



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, 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, 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.

Vandalism Continues

Vandalism in the Preserve continues to be a sad fact. For example, an elaborate shelter built out of iron-wood sapling in the Ellsworth section, across from Wayne County Parks' offices. Although the structure was disassembled and the site partially restored, it will be many years before scars grow over. Please report all illegal activities to Parks at 734-271-1990.



Some of the volunteers and city workers who turned out to Rouge Rescue/River Day on June 2 in the Holliday Nature Preserve. More photos inside.

Upcoming Activities

Take a walk through the Preserve with HNPA volunteers.

The pace is leisurely and the atmosphere informal. Our walks last from an hour to 90 minutes and are held regardless of the weather,

so please dress for conditions and sometimes wet and uneven ground.

Walks are family friendly and children are welcome. No dogs please. Questions? Contact us at Holliday Association@HNPA.org.

➤ Early Fall Color Walk

Saturday, Oct. 6, at noon
Hix Park, north of Warren Road off Hix Road

➤ Late Fall Color Walk

Saturday, Nov. 3, at noon
Cowan entrance, Central City Parkway,
just northwest of Westland Mall

➤ 'Escape the Holiday Shopping Frenzy' Walk

Saturday, Dec. 8, at noon
Cowan entrance, Central City Parkway,
just northwest of Westland Mall

Rouge Rescue 2012

HNPA, City of Westland and Friends of the Rouge again partnered in Holliday.



Rouge Rescue 2012 (as some people noted) was almost a carbon copy of Rouge Rescue 2011. They were correct. HNPA and City Of Westland again teamed up to remove honeysuckle, tires, shopping carts and trash.

More than 35 volunteers worked hard for four hours cutting, dragging, lifting, carrying, dragging or rolling invasive plants and debris from the river and flood plain. We also appreciate the work of Westland employees to chip three truck loads of honeysuckle. Its removal has really opened up the Cowan entrance to more



sunlight, and we hope the removal of the honeysuckle helps native plants and wildflowers to grow that might otherwise not be able to do so. However, because honeysuckle is so hearty and resilient we are probably dreaming and will have to



revisit the site periodically



and do more cutting.

We also had a special team cutting trees that had fallen over the trails while two teams worked in the river. The first performed WDM 101 (woody debris

management), pulling trash out of creek and into the waiting trucks and opening (not removing) log jams while the second dug out tires and grocery carts and hauled them out of the creek.

Friends of the Rouge provided gloves, bags and free T-shirts. The City of Westland crew handled



the chipper and hauled away the trash. HNPA provided tools, cleanup, and team leaders. The volunteers provided muscle and sweat. A slideshow video of Rouge Rescue is available at

Partnership, teamwork and hard work made our



project a success, and was one of 38 such sites across the watershed. Thanks to all! See you next year--maybe somewhere else.

(Photos courtesy of Dean Johnson.)

A Look at Past Walks & Current Happenings

The Stewardship Network- Lakeplain Cluster lakeplain@stewardshpnetwork.org, Michigan Botanical Club, Wayne County Parks

and HNPAs sponsored a wildflower walk in the Cowan section on May 12. Wayne County Parks Naturalist, Carol Clements and wildflower guru, Suzan

Campbell helped participants identify the many spring wildflowers we saw, including Kidney-leaf buttercup, Sarsaparilla, Carrion flower and Jack in the pulpit.



Joyce Holmes and Wayne McGarrah use the boardwalk in the Koppernick section of Preserve. These boardwalks were built by Scouts as part of their Eagle projects to make it easier to navigate wet and muddy areas safely and comfortably. Plus, boardwalks help protect delicate areas of the Preserve.



Joyce Holmes checks out May apple and other wildflowers during our April 28 Wildflower Walk. Many of these flowers bloomed early due to our strange warm weather during the early spring.



The Preserve now has two Great Blue Heron rookeries (a rookery is a colony of breeding animals, generally birds). The latest is off the Tulip Trail in the Koppernick section of the Preserve, and we may see it during our walk on Oct. 3. If you look closely at the photo you might see five nests high in the tree tops. It might be that some of these herons moved from the Cowan nesting area. Many of those nests were built in dead ash trees, which are now falling down.

Wayne County Parks Staff News

Lawrence Hemingway has been named Wayne County Parks Director. HNPA worked with Mr. Hemingway when he served as Parks assistant director and we congratulate him on his new role.

Mr. Hemingway has a background in recreation and tourism, and before coming to Wayne County served as Detroit's recrea-

tion director and then as chief operating officer of Think Detroit PAL, a non-profit dedicated to helping kids to get involved in sports and recreation. He is the sixth director HNPA has partnered with to benefit the Holliday Preserve.

HNPA also met with Elizabeth Iszler, Parks new Design Manager who has a degree in landscape

architecture from Perdue University.

HNPA President Bill Craig was impressed with the work she has already done in the Bennett Arboretum. Sadly, some cut an historic maple before she could see it. He hopes to schedule some time her with her to review the great trees the Preserve has.



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.

Pat and Jim Dee
Jim Flanigan
Dan and Dina Foster
Joan Gebhardt
Lesia, Ken and Greg McQuade

Noel and Nicole Mullett
Joseph Peruski
Rosemarie and Mark Rembisz
Carol Sullivan
Louise Yops

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: _____ + _____

\$ _____ 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**