

May 10, 2008 Highland Conservancy E-Newsletter

#### HELP US OUT AT HIGHLAND OAKS!

A year after the groundbreaking for Highland's newest park, the Friends of Highland Oaks is kicking off our first major event. This **Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 – 3:30** the Highland Conservancy in partnership with Oakland County Parks is inviting all friends of Highland Oaks to pull Garlic Mustard. All around Michigan this Saturday, volunteers will be hitting the woods in a brave attempt to battle this insidious invasive. First discovered in our state in 1998 (though probably around much earlier), garlic mustard is the zebra mussel of our woodlands. Why even bother? This nasty invasive smothers entire forests in no time, wiping out wildflowers, native plants and upsetting entire food chains. The best part about the event at Highland Oaks is that anyone who shows up Saturday will get a free pass for the day and get to explore the southern portion (and other parts) of this awesome new park. Bring work gloves, sunscreen and/or bug spray, and water. The Highland Conservancy will meet folks at the park entrance on Milford Road north of Clyde Road and will provide maps, information and guides. Entrance to the park is free Saturday so come help us attack this nasty invasive and enjoy a few hours helping protect our new park.

#### HI-WHITE PARADE

Yes, once again we are marching in this delightful, hometown parade Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. Gather to help us march at 9:00 at Church of the Nazarene on Livingston Road off M59 OR enjoy the parade. Kick off time is 10:00 a.m. Come get a nice sized white pine tree at our booth afterwards next to the Highland Senior Center. We hope to see you there!

#### CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

If you are considering protecting your land and would like to leave a lasting legacy, contact the Highland Conservancy. We can chat with you about your specific ideas, desires and tailor a plan to protect your property that fits with your vision. Contact Jim Lloyd for more information: 248-887-3952.

#### NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS AND FRIENDS

##### SIX RIVERS CONSERVANCY

It is time to order Bird and Butterfly gardens and to plan to attend the Six Rivers (formerly Oakland Land Conservancy) 10th Annual Spring Native Plant Sale on June 1st! Grasses and wildflowers are mostly sold in 2" containers for \$3 each or a full mixed flat (your choice!) for \$75. Woody vines, trees and shrubs range from \$8 to \$24. Download this year's plant list <<http://www.oaklandlandconservancy.org/plantsale.htm>> or give them a call at 248-601-2816 and they will mail you information.

#### NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE

I just read an excellent article in this week's Milford Times about this exciting new program put on by Alan Heavener's canoe outfit called "No child left inside". He encourages us to get out and canoe the Huron River, (they also can put on a recreation of early life along the Huron) and have fun! Shut off those Wii's, Gameboys, Nintendo DS, TV's and computers and enjoy the outdoors.

Katheryn Krupa, Editor

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