

March 15, 2008

Highland Conservancy E-Newsletter

There are some exciting upcoming events coming up as the weather finally warms up:

KING REZONING UPDATE:

Recently, the Planning Commission voted to recommend denial of Mr. King's request to rezone his property to RM-1 high density. In the near future the Board of Trustees will vote on the matter. We are urging ALL Highland residents to email their concerns to the board c/o: Pilchowskit@twp.highland.mi.us As soon as this matter is scheduled to come before the Board, we will let you know.

HURON VALLEY'S SECOND ANNUAL EARTH DAY!

The second annual Huron Valley Earth Day will be held Sunday, April 20th from 1-6pm in Milford Central Park. The Highland Conservancy is proud to be a sponsor for the event. We will host art workshops for children, give away awesome free items and have loads of information at our booth. There will be food, games, live music, art workshops, free trees, and canoeing. So mark you calendar to attend. Please check out this website for more information: www.hvedf.org

SPRING IS NEARLY HERE!

As you get ready for spring, check out an interesting HC blog article on fertilizer at www.highlandconservancy.typepad.com : Most if not all of our lakes in Michigan and throughout the U.S. are suffering from overgrowth of aquatic weeds and algae. Recently, it has been discovered this can be traced back to lawn fertilizer (and run-off) that is too high in phosphorus. If you live on Duck Lake, White Lake, or any of our local lakes, you probably enjoy having a lush green lawn. Maybe you hire Chem-Lawn or spread your own fertilizer. PLEASE take the time to be sure your company or fertilizer uses NO PHOSPHORUS. It has been directly linked to poor water quality, algae blooms and overgrowth of lake weeds. Michigan already has soil rich in phosphorus and there is no need to overload your lawn with it, even for newly seeded lawns. Google up fertilizer and phosphorus and you can find a ton of information. One pound of phosphorous creates 500 pounds of algae! So as you get ready for spring, help protect your lake and SAY NO TO PHOSPHOROUS!

HIGHLAND'S HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY IS SAT. APRIL 19 FROM 8-NOON

I recall an article about W.C. Fields (who was a master at clutter) reporting that he could reach into massive piles on his desk to retrieve the exact item he needed. Wow! Unfortunately, my house is getting overly cluttered and I can barely remember what I have let alone where things are! Time for a spring cleaning. As you get the urge to clean out the garage or the house, please set aside HAZARDOUS WASTE for proper disposal at Highland's Hazardous Waste Day which is Saturday April 19th from 8:00am to noon by Highland Middle School. (We urge you to carpool as the township is charged almost \$50 per car for this "freebie"). Also, please don't throw out furniture, bikes, clothing, or anything else others might re-use. It's easy to just call Purple Heart to come pick it up or

drop it off at a nearby church for a rummage sale. You'll be helping others while helping our environment.

MASSASAUGA RATTLESNAKE WORKSHOP

In my elementary art classroom I have two corn snakes and the children often ask, “Are they poisonous?” Well, no, they are not venomous BUT in Michigan we have one venomous but endangered snake – the eastern massasauga rattlesnake. If you are interested in learning more about this fascinating creature, there will be a workshop sponsored by the Stewardship Network at Indian Springs Metropark on Thursday, March 20th from 9:30-11:30am. For more info call *Kat Superfisky* 810-227-2757 Ext.5182 or register online at: www.stewardshipnetworkonline.org

HAPPY SPRING!

Katheryn Krupa, Editor
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