

Talking Points for Volunteers and Interns

What is the Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC)?

The Huron River Watershed Council is a local nonprofit organization that has worked to **protect and restore the Huron River** since 1965.

Tell me more.....

HRWC programs and projects **help fight pollution** and **manage the area's prime water resources responsibly**.

Largely through HRWC's work, the Huron River is today recognized as **the cleanest urban river in Michigan**.

Why does HRWC do this work?

We work for clean water in our communities along the river.

Our purpose is to protect and restore the Huron River Watershed so all in our connected communities can enjoy and benefit from this essential natural resource for generations to come.

What does HRWC do? HRWC:

- studies the river, creeks, and land in the watershed to collect data
- uses the data to identify the most effective ways to protect and restore our land and water
- works with policy makers and communities to carry out our recommendations
- promotes fun and responsible river recreation activities to the public
- educates the public on our water and ways to protect it
- connects locals through river stewardship programs (volunteering), like collecting data and cleaning up the river

General Points

- When referring to our organization, we say the “Huron River Watershed Council” or HRWC—never “the Council” or the “Watershed Council.”
- It’s better to say “I don’t know” when you get questions that you cannot answer. Let them know that you will have another HRWC staff person contact them. Then note the person’s name, contact information and question, and give it to your HRWC contact person.
- Be yourself! Share why you volunteer, support, or work with HRWC. There are many reasons people get involved. What’s your motivation?
- If someone asks how they can get involved, offer to take their email to add them to our e-newsletter list. (If you simply say go to www.hrwc.org, they may not do it. It is better to collect their information on the spot and then give it to your HRWC contact person to enter in our database.) We usually only send 2 emails per month and they can unsubscribe anytime. We are also on Facebook and Twitter. Feel free to share ways you contribute. Your support is a perfect example of how HRWC is successful and telling your story is a great way to help others understand how they can give back too.