

Huron River Watershed Council

Annual Report

2005-2006



Huron
River
Watershed
Council

❖ **To save the Huron River Watershed from irreparable damage, we will change current patterns of development toward more river-friendly choices, specifically encouraging higher density where the infrastructure exists, and encouraging open space and farmland preservation in rural areas.**



The Huron River Watershed is Michigan's cleanest urban river, the main source of drinking water for the City of Ann Arbor, home to ½ million people and several threatened and endangered animals. The Huron River is the only state designated "Scenic River" in southeast Michigan under the Natural Rivers Act and has a great reputation for its wealth of recreational opportunities and for having some of the State's last bogs, meadows, prairies, and forests.

Unfortunately, this unique river is also threatened. The cumulative impacts of: urbanization throughout the watershed, but particularly in the headwaters; growing volumes of sewage discharge; alteration of the hydrology by 98 dams and filling in wetlands and floodplains; and a number of other pressures... all threaten the Huron's beauty, its usefulness, and its very life. The Huron is estimated to have lost over two-thirds of its wetlands and is projected to lose 40% of the remaining open space by the year 2010. Concern over the Huron River has resulted in the river's placement on the state's Unified Watershed Assessment as a category 1 watershed indicating its high restoration priority.

Since 1965, The Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC) has been working to protect and restore the Huron River System. We have over 800 individual members, 42 member governments, and 55 business members. The Council's nine-person staff coordinates a dozen programs and the work of hundreds of volunteers who serve on our boards, committees, and in other volunteer activities. Our efforts fall into three major categories of Education, Technical Assistance, and Conservation. Our programs cover pollution prevention and abatement, hands-on citizen education and river monitoring, natural resource planning, mass media education and information, and wetland and floodplain protection.





About the Council

The Huron River Watershed covers 910 square miles and includes 73 governments.

The Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC) bridges these political boundaries by building partnerships—between communities and community leaders, residents, and businesses.

We are the only organization working to protect and restore the entire Huron River system and are a respected voice in the communities that make up the Huron River Watershed:

- ❖ We have developed the premiere citizen river-monitoring network in the State. Our strong quality assurance and quality control mechanisms allow agencies all over the State to confidently use this data to direct water protection programs.
- ❖ We are in the ninth year of implementing an award-winning mass media campaign aimed at changing behaviors to make our water safe and clean.
- ❖ Our initiatives to reduce phosphorus pollution in the Middle and Upper Huron produced numerous ordinances to protect natural areas, provide stronger protection of wetlands, and to reduce conversion of land and natural habitat to pavement and buildings.
- ❖ Our science and policy experts respond daily to residents and government representatives to help them manage development in ways that protect creeks, wildlife, and natural features.
- ❖ We have written an award-winning community guide that communities all over the State of Michigan are using to develop drinking water protection plans.

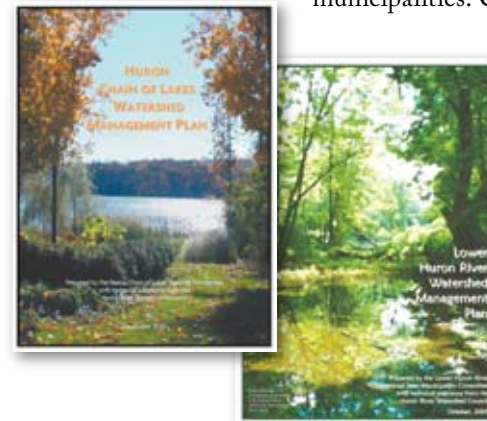


Protecting the river since 1965

Summary of Accomplishments

With your help, The Huron River Watershed Council saw many successes in the 2005-2006 fiscal year. The HRWC:

- ❖ Organized five **“Living on the Edge”** workshops aimed at encouraging homeowner shoreline maintenance and construction that reduce impacts to water quality.
- ❖ Helped Governor Jennifer Granholm launch the **Michigan Clean Water Corps** by working alongside the Great Lakes Commission to provide statewide trainings, mentorship and grant funds to lake and stream volunteer monitoring programs.
- ❖ As a member of the City of Ann Arbor’s Greenbelt Commission, took steps to **protect the landscape from sprawling development** and excessive impervious surfaces. To date we have purchased easements on 489 acres in Washtenaw County.
- ❖ Continued our **enormously successful volunteer monitoring program**. Monitored 68 sites for macroinvertebrates and 19 sites for habitat assessment with the help of more than 400 volunteers. Our growing flow team of 24 volunteers monitored and measured 13 sites.
- ❖ Successfully **opposed the construction** of a wastewater treatment plant that would have discharged to the Huron River in Superior Township.
- ❖ Ran a **stormwater management and education campaign** using ads in local papers and a direct mailing of 70,000 calendars to encourage residents to protect the river through small steps at home.
- ❖ Worked with the Village of Dexter, the Washtenaw County Road Commission and others to identify and advance the **steps for the Mill Pond Dam removal**. Conducted analysis of sediments in the Mill Pond for contamination.
- ❖ Led 22 municipalities in the **development of a roadmap for protection** and restoration of the Lower Huron and Chain of Lakes subwatersheds as part of the federal storm water regulations affecting urban and urban fringe



municipalities. Completed the Lower Huron River Watershed and Huron Chain of Lakes Watershed Management Plans, tools to guide the future protection and restoration activities in these subwatersheds. The plans identify current conditions in the system, existing impairments, future threats, and opportunities for resource protection and restoration.

- ❖ Hosted the **Second State of the Huron Conference** in May 2005. It was a great day filled with over 22 informative presentations, vibrant conversation and loads of learning with over 175 people.
- ❖ Protected and upheld the **Natural River Act** and the **Huron River's Natural River Designation** (the Huron being the only river designated as such in southeast Michigan) against attacks to weaken the Act and the Huron River Plan. Successfully fought unnecessary bridge crossings in the natural river zone.
- ❖ Secured the **Middle Huron partnership agreement**, an innovative agreement between point and non-point source pollution partners to voluntarily reduce phosphorus pollution. Coordinated efforts to reduce phosphorus pollution and report progress to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.



- ❖ Implemented the Millers Creek Watershed Improvement Plan, awarded the third best watershed management plan in the U.S. according to the US EPA. Created new projects partnering with businesses, local governments, schools and individuals. Planned the **first Miller's Creek Film Festival** for May 2006.



- ❖ Celebrated **HRWC's 40th anniversary** with a series of events including photography, outdoor music, history, literature, and adventure.
- ❖ Conducted **water chemistry** monitoring in the Middle Huron subwatersheds. Volunteers conducted nutrient, total suspended solids, and flow monitoring at

10 sites to provide a better understanding of pollution contributions from non-point sources in the middle Huron Watershed. An improved understanding of sources will help the Middle Huron Partnership select appropriate management practices to reduce and prevent pollution.

- ❖ Improved the **nutrient reduction** and storage capacity of two large detention basins in the Kent Lake subwatershed by beginning retrofits and construction.
- ❖ Worked with a **citizen's group** in Chelsea to stop erosion into Lett's Creek by proposing revegetation of the streambank, developing a site plan, and working to gain local government support.

- ❖ Enhanced the **bioreserve map**, a map that shows the last remaining open spaces in the watershed and their ecologic "value." HRWC is also developing a rapid ecological assessment to be used by volunteers to ground-truth the map. This atlas of the Huron Watershed's natural areas will allow HRWC to work with local governments, private landholders, businesses, and the state to develop methods to protect these valuable lands.



- ❖ Worked with local governments in the watershed to pass local phosphorus fertilizer ordinances and continued advancing statewide **phosphorus fertilizer legislation**.

- ❖ Assisted with the development of a **Heritage Water Trail** on the Lower Huron allowing canoeists and kayakers to experience the region's abundant natural resources and history while paddling the Huron.



- ❖ Partnered in an effort to reduce or eliminate noxious algae blooms that for years have plagued Ford and Belleville Lakes. HRWC provided technical and land use information data and served as a **liaison to the public** about research findings and their potential for improved management of the river.
- ❖ **Gained newspaper coverage, radio shows, and speaking opportunities** to advance our "one message:" to save the Huron River Watershed from irreparable damage, we will change current patterns of development toward more river-friendly choices, specifically encouraging higher density where the infrastructure exists, and encouraging open space and farmland preservation in rural areas.

Thank you to our volunteers, individual, business, and government members, technical advisors, board members, and funders. The Council received more than 6,600 hours of volunteer service per year. HRWC would not have the breadth and impact without you.

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Jan & Nub Turner
Paula & William Turner
Rick Tymoc
Bonnie & Ben Upton
Suzanne & Carl Van Appledorn
Colleen Vance
Annette van der Schalie
Lisa & Spencer Vanderhoof
Mary Vanderwiele
Joan Vangel
Sally Vanriper
Seth Sadis & Kristen Verhey
Kristen & Scott Kathleen Visovatti
Wes Vivan
Jane & Mark Vogel
Gloria & Geoffrey Voght
James Vollmers
Norma Jean Wade
Ruth & Scott Wade
Tom Wagner
Kim Waldo
Donna Wessel Walker
John Cox & Gail Walker
Bruce Wallace
Mona Walz
Walter A. Gauthier & Catherine L. Ward
Gertrude Warkentin
Benata & Arthur Wasserman
John Watson III
Will Weber
Lynn Gessner & Irwin Weingarten
Phil & Pam Weipert
Hermann Weiss
Barbara & Jack Weiss
Teresa Welsh
James Weyman

Michael & Mary Jo Wholihan
Mary Ellen & Dave Wible
Susan Schooner & Tom Wieder
Sarah & Sandy Wiener
Mike Wiley
Judith & Joe Wilhelme
Alan Wilkinson
Mary & Guerin Wilkinson
Angela & Charles Williams
Sherry & Jay Williams
Margo Williams
Nancy Williams
Marty & David Wilson
Dorothy Wilson
Chris & Wayne Wilson
Paul Winder
Marjorie Winters
Nancy Witter
Roselyn Sator & Dennis Wojcik
Eric & Jennifer Wolf
Charlotte Wolfe
Julia & Richard Wolinski
David & Jean Wolter
C. Levering Wood
John & Susan Wooley
Erv & Pat Worzalla
Dayle & Steven Wright
Jimmie Wright
Barbara & Roger Wykes
Susan Wyman
Kimberly Zasa
Philip Zazove
Mara Zimmerman
Bob & Marcella Zorn
Zena Zumeta

Event Participants

Bonnie Ackley
Bernard & Ricky Agranoff
Rob Aldrich
Michael Allemang & Janis Bobrin
Sally & Peter Allen
Dea & William Armstrong
Dave & Allison Arscott
Nancy & Eric Aupperle
Kathy Aznavorian
Lori & James Belanger
Dirk Bornemeier
Susan Bryan
Eunice Burns
Kent Brown & Pam Byrnes
John & Mary Caldwell
Margaret & Dennis Carroll
Ron Cavallaro
Betts & Donald Chisholm
Margaret Gnegy & Wesley Daining
Thomas Deku
Donnie & Candi Dufek
Janine & Steve Easter
Beth & Joe Fitzsimmons
Nancy & Jerrold Frost
Bruce & Sara Gibb
Tom & Ann Gladwin
Susan & Mark Griffin
Mary Hathaway
Fred & Rita Hench
Peter Heydon

Nicholas & Marion Holt
Mari Arno & David Huntoon
Craig Hupy
Diane Nyitray & Michael Kaericher
Lois & Gordon Kane
Anne & John Knott
Ann Larimore
Myra Larson
Theodore & Wendy Lawrence
Charo Ledon
Michael & Diane Leoni
Sandra Lopez
Cheryl & John Mackrell
Mel & Joan Medrich
Deborah Webster & George Miller
John & Tui Minderhout
Ruth Munzel
Tony Myers
Matt Naud
Mary Louise & Laurence O'Connell
Sam & Ellen Offen
Tim Wallington & Alison Ogilvie
Rene & Hina Papo
Judy & Warren Plohr
Evan Pratt
Marilyn & John Rintamaki

Craig Terrell & Christy Rose
Annmarie & John Rubin
John Lofy & Laura Rubin
Phyllis & Dean Russell
Norma & Richard Sarns
Misty Callies & William Secrest
Stanley & Grace Shackman
Jean & Thomas Shope
Lloyd & Ted St. Antoine
Gloria Stapp
Mandi & Craig Stockard
Frances & Sam Talsma
Jesse & Lewis Tripp
Sarah Savarino & Mary Vandewiele
James Keyte & Deborah Weiker
Henry & Dorothy Zelisse
Carl & Ann Zinn
Marcella & Robert Zorn

Volunteers

Debbie Adler
Marcelino Akemann
Kim Alfonsi
J. David Allan
Clara Angove
Sanford Aronoff
Lisa Arthur
Mike Assenmacher
Shirley Axon
Sonja Bair
Mary Bajcz
Alex Bajcz
Marty Baldwin
Noemi Barabas
Karl Leif Bates
Mickie Baughn
Dave Baxter
Patricia Ferrer Beals
Jan BenDor
Michael Benham
Lynn Berni
Laura and Roger Betts
Lori Beyer
Laurel Beyer
Jason Bibby
Robert Black
Beverly Black
Ian Black
Barbara Black
Deborah Bobowski
Janis Bobrin
Michelle Borst
Steve Bowers

Rusty Brach
 Rochelle Breitenbach
 Fran Brennan-Pontoni
 Sabra Briere
 Ethan Bright
 Dave Brooks
 Sharon Brooks
 Rigel Bruening
 Dave Buchanan
 Sally Bund
 Bill Burger
 Denny Burr
 Lee Burton
 Ray Caleca
 Liz Callaway
 Roberta Carr
 Rick Carter
 Ken Casagrande
 Barb Chamness
 Tom Chettleburgh
 Wayne Cheyne
 Michael Cho
 Donald Chung
 Corrie Clark
 Sarah Clement
 John Clifford
 Linda Lucchesi Cody
 Carolyn Collins
 Andrew Collins
 Lisa Colosi
 Aline Cotel
 Paul Cousins
 Marilyn & Edward
 Couture
 Rodney Cox
 Gary Crawford
 Faye Cross
 Daniel Cutler
 Ruth Darrah
 Dwight Davis
 Pam Davis
 Pamela DeLoye
 Scott Dierks
 Nicole Dolney
 Marcia Dorsey
 Margaret Doub
 Dee Drake
 Carole Dubritsky
 Larry Dziadosz
 Marilyn Edington
 Thomas A Edsall
 Michele Eickholt
 Bob Elliott & Mary
 Michael Elliott
 Jim Fackert
 Garrett Allen Fairbanks
 Jennifer Fairchild
 Eva Fall
 Ed Fead
 Neal Foster
 Nellie Elise Fowkes
 Robert Fox
 Ron Gamble
 Dave Gendler
 Steve Gilzow
 Paul Girard
 Kathy A. Giszczak
 Karen Gladney
 Ann Gladwin
 Tom Glaser
 Siew Gong
 Jesse Gordon
 Polina Gouskova
 Carolyn Grapentine
 Alan Green
 Lee Green

Haoyu Gu
 Isobel Guck
 Kevin Gustavson
 Elise Hagy
 Valerie Hancock
 Fred Hanert
 Fay Hansen
 Jennifer Hardacker
 Kevin Hartgerink
 Robin Haugen
 Jane Hayes
 Rob Henderson
 Andrew Henderson
 Julia Henshaw
 Magda Herkfhof
 Mark Higbee
 Nick Hinrichsen
 Katie Hinrichsen
 Jack Hinshaw
 Gary Hochgraf
 Randy Hockey
 David Hopkinson
 Nan Houser
 Tim Hughes
 Carolyn Hunt
 Robert Hurley
 Seonag Imfeld
 Dana Infante
 Rajeev Jain
 Sarika Jain
 Tom Jameson
 Amy Janowicz
 Colleen Jenkins
 Tim Jeris
 Patrick Judd
 Zoltan Jung
 Barb & Lenny Kafka
 David Katz
 Andrew Keller
 Crystal Keller
 Jill Kelley
 Eric Kennedy
 Lola Killey
 Titus P. King
 Sue Klaas
 Pete Klaas
 Amanda Klain
 Angela Klapperich
 Jane Tesner Kleiner
 Andrea Kline
 Dick Knopf & Dea
 Mark Kozlowski
 Katie Kozlowski
 James Kralik
 Viknesh Krishnan
 Heather Kropp
 Lori Kumler
 Susan Lake
 Jim Lane
 Laura Laporte
 Jo Latimore
 Ric Lawson
 Mike Lemon
 Amy Lesemann
 Kate Levin
 Graham E. Lewis
 Lori Lichtman
 Peggy Liggitt
 John Lillie
 Sue Lillie
 Pauline Loewenhardt
 Lois Lovejoy
 Fran Lyman
 Doug Lytwynec
 Ed MacCarter
 Cayden Lucas Mak

Michael Manchester
 Richard Manczak
 Beverly Manko
 Catherine Marquardt
 Dianne Martin
 John Martin
 Joan Martin
 Kathy Marx
 Patti McCall McGuire
 Cathy McClure
 Kathy McClure
 Cheryl McConnell
 Brigit McGowan
 Cassandra Meier
 Rosalie Meiland
 Pat Merkel
 Colin Mindel
 Laura Mindel
 John Minderhout
 Tui Minderhout
 Dan Minock
 Jeanmarie Mishler
 Maryn Mishler
 Florin Moldovan
 Jill Money
 Dallas Moore
 Doug Moore
 Suzy Morse
 Roger Mourad
 Edie Mueller
 Tom Munsell
 Nan Nelson
 Cullen O'Brien
 Diane O'Connell
 Alexis Olans
 Marcela Orlandea
 Jan Otis
 Rob Oumedian
 Arthur P. Pancioli
 Rushali Parikh,
 Gary Paul
 Susanne Peckham
 Steve Penkevich
 Lisa Perschke
 Dan Peters
 Ted Peters
 Elijah Petersen
 Larry Peterson
 Sally Petrella
 Kirsten Petro
 Eric Piehl
 Karen Pierce
 Louise Piranian
 Dave Pollard
 Robert Ponte
 Karen Prochnow
 Becci Putman
 Tammy Rabideau
 Steve Rapundalo
 Joe Rathbun
 Rick Ratliff
 Dora Passino
 Bonnie Reardan
 Paul Reaume
 David Reichhardt
 Julie A. Reinwand
 Martha Rhodes
 Mori Richner
 Kat Ridolfi
 Catherine Riseng
 Stacey Roberts
 Don Rottiers
 Rob Rougeau
 Esther Rubin
 Laura Rubin
 Victor Ruehle

Cheryl Saam
 Magda Scarlet
 Mary Ann Schaefer
 Theresa Dakin Scherwitz
 Mary Schraffenberger
 Carolyn Schultz
 Deborah Schultz
 Bill Seib
 Roberta Shaw-Reeves
 Gordon Sheill
 Maria Silveria
 Janice Sloan
 Andrew Smith
 Jim Smith
 Bob Smith
 Josh Smith
 Kurt Sonen
 Beth Sparks-Jackson
 Ken Spears
 Mary Spence
 Margaret Steiner
 Diana Stetson
 Nancy Stokes
 Bill Stone
 Faye Stoner
 Mike Stowell
 Carol Strahler
 Carl Studnicka
 Anne Sturm
 Nancy Sweet
 Brian Swisher
 Maralynn Tanner
 Dan Thiry
 Susan Thompson
 Paul Tockstein
 Erin Trame
 Hoa Trinh,
 Lewis Tripp
 Hans Tritico
 Carrie Turner
 Andy Turner
 Rebecca Turner
 L. J. Ulrich
 Marcia Vanfossen
 Karen Veve
 Wes Vivian
 Scott Wade
 Norma Jean Wade
 Molly Wade
 Kari Walworth
 Cynthia Wang
 Fred Wark
 Mark Weiss
 Matt Whipple
 Georgia White-Epperson
 Mary Wiland
 Don Wilcox
 Dan Willertz
 Jay Williams
 Teri Williams
 Chris Wilson
 Dave Wilson
 Mark Wilson
 Jennifer Wolf
 Larry Wolicki
 Chris Wood
 Mahya Wood
 Marcia Woodburn
 Al Wooll
 Rong Wu
 John Zielinski
 Linda Ziesmer
 Cynthia Zuccaro

Huron River Watershed Council

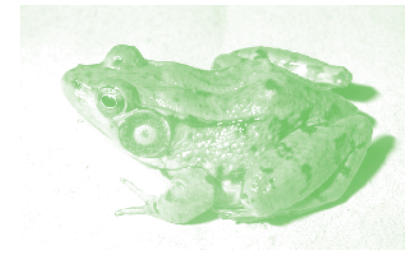
Statement of Activities
 Fiscal Year April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006

REVENUES	
Membership Dues	\$ 165,864
Government Grants	461,539
Foundation Grants	96,879
Contributions	4,385
Special Events	6,188
Interest Income	7,603
Miscellaneous	3,887
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 746,345

EXPENSES	
Program Service Costs	
Watershed Planning & Management	\$ 376,179
Education	104,295
Development of Stewards	107,632
Total Program Service Costs	\$ 588,106
Supporting Service Costs	
Management & General	41,954
Fund Raising	82,958
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 713,018

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	
Net Assets, beginning of year	\$ 247,531
Net Assets, end of year	\$ 280,858

EXPENSES BY FUNCTION	PROGRAM	MANAGEMENT & FUND RAISING	TOTAL
Salaries	\$ 316,916	\$ 81,545	\$ 398,461
Payroll Taxes	24,964	6,317	31,281
Benefits	32,487	9,883	42,370
TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$ 374,367	\$ 97,745	\$ 472,112
Consultants	66,743	1,286	68,029
Depreciation	7,399	1,881	9,280
Dues & Publications	1,606	439	2,045
Insurance	1,312	2,097	3,409
Media Buys	27,835	-	27,835
Newsletter & Mailings	6,337	5,770	12,107
Other	-	420	420
Payroll Service	1,002	255	1,257
Postage & Fax	5,445	4,109	9,554
Printing & Copying	50,190	1,053	51,243
Professional Fees	4,784	1,216	6,000
Rent	22,564	5,736	28,300
Repairs & Maintenance	1,976	502	2,478
Supplies & Equipment	5,390	1,484	6,874
Telephone & Internet	2,583	657	3,240
Travel & Meetings	8,573	262	8,835
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 588,106	\$ 124,912	\$713,018





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