



30 Years of Service

It all began with an invitation to attend a meeting concerning a golf course that would be built on part of the Holliday Nature Preserve.

One of the results of the meeting was the establishment of the Holliday Nature Preserve Association. Since 1988, HNPA has hosted nature walks; worked with (and sometimes disagreed with) Wayne County Parks; held nearly 30 Rouge Rescues; and built or funded numerous boardwalks and bridges. In addition, a number of strong friendships have been forged, some that date back to that first meeting.

This year, we will celebrate 30 years of service. Many things have changed, but not the commitment and support of you our members or the passion of your board to protect the Preserve.

We hope to continue for another 30 years, but for that to happen we will need members to step forward to lead our organization and our walks.

How important is the Preserve to you?

Upcoming Activities

Resolve to attend an HNPA activity in 2018.

Our walks last from an hour to 90 minutes and are held regardless of the weather, so please dress for conditions and often uneven ground.

Our walks are family

friendly. Sorry, no dogs allowed. Questions? Contact us at HollidayAssociation@hnpa.org.



➤ 'Snow and Ice' Walk

Saturday, Jan. 27 at noon. Ellsworth Trail (Parking at Nankin Mill, on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail.) Be prepared for snow on the trails and ice on the river—or maybe the other way around.

➤ 'Still Winter' Walk

Saturday, Feb. 24 at noon. Cowan section (on Central City Parkway, west of Wayne Road, north of Warren Road.) Enjoy the quiet and beauty of the Preserve in Winter as we walk along the river. We may also take a look at the good and bad occurring during development at the Nankin Mill Condo.

➤ Annual Meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 28 from 7 to 8:45 p.m. at the Livonia Library, Michigan Room (Five Mile Road, east of Farmington Road) Look back at 2017 and a look at 2018 including plans for our 30th anniversary. Also election of officers. (See invite inside.)

➤ 'Celebrating Spring' Walk

Saturday, March 24 at noon. Koppernick section (Parking at Koppernick entrance, Koppernick Road, west of Hix Road, south of Joy Road.) Join us as we look for early signs of Spring.

HNPA Gives Tour to Local Parks' Directors

It finally happened. On Nov. 8, Wayne County Parks Director, Alicia Bradford, Westland Parks and Recreation Director, LaTricia Gunnels and four staff members walked the Tulip Trail loop, in the Koppernick section with HNPA President Bill Craig.

Just before the walk began, a neighbor came over to express her thanks for the new parking arrangement and the fact there was no more dumping and no more mischief at the site. (Note: HNPA had worked with Wayne County Parks in 2016 to close the secluded entrance to motor vehicles.) What a good start to the day! And the weather could not have been better: Blue sky, bright sunshine, good leaf colors. During the walk, the group stopped at



the collapsed shelter in that section to discuss its removal and then checked out the egret rookery, all the while, enjoying the variety of tall trees something that section of the Preserve is renowned for having.

There was discussion regarding a control gate for

this entrance, allowing for special event parking.

Bill thanked all who attended. He also commented that this was the most time ever spent with a Wayne County Parks Director in the Preserve. A walk with the directors in the Newburgh section is planned.

Working in the Preserve

The HNPA winch, chain saw, loppers and reciprocating saw were put to good use on two work projects last year. Bill Craig, Phil Crookshank and Mike Rudell spent several hours cutting vines and dead trees that had fallen on the red maples we planted many years ago in the Newburgh section. The once mowed field is now overgrown, so it is easier for

vines to overwhelm the trees, if not controlled. The other work was in the Tonquish Creek up- and down- stream from the Hix Road bridge. Again, over several days and many hours, Phil, Bill and Joanne Cantoni used the winch to pull out the heavy logs blocking the creek.

This winch is both a time saver and a back saver. It also makes the work safer.

Thanks to our generous members we have good tools to do a better job.



Reviewing our Fall Hikes

Cowan — Oct. 14

Rain did not stop walkers from searching for the old interior trail in the Cowan section. We may have been on trail most of the time, as we meandered through the forest. The damp layer of leaves allowed us to be very quiet and we spotted five deer as a result.

Koppernick — Nov. 4

This hike was scheduled to meet in the Koppernick parking area, which confused a few people. HNPA has not used this parking lot for many years; however parking spaces have been created outside the blocked entranceway, so we felt it was time to return.

Rain was predicted, but we made whole walk without a drop. Took the Tulip Trail loop to see the collapsed shelter, the egret rookery, and many tall Tulip, Cottonwood and Oak trees.



Ellsworth — Dec. 9



While we had a good turnout and saw many welcome and familiar faces, we also had one walker named Diane who came all the way from Woodhaven to join us.

A covering of fresh snow and no harsh wind made for an enjoyable Winter walk. Some walkers had never been on this trail and were impressed by the large sycamore trees in this area and well-built bridge that was built by an Eagle Scout with HNPA help last year.

Carol Clements Retires from Parks

Carol Clements, naturalist at Wayne County Parks has retired after 15 years of service to the county and to a generation of children who came to love “Ms. Carol.”

She was also instrumental in creating the displays at the Nankin Mills Interpretative Center and working on pending improvements to the Ellsworth section of the

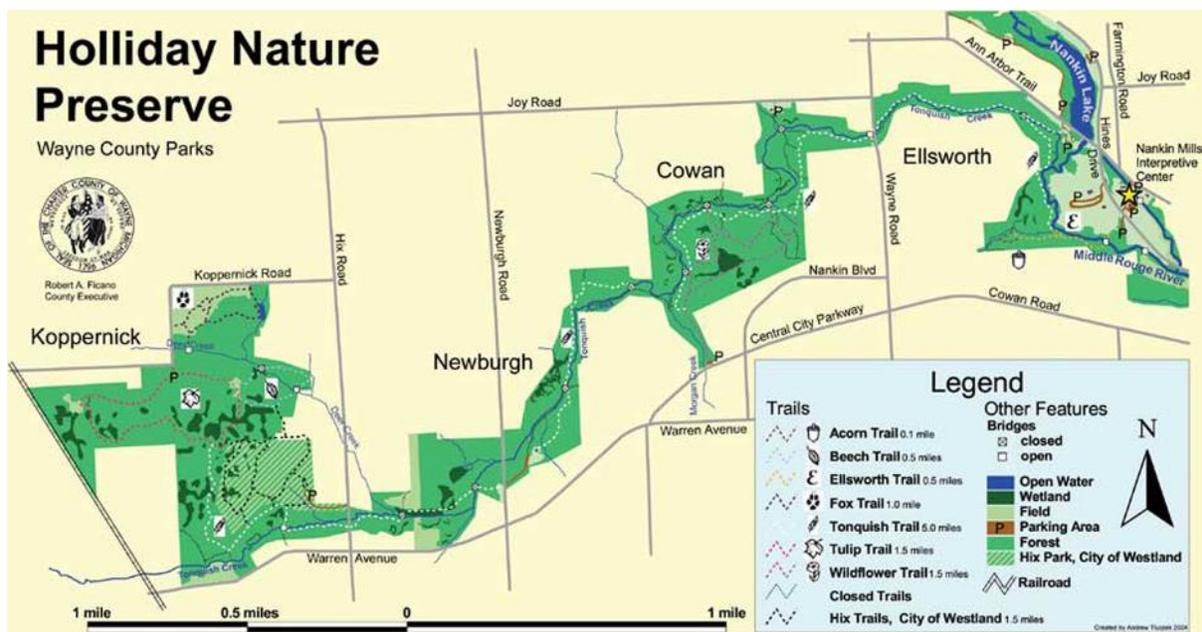
Preserve across from Nankin Mills.

Carol has also been a good friend and a long time supporter of HNPA and we worked together on a number of projects. In appreciation, we presented her with a plaque. We wish her well but we will miss her, as will the children who learned so much about the Preserve and about nature due to her efforts.

You are cordially Invited...

HNPA's Annual Membership Meeting
Wednesday, Feb. 28 from 7 to 8:45 p.m. at the
Livonia Library, Michigan Room
(Five Mile Road, east of Farmington Road)

Join us as we look back at 2017 and forward at 2018, including plans for our 30th anniversary. We will also have our election of officers. Refreshments will be served.



If you are interested in serving or would like additional information about the various positions, please contact Bill Craig at hollidayassociation@hnpa.org.

Clyde Mills Farms Update

HNPA has been keeping an eye on the development of Clyde Smith Farms. One hopes everything will work out right, but sometimes “stuff” happens. Well, some stuff did happen in regards

to an issue with the silt fencing and a neighbor who encroached on the Preserve.

HNPA contacted City of Westland about the fencing and

Wayne County Parks about encroachment.

Westland’s inspector contacted the developer and the problem with the silt fence was corrected.

Wayne County Parks staff investigated and



the boundary was reflagged, and the developer promised to fix everything next Spring. In addition, Parks will install Preserve signs to better show the boundary.



Nankin Mills Condo Update

On December 1, HNPA’s Bill Craig took a walk to the site to check if there was any progress. Here is his report: “To my surprise, I found that the developer has been very busy. The forest was cut down, chipped, and trucked away. Heavy equipment yanked out all the roots, dug out the detention basin, put in the storm piping, land balanced, and put in the road. I was most interested in the basin outfall and the protection of the Preserve boundary. There was no damage to the Preserve. In a way, I’m glad I did not see the forest being destroyed.

As a result, the natural areas that served as a buffer outside the Preserve are

almost all gone. The trees of the Holliday Nature Preserve will soon stand alone.”



HNPA's Mission

Holliday Nature Preserve Association (HNPA) is a group of volunteers dedicated to the William P. Holliday Forest & Wildlife Preserve in Westland, Livonia and Canton. The Preserve consists of 500-plus acres of forests and wetlands that runs along tributaries of the Rouge River.

The HNPA seeks to nurture a greater appreciation of this unique natural resource by hosting walks, conducting maintenance improvement projects in conjunction with Wayne County Parks and promoting the importance of the Preserve in improving the quality of life in Western Wayne County communities.

Our activities are free and open to everyone. Find out more at hnpa.org.

Memberships Due to Renew

Five bucks. That's all we ask each calendar year for your continuing support of our organization and its mission.

That donation gets you three newsletters and allows us to support Scout and trail maintenance projects, Preserve clean ups, as well as fund our website at hnpa.org. Please use the form below. Thanks!



Thanks to our Supporters

The following people joined HNPA, renewed their memberships or made donations this summer. We thank them and appreciate the continuing support they and our other members give along with the trust they put in us. We will use the funds for the overall benefit of the Preserve.

Nancy & Paul Bailey
Howard & Carol Behr
Marie Feeley
James Flanigan

James Gilbert
James & Sande Godbout
Jean Kearney
David & Susan Ostafinski

Raymond & Sheila Piskor
Linda Pool
Dennis & Pamela Scott
Gerald & Suzan Waskelis

Become Part of HNPA!

Membership in the Holliday Nature Preserve Association is only **\$5 per year (Jan. 1—Dec. 31)**. Your support makes it possible to distribute

our newsletters, host a website, support Rouge Rescue, offer walks, educate the community and promote the Preserve. Any additional funds over and

above are used to benefit the Preserve. You may also earmark additional funds to extend your membership.

Name: _____

Address: _____ **Address 2:** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ + _____

Email Address (if you wish to share it. (We won't) : _____

\$ _____ **Enclosed**

Please make check or money order payable to the **Holliday Nature Preserve Association** and mail to:
HNPA, P.O. BOX 532243 Livonia, MI 48153