



## HNPA's Mission

**H**olliday 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](http://hnpa.org).

## Membership Dues Do

**F**ive bucks. That's all we ask each calendar year for your continuing support of our organization and its mission (see above).

That money 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](http://hnpa.org). Please use the form on page 4 and drop it into the mail without delay. Thanks!



*Walkers on a fall walk skirt an ash tree that has fallen across the trail. This is another massive tree killed by the invasive emerald ash borer and toppled by the wind. Photo by Elizabeth Reed.*

## Upcoming Activities

**T**ake 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 (snowy and wet) and often uneven ground.

Walks are family friendly and kids are welcome. Sorry, no dogs allowed. Questions? Contact us at [Holliday Association@hnpa.org](mailto:HollidayAssociation@hnpa.org).

➤ **'Over the River and Through the Woods' walk**  
Sat., Jan. 19, Noon, Ellsworth Entrance  
Meet at Hines Drive parking lot for Nankin Mill

➤ **'Critter Prints in the Snow' walk**  
Sat., Feb. 23, Noon, Hix Park  
Hix Road, north of Warren Road

➤ **'First signs of Spring' walk**  
Sat., Mar. 23, Noon, Cowan Entrance  
Central City Parkway, west of Wayne Road

# Walking the Preserve With Parks

In our last newsletter we introduced you to some of the new people at Wayne County Parks. HNPA received a call from one of them, Elizabeth Iszler, Parks design manager, requesting that Bill meet her, Park Naturalist Carol Clements and Asst. Naturalist Matt Noble-Richardson on Nov. 8 for a walk in the Cowan section, followed by a walk Nov. 30 in the Koppernick section.

Although Carol and Matt were quite familiar with the Preserve, Elizabeth had never been in it. During several hours of walking, they not only discussed the natural surroundings—the trees, creeks, vernal ponds, wildflowers and creatures, but discussed the reason the Preserve was created along



*Wayne County Parks staff Elizabeth Iszler, Design Manager; Carol Clements, Parks Naturalist and Matt Noble-Richardson, Assistant Naturalist count Great Blue Heron nests on a fall day in a new rookery. The three accompanied HNPA President Bill Craig on a walk in the Koppernick section.*

HNPA's history, and ongoing issues—the trails, bridges, mountain bikers, emerald ash borer damage, invasive plants, parking lots, signage and the woodcutter on Jermaine Street. The walk was a mixture of smiles, laughs and frowns. As it turns out, Elizabeth has been desig-

nated as contact person for HNPA. At the end of our walk, she asked this question, "What does HNPA want?"

It's a question that has been a long time in coming. HNPA will draft a response but we need input from you, our members. So we will ask you a revised question: What priorities and plans would you like to see addressed by Wayne County Parks. Respond via email at [hollidayassociation@hnpa.org](mailto:hollidayassociation@hnpa.org) or

send a note to HNPA, P.O. Box 532243, Livonia, MI 48153. The HNPA board will review the input and send a response to Wayne County Parks and request a meeting with them to discuss. This seems to be a good action to take, as we start our 25th year.

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## The Woodcutter of Jermaine Street



*Most houses that back up to Holliday realize they are lucky to have a forest and wildlife preserve backing up to their backyard. Some homeowners see Holliday as an EXTENSION of their backyard. Like this homeowner on Jermaine Street who uses Preserve property to store firewood (anyone want to guess where the wood comes from?)*

*This situation has been reported to Wayne County Parks, and we are waiting to see what actions are taken.*



# Recycling and Rebuilding a Bridge

Wayne County Parks and HNPAs again helped a Scout find a project to meet requirements for Eagle Scout. Masashi Burnside 17, from Salem High School in Canton and his dad met HNPAs President Bill Craig in late summer to look at other Eagle Scout projects in the Preserve.

Masashi took an interest in repairing a bridge east of Hix Road. Half the bridge

planks were missing, and it was getting very difficult to safely cross. Because the cost of purchasing new wooden decking for the bridge was cost prohibitive, HNPAs volunteers recovered a number of planks from Tonquish Creek that could be re-used. Meanwhile, Masashi and his team raised funds, drew blueprints and purchased necessary materials to complete the project.

In late November, Masashi and his crew installed the planks and built steps and new approach on the south end.

Bill inspected the work and provided photos to Parks, along with his approval of the work that was done. Bill had hoped



to get photos taken at the event; however, the photos did not make it in time for this edition.

HNPAs thanks Masashi Burnside and his team for doing a quality job, and making this bridge safe to use. We also congratulate him on becoming an Eagle Scout like astronaut Neil Armstrong and former President Jimmy Carter.



## Just a Walk in the Park...

Scenes from fall hikes (clockwise from upper right): tree hole (and home), hornets nest (with several lethargic hornets); a raccoon high in tree, orange fungus (probably Chicken mushroom), and walkers pause on bridge. Photos 1-3 by Elizabeth Reed. Other photos by Bill Craig.



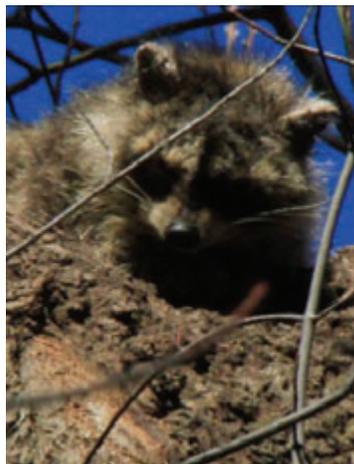
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# Paint Removal

The following email was sent to HNPA by one of our members:

*"I'm sending you this email to inform you of an incident that occurred in the nature preserve. Yesterday (Dec. 23), my family and I went into the Koppernick entrance for some fresh air and exercise and we found that someone had littered 19 one-gallon cans and 2 five-gallon pails of house paint in the preserve near the entrance to the west trail. Seeing*

*this, we became very upset since we use and enjoy the preserve year round. We cleaned up all the paint and brought it home.*

*On Christmas Eve, we continued to be bothered by the fact that someone had tried to ruin the preserve so we called the Canton Police. They came to our house and investigated the items we had found. With the cans, there were several documents with names on them they were going to investigate*

*and ticket the person responsible.*

*As a family, we enjoy the preserve and appreciate all the volunteers do to maintain it for our use. We plan to become members to get involved with the efforts.*

We greatly appreciate the efforts of this individual and his family. Protecting the Preserve is something we ALL can do—and obviously, need to do.



## 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.

**John Emmerd  
Marie Feeley  
Sally & Mickey Green  
Wayne McGarrah**

**Noah Mehalski  
Elizabeth & David Reed  
Janet Sowards  
Thomas Vancamp**

## Become Part of HNPA!

Membership in the Holiday 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 **Holiday Nature Preserve Association** and mail to:  
**HNPA, P.O. BOX 532243 Livonia, MI 48153**