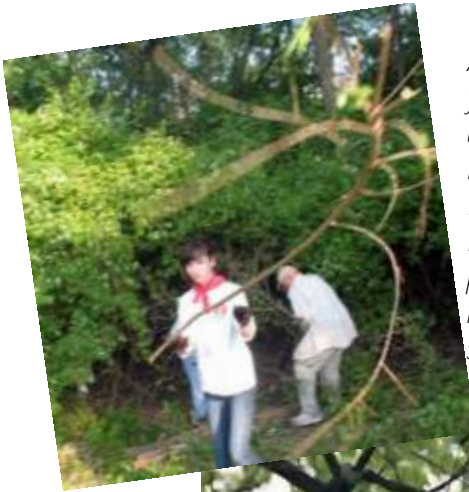




## Fun, Feathers and a Little Work



*A few photos from earlier this year including (clockwise from upper right) Earthday walk, May Owl walk, Great Horned Owl and Rouge Rescue. More Rouge Rescue photos inside. Join us this fall for more walks and fun. See schedule below.*



## Upcoming HNPA Activities

From nature walks to boardwalks, from Rouge River clean-ups to invasive plant pulls, the Holliday Nature Preserve Association has something for everyone who likes the outdoors—and wants to make sure others can enjoy it too. Fall is one of the best seasons to enjoy the Preserve (spring, summer and fall are the others), so put on your walking shoes and join us.



➤ **Fall for Fall-Color Walk**

Saturday, Oct. 15, at noon.

Hix Park parking lot, north of Warren Road on Hix Road.

➤ **Leisurely Loop 'Cross Cowan**

Saturday, Nov. 19, at noon.

Cowan Section parking lot, Central City Parkway, just past Westland Mall.

➤ **Escape Holiday Shopping, Preserve your Sanity in the Preserve**

Saturday, Dec. 10, at noon.

Hix Park parking lot, north of Warren Road on Hix Road.

# Rouge Rescue 2011 Recap



First and foremost, a much deserved "Thank You" to all who helped make Rouge Rescue 2011 a success.

This year we were back at the Cowan section of the Preserve, north of Westland Mall. This section of the Holliday Preserve gets the most visitors. Even though we've had Rouge Rescues here before, a good deal of hard work was needed to accomplish our goals of cleaning the forest and river and clearing the trails.

The first task was accomplished by a team using loppers and hand saws to clear away much of the invasive honeysuckle shrubs choking the entrance. It was an

example of great teamwork. As fast as those shrubs were cut by one group of volunteers, others dragged the branches to Westland workers who pushed them into a chipper. There was so much honeysuckle removed that, all told, workers filled three truck loads of chips.

We also had people further in the forest hauling out cut-up sections of illegal bridges. Unfortunately, some of these heavy bridge sections ended up in Morgan Creek, which made them very difficult to get out, but not to dedicated workers with ropes, muscles and ingenuity. Of course, lumber was not the only foreign object in the creek. There were also a few shopping carts to dig out of the creek bottom, as well.

We had a special crew deeper in the Preserve cutting deadfall

off the trail. These chainsaw experts were able to cut through some very large tree trunks, making the trails safer and easier to travel along.

It was hard work but it was also fun and in the end all goals were accomplished and everything, wood, trash, and more were hauled away by City of Westland.

**This project couldn't occur** without a good deal of preparation, coordinating with partners (like Friends of the Rouge and the City of Westland), the purchasing of supplies and pre-site work. Those who played a role there should be recognized and thanked as well.

This was Friends of the Rouge 25th Anniversary and our Rouge Rescue effort in Holliday Preserve was a good way to celebrate that important milestone.





## Scouts Tackle Eagle Project in Holliday



James Obermaier, Troop 1032, North Star Unit, and his team built boardwalk on Tulip Trail in July. James (upper-left) stands on the trail BEFORE. (Upper-right) the new boardwalk. The bottom photo is the team. Wayne County Parks and HNPA thank them for a great job. HNPA provided a small amount of financial support - thank you, members.

## Slideshow at Westland Library

HNPA thanks Andy Shuck, Reference Librarian at Westland Public Library, for inviting us to present our program "Flora, Fauna and HNPA " on Aug. 9.

Andy provided a meeting room, the necessary equipment and light refreshments.

We also want to thank HNPA's jack-of-all trades, Phil Crookshank who spent many long hours crafting the show that highlighted Hollidays flowers and creatures, and HNPA activities including nature walks, maintenance projects and Rouge Rescues.

We may be able to talk Phil into taking the show on the road (so to speak) and presenting it to groups that want to know more about the Preserve and what it has to offer. Stay tuned.

## Friends of the Rouge

Working Rouge Rescue wouldn't come off as easily as it does without the work of a lot of great friends. Two of those friends are Kevin Buford, City of

Westland and Phil Crookshank, HNPA board member.

Kevin is always willing to meet with us and provide the resources necessary to ensure Rouge Rescue comes off without a hitch. And as for Phil...well, where would be without his enthusiasm, his ability to envision how a project (like a bridge, sign or slideshow) should look and his willingness to provide the tools, expertise and hard work to make it happen.

They are just two of the many friends the Rouge river watershed has—and HNPA, as well.

Bill Craig  
President, HNPA

## Our 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, 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 [www.HNPA.org](http://www.HNPA.org).



# Thanks to all our Friends

Since our last newsletter, the following people have renewed their membership, made donations, or have become members. Thank you. HNPCA appreciates your support and generosity.

Diane Bancroft  
Kathy Best  
Marion Elton  
Marie Feeley  
Jim Flanigan  
James Gilbert  
Phyllis Hammerberg  
James and Julie Koch  
Dorothy Mundle  
Emily Nietering  
Jack & Dorothy Smiley  
Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy  
Carol Sullivan  
Michelle Tencza  
Steve Weis  
Greg and Rita Zaremba

## SMLC Honors Its Founder



The Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy, an organization dedicated to preserving lands in Southeast Michigan, recently made a contribution to HNPCA in honor of its founder, Jack Smiley, who recently stepped down from the organization's board but remains a volunteer. HNPCA was chosen because Jack was also one of the founders of our group. Find out more about SMLC at [www.smlc.org](http://www.smlc.org).

# Become Part of HNPCA!

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

newsletters, host a website and hold clean-up projects to enhance and promote the Preserve and the benefits it offers. 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: \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

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

Annual dues are \$5 per household. 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: HNPCA, P.O. BOX 532243 Livonia, MI 48153