HOLLIDAY NATURE PRESERVE ASSOCIATION



Our 35th Year

Volume 35 Number 2 HNPA.ORG Spring 2024

Upcoming Activities

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 since events are subject to change. All events are family friendly. Sorry, no dogs allowed.

Questions? Contact us at *HollidayAssociation@hnpa.org* or via our *Facebook* page.



♦ An Early Spring Walk

Sat., April 13, 10 a.m. Koppernick entrance, west of Hix Road, south of Joy Road. Early wildflowers, rookery activity and wildlife. Boots recommended.

♦ A Later Spring Walk

Sat., April 20, 10 a.m. Cowan entrance, Central City Parkway, west of Wayne Road, north of Warren Road. A loop walk along Tonquish Creek.

♦ Earth Day/Arbor Day Work Day

Sat., April 27, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Newburgh entrance, east of Newburgh Road, just north of Warren Road. Continue invasive plant cutting to save trees from choking vines. Loppers and gloves provided. We'll also provide some snacks and water.

♦ Spring Walk & Work

Sat., May 11, 9 a.m. Ellsworth entrance parking at Nankin Mill on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail. Rain makes this trail muddy, so boots are recommended. We'll take the loop across the floodplain, then do some trash collection. Enjoy the walk only or come out to work only—or do both! Trash bags and gloves provided.

♦ Tonquish Creek Rescue

Sat., May 18, Registration 8:30 a.m. Hix Park entrance, west of Hix Road, just north of Warren Road. Creek and/or land work. Wear old clothes. Tasks: trash removal, moving wood, and cutting invasive plants. Tools, gloves, snacks and water provided. This event is done with Friends of the Rouge.

♦ "Early Bird" Audubon Walk

SUN. May 19, 9-11 a.m. Koppernick entrance, Koppernick Road, west of Hix Road, south of Joy Road. Joint Detroit Audubon Society/ HNPA walk, with Jack Smiley. Join skilled birders to seek out small birds hiding in big trees.

♦ Membership Meeting

Sat., June 1, 10 a.m.-Noon. Bennett Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia. Opportunity to discuss issues concerning the Holliday Nature Preserve. NOTE: Will discuss Wayne County Parks grant work if known by then. Meeting is open to all!

Wayne County Parks Public Meeting Soon

any people are noticing work being done in Preserve, such as trees being marked. This activity is simply the initial groundwork to develop design plans for major projects starting this Summer.

Once the designs are done

and cost estimates understood, Wayne County Parks will hold a public meeting to inform the public of its plans.

As this newsletter goes to print, meeting date and location have yet to be determined. There is increasing public interest in how projects will impact the Preserve and the surrounding neighborhoods.

HNPA will share meeting details, when we have them via Facebook page. We will attend the meetings and hope you do, too.

Gone After 60 Years



The last pavilion in the Preserve is now gone. What remained was recently cut down and hauled away. That means most of

the infrastructure originally built in 1964 when the Preserve was first opened is now gone.

Originally, there were roads, restrooms with running water, picnic shelters and a series of bridges that connected all sections of the Preserve. Over time,

vandalism, neglect, erosion and the ravages of time caused them to become unusable.

The collapsed bridge south of Joy Road was hauled out

years ago. One bridge was rebuilt and one partially rebuilt thanks to the Parks Millage. Two other bridges are usable only due to volunteer efforts while six bridges have been unsafe for more than 20 years.

Preserve entrances that once welcomed vehicles have been barricaded for more than 25 years.

Now \$6 million will be spent to address many of these issues—and others. CHANGE is coming. HNPA will keep you informed.

HNPA Meets with City of Westland

City of Westland Mayor Kevin Coleman and Deputy Mayor Jim Godbout had a meeting with HNPA President Bill Craig on March 15.

The discussion focused primarily on the problems with "hidden" parking areas at the City's Hix Park and Wayne County Parks' Holliday Preserve entrances

at Newburgh and
Koppenick Roads. These
parking areas are usually
closed to prevent dumping,
but there have been reports
of mischief and activities
that makes many people
uncomfortable visiting and
enjoying the Preserve with
friends and family.

Bill learned the City is going to change the parking area

in Hix Park, and both the mayor and deputy mayor are very interested in what Wayne County Parks is planning for at Preserve entrances.

Although, no detailed information has been released by Parks, all parties believe it likely that the "hidden" parking problems will be addressed.

A Look Back at Recent Activities

Jan. 27 Walk in Koppernick



It's long been a practice that the walk leader (usually our President Bill Craig) snaps a photo, which then appears in our newsletters.

Over the years, faces have come and gone, but there are some regulars that show up walk after walk, year after year. We enjoy including our new participants, but also really enjoy including photos of our regulars. Maybe someday we'll even have Bill in one of them!

Feb. 24 Walk in Cowan

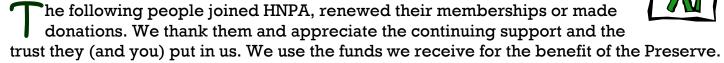


Who We Are and What We Do

olliday Nature Preserve Association (HNPA) are 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



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Become one of our Supporters

Membership in the Holliday Nature
Preserve Association is only \$5 per calendar year.

Your support makes possible

our newsletters (even as printing and mailing costs rise); hosting a website (hnpa.org); offering walks; purchasing items for work projects; educating the community; and promoting the Preserve.

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

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