

TheMackinac

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB • AUGUST-OCTOBER 2005

GET OUTSIDE!

WEEKEND HIKES

DAY HIKES

BIRDING

NATIONAL OUTINGS

INNER CITY OUTINGS

WILDFLOWER WALKS

AND MORE...



SIERRA
CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

BRAD GARRISON

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

From the Chair

Get Outdoors!

by Sue Kelly, Mackinac Chapter Chair

The barred owl flew into the woods and landed in a tall tree. The crowd of chatty Sierra Clubbers fell silent, awed by this sight. The man leading us out into the woods to call in the owl continued his conversation with the owl—“who cooks for you . . .” back and forth.

As a new Sierra Club member at my first Autumn Retreat, I was mesmerized by the appearance of the owl, but also by the intensity and knowledge of the outings leader. We didn't climb a rugged mountain or maneuver successfully through Class IV rapids, but the experience was just as exhilarating and unforgettable.

This issue of *The Mackinac* is filled with stories from many of our volunteer Michigan outings leaders, who offer a variety of trips ranging from a visit to a local park for an evening to remote wilderness backpacking trips to the far reaches of the state.

Cheryl McConnell has been involved as a volunteer outings leader at all levels of Sierra Club and has recently served as Chapter Outings Committee Chair. **Nancy Shiffler** leads a backpacking trip to Isle Royale National Park every so often and speaks to the “fun, friendship and beauty” encountered at this special place. **Mike Garr** also leads outings to Isle Royale. He urges us to get out and see the state even if we think we know it well.

Taking our environmental ethic into the field can be challenging. **Phil Crookshank** relates his “leave no trace” story of leading a paddling trip into the St. Mary's River, just out of the Okefenokee Swamp.

Children also deserve to experience the wonder and camaraderie an out-

door experience can offer. The Sierra Club Inner City Outings Program (ICO) takes kids on outings, kids who may not otherwise have the chance to participate in these activities. **Peter Bednekoff** and **Vera Hernandez**, ICO volunteers from Washtenaw County, tell their experience of a local paddling trip. **Lorne Beatty**, an avid fisherman and Sierra Club leader, shares his passion for fishing with his nephews at one of Michigan's favorite lakes to fish, Wakeley Lake.

When accompanying an experienced outings leader, even a visit to familiar places can help us see things in new ways. **Joanne Cantoni** and **Ed McArdle** relate visits to Maybury State Park in Northville to see winter wildflowers and experience the park on a snowy night.

Lisa Wickman and **Wanda Bloomquist** have once again volunteered to organize the Annual Mackinac Chapter Retreat, a weekend full of hikes, crafts, compelling workshops and all-around general fun on Lake Michigan. See page 26 to sign up!

I've been changed and awed by my experiences on Sierra Club outings, both by the places and things I've seen and the amazing, smart people who volunteer their time and expertise as Michigan outings leaders. Do yourself a favor before the summer is over: come on a Sierra Club outing or come to the Autumn Retreat and try out several short outings and maybe



RALPH POWELL

Children from the Hikone Center in Ann Arbor took a canoe trip with adult volunteers of the Washtenaw Inner City Outings group. Read the story on page 24.

learn a new skill. You'll meet amazing people, enjoy our beautiful Michigan, maybe learn something new about yourself and almost certainly create great memories.



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

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TheMackinac

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB
AUGUST-OCTOBER 2005

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NEXT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1

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Capitol Watch 2005

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

SIERRA CLUB BLOCKS SUBSIDIES FOR LIVESTOCK FACTORIES

Concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) are one of the most heavily tax-payer subsidized industries in the nation, but in May Sierra Club won a suspension of new subsidies from the Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) for support of the construction of new CAFOs. MSF, a subsidiary of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), has authorized the use of tax-exempt bonds to subsidize private loans for the construction of at least two CAFOs in the past two years. A third proposal was put on hold as a result of Sierra Club's efforts as MSF staff consult with the MDEQ and Department of Agriculture to develop a policy regarding subsidies for CAFOs.

In February, Sierra Club Michigan Director Anne Woiwode asked the

MSF Board to deny a request from applicants seeking a \$3 million Industrial Development Revenue Bond inducement to help build a new dairy CAFO in Midland County. This was at least the second operation to secure support from MSF for simply building a standard CAFO. The MSF Board approved, issuing the inducement despite the objections, leading Sierra Club to submit extensive information about both the environmental and economic problems these operations cause. MSF staff began discussions with the other agencies in the spring, but in May another CAFO requested an inducement. At the May meeting of the MSF Board, action was taken to place a moratorium on additional subsidies for CAFOs until the Board considers and adopts a policy regarding CAFOs, which may be as soon as July.

Sierra Club is also urging legislators to oppose SB 538, which would

allow CAFOs to receive subsidies for building methane digesters. The bills, which were heard in the Senate this spring, raise concerns because they provide more subsidies to the least needy of Michigan's agricultural community, and because claims that methane digesters will substantially reduce environmental impacts from CAFOs are overstated. While modifications in response to Sierra Club's concerns were made, the bills have now moved to the House.

PROMISES, PROMISES

Michigan's declining financial situation and political posturing over the state budget dominated the work of the Legislature and Governor Jennifer Granholm this spring, while little environmental legislation moved. Early in the year Governor Granholm's innovative, priority-based budget proposal intended to change how the state decides funding

Call for Candidates for the Mackinac Chapter Election

by Dave Llewellyn, Nominating Committee Chair

The annual Mackinac Chapter election is upon us again. In this election we will vote on those members who have accepted nomination and agreed to run for the position of At-Large Member of the Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee.

The At-Large members comprise the Chapter Executive Committee along with the representatives from the local Groups. There are nine At-Large members on this body; four are elected one year and five are elected the following year. Each position is a two-year term. At-Large members should expect to attend quarterly meetings of the

Chapter Executive Committee and offer leadership to Chapter programs or functions. The role of the Executive Committee (ExCom) is to administer and carry out the mission of the Sierra Club in Michigan.

In the upcoming election we will be electing four people to the 2006–2007 ExCom. The Nominating

in an era of fast-declining revenues dominated discussion, but by May both houses had returned to business as usual.

In a startling action in mid-June the Republican majority in the House of Representatives released and passed a 680-page omnibus budget bill in three days. HB 4831 contained several noxious environmental items, including mandated logging levels on Michigan's state forests, misuse of air pollution fees, elimination of the fish contaminant monitoring program, and a blatant assault on the use of objective scientific information in assessing the dioxin contamination in the Midland area caused by Dow Chemical Company.

The Senate appropriations bills for the MDEQ, SB 270, contain a prohibition on the MDEQ to write rules to protect inland waterways from water withdrawal, as well as similar language to the House bill

regarding dioxin contamination. All appropriations bills have been sent to conference committees, where negotiations will determine what will be sent to the governor, most likely this fall. While Governor Granholm can veto line items in any appropriations bill, there is no authority to add or shift funds from one area of the budget to another.

UPDATES

Mercury The governor's work group on mercury has released its report with differences of opinion between representatives of industry and health and environment representatives. Sometime this summer Governor Granholm is expected to direct the MDEQ to develop rules that follow from the report, and public input is expected to be invited. However, as *The Mackinac* goes to press, repeated requests from Sierra Club for the governor or Attorney General Mike Cox to

join at least 13 other states who have brought a legal challenge to the Bush administration's new mercury rules have gone unanswered.

Nestle Evart permit issued, but water must stay in Great Lakes basin

In a novel permit decision, the state of Michigan has permitted the Nestle Corporation to bottle water at a controversial site in Evart as long as a comparable amount of water as that bottled from this site is distributed only within the Great Lakes basin. Nestle filed suit against the state in both state and federal court within weeks. Nestle's federal challenge attacks the fundamental federal statute that has given the Great Lakes states the authority to restrict diversion of water from the Great Lakes basin, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), even though state officials did not rely on or invoke WRDA in issuing the permit.

Committee will soon begin the process of nominating likely candidates to run for these positions. If you are interested in suggesting someone—even yourself—for us to consider, please contact Dave Llewellyn (dllewell8@aol.com, or 248-366-1884). You may also run by getting 15 Mackinac Chapter members to sign a petition for your nomination for the position of At-Large Member of the Mackinac Chapter. Submissions are due by September 1, 2005. Either way, your participation is welcome.

The candidates will be on the ballot in the next edition of *The Mackinac*. We look forward to hearing from you!



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Forest Update

by Marvin Roberson, Forest Policy Specialist

TOO MANY ROADS DIVERGE IN THESE WOODS

Michigan's three National Forests have just completed the public comment period on their Draft National Forest Plans. These plans, which will guide the management of nearly four

million acres of forest lands in Michigan, are rewritten every 10 to 15 years. Final plans are likely to be released next summer.

The Sierra Club was disappointed in all three plans, for many of the same reasons on each forest. The Club had pushed for older, healthier forests with less roads, but in each case the plans continued the current practice of interrupting the forests' return to healthy ecosystems.

Michigan's magnificent forests were almost entirely cut over in the 19th century. As the forests began to recover, 300-year-old white pine were replaced by young, fast growing aspen. In the normal course of events, as these aspen aged, they would be replaced in 60 to 70 years by longer growing species such as white pine, hemlock and oak. However, the Forest Service, bowing to pressure from timber and hunting industries, proposes to cut the aspen before this can happen, thus setting back the recovery clock.

Roads are also a significant problem. Michigan has some of the most heavily roaded forests in the nation. In some cases, there are more roads in the forest than on the land in the counties outside the forests. Roads are an issue in two ways. First, roads impact recreational users by making it more difficult to find a place of quiet in the forest. Second, they create

Michigan has some of the most heavily roaded forests in the nation. In some cases, there are more roads in the forest than on the land in the counties outside the forests.

“edge effect.” When forests have edges—places with a forest on one side and open space on the other—these edges are highly conducive to overabundant species, such as deer and raccoons, and poor habitat for rarer species, such as northern goshawk, which need unbroken forest cover to thrive.

While the official comment period has ended, your voice can still be heard. Call the three National Forests and ask for bigger, older forests with less roads.

**HURON-MANISTEE:
800-821-6263**

**HIAWATHA:
906-786-4062**

**OTTAWA:
906-932-1330**



COURTESY ANNE WOJWODE



For more information, contact Marvin Roberson at marvin.roberson@sierraclub.org.

Conservation & Litigation

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

ANGLERS, SIERRA CLUB JOIN FORCES TO PROTECT THE AU SABLE RIVER

Sierra Club has teamed up with the Anglers of the Au Sable and the descendants of a visionary conservationist to stop the desecration of one of the nation's most important conservation gems, the Mason Tract on the South Branch of the Au Sable River in Michigan—the site on which Trout Unlimited was founded. In early June, the coalition filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court Eastern District of Michigan seeking to overturn a Forest Service decision allowing oil and gas drilling adjacent to the 5,300-acre Mason Tract.

“We don't fish in their oil wells, and they shouldn't drill in our rivers,” said Rusty Gates, president of the Anglers of the Au Sable and former Angler of the Year in *Fly Rod & Reel* magazine. “I've been fishing on this river for 40 years. The Au Sable is one of the most special places we have in Michigan, and we want to be able to take our kids and our grandchildren here.”

Despite the largest outpouring of opposition ever over a Michigan Forest Service proposal, the agency rejected feasible alternative sites. The Forest Service decision instead allows the Savoy Energy Company to push forward with drilling plans in Huron Manistee National Forest that threaten the river that launched Trout Unlimited. The lawsuit seeks to assure that the interests of thousands of people from all over the country who support protection of this pristine waterway, where thousands go fly fishing each year, are defended.

The Mason Tract was deeded to the State of Michigan in the 1950s by George Mason, a prominent industrialist whose gift came with the requirement that “no part shall ever be sold.”

“The Mason Family has joined this fight because the Forest Service proposal goes against everything my grandfather sought to do by giving the Mason Tract to the people of Michigan,” said Tim Mason. “We have been absolutely opposed to drilling for oil and gas in this area from the start, and will continue this fight until George Mason's vision and legacy is secure.”

Sierra Club Forest Policy Specialist Marvin Roberson called the Forest Service decision irresponsible, noting that, “We are joining with the angling community to show that everyone has a right to explore, enjoy and protect the planet. Michiganders should be able to enjoy fishing



BOB NICHOLS, COURTESY USDA

on this river fifty years from now, a hundred years from now—it's part of the Michigan way of life.”

CAFO DECISION

In mid-June, in response to Sierra Club's petition, MDEQ Director Steve Chester ordered greater public access to information about permitting of concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs). This set the stage for requiring all CAFOs to obtain water quality permits and ordered a rewrite of Michigan's permit for CAFOs. The declaratory ruling was the result of a year-long challenge brought by the Sierra Club in an effort to assure that the state oversight of CAFOs is consistent with federal law and that Michigan's rural communities and family farmers are better able to protect their health and the environment from the pollution caused by CAFOs.

The declaratory ruling raised a number of concerns as well. Although MDEQ agreed with many of the concepts Sierra Club raised, the ruling entirely dismisses Sierra Club's legal arguments. Additionally, public access to documents critical for effective public input into the permitting process will not be allowed until after the CAFOs have received their permits. For several years Sierra Club has argued that public disclosure of information about the design and plans for a CAFO are legally mandated by the Clean Water Act and provide the only way to assure that proposed facilities will pose the least threat to human health and the environment.

Advocates for CAFOs, including the Michigan Farm Bureau, lashed out at the MDEQ, claiming that the declaratory ruling was an appeasement of the Sierra Club, thus signaling that the Farm Bureau can be expected to aggressively challenge MDEQ's efforts to improve CAFO water quality regulation and enforcement. Sierra Club is weighing options following the ruling but will participate fully in the upcoming permit revision process.

Hunters & Anglers



Rusty Gates, president of the Anglers of the Au Sable and *Fly Rod & Reel* magazine's 1994 Angler of the Year.

MEET RUSTY GATES

ANGLERS OF AU SABLE FOUNDER IS FRIEND TO BOTH FISHING AND ENVIRONMENT

by Marvin Roberson, Forest Policy Specialist

The Sierra Club recently made an active effort to partner with more hunter and angler groups, recognizing that on most issues we are natural allies.

One productive partnership has been with the Anglers of the Au Sable, an angler group from the Grayling area. Sierra Club and Anglers of the Au Sable are co-plaintiffs in a suit to stop the Forest Service from allowing oil and gas drilling next to the Mason Tract on the South Branch of the Au Sable River, a place revered by Michigan conservationists.

Calvin H. ("Rusty") Gates Jr., president and driving force behind the group, is proprietor of Gates Au Sable Lodge, eight miles east of Grayling on the Holy Waters stretch of the Au Sable's main branch. He is credited with the original concept of the Anglers of the Au Sable, and he recruited the other five anglers who ultimately organized the first kickoff meeting of the organization in January 1987. Rusty has held the office of president since the Angler's founding; he has been largely responsible for the long-term, sustained success of the organization. *Fly Rod & Reel* magazine recognized these efforts; in 1994 the publication named Rusty its Angler of the Year.

Rusty's accomplishments are many when it comes to the Au Sable's conservation saga. Beginning with the catch-

When my nephews hear the mournful cry of a loon, I hope they will remember that sound as the call of wild places lost and the promise that there will still be other wild places to explore and enjoy.

IT'S ABOUT MORE THAN FISHING

by Lorne Beatty, At-Large Representative, HVG Group Representative

Fishing has lured me to many beautiful and wild places. In Michigan we are blessed with the Great Lakes, numerous inland lakes, many trout streams and rivers that are habitat to a wide variety of

fish. This article is not, however, about fly fishing my favorite trout stream.

I have been rendezvousing with my angler buddies and taking my two young nephews to camp, canoe and fish for several years at Wakeley Lake, about ten miles east of Grayling in the Huron National Forest. You can camp any-

where you want away from the lake, but the view and the shade in the campsites can't be beat on a hot summer day. This beautiful, secluded lake is surrounded by wetlands, mixed hardwood and conifer forests, and it is a designated loon nesting area. Sightings of loons, swans, eagles and osprey are common.

While most visitors come for the day, the few campers that stay are quiet and respectful of each other. Occasionally distant noise from the state highway or the National Guard Camp can be heard. Usually the haunting cry of the resident loons, the wind in the trees or the howl of distant coyotes are the only sounds that disturb the quiet.

and-release controversy on the Au Sable's Holy Water in 1986, Rusty has played a leadership or man-behind-the-scenes role in virtually every major project the Anglers have undertaken, including building a strong bond with the Au Sable/Manistee Action Committee and a half-dozen other key organizations; providing constant oversight of potentially damaging activities at Camp Grayling; and leveraging his numerous contacts in the DNR and the fly fishing industry to launch cooperative conservation efforts, joint funding and brokering of projects.

With his wife, Julie, Rusty operates a nationally recognized fly fishing retreat that his mother, Mary, and father, Cal Sr., founded in the early 1970s. Gates Au Sable Lodge serves as the unofficial headquarters of the Anglers. All board meetings are held at the lodge's Board Room. The Annual River Clean-Up starts and ends at the lodge each September. When not leading the latest charge or tending his well-stocked pro shop, Rusty and Julie live on the main stream. They have three children and two very precocious bird dogs. When he finds the time, in between the hundreds of dozens of flies he ties each year, you may even catch Rusty throwing a length of line or in the middle of yet another carpentry project.

I enjoy sharing this Michigan gem with my two young nephews, not just because of the fishing but because the total experience is so good. I don't want them to take places like this for granted. I want them to understand that the lunker bass that we just released shares its unspoiled habitat with us and many other wild creatures that all depend upon each other for survival. I want them to appreciate the beauty of this special place as well as its vulnerability. This undisturbed U.S. Forest land could be auctioned off for the timber or changed forever with oil development by the highest bidder!

When my nephews hear the mournful cry of a loon, I hope they will remember that sound as the call of wild places lost and the promise that there will still be other wild places to explore and enjoy. I hope that they will value this special place, preserve and protect it for future generations of both loons and swans and eagles, as well as young fishermen, because it's about more than just the fishing.

Increase the Strength and Power of the Sierra Club

by Kathy Boutin-Pasterz,
Volunteer/Membership Coordinator

As a member of the Sierra Club you are part of the nation's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots

environmental organization. There are over 750,000 members throughout the U.S. and over 20,000 Michigan members. Ask a friend to join and tell them that Sierra Club members not only give something to the environment, but also get something in return.

Voting privileges. The Sierra Club is the most internally democratic national environmental organization in the world. Each member receives an annual ballot to elect the Board of Directors and to have a voice in deciding priority issues.

Help the planet. Get the satisfaction of helping preserve irreplaceable wildlands and life.

SIERRA magazine. Stay informed with a one-year subscription to award-winning *SIERRA* magazine.

Discounts. Discounts on our distinguished books and celebrated nature calendars.

Worldwide Outings Program. Sierra Club can take you to the far corners of the earth—paddling or pedaling, ski touring or trekking.

Mackinac Chapter Membership. Members of Michigan's statewide chapter receive our quarterly newsletter, *The Mackinac*.

Local Group Membership. Michigan's ten local Sierra Club Groups offer outings and ways to get involved at the grassroots level in protecting the environment.

If you need extra newsletters to give to friends, contact us at 517-484-2372 or kathy.boutin-pasterz@sierraclub.org.

Thank you for helping the Sierra Club grow!

WaterSentinelsUpdate

Mining Rules Workshops Coming this Summer

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

is in the process of finalizing rules to guide implementation of HB 6243-PA 449, the new mining law signed by Governor Granholm on December 27, 2004.

The rules process is expected to be completed soon, and once done, the Sierra Club, along with ally groups the National Wildlife Federation and the Michigan Environmental Council, will host workshops to help citizens understand how to use the rules to prepare public comments on mining permit applications.

As of this writing, locations and dates have not yet been set for the workshops.

If you wish to be notified when the workshops are scheduled, please contact Rita Jack at rita.jack@sierraclub.org, or call the Mackinac Chapter office at 517-484-2372.

SERVICE OUTINGS TO PROTECT OUR WATERS

by Rita Jack, Water Sentinels Project Coordinator

What exactly do those Water Sentinel volunteers do?

Dave Allen, Central U.P. Group Conservation Chair, parks his car as close to edge of the Northwestern Road as possible, to allow other vehicles or logging trucks room to get by. From the back of his car, he pulls out a clipboard with a monitoring form, a hand-held dissolved oxygen (DO) meter, and a depth measuring device fashioned from an old hockey stick. John Rebers, CUP Group Chair, gathers up the pH tester, a specific conductivity meter, and a thermometer to measure air temperature. There's a thermometer built into the DO meter so that water temperature is recorded at the same time as the DO. Along with the other Water Sentinels, they head for the West Fork of the East Branch of the Salmon Trout River to take the meter readings, to photograph, and to note aquatic habitat and riparian conditions in the Yellow Dog Plains.

Ken Arseneau, Herb Grenke, Lynn and Lon Emerick, Jeff Knoop and many others have spent days—both beautiful, sunny and warm, as well as cold and wet ones—gathering data on the Yellow Dog River, the Salmon-Trout River and Cedar Creek. On some days, deer flies and mosquitoes assailed them, but these insects are largely ignored as the group descends upon the stream, intent on gathering the information they hope will protect Michigan's rivers and streams.

Kennecott Minerals Company has been exploring in the Yellow Dog Plains, looking for ways to get the

nickel, zinc, gold and other minerals valued in the billions of dollars out of the sulfide-containing ores. When they contact oxygen or water, the sulfide ores will release sulfuric acid—like the acid found in your car battery. The challenge of removing the ores is to keep the acid out of the groundwater and surface water. It's a tough challenge—one that hasn't been met successfully in other places. Acid mine drainage has killed many streams, sometimes for miles. The damage lasts for decades, and in one case for centuries.

The Water Sentinels, above all else, want to make sure the Plains' pristine waters stay that way. Too many lives, too much life, depends upon it.

After a brief lunch of John's fresh rhubarb pie, and submarine sandwiches and chips from the Big Bay Outpost Deli, the Sentinels head back to their cars to complete their rounds, to gather their data and to note stream conditions.

They go to the Plains every month, and will continue to do so, until the threat has passed.

You don't need to know anything about aquatic biology, or about hydrology or about water monitoring to help with these efforts, as all training is provided. The most important thing is to want to help, and to be willing to tell others about what you learn, and about what is at risk.

If you wish to help, please contact Rita Jack at the Mackinac Chapter office.

MiningUpdate

by Marvin Roberson, Forest Policy Specialist

TASKS COMPLETE FOR SULFIDE MINING WORK GROUP

After over a year of near-solid work, the MDEQ-sponsored Michigan Sulfide Mining Work Group has completed its tasks. The group, made up of environmental

and conservation groups, mining interests and governmental agencies, spent much of 2004 crafting and working for passage of a statute to regulate sulfide mining in Michigan. After passage of the bill in December, the group spent the next five months crafting the regulations to implement the law.

Passage of this law, as well as the regulatory passage, was vital. Until the Work Group was convened, Michigan had no requirements for permitting of sulfide mines. Sulfide mining, where minerals are bound into sulfide rock deposits, can create sulfuric acid when exposed to air and water. This acid can leak into surface and groundwater in a process called acid mine drainage (AMD). AMD can cause damage to water supplies lasting hundreds of years. In a state where water is our most important resource, protection from AMD is essential, because for the first time in over a century, mining companies are actively expecting to begin sulfide mining in the state.

The draft rules just finished go

In a state where water is our most important resource, protection from acid mine drainage is essential.

a long way toward regulating sulfide mining in Michigan. Financial assurances, environmental impact assessments and public input processes are all required. There is still some work to do to improve the rules, including siting requirements and analysis of synergistic impacts.

The MDEQ will hold hearings on the content of these rules later this summer (they have yet to be scheduled), and the public will have an opportunity to voice concerns over items the rules may lack. For more information, contact Marvin Roberson, marvin.roberson@sierraclub.org.



JOHN REBERS (2)

Top: Sierra Club Water Sentinel Herb Grenke. Above: Sentinels Jeff Knoop, Dave Allen and Rita Jack measure the width and depth of the East Fork of the East Branch of the Salmon Trout River on April 30, 2005.



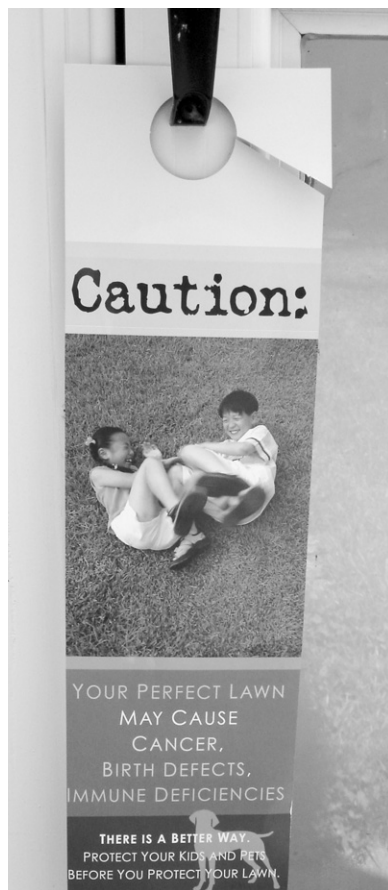
DAVE CHAPMAN

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

Building Environmental Communities

by Leigh Fifelski, BEC Conservation Organizer

OAKLAND COUNTY RESIDENTS HIT THE STREETS FOR AN URBAN OUTING



Leigh Fifelski is Community Organizer for the Sierra Club Building Environmental Communities Program in Oakland County. She can be reached at leigh.fifelski@sierraclub.org.

This summer, every day has been an outing day for Oakland County activists. Besides heat and rain, adventures included combating rocky sidewalks and leashed dogs eager to get

some attention. On these urban outings, activists distributed over 11,800 door-hangers letting their neighbors know about the harms associated with using pesticides and high phosphorus fertilizers on their lawns. The door-hangers not only served as a tool to educate but also as an invitation to one of three workshops. The workshops, held in Rochester Hills, Waterford and Clawson, provided an opportunity for people to learn about techniques and practices they can use at home to keep their gardens and lawns healthy and safe. For tips and suggestions on making your lawn and garden pesticide free, kid and pet safe, check out the Oakland County Building Environmental Community (BEC) website, www.sierraclub.org/community/oakland.

At each of the workshops and at other events sponsored by Sierra Club's Love your Lawn, Love your Lakes campaign, activists and residents were asked to send a letter to their mayors or township supervisors asking them to join the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (GLSLCI). The GLSLCI is a coalition of mayors and township supervisors in the Great Lakes basin working to protect the Great Lakes by being an active voice that works with state and federal leaders. Joining this coalition gives the mayors a chance to voice the opinion of their constituents on issues such as water withdrawal, invasive species, and sewage overflows. Learn more

about the initiative and how to write a letter to your mayor by going to the Oakland County BEC website. You can make a difference. Rochester Hills residents did—their mayor has already joined!

Oakland County urban outings continue as residents and activists make strides to protect the Great Lakes. Beginning in August and September activists will be knocking on doors asking people to send a letter to Governor Granholm to protect Michigan's lakes and the Great Lakes. At each door-knocking event volunteers will gain more information about the issues affecting the Great Lakes, learn how to speak to their neighbors effectively, participate in a few role-playing situations, then hit the pavement and speak to their community members. Of course a pizza party will follow in a local park! Other events include coffee meet-ups, where activists have the opportunity to learn about specific issues affecting their community and ways to take action, and house parties, where neighbors and friends are invited to learn about the Sierra Club and how we are working to protect communities from environmental harms. For more information, contact Leigh Fifelski at 248-435-5277.

Join us for upcoming events—check out our website at www.sierraclub.org/community/oakland—and bring the environment to the forefront in your community.

Sierra Summit 2005: Preparations Underway

by Bill Rodgers, At-Large Representative

The natural environment—at the local, state, national and global levels—is threatened by human activities to an unprecedented extent. Given this, what should the Sierra Club, which bills itself as the largest grassroots environmental organization, be doing? What should be

its—our—priorities over the next few years? An attempt to reach consensus on these priorities is part of the reason for the Sierra Summit 2005. This convention will bring some 3000 Sierra Club members to San Francisco for four days of workshops, speakers and exhibits. It is also a time when a thousand of those members—those selected by their groups and chapters to represent them—will engage in a process designed to set priorities for the Sierra Club over the next few years. Eleven of those delegates will be from here in Michigan.

To provide guidance to the delegates, each chapter and each group was asked to provide a forum to which all interested members would be invited to participate in a “direction setting” session. Seventeen members of the Mackinac Chapter met for over three hours on the afternoon of June 11 at the home of Sue Kelly.

After the facilitator, Mike Johnson, explained the process and the context, we talked about national and global trends that we see as relevant to the priorities that should guide the work of the Sierra Club. Then we got down to the difficult task of ranking conservation “visions.” We started by discussing each of eight possible visions that had been developed by the national Conservation Governance Committee; then we voted to identify our three highest priority visions. These were:

1. Build a new energy future;
2. Defend federal lands and public waters; and
3. Protect people and the planet from pollution.

Next, we discussed and voted on specific areas within each of those three visions that we thought national and Michigan Sierra Club should focus on. Some areas had been spelled out by the Conservation Governance Committee, others we added. For example, the approach to “building a new energy future” that was chosen by the largest number of participants (six) for the national level was “accelerate renewable energy production,” while the most popular approach to this vision at the state level was “improve fuel economy for all vehicles.”

The final hour was spent discussing means to achieving our goals. We considered different ways in which we could invest our energy over the next five years in grassroots work to influence environmental decisions, and also the types of decision makers we can try to influence. We ended with another round of voting on our highest priorities. With respect to grassroots involvement, our collective highest priorities were:

1. Get many to voice their opinion;
2. Bring people together to take action; and
3. Seek new allies and build coalitions.

The highest priority, by a considerable margin, with respect to decision makers was to “influence voters’ electoral decisions.” Next most popular was to “influence state policy makers.”

Mike Johnson has conveyed the complete tallies of votes we made at this session to the national Sierra Club, which at press time planned to compile the reports from each chapter and each group that participated in such a session and post them on the National Sierra Club’s Web site in late July.

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Sierra Summit 2005

**The Sierra Club's
first-ever National
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September 8-11, 2005
The Moscone Center
San Francisco, CA



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www.sierrasummit2005.org

LobbyDay2005

by Gayle Miller, Conservation Program Coordinator

HELP THE SIERRA CLUB MAKE HISTORY

Last year, the Sierra Club won a major victory: legislation protecting Michigan from the potentially devastating effects of sulfide mining was passed into law as Public Act 449 of 2004. The Sierra Club played a key role in achieving this important win for the environment.

Before the sulfide mining law passed, Michigan had absolutely no regulatory framework with which to protect the state's environment from this highly polluting form of mineral extraction. Fortunately for Michigan's Upper Peninsula (where most sulfide mining activities are planned), mining operations that could potentially cause irreparable harm to the environment will now be regulated and controlled by a strong new law.

The successful passage of this legislation was due, in no small part, to hundreds of individual Sierra Club members—regular people who had

no previous knowledge of sulfide mining or law making. But, by participating in the Sierra Club's citizen lobbying events, our members educated themselves, then educated and persuaded lawmakers on the need to regulate sulfide mining—and helped make Michigan history!

This fall, new and exciting legislative challenges face us. We are working to actively protect Michigan's water and we need your help.

Each time the Sierra Club works to get a new environmental law passed, a massive education and outreach effort is necessary. All 148 members of the House and Senate must

understand the problem and then be persuaded to vote for change. Since the environment has no army of paid lobbyists to bend the ears of lawmakers, that job falls to us, the citizens of Michigan.

Many lawmakers know very little about environmental issues. So, volunteer lobbyists who understand even the basics are very helpful! Your legislators need to know about the threats to Michigan's water. They need to understand how water pollution affects *all* Michigan citizens. They need to know that their constituents care about our water. And, they need to be urged by those con-

Sierra Citizen Lobbying Opportunities

LOBBY DAY

This fall's Lobby Day is planned for Wednesday, October 19 at the State Capitol in Lansing from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Citizen lobbyists receive background materials on key issues in advance of Lobby Day and have the option of taking part in pre-event conference calls covering citizen lobbying techniques and providing more in-depth issue information. Citizen lobbyists meet with legislators in small groups. This past spring Sierra Citizen Lobbyists met with over 100 legislators and aides! Please help us do even more.

IN-DISTRICT MEETINGS

Throughout the summer, Sierra Club volunteers will be meeting with their legislators close to home, in coffee shops, restaurants and libraries. In-District meetings are more informal than meetings at the capitol. At In-District meetings, volunteer lobbyists often get to spend an hour or so with legislators, getting to know them personally and talking about important environmental issues.

To join Lobby Day or In-District meetings, contact Gayle Miller, gayle.miller@sierraclub.org, 517-484-2372.

Many lawmakers know very little about environmental issues. So, volunteer lobbyists who understand even the basics are very helpful!

stituents to take the right action.

Want to get involved—and help make Michigan history? Become a Sierra Citizen Lobbyist by taking part in one of the Sierra Club's citizen lobbying activities (details below). Every voice helps! When you contribute your time as a Sierra Citizen Lobbyist, you'll gain new

knowledge about an important environmental issue. You'll learn about Michigan's legislative process, and you'll meet great people and gain a tremendous feeling of having done something valuable to help Michigan's environment.



Gayle Miller, the Mackinac Chapter's Conservation Program Coordinator, is the organizer for Sierra Club's Lobby Day in Michigan. For more information about any of the Sierra Club's legislative activities, contact Gayle at 517-484-2372 or gayle.miller@sierraclub.org.

ARMCHAIR (OR "COMPUTER-CHAIR") LOBBYING

If you don't want to meet legislators face to face, but still want to have a voice, sign up for the Mackinac Action Network! This Web-based alert system lets you know when critical issues arise in the legislature when your calls and letters will be most helpful. The membership list is never shared, so your security is assured. Sign up at <http://mackinac.sierraclubaction.org>.

The Sierra Club is also starting a special periodic e-newsletter, devoted specifically to keeping members abreast of environmental legislation of critical importance to the Sierra Club. To join the mailing list, please email gayle.miller@sierraclub.org (we never share our e-mail address lists).



JOHN REBERS

Preserve The Future.

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

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

For more information and confidential assistance, contact:

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

Ralliers Ride Rails to Save Amtrak

by Ed McArdle, Outings Leader

More than 50 riders from Southeast Michigan Sierra Club, Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers and Transportation Riders United boarded the Amtrak train in Pontiac at 11:05 a.m. on Saturday, June 18, for a daylong excursion to Kalamazoo and back. After a well-attended



A rally of supporters urging full state and federal funding of the national passenger train service greets Amtrak's Train #353 at the Kalamazoo Intermodal Station.

press conference on the Pontiac train platform, riders passed out literature and talked to passengers about President Bush's and Representative Joe Knollenberg's (R, Bloomfield Hills) efforts to reduce funding thereby effectively killing national passenger rail service. Pontiac Mayor Willie Payne, State Representatives Clarence Phillips, Marie Donigan, Aldo Vagnozzi and Oakland County Commissioner Dave Woodward all gave rousing comments to the gathering.

On June 28 the U.S. Congress soundly defeated Knollenberg's bill and voted to maintain Amtrak funding at the previous \$1.2 billion level. This is considered a starvation diet; Amtrak's Board of Directors (all Bush appointees) said that \$1.8 billion is a minimal level to maintain present service. By comparison, this is the same approximate cost for the proposal to add more lanes to I-94 for 6.7 miles through Detroit. The bill will now go to the U.S. Senate where President Bush will exert pressure for lower funding.

On June 30 the Michigan House and Senate rammed through a budget bill that strikes \$1 million from the two state-funded routes Port Huron–Chicago and Grand Rapids–Chicago. If not restored, MDOT said it would have to cancel both trains. The bill will soon go to a conference committee and then to the governor, who hopefully will veto it. It is imperative that you contact your state representative and senator as well as the

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governor and ask them to restore funding for these trains.

These cuts come at a time when Amtrak has experienced record levels of ridership. According to the December 2003 issue of SIERRA Magazine, intercity trains emit 3 times less pollution per passenger mile than autos and 6 times less than air travel. Intercity trains would reduce our dependence on foreign oil and also help reduce our impact on global warming. Support of a national rail passenger system should be viewed as an investment in infrastructure that has large economic paybacks rather than a subsidy.

J.R. VALDERAS (4), COURTESY THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS, INC.

Elections2005

"ACT LOCAL" IN THIS YEAR'S ELECTIONS

by Tim Killeen, Mackinac Chapter Political Chair

Does your community have a wetlands ordinance? Does it provide for recycling? What is your community doing about growth and development issues? How about discharges into your local waterways? There are a myriad of issues with environmental impacts that local

governments deal with every day. On Tuesday, November 8, 2005, Michigan citizens will elect the mayors and city council/commission members that will deal with those issues. There are many avenues for the Club to influence public opinion and outcomes in an election season. By paying attention to some basic elections mechanics and using available Club assets, we can play a role in who is holding elective office.

THE SIERRA CLUB "BRAND"

Perhaps the biggest advantage at our disposal is the name "Sierra Club." The public consistently shows in opinion polls that our name is a known and trusted voice for the environment. By being active in your local elections under the Sierra banner, you are more likely to get the attention of your local media. Candidates for office pay close attention to any organized groups in their community. Groups mean votes. Sierra Club's recognizable name helps in having environmental concerns become a part of the public discussion during an election.

INFLUENCING THE ELECTION

Everything starts with a committee. Two to three people is enough to organize a positive effort. If you do not know your Group Political Chair, now would be the time. There are many tools this group has at its disposal to impact an election.

Basic data

A call to your local city clerk will arm you with some important data. You can get a list of all the candidates who have filed to run for office. You will need this if your Sierra Club Group is doing endorsements or a forum. Also, you can get the vote totals for previous elections to see how many votes it takes to win; you will be surprised as to how few votes this is in most cases. The breakdown by precinct will also allow you interpret how and where the election was won. Get the precinct map from the clerk's office.

Endorsements

A Sierra Club endorsement signals the general public that the candidate supports a clean environment. This is almost always a positive, especially in local elections. To do an endorsement you need to set up a process that is fair to all candidates. You can send them all a questionnaire in which you solicit their responses to local environmental issues. This can be followed up with an in-person screening where you can talk directly with the candidates. In local elections this is usually a fairly small number of folks.

Once endorsed, the Club can promote that individual with our membership, send out a notice to the press and allow the candidate to use our name as an endorser. An endorsement also allows the Club

Have you wondered how some folks get elected?

to do a little fundraising on behalf of the candidate (anyone seeking office needs money!). Club members can be organized to provide much-needed volunteer time to a candidate. All of these things help increase the chances of winning the election.

Candidate forums

Maybe your Group doesn't want to get directly involved in endorsements. Your Group could sponsor a public forum to help educate the public on environmental concerns in the community. These kinds of events also raise the awareness of the Club as a player in the civic life of the community.

How many times have you shaken your head and wondered how some of these folks get elected to office? More than once, I'd bet. Take out your frustrations by helping good candidates get elected. There are many fun and creative ways to do this (as well as Club rules and election laws to follow). I will be happy to share more ideas and suggestions and logistics with you. Drop me a note at timk@bikerider.com. It's not too early to be thinking of running yourself; local elections come around in another two years. For sound environmental policy, we need the right policy makers.

SierraStudentCoalition

by Melissa Damaschke, Sierra Club Student / Conservation Organizer

ENERGY-EFFICIENT OUTINGS

Students across the nation are encouraging fuel efficiency and promoting the use of hybrid vehicles to address the United States' energy crisis. This was highlighted in my last article that described the Sierra Student Coalition "I Will Evolve" campaign. Here in Michigan, students



With soaring gas prices and air quality alerts in Southeast Michigan, it's time for alternative modes of transportation that are better for our wallets, better for personal fitness, and better for the air we breathe.



Contact Melissa Damaschke, Sierra Club Student/Conservation Organizer for the Building Environmental Communities Program, at melissa.damaschke@sierraclub.org or 248-435-5277.

and community members are also working to provide "outings" that bring attention to our energy concerns. One outing promotes fossil-fuel-free methods of locomotion; the other promotes hybrid technology.

GREEN CRUISE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, METRO DETROIT

With soaring gas prices and air quality alerts in Southeast Michigan, it's time for alternative modes of transportation that are better for our wallets, better for personal fitness, and better for the air we breathe. This year students, parents and community members in the metro Detroit area are organizing their first "Green" Cruise to bring attention to ways in which we can improve air quality.

People of all ages are encouraged to participate in the Green Cruise parading up and down Woodward Avenue—walking, biking, rollerblading, running and skateboarding, to name a few forms of cleaner transportation that produce no pollution and are better for the environment. At the end of the event there will be a rally where local community members will explain the importance of alternative forms of transportation as well as announce the Green Cruiser of the year.

Not only does this outing *not* use fossil fuels (which helps keep Michigan's air clean), it's fun and inspiring! This is an outing where all

ages can have fun while they make a difference. If you're interested in participating in this year's Green Cruise, or if you would like to plan one in your community, contact Melissa Damaschke.

HYBRID DREAM CRUISE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, METRO DETROIT

Close to two million people are expected to view over 400,000 classic cars that cruise up and down Woodward Avenue for the Woodward Dream Cruise. (Now, that's a well-attended outing!) This year, Sierra Club activists in Southeast Michigan are showcasing a new classic in the cruise—hybrids.

Now, I admit my favorite car is a 1956 Jaguar Roadster (and yes, I'll probably drool if I see one there). However, I realize it is time for us to evolve and take the issue of energy seriously. The fact that fuel efficiency has not improved significantly since the energy crisis in the '70s is disappointing. This cruise is the perfect opportunity for Sierra Club to show a captive audience that the new classic can get 40 to 50 miles per gallon.

Do you own a hybrid and are you looking for an opportunity to rev the engine? Join us for the cruise or create your own cruise in your community. Contact Leigh Fifelski at 248-435-5277 or leigh.fifelski@sierraclub.org for more details.

Chapter Funding Update



**YOU MAKE OUR MICHIGAN VICTORIES POSSIBLE—
THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!**

by Wendi Tilden, Mackinac Chapter Development Director

**Earth Share
OF MICHIGAN**

Sierra Club's work in Michigan would not be possible without the generous support of you and our other members.

Sierra Club volunteers stand up for what is right, and many of you generously give financial gifts to the Mackinac Chapter and/or the Sierra Club Foundation to support the program work in Michigan that amplifies your volunteer actions to achieve even greater effect. But there's another easy way for you to help achieve Sierra Club's goals—join Earth Share of Michigan's workplace giving program! Earth Share of Michigan is an alliance of Michigan's leading nonprofit environmental and conservation charities and provides an easy way to help Sierra Club and other environmental nonprofits in Michigan and throughout the country and world. Ask your employer—or other businesses you have a connection with—to join Earth Share of Michigan.

Why should a company host an Earth Share of Michigan workplace giving campaign?

Workplace partners provide the environmental giving option in their campaigns for a number of reasons: to

demonstrate their corporate support for the environment, to address their employees' interests and concerns with an environmental choice in workplace giving, and to help protect our natural heritage.

How does Earth Share of Michigan make workplace giving easy for employees?

It provides an environmental option in workplace giving programs. Employees make donations—which can be designated to a specific organization—through a simple payroll deduction to environmental causes affecting the world and their hometowns.

How can you bring Earth Share of Michigan to employers you know?

Contact the Mackinac Chapter's new development director Wendi Tilden (517-484-2372 or wendi.tilden@sierraclub.org). To learn more about Earth Share of Michigan, visit www.earthsharemichigan.org.

MICHIGAN-BASED EARTH SHARE OF MICHIGAN MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alliance for the Great Lakes (formerly Lake Michigan Federation)

Center for Environmental Study

Citizens for Alternatives to Chemical Contamination

Clean Water Fund, Michigan Chapter

Clinton River Watershed Council

Detroit Audubon Society

East Michigan Environmental Action Council

Ecology Center

Friends of the Rouge

Huron River Watershed Council

Little Traverse Conservancy

Michigan Audubon Society

Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited

Michigan Environmental Council

Michigan United Conservation Clubs

Michigan Wildlife Conservancy

The Sierra Club Foundation, Mackinac Chapter

Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision

The Nature Conservancy, Michigan Chapter

Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition

Urban Options

Washtenaw Land Trust

West Michigan Environmental Action Council

Sierra Club Outings: Get Hooked

by Cheryl McConnell, Mackinac Outings Chair

Sierra Club groups across Michigan conduct well over 100 outings each year. Outings range from a family walk in the park to hard-core bushwhacking through the wilds of the U.P. All outings leaders are volunteers, donating their time and expertise so participants will have a

Why do participants go on outings? My guess is they like to be in the company of people who share environmental ideals.

truly memorable experience. Leaders pay for their own training, their own equipment, and use their vacation days to lead trips. So, why do people become outings leaders? I can't speak for everyone, but here is my story.

My first experience with the Sierra Club outings program was as a participant on a national service outing. (See Mike Garr's article, p. 24.) I paid \$250 to have the privilege of cutting trail in the Daniel Boone National Forest. The Forest Service provided us with a secluded

campsite on the banks of the Red River, 50-gallon drums of water and a private port-o-let. What more could you want? I worked harder that week than I ever had in my life. But I got to meet the coolest people! The 12 participants were from all across the United States. A 75-year-old grandmother worked as hard as any of us. Our trip also included a reporter for *Southern Living* magazine. His assignment was to write a story about great southern vacations and somehow he got assigned to

Outings participants take a rest break on the trail.



NANCY SHIFFLER

and You'll Hike in Good Company

a Sierra Club work trip. (He must have made his editor mad!) Having a writer along was not bad at all, but on the fourth day of the trip (that's four days with no shower!) a photographer was sent to document the outing. Luckily, only the back of my head made it into the magazine. At the end of the week I was tired and sore, but I left behind a mile of beautiful trail that hikers would use for years to come.

That is how I got hooked. I became a national leader the next year.

At this time I also became involved in my local group outings. My tiny group in Illinois had only three leaders, and I was drafted to be the fourth. Our goal was to do one

outing per month. Some of our outings had three participants and some had a dozen. (We decided that quality, not quantity, of participants would determine the success of our program and we considered ourselves successful.) I led day hikes and an occasional bicycle trip. One of my most enjoyable outings was a women's beginner backpack trip. Taking women on their first wilderness trip was a learning experience for us all. (I had no idea that an adult would not know how to light a campfire... but what a great place to learn.)

When my husband was transferred to Michigan a few years later, I became involved with the Crossroads group. I lead an occasional hike for

them and I help with our winter paddling trip on the Huron River. I still manage to lead a national outing every so often, as well. Last summer I was involved in two national trips here in Michigan. I love showing Michigan off.

Why do participants go on outings? My guess is they like to be in the company of people who share environmental ideals. They also come so they can see the unique places Michigan has to offer. They come to learn about Michigan's plants, animals and history. Still others join a service outing so they can give something back. What makes Sierra Club outings most successful is our volunteer leaders. I can't thank them enough.

HIKERS AND STARGAZERS EXPLORE MAYBURY'S NIGHTTIME AURA

by Ed McArdle, Outings Leader

As dusk deepened to dark last February 9, about 20 hikers gathered in the stables parking lot at Maybury State Park for the annual winter's night hike. Maybury—just west of Northville—is a great place in the daytime, with miles of trails and both paved and dirt roads over rolling

terrain that is closed to auto traffic and just right for biking and hiking. There is even a working 19th-century farm with all the resident animals located near the main gate. But at night the park takes on a special aura.

After introductions by flashlight we proceeded into the dark park interior. The weather was warm for February, but there was still good snow cover in the forest and on the trails. At night the snow reflects a beaming glow among the trees; watching the stars between the tree branches gave

us a sense of mystery and timelessness. At our first stop in the center of the woods, our resident amateur astronomers John Hergott and Melton French pointed out planets and constellations riding high in the night sky.

We resumed our slow-paced journey with flashlights off—to keep eyes adjusted to the night. The woods sounds were the sound of boots crunching over crisp snow. At our next stop near the pine forest, we asked for silence so we could better hear ... the silence. I called out for barred owls that

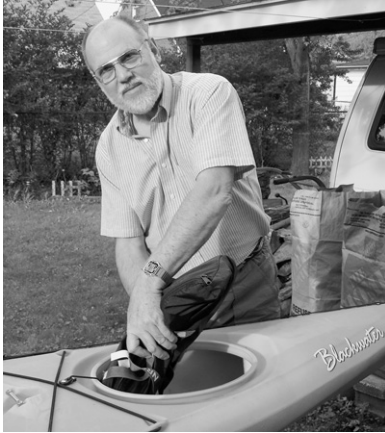
live there. After several hoots, we finally heard an answer.

Coming on the heels of such a perfect experience with nature, many of us felt a renewed determination to continue our fight for preserving the environment and our parks for the next generations. We ended our walk, went to a local pub to warm up and talk of other journeys past and future—a perfect closure to a wonderful winter evening. Thanks to the park manager for leaving the gate open beyond hours to accommodate our walk.

RIVER BANK DEPOSITS, OR, PADDLING WITH ETHICS

by Phil Crookshank, SEMG Outings Chair

I was intrigued to hear Dave Llewellyn's account of a five-day Sierra Club paddle on the St. Mary's river during late fall. This river has a great history—it runs out of Okefenokee Swamp south and east and becomes the boundary of Georgia and Florida. The St. Mary's was used



throughout early history as the only transportation from the ocean inland 100 miles.

I always feel that we leaders should live what we preach, and I am well aware that most rivers still use the old rule of burying human excrement in a 6-inch hole 300 feet from the water's edge. But I also know that this should not be a hard rule. The land surrounding the St. Mary's is swamp, with highly fluctuating water levels. So . . . 300 feet doesn't mean healthy conditions if that land is under water after the next rainfall.

Thus, when I planned to take an eight-person kayaking group to the St. Mary's in early March, I resolved to bring along a portable toilet of some sort. However, all suitable units were too large to fit through small Kayak hatches. I was determined, however, to make a unit that would work, and I found the perfect system—a Portable Environmental Toilet (PETT) biodegradable bag system.

I went to see the unit, and then to the hardware store to gather materials. Using my lifetime of creative building to make a unit that would fold in half, it was soon half the size of the store-bought unit. Naturally I was quite proud of my invention, but would it hold up in real condi-

I can only speak for myself, but this beautiful river trip was enhanced by my knowledge that we truly “left no trace”.

tions? Several of the participants along for the trip were leery, but they cooperated enthusiastically when they discovered it was comfortable, safe and easy—in addition to being environmentally ethical.

We had a magnificent paddle, camping on sand bars wherever we wished, passing through areas of huge cypress growing right in the water, with Spanish moss drapery hanging down. Many downed trees made for exciting lift-overs or for threading through. We enjoyed camaraderie at evening campfires, with creative campfire desserts made by several of the kayakers. I can only speak for myself, of course, but this beautiful five-day river trip was enhanced by my knowledge that we truly “left no trace,” buried or otherwise.

Lead by example, share ideas with others, walk the walk, take only pictures and leave no deposits.



COURTESY PHIL CROOKSHANK

Phil Crookshank builds a toilet for his kayak.

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EXPLORING AND ENJOYING WINTER WILDFLOWERS

by Joanne Cantoni, SEMG Outings Coordinator

“I didn’t know there were wildflowers in December!” exclaimed my sister at the Thanksgiving dinner. I was telling them about the December wildflower walk that Phil Crookshank and I would be leading at Maybury State Park near Northville. I explained that this was an

outgrowth of an idea to view wildflowers at a particular place during different seasons and compare what we saw. Of course there would not be “blooming” wildflowers in December, I told my sister, but certainly there would be the skeletons of some of the favorites from spring, summer and fall.

On our wildflower walk in the spring, we identified 33 different species. Memorable were curly dock, teasel and bladder campion along the path leading to the farm; motherwort and thistles near the farm bluebird boxes; the colorful but invasive spotted knapweed, common mullein, Queen Anne’s lace, milkweed, purple coneflower, yarrow and several goldenrod species in the open meadows near the honey boxes. In the woods were blue cohosh, jack in the pulpit, solomon seal, trout lily and may-

apple. And many others.

We figured that only the plants with rather sturdy stalks would survive the fall and winter, and with a snow cover, the remains were easy to spot. Distinct were motherwort, thimbleweed, bergamot, goldenrods, asters, jimsonweed, heal-all, spreading dogbane, Queen Anne’s lace, fireweed and teasel. Most of the above species are familiar to those with a passing interest in flowers, but these skeletons often look very different than during the growing season.

Luckily we had Peter Bray among our group of 20. Peter is a very knowledgeable sort who added greatly to our enjoyment by identifying the less common plants and providing commentary. He identified velvetleaf (or indian mallow), a 1-inch yellow flower that is usually hidden behind large, velvety, heart-

shaped leaves (in summer). In winter, it had a star-anise-like seedpod: a sturdy, flat-topped, many-pointed star. Peter said that our foremothers sometimes used this pod to stamp a pretty impression into pie crust dough!

Late in the walk, we even discovered a marsh marigold blooming against all odds—in a trickle of a flowing creek. It had a cap of snow on top, but was beautifully yellow, as if it was June!

I don’t know if winter wildflower walks will ever be as frequent or popular as springtime walks, but this outing demonstrated once again that folks are intrigued by a familiar activity at an unusual time. Thinking—and planning—outings outside the box brings people who are inquisitive and ready to explore, enjoy and protect our favorite places.

Marsh marigold blooming in a trickle of a flowing creek. Note the cap of snow. The flower was a brilliant yellow.



PHIL CROOKSHANK

INNER CITY OUTINGS TAKES A CANOE TRIP AT CROSSWINDS MARSH

by Peter Bednekoff and Vera Hernandez



RALPH POWELL (2)

Children on a canoe trip with Inner City Outing volunteers.

Sierra Club Inner City Outings (ICO) is a community outreach program that provides opportunities for urban youth and adults to

explore, enjoy and protect the natural world. In June, Washtenaw ICO volunteers went canoeing at Crosswinds Marsh with youth from the Hikone Community Center in Ann Arbor. Ten inner-city children between the ages of 7 and 15 accompanied six ICO volunteers and one agency staff member.

We were accompanied by a naturalist, as well, who was there to guide us on our tour of the marsh. Along the way we spotted an eagle nest in a dead tree and learned that eaglets have hatched at Crosswinds in previous years, and that an eagle nest can eventually weigh 2000 pounds or more. The children also saw swans with their cygnets and Canadian geese with their goslings; bullfrogs called from hiding places along the banks; and we spotted many muskrat nests. Ralph Powell's canoe slipped through the water, silent enough to pass within a few feet of a great blue heron.

After an hour and a half of canoeing, it was time for lunch. The children helped carry lunch supplies to the screened-in picnic shelter on the boardwalk, where they first cleaned up the picnic site and then sat down to sandwiches, strawberries, bananas, lemonade and homemade banana bread. While we ate, swallows and swifts caught their own lunch over the water.

We returned tired and satisfied. Like many of ICO trips, it was a short drive and a world away for urban youth.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRAVEL FAR ...

by Michael Garr, National Outings Leader

I've been a lifelong Michigan resident, yet I'm like most who will travel 5,000 miles to visit remarkable vistas while sometimes ignoring the beauty in our own backyard. I made my

first visit to Isle Royale National Park in 1995 as a participant in a Sierra Club National Outing.

I loved the island and the leader saw some potential in me as a "future" leader. And indeed I became just

that, leading my first national outing for the Club to Isle Royale in 2001.

These are service trips, meaning people actually pay money to work on a weeklong project for the National Park Service. This year, I'll

take my eighth group to Isle Royale, a magnificent jewel in Lake Superior. I branched out, as well, with a National Service Outing to Pictured Rocks National Shoreline in 2002—a trip I hope to repeat in 2006.

Who attends these outings? Perhaps half of each group comes from the Midwest, but I routinely get participants from California and the Eastern seaboard. Some grew up in Michigan or went to school here, and almost all of them are first-time visitors to the island who look for-

ISLE ROYALE BACKPACK TRIPS OFFER MANY REWARDS

by Nancy Shiffler, HVG Group Representative

Take the boat to Isle Royale. Of course there is a seaplane that will get you there in half an hour, but if you take the boat you begin to understand the remoteness of this

special place. (And give yourself enough time on the island to immerse yourself in its back-country.)

I have led several backpack trips to Isle Royale for our local Sierra Club group. Each trip has its own character, defined by the mix of people, the route and the weather. Some years we hike the length of the Greenstone Ridge, from the boreal forest and thin, rocky soils of the northeast end to the beech-maple forests of the southwest end. Other times we cross the island in loops, our knees gaining on-the-ground understanding of the island's series of parallel ridges, steep on their north sides, gentler on the south.

For a trip of six to eight days, logistics are important. Menus need to be planned and food packaged to minimize weight.

ward to a service trip where they can return something to nature in the form of needed trail work and improvements. They fall in love, as I have, with one of Michigan's National Parks, its wolves and moose and endless adventures.

Don't wait 45 years like I did. Visit the island soon. Better yet, sign up for a national outing and experience Isle Royale with a group of fellow outdoor enthusiasts. See you along the trail.

The food and group gear (stoves, tarp, cooking pots, water filters) must be distributed equitably among trip members and redistributed each morning. In camp each night, everyone pitches in to filter water, set up the kitchen tarp, cook, wash dishes and complete the major engineering task of stringing up the food bags for the night.

On the trail, we hike along ridges with panoramic views of Lake Superior, down past marshy areas and inland lakes, keeping our eyes open for ripe blueberries, thimbleberries and raspberries. Wildlife viewing ranges from the large—if we're lucky enough to spot a moose—to the very small. On one trip we took a lunch break on a large rock slab, only to discover that it was home to a colony of red and black ants intent on defending their territory. It was a short lunch stop.

Each trip has its own moments of fun, friendship and beauty. It might be the time a fisherman shared his day's catch of lake perch with everyone at the campground. It might be loons calling in the morning or being awakened at night by a trip member urging us to come see the northern lights. Or it might be just sitting back after a long day of hiking to watch the sunset. Isle Royale rewards you every time you go with its own mixture of challenge and beauty.

- CLEAN LAKE
- TOXIC DUMPSITE



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



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

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SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

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2005 Annual Fall Retreat



EXPLORE THE GREAT OUTDOORS: historic Camp Miniwanca, acres of mature woods, miles of sandy beach, biodiversity walk, high ropes/climbing wall/canoeing/fishing, bird hikes, naturalist & survivor, natural landscaping, backpacking, stargazing, learn to sail

ENJOY GOOD COMPANY AND HEALTH LIFESTYLE WORKSHOPS: singing around the campfire, professional live music, silent & outrageous live auction, open mic, more vegetarian options, coffee chat on Friday night, nature hikes and crafts for families, singles hike, massage for couples

PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT WITH: "How to be an Activist" training, educational workshops on Sierra Club priority issues, your health with healthy eating & personal growth workshops, environmental leader keynote address, issue-oriented workshops, green building, retrofits & investments, voluntary simplicity

**FOR DETAILS ABOUT THIS YEAR'S RETREAT,
VISIT WWW.SIERRARETREAT.ORG**

NEW THIS YEAR: SIERRA ACTIVISM 101!

by Lydia Fischer, Legislative Committee Chair

Has an environmental issue sprung up close to home that you want to organize your community around? Are you interested in working to bring one of the Chapter

conservation campaigns closer to its goal? Learn how to take action!

The Chapter's Legislative Subcommittee (Conservation Committee) is offering a training workshop to volunteers and activists interested in carrying out local and state conservation campaigns by organizing other Club members as well as their communities and effectively conveying a message of environmental protection to decision makers and the general public. The workshop will take place during the Mackinac Chapter Annual Retreat (see previous page) and consists of two sessions. Participants will address a real-life environmental problem, and the discussion will revolve around setting goals and

strategies followed by making choices about which tactics should lead the campaign to success.

Attending the workshop requires pre-registration. Please check the Activism 101 box when you register for the retreat. Registrants will receive materials to be read in advance. In addition, we encourage participants to attend additional environmental education workshops offered at the retreat.

Chapter volunteer leaders and staff will lead both workshops. Questions? please e-mail Lydia Fischer at lydfisch@mindspring.com, or phone 734-994-3582.

Register today!

FIRST SESSION:

Crafting a conservation campaign. We'll discuss defining a focus, evaluating strengths and weaknesses, identifying allies and opponents, deciding on targets, communicating with the media and the public, raising and managing funds.

SECOND SESSION:

Implementing the campaign strategy. Hitting targets: legislators, regulators, decision makers, public. Building support and difusing opposition: lobbying, town hall meetings, requesting and attending hearings, other activities.

AN INTERVIEW WITH RETREAT VETERANS LEVITA AND CALLA FISHER

by Wanda Bloomquist, Retreat Committee Co-Chair

Levita and Calla Fisher have been attending the Mackinac Chapter’s Annual Retreat since 1997, and have placed it on their “must do” list ever since. “I wish there was a way to let people know what they were missing!” said Levita. It’s a statement you hear echoed throughout the retreat weekend.

Levita Fisher attended Camp Minawanca during summer camp in her youth and didn’t want to miss the opportunity to experience the atmosphere of this wonderful camp with other like-minded people. “It’s great to watch the interaction of the kids and the friends they make. There is such a sense of peacefulness and family. It really encourages children to develop a concern for

the environment in a safe and open place.” A few of her favorite programs have been Rita Jack’s Water Sentinel Workshop and being introduced to Qui Quong.

Calla Fisher has made the annual pilgrimage since she was six years old. “I look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones,” she says. Her favorite things to do are climbing the dunes and being on Lake Michigan. Teth-

erball is certainly her forte, as she has earned the title of “Retreat Champion” for the past two years. You will most likely find her with friends around the tetherballs before and after meals honing their skills.

Levita and Calla, along with many others who have been returning yearly, look forward to meeting you there this year. Join them in placing it on your “must do” list!

NON-MEMBERS WELCOME!

2005 ANNUAL FALL RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM

Names (include age if under 18):	_____		Lodging	Fee/Person	Total
	_____	Age 0-2	All	Free	Free
	_____	Age 3-12		\$50	_____
Address:	_____	Age 3-12	Dorm (Either)	\$70	_____
Phone:	() _____	Adult	Rustic Cabin or Tent	\$100	_____
Email Address:	_____	Adult	Inland Private Room	\$125	_____
		Adult	Lakeside Private Room	\$135	_____
(Saves postage & paper. Your address will not be shared.)					
Vegetarian Meals?	Yes How Many?		Donation to ICO (\$5 suggested)*		_____
Special Needs:	_____		TOTAL ENCLOSED		_____

Print and mail with remittance to Annual Retreat, c/o Lisa Wickman, 1623 Colorado, East Lansing, MI 48823. Make check payable to Sierra Club. For more information, contact Lisa at 517-332-5346, wickmall@haslett.k12.mi.us, or visit www.sierraretreat.org.

* Each year, Sierra Club Inner City Outings (ICO) brings a group of children to enjoy the Annual Retreat. Your donation ensures that we’ll be able to continue providing this wonderful experience for some of Michigan’s inner-city children.

Yes, I plan to attend Activism 101 (see article, above, for more details)

Group Meetings & Programs

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

Outings, political and conservation activities and general interest meetings are hosted regularly by groups throughout the state. There are numerous ways to get involved in your local group. Meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome. Contact group chairs (page 35) or those listed below. Up-to-the-minute outings and activities may be found on group websites or on the Mackinac Chapter website at michigan.sierraclub.org.

AG: Algonquin Group

Emmet, Charlevoix, Cheboygan & Presque Isle Counties

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

Clinton, Eaton, Hillsdale, Ingham, Ionia, Jackson & Shiawassee Counties

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

GENERAL MEETINGS: 3rd Mon each month, East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbott Rd, East Lansing. 5:30pm supper (small donation requested), 6:15 meeting.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: 5:30pm, 2nd Tue each month. Maria Lapinski-Lafaive, 517-374-4444 or mlapinsk@wmich.edu.

OUTINGS: Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796.

HELP WANTED: webmaster, publicity, outings leaders, information/merchandise tables. Contact Pete Pasterz, 517-676-3339 or pasterz@msu.edu.

CUP: Central Upper Peninsula Group

Alger, Baraga, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Marquette, Menominee & Ontonagon Counties

GROUP CHAIR: John Rebers, jrebers@nmu.edu or 906-228-3617

GENERAL MEETINGS: General membership & executive committee meetings: 7pm, Community Room, Peter White Library, 217 N. Front Street, Marquette. No general meetings planned for June, July, Aug. General meetings resume in September. Join us for a Little Presque Isle cleanup or one of our other outings.

OUTINGS: Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com

HELP WANTED: webmaster, newsletter, Little Presque Isle Cleanup, publicity. John Rebers, jrebers@nmu.edu.

CG: Crossroads Group

Livingston, southern Genesee & western Oakland Counties

WEB: michigan.sierraclub.org/crossroads

CHAIR: Rick Pearsall, 810-227-6298 or pearsall@michigan.sierraclub.org.

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7pm 3rd Wed of odd number months (no July meeting) at Brighton Library, 200 Orndorff Drive, Brighton.

9/21 Live Reptile & Amphibian Show.

11/16 Restoring Native Ecosystems at Brighton, Island Lake & Pinckney State Recreation Areas

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

HELP WANTED: Conservation chair, outings leaders. Rick Pearsall, 810-227-6298 or rick.pearsall@michigan.sierraclub.org.

HVG: Huron Valley Group

Lenawee, Monroe & Washtenaw Counties

WEB: michigan.sierraclub.org/huron

HVG HOTLINE: 734-480-7751

CO-CHAIRS: Doug Cowherd, dmcowherd3@comcast.net & Mike Sklar, mssklar@comcast.net.

GENERAL MEETINGS: 3rd Tue each month, 7:30pm, U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Nancy Shiffler, 734-971-1157, or Bill Rodgers, 734-769-0163.

HVG BOOK CLUB: 2nd Tue each month,

7:30pm, Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center, Ann Arbor. Read a selected book about nature or the environment & then discuss in a small group. David Brooks, dhb Brooks@umich.edu.

OUTINGS: Kathy Guerreso, 734-677-0823.

INNER CITY OUTINGS: 7pm, 2nd Sun each month, Room 320 Halle Library, EMU campus. ICO introduces urban children to outdoor & environmental experiences that might not otherwise be available to them. Interested chaperones, sponsors, planners & contributors always welcome. Contact us at washtenawico@yahoo.com.

KVG: Kalamazoo Valley Group

Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph & Van Buren Counties

CHAIR: Paul Haas, 269-664-5417 or paulhs@aol.com.

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7pm 3rd Wed, Kalamazoo Public Library, Oshtemo Branch, 7265 W Main. No May meeting. Verne Mills, 269-344-4279 (n), 269-488-4268 (d) or vmills@kvcc.edu.

OUTINGS: Verne Mills, 269-344-4279 or vmills@kvcc.edu.

NG: Nepessing Group

Genesee, Lapeer & northern Oakland Counties

WEB: michigan.sierraclub.org/nepessing

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

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7pm 2nd Wed each month (except July & Dec), Mott Community College, E Court St, Flint. Held in Genesee room, Prah Center (New Student Building). Committee reports followed by an environmentally-themed program. Light snacks provided. The public is always welcome!

OUTINGS: Dave Mansfield, 810-658-0406, mansfieldd@chartermi.net. Please check our website for outings listings.

NEMG: Northeast Michigan Group

Alcona, Alpena, Crawford, Iosca, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda & Roscommon Counties

Currently inactive. 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

Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair & Wayne Counties

WEB: michigan.sierraclub.org/semg

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

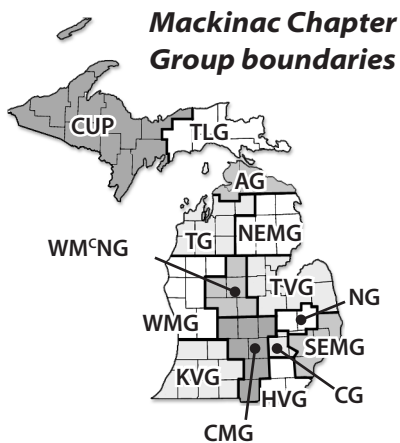
GENERAL MEETINGS: 6:30 or 7pm, 1st Thu each month, Sept-June, Northwest Unitarian-Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield. Social time: 7pm. Business mtg: 7:30pm. Program: 8-9pm. For program info contact Carol Izant, cogknot@yahoo.com or 248-352-6137.

OUTINGS: Chair: Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873 wanderphil3@netzero.net. Coordinator: Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370. Visit our website for listings.

TBA Quarterly Outings Planning Meeting & Potluck. Non-committee members welcome. Share a potluck dish at 5:30 then participate in next quarter's planning meeting. Call Mary Stoolmiller for date and time: 248-879-6004.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Meets 3rd Thu each month, Sierra Club BEC office, Tri-Centre Business Complex, 100 N. Crooks Rd., Suite #105, Clawson. Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645 or ecoed@netzero.net.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE: Held 6:30pm, last Thu each month (no Oct meeting), Jimi's Restaurant on Washington, Royal Oak. All are welcome! Tim Killeen, Political Chair, 313-526-4052 or timk@bikerider.com.



TLG: Three Lakes Group

Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac & Schoolcraft Counties

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

GENERAL MEETINGS: Thu, 7pm each month from Sept-May, Crawford Hall, Lake Superior State University campus.

OUTINGS: Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316 or rblanchard@LSSU.edu. Monthly hiking, snowshoeing, skiing, etc. takes place 9am 1st Sat each month, Oct-April, at the Michigan Welcome Center.

HELP WANTED: webmaster, publicity, monitor environmental alerts from chapter. Contact Roger Blanchard 906-253-9316 or rblanchard@LSSU.edu.

Thumb Valley Group (TVG)

Arenac, Bay, Gladwin, Huron, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac & Tuscola Counties

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.

Traverse Group (TG)

Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Antrim & Otsego Counties

WEB: michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse

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

GENERAL MEETINGS: 4th Tue Sept-May, Traverse Area District Library. Special outdoor activities June-August. We are frequently involved in community forums,

informational meetings concerning local environmental issues & educational events. Monica Evans, 231-325-6812, or check our website.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Monica, 231-325-6812 or imagine@betsievalley.net.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE: Jim Stricko, 231-275-7596, or Peggy Fry, 231-218-2587.

OUTINGS: Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344.

HELP WANTED: outings leaders, fundraising help, monthly meeting program coordinator. Monica Evans, 231-325-6812 or imagine@betsievalley.net.

WMcNG: Wakelin McNeel Group

Clare, Gratiot, Isabella, Mecosta & Montcalm Counties

WEB: michigan.sierraclub.org/wakelin-mcneel

ACTIVE MEMBERS WANTED: Contact Julie Murphy, 989-426-5378 or soaringbuteos@msn.com.

West Michigan Group

Kent, Lake, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola & Ottawa Counties

WEB: michigan.sierraclub.org/westmichigan

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

GENERAL MEETINGS: 6pm 2nd Thu each month, downtown YMCA, 33 Library NE, Grand Rapids. Everyone is welcome! Craig Ressler, 616-891-9055 or craig_ressler@yahoo.com.

OUTINGS: Lisa Symons, 616-942-6549 or greensymons@yahoo.com.

INNER CITY OUTINGS: Members provide outdoor experiences for non-members who might not otherwise have them. Most participants are young and from urban communities. Our success increases environmental awareness, interpersonal skills & self-esteem of participants through active involvement with nature. Interested ICO volunteers are welcome to attend meetings and/or e-mail us with your suggestions. For more information, to volunteer or to donate call John Pulver at 616-457-5999 (days), 616-453-2480 (eve), or Paula Ballast at 231-861-6548, Logcabinballast@aol.com.

Mackinac Chapter Outings

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

Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map, page 29, to determine a group's location. [E] = educational content, [C] = conservation focus, [T] = trail maintenance, [S] = service. Trips begin at the trailhead. Fees are a suggested donation. Outings are open to everyone. More detailed outing descriptions may be found at <http://michigan.sierraclub.org> or at individual group websites. All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the liability waiver before you choose to participate in an outing, please go to: www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms, or contact the Outings Department at 415-977-5528 for a printed version.

August

8/6 NG Kresge Center Family Hike. 2pm. Easy, short. Good for adults with young children. Lapeer Co, Fish Lake Rd. N. of Vernors Rd. Marian Listwak. 810-688-3192, cell 810-241-9864 or listwak@usol.com.

8/6 WMG Cannonsburg State Game Area hike. 8:30am. Elaine Goodspeed will lead this 5-mi hike. RSVP to Elaine at 616-656-9078, egoodspeed@comcast.net.

8/7 [E] SEMG Seven Lakes Hike, Picnic & Swim. 9am. 6mi hike through varied & interesting habitat among the lakes & many ponds of this beautiful park. We will observe & identify indigenous flora including the new prairie restoration project. Bring a picnic lunch & swimsuit. Moderate pace, hilly, rain or shine hike. Meet in Bloomfield Hills behind the CVS, SE corner of Woodward & Square Lake Rd. John Herriott, 248-766-9575.

8/7 WMG Pigeon Creek Park Hike. 2pm. Bring your favorite dog(s) & hike at Pigeon Creek Park in Ottawa County. Contact Sharon Wilson at 616-532-0753 for details.

8/13 SEMG Chrysler Canada Greenway Biking. 10am. Ride on Essex Co's multi-use trail. This ex-railroad bed is the most southerly link of the Trans-Canada Trail. 25-mi round trip, 10-12mph, over mostly flat & open countryside from Harrow to Ruthven, Lunch at Colasanti's Tropical Gardens. Possible stop at Pointe Pelee Winery. Meet at 10am at Ontario Tourist Office on Huron Church Rd, 1/4mi S of Ambassador Bridge. Bring passport/birth cert. & photo ID. Nancy Ward, 313-562-3210.

8/13-14 WMG Family Camping Trip in the Sand Lakes. Quiet area between Kalkaska & Traverse City off M72. Contact Lisa Symons at 616-942-6549 or

greensymons@yahoo.com.

8/14-15 CUPG 19th Annual Autumn Canadian Backpacking Expedition, Pukaskwa Nat'l Park. Extremely rugged coastal trail hike & exploration of surrounding bush in search of waterfalls, pristine beaches, etc., for the very fit, equipped, expert-level, foul-weather, on/off-trail expeditioner. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

8/19-21 NG Lake Superior Provincial Park Canada Backpacking. Difficult. Remote Wilderness. Meet 11am Fri, Towab Trailhead, Frater Rd. off hwy 17, 2 hrs N of Sault Ste Marie. Some difficult steep sections. Agawa Falls, Spectacular Scenery, Solitude & trout fishing. Provincial Park fees. Chris Ozminski, 810 417 6727, COZ@tir.com.

8/19-21 TG Backpack camping trip to South Manitou Island. Full moon, the magnificence of S. Manitou Island, superb hiking & amazing sights! Take the ferry to the Island, hike to Bay Campground group campsite. Ferry ride \$25/adult, \$14/kids. Split \$40 group campsite fee. Reservations a must! 20 people max. Rob, 231-620-8085.

8/20 NG Polly Ann Trail Family Hike. 2pm. Easy, short, good for adults with young children. Meet at Dryden Post Office, Dryden Rd, Lapeer Co. Marian Listwak, 810-688-3192, cell 810-241-9864 or listwak@usol.com.

8/20 [E] SEMG Seven Ponds Prairie Flower Walk. 9:30am. 5-mi/mod pace. Enjoy late summer prairie & wetland wildflowers. Bring water bottle, insect repellent. Meet in Bloomfield Hills behind CVS on SE corner of Woodward & Square Lake Rd. Opt. restaurant stop after. Mary Powell, 810-732-3884.

8/20 WMG Hemlock Crossings Park Hike. 10am. Moderate paced hike with Mary

Jane Lamse. Bring a sack lunch & water. Contact Mary Jane Lamse at 616-942-1837 or mjlamse@iserv.net.

8/26-29 TG 9th Annual Two-Hearted River Canoe & Camp. Moderate. Meet 5pm at Two-Hearted River State Forest Campground on Lake Superior. Campsites are rustic with pit toilets & first-come, first-served. Look for Sierra Club sign on a campsite. Sat canoe the Two Hearted River. Sun hike the North Country Trail. Canoe rentals (*\$30), gas & groceries available at Rainbow Lodge. Bring own food & gear. Potluck dinner on Sat. night. Co Rd 500 north from M-123, west of Tahquamenon Falls State Park. Follow signs to Rainbow Lodge (±12 mi). Campground is past Rainbow Lodge. Reservations required by 8/10. Campsite \$10/night. Outings donation \$2. Lynn Livingston, 586-795-1678 or lynn.livingston@michigan.sierraclub.org.

8/28 [E] SEMG Ojibway, Ontario Prairie Flowers & Hike. 10:30am. Enjoy summer flowers in the prairie while the sun is low then head for the wooded trails for about 5mi moderately-paced on level terrain. Bring insect repellent & picnic lunch. Meet behind Dearborn Centennial Library. Bring passport or 2 pieces of photo ID. Call if weather is? Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

8/29-9/1 NG Pictured Rocks National Park Service Outing. 12 Mile Beach Campground. Dress for work. Reservations & leader approval required. Limit 12. Denny Crispell, 989 624-5038.

September

9/2-6 CUPG Backpacking Rock River Canyon & Falls, Silver Falls. N Alger County. Very rugged cross-country hike for the very fit, equipped, intermediate-

level, foul-weather, off-trail trekker. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

9/3 NG Farm Woodland Family Hike.

2pm. Easy, short, good for adults with young children. Farm & woodlands with trails. 2933 Burnside Rd, Lapeer. Marian Listwak, 810-688-3192, cell 810-241-9864, listwak@usol.com.

9/4 SEMG Brighton Rec Area Hike. Noon.

Enjoy park's hilly trails now that the weather has cooled off a bit. Moderate/brisk pace/5-7 mi. Meet at Southfield Marathon station at Tel-12 Mall. Restaurant stop after. JoEllen Lane, 586-773-3104.

9/9-11 NG North Manitou Island Backpacking.

Easy, beautiful, flat, wilderness island. 7 mi to W side of island. Camp on bluff overlooking Lake Michigan. Day hike interior of island on Sat. Early hike out on Sun. Reservations required. No dogs. Meet 9:15am Fri at Manitou Island Transport Ferry Dock, Fishtown, Leland, MI. Ferry leaves at 10. Make individual ferry reservations by calling 231-256-9061 (\$25 round trip). National Park entrance fees. Don Persson, 810-257-7441 D, 810-695-0516 eve. Donald.persson@delphi.com.

9/10 SEMG Canoe the Lower Huron from Hudson Mills.

9am. Enjoy a late summer paddle on the lower stretch of the Huron, NW of Ann Arbor. 4-hr float to Delhi Metropark. Lunch stop halfway. Reservations required by 9/1. Bring change of clothes, picnic lunch, \$22 rental. Meet in Livonia between Wal Mart & Jiffy Lube, SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96. Mary Powell, 810-732-3884.

9/10 TG Take a trip to LA! 1:30pm. Hike along the secluded & serene Lake Ann Pathway past Shavenaugh & Mary's Lake & short section of the Platte River. Moderate/strenuous. US31 W from Interlochen, left on Reynolds Rd. Sign up by 9/8. Andrea 231-947-9344.

9/10 WMG Allegan State Game Area Hike.

9am. 6-mi hike with Elaine Goodspeed. Bring water/lunch. RSVP Elaine, 616-656-9078 or egoodspeed@comcast.net.

9/16-18 TG Last Chance Campout. Enjoy the full moon at Traverse City's best-kept secret, Lake Dubonnet campground. One of Jim DuFresne's best campgrounds in Michigan. Set up camp on Fri eve, trek the Lost Lake Pathway (5.5mi) on Sat. Share

potluck dinner Sat. Bring fishing poles & hiking boots. Sites first-come, first-serve so RSVP by 9/14! Monica, 231-325-6812.

9/17 NG Old Bloomer #3 Hike. 10am. Moderate, 4.5 mi. Dogs ok. Meet at Ortonville Rec Area. State Park permit required. Linda Berker, 810-653-8242 Cell phone for day of hike 810-348-8664.

9/18 SEMG Pontiac Lake State Park Hike.

Noon. 5mi walk through rich woods & rolling hills. We go rain or shine, bring trail lunch & water. Enter via Gail Rd; meet at the beach & bike trailhead. Sudha Chhaya, 248-219-3326.

9/18 WMG Blandford Nature Center Hike/Organic Harvest Festival. Easy hike, great festival. Lisa Symons, 616-942-6549.

9/22-26 WMG Backpack the Porcupine Mountains. Base camp with day hikes & geocaching opportunities. Sarah Houwerzyl, 616-698-8639.

9/24 NG Crim Hike. 10am. Urban hike on hard pavement. Meet at the University pavilion at Saginaw & Kearsley. Mike Haley, 810 686-6354 or thaley@gfn.org.

9/24 [E] SEMG Cass Benton Park Hike.

Noon. Enjoy this seldom-visited area on Hines Drive near Northville. 5-mi/leisurely pace over rolling hills. Explore 400 species of shrubs & trees in the Bennett Arboretum en-route. Meet in picnic area NW corner of 6 Mi Rd. & Northville Rd. Restaurant stop after. Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

9/24 WMG Easy-Moderate singles hike.

Lisa Symons, 616-942-6549.

9/25 SEMG Paint Creek Trail 10 Mile Hike.

10am. Hike this rails to trails pathway. 10mi/moderate to brisk pace. Stop in Lake Orion for lunch. Wear good footwear, bring water. Meet in Troy behind Std Fed Bank, 14 Mile Rd. Michael Scanlon, 313-884-2214.

9/30-10/4 CUPG Backpacking Mulligan Plains Escarpment.

N Marquette Co. Very rugged cross-country hike for the very fit, equipped, intermediate-level, foul-weather, off-trail trekker. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

October

10/1 NG Brandt Rd Hike. 10am. 5-mi, moderate. Holly Recreation Area. 8100 Grange Hall Road, Holly, MI 48442. Trailhead park-

ing on left. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

10/2 [E] SEMG Detroit Cultural Center

Tour. 10am. See the most interesting human environment in Michigan! Explore area around Woodward & Warren, concentrating on exterior architecture. Slow paced 1.5-2 hr walk. Frequent stops to discuss history & heritage. See a gothic cathedral, a Romanesque church, architectural gems by Albert Kahn & Minoru Yamasaki, a French chateau & Romanesque Revival mansion—many listed on state & nat'l registers of historic buildings. Meet 10:30am, NE corner of Cass & Warren, in front of the Wayne State U. bookstore. Parking in structure on Cass & Putnam (*\$5). Bring lunch for picnic on WSU's campus. Bob Duda, 734-464-0076.

10/7-9 WMG Camping trip at Seaton

Creek near Manistee. If you don't want to camp the whole weekend, come up on Sat for a 10mi hike from Red Bridge to campground. Bring a dish to pass for potluck on Sat night. RSVP Elaine Goodspeed, 616-656-9078, egoodspeed@comcast.net.

10/8 NG Mott Lake Hike. 10am. 5mi, moderate. Meet at Genesee Co Parks & Rec office, 5045 E. Stanley Rd. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

10/8-9 NG Jordan River Pathway Fall

Backpacking. Moderate. Meet Sat 9:30am at trailhead. Backpack 10mi on Sat & 9 mis on Sun. Experience Michigan's best peak fall colors. M-32 W of Gaylord, US131 S 1.5 mi to Deadman's Hill Rd. Parking area at end of road. Dave Mansfield 810-658-0406 or mansfieldd@chartermi.net.

10/9 SEMG Lake Erie Metropark Dayhike.

11am. Enjoy Fall sunshine & changing leaves on 5mi hike. We might see migrating Broad Wing Hawks! Meet in Lake Erie Metropark at boat launch parking lot. Restaurant stop after. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

10/15 NG Holly South Hike. 10am. Moderate. 8100 Grange Hall Road Holly. Meet in Overlook Parking Lot. State Park permit required. Linda Berker, 810-653-824; cell phone day of hike, 810-348-8664.

10/16 SEMG Orion Oaks Hike. Noon.

4-5 mi, slow-paced hike through the beautiful fall colors. Rolling, wooded terrain (1 big hill!). Meet in Troy behind the Std Fed Bank

continued on page 32

Outings, cont.

on 14 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789.

10/22 NG Sawdust Corners Hike. 10am. 5-6mi, moderate. Lapeer State Game Area. I-69 to M-24 N 7.5mi. W on Sawdust Corners Rd. 0.6 mi to parking lot (go past "road closed" sign). Restaurant stop. Dogs ok. Greg & Mary Downey, 810-664-4917.

10/22-23 NG Hoist Lakes Backpacking. Moderate. Meet Sat 9am at trailhead. Hoist Lakes foot area parking lot on M-65. 9mi on Sat, 6mi on Sun. \$5 rec fee permit required (purchase at Glennie Party Store). Don Persson. D 810-257-7441; Eve 810-695-0516; Donald.persson@delphi.com.

10/23 NG Hogback Hills Hike. 1pm. 5 mi, difficult. Meet at fishing parking lot near 12406 E. Stanley Rd. Restaurant stop. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304, glorypepper@yahoo.com.

10/23 [E] SEMG Addison Oaks Tree Hike. Noon. 4-5mi/moderate pace. Admire the colors of autumn & identifying as many trees as we can. Bring Tree guides & binoculars. Call if weather is questionable. Meet in Troy behind the Std Fed Bank on 14 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

10/29 SEMG Bald Mountain, South. Noon. 5-6mi, mod. paced, hilly. Restaurant stop after. Meet in Troy behind Std Fed Bank, 14 Mile Rd. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

10/30 SEMG Brighton Rec Area Hike. Noon. Peak of the color season! 5-mi/moderate to quick paced hike. Bring water, trail snacks, & meet in Southfield south of Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall. Restaurant stop after. Mike Scanlon, 313-884-2214.

November

11/4-7 CUPG Backpacking Hiawatha Nat'l Forest. Eastern U.P. Cross-country hike for the very fit, equipped, intermediate-level, foul-weather, on/off-trail winter trekker. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

11/5 NG Dauner-Martin Nature Sanctuary Hike. Fenton 10am. 4.8mi, easy. Meet in

Farmer Jacks parking lot, north end, 1390 N. Leroy. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

11/5 [E] SEMG Morning Hike at Maybury. 11am. Dress in layers for mod paced 3mi hike through fallow pumpkin patches & over fallen leaf covered trails. Meet at the park concession bldg, 8 Mi Rd. entrance. Trip goes rain or shine. State park fee. Opt restaurant & ice cream stop after. Tom Griebe, 248-349-8782.

11/9 NG Holly North Hike. 10am. 6mi, moderate. Meet in parking lot behind Groveland Twp. Hall, 4695 Grange Hall Rd. Linda Berker, 810-653-8242; cell phone day of hike, 810-348-8664.

11/6 SEMG Bald Mountain-North. Nope, this isn't the same place as last week. Northern part of Rec Area. View lakes, ponds, & late Fall colors on the rolling, wooded trails. 5+ mi/moderate-brisk pace. Meet in Troy behind the Std Fed Bank, 14 Mile Rd. Opt restaurant stop after. Jo Ellen Lane, 586-773-3104.

11/12-13 Sleeping Bear Dunes Late Fall Backpacking Moderate. Meet Sat 9am, Platte River Campground Office. National Park entry & backcountry campsite fees. Interesting scenery & possible off trail dunes exploration. Chris Ozminski, 810-417-6727, COZ@tir.com.

11/13 SEMG Ortonville State Rec. Area. 9:30am. 5-6 mi/moderate pace. Wooded rolling terrain. Meet in Bloomfield Hills behind CVS, SE corner of Woodward & Square Lake Rd. Restaurant stop after. Mary Powell, 810-732-3884.

11/20 NG Eastern Michigan Kresge Center. 1pm. Mod 5mi. Dogs allowed. 2816 Fish Lake Rd, Lapeer. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304 or glorypepper@yahoo.com.

11/20 [E] SEMG Clinton River Trail Hike. Noon. New rail-trail from Rochester into Rochester Hills along the Clinton River. 5-mi/moderate pace. Meet in Rochester at the Older Persons Center parking lot. Hike unless heavy rain, restaurant stop after. Mary Stoolmiller, 248-879-6004.

11/25 SEMG Post Thanksgiving Day Hike. 11am. Sleet in 2003, snow in 2004, but

2005 is going to be a great day at Proud Lake Rec Area! 5-6mi loop, brisk pace. Meet at Southfield Marathon station, Tel-12 Mall.

December

12/2-5 CUPG Backpacking Pigeon River Country State Forest, Vanderbilt. Cross-country hike for the very fit, equipped, intermediate-level, foul-weather, on/off-trail winter trekker. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

12/3 NG Clio Bike Trail Hike. 10am. 5mi, easy. Clio City Park on Clio Rd, _mi N of Vienna Rd. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

12/10 NG Sierra Club Christmas Party at Ligon Outdoor Center. 12-4pm. Ligon Outdoor Center, 5213 E. Farrand Rd. Pot-Luck dinner. Denny Crispell, 989-624-5038.

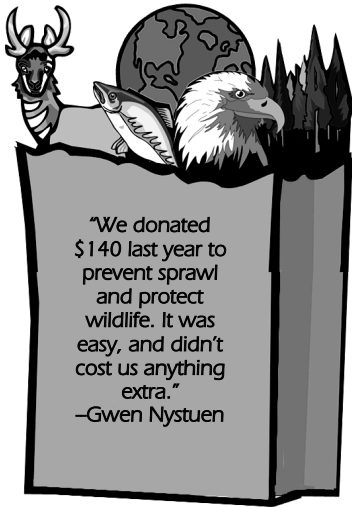
12/17 NG Fairground Hike. 10am. 5mi, easy. Meet at Cummings Activity Center, Genesee Co Fairgrounds, 6130 E Mt. Morris Rd. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

January

1/19-2/6 CUPG Special Expedition. 19-day, 250km Algoma Highlands Ski Expedition, Algoma District, Ontario. A long-range, extremely remote ski trek pulling 140-lb cargo sledges. Unsupported, no resupply. Suitable for hardcore expeditioner in peak physical condition, accustomed to 6ft of snow & -50 standing temps. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

February

2/18-26 CUPG 19th Annual Canadian Snowshoe Expedition. 9-day west-to-east traverse of Lake Superior Provincial Park. Long-range, extremely remote trek pulling 100lb cargo sledges. Unsupported, no resupply. Suitable for the hardcore expeditioner in peak condition, accustomed to 6ft of snow & -50 standing temps. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.



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President George W. Bush
The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

202-456-1414

White House fax line:
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White House email:
president@whitehouse.gov

U.S. Congress

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

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

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

Michigan

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

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

Resources for Activists

- Get your free copy of "A Citizen's Guide To State Government" to find out who your legislators are. Call House Speaker Craig DeRoche, 517-373-0827, or Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, 517-373-0797. Tell them you are concerned about environmental protection, and ask for a copy!
- Check out the Daily Scoop, www.sierraclub.org/scoop, to keep up on environmental news and ways to take action.
- ENVIRO-MICH is the Mackinac Chapter-sponsored Internet list and forum for Michigan environmental and conservation Issues. For a free subscription, email majordomo@great-lakes.net with a one-line message in the body of "subscribe enviro-mich" (leave your signature file off).
- Visit our Mackinac Chapter Website for updates on the issues in *The Mackinac* and to get involved: michigan.sierraclub.org
- Get a free subscription to *The Planet* by promising to write at least three letters a year to your elected officials in support of the environment. Send your name and address to Sierra Club Planet Subscription Request, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968.
- Email Activists Needed! Join the Sierra Club's Mackinac Action Network. Members receive periodic legislative updates and respond to alerts when critical environmental bills are being acted upon in the Michigan House and Senate. When the Sierra Club needs you most, we'll contact you via email. To respond to alerts, simply follow the web link, customize a suggested message to the targeted legislators, and press Send. Sign up at mackinac.sierraclubaction.org (note: no "www" in the address). For more information, email gayle.miller@sierraclub.org.

GET THE LATEST MACKINAC CHAPTER NEWS DELIVERED MONTHLY TO YOUR INBOX.

In July we premiered our Chapter e-Newsletter. We invite you to sign up to receive the latest information on outings, programs, legislation and other time-sensitive events that occur between publications of *The Mackinac*. E-mail kathy.boutin-pasterz@sierraclub.org to join. *Your e-mail address will only be used for the monthly e-newsletter unless you indicate that you would like to receive other information from the Chapter (occasional alerts and program information).*

The Chapter is still seeking a name for the e-newsletter. Ideas? Contact kathy.boutin-pasterz@sierraclub.org.

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

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

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Mackinac Chapter Directory

HTTP://MICHIGAN.SIERRACLUB.ORG/DIRECTORY.HTML

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Sierra Club Delegate to MRCC

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

Great Lakes Charter Public Comment Sessions Scheduled

by Rita Jack, Water Sentinels Project Coordinator

On June 30, the Great Lakes governors and the premiers of Ontario and Quebec announced the beginning of a 60-day public review and comment period for revised draft agreements that strengthen protection of Great Lakes waters. "The Great Lakes are our most precious natural resource, and it is critical that we act responsibly to protect them," said Governor Granholm. "I am encouraged that these revised documents reflect a stronger stand against diverting water out of the Great Lakes and places decision-making on in-basin water use clearly in the hands of the individual states and provinces."

The revisions are based on over 10,000 comments received last year from citizens of the Great Lakes states and provinces. The Office of the Great Lakes has posted information on the draft Annex 2001 Implementing Agreements on their Website located at www.michigan.gov/deqannex2001process.

"We are especially interested in comment on the new provisions to prohibit diversion of Great Lakes water and continuing debate on the point at which water in containers should be considered a diversion," said Ken DeBeaussaert, director of the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes and a member of the Water Management Working Group. "I encourage all of our citizens to examine this document and provide comments so we can be sure the final product is reflective of what is best for Michigan."

To facilitate comments, the Office of the Governor and the Office of the Great Lakes are hosting a series of public comment opportunities. See the schedule below for dates and locations. Once the review period is complete and public comments have been taken into account, the agreements will be refined and presented to the governors and premiers for their evaluation and approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PUBLIC MEETING August 8, 2005, 1:00 p.m.

Sault Ste. Marie, MI

Loutit District Library

407 Columbus Avenue, Grand Haven, MI

PUBLIC MEETING August 11, 2005, 6:30 p.m.

Public Meeting Room

100 McMorrان Blvd., Port Huron, MI

PUBLIC MEETING August 12, 2005, 1:00 p.m.

Cadillac Place, 1st Floor Conference Room

3058 W. Grand Blvd. Suite 2-300, Detroit, MI

PUBLIC HEARING August 23, 2005, 1:30 p.m.

Michigan Library and Historical Center

Lake Ontario Conference Room

702 W. Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, MI

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO SIERRA CLUB, 109 EAST GRAND RIVER AVE, LANSING, MI 48906.



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