



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.

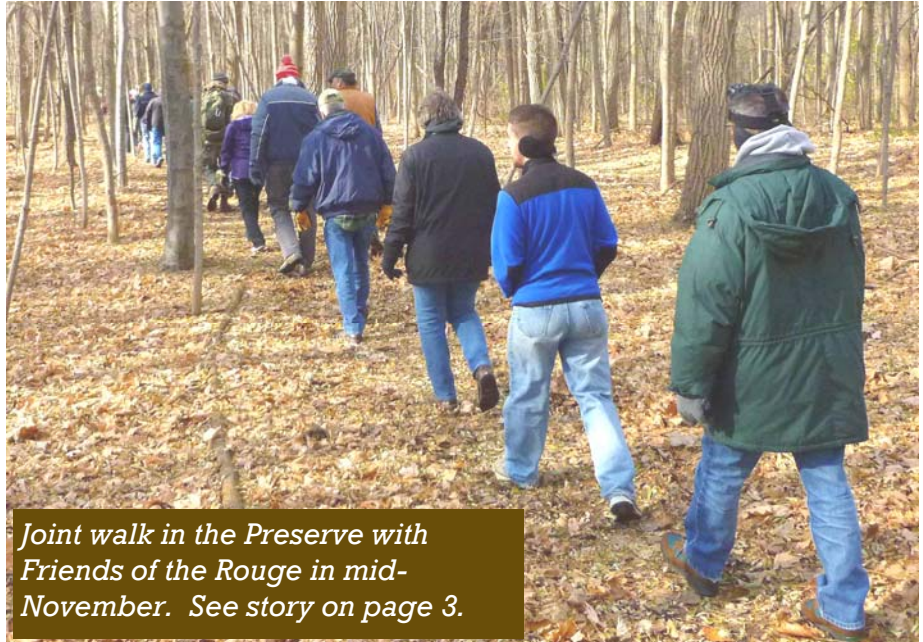
The Preserve consists of over 500 acres of forests and wetlands that run along tributaries of the Rouge River.

HNPA seeks to nurture a greater appreciation of this unique natural resource by hosting walks, conducting projects with Wayne County Parks and promoting the importance of the Preserve in improving the quality of life in Western Wayne County. Our activities are free and open to everyone. Learn more at hnpa.org.

It's Time to Renew

Five bucks. That's what we ask each calendar year to support of our organization and its mission.

In return, you receive three newsletters and help support Scout and trail maintenance projects, clean up projects, as well as fund our website at hnpa.org. Please use the form on page 4. Your support is greatly appreciated! www



Joint walk in the Preserve with Friends of the Rouge in mid-November. See story on page 3.

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 (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.

➤ **The Wonders of Winter Walk**

Saturday, Jan. 24, NOON, Cowan entrance
(Central City Pkwy, west of Wayne, north of Warren)

➤ **Learning to 'Bark' Walk**

(a.k.a. tree identification in winter)
Saturday, Feb. 21, NOON, Ellsworth entrance
(Meet in Nankin Mill parking lot on Hines Drive)

➤ **First Day of Spring Walk**

Saturday, March 21, NOON, Hix Park entrance
(Hix north of Warren)

Clyde Smith Farms Update



Much has happened at Clyde Smith Farms since our last newsletter. Workers have been busy, very busy.

The property has been graded, sewerage and water lines installed, roads paved, and houses are being built. Because part of the property abuts the Preserve, HNPA made regular checks along the boundary this fall. No real impact on the Preserve was expected since we were told the detention basin (used to catch water from storm drains) was not to have been dug until Spring 2015.

Surprise! One day contractors dug a long ditch all the way to the Preserve along with a catch basin, discharge pipe and outfall spill—but no detention basin. As a result, after a heavy rain, fast-moving water and sediment were discharging along the newly dug ditch into the Preserve and not being held and discharged slowly as required by law.

HNPA immediately notified Westland and Wayne County Parks along with MDEQ, which has permitting authority for soil erosion and sediment control). Then the people in all those departments, got busy, very busy

As a result, Clyde Smith Farms has placed rocks at the catch basin and spillway to reduce sediment and the

speed of the discharge. A couple weeks later the detention basin was dug.

At this time, this work is complete and these changes will slow the amount of water and sediment that flows into the Preserve. However, it will not stop the discharge or erosion. This is because the developer obtained a permit several years ago from Wayne County Parks approving this type of discharge. HNPA will continue to communicate with all parties to ensure the best possible outcome.



HNPA Has Outside Eyes -- Yours!

We routinely walk the Preserve looking for damage or potential problems. HNPA is not alone in having eyes. Others with an interest in the Preserve contact us when they observe problems.

For example, we were contacted via Facebook that a homeowner adjacent to the Preserve was dumping leaves into the Preserve. Dumping leaves (or even grass clippings) covers plants and wildflowers, ruins the beauty of the Preserve for others, can cause odors

as items decay and is illegal. HNPA again contacted Wayne County Parks.

In another example, someone informed us that a woman with a baby might be living in Preserve.

A mounted patrol did search part of the Preserve with HNPA but no family was found. However, an illegal campsite was found and an eviction notice posted. The large amount of campsite trash was eventually removed by Wayne County Parks. While we greatly

appreciate their clean up, we just wish they had not used a tracked Bobcat to do it.

Finally, HNPA has no authority in the Preserve, we simply forward on your reports. We are happy to do so, however; feel free to contact authorities when you spot a problem. Non-urgent requests should be reported to Wayne County Parks at 734-261-1990. For urgent matters contact the Wayne County Sheriff if it is an emergency (911).

Hiking and Hanging Out



Bill Craig saw this impressive buck while just hanging out while he was hiking the boundary between Clyde Smith Farms and the Preserve this fall.

The deer's antlers being temporary have fallen off, and most likely are somewhere on the grounds of the Preserve. Bill's beard, on the other hand, is of a more permanent nature.



Top: Walkers on our Oct. 18 outing. A rainy morning lowered turnout.

Right: Members who came out for our December walk had a nice day and no snow.



Parks Grant

Wayne County Parks has been approved for a \$200,000 grant by state's Natural Resources Trust Fund to install a board walk and signage in the Ellsworth section of the Preserve across from Nankin Mills. This will provide access to individuals who cannot otherwise enjoy the Preserve and what it has to offer. HNPCA

provided a letter of support to the project and we congratulate those involved.

Look for more info in our next newsletter.

Hiking with Friends (of the Rouge)

The Friends of the Rouge have a program called "Explore the Rouge with Friends of Rouge. This program provides FOTR members and others the opportunity to visit different parks and natural areas in the Rouge River watershed. HNPCA president and FOTR



member, Bill Craig, volunteered to be part of that program by guiding a walk in Holliday in mid-November.

For a late fall event when most leaves have already fallen, we were surprised that nearly 50 people came out.

Bill first gave a brief history of the Preserve and of HNPCA and the long line of nature lovers moved along the Tonquish Trail (see photo on page 1) viewing giant tulip trees, oaks and many other living things that call the Preserve home.

Some people had never



walked in the Preserve, and were surprised it existed while others were longtime HNPCA supporters and members of FOTR. Not all in attendance were members of Friends of the Rouge but hopefully they will join that organization shortly—or ours. Learn more about FOTR at therouge.org.

A Grateful Thanks and Farewell

We recently learned that Dorothy Mundle, a longtime member of HNPA passed away last summer. Dorothy appreciated the Holliday Nature Preserve and through her donations—including a final bequest—she supported HNPA's mission to protect the Preserve and to educate the community and community leaders about the benefits it offers.

We appreciate Dorothy's kindness and offer our heartfelt condolences to her family.



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.

Dianne Bancroft
Howard Behr
Elizabeth Breneau
Shirley Cebula
Lisa Denys
Terri Desselles
John Emmerd
Linda Etter
Marie Feeley
Jim Flanigan
Tim & Ann Ivory

Noah & Sabrina Mehalski
Noel & Nicole Mullett
Dave & Susan Ostafinski
Denise Paulauskas
Sever & Vonnie Pederson
Zlatko Rauker
Johann Sheibley
Janet Sowards
Thomas Vancamp
Alan & Norma VanKerckhove
John Wagatha

Partner with 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**