

February 27, 2011

Highland Conservancy E-Newsletter  
Think spring!

### FREECYCLING

Hopefully you are already recycling, but you can do even better – freecycle. Instead of putting your bicycle, old toys or dresser by the curbside a few days before trash pickup and hoping someone will grab it, I suggest posting it on the freecycling websites:

[www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org) Or you could list it in the “Absolutely Free” section of the Spinal Column as well. Check out this article about Freecycling on our blog:  
[http://highlandconservancy.typepad.com/my\\_weblog/2011/02/freecycling-by-katheryn-krupa.html](http://highlandconservancy.typepad.com/my_weblog/2011/02/freecycling-by-katheryn-krupa.html)

**SECOND ANNUAL FROG AND TOAD SURVEY:** Did you know that Michigan is home to 13 native frogs and toads, some of which are threatened or quite rare? To help protect these vulnerable species, this is the second year that the Highland Conservancy we will be gathering data around Highland as part of the MDNRE’s annual survey. We will be hitting the ponds and wetlands as soon as the weather warms up and the frogs start croaking (usually in early April). Last year the team truly had fun and we are looking for more volunteers to join us. We have DVD’s to help you learn to identify various frog mating calls. If you are interested or just want more information, please contact Ron at 248-887-7125.

**EARTH DAY POSTER CONTEST:** Parents of elementary age students are invited to participate in our earth day poster contest again this year. This year’s theme is: Living Green: Live green to do your part to protect our earth. Suggestions for slogans include: Shop local, or Turn off the lights to save energy, or Live Green by Recycling. Requirements are: Size must be 12” x 18”, must promote the theme, child-created, recommended materials are crayon, marker, paint, colored pencil, and deadline is 4/1/11. Contact Katheryn Krupa 248-978-4093 for more info.

**EARTH DAY IN HIGHLAND:** Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> – Noon – 4pm.

Mark your calendar to attend the Huron Valley Earth Day on Sunday, April 17 at Carl’s Family YMCA in Milford, 300 Family Dr, by the library off Commerce Road, near downtown from noon-4pm. Featured booths and presentations that are planned include: protecting your property from invasive plants, organic farming/gardening, local green groups, projects and services, nature education, art and crafts, music, dance, games and green fashion. For more information visit:

<http://www.greenteamofhuronvalley.com/index.html> .

### HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

Hazardous Waste drop-off for Highland is set for April 9<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center. Mark your calendar and start collecting all the hazardous material that should not be tossed in the trash. What can you drop off? The short list: batteries, computers, antifreeze, oils, paint, fluorescent light bulbs, batteries, aerosols, rat poison, pesticides, cleaning products,

car fluids, medicine, and yes, even nail polish. For more info, call 248-887-3791 ext 138. (Bring your driver's license to show proof of residence in Highland). One trip per household and car pooling is encouraged!

Highland Rec Work Days:

Want to help restore important natural areas in Highland Recreation Area? Then, join the DNRE, Recreation Division, Stewardship Unit in protecting high quality ecosystems within the park:

Sunday, March 20, 2011

Highland Recreation Area<<http://www.michigan.gov/highland>>, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Join us in saving this mesic sand prairie that is a state critically imperiled ecosystem. We will continue to cut trees and shrubs from this small remnant to open it up allow the native flora and fauna to thrive. Please join us at this workday! Meet at the Lakeside Picnic area parking lot by Teeple Lake, about 5 minutes south of the park entrance on M-59. \*\*\*Waterproof boots, either knee-high rubber boots or hip waders, are recommended for this site. Knee-high rubber boots are available to borrow, upon request. Availability is limited; first come, first served.

Saturday, March 26, 2011

Highland Recreation Area<<http://www.michigan.gov/highland>>, Barn Course Field Trial Area, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Join ongoing efforts to restore this area to open grassland. Volunteers will be hauling and piling brush and stacking fire wood. Meet at the Barn Field Trial Area parking lot on the north side of Cooley Lake Road between Duck Lake and Beaumont Roads.

For more information, a map or directions, and to register click here<[http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10366\\_10871-162412--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10366_10871-162412--,00.html)>.

Tax Time is a great time to consider...

**DONATIONS TO THE HIGHLAND CONSERVANCY**

Get those tax deductions by going to our website: <http://www.highlandconservancy.org> and click on *Make a Donation*. If you prefer, you can print out the form below and mail in your tax deductible contribution today:

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Yes, I want to \_\_\_\_\_join or \_\_\_\_\_renew my membership to the Highland Conservancy to encourage and facilitate the conservation of land and natural resources to preserve the rural character of Highland Township with my donation.

Please make checks payable to: Highland Conservancy  
and mail them to: Highland Conservancy, 205 W. Livingston Road, Highland, MI 48357

\_\_\_\_\_ Call me regarding a gift of property or more info on a conservation easement.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Sincerely,

Katheryn Krupa, Editor

Visit our blog at [www.highlandconservancy.typepad.com](http://www.highlandconservancy.typepad.com)

Or our website at [www.highlandconservancy.org](http://www.highlandconservancy.org)