

August 1, 2005

To Highland Conservancy E-Folks and Members,

I hope everyone is having a great summer!

Below is our August E-newsletter and information on upcoming events:

Our Mission Statement: "To encourage and facilitate the conservation of land and natural resources to preserve the rural character of Highland Township."

Sparks in the Park: What a great event for Highland! The fireworks were awesome, the day was sunny, the music was great, crowds were friendly and a good time was had by all. The children loved the beach balls so those went quickly. Many people stopped by our booth to say "Hi" or ask questions but most of all to find their home on our huge map of the Township. We were able to share our ideas for open spaces and connecting greenways and we passed out newsletters and information.

Greenway Plan: We are currently working with the Oakland County Parks group, the Oakland Land Conservancy, and the Highland Equestrian Conservancy to map out a greenway plan for Highland Township. We continue to strive to protect natural areas and connect wildlife corridors to and from Highland State Recreation area and other parks and undeveloped areas. Part of this process involves determining how this greenway plan fits with the overall plan for the rest of Oakland County and nearby counties.

Discovery Hikes: The hikes have been a resounding success so far! Unfortunately, the canoe trip had to be postponed but will be rescheduled for a future date (call Deb Bell if interested-see phone number below). Join us for our next hike, which will be at Alderman Lake on **Sunday, August 14th at 3pm**. As always, we'll meet at the Highland Station. House at 3 pm and leave promptly at 3:15 pm to carpool or drive from there. Call Deb Bell at 248-887-5399 if you have ideas for next year's hikes or let her know you'll be hiking with us. Hikes are free and open to all. Drop in the second Sunday of each month at 3pm and join us to explore some of Highland's beautiful trails!

Kingsland: The turnout was outstanding at the open hearing in July on this proposed senior citizen development! Roughly 200 residents made it clear that they are overwhelmingly opposed to a change in our master plan to allow this senior citizen complex with its high rise buildings and high density development. There is an excellent August 2nd article in the online newspaper called Highland-Live which provides a complete overview of the meeting at: www.highland-live.com. The Planning Commission will now seek comments and input from nearby communities and residents and continue to accept your letters, calls and email. There also will be another public hearing (date to be announced). We encourage you to express your opinion to the Planning Commission and Eugene Beach either in person, by email or letter. You can send letters to: Highland Township Planning Commission, 205 N. John Street, Highland, MI 48357 or email: corwinb@twp.highland.mi.us

Website: Our website has some excellent information for new members and those interested in finding out more about what we are doing. Please visit at www.highlandconservancy.org

HC Blog: The latest blog article includes pictures from Sparks in the Park. If you have an article or photographs from your own encounters with nature and animals in Highland, please feel free to contribute. To read and comment on current articles, go to our blog at <http://highlandconservancy.typepad.com>. Or email your article to Mick Bell at Mickbell40@aol.com

Sponsors: One of our newest sponsors is www.weatherunderground.com. I often use this excellent website for up-to-date weather information or the local weather forecast. Additionally, we wish to thank Allegra Printing in Milford for their support. We are looking for other new sponsors. If you are interested, please contact Ron Flannery for more details: ron@ronflannery.com

Next Meeting: We meet every second and fourth Thursday of the month at 7pm at the Highland Station House, 205 W. Livingston Road, Highland, MI 48357. Come join us.

"Each of us has a responsibility to be good stewards of our environment. Highland Township's Conservancy is a great way to fulfill that responsibility." Triscia Pilchowski, Highland Township Supervisor

Please join us in doing what we can to protect Highland and its natural beauty! We meet the second and fourth Thursday of each month at Highland Station House, 205 W. Livingston Road at 7:00 p.m. Come join us at our meetings or mail in your contribution using the form below. Donations of \$25 will receive a window decal. Donations of \$50 will receive a free tote bag and decal. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Donations:

Please print out the form below to mail in your tax deductible contribution today:

Yes, I want to join 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
Mail to: Highland Conservancy, 205 W. Livingston Road, Highland, MI 48357

_____ Call me regarding a gift of property.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ \$Other

Thank you for your Tax Deductible Contribution!

Sincerely,

Katheryn Krupa

Editor, Enewsletter

Highland Conservancy

248-887-4643

info@HighlandConservancy.com