



Huron River Report

Published quarterly by the Huron River Watershed Council
1100 North Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Winter, 2007

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The Once and Future Huron

A glimpse of where we are headed (unless we change direction)

University of Michigan Professor Mike Wiley showed HRWC members the possible future of the Huron River at the 2007 HRWC Annual Meeting in April. A compilation of many studies and models shows that many Huron River tributaries will deteriorate by 2030 unless we change how we currently develop and use the land.

CURRENT CONDITIONS OF THE HURON'S STREAMS

The data for this study come from state agencies, university research and HRWC Adopt-A-Stream volunteers. The data show that a major factor in the health of the streams is the level of development in their watersheds. For instance, many of the streams in rural areas of Livingston County and near the headwaters in White Lake Township harbor a rich variety of fish and aquatic invertebrates primarily because they retain their natural paths of water flow. When it rains in these watersheds, most of the water seeps back into

the groundwater or into plants. Very little of this water flows directly to the streams. The ground and the plants filter many pollutants, keeping them from reaching the streams, while the more steady flow from groundwater keeps the stream banks and beds stable, and temperatures low, thereby providing better habitat for aquatic life.

Streams in the most highly urbanized basins have very few species of fish or aquatic invertebrates. This situation is largely because much of the land draining



Millers Creek flows through Ann Arbor. The severely eroded streambanks and channel result from development in the creekshed. Photo: HRWC

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Seeking the Elusive StoneflyHeader

Unusual winter insects reveal stream health

Imagine a small aquatic insect that hatches from an egg in the spring, but then, rather than feeding and growing throughout the warm summer months, burrows deep into the stream bottom and becomes inactive until water temperatures drop in late fall. This insect then crawls back up into the flowing water to flourish in the freezing temperatures of winter! Such is the life history of some stoneflies, which are common in many parts of the Huron River and its tributary streams.

THE LIFE OF A STONEFLY

Stoneflies are one of many different types of insects with an aquatic juvenile, or larval, form and a terrestrial adult form. Stoneflies spend the bulk of their life span as aquatic juveniles, emerging as adults by crawling out of the water and shedding their larval skin or exoskeleton. Adult stoneflies live for a few days or weeks, during which time their primary focus is reproduction. In fact, those spe-



Adopt-A-Stream volunteers search for stoneflies in Honey Creek in Livingston County last January.

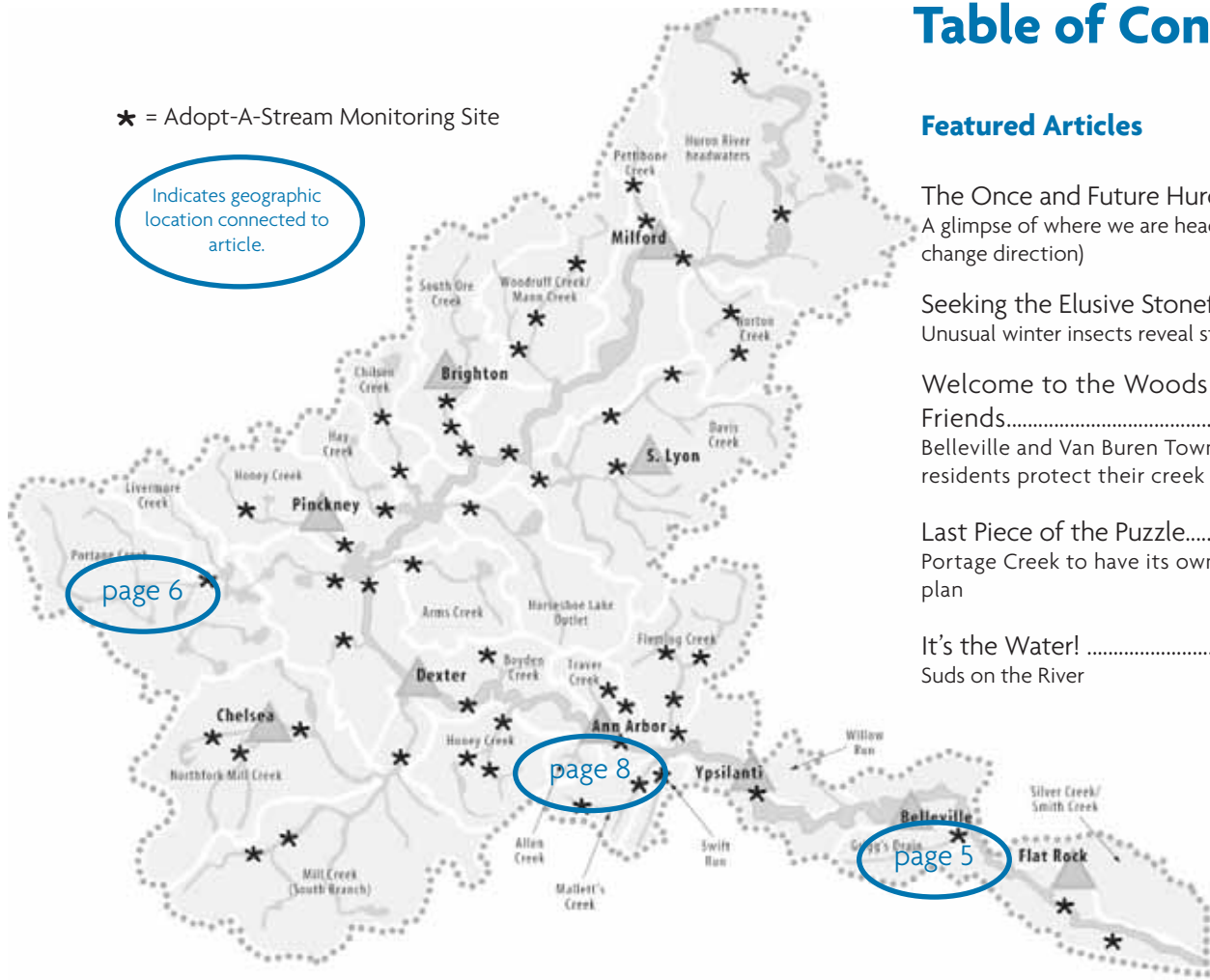
Photo: M. Akemann

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★ = Adopt-A-Stream Monitoring Site

Indicates geographic location connected to article.



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Events

Thursday, January 24, 5:30 PM
HRWC Board Meeting
NEW Center
email lrubin@hrwc.org

Saturday, January 26, 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM or 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Stonefly Search
Entire watershed
email jmartin@hrwc.org by January 14

Saturday, February 2, 5:00 PM
Due date for submitting films to the Millers Creek Film Festival
email jmartin@hrwc.org

Friday, March 14, 4:30 PM
Millers Creek Film Festival
Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor
email jmartin@hrwc.org

Saturday, April 12, 12 - 5 PM
Leadership Training
NEW Center
email jmartin@hrwc.org

Saturday, May 10, 2008, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Rapid Ecological Field Assessment Training
NEW Center
see page 11
email kolsson@hrwc.org

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

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The Once and Future Huron

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to these streams has been covered with hard, impervious surfaces such as pavement and roof tops. When rain falls on these surfaces, it has no chance to seep into the soil or be absorbed into plants. Instead, it rushes quickly and directly into the nearest waterway, washing pollution and sediment in with it, and flowing so fast that it tears away riverbanks and may cause flooding. The rainwater often never reaches groundwater, cutting off this steady supply to streams. The creatures living in the streams must cope with deluges during rain and droughts when it is dry.

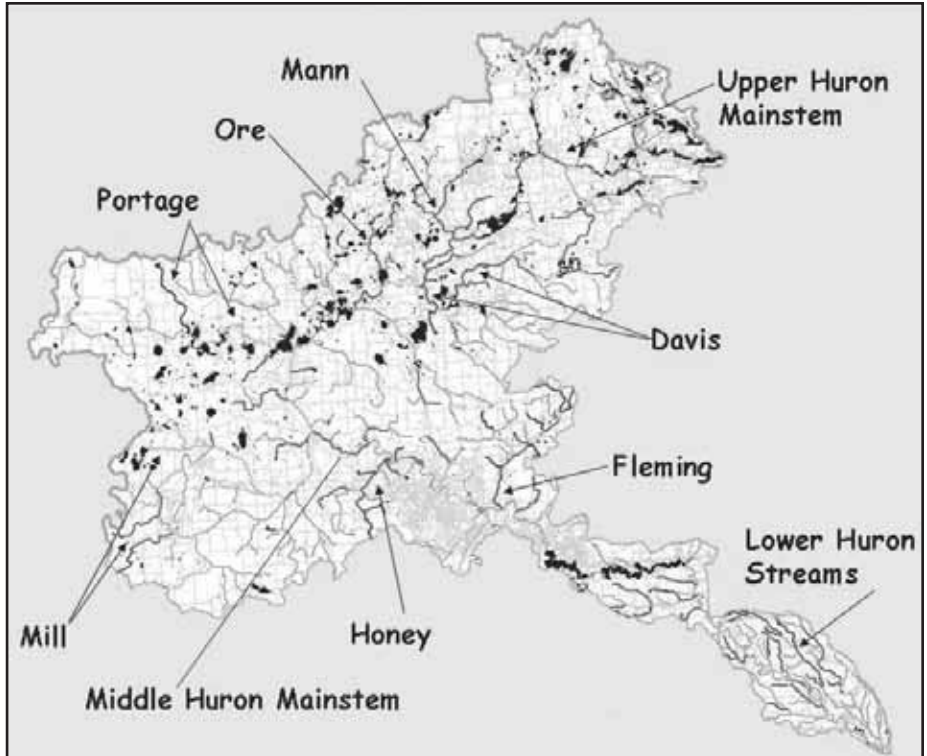
MODELING THE FUTURE

Professor Wiley brought together two computer models to peer into the possible future of the Huron's streams.

First, he described a model developed by researchers at Purdue University, which has produced projections of changes in land use expected in the western Great Lakes Region if current economic and development trends continue. As the maps created from the model morph from 2005 through 2030, developed land, with its impervious surfaces, grows outward from the Detroit and Ann Arbor areas like a spreading paint spill.

The second model links the relationship between impervious surface and stream quality to allow predictions of stream quality based on land use changes.

Professor Wiley used the results of both models to predict changes in stream quality expected. Many stream segments currently in fair to excellent condition (Portage Creek, the Upper Huron Mainstem, and segments of Mill and Fleming Creeks) will see significant deterioration. Streams already showing signs of poor health will deteriorate further (Ore, Mann, the middle Huron, and segments of Davis, Honey, and the lower Huron). See map on this page.



These streams will experience major deterioration if current development trends continue.
Graphic: M. Wiley

THE FUTURE DOES NOT LOOK GOOD

The two models show that 1) urbanization will continue to spread into the countryside faster than population growth, and 2) as this urbanization continues, the increased impervious surfaces will impact more and more of our streams.

BUT WE CAN CHANGE THE FUTURE

Professor Wiley reminded attendees that the modeled predictions are a result of a computer taking current data and trends in development patterns and making assumptions about future trends, based on how we currently do things. He reminded those assembled that Scrooge changed his ways after seeing his potential future, and we can too.

We have an opportunity to prove the computer wrong by changing the ways that we build on the land. We must halt the spread of development by grouping it into higher densities on smaller areas—preferably areas that already have infrastructure in place and don't require, for instance, new roads.

Many steps can be taken to reduce the spread of development out into natural areas. A few of the most important:

- Encourage your local government to preserve rural land and natural features while focusing growth in urban areas in their master plans and zoning laws;
- Encourage new developments to occur in areas already served by sewers, schools, and roads; and
- Where growth into rural areas is unavoidable, change zoning ordinances to prevent cookie-cutter subdivisions that chew up open space, instead favoring cluster developments that preserve large tracts of land and wetlands.

Regional planning and cooperation are essential to achieving these goals. If we deal intelligently with the current pattern of development, we have an opportunity to save vast amounts of money, beautiful riverscapes, a wonderful way of life—and our own drinking water. But to do so, we must change the way we grow.

— Kris Olsson

Seeking the Elusive Stonefly

continued from cover

cies with very short adult life spans do not even eat during that period. Those living a few weeks will feed on plants and lichens near the streamside.

Many stonefly species exhibit an interesting drumming behavior to attract mates. The male typically initiates drumming by tapping its body on the surface on which he stands. A female that senses the vibrations drums a response. The pair continue to alternate drumming and moving toward each other until they find one another. Each species has a unique drumming pattern so that they can identify mates of the same species.

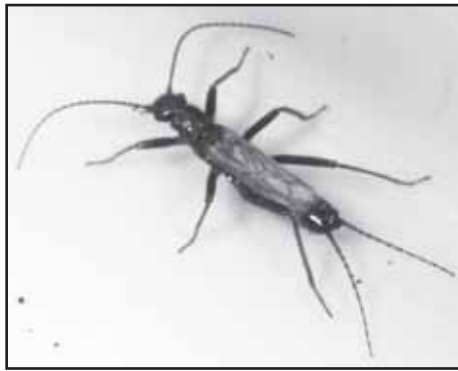
The female stonefly deposits eggs into a nearby stream while flying over or by crawling out over the water's surface on a branch or stone.

Stonefly larvae are found almost exclusively in running waters and are most common in small, cold, swift-flowing streams. They are found typically on coarse streambed material, like large gravel, rocks, wood, and accumulations of fallen leaves, called "leaf packs". The name "stonefly" likely refers to their tendency to be found on stones and gravel on the stream bottom. Stoneflies are either "shredders" that feed by shredding up bits of live and decomposing plant material for food, or they are predators on smaller aquatic invertebrates.

Stoneflies are the most environmentally sensitive of all aquatic insects. They prefer colder, clear-running streams with high oxygen levels maintained by low amounts of organic pollution. They require stable stream bottoms of gravel or rocks and are rarely found in either naturally sandy or mucky streams or where soil erosion has led to sediment blanketing the gravel or rocky bottoms of other streams.

STONEFLIES IN THE HURON

Five different stonefly families make their home in the Huron River Watershed. Three families are found primarily during warmer weather: Perlodidae (patterned stoneflies), Nemouridae (brown stoneflies), and Perlidae (common stoneflies). The other two families - Taeniopterygidae (winter stoneflies) and Capniidae (small



An adult small winter stonefly (*Capniidae*).
Photo: HRWC

winter stoneflies) – are active in the river and streams during the winter. The winter stoneflies thrive in the cold, oxygen-rich waters of winter, where they can feed, grow, and reproduce relatively free from competition and predation from other aquatic invertebrates and fish.


Each winter, HRWC's Adopt-A-Stream program organizes a Stonefly Search across the entire watershed. This volunteer event is part of our long-term study of the Huron River, now in its sixteenth year. Aquatic invertebrates are excellent indicators of water quality due to the range of sensitivity to pollution and habitat degradation that different species exhibit. The winter Stonefly Search complements the spring and fall River RoundUps, during which volunteers collect a sample of all the different aquatic invertebrates at their assigned stream and river sites.

Last fall, HRWC responded to a request from researchers at the Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS) to provide information for their study of stonefly populations across the Midwest. Scientists at INHS and elsewhere interested in changes in stonefly populations have found that these environmentally sensitive aquatic insects have been declining rapidly in many parts of the United States – especially the region of the Midwest impacted by the Wisconsin Glaciation, of which the Huron River Watershed is part. HRWC was able to provide useful and reliable data about the local stonefly populations to this important study due to the Adopt-A-Stream's efforts in collecting and preserving stoneflies from monitoring sites for

over fifteen years. The researchers were amazed and excited to learn of our long-term, volunteer-based study of stoneflies, which is unique in the region. In addition, at the researchers' request, during the 2007 Stonefly Search Adopt-A-Stream volunteers collected both aquatic larvae, as usual, and terrestrial adults, which are easier to identify to species. When the study is complete, HRWC will share the results.

This winter's Stonefly Search will take place on Saturday, January 26, and the deadline to sign up is January 14. Volunteers who participate in this popular event will be part of a five-member team with trained leaders, and do not need to get into the chilly water! Each team investigates two sites that have different conditions, so participants can see the impacts of surrounding land use on streams. If you would like to help us seek these interesting indicators of high stream quality, contact Joan Martin at jmartin@hrwc.org or (734) 769-5123, ext. 11.

— Jo Latimore



REMINDER:

1. Clean out clutter at home
2. Take extra, old and unwanted books, CDs, and DVDs to HRWC
3. Feel good about clean home and raising funds for HRWC
4. 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.

Welcome to the Woods Creek Friends

Belleville and Van Buren Township residents protect their creek

This past summer, HRWC built on its success with local creek groups by adding another one to the watershed. Earlier this spring, Dan Swallow, Deputy Director of Planning and Economic Development at Van Buren Charter Township, asked HRWC staff to facilitate the organization of a creek group in the Griggs Drain basin during its preliminary meetings. Griggs Drain, located in the southern portion of the township, is the largest tributary to the lower Huron, draining 27 miles of streams. A series of public engagement sessions hosted by the township had revealed significant interest among residents in preserving the township's natural features, including its streams and tributaries. While HRWC has not started a new creek group in some time, working with local creek groups has been a regular activity since 1994.

AN AUSPICIOUS BEGINNING

Developing citizen participation in the lower Huron is an exciting opportunity as previous groups have all been in the Ann Arbor area. The first meeting, held on a steamy June 25th evening, brought 17 eager citizens interested in the health of their stream and ready to share their thoughts and concerns about its protection. Over the course of subsequent meetings, members became familiar with one another's skills and experiences (which ranged from water chemistry to local history) and worked to consolidate their ideas into fo-

cus goals and objectives.

Before long the group had charted its course and settled on its name: the Woods Creek Friends – a name taken from the original creek designation. They undertook an ambitious water monitoring program to identify the typical levels of

sediment, salinity and macroinvertebrates currently in the creek system at various locations. They also engaged the expertise of the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (YCUA) for phosphorus analysis. HRWC has collected data through its Adopt-a-Stream program near the mouth of Griggs Drain since 1996. However, there were no data for the stream's upper reaches. Adopt-A-Stream staff recently added two new monitoring sites on the creek in response to the group's interest. Already, results are in from the group's initial investigations, which show improvement in the original Adopt-A-Stream site over the past 5 years, but some possible sedimentation and salting issues at the new sites. The group will continue its

monitoring program to confirm their initial findings before reporting any conclusions.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

Though young, the group is making connections with important governmental partners. In addition to Van Buren Charter Township and YCUA, the group met with the Wayne County Department of Environment and is planning a meeting with the Huron-Clinton Metro-



HRWC staff with members of Woods Creek Friends collecting benthic macroinvertebrates from the creek in Lower Huron Metropark. photo: HRWC

politan Authority. County and township staff are regular contributors to meetings and are working with the group to change the creek's name from the currently listed "Griggs Drain" to the more environmentally-friendly and historically-based "Woods Creek". The name is a nod to Matthew Woods, one of the township's earliest residents, and namesake to the creek at the township's inception in 1827.

A BRIGHT FUTURE

The Woods Creek Friends meets on a bi-weekly basis. Their plans include officially launching the group in a public event this coming spring, developing a regular report on their monitoring results, and coordinating community workshops to educate residents about creek and water protection issues. The group also hopes to select sites for possible restoration and place-based education opportunities. HRWC commends Woods Creek Friends for their tremendous progress in such a short period of time and their commitment to making Woods Creek a community amenity. We look forward to many more years of progress working with our new Friends.

For information on how to join Woods Creek Friends, contact Ric Lawson at (734) 769-5123x12 or rlawson@hrwc.org.

— Dieter Bouma and Ric Lawson



Map depicting the location of Woods Creek (Griggs Drain), south of Belleville Lake. graphic: S. Wade

Last Piece of the Puzzle

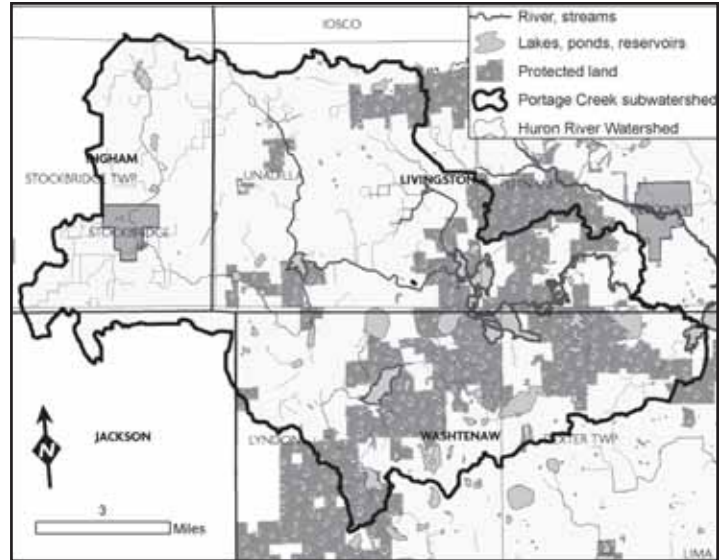
Portage Creek to have its own management plan

If the shape of the Huron River Watershed can be described as a bent arm, then the Portage Creek subwatershed is the elbow. The Portage Creek area, which drains parts of four counties (see map), boasts the most undeveloped, natural surroundings of the watershed. Roughly one-third of its 57,630 acres is under protected status as a State Recreation Area and 40 named lakes dot the landscape. The Portage subwatershed is the second largest tributary watershed to the Huron and the last one without a watershed management plan or Phase II stormwater plan.

That omission will be remedied beginning this winter as HRWC begins a 24-month effort to facilitate the development of the Portage Creek subwatershed management plan. The project will produce a U.S. EPA-approved watershed plan that becomes integrated into the future decisions of local governments. It also positions communities to be eligible for implementation funds to address a variety of problems such as polluted runoff, soil erosion, flow and temperature alteration, and loss of wetlands. Furthermore, Portage Creek

residents will learn about water issues, aquatic habitat, and related topics to help foster stewardship in Portage Creek. The planning process will draw on existing data and fill data gaps.

Planning to maintain this high quality creek will require the cooperation of many partners including the eight local governments, four counties, and state departments of Natural Resources and Environmental Quality. HRWC will invite these partners and several more to be active participants in the planning process. Funding for this project comes from the U.S. EPA and MDEQ. Look for updates on the Portage Creek project in future



Portage Creek subwatershed, spanning four counties and more than 57,000 acres, will be the focus of HRWC's next planning effort.

graphic: HRWC

issues of the Huron River Report and on the project pages at www.hrwc.org.

— Elizabeth Riggs

The Huron Like You've Never Seen It

2008 watershed community calendar is available

The 2008 Watershed Community Calendars arrived hot off the presses in October featuring photographs of the Huron River watershed by Marc Akemann, Keith Matz, and Ted Nelson and produced in partnership with 13 local communities. If you would like one, then please contact Pam Labadie, HRWC Marketing Director, at plabadie@hrwc.org.



Each month offers an inspiring quote about water and a tip for homeowners on simple ways to protect our local waterways. They make great stocking stuffers.

It's the Water!

Suds on the River

On October 4 HRWC sponsored an environmental awareness event – Suds on the River – for the entire watershed community. We brought together four of the microbreweries of the Huron River Watershed to say that the reason that Huron River microbrews are so good is the water.

Hosted this year by Ruth and John Langs at their home on the river in Superior Township, Suds on the River was a memorable occasion for over 120 guests who enjoyed the beautiful Huron River, listened to Great Lakes Myth Society band, and tasted locally-brewed beers courtesy of Arbor Brewing, Frog Island, Grizzly Peak and Jolly Pumpkin. Suds on the River gave people the opportunity to talk to the brewers and visit with friends who care about water.

Suds on the River featured food from many of Ann Arbor's favorite establishments: Anthony's Gourmet Pizza, Bennigan's, Back Alley Gourmet, By The Pound, Café Zola, Charlie's Mediterranean Cuisine, Clancy's Fancy, Jerusalem Garden, No Thai!, Pacific Rim, People's Food Co-op, The Original Cottage Inn, Tios, Tuptim Thai Cuisine, Whole Foods Market, and Zanzibar.

Great Lakes Myth Society, a Michigan-based northern rock collective, draws their name from the region that gives them their power, and they played their musical blend of English-Folk Rock, pine-kissed Midwest and northern Americana music.

HRWC contributors and volunteers who made the event a great success include Kim Alfonsi, Steve Bean, Chris Benedict, Sabra Briere, Eunice Burns, Sarah Clement, Paul Cousins, Jen Fike, Jane Hayes, Patti McCall, Brigit McGowan, Sandy and Pat Merkel, Pat Micks, Rosalie Meiland, Gordon Sheill, Evan Pratt, Tammy Rabideau, Marcia Van Fossen; and Tom Thompson provided beautiful sunflowers.

Thanks to the generosity of the four microbreweries, 16 restaurants, Great Lakes Myth Society, the volunteers and our hosts John and Ruth Langs, HRWC raised over \$5,000. The event was a good time for such a good cause with all proceeds going to HRWC programs to protect the

Huron River Watershed.

Thank you to everyone who came, everyone who contributed, and a special thanks to the volunteers who made it all happen. Mark your calendars for next year's Suds on the River, on Thursday, September 25, 2008, at yet another fabulous location. We are happy to announce that Great Lakes Myth Society had such a good time and were so excited about doing something for the river that they have decided to perform at next year's Suds on the River. Join us next year when we raise our glasses to the Huron again.

— Margaret Smith



Photos at right from top to bottom:

People enjoyed a picturesque setting along with their brews.

HRWC Executive Committee and Suds Hosts (L to R): Paul Cousins; Evan Pratt, Shirley Axon, Ruth Langs, Laura Rubin, Eunice Burns, and John Langs.

Ron Sell leads canoe trips on the Huron in historic canoes that he refurbished.

The Great Lakes Myth Society performs at Suds.

Photos: M. Akemann

Know Your Board Representative

Shirley Axon, City of Ann Arbor

Shirley Axon is one of Ann Arbor's representatives to the HRWC Board. Her interest in water issues began even before she joined HRWC in the early 1970s. Since joining, she has served in many capacities—as a board member, as an Executive Committee member, and as Treasurer.

Her undergraduate degree in Botany is from the University of Oklahoma and, as an "older student" at the University of Michigan, she earned a Master's degree in Geography. In the 1970s, she was identified as a woman active in environmental issues and was often called on to represent citizens. She served as the Michigan representative to the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Study of the Great Lakes; was appointed by Governor Milliken as a member of the Michigan Hazardous Waste Planning Committee; and, until four years ago, was a member of

the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG). She has served as the president of AAUW and the League of Women Voters. Shirley, along with Eunice Burns, founded Huron River Day, the annual community celebration, now in its 27th year.

Shirley teaches Modern Dance Improvisation at the Dance Gallery/Peter Sparling Studio, and she has been known to climb mountains. She and her husband, Don, have three children and six grandchildren. Don retired from Ford Motor Company but keeps busy in community activities.

If you have comments, questions or, if you would like to become more involved in the issues surrounding the Huron River, call Shirley at (734) 665-9349 or call HRWC.



Shirley Axon, City of Ann Arbor rep to HRWC Board. photo: HRWC

— Eunice Burns

HRWC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Shirley Axon
Dick Norton (Exec. Comm.)
Eunice Burns (Exec. Comm.)
Craig Hupy
Joan Lowenstein
Evan Pratt (Treasurer)
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vacant

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Michael Howell

VILLAGE OF WOLVERINE LAKE

vacant

CITY OF YPSILANTI

Sally Lusk

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Laura's "Stream" of Consciousness

An update on HRWC projects and activities

RAIN BARRELS AND OUR FORAY INTO CUSTOMER SERVICE

The rain barrel sale and distribution was a great success...but not without some headaches. We sold out of the 700 barrels in three weeks and have a growing waiting list. The distribution in early September was bustling. However, only 625 rain barrels were delivered to us on the day of the event; then we discovered manufacturing defects in about 50 barrels. Now that the dust has settled, our customers should each have a good barrel or two and be set for big storms. If you still don't have your barrel or have trouble with any of the fittings, please let me know so we can get you a new one or fix your original one. HRWC now owns taps to thread the barrels and a drill battery pack (oh, what we get into!). But the thought of saving 42,000 gallons of water each rain event makes me pretty happy and willing to put up with the occasional headaches the rain barrel sale produced.

STAFF CHANGES

Jen Wolf, our Marketing Director for the past ten years, is leaving HRWC. Jen has been the leading force behind the development of HRWC's marketing materials and our renowned information and education campaign. Her creativity, insight, and good humor have resulted in high quality design, text, and products that educate citizens throughout the watershed and inspire them to change their behaviors to help protect the watershed. Jen hopes to

spend more time with her family and have more time to pursue creative endeavors. We will all miss Jen and wish her the best.

Pam Labadie will be joining HRWC as our new Marketing Director. Pam comes to HRWC after seven years as the Marketing Director for Motawi Tile-works. She brings legal experience, public relations and marketing skills, and a great passion and drive to help HRWC succeed. Please stop in and introduce yourself to Pam. Welcome, Pam!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CLEAN WATER ACT!

In October we celebrated the 35th anniversary of the Clean Water Act (CWA) with Congressman John Dingell, who played a key role in its passage in 1972. This landmark legislation has had a profound positive impact on the Huron River Watershed. A newspaper account of a canoe trip in 1967 shows a much different Huron River than we know now, in which the river is described as plagued by industrial and waste water pollution, tinted yellow-orange. The CWA regulated the sources of such pollution and spurred improved technologies. Now,



Huron River Swimmer Liz Elling, Congressman John Dingell, Laura Rubin, and City of Ann Arbor Mayor John Hieftje celebrate the Clean Water Act along the Huron River in Gallup Park. photo: HRWC

roads, rooftops, and lawns. Additionally, the CWA has given us more tools to protect the watershed. Its Total Maximum Daily Load provision sets maximum allowable levels of pollutants in many stretches of the Huron that encourages local municipalities and stakeholders to develop ways to reduce pollution. Similarly, HRWC has used the anti-degradation rule in the CWA to help defend efforts to prevent further degradation of the high quality resource we have in the Huron. Two permits for additional wastewater treatment plants into the Middle Huron have been denied based partly on this rule.

Yet, there are also efforts to weaken the act. Two Supreme Court cases have tried to limit the breadth of the CWA. The term "navigable" water is being interpreted to mean where big ships can go. But we know that the watershed is interconnected and recognize the importance of wetlands and streams to a high quality river. HRWC supports Congressman Dingell's efforts to expand the breadth of the CWA to apply to all waters of the country with the Clean Water Restoration Act, to remove the term "navigable" waters and not exclude wetlands and streams. Send your federal legislators a letter or e-mail to express your support of this piece of legislation. Check out www.house.gov/writerep/ and www.senate.gov/ for contact information.

— Laura Rubin



Thank you, Jen, for a great 10 years!

photo: M. Christianson

Welcome, Pam, to HRWC!

photo: HRWC

Businesses Join and Make a Difference

New and renewing business partners highlighted

The Partnership Program at HRWC is a group of corporate citizens who support HRWC programs with their dollars, their time and their expertise. HRWC would like to acknowledge and thank the following businesses who recently have joined or renewed their memberships:

Atwell Hicks, Inc.
Auto Alliance
Bowers & Rein Inc.
CDM Michigan Inc.

Comiskey's Pest Control
ECO-PHYSICS Inc.
ECT Inc.
Glanchester Senior
Development LLC
First Martin Corporation
Midwestern Consulting
NTH Consultants LTD.
Pfizer, Inc.
Visteon
Wash Pro LLC



Happy kayak winner, Joshua Santelli. photo: HRWC

Welcome to the Watershed!

New members support HRWC

Thanks to the generosity of Toyota, Sun and Snow Sports and ticket buyers, the Liz Swims raffle raised \$1,400 for the Bioserve Project. Raffle winner Joshua Santelli just moved to Ann Arbor, and already is enjoying his new kayak and the river.

We wish to welcome and thank the following new members of HRWC:

Margaret Axon
Ronald Bender
Harvey Bertcher
Patricia A. Berwald
Ralph H. Beuhler
Michael Bickel
Dirk Bornemeier
Robert and Kathleen Breckenfeld
Steve Brownell
William C. Burgard
Jim and Lorrie Carbone
Ruth Ann Church
Jackie and Mary Jane Clark
Alice S. Cohen
Kay Collins
Barbara Coluni
Casey Coy
Merial and Sunil Das
David Davis
Mark E. Delaney
Adam M. Desmarais
Dale and Janet Dohler
Ann and Richard Dougherty
Elph Morgan, Jillian Downey and
Amy Nesbitt
Charles Duncan
Douglas Ensor

Mark Erskine and Elizabeth
Davies Erskine
Reynolds and Gail Farley
Gayle Fike
Jennifer Fike and Jon Cioffi
Mary Fitts
David Friedman
Herbert Friedman
Robert A. Green, MD
Dunrie Greiling and David
Higbie
Talbot and Jan Hack
Jerry and Andrea Hancock
Robert D. and Marilyn O.
Hapgood
Judith E. Heady
Bob and Lee Hefner
Charles S. Hocking
Kelly Huling
Jean Jones
Kevin Joseph
Larry Juchartz and Christy
Rishoi
Nathan Kangas
Sheree and Michael Kearns
Richard Keller
Eric Kennedy
Harrison Kephart
Lola Killey
Bruce Kintz
Jim and Mabelle Kirk
Angela Klapperich
Diana Klein and Nikki Klein
Laura Koleas
John David and Grace Kotre
Susan Lackey
Alesie Lapinsky
Linore Latham
Julie Lewis-Rasul and Jawaid
Rasul
John and Priscilla Lillie

Cecille Lindgren and Thomas
Cavalier
Barbara Major
Claire A. and Richard L. Malvin
John and Raymond Maturio
Judith Moldenhauer
Vera Jean and Oscar Montez
Alexandra Moore
John P. and Christine Morin
Amy and Sean Muldoon
Erica Munzel
Jon Munzel
Wes and Beth Munzel
Jan Onder
Adam Paducha
George and Becky Peapples
Gregory A. Peter
Robert Plummer and Joyce Peck
Plummer
Marjorie and Maxwell Reade
James and Legia Reynolds
Ann Rogers
Valerie Rosenberg
Marlene Ross
Lois Rozanski and Margaret Keehl
Joshua Santelli
George and Mildred Schaub
Thomas and Ann Schriber
Daniel Schulman and Susanne E.
Grahm
Fred P. and Jane K. Schwarz
Richard A. Scott
Anne Seaman
Daniel W. Sell and Barbara J. Kelly
Jacob Serwer
Margaret M. Smith
Helen W. Snuverink
Peter Strang
Katharine and Ralph C. Stribe
Lynn Suits Lamkin
Marilyn and Mike Taylor

Mark TenBroek
Marjorie Terry McRoberts
Jim and Mary Lynn Thomson
J. Robert and Kathy L. Trudell
Sambhavi Venkateswaran
Debbie Wagner
James and MaryAnn Wilkes
George and Patricia Williams
John A. and Christa A. Williams
Mark Wilson
Maria and Mark Wine
Mary Anne and James Winter
John Wolfe
Ervin S. and Patricia A. Worzalla
Tom Zelnik
David G. and Linda C. Zurawski

If we have made any errors in the publishing of this list, please inform Margaret Smith at (734) 769-5123 x19, so that we can make a correction. Thank you.

Bioreserve Project Seeks Volunteers, Community Partners

Help HRWC learn more about the watershed's remaining natural areas

HRWC is seeking volunteers and community partners to participate in its Bioreserve Project (see www.hrwc.org/text/bioreserve.htm) to assess and protect the watershed's remaining natural areas. If you are interested, contact Kris at kolsson@hrwc.org or (734) 769-5123 x16.

THE ROADSIDE SURVEY

For the roadside survey, volunteers visit sites by car and answer general questions about the potential ecological quality of the site from what they can see from the road. Last year, 130 people surveyed about 800 sites. Another 800 sites still need surveys this year. Results from the roadside survey will help determine which sites to target for the more intensive field assessment described below. HRWC needs volunteers to help out with the survey this winter. It is easy and requires no prior knowledge or experience.

FIELD ASSESSMENTS

This spring, summer, and fall volunteers will perform on-site field assessments of 90 - 100 natural area sites. Volunteers

spend time exploring the sites on foot, answering detailed questions about the landscape, plants, and animals they see. A training session for this assessment will be held on Saturday, May 10 (see Events on page 2).

HRWC needs volunteers to help with the field survey this spring, summer, and fall. Some prior knowledge of plant identification and ecology would be helpful, but is not necessary.

PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITIES AND CONSERVANCIES

HRWC is seeking partnerships with local governments, conservancies, and parks departments to actively pursue strategies to permanently protect high quality natural areas. HRWC will work with partners



This could be you! . . . if you volunteer for our rapid field assessments. photo: S. Taylor

in recruiting volunteers to assess sites, holding training sessions, and developing ordinances and policies to protect natural areas.

Please contact Kris if your community or organization is interested in working with HRWC to protect natural areas.

— Kris Olsson

YOU Make The Difference

*Every individual has a role to play.
Every individual makes a difference.*

Our most valuable world resource in the 21st century is not oil, not natural gas, not even some type of renewable energy. It is water—clean, safe, fresh water.

Your membership supports HRWC programs. Send us this membership form with your check made out to "HRWC" or join on-line at www.hrwc.org and click on Join Now! Your contribution is tax-deductible.



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

MEMBER LEVELS

- \$30 **Mayfly**
- \$50 **Crayfish**
- \$100 **Dragonfly**
- \$250 **Soft Shell Turtle**
- \$500 **Salamander**
- \$1,000 **Smallmouth Bass**
- \$2,500 **Great Blue Heron**
- \$5,000 **Mink**

The Huron River Watershed Council receives contributions via payroll deduction through EARTH SHARE of Michigan.



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OF MICHIGAN

Thanks to Our Supporters!

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

Doug Bradley, Dave Brooks, Tom Chettleburgh and **Graham Lewis** for downloading data from our stream level sensors every three weeks.

Theresa Dakin, Jim Fackert, Gary Hochgraf, Anita Lamour, Michael Martin and **Ron Sell** for creating and paddling two dragonfly boats; **Owen Anderson** for individually educating 600 groups of people; and **Summer Tucker** for portraying our information at the wonderful Dragon Boat Festival in Ann Arbor on Sept. 30.

Doug Bradley, Eric Kennedy, Peter Strang, Kari Walworth and **Dave Wilson** for teaching the public about the human connection to the river in the University of Michigan Arboretum and **Jane Hayes** for arranging for HRWC to be part of the celebration.

Mary Bajcz, Lee Burton, Roberta Carr, Sarah Clement, Rodney Cox, Michele Eickholt, Jim Fackert, Dirk Fishbach, Neal Foster, Dawn Fyrckiak, Erika Gilmore, Jesse Gordon, Lee Green, Fred Hanert, Rob Henderson, Tom Jameson, Kristin Judd, Eric Kennedy, Mike Lemon, Fran Lyman, John Maddox, John Martin, Kathy McClure, Brigit McGowan, Rosalie Meiland, Pat Micks, Doug Moore, Alison Paine, Don Rottiers, Candace Shelly, Nicole Smith, Andrew & Jim Smith, Nancy Stokes, Erika Taylor, Erin Trame, Carrie Turner, Dave Wilson and **Chris Wood** for organizing teams and monitoring stream life in September.

Over **50 Adopt-A-Stream volunteers** for measuring and mapping stream habitat at fifteen sites.

Gayle Fike, Robert Fox, Blair Neighbors, Daniel Nienhuis and **Caryn Tayeh** for educating 18 people about the art and techniques of producing a video in an all-day workshop in September.

Polina Gouskova for volunteering a good part of her summer to HRWC, maintaining and organizing 15 years' worth of aquatic invertebrate collections.

Dianne Martin, Kris Kaul, Sara O'Donnell, Susan Bryan, Kathleen Dougherty, Nina Misuraca, Toni Spears, Jay Blair and **Jane Hayes** for field testing the Rapid Field Assessment worksheets.

Sheila Schueller for gathering photos for the Rapid Field Assessment Field Guide.

Debi Weiker for organizing the Bioreserve Project's roadside survey forms.