Huron River Report

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Fall 2010

The River Today

The Huron's recovery from a darker past, and new threats

In our Summer issue, we looked back at the river with an excerpt from a 1966 article in the Ypsilanti Press. The article characterizes the river as clean and attractive upstream, until it begins taking on chemicals and waste as it runs through farmland and cities, eventually becoming an "open cesspool" as it empties into Lake Erie. This article gives a present-day perspective and some thoughts on the future of the river.

A CLEANER RIVER

Today, the stretches of river described as previously turning different colors from factory discharges, or caked with algae from too many nutrients from wastewater treatment plants, have become mostly clear, clean waters that we all love to fish, paddle and swim from the headwaters in Oakland County to the now-clear waters as the river flows into Lake Erie. Many factors contributed to this improved state, notably federal regulation, increased environmental awareness, and shifting local industries and economies.

The 1970 Clean Water Act identified and regulated each pipe discharge to the Huron, established standards and best available technologies, and forced operations with discharges to clean up their effluent. These pollution sources include the wastewater treatment plants described in the 1966 article as causing algal blooms and gushing sewage. Today, the municipal wastewater treatment plants discharging to the Huron have vastly improved treatment systems.

Summer fun in today's Huron River. photo: J. Lloyd

The rising importance of the river and its tributaries to drinking water and quality of life increased political pressure for stronger rules and regulations and forced businesses to become cleaner. Increased efforts at raising awareness of the environment, educating residents on ways to protect and restore the river through reduced litter, buffers and vegetation, water

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Measuring Stream Flow

Second in a series about how HRWC collects data in the field

Don and Dick measure flow in Portage Creek under placid conditions. photo: HRWC

During a cold and rainy afternoon in early May, we were thankful for thick chest-high waders even though the water wasn't far above our knees. The banks of Traver Creek were lush and green, and the water was rushing from the steady spring storm. A chilly but good day to measure stream flow.

Stream flow is the volume of water that moves over a designated point over a set period of time. Measuring this flow requires depth and velocity measurements along a stream's cross-section (width)

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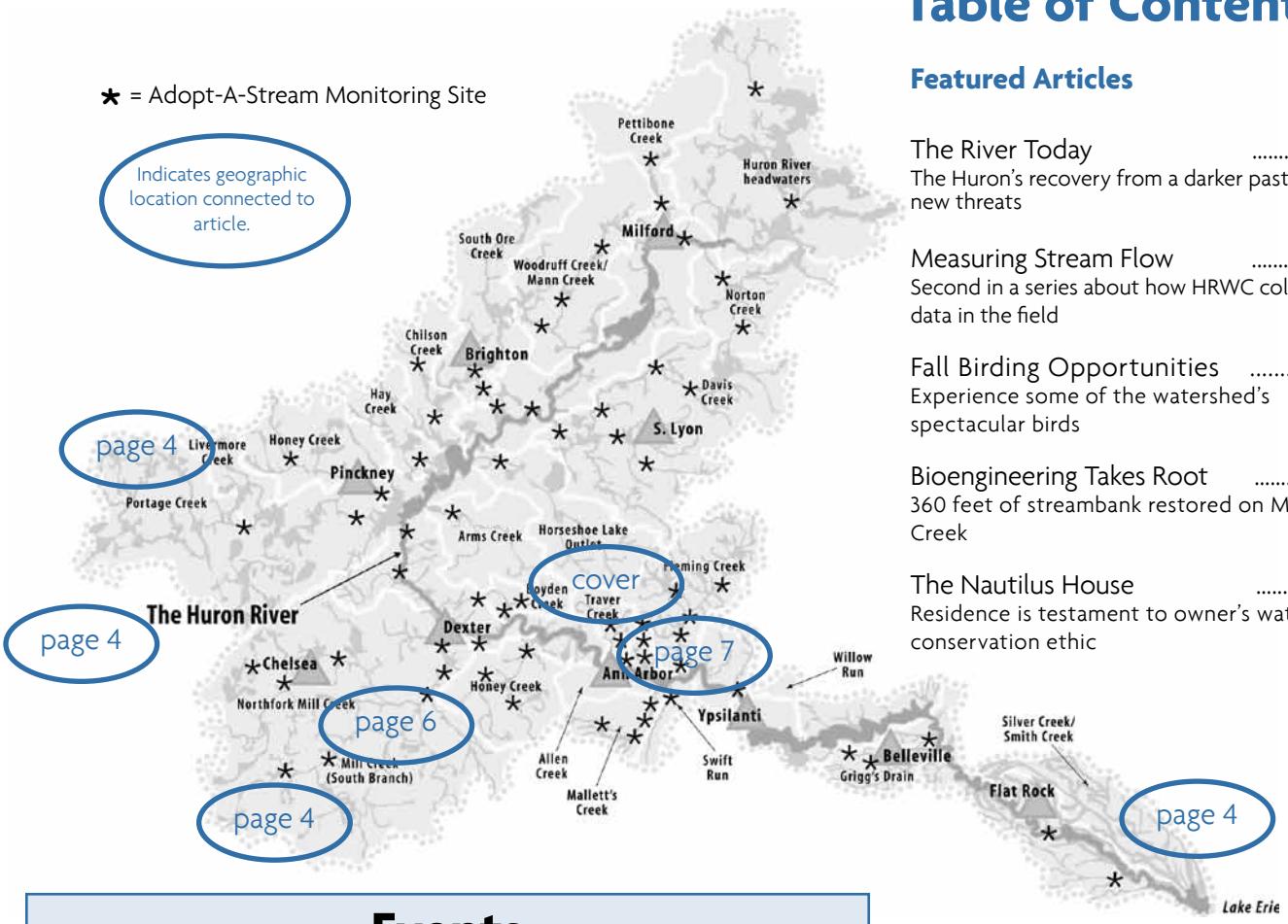

Featured Articles

Regular Features

The content of this newsletter is prepared by HRWC staff and does not necessarily reflect the opinions of HRWC board members.

Events

September 12, 2 PM – 5 PM
Leadership Training
NEW Center, Ann Arbor
Contact: jmartin@hrwc.org

September 16, 6 PM – 9 PM
Suds on the River
Featuring microbrews of the watershed
Contact: msmith@hrwc.org

September 23, 5:30 PM
HRWC Executive Committee Meeting
NEW Center, Ann Arbor
Contact: lrubin@hrwc.org

September 24, all day
Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Design Workshop
Lawrence Technological University
Contact: eriggs@hrwc.org

October 2, 8:45 AM - 3 PM; 10 AM – 5 PM
River RoundUp
Must register by Sept. 22nd!
Contact: jmartin@hrwc.org

More events and updates at www.hrwc.org
HRWC offices are located at the NEW Center 1100 N. Main Street in Ann Arbor. For directions call (734) 769-5123 or visit www.hrwc.org

October 10, Noon – 3 PM; 2 PM – 5 PM
ID Day
Identify the bugs collected on Oct. 2.
NEW Center, Ann Arbor
Must pre-register with jmartin@hrwc.org

October 13, 1 – 4 PM
Middle Huron Partners and Stormwater Advisory Group
University of Michigan (room TBD)
Contact: rlawson@hrwc.org

October 16, 9 AM - 5 PM
How Rivers Work
Workshop by Mike Wiley
NEW Center and in the field
Contact: jmartin@hrwc.org

October 18-19, starts at noon on Monday and runs until 4:30 PM on Tuesday
Fourth Annual MiCorps Conference ($)
RAM Center, Higgins Lake, MI
Register: www.micorps.net/conference.html or Laura Kaminski, laurak@glc.org

October 28, 5:30 PM
HRWC Board Meeting
NEW Center, Ann Arbor
Contact: lrubin@hrwc.org

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conservation, and sustainable fisheries, also helped.

Today, Lake Erie at the mouth of the river is a haven for wildlife, paddlers, and fishermen. photo: HRWC

As Michigan's manufacturing sector declined, many of the factories described in the 1966 article closed down. Today, the Peninsular Paper Company is closed and houses Eastern Michigan University students. Much of the heavy manufacturing around Ford and Belleville Lakes has closed, and these lakes have become recreational havens.

NATURAL RIVERS DESIGNATION

A large portion of the Huron River and three of its tributaries have such good quality and natural beauty that, in 1977, they were designated a Natural River under the Michigan Natural Rivers Act (231 P.A. 1970). The Huron is the only river with this status in southeastern Michigan. The designated area extends from the Kent Lake Dam in Kensington Metropark downstream to the Scio-Ann Arbor Township line (excluding lakeshore in the Chain of Lakes and the Village of Dexter) and includes portions of Davis, Arms, and Mill Creeks.

NATURAL AREAS PROGRAMS EXPAND PROTECTION OF NATURAL LANDS

Today, the Huron is the cleanest urban river in Michigan. This distinction is mostly due to the substantial natural areas that remain throughout the watershed – about 44% of the land remains as forest, wetland, and fields. Protecting natural areas in the watershed helps to maintain the Huron's ecological health.

The 1966 article describes the pleasant state of the river as it passes through the Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority's Metroparks. Today, those parks continue to provide some of the best stretches of river to canoe and fish. A regional park system, the Metroparks consist of 13 parks covering 24,000 acres, 10 of which are located along the Huron River. Together, these 10 Metroparks provide more than 16,000 acres of prime recreational land, including seven public golf courses, a marina on Lake Erie, nature trails, beaches, pools and aquatic facilities, educational activities and winter sports. These natural areas keep the river cool and protected from runoff.

The tremendous acreage encompased by State Parks and Recreation Areas in the watershed also plays a large role in maintaining the river's health. Together, these state lands, which include Pinckney and Waterloo Recreation Areas, along with Island Lake, Proud Lake, and other parks make up 22,000 acres of the Huron River watershed.

Many communities and land conservancies are working to preserve more natural lands. Communities that operate farmland and natural area preservation initiatives include the City of Ann Arbor, Ann Arbor, Webster and Scio Townships, and Washtenaw County. To date, these millage efforts have protected more than 3,600 acres of farmland and natural areas. Land conservancies in the watershed have worked with private landowners to arrange for permanent protection of hundreds of acres of farmland and natural areas.

LEGISLATIVE VICTORIES

Over the course of its history HRWC has played a vital role in the development and passage of statewide legislation that sought to protect water resources. The Inland Lakes and Streams Act, the Natural Rivers Act, the Clean Water Act and its reauthorization, Goemare-Anderson Wetland Protection Act, Michigan Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act, The Michigan River Basin Management Act, and many others have benefited from HRWC's expertise and involvement. This legislation contributed significantly to protecting key natural features in the watershed, reducing soil erosion, and reducing and cleaning up pollution.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Onsite stormwater management controls were unheard of up until the mid-1970s, when County Drain Commissioners began requiring on-site stormwater controls — such as detention and retention basins, swales, filters, etc — to manage stormwater. In addition to these rules, a provision under the Clean Water Act requiring larger communities to hold a permit for stormwater was enacted in two phases, the first in the mid-1990s and the second in 2000. Over 30 communities in the watershed are now required to regulate stormwater, conduct education, and monitor the impacts of stormwater.

TODAY'S CHALLENGES

But some problems persist, and new ones have emerged. Many riverfront properties are left with historical contamination of heavy metals, chemicals, and pollutants. The river downstream of Ypsilanti is still riddled with bicycles, rubble, and unwanted appliances, old and new.

Upstream and in-river contributions of excessive phosphorus have become the river's major threat and contribute to blooms of nuisance algal mats during the warmer months.

In fact, the gains made in water quality from controlling discharges from factories and treatment plants are in danger of being overwhelmed by the increasing volume of pollution from "nonpoint sources" that come from our everyday activities and the way we develop the land. As development has spread out throughout the landscape, ever wider roads, ever larger parking lots, ever bigger stores, and ever larger homes increase the amount of impervious surface in the watershed, at the same time shrink-

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ing the area of forests, wetlands and fields. Stormwater runoff from these impervious surfaces, and the pollution it carries from roads, parking lots, and fertilized lawns, today accounts for more than 75% of the pollution in the Huron River.

To maintain the Huron River watershed's health in the face of this newer pollution threat, we must change current patterns of development by encouraging higher density where infrastructure already exists, and holding onto our natural areas so they can continue to provide the ecological services necessary to maintain quality of water, air, land, and life.

There is a lot to discover in the Huron and its tributaries. photo: J. Lloyd

HRWC has been working with communities throughout the watershed to encourage these changes through watershed planning. Today, eight watershed management plans cover most of the Huron River watershed. The plans lay out goals, objectives and tasks that communities and other stakeholders will undertake to keep the watershed healthy. For example, as part of the Middle Huron Partnership, Ypsilanti and Pittsfield Townships and the City of Ann Arbor took a leadership role by passing phosphorus fertilizer ordinances. The Middle Huron communities have been implementing large- and small-scale best management practices to reduce phosphorus for the past 15 years, and we are starting to see reductions in phosphorus in HRWC's tributary monitoring (see Laura's Stream of Consciousness on page 9).

The watershed plans also recommend implementation of local ordinances to reduce impacts of nonpoint source pollution. For instance, 14 communities have enacted wetlands protection ordinances, 8 communities have enacted ordinances prohibiting phosphorus fertilizer use, and Green Oak and Scio Townships have enacted HRWC's recommended riparian buffer ordinance. Ann Arbor and Green Oak Townships have recently passed strong stormwater protection ordinances.

HRWC will continue to work with communities and residents to maintain and improve the health of the river by conserving its natural areas and reducing our impacts on the watershed as we live, work, and play in and around it.

—**Laura Rubin** and **Kris Olsson**

Fall Birding Opportunities

Experience some of the watershed's spectacular birds

A stately male red-tailed hawk.
photo: Leslie Science and Nature Center

We are lucky to be located along several prime migration routes for both raptors and Sandhill Cranes. Be sure to take advantage of these FREE events highlighting the beauty and power of our watershed's feathered residents.

SANDHILL CRANES

The Phyllis Haehnle Memorial Audubon Sanctuary, located in Grass Lake, is renowned for being a stop in the annual Sandhill Cranes migration. Hundreds of migrating cranes gather in this wetland area every fall, from September through mid-November, and visitors are welcome to observe the unique sight. For more information, see www.haehnlesanctuary.org

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducts a fall Sandhill Crane survey throughout areas of southeast Michigan. This year, the survey will be held on October 29. Two survey areas in our watershed include Unadilla Township in Livingston County and Sharon Township in Washtenaw County. Volunteers are welcome to lend a hand. For more information, email Ron Hoffman at hoffmanrj@dmci.net or call at (517) 769-6891 by October 4.

BIRDS OF PREY

An impressive 23 species of raptors (birds of prey such as hawks, eagles and falcons) migrate through the Huron River watershed every fall. To celebrate these marvelous creatures, the Lake Erie Metropark holds an annual Hawkfest, an event that includes hawk watching, live shows featuring birds of prey, and many kid-friendly activities. Hawk watchers will be present counting migrating raptors, and you can use their scopes to see the birds up close and personal. Last year, 100 rare golden eagles were seen during the fall migration event.

Date: September 18-19, 10 AM - 5 PM. For more information, call (734) 379-5020.

— **Paul Steen**

Measuring Stream Flow

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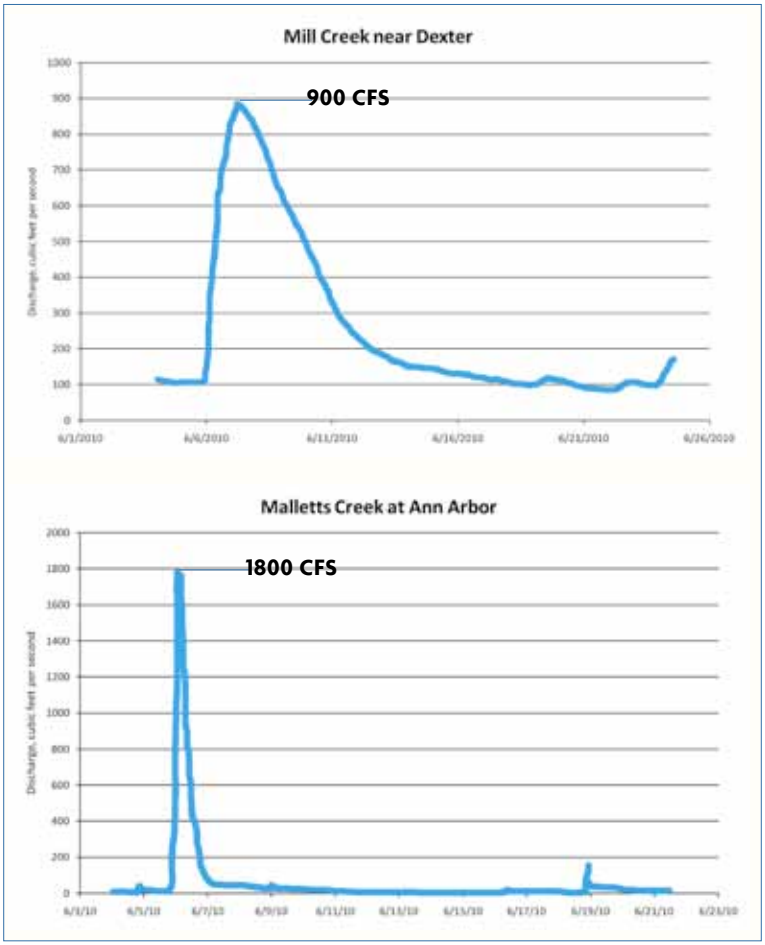
so that both slower velocities near the banks and more rapid movement in the center are taken into account. Since 2002, HRWC has been measuring stream flow to track how streams within the middle Huron are changing. Flow data provide information about how natural or impacted the upstream watershed is, and the likelihood of streambank erosion. HRWC has monitored flow extensively on Mill Creek as well. Recently, the monitoring program expanded to select streams in Livingston County.



Two hydrographs illustrating stream flow (discharge) demonstrate the impact of urbanization during a 2.5 inch rainstorm on June 5-6. Mill Creek, a more natural creek, took thirteen days to return to its standard flow rate, whereas heavily urbanized Mallets Creek rose to twice the peak flow of Mill Creek, and took just six days to return to its standard flow rate. credit: HRWC

THE TECHNIQUE

Traver Creek in Ann Arbor is one of 13 streams within the middle Huron watershed where HRWC measures stream flow. Blocks of concrete hold up the banks as the water flows under Broadway Street, obstructing our ability to set up our measurements. We moved upstream where we could better secure the tape measure to stakes driven into the soft banks. We set up the tape measure perpendicular to the flow of Traver Creek, where no visible upstream obstructions and no major bends in the channel were present. Throughout the measurement, we tried to keep the tape taut to get an accurate measure of the distance across the stream.

"How wide is the stream, in inches and tenths? We need at least 15 measurements, and they should be evenly spaced!" Debi Weiker, the monitoring coordinator and our tried-and true guide to the Huron River, yelled over the sound of the rushing water. She has the science of taking flow down to, well, a science. Our fingers were cold, but we needed to know the velocity of that water because it can impact the amount of sediment carried downstream, the ability of the stream's organisms to hang on, their habitats, and overall water quality. Measuring the flow, when combined with pollutant concentration measurements, allows us to determine the total amount or "load" of the pollutants moving through the stream at that point.

THE EQUIPMENT

A depth stick – called a top-setting rod – can be set to place the velocity sensor at about 60% of depth in the water column at any given point along the cross-section. Studies have shown that the 60% depth gives us the best estimate of average velocity up and down the water column. The meter averages the water speed it senses over a 10- or 15-second interval, which provides a good estimate of the velocity at that point. The distance, depth and velocity measures we collect are entered on data sheets and then transferred to the HRWC database where the flow estimate is calculated. It is expressed in cubic feet per second (cfs). After a number of flow estimates are calculated, HRWC creates a graph for each stream showing the flow at different water levels.

Debi tells us that the entire process usually takes 20 to 30 minutes. But our flow measurements take around an hour as we negotiate around vegetation, struggle to gain our footing on the rocky streambed obscured by the turbid water, and battle the steady rain that was still coming down. As we warmed up afterwards at a café with coffees in hand, Debi told us all about taking flow at the other monitoring sites.

JOIN US IN THE STREAMS

Every spring, HRWC recruits volunteers to help with the monitoring program. This year more than 20 volunteers helped at the middle Huron sites. Volunteers for the new Livingston County program are needed. Training is provided and no prior experience is needed. Volunteers work in teams and can be involved in one or multiple activities including: measuring stream flow; collecting baseline water samples and other water quality parameters; and collecting storm samples. Anyone can volunteer for as many activities as they wish. The information collected is analyzed and presented to elected officials and decision makers from local units of government in Washtenaw, Wayne and Livingston Counties, MDNRE, University of Michigan and other organizations. Visit the volunteer section of the HRWC website (hrwc.org) for more information.

If you are interested, contact Ric Lawson at (734) 769-5123 x 609 or by email at rlawson@hrwc.org.

— **Elizabeth Straus** and **Anne Kohl**

Bioengineering Project Takes Root

360 feet of streambank restored on Mill Creek

HRWC is wrapping up a successful Mill Creek streambank project this fall that resulted in the first bioengineering (soft engineering using plant materials) project on this system to control soil erosion and reduce sediment delivery to the creek. As reported previously in this publication (Summer 2009), HRWC and partners worked over two years to:

- reduce nutrient loading and soil erosion at two stream bank locations, both in Lima Township;
- promote this technique to residents and community leaders; and
- protect critical lands upstream of the two locations through various conservation options such as conservation easements.

In spring, project partners hosted a landowner meeting for Mill Creek residents to discuss options for permanent land protection with Natural Resource Conservation Service staff.

The outreach to landowners in the project area is beginning to bear fruit. Families representing 1,133 acres have inquired about permanent land protection options that should yield land protection in the short-term, and a 145-acre parcel that HRWC's Bioreserve project scored as high priority for protection will become part of the Washtenaw County parks system as a passive recreational preserve. Results of the before and after stream monitoring to discern changes in water quality from the project are forthcoming.

HRWC is grateful to the Heller and Schaper/Fischer families for providing access to the creek from their properties and for their ongoing support of the project.

For more details on HRWC's work in Mill Creek, visit www.hrwc.org and go to Middle Huron under the Our Work tab, or contact Elizabeth Riggs at eriggs@hrwc.org or (734) 769-5123 x 608.

— Elizabeth Riggs

Bare, vertical banks at the S. Lima Center Road site were the result of dredging and upstream changes to hydrology. photo: HRWC

In late summer 2009, crews pull back the slope, and install soft engineering techniques such as trees sourced from a local tree farm (S. Lima Center Road, downstream view). photo: ECT

Nearly one year after construction and high flows, the banks are vegetated with native trees, shrubs and grasses (S. Lima Center Road, upstream view). photo: HRWC

The Nautilus House

Residence is testament to owner's water conservation ethic

When artist Claudette Stern moved into her Ann Arbor home 25 years ago, the house was a perfectly adequate, yet unremarkable ranch with a yard consisting of turfgrass, yews, euonymus and a few walnut trees. The house and yard, like all of the neighboring lots, required generous amounts of city water for indoor and outdoor uses, and sent polluted stormwater runoff to the Huron River. Today, Claudette's residence is a water miser's dream thanks to a bold remodeling that incorporates water savings into every design element.

LEED ACCOLADES

The Nautilus House, so-called for its curvilinear roof redesign, combines water-saving features inside and out that significantly reduce the parcel's impact on local streams and the Huron River. For this and other design elements, the Nautilus House received the U. S. Green Building Council's LEED platinum certification for a residential remodel, making it the second project in Michigan to receive the designation. Features outside include pervious surfaces that allow for water infiltration

The Nautilus House combines LEED-certified building standards with innovative design. photo: HRWC

into soils; three rain gardens that capture and infiltrate runoff from the sloping property; native and noninvasive shrubs, trees, meadow plants and grasses that grow in lieu of turfgrass to minimize water use; artistically rendered water tanks that capture rainwater for use on outdoor plants; and an outdoor shower fed by rainwater collected on the roof (see photo). Water and energy saving features inside include dual flush toilets, ultra low flow water fixtures, and a geothermal system that reduces energy demand and costs for heating and cooling four times more efficiently than fossil fuel derived sources.

PROJECT PHILOSOPHY

During a tour of the residence provided to HRWC by the owner and John Stevens of K. C. Runciman Landscapes, it was evident that the success of the project stems from the camaraderie among the homeowner, landscaper, builder and architect. The team infused the remodel with eco-innovation and a sense of fun. Moreover, Claudette was committed to giving the house and the yard equal attention during the remodel since she understands the importance of plants in enhancing the built environment and in reducing stormwater runoff from the property.

Rainwater captured by the home's gutters flows into the 600-gallon tank for use in the outdoor shower located beneath it. photo: HRWC

The decision not to re-pave the walkway or driveway freed up money in the budget to do more interesting landscaping. The walkways and (short) driveway are an innovative and eye-catching combination of gravel, stone, wood chips, and found pieces like the five sidewalk squares acquired from a demolition project in Toledo that form the path from the drive to the backyard. John adds, "My favorite feature of the site has to be the swale that connects two of the rain gardens and allows for high water demand plantings outside of the rain garden 'box.' I would like everyone who attempts to increase the efficiency of water use and conservation in their yards to challenge themselves with innovative design and think of systems in nature as a model for better design."

Inspired? For more information about the Nautilus House, other LEED-certified homes or ways to green your home, check out the Alliance for Environmental Sustainability at www.alliancees.org.

— Elizabeth Riggs

Books by Chance

REMINDERS:

1. Take extra, old and unwanted books, CDs, and DVDs to HRWC.

2. Feel good about a cleaner home with less clutter, while raising funds for HRWC.

3. Tell friends and neighbors about Books by Chance.

Bring your goods to HRWC between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM weekdays. Books by Chance will sell them over the internet and donate the proceeds to HRWC. Books that sell very well are non-fiction, scholarly, technical, current medical and science, quilting/sewing, engineering, law, political, very current fiction, and textbooks.

THANKS!

Know Your Board Representative

Barry Lonik, Dexter Township

One of the newest representatives to the board of the Huron River Watershed Council is Barry Lonik from Dexter Township. Based on his background, he is an ideal fit for the Board.

Water and land conservation are top priorities in Barry's life. When he was young, he rode his bike seven miles to find and see flowing water. Now, he is helping to save land in and around Washtenaw County. He founded and was the executive director of the Washtenaw Land Trust (now called Legacy Land Conservancy) for five and a half years. He now runs his own business—Treemore Ecology and Land Services—and staffs the millage-funded land preservation programs in Ann Arbor, Webster, and Scio Townships. Nearly 4,000 acres have been preserved thus far.

He received his B.A. from Albion College and a master's degree from the University of Michigan, both in environmental studies.

In his spare time, Barry leads monthly Sierra Club hikes and ski trips in the Pinckney and Waterloo State Recreation Areas. This summer he co-lead four trips on the Natural River section of the Huron River. He also grows and stores much of his own food and manages an acre of his land as a prairie restoration. Watch for his benefit concerts for local nonprofits held in his barn every year, featuring some of the best local bands.

He spends a great deal of time on and in the water and "cannot fathom being in a place that doesn't have abundant clean waters for recreation and exercise." Barry's 11-year-old son, Wesley, often joins him on adventures.

Barry (on shore) and resident Lee Green discuss "shooting the rapids" at Mill Creek in Dexter.
photo: M. Akemann

Barry welcomes your comments, questions and suggestions. Call him at (734) 426-7089 to find out about Dexter Township's issues with the river. You may also call Laura at (734) 769-5123 x 606.

— Eunice Burns

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Laura's Stream of Consciousness

An update on HRWC projects and activities

DISAPPOINTING! STATE DECIDES NOT TO REVISE FORD/BELLEVILLE LAKES PHOSPHORUS REGULATION

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Environment (DNRE) recently informed HRWC and other Middle Huron Partners that they have decided not to revise a key regulation called the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for phosphorus concentrations in Ford and Belleville Lakes. TMDLs establish pollutant limits to protect fish, wildlife, and water resource uses, and allocate pollutant loading limits to waste water treatment plants and general runoff sources. The Ford/Belleville TMDL was the first nutrient TMDL in the state and it was due to be evaluated and revised this year.

Tremendous progress has been made that the DNRE fails to sufficiently recognize. As we have reported in past issues of this newsletter, the voluntary partnership of communities and agencies that make up the Middle Huron Partners has invested millions of dollars into infrastructure improvements, education and policy changes, and monitoring to determine if any of these investments are showing results. Sewage treatment plants have invested in technologies to significantly reduce their phosphorus loading. Many residents have changed their behavior at home to reduce phosphorus contributions from lawn fertilizers, yard waste, and runoff erosion. Overall, tributary phosphorus concentrations have declined 20-30% and river concentrations have declined by almost 20%. Last year, phosphorus concentrations at the upstream entry to Ford Lake were mostly below TMDL targets – their lowest point yet.

Little, if any, of this data was considered in the DNRE's evaluation. If the current TMDL remains, loading allocations will stay at current levels, which are based on limited data and modeling from 1995-96. Further, the current TMDL is concentration-based, which fails to place strict limits on new loading sources (for example, new public and private wastewater treatment plants that discharge phosphorus into local waterways are allowed). Finally, the seven-year study of Ford Lake by Dr. John Lehman at the University of Michigan provides evidence that much of the phosphorus in the lakes comes from in-lake processes. This source is not accounted for in the current TMDL.

Certainly continued work is needed to further reduce or eliminate phosphorus impacts. But, by turning a blind eye to all this information and effort, the DNRE does a disservice to all those who have worked hard to honestly and successfully address an important water quality issue.

VOTE IN NOVEMBER TO PROTECT LOCAL NATURAL AREAS

If you live in Washtenaw County, vote "yes" to renew the natural areas millage on the ballot. This program, passed by voters in 2000, has protected 1,811 acres of unique natural areas to ensure their preservation for the benefit of all county residents, plants, animals and people... and the watershed!

HAPPINESS! SUMMER HELP

This past summer we had two fabulous interns who ran with our expanding water quality monitoring program in the Chain of Lakes and middle Huron sections

Anne Kohl and Elizabeth Straus (not pictured: Emily Provonsha) join staff on a Lake Erie outing. photo: HRWC

of the river. Anne Kohl and Elizabeth Straus are both graduate students at the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and the Environment. Anne is studying environmental policy and Elizabeth is studying aquatic research and management. Anne also contributed to our work in the Portage Creek watershed as we begin to implement the top priorities in the recently-completed watershed management plan.

Emily Provonsha received academic credit for her work with HRWC over the summer. Green Mountain College allowed Emily to devise her own study at HRWC where she helped us develop our monitoring sheet reports and an on-line directory of plants found in the watershed, in addition to some research and general HRWC assistance.

Thank you Anne, Liz, and Emily!

— Laura Rubin

Summer Events

Thanks to everyone who participated! Special thanks to our many wonderful volunteers....

Mike "Schultzy" Schultz and **Eirik Vitso** for their tireless work on the first ever Single Fly Tournament on the Huron River. They pulled it all together, and it was a complete success! In the end we raised over $5,000 for HRWC through the volunteer efforts of these two men who love the Huron River!

Thanks also to **John Davis** and the staff of **Colton Bay Outfitters** for hosting the Tournament, and to **Maggie, Dave** and **Rachael** at **Jolly Pumpkin** for hosting the pre-party.

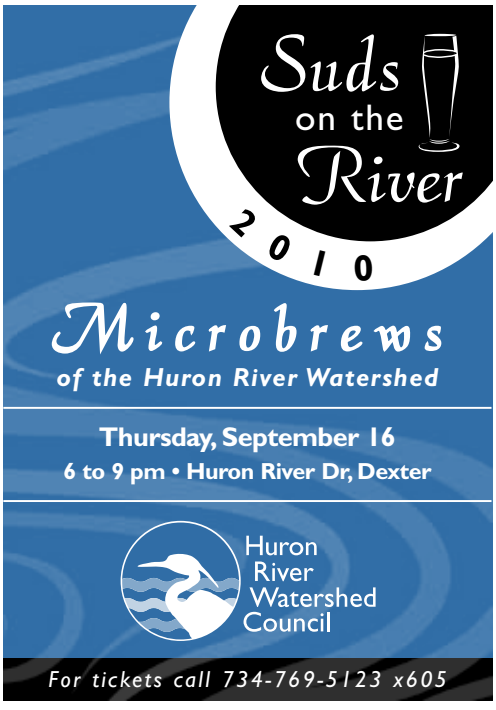
Mike Mouradian, Jeanne Haney, Gene Michaelson, Sally Wisotzkey, Madeline Drake, and **Margaret Counihan** of **Ann Arbor Trout Unlimited** for the Women's Fly Fishing Class and to **Cheryl Saam** and **Gallup Park** for their participation and help.

continued on page 11

Welcome to HRWC's Newest Members!

On behalf of the Board and staff of HRWC we welcome the following new members and thank them for their support.

Timothy Allen
Norman Andresen
Brian T. Athey
Andy Bacon
Michael and Carol Barnhart
Catherine Barry
Wanda and Bob Bartlett
Graham Battersby
Barbara Levin Bergman
Kristine Bernardo
John Biehn
Erica and Peter Bigelow
Dave and Ruth Blackburn
Cheryl Blackwell
Matt Bolang
Leslie Briggs and Alvin E. Lake
Colin Brooks and Margaret Weiss
Peter D. Brown
Rigel Bruening
Donald Bryant
Timothy John Buhse
Paul A. and Susan B. Campbell
Joe and Cathy Carney
Tim Carroll
Ann Cassidy
Mary Beth Chavis
Debra Christein
Rowena and Paul Conahan
Arnold and Susan Coran
Jay Daly
Cheryl and David Darnton
Jennifer Delisle
Bernadette DiCarlo
Patricia Dill Rinvelt and Jeffrey Rinvelt
Pam Dodt
John Donley
Ann A. Edwards
James H. Emerick
Margaret and John Faulkner
Timothy M. Feldkamp
Linda and Larry French
Nancy H. French
Belinda Friis
Bartley and Cheryl Frueh
Paul J Gambka
Stephen J. and Helen Garcia
Rod Ginter
Emily Gobright
Laurie Goetz
John and Margaret Goodnoe
James Graham
Sandra Graichen
Bruce Grant
Timothy M. and Christina M. Gretkierewicz
Cindy Greutman
Rick Hall
Marion Hart
Maryn Hasey
Lucia and Henry Robert Heinhold
Moravian Development Company
William and Susan Hermann
Nathan Hill
Glenn and Candace Hiller
Peter Hinman and Elizabeth Young
Christine Holmes
Kathryn Holmes and Ray Lucas
William F. and Margaret W. Hosford
James S. House and Wendy Fisher House
Dale and Helaine Hunscher
Susan Hutton and Michael Byers
Tony Iannone
Eugene and Nancy Jaworski
Gloria and Kevin Jones
K. Michael Joseph and Eve Mokotoff
Judy Judd
Michael and Karen Kairys
Huda Karaman-Rosen
Robert and Sue A. Keat
Ralph and Erika Keith
Ray Kelley
Julia A. Kennel
Larry, Carol and Jenny Kerber
Sue E. Kerry
Lynn Kirkpatrick
Scott Kloosterman
Randy and Diane Knibbs
Stewart Knoepp
Frederick J. and Diane P. Landsiedel
WIlliam Londo
David G. and Manette A. London
Margaret and Fred Lynch
Dale Magee
Steven E. and Deborah S. Marchand
Laurence Margolis
Suzan McCallum Martin
Maureen Martin and Mike Penskar
Wolfgang May and Luz Delrosario May
Keith S. and Carol L. McConnelly
Eileen McMyler
Barbara Meadows
James and Joyce Meenahan
Jeff Meyers and Arden Morris
Gene Michaelson
Julie Mida
Russell Miller
Marc Miller
Elmo and Susan Morales
Andrew D. and Marie C. Morrill
Melinda Morris
A.J. Neerken
Jonathan S. and Sherri L. Newpol
Gerald D. Nordblom and Barbara Michniewicz
Gilbert Omenn and Martha Darling
Pathfinder School
Larry Peters
Gary Peters
Sandra Peterson
Mandi Phillips
Bill Pinon
Ulrich and Carolyn Raschke
Joseph Richert
Catherine Roberts
Katherine Rose
Greg Rose
Sally Rutzky
Amy Sample and Jim Azim
Mary Ann Schaefer
Peter Schappach
Annie Schultz
James C. Schultz
Mike Ryan Schultz
Stantec, Inc.
Jacquelyn A. Smithers
Stacy K. Snow
Michael Steele
Garrett J. Steele
Victor L. Streeter
William O. and Marlene Straka Thomas
Michael W. Traugott
University of Michigan - OSEH
Dawn and Peter Van Hoek
Alan and Norma Kay Van Kerckhove
Eirik Vitso
Michelle A. Vorase-Biskner and Brian V. Biskner
Lester Wallace
Kenneth A. Warner
Jane Warren and Richard Hertel
Howard White and Barbara Brown
Lauren Williams
Donna Marie Witkowski and David M. Traskos
Deborah L. and Klaus Wolter



Summer Events

continued from page 9 - special thanks to our many wonderful volunteers....

Linda Diane Feldt for leading the Wildcrafting Walk in Gallup Park, and to **Dea Armstrong** for folding HRWC and the importance of the Huron River into to her bird walks this spring.

Ron Sell and **Barry Lonik** for leading the Natural Rivers paddle trips on the Huron River.

UM Sailing Club, Liz Elling, Melinda Colquitt, Sue Van Appledorn and **Donna Snyder** for helping us swim Baseline Lake for the third year! Thanks to our paddlers too, **Bob Robertson, Lee Green, Deborah Wolter, Anita Lamour, Johnathan Lutz, John Stewart** and **Peter Margules.**

Chris Benedict and **Fred Hanert** for working the Cranbrook Duck Regatta in Oakland County.

Students practice the fine art of casting at the first HRWC Women's Fly Fishing Class. photos: M. Mouradian

Anglers at the First Annual Huron River Single Fly Tournament in June. photo: HRWC

Paddlers launch their kayaks in the Natural Rivers Section of the Huron on the second of four paddle trips sponsored by HRWC this summer. photo: HRWC

Swimmers head for the water at the third annual Community River Swim at Baseline Lake in Dexter. photo: HRWC

Support the Huron River Watershed Council

Ways You Can Help

1. Make a Donation
2. Host an Event
3. Read HRWC.org Blog
4. Volunteer
5. Donate CDs, DVDs & Books

Our strength is in our numbers

The success of our river protection work is guided by science, and relies on the support of individuals like you.

Please contact Margaret Smith if you have a question, (734) 769-5123 x 605 or msmith@hrwc.org.

Donate: Make a Difference

I would like to make a donation to HRWC in the amount of

- ☐ $35 **Mayfly**
- ☐ $50 **Crayfish**
- ☐ $100 **Dragonfly**
- ☐ $250 **Soft Shell Turtle**
- ☐ $500 **Salamander**
- ☐ $1,000 **Smallmouth Bass**
- ☐ $2,500 **Great Blue Heron**
- ☐ Other_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Please make your check payable to HRWC and mail it with this form to 1100 N. Main Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Online donations may be made through our secure website at www.hrwc.org. Thank you!

Huron River Watershed Council

Protecting the river since 1965

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Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(734) 769-5123
www.hrwc.org

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Thanks to Our Volunteers!

Protecting the Huron is a big job and we would be lost without the donations of time, talents, and resources from our dedicated volunteers. **We extend Special Thanks to:**

All of the volunteers who worked on making flow measurements on Millers Creek, especially **Bruce Artz, Dick Chase, Steve Easter, Mark Erskine, Wes Daining** and **Margaret Weiss,** who were very actively involved.

Twenty people who made weekly trips to the river during July and August in order to record water temperatures.

Colleen Kim, Anne Gladwin, Matt Naud, Dick Chase, Greg Stevens, Dennis Finseth, and **Esther Rubin** for coming into the office and providing input on our website.

Tom Jenkins for entering data from our Bioreserve field assessments into our database.

All of the volunteers who performed Bioreserve field assessments on properties throughout the watershed (especially **Sharon Brooks**, who contracted poison sumac!).

All of the volunteers in the Water Quality Monitoring Program in Washtenaw and Livingston Counties for our most productive year yet!

Tom Kimmel and **Karim Motawi** for their help at the Ann Arbor Green Fair.

Rod Ginter of JFNew and **Shannan Gibb-Randall** of InSite Design Studio for their talks on the Millers Creek project rain gardens and to **Rolf** and **Sandra Bouma** for sharing their back yard with the crowd.

Kate Rose and **Elyse Guilfoyle** for their help with Google Ad Words, and their review of our new website.

John Lloyd for his photography of the Huron River.