



## Be part of Earth Day 2009

*Join volunteers of all ages on Sat., April 27 at 9 a.m. in the Koppernick Section of the Preserve.*

Long, long ago (back when HNP Association (HNPA) is a group of volunteers dedicated to the Wm. P. Holliday Forest & Wildlife Preserve in Westland, Livonia and Canton, Michigan. 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 and conducting maintenance improvement projects in conjunction with Wayne County Parks. Our activities are free and open to everyone. Find out more at [hnpa.org](http://hnpa.org).

Scrap oak wood pallets were used to help keep white athletic shoes dry, white and out of the mud.

That wood has long

decayed and shoes that are dry and white going into that section come out wet and brown.

Although some Scouts have indicated interest in rebuilding the boardwalk as an Eagle project, nothing has yet occurred, so on Sat., 5df]` 25 at 9 a.m, HNPA volunteers are going to start installing some



sections of the boardwalk as its Earth Day project (although Earth Day was really April 22).

Building a boardwalk in this section is going to be similar to what we did at our last Rouge Rescue in the Newburgh section (see photo at right).

Our resident engineer, Phil Crookshank, has volunteered to pre-cut and drill the timbers. All we have to do is carry them in, hammer in the spikes and pound in the rebar. The more helping hands, the better.

We will also have to remove the remains of the old board-

walk. This could be messy work, so boots would come in handy.

This project and others like it are possible due to the support of HNPA members who send their dues and also make other financial contributions. If not for your generosity, we would not be able to purchase materials needed to improve the Preserve (or send out this newsletter for



that matter.

Please park at the Koppernick entrance off Hix Road and north of Warren Road.

By the way, this is a rain or shine event, although the current forecast calls for clear skies and temperatures near 70 degrees.

### HNPA's Mission

Holliday Nature Preserve Association (HNPA) is a group of volunteers dedicated to the Wm. P. Holliday Forest & Wildlife Preserve in Westland, Livonia and Canton, Michigan.

The Preserve consists of 500-plus acres of forests and wetlands that runs along tributaries of the Rouge River.

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## Upcoming Activities

### Wildflower and Forest Walk

Sat., May 9, 9 a.m.

#### Hix Park

(Hix Road, north of Warren Road)

Walk over new boardwalk on Beech trail.

### Rouge Rescue 2009

Sat., June 6, 8:30 a.m.

Newburgh Section

(Enter through Wilderness Park Apartments off Warren)

See article on page 2.

# Join us for our 21st annual Rouge Rescue

**9j YfnobYlgk YWa Y**  
**to take part on Sat.**  
**June 6 from 8:30 to noon.**



**S**omeone asked if our work in the Tonquish Creek and in Holliday Preserve will ever be done. That answer is – NO.

As long as trees fall, invasive plants grow, and the Preserve suffers from litter-bugs, illegal campers and campfire builders, we will need to continue working in the Preserve with our partners and volunteers.

On Sat, June 6, the Holliday Nature Preserve Association will team up with City of Westland to participate in the annual Friends of The Rouge –

Rouge Rescue. We do our part by working to make the Tonquish Creek, a tributary of the Middle Rouge River, clean and better habitat for fish and other creatures.

This year we are working in the Nankin section of the Preserve. This area was once a contaminated, abandoned dump. It was fixed, that is remediated by removing the dangerous materials, then capping (enclosing) the leftover waste. It is now considered safe to reuse.

That is what HNPA intends to do – use it.

We will be doing some work in the creek, taking out tires and trash and continue to perform some woody debris management, which means working on log jams. We will have rope teams to pull the big logs.

There will be cleanup along the creek, some cutting of

invasive plants, and maybe some native plant seeding.

Gloves, trash bags, cold drinks and some tools will be provided.



We have the approval and support of Wayne County Parks, the Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), and Wayne County Department of Environment. Most important to this effort is the support we have from the owner of the Wilderness Park Apartments. We will access the worksite through the apartment complex. We appreciate their support and ask that you are respectful of the property and residents when you drive through it.

The entrance to Wilderness Park Apartments is on Warren Road, east of Newburgh Road (7280 Wilderness Park Drive).

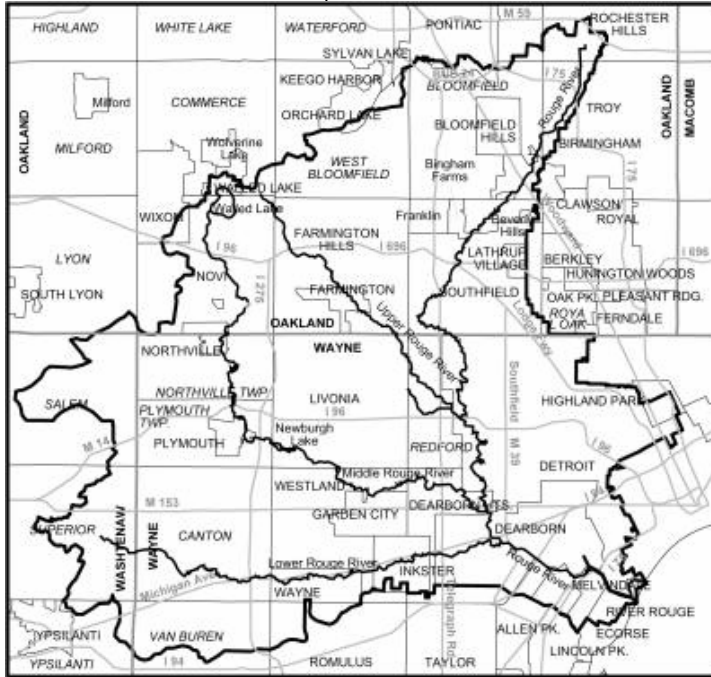
We will have the entrance and parking areas well marked. (see map at left).

Please check the websites for the City of Westland, Friends of the Rouge ([therouge.org](http://therouge.org)) and ours ([hnpa.org](http://hnpa.org)) for details.



Map courtesy of MapQuest and CitySearch.com **9jfnobY**

# Facts about the Rouge River watershed



**A** watershed is the region draining into a river, river system, or other body of water, or in this case, the Rouge River.

## Rouge Facts

- ◆ The Rouge River watershed is approximately 438 square miles and includes 48 municipalities in three counties.
- ◆ The Rouge River watershed has a population of over 1.5 million people.
- ◆ More than 50% of the watershed is considered urbanized with less than 25% undeveloped.
- ◆ There are more than 400 lakes, impoundments, and ponds in the watershed.
- ◆ The Rouge River itself has a total of 126 river miles and is comprised of four major branches: the Main, Upper, Middle, and Lower.
- ◆ The Holliday Nature Preserve is in the Middle Rouge.

## Two steps that can protect the Rouge

- 1) **Help keep pollution out of storm drains.** Storm drains lead directly to rivers and lakes. Never dump oil, pet waste, leaves, dirty water, or anything down a storm drain. Remember, only rain in the drain.
- 2) **Fertilize caringly and sparingly.** Excess fertilizer that gets into storm drains pollutes streams and lakes by causing large algae blooms and using up oxygen fish need to survive. Sweep excess fertilizer back onto your lawn, use a low or no phosphorus fertilizer, and have your soil tested to see what, if any, fertilizer is needed.

## Photos from our hikes





# Thanks to our supporters

Since last newsletter, the following people have kindly renewed their memberships, made donations, or have become new members. Thank you all. HNPA appreciates your support.

**Elizabeth & Daniel Appleyard**  
**Diane Bancroft**  
**Larry & Cathy Bean**  
**Kathy & Mike Best**  
**Richard & Marlene Bowling**  
**Frederick Brenner**  
**Jesse Bruce Jr.**  
**Tom Clough**  
**Jim & Elizabeth Cook**  
**Patrica & Jim Dee**  
**Marion Elton**  
**Karen Erickson**  
**James Flanigan**

**James Gilbert**  
**Jordis Johnsen**  
**Bob & Liz Kosowski**  
**Mike & Ursula McGinnis**  
**Wayne McGrarrh**  
**Wilma & William Murphy**  
**Vivian & Gerald Nyland**  
**Sever & Vera Pederson**  
**Rosemarie & Mark Rembisz**  
**Virginia Stanch**  
**Dennis & Pamela Scott**  
**Larry & Christine Snowden**  
**Carol Sullivan**

## Can we count on you, too?

**M**embership in the Holliday Nature Preserve Association runs Jan. 1—Dec. 31 and is only \$5 per year. Your support makes it possible for us to **publish three newsletters** a year, **host**

**a Web site** and **hold clean-up projects** that help maintain the Preserve.

**If you have not yet done so, please take a moment to support your HNPA by using the form below.**

Any addition money we receive will be used to benefit the Preserve. You may also earmark any additional monies you send to extend your membership.

# Be Part of HNPA!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address 2: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed

**Annual dues are \$5 per person. Additional donations are appreciated. If you send more than \$5, please indicate how additional funds should be used:**

(  ) **Donation** (  ) **Extend membership**

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