



Upcoming Activities



*Bloodroot:
A sign of Spring!*

Please join in! Our walks last 90-minutes or so. Activity lengths vary but stay as long as you can. Make sure you check our *Facebook* page for updates during these uncertain times, since events are subject to change.

All events are family friendly. Sorry, no dogs allowed at our activities. Questions? Contact us at HollidayAssociation@hnpa.org or via our *Facebook* page.

◆ Spring Walk and Work I

SUNDAY, April 24, 10 a.m. Newburgh Section. Park at entrance on east side Newburgh Road, north of Warren Road. Celebrate Earth Day 2022 and Arbor Day with a walk in the forest looking for wildflowers along the trail. Then, for those up for work, we will clear trees of strangling vines, and clean field area. Choose walk-only, work-only or both!

◆ Spring Walk and Work II

Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m. Cowan Section. Central City Parkway, west of Wayne Road, north of Warren Road. Let's take a walk on a forest loop trail, looking for wildflowers and birds. This will be followed with some invasive plant cutting at the entrance. HNPA will provide loppers, gloves and drinks. Choose walk-only, work-only or both!

◆ Tonquish Creek Rescue

*Saturday, May 28, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hix Park Section. Hix Park on west side Hix Road, north of Warren Road. Will stage at Hix park entrance, then cross Hix Road to go east on trail to work area. Small log jam to OPEN, trash to remove and honeysuckle to cut.
RAIN DAY: June 4.*

◆ Wildflower Walk

Saturday, June 11, 8 to 10 a.m. Koppernick Section. Koppernick Road, south of Joy Road, west of Hix Road. Early morning walk for those early-bird types who want to see early birds. Maybe see some frogs, snakes and a few mosquitoes.

◆ Detroit Audubon Bird Walk

SUNDAY, June 12. 8 to 10 a.m. Koppernick Section. Koppernick Road, south of Joy Road, west of Hix Road. HNPA is partnering with Detroit Audubon. Bill will guide with Detroit Audubon's Brittany Laird focusing on the birds. We will pass an egret rookery.

HNPA Meets With Wayne County Parks

With COVID restrictions reduced, HNPA President Bill Craig met with Wayne County Parks staff to discuss the following topics:

1. Reiterate our number one position: Holliday Preserve consists of stand-alone sections, including Ellsworth-Cowan, and Koppernick. There is no need for one trail that would connect all sections. To have such a trail would require a number of bridges and the use of large equipment to build them—something HNPA does not support.

2. Online Tree Survey: The Davey Resource Group conducted a survey of trees within the Preserve. The results, listing the trees and including numerous Preserve photos can be seen at <https://bit.ly/3wAdxFm>. A link is on our website.

3. Connecting the Rouge: Discussed this draft plan for community connections to parks along Rouge River corridors. Bill had concern about proposed project LC07 on page 92. Visit connectingtherouge.org

4. New entrance signs: They were delayed because of Covid. They will be installed soon.

5. Wayne Bridge: Trying to find ways to stop illegal camping and unsanitary usage of area.

6. Possible Bridge at Joy Road: New bridge would provide access from north. Seems reasonable.

7. Roadbeds in Cowan and Koppernick: They may see improvements this year.

There will be much for us to discuss at a general meeting later in the year—fingers crossed.

Winter Memories



January walk in Cowan. (13F degrees) Well bundled up walkers stepped on the ice covered pond, which someone shoveled off for ice skating.



February walk in Koppernick. (0F degrees wind chill). Nikki joined Bill for some off trail walking. Did some tree bark identification and followed deer trails.



March walk in Ellsworth. (45F degrees, light rain) The last day of Winter was enjoyed by small group who trekked both on and off trail.

Association is Focus of Magazine Article



The HNPAA Nature Preserve Association (HNPA)
Protecting the Natural Wildlife Wonderland in your very own backyard

By Ryan M. Place

MANY locals have yet to explore this gem. However, thanks to the multi-decade's efforts of the HNPA, this beautiful preserve, which would've otherwise slipped into shabby decline, is supernaturally worthy of your attention.

Livonia resident and Vietnam vet, Bill Craig, is president of the Holiday Nature Preserve Association. He grew up in Garden City and served in the US Navy.

"The HNPA is all volunteers," he said. "We monitor the 540 acres of the William F. Holiday Forest and Nature Preserve, which is a junk of Hesse Park and technology owned by the Wayne County Parks and Recreation Department."

Stretching from northeast Canton's Koppernick section over to Nankin Mills, the pedestrian-only preserve features 10 miles of hiking trails and runs along Tonquish Creek, a tributary of the Rouge River, "the lifeblood of the preserve," according to Bill.

"The HNPA was founded in 1988," he said. "Jack Smiley and John Covert started an effort which successfully blocked the construction of an 18-hole golf course on 145 acres of the preserve at Warren and Hix. Attending those project meetings was my environmental awakening."

"Protecting wildlife and the richness and biodiversity of the ecosystem is a core goal of HNPA."

"It's a forested wetland, so the trees have ample water and moisture," he said. "As a result, we have a great variety: tulip, oak, beech, sassafras, etc. And wildlife: birds, deer, foxes, turtles, turkeys, great-horned owls, frogs, pileated woodpeckers, wildflowers, a wide variety of ferns, and more."

The restoration work



when he was a boy. It took until 1958 to obtain the land, and the preserve was officially dedicated July 1, 1961.

Arthur was born 1876 and grew up in Wyandotte. He died in 1938 in Cosmopolis, New York. His father and Michigan state senator, David M. Richardson, died young, so he was raised by his "Uncle Bill," William Post Holiday.

Holiday was born 1852 and moved to Detroit in 1872, where he worked for Arthur's dad, David, making matchbooks. He became a wealthy banker and was president of the Detroit Sulphite Pulp & Paper Co. until his death in 1932. He was also a "Plover," a member of Detroit's famed Plover Club, and is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery.

The preserve also contains the undiscovered body of a Potawatomi Indian chief.

"In 1819, Chief Tonquish and his son were killed by Major Macomb and buried inside the preserve," Craig said. "This is supposedly near the Nankin Lake impoundment at the confluence of Tonquish Creek and the Middle River, where the Found of These Falls used to

A few months ago Bill sat down with *Canton Today* magazine writer Ryan Place to talk about the Preserve.

Ryan had already researched its history but wanted to find out how the Association came about as well as our mission and activities.

After a three-hour talk, Ryan had enough information to craft a story. It was published in the Canton edition as well as other community editions. Thank you, Ryan.

Check out this link: <https://bit.ly/3iyGPfr>. A link can also be found on our website.

Rouge Rescue Is No More, However...



When Friends of the Rouge organization started Rouge Rescue, it was simply an annual event to clean the Rouge River.

Over the years, the event evolved. Other activities, including the planting of native plants and removal of invasive plants were included. Improving the Rouge changed from a one-day cleanup to year-round watershed restoration.

Because of that, Rouge Rescue as a regional event is no more. That said, HNPA will still host our own "Rouge Rescue" on Tonquish

Creek, a Rouge River tributary on May 28. This will be our 33rd year! Wear old clothes, meet at Hix Park entrance to register, and help remove trash, OPEN a log jam (photo at left) and cut invasive honey-suckle.

HNPA will provide all equipment and clean up stations. Sadly, no more free Rouge Rescue T-shirts.

NOTE:
Rain date is June 4.

Gypsy Moths Are No More, However...

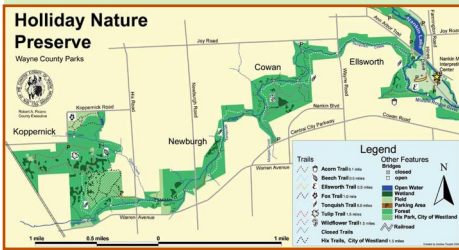
The Gypsy moth—a horrible insect with a preference for oak leaves—is now called the Spongy moth. This name will now be used by

the Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources and national agencies that deal with the pest.

Whatever the name, it's still a problem and its

numbers are on the rise in western Wayne County, which means more impact in the Preserve, including the center of the Koppernick section.

Who We Are and What We Do



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 500-plus acres of forests and wetlands that run along tributaries of the Rouge River. HNPA seeks to nurture a greater appreciation of this unique resource by hosting walks, conducting improvement projects in conjunction with Wayne County Parks and promoting the importance of the Preserve to the quality of life of Western Wayne County communities. Our activities are free. Find out more at hnpa.org or on our *Facebook* page.

Thanks to our Supporters



The following people joined HNPA, renewed their memberships or made donations. We thank them and appreciate the continuing support and the trust they put in us. We use the funds for the benefit of the Preserve.

Nancy & Paul Bailey
Carol & Howard Behr
Linda & Larry Bernhardt
Nancy Butka
David Cartwright
Judy & Joe Derek
Linda Etter
James Gilbert

Maria Jagadics
Lillian Korona
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Molly & Lew Newcomb
Jane Owens
Barbara Pearson

Vera & Sever Pederson
Molly Feeley-Powers
Ruthann Schenkel
Pamela & Dennis Scott
Peggy & Alan Vankerckhove
Mary Jo & Gary Weissman
Karen & Richard Zyczynski

Become one of our Supporters

Membership in the Holliday Nature Preserve Association is only **\$5 per calendar year**. Your support makes it possible to mail our newsletters, host a

website, offer walks and purchase items for work projects, educate the community and promote the Preserve.

Any donations are used to benefit the Preserve. You may also earmark additional funds to extend your membership.

Name: _____

Address: _____ **Address 2:** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ + _____

Email Address if you wish to share it. (We won't) : _____

\$ _____ **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