \$141 w/canoe rental. Kate Cunningham, 502-339-1381, [kate.cunningham@juno.com](mailto:kate.cunningham@juno.com); Sherry Zoars, 906-358-1110, [thezoars@excite.com](mailto:thezoars@excite.com). Include name & where you read the announcement. Co-sponsored by Central Upper Peninsula, River Prairie Group in IL & Louisville, KY groups.

**5/19 TG [E] Return to Empire Bluffs, mecca of wildflower enthusiasts.** 10am. Local wildflower expert & former National Park Service Ranger Pam Smith leads walk (round trip 1.5 miles). M22, right on Wilco Road to parking lot. Andrea Dean, 231-9479344; John Lewis, 231-947-9104, [johnbetty@bignetnorth.net](mailto:johnbetty@bignetnorth.net).

**5/22-26 [C] HVG North Manitou Island Service Trip.** Memorial Day on North Manitou Island, part of Sleep-

ing Bear Dune National Lakeshore. One work day & one free day to enjoy the island, a designated wilderness with sand dunes, wildflower meadows, forest & unspoiled beaches. \$48/person; limit 16. 734-482-9686.

**5/24 SEMG [E] Raisin River Wilderness Canoe.** 8:30am. Raisin headwaters are most wild & "crookedest" in MI. Tricky, twisty, but gentle 4-5 hour float through forests, millpond, downtown Manchester. Some canoe experience necessary. Bring river lunch. Meet in Livonia between WalMart & Jiffy Lube (near Jeffries) on SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96. \$18 fee by 5/12. Philip Crookshank, 17916 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, MI 48125. 313-562-1873.

**5/25 CMG Canoe Grand River.** 10am. Rent canoes at Burchfield Park. County drives us upstream for canoe back to the Park. Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796 (H), [schuur@msu.edu](mailto:schuur@msu.edu).

**5/24-26 NG Manistee River Trail Backpacking.** Difficult. Meet Sat 9:30am at Seaton Creek campground trailhead. M-55 west of Cadillac to M-37, north 9 miles. West on 26 Rd (near Yuma) 1.7 miles. Right on Forest Service Rd 4993 0.4 miles to trailhead. 8 miles Sat, 12 miles Sun, 3 miles Mon. Reservations required. Don Persson. 810-257-7441(d), 810-695-0516(e), [donald.persson@delphiauto.com](mailto:donald.persson@delphiauto.com).

**5/24-6/1 CUP [E] Remote Advanced-level Backpacking: 17th Annual Canadian Backpacking Expedition, Lake Superior Provincial Park (Wawa, Ontario).** 9 days exploring heart of the Park, from Lake Superior, up & across Sand River to Calvin Falls & Lady Evelyn Falls, on to Agawa Canyon & Parch Creek Falls. Return via ACR bush train. Very strenuous, non-basecamp, deep-water river fords/swims; no hiking trails, 100% bushwhack, jeep trails, RR grade. Instruction in tarp rigging, land navigation & trout fishing with survival rig. Must be: 18, non-smoker, very experienced backpacker (5 recent trips), very physically fit (good aerobic endurance), bug-loving, swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped, including bivouac gear, stove & 10-day ration load. 8am Sat to mid-day Sun. \$20 plus permits, train fare, fishing license. Visit <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com).

**5/31 SEMG [E] Basic Backpacking Seminar.** 10am-2pm. Interested in backpacking & want a source for low-cost hiking & backpacking trips? Speakers & gear demonstrations cover all aspects of basic backpacking, Sierra Outings program & Spring/Summer trips. Woman's perspective included. Information & resource booklet. Eastern Mountain Sports, Farming-

ton Hills. Registration & \$10 fee by 5/16. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313, [johnherrgott@hotmail.com](mailto:johnherrgott@hotmail.com); Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873, [wanderphil3@netzero.net](mailto:wanderphil3@netzero.net).

**5/31 TG [C] Hike Boardman River in Traverse City to Sabin Dam & back to YMCA.** 10am. Join birdwatchers & environmentalists Bob Carstens & Pauline McClure in serene & sensitive area, site of the proposed & potentially destructive Hartman/Hammond bridge. South side of Traverse City, take S Airport Rd; turn south on Racquet Club Drive to YMCA parking lot. Bob Carstens, 231-938-5976.

**5/31 SEMG [C,E] Detroit Riverfront Tour.** 1pm. Tour river's edge & focus on conservation of this great resource, transit issues, maintaining green space & greenways project. See "Dequindre Cut," last rail link to downtown & learn about soft engineering approach to riverbank stabilization. Meet at Stroh's River Place. East on Jefferson Ave to Joseph Campau, past River Place development, park on river. Restaurant stop. Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

## June

**6/1-6/7 TLG North Country Trail Backpack Adventure.** Hike from Tahquomenon Falls to Grand Marias. Be prepared for mosquitoes. Cost includes food, camping permits, extraneous expenses. Limit 10. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [rblanchard@LSSU.edu](mailto:rblanchard@LSSU.edu).

**6/1 SEMG [E] River Bend County Park.** Noon. Explore Clinton River Valley on marked & unmarked trails. tour nature center, 5-mile moderate hike of river's edge & hardwood forests, visit heron rookery. Meet in Sterling Heights at Metro Pkwy (16 Mile Rd) & Van Dyke (SE corner) in SMART parking lot between banks. Peter Wehrli, 586-293-2937; Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

**6/6 NG [T] Ligon Overnight Campout & Service Outing.** 5pm Fri to 5pm Sat. Ligon Outdoor Center, 5213 E Farrand Rd, Clio. Denny Crispell, 989-624-5038.

**6/6-8 HVG [E] Annual Au Sable River Canoe Trip.** Canoe both days, camp at same spot both nights. ID marsh marigolds, signs of beavers & eagles. Good for beginners. 734-428-0887.

**6/7 WMG [E] "Trail Days" Hike.** Join North Country Trail Association for walks along local section of the Trail. Choose from long, short, or family-oriented, naturalist-led hikes. Starting at 9:30am in downtown Lowell, shuttles take hikers to trail. Lisa Symons, 616-942-6549, [greensymons@yahoo.com](mailto:greensymons@yahoo.com).



JOHN HERRGOTT LEADS A BACKPACKING SEMINAR GIVEN BY THE SEMG OUTINGS COMMITTEE. PHOTO: SHARON TACKABURY

**6/7 SEMG Hines Drive Bike Ride.** 10am. 20-25 miles on paved paths of Hines Drive, Dearborn to Northville & back. 11-13mph moderate pace following middle Rouge River, wetlands & Newburgh Lake. Bring water & picnic lunch. Dress for weather. Meet in Dearborn at Parkland Picnic area on Hines Drive between Ford Road & Outer Drive. Mary Stoolmiller, 248-879-6004.

**6/7-8 SEMG [E] Hoist Lakes Footpath Backpack.** For beginner & experienced backpacker. Soft trails, sink holes, beaver, bald eagles, other wildlife. Low-mileage high-instructional outing; leader willing to mentor novices. Must have all equipment. Leave 6am. Sat. Two days hiking, one night backcountry camping. Limit 8. Reserve by 5/24. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313, [johnherrgott@hotmail.com](mailto:johnherrgott@hotmail.com).

**6/13-15 TLG Mighty Manistique Canoe Adventure.** Manistique River challenges adventurous canoeists on wild stretch from Germfask to Manistique. Cost: ~\$75 for canoe rental & transportation from outfitters & back. Limit 10. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [rblanchard@LSSU.edu](mailto:rblanchard@LSSU.edu).

**6/14 WMG Walk with Kathy Carlisle at Hardy Dam.** Meet at 10:45 at lot off US-131 (by the Whitecaps' Fifth-Third Ballpark). Bring your dog. RSVP Kathy, 616-453-4085, [skyeeyes05@aol.com](mailto:skyeeyes05@aol.com).

**6/14-15 NG Shingle Mill Pathway Beginners' Backpacking.** Easy. Meet 9:30am Sat at trailhead. 7 miles Sat, 4 miles Sun. Flat trail, perfect for beginners. Van-

derbilt, I-75 to Exit 290. Left at blinking light on Sturgeon Valley Rd, 10 miles to trailhead at Pigeon Bridge. Don Persson. 810-257-7441(d), 810-695-0516(e), [Donald.persson@delphiauto.com](mailto:Donald.persson@delphiauto.com).

**6/15 SEMG Canoe Upper Huron.** 10am. 3-hour trip starts below dam in Island Lake State Park. Dress for weather, bring dry bag for extra clothes & lunch. \$17 for canoe fees must be received by 6/2. 32856 Harmon Dr, Roseville, MI 48066. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789.

**6/21 TG [C] Join Monica Evans for a hike into Trapp Family Nature Preserve, just outside Beulah.** Cold Creek, magnificent poplars, cedars & hemlocks. 115 acre preserve includes valuable wetlands that protect Cold Creek & Crystal Lake. Potluck picnic at pavilion on Crystal Lake Beach. 1/4 mile east off US-31 from Beulah to Narrow Gauge Road. Park in designated lot. Monica, 231-325-6812, for times & to confirm.

**6/21 SEMG Queen Elizabeth Garden in Jackson Park, Windsor.** 10:30am. Lovely formal garden. 2 hours, easy, flat. Meet in Troy behind Standard Federal Bank on 14 Mile Rd east of I-75 (south edge of Oakland Mall). Call if weather is questionable. Optional restaurant stop. Micky Middler, 248-340-0969; Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

**6/22-6/28 TLG Eastern UP Bicycle Tour.** Experience eastern UP from a unique vantage point, the seat of a

see *OUTINGS*, page 20

## Sierra Student Coalition Summer Programs

Some teenagers lounge around and swim the summer away. Others get a summer job and spend their time scooping ice cream cones or bussing tables at the local coffee shop. A few learn how to change the world.

The Sierra Student Coalition (SSC) holds week-long summer leadership training programs that are a much-welcomed alternative—affordable summer camps with a purpose whose duration never precludes lounging pool-side or getting a summer job.

The SSC provides high school and college students with one of the most inspiring, instructive, and energizing weeks of their lives. The programs are an intense week of learning the skills essential to becoming an effective student environmental activist and leader at school and in one's community.

This summer, the SSC will hold four high school and two college programs. To find out more, contact the SSC National Office for a brochure at 1-888-JOIN-SSC, or visit our website at [www.ssc.org/trainings](http://www.ssc.org/trainings), where you can apply directly online.



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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

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THE CLEAR, CHURNING WATERS OF AN UPPER PENINSULA WATERFALL. PHOTO: ANNE WOIWODE

## **OUTINGS, continued from page 19**

bicycle. Cycle around Whitefish Bay, along Lake Michigan & Lake Huron. Cost includes food, camping permits, extras. Limit 8. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [rblanchard@LSSU.edu](mailto:rblanchard@LSSU.edu).

**6/22 SEMG Heritage Park Evening Breezes.** 6pm. Hike 4 miles & enjoy park, observing evening birds. Meet in visitor center lot. West of Farmington Rd (between 10 & 11 Mile), left at first road. Possible ice cream stop. Jeanne Mercier, 313-581-6648.

**6/26-6/30 SEMG [E] North Manitou Island Backpack.** 19-mile, 3 nights backcountry camping. Explore island's historical sites & artifacts, old farm sites, pristine camp on inland lakes & Lake Michigan. Experienced or novice backpacker. Meet 8am in Leland for ferry. Limit 8. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313, [johnherrgott@hotmail.com](mailto:johnherrgott@hotmail.com).

**6/27-29 CG Howell Balloon Festival.** Help raise money for Nature Center animal enclosure that we're building. Free lemonade & T-shirt, great view of balloon launches. Paul Thielking, 810-227-6298, [PaulThielking@hotmail.com](mailto:PaulThielking@hotmail.com).

**6/28 WMG Bike along Flat River with Marty Lore.** 616-682-1316, [MMacC1@aol.com](mailto:MMacC1@aol.com).

**6/28 NG Crim Hike.** Meet at First & Saginaw St, beginning of Crim. Park in pavilion lot. Mike Haley, 810-686-6354, [thaley@gfn.org](mailto:thaley@gfn.org).

**6/29 HVG Losee Lake Trail Hike.** 1pm. Approx. 3 leisurely miles in Pinckney Rec Area. Mountain bikes prohibited. Swim after hike. Meet at Ann Arbor City Hall at 5<sup>th</sup> & Huron. Hike rain/shine. Swim canceled if rain. 313-295-6321.

**6/29 SEMG [E] Newburgh Lake Circled.** 9am. Level 2.5 hour "naturalists walk." ID plants, animals & birds. Lake was drained, excavated & contoured for fish & plant habitat in 1999 & is now showing results. Meet in Livonia at Newburgh Pointe parking lot on Hines Drive between Newburgh & Haggerty. Restaurant stop. Max Nemazi, 734-421-4397.

**6/31 NG [E] Sutherland Nature Sanctuary Tree Hike.** (Tentative) 10am-noon. Easy, leisurely walk learning to ID trees & shrub species. One mile east of Hadley, 1 mile south on Diehl Rd. Preserve is west of Diehl Rd. Meet at parking lot. Possible ice cream stop. No vehicle permit required. No dogs. Fred Townsend, 248-627-3587, [fh Townsend@aol.com](mailto:fh Townsend@aol.com).

## **July**

**7/3-8 CUP [E] Intermediate-level backpacking & basic spelunking: Grand Island, Lake Superior (Munising, Alger County, UP).** Explore 30-mile shoreline of island: hidden caves such as Low Riser,

Lantern, Ojibwa & The Cave; shipwreck visit, beaches, swimming, old growth. 40% bushwhacking. Not a basecamp trip; we trek every day. Instruction in tarp rigging & land navigation. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced hot-weather backpacker (3 recent trips), physically fit (good aerobic endurance), swimmer, adventurous, bug & fly tolerant & fully equipped (UIAA- or CEN-approved climbing helmet, bivouac gear, stove, rations, etc.). 8am Thur to midday Tues. \$10 plus ferry. Info at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com).

**7/4 NG Kayak/Canoe Murphy Lake.** 10am. Moderate. M-15 north of Millington 1 mile to Murphy Lake Rd. East on Murphy Lake 4 miles to boat launch on south. Kayak to hiking trail. Hike 3 miles & kayak to island for lunch. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304, [glorypepper@yahoo.com](mailto:glorypepper@yahoo.com).

**7/6 HVG [C] Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup.** 9:15am. Keep M-14 beautiful & make a visible & positive change locally. Meet in Ann Arbor at Big Boy on north side of Plymouth Rd between US-23 & Green Rd. Finish around noon. 734-994-7030.

**7/12 SEMG [E] Proud Lake Picnic & Moonlight Hike.** 6:30pm. Bring entrée, beverage & dish to pass. Leader provides grill. 4 miles. Leave at dusk & return when moon is high (10pm). Bring flashlight & meet at Proud Lake State Park. I-96 (exit 159). 8 miles north through Wixom, follow signs to headquarters, 1/4 mile to Powers Beach Parking lot on left. Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

**7/12 NG Crim Hike.** Details: Mike Haley, 810-686-6354, [thaley@gfn.org](mailto:thaley@gfn.org).

**7/13-7/21 TLG Quetico Provincial Park Canoe Adventure.** Trip starts at Beaverhouse Lake. Canoe & portage through series of lakes to Quetico Lake & return. Pictographs, bald eagles, osprey, moose, mosquitoes, beaver, black flies, & loons. Time for swimming, fishing, photography & bear viewing. Cost: ~\$150 from outfitters cabin & back. Limit 8. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [rblanchard@LSSU.edu](mailto:rblanchard@LSSU.edu).

**7/13 HVG Nichols Arboretum Hike.** 5 Leisurely miles. Meet at Arbor City Hall at 5<sup>th</sup> & Huron at 11am or Observatory Street entrance at 11:15. 734-994-7030.

**7/13 SEMG Grosse Ile Bike Tour.** 10am. 20-mile tour around historic island starting in downtown Wyandotte. Meet at south end of Oak Street in Bishop Park, 4 blocks south of Wyandotte General Hospital on Biddle. If rain predicted, call by 10pm Sat. Optional lunch stop. Don McHarness, 248-814-9937.

**7/13 NG Flint River Kayak/Canoe.** 1pm. Easy, 4 hours. Bring boat. One portage. Meet at Holloway Dam canoe access & fishing site. M-15 to Stanley Rd, east on Stanley Rd, east on Oak Rd to Carr Rd, north on Carr Rd to parking. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304, [glorypepper@yahoo.com](mailto:glorypepper@yahoo.com).

**7/13-19 HVG [T] North Country Trail Service Trip.** Trail maintenance & improvement on NCT in Upper Peninsula Baraga Plains. Base camp at Big Lake State Forest Campground. Meals cooked by experienced chef. Sign up for as many days as you like. Costs: \$10 plus \$10/day for food. 734-971-9013, [chm\\_powell@online.emich.edu](mailto:chm_powell@online.emich.edu).

**7/18-29 Backpacking in Tukut Nogait: Crown Jewel of North America.** Canada's newest & most remote arctic national park. Trip north of Arctic Circle corresponds with peak tundra flower season. Long days to explore spectacular Hornaday River, home to musk oxen & highest concentration of birds in Canada including hawks, eagles & falcons. Chartered flights included. Space limited. Sierra Club's Outings website: [www.sierraclub.org/outings/national/brochure/03030A.asp](http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/national/brochure/03030A.asp). Russ Taichman, 734-663-8633, [rtach@umich.edu](mailto:rtach@umich.edu).

**7/19 SEMG Proud Lake State Park Hike.** 11am. Mature woods & wetlands, approx 5 moderate miles. Goes rain/shine. Meet north of Wixom in trailhead parking lot, 1/4 mile east of Wixom Road, between Sleeth & Glengary. Optional restaurant stop. Tom Griebel, 248-349-8782.

**7/19 NG Picnic at Ligon Outdoor Center.** Noon-5pm. 5213 E Farrand Rd, Clio. Bring potluck item to share. Denny Crispell, 989-624-5038.

**7/20 SEMG Seven Lakes State Park.** 9am. 6-mile hike through woodlands & high meadows. Bring lunch & swimsuit for dip in Big Seven Lake. Meet in Bloomfield Hills behind the CVS pharmacy on SE corner of Woodward & Square Lake Rd (NE end). Or meet at park contact station 9:45am. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

**7/23 SEMG Zoo Picnic & Hike.** 5:30pm. Moderate walk around zoo, stop for picnic, then tour 'til closing at 8pm. Meet at admission gate (corner of Woodward & 10 Mile Rd). Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

**7/27- 8/2 TLG Quetico Provincial Park Canoe Adventure II.** Start at French Lake & hopefully reaching Kawnipi Lake. Waterfalls & rapids including Grand Rapids, Chatterton Falls, Split Rock Falls & Snake Falls. Beaver, moose, loons, mosquitoes, eagles, osprey, black flies & otter. Cost: ~\$150 from outfitters cabin & back. Limit 8. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [rblanchard@LSSU.edu](mailto:rblanchard@LSSU.edu).

**7/27 NG Hadley Hills Hike.** 1pm. 6 difficult miles. Ortonville Recreation area. Hadley Rd 4 miles south of Hadley to Fox Lake Rd. West on Fox Lake about 1 mile. Parking lot on north. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304, [glorypepper@yahoo.com](mailto:glorypepper@yahoo.com).

**7/27 SEMG [E] Holly Hike, Swim & Picnic.** 11:30am. Moderate 5 miles, stopping to ID plants. Return for cool-off in lake & picnic. Bring swimsuit, trail snacks, water, something to share. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.





THE MACKINAC CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TAKES A BREAK FROM PLANNING TO ENJOY A SUNSET OVER LAKE SUPERIOR. PHOTO: ANNE WOIWODE

# August

**8/1-3 NG South Manitou Island Base Camp & Day Hike.** Explore old buildings, virgin cedar forest, shipwrecks, sand dunes. Hike 0.3 miles to campsite. Day hikes on Fri & Sat. Meet 9:15am Fri at Manitou Island Transport Ferry Dock, Fishtown in Leland. Ferry leaves at 10am. Make ferry reservations at 231-256-9061 (\$23/round trip). National Park entrance fees. Don Persson. 810-257-7441(d), 810-695-0516(e), [Donald.persson@delphiauto.com](mailto:Donald.persson@delphiauto.com).

**8/1-6 CUP [E] Intermediate-level backpacking: Drummond Island, North Channel of Lake Huron (De Tour, Chippewa County, UP).** Explore remote, NE quarter of largest US island in the Great Lakes. No hiking trails; all bushwhack, jeep trails & ankle-twisting cobblestone beach walking/wading. Deep-water lake/river/swamp fords or swims. Lots of swimming & rugged bivouacs along shoreline & deep bush. Not a basecamp trip; trek every day. Instruction in tarp rigging & land navigation. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced hot-weather backpacker (3 recent trips), physically fit (good aerobic endurance), swimmer, adventurous, bug & fly tolerant & fully equipped (bivouac gear, stove, rations). 8am Fri to midday Wed. \$10 plus ferry fare. Info at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com).

**8/3 SEMG Stony Creek Hike.** Noon. Visit Nature

Center, then hike 5 moderate miles. Meet in Sterling Heights at Metro-Pkwy (16-Mile Rd) & Van Dyke (SE corner) in SMART parking lot between banks. Restaurant stop. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789.

**8/8-10 NG Lake Superior Provincial Park Towab Trailhead Backpack Outing.** Difficult. Leader approval required. Limit 12. Train & interior permit. No dogs. 3 days/2 nights in lower Agawa Canyon. Ride train to trail & hike out on short (8 miles) but extremely rugged trail. Time for exploring, swimming & relaxing. Chris Ozminski, 810-417-6727, [coz@tir.com](mailto:coz@tir.com).

**8/9 SEMG [E] Matthaei Hike & Botanizing.** 10am. Hike 4-5 miles in wetlands & ID unusual summer wildflowers. Meet in Livonia between WalMart & Jiffy Lube (near Jeffries), SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96. Bring plant books. Restaurant stop. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

**8/9-10 TLG Two Hearted River Adventure.** Rugged wilderness of Two Hearted River region in the UP. ~\$75 for canoe rental & transportation from outfitters & back. Limit 10. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [rblanchard@LSSU.edu](mailto:rblanchard@LSSU.edu).

**8/10 SEMG [E] Canoe-Hike Proud Lake.** 11:30am. Canoe from Proud Lake livery upstream through State Park. Stop for lunch, then hike 2 miles in climax forest section, stopping to ID flora. Return float downstream. Bring river clothes & shoes, lunch, \$18 for rentals. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve

Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile. Reserve by 8/5. Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

**8/17-8/23 TLG Pukaskwa National Park Canoe Adventure.** Canoe down one of the wildest rivers in Great Lakes region with numerous big rapids & waterfalls, the biggest of which is Umbata Falls at 96 feet. Start at White Lake & come out at Lake Superior. ~\$200 from outfitters & back. Limit 8. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [rblanchard@LSSU.edu](mailto:rblanchard@LSSU.edu).

**8/29-9/3 CUP [E] Advanced-level backpacking: McCormick Tract (Champion, Marquette County, UP).** Explore wildest, remotest, trail-less tract in UP. Rugged, pristine bivouacs among moose & wolves. Strenuous. No trails, 100% bushwhack with deep-water lake/river/swamp fords or swims. Not a basecamp trip; trek every day. Instruction in tarp rigging & land navigation. Must be: 18, non-smoker, very experienced backpacker (5 recent trips), very physically fit (good aerobic endurance), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped (bivouac gear, stove, rations, etc.). 8am Fri to midday Wed. \$10. Info at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com).

# September

**9/12-13 Chapter Retreat at Miniwanca.** See page 6 for details. Mark your calendar now!

## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, continued from page 5

with other state organizations); it is also working on the traditional Chapter goals of environmental justice issues (including air and non-air pollution), forests planning and Great Lakes stewardship.

Much needs to be done in order to push our conservation goals forward. We're inviting you to help! This is exciting and rewarding work that builds for the future. If you'd like to join the network of District Watchdogs, contact Lydia Fischer at 313-863-8392 or [lydfisch@mindspring.com](mailto:lydfisch@mindspring.com).

### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Dan Farough, Legislative Director, ex officio**
- Lydia Fischer, Chair**
- Jean Gramlich, Southeast Michigan Group**
- Anna Holden, Conservation Committee chair**
- Marie Lapinski-Lafaive, Central Michigan Group**
- Ed McArdle, Southeast Michigan Group**
- Bill Rodgers, Huron Valley Group**
- Steve Walker, Political Committee representative**

## CHAPTER FUNDING, continued from page 4

and other approved charities. First, however, we need to approach your employer.

Giving via payroll deduction allows you to choose how much you can afford to give, and allows you to do so in small increments throughout the year. If your workplace does not have an employee giving drive, or does not include Earth Share in its current payroll deduction campaign, here's what you can do:

- Find out who handles your workplace campaign, benefits package, or personnel issues, and let them know that you and other employees want to contribute to environmental causes.
- Earth Share can send you or your employer an Earth Share brochure that provides more information about setting up a workplace campaign at your company.

The Sierra Club Foundation, which supports Sierra Club's educational and litigation work, is an Earth Share member organization. If our members and staff initiate a campaign at your employer, we receive a special financial award!

For more information, contact Sarah Baker at 269-383-6247 or [sarah.baker@sierraclub.org](mailto:sarah.baker@sierraclub.org) to find out more!

# Taking Action: Your Words Count!

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

## The White House

President George W. Bush  
The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

202-456-1414

White House fax line:  
202-456-2461

White House comment line:  
202-456-1111

White House e-mail:  
[president@whitehouse.gov](mailto: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

Sierra Club National Legislative Hotline: 202-675-2394

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

### E-mail activists needed!

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

All you need is an E-mail address! We send you alerts 10 to 12 times a year and convert your personalized response (using our sample letter) into faxes to the appropriate decision maker. Learn more about MAP and sign up right now at [http://actionnetwork.org/MI\\_Action\\_Project](http://actionnetwork.org/MI_Action_Project).

## UnClassifieds

**LOG CABIN ON LAKE MICHIGAN** for rent spring-fall. On 9 wooded acres between Ludington and Manistee near Nordhouse Dunes. Beautiful private beach with deck on bluff for watching sunsets. Fireplace plus outdoor firepit. Sleeps 4. Spring and fall: \$150/night. Summers: \$1,000 per week. Contact Jane or Jim Waun, 517-333-6967 or [j.waun@attbi.com](mailto:j.waun@attbi.com).

**PHOTOGRAPHERS** *The Mackinac* runs Outings and Meetings photos every issue. If you would like to be published, please contact Davina Pallone, [davina@designwrench.com](mailto:davina@designwrench.com), for print specifications.

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

**JOB OPENING** The Sierra Club media coordinator will function in a consulting role to environmental groups in southeast and west Michigan and work collaboratively with community organizers and policy professionals involved in water, air, land and environmen-

tal justice campaigns. The media coordinator will also be required to coordinate hands-on media training geared toward community activists as well as experienced environmental professionals. The successful applicant will work closely with a campaign coordinator to provide overall guidance and support to 14 environmental organizations involved in a multi-year collaborative project.

The ideal candidate for this position will be a skilled professional or qualified graduate with experience, training or education in journalism, communications, message development, environmental advocacy and campaign development and implementation. An ability to respond quickly to breaking news events and to simultaneously coordinate and implement earned media activities for three or more campaigns is essential.

Strong writing, analytical and political skills are required, as well as an ability to work at the grassroots level with local activists. A working knowledge of print and electronic journalism is essential along with experience or expertise in the use of visuals for media events. An aware-

ness of deadlines for reporters and assignment editors and the ability to craft effective news advisories and news releases is required. Experience or training in effectively communicating complicated environmental issues to a broad general audience is a plus, as well as a working knowledge of the use of focus group and polling data. An understanding of B-roll and radio actuality technology would be helpful, as would experience in integrating earned media with paid media and internet technology.

Please send cover letter and résumé to Anne Woiwode, [mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org); include "media coordinator position" in subject line.



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"Rascal" was drawn by Huron Valley Group member John Nystuen.

### Buy a New Mackinac Chapter T-Shirt

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**QUESTIONS?** Contact Kim at [mikkayak@yahoo.com](mailto:mikkayak@yahoo.com) or 734-971-194.



### INNER CITY OUTINGS

**M**ore Inner City Outings (ICO) programs may soon start in Michigan. Delegates to the Chapter's recent strategic planning meeting have voted to make ICO expansion a Chapter priority.

Do you live near an urban area that would benefit from our ICO program? For more information call John Pulver, 616-457-5999 (days); 616-453-2480 (evenings).



PHOTOS: JOHN PULVER

**Top: Inner City Outings participants clean trash from a stream in their Grand Rapids neighborhood.**

**Left: ICO kids learn to spin wool that they gathered at a local farm.**

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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.



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