

TheMackinac

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB • FEBRUARY-APRIL 2006

Michigan Water Protect It For Life



Inside:

- Water is for Fighting
- Annex 2001 Agreement
- Water Laws
- Pledging to Protect Michigan's Water



SIERRA
CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

TheMackinac

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB
FEBRUARY-APRIL 2006



OntheCover
This beaver lives with its mate and two offspring on a small stream in Wexford County. Beavers are nature's architects, and a wide variety of wildlife benefits from their handiwork.

thePhotographer
Charles St. Charles III is a professional photographer who lives and takes photos near Cadillac, Michigan, and further afield. Many of his photographs appear in this issue. He uses his work to educate schoolchildren about nature and wildlife, and he has generously donated all the beautiful nature photos in this issue of *The Mackinac*. See more of Chuck's work, and how to contact him, at www.natureofthewild.com.

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Water is for Fighting

YOUR DAYS OF TAKING WATER
FOR GRANTED ARE OVER

by Sue Kelly

The West has known for a long time something that many Michiganders are just now realizing: “Whiskey is for drinking and water is for fighting.” We’ve always thought, mistakenly, that there is an unlimited supply of Michigan water. (And, unfortunately, many decisionmakers in our state still think this way.) Globally almost two billion people lack access to fresh water; by 2025 the demand for fresh water will be 56% beyond the water supply currently available.

The time to act to protect Great Lakes water is long past due.

Who gets to use or remove Great Lakes water? Who controls the rules and regulations? Several extensive efforts have been made to address these questions. The final decisions have yet to be made on the details, but the Great Lakes Charter Annex and a package of bills in the Michigan Legislature can still use your support. If you care about the future of the water you see as you look about you, about the water you swim in, cook with, and, yes, drink, then don’t put this issue of *The Mackinac* down until you’ve made a decision to do something to help.

Do you want to be lumped in with the generation that let them sell our Great Lakes? If you haven’t contacted your state legislators and Governor Granholm, you could find yourself saying, “I should have done something when I had the chance.” Now’s the time. This is your chance. Make your voice heard!

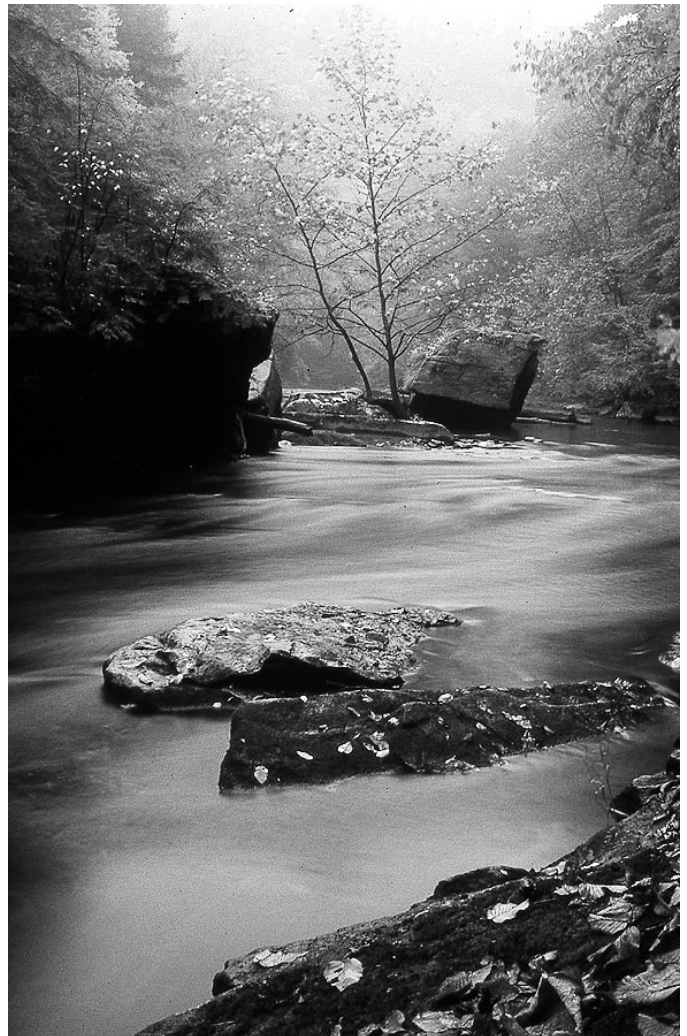


Sue Kelly lives in Brighton with her husband Mike and two dogs, Maggie and Oscar. She can be reached at sue.kelly@michigan.sierraclub.org.

Read on . . .

- The Great Lakes Charter Annex, strengthened and approved by Great Lakes governors and the premiers of Ontario and Quebec, sets standards for water diversions with the opportunity for states to adopt stricter laws. See p. 4 for the Sierra Club’s position on how Michigan lawmakers should implement the Charter Annex.
- The Michigan legislature is in the middle of examining a package of laws they claim will address water diversion. This is your opportunity to support the enactment of good, strong laws. See p. 6 for how.

Fast-flowing water captures slowly drifting leaves in this beautiful northern Michigan river.



In the Spotlight

WHO DECIDES HOW OUR WATER IS USED? YOU DO!

Water Laws Need Your Input

MICHIGAN AT HEART OF NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT WATER USE

by Rita Jack

Great Lakes Basin water use, a hot topic of late, has received even more attention with the December release of the Annex 2001 documents. The documents set a framework for how to deal with water at the regional level. Michigan, at the heart of the discussions and nego-

tiations, is one of only a few states in the basin working on new, state-level laws to govern the use of water.

We at the Sierra Club know that the different approaches for water management can be confusing, but it is essential that the public participate in this impor-

Water management can be confusing, but it is essential that the public participate in this important process.

tant process. This issue of *The Mackinac* covers several new aspects of water use management and offers suggestions for how you can help.

GOVERNORS & CANADIAN PREMIERS STRENGTHEN GREAT LAKES CHARTER

Sierra Club Applauds Annex Agreement

CALLS ON STATES TO ADOPT STRONGER LAWS

The Great Lakes Compact, signed in December 2005, is a critical step toward responsible management of the Great Lakes. "We applaud the Great Lakes governors and the premiers of Ontario and Quebec for their leadership in protecting the Great Lakes," says Emily Green, director of Sierra Club's Great Lakes Program. "Their commitment has given us the opportunity to ensure our Great Lakes will not be sold to the highest bidder."

Green hopes that state legislatures will go one step further. States should adopt strong laws to implement the compact, thus protecting the Lakes for the future. Sierra Club is urging each state to pass stronger laws in five key areas:

- Require measurable water conservation programs, including water recycling and reuse, prior to any application for a diversion of Great Lakes water.
- Require water conservation measures for all withdrawals of water in amounts at or above 100,000 gallons per day.
- Close and oppose diversion loopholes based on container size.
- Require return of diverted Great

Lakes waters, after appropriate treatment, to the point of initial withdrawal.

- Establish set political boundaries for "straddling communities" and communities within "straddling counties" (communities or counties that straddle the Great Lakes Basin) that seek to divert water as of the date of the law's enactment.

A male Loon drying out after diving for a fish in Lake County, MI.



CHARLES ST. CHARLES III

Fast Facts

- The Great Lakes Compact and Annex Agreement are the result of four years of work by the Great Lakes governors and interest groups representing industry, agriculture and the environment.
- They comprise documents that set a regulatory floor and allow each state to adopt more protective requirements.
- They establish standards to govern the Great Lakes governors' approval or veto over any diversions of water from the Great Lakes Basin.
- For the first time, they establish a uniform standard to apply to in-basin uses of water, but allow each jurisdiction to set the withdrawal level at which this standard will apply.

More information

- Great Lakes Charter: cglg.org/pub/charter
- Great Lakes Charter Annex 2001: michigan.gov/deq
- International Joint Commission: www.ijc.org

Michigan's Public Trust Doctrine

by Rita Jack, with gratitude to Jim Olson of Olson, Bzdoc, and Howard

The concept of public trust doctrine comes from ancient common law that states that the air, water, and earth are held in common. The United States held the waters of navigable rivers and lakes and the soil under them in trust for the people, and this trust passed to a state when it was granted statehood. Accordingly, the bottomlands of the Great Lakes “are held in trust by the State of Michigan for use and enjoyment by its citizens...” So it says on the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality’s website:

The State, as the owner and trustee, has a perpetual responsibility to the public to manage these bottomlands and waters for the prevention of pollution, for the protection of the natural

Resources

- Circuit Court Judge Lawrence Root, ruling in Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation v. Nestle Waters North America, Inc., Cir. Ct. No. 01-14563-CE, Nov. 25, 2003.
- University of Toledo Law School: law.utoledo.edu/LIGL/public_trust_doctrine.htm
- Olson, Bzdoc & Howard: envlaw.com
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources: michigan.gov/dnr (search “Value to Michigan”)
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality: michigan.gov/deq (search “bottomland conveyances”)

“The bottomlands of the Great Lakes are held in trust by the State of Michigan for use and enjoyment by its citizens...”

– MDEQ website

resources and to maintain the public’s rights of hunting, fishing, navigation, commerce, etc. The State of Michigan’s authority to protect the public’s interest in the bottomlands of the Great Lakes is based on both ownership and state regulation. The Public Trust Doctrine gives a state authority to manage and to protect the public’s fundamental rights to use the property.

James Olson, lead attorney for the Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation, stated in his June 16, 2004 letter to Governor Granholm that a private diversion of water out of a watershed for the purpose of sale elsewhere was prohibited under Michigan common law where it would diminish the flow or level of a lake or stream. This would mean that any standard that was more liberal or relaxed would undermine the property rights of riparians and citizens under the public trust doctrine from the headwaters of streams down to and including the Great Lakes.

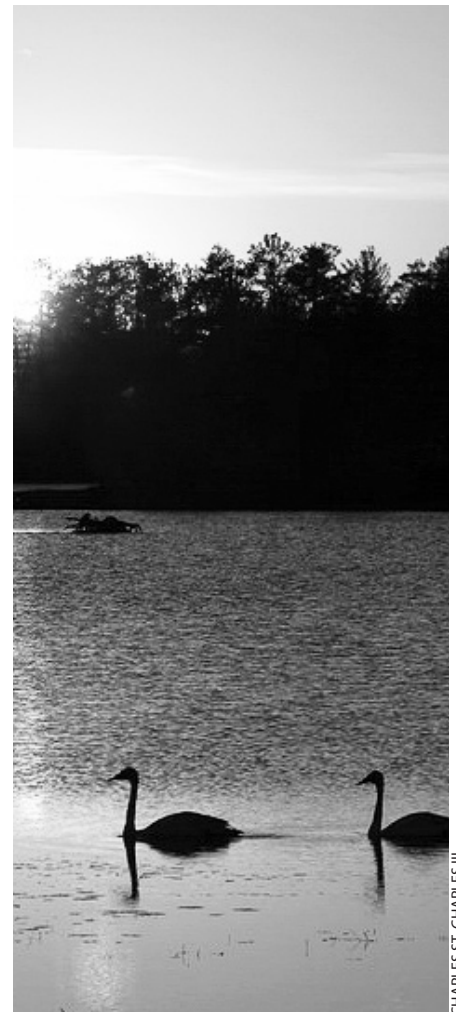


Rita Jack, the Michigan Chapter’s Water Sentinels Project Coordinator, can be contacted at rita.jack@sierraclub.org or 517-484-2372.

Welcome to the MICHIGAN Chapter!

Michigan Sierra Club members have voted overwhelmingly to change the name of the Mackinac Chapter to the Michigan Chapter. We will continue to call the newsletter The Mackinac as a tie to the first 38 years of Michigan Sierra Club history.

Trumpeter swans at the Seney Wildlife Refuge in Schoolcraft County, MI.



CHARLES ST. CHARLES III

Capitol Watch

by Gayle Miller

Glancing Backward, Charging Forward

Last year was exciting for the Sierra Club's top legislative priority: putting a stop to dangerous pollution from concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO). The Sierra Club played key roles in the development of an excellent package of bills to address the problem, and hundreds of citizen lobbyists pushed hard for the bills' introduction. Prior to introduction, however, House leadership disappointed the Sierra Club by not releasing the bills. Thus, the pollution continues unabated.

The Sierra Club remains undaunted and will move forward aggressively with a campaign to raise public awareness about CAFO pollution and put ever-increasing pressure on the Legislature.

Water, Water, Water!

In the last weeks of the 2005 legislative session, environmental groups worked hard to improve a package of water withdrawal bills introduced by Sen. Patty Birkholz (R-Saugatuck). As originally drafted, the bills would have actually weakened existing protections against unwise water withdrawals from the Great Lakes, inland lakes and streams, and groundwater. Amendments added in committee, however, strengthened the bills so that the environmental community, including the Sierra Club, supported their moving out of the Senate and on to the House.

There is still much to be done to strengthen the bills. Amendments will be sought in the House to require water conservation; prevent out-of-basin diversions of Great Lakes water; and protect water dependent resources on private property (such as ponds and wetlands) from being damaged by excessive water withdrawals. The greatlakesgreatmichigan.org website provides details on the progress of this collaborative campaign.



The Next Big Thing: Clean, Sustainable Energy

In 2006 the Sierra Club will step up its efforts to push the legislature to establish clean, sustainable energy in Michigan. The state is already seriously talking about agricultural based energy technologies, including ethanol and biodiesel. The Sierra Club will be working hard to make sure that the state's investments result in clean, sustainable energy solutions, and not "sound good, do nothing" corporate giveaways. Members can look forward to workshops and other events designed to increase our knowledge of clean energy issues and push for real solutions.



Gayle Miller, the Michigan Chapter's Conservation Program Coordinator, can be reached at 517-484-2372 or gayle.miller@sierraclub.org.

WANT MONTHLY INFO
ON HOW YOU CAN HELP?

Subscribe to *The Watchdog!*

UPDATES DELIVERED
TO YOUR INBOX

The Michigan Sierra Club Legislative Program now publishes a monthly e-newsletter. This is our way to keep you informed about important legislative initiatives that affect the environment. Sierra Club members and citizen lobbyists receive short, educational articles as well as opportunities for action.

To become a Citizen Watchdog, sign up for the Mackinac Action Network at <http://mackinac.sierraclubaction.org>.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Play Your Part in the Democratic Process

SPRING LOBBY DAY
SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 26

The Sierra Club's Spring Lobby Day will take place on April 26. Last fall over 100 citizen lobbyists descended upon the Capitol to talk to lawmakers about factory farms and water withdrawal legislation. Lobby Day is a great opportunity to learn from experienced citizen lobbyists while playing an important role in democracy. Join us this year and we guarantee that you'll learn, have fun and feel great for having put your values to work for the environment.

For more information on any of the Sierra Club's legislative programs, contact Gayle Miller at 517-484-2372 or gayle.miller@sierraclub.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2006

2nd Annual EnviRUNment

4-MILE FUN RUN AND 2-MILE WALK

Enjoy an invigorating morning of running, walking, playing, and socializing with friends, families, and community members at the 2nd Annual EnviRUNment! All proceeds go towards environmental education in Oakland County.

The run will begin at the East Boat Launch and will follow the bike path to the West Boat Launch where runners will turn back and end back at the East Boat Launch. The walk will follow the bike path in the opposite direction to a one-mile marker and then follow that path to return.

We will also be participating in a cleanup effort to keep Kensington looking beautiful!

Thanks to our 2006 Sponsors!

- Free kid relay
- Entertainment
- Free picnic lunch
- Awards and raffle prizes for finishers
- Awesome t-shirt!

EnviRUNment Schedule

- 9:00 a.m.: Registration
- 10:00 a.m.: Walk
- 10:15 a.m.: Run
- Awards and picnic to follow

Location

Kensington Metro Park, East Boat Launch

Cost

- \$18 before April 14 (t-shirt included)
- \$25 after April 14 (t-shirt on first-come basis)

Park admission included. U.S. funds only. NO REFUNDS. Please do not send cash by mail.

Checks, payable to Sierra Club, must be received no later than April 10 at:

Sierra Club EnviRUNment
100 N Crooks, Suite 105
Clawson, MI 48017

More information

- Packet pick-up on race day only
- www.sierraclub.org/community/oakland/run
- Phone: 248-435-5277

2ND ANNUAL ENVIRONMENT REGISTRATION FORM

ONE FORM PER PERSON, PLEASE

Name: _____

Address: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Date of birth: _____ Race day age: _____

Email: _____

Gender: Male Female

T-shirt size: Small Medium Large X Large

Run/Walk: 4-Mile Run 2-Mile Walk

I would like to help in the cleanup effort following the run event.

Signature (of guardian if under 18 years)

All participants will be required to sign a form the day of the event releasing the Sierra Club from liability.

Clean & Healthy Great Lakes

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DIVING INTO?

Dangerous Bacteria Contaminate Michigan's Water

STUDY SHOWS CAFO WATER PERMIT FAILS TO PREVENT POLLUTION

by Gayle Miller

Michigan's water permit for concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) is allowing dangerous levels of bacteria to contaminate Michigan's lakes and streams. That is the conclusion of a Sierra Club analysis of early, raw data from a state-sponsored study to test the effectiveness of the permit. Despite strong evidence of a serious public health threat and violation of the law, four months after receiving the data the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) had taken no enforcement action against the CAFO studied and has yet to complete its analysis.

"The early data support Sierra Club's findings: Michigan CAFO permits let deadly waste contaminate the lakes and streams we swim in, fish in and use for drinking water," said state director Anne Woiodo. "Unless the CAFO industry can prove they will operate in compliance with our water pollution laws, they need to be shut down and no new or expanded

CAFOs should be built in Michigan."

More than 90% of water samples collected by MDEQ consultants from two streams around the Hartford Dairy CAFO during a 12-week period last summer exceeded Michigan's standards for full body contact for E.coli bacteria. The worst samples were well above 1000 times the state standards. Sierra Club obtained the water sampling data through a Freedom of Information Act request after representatives for the Van Buren County CAFO publicly criticized the state over the study, claiming that no violations were found. A summary and analysis of the data is on the Michigan Chapter webpage.

The Hartford CAFO was issued an individual water quality permit in June 2004, despite overwhelming opposition from local residents and environmental organizations. The MDEQ study is a "comprehensive water quality monitoring project to help evaluate the effectiveness" of water quality permits for CAFOs in

Michigan. In addition to E.coli, the water samples were tested for phosphorous, ammonia, nitrate/nitrites, and suspended solids, which Sierra Club did not analyze. The Hartford CAFO is the first of at least two CAFOs to be studied.

Fall sunrise burns off the morning mist on a pond in Wexford County, MI.



CHARLES ST. CHARLES III

LIVING A NIGHTMARE: ANIMAL FACTORIES IN MICHIGAN

Hudson-Area CAFO Victims Tell Story in Sierra Club Film

John and Peggy Zachel had lived on their family farm in Lenawee County for fifty years before 8,000 hogs moved in across the street. The story of the Zachels and hundreds of rural residents whose lives have been changed by concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) is told in "Living a Nightmare: Animal Factories in Michigan," a video recently released by the Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Twelve animal factories in and around Hudson, Michigan, pollute water supplies, destroy rural economies and make people sick. "Living a Nightmare" provides Michigan's first look at the real impact of CAFOs on the health and well-being of our state's family farmers and their neighbors.

We want to extend thanks to Future Media Corporation (FMC) of Okemos, Michigan, for their major contribution to

the Sierra Club's fight against polluting CAFOs. Future Media has won numerous awards for their world-class production of television, video and media products (futuremediafmc.com). President of Future Media Corporation Bob Bishop, along with his staff, delivered the powerful 22-minute documentary-style program, which will be used to educate the public and elected officials throughout Michigan. "Many of us grew up in rural Michigan and would not stand for that kind of degrading treatment of our neighbors—or of the watersheds," says Bishop. "Lacking the power of law, I decided to make the video because it's the right thing to do." Gayle Miller, legislative director for the Michigan Chapter, produced the film.

If you have an audience that would benefit from viewing the video, please contact the Chapter office.

Sierra Club Challenge to CAFO Permit in Court February 15

WATER SENTINEL LYNN HENNING DOCUMENTS POLLUTION OR DESIGN FLAWS IN OVER 100 MICHIGAN INDUSTRIAL LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS

Protecting Michigan's waters from industrial livestock waste takes a step forward on February 15. That's when Sierra Club gets its day in court.

Attorney Scott Jerger will argue that concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) asking for water permits in Michigan must disclose their plans to both state officials and the public before any permit is considered or approved. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's CAFO-permitting program violates the Clean Water Act by keeping critical information

about design and function of proposed or existing CAFOs out of the public eye until a permit is issued.

Michigan CAFO Water Sentinel Lynn Henning has documented pollution or design flaws from more than 100 of Michigan's industrial livestock operations, which adequate review and consideration of public input could have prevented. Also, a study of permit effectiveness at the Hartford Dairy CAFO (see facing page) supports Sierra Club's claim. The case is in Judge Beverly Nettles-Nickerson's court in Ingham County.

YOUR WATER, YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Last Year's Water Work Continues

2006 SHAPING UP TO BE A BUSY YEAR FOR WATER SENTINELS

by Rita Jack

Water Sentinels believe it is our responsibility to watch our waters, to guard them from harm and to report pollution when we find it. This year more than ever we need you to volunteer your time and energy.

A typical monitoring day begins early, when we meet to go over the day's objectives, review maps and discuss pressures facing the river. Experts provide you with training for the equipment and data forms, and then stream leaders are assigned for each site. When teams return,

we discuss our findings and share pizza while we finish paperwork. We often wrap up the outing early to mid-afternoon.

Being a Water Sentinel is fun and interesting. We gather necessary information about the waters we're watching. During 2005 the Sentinel volunteers gathered stream health information and performed habitat assessments at 34 sites on six rivers. They cleaned up dozens of sites at the first Pine River Trash Cleanup. In Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Sentinels tested water for dissolved oxygen, pH,

and measured specific conductivity. The Sierra Club's CAFO Water Sentinel, Lynn Henning, investigated over 100 Michigan factory farms, and volunteers and staff collected dozens of water samples to test for fecal bacteria and E. coli. The Michigan Chapter used that information to describe pollution patterns associated with factory farming in the report "Michigan's Dirty Rural Secret" (see Chapter website). Part two of this report is in production now.

Come join us!

You can find locations and tentative monitoring times below. Contact me, Rita Jack, if you want to help. Dates should be confirmed soon, and we'll schedule workshops for monitoring bacteria. Visit the Chapter website for schedules and information. Remember, at the end of a Sentinel outing, everyone gets a free t-shirt.

Water Sentinels Schedule for Spring 2006

River	Activity	Time
Pine River, Gratiot County	Monitoring	TBD, early May
Pine River, Gratiot County	Trash Cleanup	TBD, early June
Pinnebog River, Huron County	Monitoring	TBD, May
Menominee River, Menominee Co. (New!)	Monitoring	TBD, May
Salmon-Trout & Yellow Dog Rivers, & Cedar Creek, Marquette County	Monitoring	Monthly, starting in May

Great Forests, Natural Heritage

THANKS TO THOSE DOING THEIR PART IN PROTECTING MICHIGAN'S ENVIRONMENT

SC Members Attend Mining Rules Workshop, Hearings

MANY TESTIFY IN FAVOR OF STRENGTHENING PROPOSED RULES

by Marvin Roberson

The culmination of two years of work drafting a statute and rules to regulate nonferrous metallic minerals mining came in December with hearings on the proposed rules. Hundreds of Club members attended hearings in the Upper Peninsula and Lansing, with many testifying in favor of strengthening those rules over what had been proposed. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) adopted most of the changes, which included stronger isolation of reactive materials from land and water, better analysis of complex interactions of toxic substances, and analysis of potential transportation impacts.

Prior to the hearings, the Sierra Club, along with the Michigan Environmental Council and the National Wildlife Federation, held workshops on the content of the proposed rules, as well as outlining the opportunities for public comment, and how to comment effectively. These workshops were funded by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

In Marquette, Grand Rapids and Ann Arbor, over 100 Club

The mining rules and statute are the strongest in the nation, in large part due to the fantastic turnout by Sierra Club members.

members attended these workshops. One of the attendees was Ann Arbor Mayor John Heiftje, who successfully requested the Ann Arbor City Council pass a resolution supporting our comments on the rules.

The mining rules and statute are the strongest in the nation, in large part due to the fantastic turnout by Sierra Club members at the hearings and in written comments. That's why we're a membership, grassroots organization, and every person's contribution counts. Without you, we wouldn't have the strongest mining rules in the nation!

TOXIC FISH AND UNSAFE WATER?

Hunters and Anglers Protect Michigan's Precious Places

FIRST-ROUND VICTORY ACHIEVED IN BATTLE TO STOP MASON TRACT DRILLING

More than 1,000 people took action to fight the threat to the Au Sable River and the pristine Mason Tract during last year's Outdoorama. Sierra Club is happy to report that we've won the first round. The court battle is ongoing, however, and proposed oil and gas drilling on Huron Manistee National Forest lands is still a threat.

Sierra Club will continue working with anglers and hunters to protect precious places in Michigan's wild lands. "Clean Water and Safe Fish" is Sierra Club's message for thousands of hunters, anglers and outdoor enthusiasts attending this year's 2006 Outdoorama. Volunteers will talk with these natural allies about our shared fight to protect the Great Lakes, streams and waters throughout Michigan. Airborne mercury, toxic discharges and

industrial agriculture are just some of the threats we will cover. Our partnerships often begin with one-on-one conversations, and Michigan United Conservation Clubs' Outdoorama affords us the opportunity to have those conversations.

Visitors to Michigan's 2005 Outdoorama learn how they can help protect the Au Sable River from oil and gas drilling.



Join us at Outdoorama 2006, February 22-26!

- Will be held at the new Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue in Novi.
- Find details, including price of tickets, hours and the location of the Sierra Club booth at the Michigan Chapter website.
- Find a place in your schedule for February 24 at 4 p.m. Sierra Club leaders will present a workshop about how partnerships with anglers are helping protect Michigan's natural heritage.

Burt Barnes, Environmental Hero, Retires

PIONEER IN THE STUDY OF FORESTED SYSTEMS STEPS DOWN

by Marvin Roberson

For the past 50 years Burton V. Barnes has been changing the way science has studied forests. He has also inspired thousands of students, many of whom have gone on to distinguished careers in academia, nonprofits, and private practice. Last year the Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter named an award after him, the Burton V. Barnes Award for Excellence in Academia.

Dr. Barnes began his undergraduate career at the University of Michigan in 1948 and received his PhD in Forest Ecology from the school in 1959. During postdoctoral studies in Germany he began his thinking about what an ecosystem is. Dr. Barnes was one of the primary individuals who recognized the connection between the living and nonliving portions of ecosystems, developing an innovative ecosystem-mapping program. He has published over 75 papers that move these ideas forward, as well as *Forest Ecology*, a widely used college textbook, and *Michigan Trees* (with Herb Wagner), the definitive Michigan tree identification book.

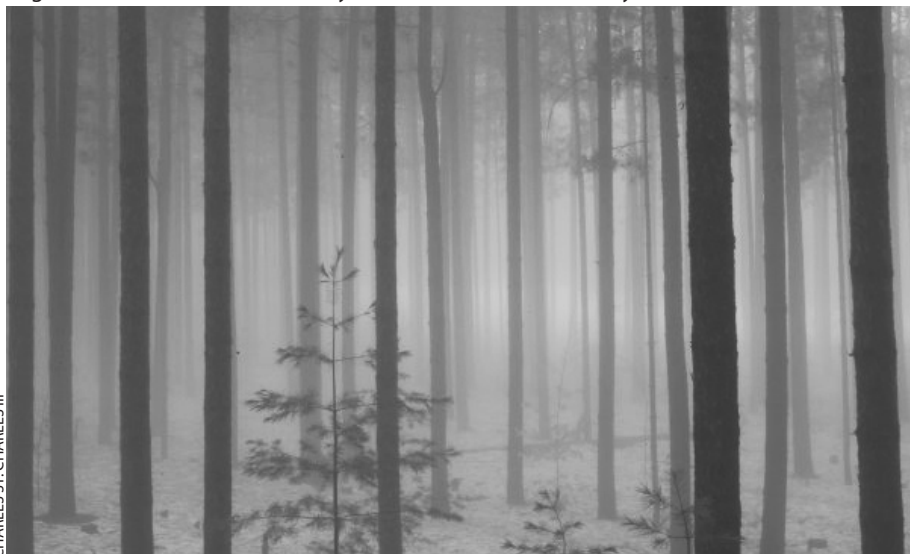
When asked to comment about his

career, Dr. Barnes had the following to say. "My career in field teaching and research in forest ecology has been and is incredibly exciting and rewarding. I was fortunate early on, while studying forestry in Germany, to discover landscape ecosystems as living segments of Earth space and a simple idea, the ecocentric concept. Finding ways to illustrate, explain and demonstrate this ecosystem approach for conservation and management has shaped my teaching, research and writing—even what I had to unlearn."

Barnes says that above all he's "learned the most from Michigan students—undergrads and grads, women and men—who were ready to learn and to share; physically and mentally prepared for rigorous, rain-or-shine labs; and ready to ask questions and speak their minds."

Dr. Barnes has done more than anyone else to further our understanding of how forested systems work and to educate thousands in that same understanding. He retires this year after an outstanding 50-year career. Dr. Burton V. Barnes, we salute and thank you.

Fog forms as the last snow of the year melts in Wexford County, MI.



CHARLES ST. CHARLES III

OIL AND GAS DRILLING
THWARTED, AT LEAST FOR NOW

Judge Rejects Savoy Energy Company's Argument

ANGLERS OF THE AU
SABLE, TIM MASON AND
SIERRA CLUB GRANTED
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

by Marvin Roberson

Marianne Dugan couldn't recall a judge granting a preliminary injunction to protect a threatened wild place, without even a hearing. Until now.

Dugan represents the Anglers of the Au Sable, the Sierra Club and Tim Mason in their lawsuit to block oil and gas drilling on National Forest land adjacent to the Mason Tract on the Au Sable River.

Judge David Lawton rejected the Bush administration argument that the Savoy Energy Company would suffer economic harm if it could not move ahead immediately with clearing the site and building a road to it. In his opinion, Judge Lawton cited the conservationists' experts Dr. Burton V. Barnes and Charles Guenther at length, noting that Dugan and her clients made a strong case that irreparable harm would occur if the proposed site preparation proceeded.

The case now proceeds to full briefing. Arguments are expected later this year.



For more information,
contact Marvin
Roberson at
[marvin.roberson@
sierraclub.org](mailto:marvin.roberson@sierraclub.org).

MembersInAction

Sierra Student Coalition Protects the Planet

IF YOU'RE A HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE STUDENT, JOIN NOW!

by Melissa Damaschke

The Sierra Student Coalition is the most powerful student-led environmental group in the country. A student-run arm of the Sierra Club, the coalition is a network of high school and college students from around America dedicated to protecting the planet at the local, regional, national, and even international levels.

So how do you start a Sierra Student Coalition in your school? The first thing to do is check out your state's SSC web-page (ssc.org). Then you should encourage your friends to join. Finally, drop me an email or give me a call. It's that easy.

What Can You Focus On?

- Re-energize America (incorporate renewable energies on your campus)
- Encourage Victoria's Secret and others to use recycled paper for their catalogues
- Convince your local coffee shop to buy fair trade coffee
- Start a recycling program
- Incorporate organic food into your cafeteria entrees
- Convince your school to stop using pesticides



Besides Saving the Planet, What Do You Get to Do?

- Host Movie Nights (Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price, Affluenza, Fern Gully, A Civil Action, etc.)
- Discuss issues at organized Coffee Nights (such as "Add some justice to your cup: Let's talk about fair trade coffee")
- Show off a hybrid vehicle (you could title this event "Saving the World from Under the Hood")
- Participate in nationwide days of action: Fossil Fool's Day (April 1), Earth Day (April 22), National Recycles Day (November 15), and so on.
- Host a Recycled Fashion Show
- Put together organic/vegetarian/vegan potlucks or cooking demonstrations
- Table with Sierra Club materials
- Organize a campus beautification day
- Host recycling workshops for other clubs, fraternities, sororities, etc.



Students at Wayne State University table to get more people involved at their "Student Organizational Fair."

What can you do? Start a recycling program.



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

WELCOME YOUR NEW EXCOM

Election Results

The four newly elected or reelected At-Large members of the Michigan Chapter Executive Committee are **Michael Sklar**, **Sue Kelly**, **Alfred M. Beeton** and **David Holtz**.

Dave Llewellyn, who has served as chapter vice chair this past year, is leaving the Michigan Sierra Club as he moves to Indiana. We will miss his humor and hard work and wish him well!

Sierra Student Coalition News

New Sierra Student Coalition Groups

Congratulations to Wayne State University, Roeper Upper School and DaVincis High School for starting Sierra Student Coalition Groups at their schools.

Crossroads Group Lends Support

Kudos to the Crossroads Group for awarding two \$1,000 grants to students at Hamburg Elementary and Hartland Consolidated Schools.

YOUR WORLD, YOUR CITY, YOUR HOME, YOUR LAWN, YOUR HEALTH

Campaigns Kick Off To Protect Michigan

BUILDING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITIES READY FOR 2006

by Leigh Fifelski

The Oakland County Building Environmental Communities (BEC) team will focus on two separate campaigns in 2006. Both will create safe and healthy communities as well as save you money.

Healthy Lawns

In the central eastern portion of Oakland County, activists continue their work to build communities that take an active role in protecting the Great Lakes. They do this by using only phosphorus-free fertilizers and no pesticides on their lawns. Not only does this help protect Michigan's lakes and streams, as well as the Great Lakes, but it also saves consumers money. Activists also approach their condominium and homeowner's associations and encourage them to create a rule banning the use of phosphorus-containing fertilizers. The BEC team continues to work with local mayors who have already signed onto the Great Lakes Cities Initiative.

Re-Energizing Michigan Cities

In Southeast Oakland County, volunteers have started spreading the word about local leaders around the nation who've taken innovative actions to reduce global warming emissions. These leaders are helping reduce taxpayer spending as well as improving the overall health of their community. BEC activists also encourage fellow community members to help re-energize their city. What is a re-energized city? One working toward reducing its global warming carbon dioxide pollution to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012. To be listed as

one of these re-energized cities, the mayor must sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and then take steps to meet the reduction by 2012.

To learn more, please contact Leigh or Melissa at 248-435-5722. You can also learn more about BEC events at sierraclub.org/community/oakland.



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



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

CLEAN LAKE

TOXIC DUMPSITE



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



Join us!

Join today and receive a **FREE** Sierra Club Weekender Bag



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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's Michigan Legacy

HAVE YOU READ THIS ISSUE OF THE MACKINAC? YOU CARE, DON'T YOU?

Join Sierra Club's Michigan Legacy Council

DO IT TODAY!

Sierra Club's priorities focus on the legacy that every Michigan child should inherit—water you can drink, air you can breathe, lakes safe for swimming, and communities free from poisonous waste; active participation in a democracy that ensures our elected officials fairly represent their voters, not special interests; and wild places that provide clean rivers, wildlife habitat, and opportunities to fish, hunt, hike, and learn about the natural world.

This is the legacy that you are invited to invest in, to celebrate, as part of Sierra Club's Michigan Legacy Council. This year we plan to spend more than \$500,000 in Michigan. With your help, Sierra Club can keep our Great Lakes healthy, strengthen citizen involvement in democracy and protect Michigan's wild heritage.

You can join Sierra Club's Michigan Legacy Council with an annual gift (or multiple gifts throughout the year) at one of these levels:

- Fens & Saplings \$500-999
- Streams & White Pines \$1,000-2,499
- Rivers & Groves \$2,500-4,999
- Great Lakes & Great Forests \$5,000+

Your membership in our Michigan Legacy Council will grow and sustain Sierra Club's strength. You will help prepare Michigan for critical elections in 2006 and 2008 and for our Michigan Chapter's 40th Anniversary Celebration in 2007. Please invest in our shared legacy today, for our families and our future.

First Great Lakes & Great Forests Donors

KALAMAZOO COUPLE PLEDGES \$45,000

by Gayle Miller

The Sierra Club kicked off the new year with great news. Your Chapter received a major financial gift from a Kalamazoo couple with strong ties to Michigan's natural areas and environment. Their \$45,000 contribution (pledged over three years) will allow the Sierra Club to continue critical efforts such as stopping pollution from concentrated animal feeding operations, increasing citizen engagement in democracy, and protecting Michigan's natural heritage for future generations.

The donors, who wish to remain anonymous, found that the Sierra Club ranked at the top of Charity Navigator (charitynavigator.org). Sierra Club's high score indicates that the Club is both effective and lean, putting the vast majority of financial gifts directly towards achieving its conservation goals.

Longtime residents of Michigan, the donors are deeply and personally connected to environmental protection, both

We hope their generosity and commitment to Michigan's future is an inspiration to you all.

in relation to their own interests and to those of their children and grandchildren. In addition to their Sierra Club support, the donors are committed to environmental education programs for children. "The exposure of children to nature is critical," they told us. "Kids don't learn to love the environment by sitting in front of a TV or computer."

Their generous gift makes these Kalamazoo donors our first members at the "Great Lakes & Great Forests" level of Sierra Club's new Michigan Legacy Council. We hope their generosity and commitment to Michigan's future is an inspiration to you all.

2005 GIFTS IN HONOR OF...

- Carol & James Deigton, from Jacob Driker
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Special thanks to these 2005 supporters who designated a specific gift to Sierra Club's Michigan Chapter through Earth Share of Michigan, a workplace giving program:

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Helen & Al LeBlanc
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Nystuen
Anne & Tom
Woiwode

Group Info, Meetings & Outings

Outings, political and conservation activities and general 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. If you live in an area that does not have a local group and you would like to start one, please call 517-484-2372 for more information.

In the Outings listings below, [E] = educational content, [C] = conservation focus, [T] = trail maintenance, [S] = service. Trips begin at the trail-head. Fees are a suggested donation. Outings are open to everyone. 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 visit www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms, or contact the Outings Department at 415-977-5528 for a printed version.

Up-to-the-minute outings and activities may be found on group websites or on the Mackinac Chapter website at michigan.sierraclub.org.

CMG: Central Michigan Group

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

GROUP CHAIR: Ann Marie Rachman, 517-336-7871 or annmarie.rachman@michigan.sierraclub.org.

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

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Maria Lapinski-Lafaive, 517-374-4444 or mlapinsk@wmich.edu.

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

OUTINGS: Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796.

CUPG: 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 & EXCOM MEETINGS: 7pm, Peter White Library Community Room, 217 N. Front Street, Marquette.

2/22 Trekking in Tibet. Bill Thompson of Downwind Sports will present a slide show of his recent visit to Tibet, mountaineering in the Himalayas & visits to Tibetan communities.

3/29 The Recovery & Management of Wolves in Michigan. Dean Beyers, PhD, Michigan DNR. A brief history of wolves in Michigan, chronicling the species recovery in the Upper Peninsula, & discussing the process being used to update the state's wolf management plan.

4/26 Waterfalls & Other Scenic Wonders of the Upper Peninsula. Sierra Club member Wayne Premo will share his photographs of the Upper Peninsula, concentrating on the Yellow Dog River & Salmon-Trout watersheds.

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

OUTINGS: Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com. Join us for a Little Presque Isle cleanup or one of our other outings.

2/18 Echo Lake Ski. 10am. Backcountry ski trip to Echo Lake. Meet at junction of old 550 & new 550. Ski two-tracks, beaver ponds & knobs. Pack lunch. Touring or backcountry ski gear recommended. Will Hamilton, 906-259-4484 or wilhamilton@excite.com.

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

3/5-11 Winter Camping & Caving. West-to-east traverse of Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, Miners Basin to Beaver Basin. Long-range, remote snowshoe trek pulling 100lb cargo sledges. Suitable for the hardcore winter camper in peak physical condition who is accustomed to 4ft of snow, -20° standing temps, & exposure to high winds. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

3/18 McCormick Tract Backcountry Ski. 10am. Meet at south entrance of McCormick tract on Peshekee Grade Rd (Rte 607). Touring/backcountry ski gear recommended. Will Hamilton, 906-

259-4484 or wilhamilton@excite.com.

4/7-10 Backpacking: Pigeon River Country State Forest, Vanderbilt. Cross-country hike for very fit, equipped, intermediate level, foul weather, on/off-trail trekker. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

5/5-8 Backpacking: Hiawatha National Forest, Eastern U.P. Cross-country hike for very fit, equipped, intermediate level, foul weather, on/off-trail trekker. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

5/14-20 Women's Northwoods Service Week. Plant native shrubs, prepare remote camp sites for summer, remove alien invasives from native forest ecosystems. Indoor beds, showers, kitchen & dining hall. Work 4 days, then explore area hiking trails, rivers & waterfalls. Limit 8. \$165. For application: Sherry Zoars, 906-358-1110 or zoars@excite.com; Kate Cunningham, 502-339-1381 or kate.cunningham@juno.com. Include contact info & where you read about the trip.

5/26-6/4 20th Annual Canadian Backpacking & Canyoneering Expedition: Agawa Canyon, Algoma District, Ontario. Off-trail expedition. Multiple swift-water, deep-water river crossings; recon for Agawa Canyon overlook; recon of seldom visited Dugout Creek Canyon & Falls; Kwagama Mountain bivouac; Wizzard Creek Mountain; recon of seldom visited 11-mile Creek Canyon, Falls & extremely remote side canyons; Shannon Creek Falls; Raindrop Falls; horrendous bugs; moose, wolves, bear, loons, & brook trout; & ACR bush train ride. Extremely strenuous & remote, long range expedition suitable for fully equipped, expert, foul weather, off-trail expeditioner who in peak physical condition. More at <http://therucksack.tripod.com>. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com.

CG: Crossroads Group

Livingston, southern Genesee & western Oakland Counties

WEB: michigan.sierraclub.org/xroads

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

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7pm on 3rd Wed, odd number months. Brighton Library, 200 Orndorff Drive.

1/18 Hunting, Fishing & the Environment.

2/15 Making Maple Syrup.

3/15 Get Your Yard Ready for Spring. Gretchen Voyle presenting.

5/17 Animal Magic. Mark Rosenthal at Hamburg Elementary.

9/TBA Live animals show.

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

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

2/12 Winter Paddle. Paddle the Huron River just downstream from Kent Lake to Paceway Picnic Area. Dress for weather, bring extras in water-proof bag. Meet at Kent Lake Beach parking lot, Island Lake State Rec Area. Reserve rentals in advance: Heavner Canoe Rental, 248-685-2379. Picnic after, nonpaddlers welcome. Ron Smith, 734-878-3689.

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. Free & open to public.

2/21 Michigan's Dirty Rural Secret: How Factory Farms are Polluting our Air & Water. Gayle Miller, Sierra Club, presenting.

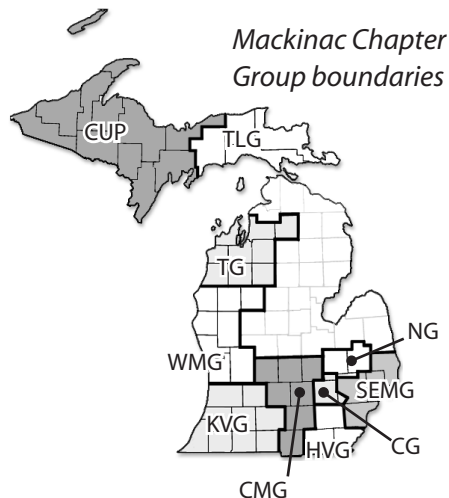
3/21 Aliens Among Us: Invasive Species & the Future of the Great Lakes. John Gannon, International Joint Commission, presenting.

4/18 TBA

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

BOOK CLUB: 2nd Tue each month, 7:30pm. Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center, Ann Arbor. Read book about nature/environment & discuss in small group. David Brooks, dhbrooks@umich.edu.

INNER CITY OUTINGS: 7pm, 2nd Sun each month. Room 320, Halle Library, EMU campus. Inner City Outings introduces urban Washtenaw Co children to outdoor/environmental experiences that might not otherwise be available to them. Chaperones, sponsors, planners & contributors



always welcome. washtenawico@yahoo.com, www.ico.sierraclub.org/washtenaw.com.

OUTINGS: Kathy Guerreso, 734-677-0823.

2/26 Waterloo Recreation Area Hike. Winter day hike/camraderie. Snow or shine; cancelled if rain. Ann Arbor City Hall, 1pm. Jay Schlegel, 734-477-5715.

3/12 Crooked Trail Hike. Late winter 5mi hike. Canceled if rain. Ann Arbor City Hall, 12:30pm. Kathy Guerreso, 734-677-0823.

3/19 Stinchfield Woods Ski or Hike. 1pm. If snow, bring skis if you have them. All levels welcome. Meet in front of City Hall. Nancy Shiffler, 734-971-1157.

3/25 Silver Lake Hike. 10am. Leisurely 2mi hike. Snow/shine; canceled if rain. Meet at old Maple Village Theater. John Schumacher, 734-662-8007.

4/1 Sat Family Hike. 10am. Bird Hills Park, Newport Rd. Wear hiking boots. Steady pace, brief stops for points of interest. Under 4mi. Kathy Guerreso, 734-677-0823.

4/ 8 Sat Family Hike. Meet at County Farm Park parking lot off Washtenaw Ave, Platt Rd. 10am. Wear hiking boots. Steady pace 1.1mi. Kathy Guerreso, 734-677-0823.

4/9 Waterloo Rec Area Hike. Spring day hike, about 6mi, snow/shine. Canceled if rain. Meet at Ann Arbor City Hall 1pm. Jay Schlegel, 734-477-5715.

4/23 Annual Potawatomi Trail Hike. 17mi of winding trail. Bring sack lunch, water. Ann Arbor City Hall, 8am. Canceled if snow/ rain. Rain date Apr 30, 8am. Ruth Graves, 734-483-0058.

Mackinac Chapter Group boundaries

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 monthly 3rd Wed except May. Kalamazoo Public Library, Oshtemo Branch, 7265 W Main. Verne Mills, 269-344-4279 (eve), 269-488-4268 (days) 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: Linda Berker, 810-653-8242.

GENERAL MEETINGS: 2nd Wed each month (except Jul & Dec). Mott Community College, Genesee room, Prah Center (New Student Building), E Court St, Flint, Michigan. 7pm committee reports, followed by environmentally themed program. Light snacks provided. Public always welcome!

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

SEMG: Southeast Michigan Group

Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair & Wayne Counties

WEB: michigan.sierraclub.org/semg

CHAIR: Carol Izant, 248-352-6137 or carol.izant@michigan.sierraclub.org.

GENERAL MEETINGS: 6:30/7pm, 1st Thu each month Sep-Jun. Northwest Unitarian-Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield. Social time 7pm. Business meeting 7:30pm. Program 8-9pm. Carol Izant, cogknot@yahoo.com or 248-352-6137.

2/15 Activist Night. 6-8pm. Join Sierrans & concerned citizens at the Clawson Building Environmental Communities office to work on projects. Mingle, nibble & work on stuffing envelopes, making photocopies, labeling envelopes, informing concerned citizens about upcoming educational opportunities, making posters. 100 North Crooks, Ste 105, NE corner at 14 Mile (park across Crooks). Melissa, 248-435-5277.

Group Info, Meetings & Outings

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

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

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

3/11 Outings Committee Meeting. 5pm. If you're interested in leading/learning about leading outings, come to our quarterly planning meeting/potluck. Non-committee members welcome. 5pm potluck, then next quarter's planning meeting. Liz Allingham's house in Dearborn, 313-581-7579.

2/12 Stony Creek X-C Ski/Hike. 11:30am. Ski rentals may be available (call park, 586-781-4242). If no snow, hike 5mi, mod pace. Meet in Sterling Hts, Metro-Pkwy & Van Dyke SMART lot. Opt restaurant stop after. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

2/19 [E] Wolcott Mill Walk. Noon. Historic 1857 mill & outbuildings & views of Clinton River. Med pace, 5mi walk, snow/shine. Meet in Sterling Hts, Metro-Pkwy & Van Dyke SMART lot. Restaurant stop after. JoEllen Lane, 586-773-3104.

2/26 [E] 15th Annual Ice Hike-Pointe Pelee (Ont). 9:30am. Dress warmly. 2-3hrs outdoor fun. Meet in Windsor, Ont Info Center, Route 3, 3/4mi south of Ambassador Bridge. Bring passport, picture ID, trail snacks, water. Restaurant stop after. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

3/4 Addison Oaks Hike. Noon. 5mi mod-pace hike by 2 lakes & spring-fed ponds. Meet at park entrance, Romeo Rd. Restaurant stop after. Sudha Chhaya, 248-219-3326.

3/5 [E] Hepatica Hike at Maybury. Noon. Check for first spring flowers: Hepatica. 5mi mod pace. Dress for weather, lug soles for wet. Meet at Maybury SP concession bldg, 8 Mile Rd. entrance. Restaurant stop after. Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

3/12 Heron Rookery Walk. 1pm. 3 hilly miles of highland nature trails, then W. Bloomfield Heron Rookery overlook. Bring binoculars, water bottle. Meet in Bloomfield Twp Costco parking lot on Telegraph. Restaurant stop after. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

3/19 Highland Rec Area Hike. 11am. See early signs of spring on 4-5mi easy hike. Meet in Bloomfield Twp Costco parking lot on Telegraph. Call if weather is? Optional restaurant stop after. Lee Becke, 586-294-7789.

3/25 Holly Rec Area Hike. 9:30am. Look for spring blooms popping through leaves. 4-5mi mod pace, varied terrain. Meet in Bloomfield Hills behind CVS, SE corner of Woodward & Square Lake Rd. Optional Restaurant stop after. Mary Powell, 810-732-3884.

3/26 Brighton Rec Area Hike. Noon. Look for Hepatica on moderate-brisk 5mi hike. Sturdy boots & water needed. Meet in Southfield at Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. Michael Scanlon, 313-884-2214.

4/2 Proud Lake Day Hike. 11am. Mod pace 5mi hike. Look for wildflowers. Snow, no-go! Meet in Southfield at Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

4/8 Pontiac Lake Hike. Noon. 5mi walk through rich woods & beautiful rolling terrain. Park entrance on Gale Rd. Meet at beach & bike trail-head. Restaurant stop after. Sudha Chhaya, 248-219-3326.

4/9 Independence Oaks Hike. 11am. Mod/brisk, 5-6mi, 2hrs in hilly, wooded area. Meet in Rochester Hills Sears lot, Rochester Rd SW corner. Optional restaurant stop after. Mary George, 248-652-2998; Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

4/15 Morning Hike Maybury SP. 11am. Dress in layers. Mod pace 3mi. Wooded & meadow trails. Meet at park concession bldg, 8 Mile Rd entrance. Rain or shine. Optional restaurant & ice cream

First snow of the year, Wexford County, MI.



CHARLES ST. CHARLES III

stop after. Tom Griebe, 248-349-8782.

4/22 Flint River Walk. 9:30am. 4-5mi, mod pace along scenic section of river. Bring picnic lunch if nice weather; restaurant stop afterward if <60°, rainy, windy. Meet in Bloomfield Hills behind CVS pharmacy, SE corner Woodward & Square Lake Rd. Mary Powell, powell_mm@hotmail.com or 810-732-3884.

4/23 [E] Earth Day Huron Meadows Walk. 11:30am. Honor John Muir by looking for spring wildflowers & early birds on 4mi walk. Meet in Southfield, Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789.

4/29 [T] Kensington Metro Park Service Project. 9:15am. Fight the garlic mustard war. Work 2-2.5hrs under park staff direction. Work gloves, work clothes & sturdy shoes advised. Bring picnic lunch if fair weather. Meet in Southfield, Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd or in Nature Center parking lot by 10:15. Rain or shine. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

4/30 Holly State Park Hike. 11am. 8-10mi mod pace, hilly terrain. Look for spring wildflowers. Rain or shine. Meet in Bloomfield Hills behind CVS pharmacy, SE corner of Woodward & Square Lake Rd. Restaurant stop after. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

5/6 Howell Nature Center Walk. Noon. 2-3mi, slow pace with ex-volunteer Pat at center for nonreleasable birds of prey. \$2 fee; reservations by May 3. Meet in Southfield, Tel-12 Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. or 1pm at Nature Center. Pat & Tom Skinner, 517-552-9121.

5/7 Paint Creek Trail Hike. 10am. 10mi mod-brisk following winding Paint Creek. Restaurant stop halfway in Lake Orion. Water, sunscreen, good walkers a must. Meet in Troy behind LaSalle Bank on 14 Mile Rd. Mike Scanlon 313-884-2214.

5/14 [E] Maybury Mothers Day Wildflower Walk. 9:30am. Slow-pace 4mi walk to usher in Spring & honor Mother Earth & Earthly Mothers! 17 species of blooming wildflowers guaranteed. Bring cameras, magnifiers, field guides. Meet at Maybury SP concession bldg, Eight Mile Rd entrance. Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

5/19-21 [E] South Manitou Island Beginner's Backpack. Young people 12 & older (accompanied by adult) welcome. Camp in campground & day-hike to explore island. Gull rookery, early spring wildflowers, old growth cedars, dunes, shipwreck & evidence of early settlements. Pre-

registration required by 5/1. Mary Powell, powell_mm@hotmail.com or 810-732-3884.

5/21 Hike Bald Mountain. 11am. 5-6mi mod pace hike over rolling terrain. Rain or shine. Meet Bloomfield Twp Costco parking lot, Telegraph Rd. Bring water, picnic lunch. Gary Simon, 248-561-9066; JoEllen Lane, 586-773-3104.

5/28 Metro Beach Metropark Hike. Noon. Brisk 5mi through nature area. Dress for May weather. Call if weather is? Meet Clinton Twp, Metro Beach Metropark Nature Center, 16 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. JoEllen Lane, 586-773-3104.

TLG: Three Lakes Group

Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac & Schoolcraft Counties

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

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

OUTINGS: Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316 or rblanchard@lssu.edu. Monthly hiking, snowshoeing, skiing, etc 9am 1st Sat each month, Oct-Apr, Michigan Welcome Center.

5/8-19 TLG North Country UP Trail Maintenance Trip. Work from Soldier Lake Campground (US 28) to Grand Marais. Participants can work for shorter periods. Roger Blanchard, rblanchard@LSSU.edu or 906 253-9316.

HELP WANTED: Webmaster, publicity, monitor environmental alerts. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316 or rblanchard@lssu.edu.

TG: Traverse Group

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

WEB: michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse

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

GENERAL MEETINGS: 4th Tue each month, Sep-May. Traverse Area District Library. Special summer outdoor activities Jun-Aug. Community forums, informational meetings concerning local environmental issues & special 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; Peggy Fry, 231-218-2587.

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

OUTINGS: Andrea Dean, 231-231-947-9344.

2/28 Old Indian Trail Snowshoe Hike. Easy-mod, 3mi. 11am, trailhead parking lot off M-22 north of Sutter Road, near southern end of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Priscilla Walmsley, priscilla@walmsley.com or 231-929-1658.

3/11 Grand Traverse Commons. 11am. 300 acres, once home of state mental hospital. Park-like grounds with century-old European-style buildings, stands of old-growth pines, abundant wildlife. Views of city & Grand Traverse Bay. Minutes from downtown Traverse City, trailhead behind campus of old state hospital, 1200 West Eleventh Street by Blue Water Tower. Peggy, 231-941-8626.

3/25 Seven Bridges Property Hike. 10am. "Jewel of Kalkaska County." Area saved from development through efforts of Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. Meet at Tom's Market-Acme, 6353 US31 North. Car pool to property. Dave, 616-669-6355.

4/8 Boardman River Valley. 2pm. 1.5hrs. Varying terrains along Boardman River. Significant to the SC because we helped save it from a bridge & bypass. Meet behind YMCA. Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344 or andreadean113@msn.com.

4/22 Ransom Lake. 2pm. Hike around lake near Lake Ann Lovely. Area recently protected by group of Almira Twp citizens. Hikers should wear boots. Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344 or andreadean113@msn.com.

5/6 Alligator Hill Hike. 10am. 5-8mi trail, hilly; intermed & adv. Beach-maple forest, fields, pine plantation. Views of Lake Michigan & Glen Lake. Out of Glen Arbor take M109 East to Stocking Rd, turn left to the trailhead parking area. Peggy, 231-941-8626.

6/3 North Country Trail Hike. 11am. Easy-mod. 4mi from High Bridge Trailhead along Manistee River. Priscilla Walmsley, priscilla@walmsley.com or 231-929-1658.

6/10 Skegemog Swamp Pathway Walk. 10am. Walk the boardwalk into heart of lush, wet cedar swamp. Herons, egrets, otter, beaver & other wet-

land wildlife—maybe a Massasauga rattlesnake. Area owned by MI DNR covers 2,700 acres. Meet at Tom's Market-Acme, 6353 US31 N. Car pool to property. RSVP Dave, 616-669-6355.

WMG: 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: Generally held once per month. Everyone welcome. Craig Ressler, 616-891-9055 or craig.ressler@michigan.sierraclub.org.

HELP WANTED: 2006 is an election year. We would very much like help from someone in or around Muskegon who pays attention to politics. We would like to use this person as a resource in determining who to endorse for State level offices. Occasional trips to Grand Rapids will be necessary.

INNER CITY OUTINGS: Sierra Club members provide outdoor experiences for non-members who might not otherwise have them. Most participants are young people from urban communities. Increase the environmental awareness, interpersonal skills & self-esteem of the participants through active involvement with nature. Interested volunteers welcome to attend meetings or email us suggestions. John Pulver, 616-457-5999 (days), 616-453-2480 (eve); Paula Ballast, 231-861-6548 or logcabinballast@aol.com.

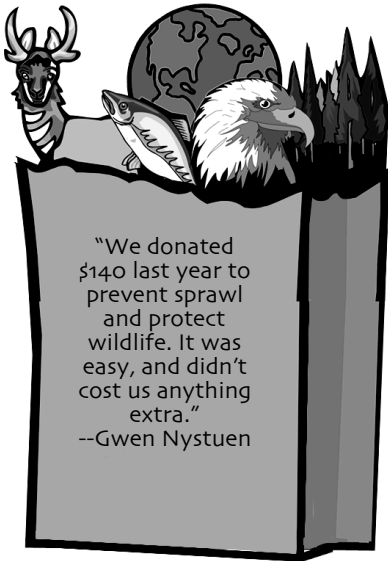
OUTINGS: Lisa Symons, 616-942-6549 or greensymons@yahoo.com.



**Earth Share
OF MICHIGAN**

payroll deduction campaign at work, and Earth Share of Michigan was not listed as an option, please call 800-386-3326 to discuss how you and your fellow employees can support Sierra Club Foundation-Mackinac Chapter and other earth-friendly organizations at work. For more information, visit www.earthsharemichigan.org.

THANK YOU, EARTH SHARE DONORS! We wish to thank the all the individuals who support our work each year through payroll deduction via Earth Share of Michigan. If you have just completed your annual



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



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

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

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

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

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your Phone number: _____

Your email address: _____

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Kristine Denzin

5162 Doral Court

Ann Arbor, MI 48108

(Your data will not be shared)

Chapter Directory

MACKINAC CHAPTER MAIN OFFICE

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In The Spotlight

DO YOU LOVE MICHIGAN'S LAKES AND RIVERS? MARYANN BORDEN DOES

Sierra Club Member Pledges to Protect Water

by Rita Jack

A bottled-water factory was coming to Evert, Michigan. At least, that was the rumor going around in 1999. So Maryann Borden, Sierra Club member, lifelong Michigan resident and car carrier for the auto industry, got on the phone. She found out from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Trout Unlimited and the National Spring Water Association, among others, that any diversion of spring water would harm Twin Creek.

Twin Creek runs behind Borden's home. She cherishes the creek. In fact, her family has protected Twin Creek through four generations. They enjoy the babbling of the water and the blue herons that fly there. With her grandchildren, Borden often explores the banks for wildflowers and, in the spring, they pick pussywillows.

Borden has vowed that she will not let Twin Creek turn into another Dead Stream. Mecosta County's Dead Stream, a once-vibrant ecosystem, developed into a partial mudflat in 2003. The water level fell as Nestlé Waters North America began pumping water from the springs feeding Dead Stream.

Borden, who is also a member of

Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation, feels that the region's water is in serious jeopardy. Diverting water, she says, will be the ruin of the Great Lakes and their tributaries. In 1999 Borden made it her mission to protect the Great Lakes, tributaries, wetlands and aquifers from all harm.

In her travels, Borden sees streams in other states and compares them to the Muskegon River in Evert. "Years ago, Evert held log races on the Muskegon.

But over the last 10 to 15 years the river has been too shallow for the race," she says. "The Muskegon River is an old friend. It greets me when I arrive home after a long week on the road."

Borden wants to continue canoeing in the Muskegon River with family and friends. She wants to watch the eagles soar over the water. We hope that she and other Michigan citizens will always be able to canoe and to watch the eagles fly.

A great blue heron waits patiently for lunch to swim or hop closer at the Seney Wildlife Refuge in Schoolcraft County, MI.



CHARLES ST. CHARLES III

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