



Volume 13 Issue 10

October 2018

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It' Steelhead Time

Committed to Clean Water - Huron Pines

The Saginaw Bay begins 50 miles inland, where the Au Gres and Rifle rivers start their flow toward Lake Huron. Together these waterways make up an ecosystem that helps determine the economic, environmental and recreational well-being of Northeast Michigan. The communities of Rose City, West Branch and Au Gres know this better than anyone; Huron Pines first began working with the residents of these cities because of their strong ties to natural resources and their commitment to the environment.

In 2012, Huron Pines started work to reduce the flow of polluted stormwater into the Rifle River system with projects in West Branch and Rose City. The success of those projects was built on community input and collaboration, and laid the foundation for the future of coastal stormwater work at Huron Pines. Starting with

a stormwater assessment in the city of Au Gres in 2018, Huron Pines plans to move up the entire northern Lake Huron coast in the coming months and years to ensure safer, cleaner water for people and wildlife to enjoy.

When an entire community is involved in the restoration and protection of their resources, the impact is immeasurable. In addition to successfully completing restoration and improvement projects, what results is a strong foundation for long-term environmental sustainability. When a city council or a group of fourth-grade students begins to look at the world with a conservation mindset, the future of natural resource protection improves.

Preserving Clean Water in the Rifle River

The Rifle River project was a priority because of both its community benefit and environmental impact. According to Mike Kelly,

manager of the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network (WIN), a conservation fund established to protect the Saginaw Bay, natural resource protection is fundamental to the quality of life and economic well-being of West Branch and Rose City. “Whether it’s Houghton Creek or the Rifle River, both support a high-quality fishery that brings people from throughout the state to come and fish for trout,” Kelly said. The Rifle and its tributaries also attract outdoor enthusiasts with opportunities for camping, canoeing and kayaking.

Because the health of the region’s natural resources is so integral to the surrounding communities, Huron Pines worked closely with residents and local organizations to plan and implement clean water solutions including the installation of six rain gardens that naturally filter pollution from stormwater and snowmelt before it can reach nearby streams. The largest rain garden was built at Ogemaw Heights High School and involved participation across the West Branch-Rose City Area School District.

Building a Conservation Mindset

West Branch-Rose City School Superintendent Philip Mikulski said the rain garden project was about more than building a garden, it was a teaching opportunity. “Our kids are doing great things—this rain garden is one thing they do and educationally we’re doing everything we can to teach them about the environment and their impact, and I think they are taking it to heart.”

High School student Brady Zettle helped build the garden and said his favorite part of the project was, “giving back to the community and seeing how we can make this rain garden make the Rifle River a little bit healthier.”

Two of the major garden construction days took place in 95-degree summer heat. “It was a ton of work, and it wasn’t just students and staff. It was a ton of community members,” said Debra Abraham, assistant to the

superintendent, who was very involved in the entire garden process and helped with construction. “It was hard work, but it was great.”

In addition to the community rain gardens, Huron Pines worked with West Branch and Rose City to install mechanical oil and grit separators in each city to filter pollution from stormwater runoff and completed over 800 feet of streambank restoration work along Houghton Creek and the Rifle River to reduce erosion and prevent excess sediment from entering the water.



Debra Abraham cuts the ribbon to mark the official opening of the Omega Heights High School rain garden.



The rain garden provides a beautiful outdoor space for students and staff that doubles as a water filtration system for polluted stormwater runoff.

Protecting Water Quality Along the Coast

Taking lessons from West Branch and Rose City, Huron Pines has expanded its stormwater efforts and is applying them to the Northeast Michigan coast. Beach closures on Lake Huron are on the rise, some due to pollution that is the direct result of untreated stormwater runoff

entering the water in high volumes after heavy rainfalls or other major weather events. Our goal is for every coastal community to benefit from the environmental, recreational and economic gains that come from a well-executed stormwater plan.

The spring of 2018 marked the start of our latest stormwater project in Au Gres on the Saginaw Bay. The initial stormwater assessment is funded by Saginaw Bay WIN and the Bay Area Community Foundation with support from the community and the Au Gres-Sims School District. For years, Huron Pines has been working with volunteers, organizations, administrators and teachers to build programs that help students become stewards of the Great Lakes through river investigations and field visits to Big Charity Island, part of Michigan Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

“We have a lot of our kids who don’t necessarily like to learn from a book per se or from a computer, but absolutely love the opportunity to be able to go outside and get their hands dirty and learn from nature,” said Chad Zeien, K-12 principal at Au Gres-Sims.

“Besides the educational benefits, it’s a benefit to the community,” added Brook Begres, fourth-grade teacher at Au Gres-Sims. “They’re learning that, just because I’m a little fourth-grader doesn’t mean I can’t help my environment and community.”

Huron Pines comes together with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Au Gres-Sims School District, Brown’s Landing, Charity Island Transport, Inc., Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative Network, Michigan Natural Features Inventory, Michigan Sea Grant, Michigan State University Extension, Saginaw Bay Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area and Saginaw Valley State University to make these field experiences possible for the students.

The new stormwater project in Au Gres will continue to strengthen the connection between students, the environment and the community. The school has already expressed interest in integrating a rain garden project into the Au Gres-Sims curriculum as part of the stormwater improvement plan that will come as a result of the initial stormwater assessment.



Environmental Education Coordinator Emily Vogelgesang teaches students how to identify and remove invasive plants to protect native wildlife and water quality on and around Big Charity Island.



Au Gres-Sims fourth-grade students take measurements to assess the health of the Au Gres River during their annual stream investigation.

Building a Better Future for the Great Lakes

Clean water and green infrastructure are the future of coastal conservation in Michigan. As we partner with more communities and continue to build a school stormwater curriculum, we are helping to ensure a better future for the Great Lakes. This is our water quality legacy.

A planned legacy gift to Huron

Pines ensures that these projects and hundreds of others across Northeast Michigan can become a reality. By naming Huron Pines in an estate plan or securing a planned gift to benefit Huron Pines, **your legacy and passion for water quality will live through our work forever.** For more information on how to leave a planned gift or to learn more about our Legacy Giving Society please contact our Executive Director Brad Jensen at (989) 448-2293 ext. 18.

Asian Carp

Thank you again for your support of the Great Lakes Basin Partnership to Block Asian Carp. The letter you sent earlier this year successfully got the attention of Illinois state government leaders [who initially expressed interest in supporting our mission.](#)

Unfortunately, Illinois leaders still haven't agreed to move forward immediately with the structural upgrades to the Brandon Road Lock and Dam proposed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Joliet, Illinois. Their refusal to act comes despite the fact that a new poll we just released shows more than 9 in 10 people in each Great Lakes state – including Illinois – agree:

WE NEED TO BLOCK ASIAN CARP NOW FROM DESTROYING THE GREAT LAKES!

So, starting today, we're [launching an online petition](#) to convince Illinois leaders to support the Army Corps'

plan, the most effective proposal yet developed to prevent the spread of Asian carp into the Great Lakes.

The first-of-its-kind public opinion poll released by the Partnership today reflects an overwhelming majority of people who live near the Great Lakes support immediate action to install additional structural barriers that can keep Asian carp from moving out of Illinois rivers and into the Great Lakes. A new proposal from our neighboring Great Lakes states ensures Illinois taxpayers will pay almost nothing for the annual operation and maintenance costs.

The new poll results for Illinois indicate:

- When told that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recommends adding new protective measures in Illinois to block the spread of Asian carp to the Great Lakes, **94 percent** of Illinois respondents say it is important to increase the protections immediately.
- **78 percent** support a funding proposal that would require Illinois to pay 2 percent or less of the costs to block Asian carp based on the state's share of the Great Lakes.
- When told that Michigan will pay the costs of any state that cannot pay, support among Illinois respondents increases to **87 percent**.

More work in Illinois is essential to keep Asian carp out of the Great Lakes!

Please take one minute to sign [the petition](#). When you're done, please share the link on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube. We need to effectively represent the voices of Illinois residents who clearly understand the magnitude of the threat that Asian carp pose to the Great Lakes, especially Lake Michigan, and to all our states' recreation and tourism industries.

We are grateful for all your help so far. With [this petition](#), we're one step closer to winning the #BlockAsianCarp fight and keeping this invasive species from the Great Lakes once and for all.

— The Great Lakes Basin Partnership to Block Asian Carp

[Sign the petition](#)

Poll: Overwhelming public support for stronger, immediate protections to block Asian carp from Great Lakes

New survey finds over 7 in 10 residents back 'fair share' funding proposal in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin

LANSING, Mich. — A first-of-its-kind public

opinion poll shows an overwhelming majority of people who live near the Great Lakes support immediate action to install additional structural protections that can keep Asian carp from moving out of Illinois rivers and into the Great Lakes.

The poll – commissioned by the [Great Lakes Partnership to Block Asian Carp](#) – is the first effort to survey residents in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin about their understanding of the risk of invasive carp.

In addition, the poll gauged support for potential solutions recommended by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to stop the non-native fish from entering the Great Lakes. These include a proposal by Gov. Rick Snyder to help fund the ongoing operations and maintenance of the additional security improvements based on each state's respective share of the Great Lakes. Under this "fair share" scenario, the state of Michigan would pay the most of any state by covering nearly half of the installation costs, while a state such as Illinois would pay only 2 percent or less. Michigan also has offered to pay the share of any state that cannot pay its own portion to block Asian carp and has dedicated state funds in the upcoming 2019 budget for this purpose.

"The poll results clearly demonstrate that Great Lakes residents understand that the time to act on Asian carp is now," Gov. Snyder said. "We formed the Block Asian Carp partnership earlier this year to urgently address the threat invasive carp pose to our waters. The public's support for immediate action affirms the importance of those efforts. It's time to move forward with additional security measures at the Brandon Road Lock and Dam that will protect our Great Lakes and economic future."

Highlights of the survey include:

- More than 9 in 10 respondents from each state believed it was important to immediately increase protections to block the spread of Asian carp to the Great Lakes at the recommendation of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

- More than 7 in 10 respondents from each state are likely to support the “fair share” funding proposal given the specific percent their state would be asked to pay.
- Support rises to more than 8 in 10 respondents likely to support the proposal when told Michigan would pay the share of any state that cannot pay its own portion to block Asian carp.
- Support for the fair share funding proposal is bipartisan, with more than 8 in 10 Republicans and Democrats in each state supporting their state’s funding contribution.

“People across the Great Lakes region recognize that Asian carp pose a major threat to their state’s economy and environment and they believe it is critical to increase protections immediately to keep Asian carp out of the Great Lakes,” Alliance for the Great Lakes Vice President for Policy Molly Flanagan said.

“The poll results show that more than 80 percent of the respondents want leaders in each of the Great Lakes states to work together to prevent Asian carp from entering new rivers and lakes, including the Great Lakes,” Flanagan said.

The online five-state survey was conducted by the national research firm Qualtrics from Aug. 22-Sept. 8, 2018, and is based on more than 3,000 responses. The sample was balanced to closely reflect each state’s age, race/ethnicity, gender and geographic makeup.

The survey oversampled Illinois residents as Illinois is the only state identified by the Army Corps with the necessary rights of way, public water authority and jurisdiction to serve as the Corps’ nonfederal sponsor. An estimated \$8 million is needed annually to provide the nonfederal share of funding to operate and maintain the Corps’ proposed stronger safeguards. Findings from Illinois show:

- When told the Army Corps of Engineers recommends adding new protective measures in Illinois to block the spread

of Asian carp to the Great Lakes, 94 percent of Illinois respondents say it is important to increase the protections immediately.

- 86 percent of Illinois respondents agree that all states connected to the Great Lakes should work together to prevent Asian carp from entering additional rivers and lakes, including the Great Lakes.
- 54 percent of Illinois respondents say they are at least moderately familiar with Asian carp.
- 76 percent of Illinois respondents say that Asian carp are a major or moderate threat to the Great Lakes.
- 78 percent of Illinois respondents support a funding proposal that would require Illinois to pay 2 percent or less of the costs to block Asian carp based on the state’s share of the Great Lakes.
- When told that Michigan will pay the costs of any state that cannot pay, support among Illinois respondents increases to 87 percent.
- In Illinois, 85 percent of Republicans, 80 percent of Democrats and 70 percent of independents support a funding proposal that would require Illinois to pay 2 percent or less of the security system upgrade costs to block Asian carp.
- When respondents are presented with the case for and against immediate action to prevent Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes, 88 percent were likely to support immediate action.

The strong Illinois results mirror the sentiments of members of the Chicago Association of REALTORS® who are concerned the risk of Asian carp entering the Great Lakes, especially Lake Michigan, could permanently harm the city’s quality of life.

“There are very few great downtowns like Chicago that are on the water,” Brian Bernardoni, the association’s senior director of

government affairs and public policy, said. "Lake Michigan is one of our state's best assets, and its destruction by Asian carp would be inexcusable. It could not only lower property values but could limit our ability to attract and recruit talent who want to live in communities that are walkable and provide easy access to outdoor recreation like boating, kayaking, sailing and fishing."

The interstate Block Asian Carp partnership is a diverse coalition founded by Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin, the city of Chicago and the province of Ontario, which have committed to providing financial or policy support for the Army Corps' tentative plan. The coalition members are united in support of the Army Corps' recommendation to install a suite of prevention technologies at Brandon Road Lock and Dam in Joliet, Illinois, the most effective proposal yet developed to prevent the spread of Asian carp into the Great Lakes.

"A regional partnership approach strikes the right balance to protect the recreational opportunities offered by the Great Lakes Basin and preserve our waterways for current and future generations to enjoy," National Marine Manufacturers Association Director of Federal Government Affairs Mike Pasko said.

LafargeHolcim, the Zurich-based global leader in the building materials industry that is the world's largest cement producer and operates an underground mine in Joliet, is among the newest members to join the partnership and endorse the fair share state payment plan introduced by Gov. Snyder.

"LafargeHolcim believes that the Tentatively Selective Plan, issued by the Corps of Engineers for Brandon Road Lock and Dam, is a good starting place to find a compromise that ensures that proper deterrents are utilized to protect the ecosystem and commercial navigation of the Great Lakes," Michael LeMonds, LafargeHolcim vice president of land, environment and government affairs for the United States, said.

Asian carp are an invasive species from China. They are currently in the Mississippi and Illinois

rivers. Asian carp – especially silver and bighead carp, the two species of greatest concern – harm river and lake ecosystems by eating all available food, causing other, native fish species such as bass, trout and salmon to starve. They also jeopardize human safety when the often-100-pounds-or-more fish jump from the water and injure boaters. In 2017, an Asian carp was found just 9 miles from Lake Michigan.

"Residents and leading stakeholders across the Great Lakes Basin are almost unanimous in their belief that doing nothing and continuing with the status quo is not a viable option," Michigan Department of Natural Resources Director Keith Creagh said.

"Michigan stands ready to go beyond the call of duty to support immediate action at the Brandon Road Lock because we know funding the Army Corps' plan will provide the most layers of protection that will keep invasive carp from destroying the Great Lakes," Creagh said.

The Block Asian Carp partnership today also announced an online petition Great Lakes residents can sign to encourage elected officials and policymakers to help protect the Great Lakes against invasive carp. To sign the petition, visit www.BlockAsianCarp.org.

To hear what Illinois residents have to say about the devastating effects Asian carp have had on recreation and commercial fishing in their once-thriving communities on the Illinois River, [watch this video](#) shot on location in Bath, Chillicothe and Havana, Illinois – "ground zero" for Asian carp.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Notice of Bylaw Change

Presently reads:

ARTICLE X ANNUAL REPORTING

Section 2. The Annual Report shall be submitted to Michigan Trout Unlimited, Trout Unlimited National no later than as per guidelines of Trout Unlimited National, following fiscal year ending **September 30** of each year.

ChangeDelete **September 30** and change to **March 31**

ARTICLE XI FISCAL YEAR

The Fiscal year for the Chapter shall be **January 1 through December 31**

Change ...delete **January 1 through December 31**, and change to...**April 1 through March 31**

Reason to change is that TU National has changed their fiscal dates.

Approved by the Martuch BOD on 9/4/18

This will be voted on by the membership at the 2018 November 6, 2018 Special Meeting at Scientific Anglers

Fall Stream Sampling

Stream Samplings are a great way to become involved in your community, meet new people with similar interests, and to be a part of a project that helps monitor the biodiversity of the Cedar River Watershed.

If you are receiving this email, it is because you have volunteered in the past, have expressed an interest in volunteering, or because we think you

might be interested in joining us on:

**October 13th from 9 am to 2 pm -
Volunteers will gather at the Northern
Expresso 343 W Cedar Ave Gladwin,
MI 48624 at 9 AM.**

From there, you will be put into a team with 5-8 other volunteers and sent out to your team's sites to gather macroinvertebrates. Each team consists of a trained Team Leader, a Collector that stays in the water and brings the samples to the Runner on the bank who takes the buckets up to the tables, and Pickers find and collect the bugs from the samples that are then preserved on-site. If you have years of experience or none whatsoever, there is a spot for you!

Children also make great helpers, as they can often spot and pick bugs out of the trays that adult eyes may not see so well. Feel free to make this a family affair and let us know if you have children that you would like to bring along!

Lunch will be provided, thanks to Meijer, please let us know of any dietary restrictions when you register.

[Register Here](#)

2018-2019 Chapter Officers

Josh Jenkins – President

Steve Wilkowski – Vice President

Brad Befus – Secretary

John Winchester – Treasurer

George Killat – Membership Secretary

Banquet

The Chapter's 2018 banquet netted just over \$4,000. Attendance has been steadily dropping over the last few years (66 attended in 2018).

The BOD is considering changes and needs input from our members. Some ideas discussed are: 1. Drop the banquet, 2. Change the date back to Tuesday's, 3. Have a summer event such as a barbeque or other similar event. 4. Etc.

Think it over and if you have any ideas or thoughts contact a BOD Member.

This event is our only fund raising event and without the income from the event we are unable to fund chapter and TU projects in Michigan.

9/4/18 update: looking to change venue and change date to a Tuesday in February.

Adam's Fly Print

We have some prints of the Adam's Fly by Beth Ward Donahue that celebrate TU's 50th Anniversary. Costs are \$120.00 and \$160.00 (remarked). Contact Ross Rosenbrock 989-662-

6533, rosenbrock@live.com. Check out our website.

State Council www.michigantu.org

Executive Director Bryan Burroughs - bryanburroughs@michigantu.org

Aquatic Biologist – Kristin Thomas

Chairman - Tom Quail - tquail@michigantu.org

Vice Chairman – Greg Walz

Past Chairman - John Walters - jwalters@michigantu.org

Secretary - Mike Lagowski

Treasurer - Rob Smith - rsmith@michigantu.org

National Council Rep - Rob Smith - rsmith@michigantu.org

L. P. Martuch BOD Meetings

September 4, 2018 at Scientific Anglers 5:30 PM

L.P. Martuch - Board of Directors

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Ava Befus (2021) 651-955-5549 – avafus4@iciud.com

Will Halphen (2021) 989-708-1749 - whalphen@gmail.com

Harley Holsinger (2019) 989-667-0581 - harleyo@live.com – BOD

Josh Jenkins (2021) 989-495-7151
jenkinsj@scientificanglers.com - President

George Killat (2018) 989-430-1179 -
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Mark Rapanos (2021) 989-20-0198 -
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Ross Rosenbrock (2018) 989-513-7651
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John Winchester (2018) 989-631-0122 jgwinch@att.net -
Treasurer/Hatch Book

Steve Wilkowski (2019) 989-495-7151 -
stevewilkowski@sictech.com - Vice-President / SIC



Committee Chairmen

Bill Holler 989-284-6566 fvholler@chartermi.net -
Projects/Property

John Van Dalen 989-631-6873 jvdfish@gmail.com - Special
Events

Interesting web sites

<http://www.martuchtu.org/Pages/default.aspx> Leon
P Martuch Website

<http://h2o.usgs.gov> Hydrology data for all rivers in
the US

<http://www.totalflyfishing.com> Fly Fishing Website

www.flyanglersonline.com Fly patterns, articles,
and general information.

<http://info.abrfc.noaa.gov/rfc-wfo.html> National
Weather Service river forecasts

www.tu.org Home page Trout Unlimited.

www.steelheadsites.com Steelhead information

www.fedflyfishers.org Federation of Flyfishers
Home Page.

<http://www.michigantu.org/> Michigan Council of
Trout Unlimited Home Page

www.fffglc.org Federation of Fly Fishers

www.lssu.edu Lake Superior State University. Fish
cam at the power plant at the Soo

www.trailstotrut.com Website for trout fishing

On Line Fishing Log mydailyfishinglog.com

Guide to fly fishing waters of the US -
www.kyndoutdoors.com

American Museum of Fly Fishing
www.amff.com

Anglers of the AuSable www.AuSableAnglers.org

On AOL Look under Interest, Hobbies, and Fishing

We will publish more sites, as they become known.
If you know of interesting sites let me know at
t8monto@aol.com

Trout Unlimited has a membership program going. Our
Chapter can greatly benefit by having you sign up a new
member. Log onto www.tu.org/intro and you can get a
special introductory rate of \$17.50. Be sure to enter
code 250 so our Chapter will receive credit for the
membership. This would make a great gift for your
fishing buddy.

For membership problems, contact George

Disclaimer Statement:

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