

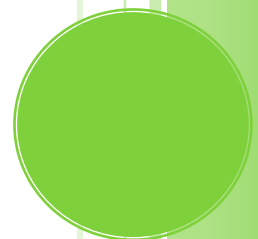
HOLLER FOR CONSERVATION

Eaton Conservation District

Michigan Arbor Day Alliance Program

Since the success of the auction fundraiser, Eaton Conservation District and the Michigan Arbor Day Alliance program have been working on numerous projects. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and share the work we have accomplished. Because of your support we are able to bring these projects to the community.

Eaton Conservation District & Michigan Arbor Day Alliance Program
Spring 2010



HOLLER FOR CONSERVATION

Spring 2010 Projects

COMMUNITY

Here at Eaton Conservation District, we love working on community projects. Spring is always our busiest time of the year with multiple Earth Day and Arbor Day events occurring throughout the county and state. The Michigan Arbor Day Alliance program is responsible for organizing the State Arbor Day Celebration. The State Arbor Day Celebration brings over 1,000 elementary students to Potter Park Zoo every year. Schools are invited from Ingham, Eaton, Clinton, Ionia, Shiawassee and Jackson County. This event provides students with the opportunity to participate in hands on natural resource activities. Students spend the day learning about different natural resource topics and exploring the zoo.



With volunteers from Charlotte High School and the community we planted over 1,000 native trees and shrubs along the Butternut Creek in Charlotte. This project was done in partnership with Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Maple Hill Cemetery, City of Charlotte and Charlotte High School. This planting will help



stabilize the creek and provide habitat and shade as the plants mature. This project also includes planting trees and shrubs in Nashville area at the site of the Dam Removal.

We are proud to announce the availability of Michigan Arbor Day Alliance Environmental Education Trunks. The purpose of the environmental education trunks is to allow educators in Eaton, Ingham or Clinton County the opportunity to rent a trunk for a period of time to supplement their existing classroom materials. Trunk

materials will provide educators with the opportunity to offer hands on learning, curriculum ideas, games, art projects and more. Topics include: Land Use, Ecology, Forestry, Water Quality, Sustainability, and much more.

This project was made possible with funding provided by Capital Region Community Foundation. Environmental Education trunks are available for K-5 and 6-8 educators. In the future we hope to provide trunks for Early Childhood education and grades 9-12.

It is **FREE** to rent an Environmental Education trunk from Michigan Arbor Day Alliance.

In partnership with Michigan State Federal Credit Union, Michigan Arbor Day Alliance planted 82 trees in the City of East Lansing and Eaton Rapids! Trees were planted at parks and along streets. This planting was made possible



by a Go Green Challenge campaign organized by Michigan State Federal Credit Union (MSUFCU). MSUFCU challenged its members to switch from paperless to e-statements. In return MSUFCU provided \$2,000 to plant trees in the Greater Lansing Area. To date MSUFCU and Michigan Arbor Day Alliance have planted 151 trees.

MONITORING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

During the spring and fall we take part in river quality monitoring. Multiple sites are located throughout the Thornapple Watershed. We sample macroinvertebrates to track water quality changes over time. Freshwater benthic macroinvertebrates, or more simply "benthos", are animals without backbones that



are larger than ½ millimeter (the size of a pencil dot). These animals live on rocks, logs, sediment, debris and aquatic plants during some period in their life. The benthos include crustaceans such as crayfish, mollusks such as clams and snails, aquatic worms and the immature forms of aquatic insects such as stonefly and mayfly nymphs. Unlike fish, benthos cannot move around much so they are less able to escape the effects of sediment and other pollutants that diminish water quality. Therefore, benthos can give us reliable information on stream and lake water quality. Their long life cycles allow studies

conducted by aquatic ecologists to determine any decline in environmental quality. Benthos represents an extremely diverse group of aquatic animals, and the large numbers of species possess a wide range of responses to stressors such as organic pollutants, sediments, and toxicants. Many benthic macroinvertebrates are long-lived, allowing detection of past pollution events such as pesticide spills and illegal dumping. Source: <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/streams/pubs/freshwater.html>

New this spring, we are partnering with Michigan Department of Agriculture to monitor blueberry fields in Eaton, Clinton, Ingham and Livingston County. Staff will work with local producers to pull leaf samples from blueberry fields. Leaf samples will then go to a lab to check for 2 viruses, Shock and Scorch. Both viruses cause sudden death and complete necrosis of flowers and leaves during bloom. To learn more about blueberry production visit this website, <http://www.blueberries.msu.edu/>.

The Michigan Water Stewardship Program along with the Michigan Department of Agriculture is offering free testing for drinking water wells for residents of Eaton County. The water will be testing for nitrates, nitrites, Atrazine and 2,4-D a commonly used herbicide. The Michigan Water Stewardship Program (MWSP) is designed to help you reduce pesticide and nitrogen fertilizer risks to groundwater around your farm and home. The Michigan Water Stewardship Program brings together the resources of state, federal, local and private groups in an effort to protect the state's groundwater resources. The program is funded through fees that are assessed on pesticides and nitrogen fertilizers.



FUTURE PROJECTS

- Greater Lansing Adventist School Apple Orchard and Native Wildflower Habitat: Fall 2010- Funded by Nickelodeon
- Fall Go Green Challenge: Date TBD-Funded by Michigan State Federal Credit Union
- Thornapple River Scavenger Hunt: June 19th, 10am
- Fall Agriculture Tour: Date TBD
- Butternut Creek Restoration: Summer 2010- Removal of dam and replacement of 2 undersized culverts to restore fish passage and habitat
- River Clean-ups: Battle Creek, Thornapple & Grand River
- Mason Road Conservation Property: Eaton Conservation District managing 35 acre parcel for conservation, education and fishing access
- Storm drain labeling to increase awareness about water quality concerns
- Michigan Water Stewardship Program Educational Website: Eaton Conservation District involved in development of content and interactive activities for launch in Fall 2010
- Promotion of Farm Bill activities: Eaton Conservation District works cooperatively with USDA NRCS and FSA to publicize conservation programs and help sign people up.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Eaton Conservation District and Michigan Arbor Day Alliance would like to thank everyone who made our auction fundraiser a success!!! Look for a new and improved Make Your Dollar Holler For Conservation this Fall.

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|  The Gavel |  Backdraft Custom Cycle |
|  Bella Grande |  Bader & Sons Co. |
|  Carl V Reck Jeweler |  Barb Byrum, State Representative |
|  Creative Wellness |  Becky Hosey |
|  Cottage Inn-Charlotte |  BenzieJo Fish and Decoys |
|  Richard Baldwin-Button Wood Press |  Bistro Rio |
|  Bill Bradford |  Burgdorf's Winery |
|  Trickey Family |  Candy Ford-Mercury |
|  K Redmond Photography |  Celebration Cinema-Lansing |
|  Lansing Area Outdoor Enthusiasts |  Changes Hair Design |
|  Lansing Lugnuts |  Charlotte Aquatic Center |
|  Arrowhead Archery |  Charlotte Floral Plaza |
|  Suzanne Stone-Ebright |  Charlotte Team One |
|  Flamingo Tanning and Nails |  Chri-Technology |
|  The Hair Professionals |  Chucks Garage II |
|  Michigan State University Athletics- |  Corner Lansing Restaurant |
|  Tom Izzo |  Country Mill |
|  Robert Cool |  Cugino's Italian Restaurant |
|  9 th Kentucky Co-Rich Firman |  Dean Trailways of Michigan |
|  Alice Springs Campground |  Designs by Nature |
|  Apple Schram Orchards |  Detroit Zoo |
|  Applebee's-Charlotte |  Snow Animal Health |

- 🍷 Willoughby Pet Clinic
- 🍷 Eaton County Parks and Recreation
- 🍷 Eaton Farm Bureau Co-op
- 🍷 Expressions Portrait Studio
- 🍷 Family Shooters Corral
- 🍷 First Place Sports
- 🍷 Flash Flood Water Park
- 🍷 General Motors, LLC, Lansing Delta Township
- 🍷 Gilmore Car Museum
- 🍷 Gloria Hecht
- 🍷 Go Workout Fitness Center-West
- 🍷 Grand Rental Station
- 🍷 Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival
- 🍷 Holiday Inn Express
- 🍷 Housekeeping Associates
- 🍷 Irene McDonnell Cahill
- 🍷 Katherine Lancour
- 🍷 Lansing Board of Water and Light
- 🍷 Larry Bishop-Asgrow
- 🍷 Le Chat Gourmet
- 🍷 Ledge Meadows
- 🍷 Mancino's Pizza and Grinders
- 🍷 Michigan Energy Options
- 🍷 Michigan State University Federal Credit Union
- 🍷 Mike and Chris Lawless
- 🍷 Miller's Pharmacy and Gift Shop
- 🍷 National Arbor Day Foundation
- 🍷 National Wild Turkey Federation
- 🍷 Pheasants Forever
- 🍷 Pizza Hut-Charlotte
- 🍷 Potter Park Zoological Society
- 🍷 Riedy's Pizza
- 🍷 Royal Scot of Lansing
- 🍷 Salon 130
- 🍷 Skidmore's Village Cycle Shop
- 🍷 Snap Fitness Club-Charlotte
- 🍷 Stoney Creek Habitat Specialist
- 🍷 Artist Stormi Stuler
- 🍷 Summit Sports
- 🍷 Sunfield Coffee Shop
- 🍷 Sunfield IGA
- 🍷 Tarry Chiropractic Wellness Center
- 🍷 English Inn
- 🍷 Flower Garden
- 🍷 The Henry Ford
- 🍷 Tractor Supply Co.-Charlotte
- 🍷 Union Bank
- 🍷 Van Atta's Greenhouse and Flower Shop
- 🍷 Wheat Jewelers
- 🍷 Williamston Theatre
- 🍷 WILX-TV
- 🍷 Wines for Humanity
- 🍷 YMCA of Lansing
- 🍷 N. Southworth
- 🍷 J. Gibbs
- 🍷 D. Brown
- 🍷 B. Brown
- 🍷 W. Sellers
- 🍷 K. Cinco
- 🍷 R. Black
- 🍷 D. Bodiford
- 🍷 J. Brown
- 🍷 S. Clay
- 🍷 S. Smith
- 🍷 K. Bowe
- 🍷 C. Carter
- 🍷 T. Heins
- 🍷 B. Senters
- 🍷 L. Birchman
- 🍷 B. Tarabula
- 🍷 M. Nicol
- 🍷 K. Zawisza
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- 🍷 G. Harpstead
- 🍷 R. Reist
- 🍷 R. Dennis
- 🍷 P. Cole
- 🍷 T. Snyder
- 🍷 A. Stay
- 🍷 R. Tar
- 🍷 R. Sober
- 🍷 M. Rudd

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| 🌿 D. Ringlein | 🌿 M. Murphy Powers |
| 🌿 D. Sanders | 🌿 D. Masse |
| 🌿 F. Ploch | 🌿 J. Bennett |
| 🌿 K. Lai | 🌿 L. Wise |
| 🌿 J. Frontz | 🌿 M. Scott |
| 🌿 J. Smuts | 🌿 T. Kreh |
| 🌿 J. King | 🌿 T. Smith |
| 🌿 J. Loucks | 🌿 D. Cogswell |
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