

August 26, 2009

Don't forget to [check our calendar](#) for upcoming events. The calendar is updated weekly with new postings from Huron Pines and partners. To submit an event, e-mail [Jennifer@huronpines.org](mailto:Jennifer@huronpines.org).

What plant's leaves did American colonists use to brew a tea substitute following their Boston Tea Party tax protest?

See the [Huron Pines eNews answer](#).

Below is the 8/26/09 update for Huron Pines.

- Au Sable Volunteer Project: Fencing and Stabilization
- Black River Rope Swing Site Restored
- Huron Pines AmeriCorps Member Celebration
- MiCorps Newsletter Featuring Huron Pines

Thank you!

Huron Pines

[www.huronpines.org](http://www.huronpines.org)

#### Au Sable Volunteer Project: Fencing and Stabilization

Streambank stabilization work on one of the erosion sites (Forest Rd 4841) downstream of McKinley Bridge on the Au Sable River received finishing touches with the construction of a 180-foot cedar fence. In May, Huron Pines staff and volunteers from the [Au Sable Big Water Preservation Association \(ASBWPA\)](#) rebuilt deteriorated cedar terracing to stabilize the site. On August 21, Huron Pines staff, [USDA Forest Service](#) personnel and volunteers from the ASBWPA installed fencing at the site to prevent foot traffic (the primary cause of the erosion) on the recovering streambank and to guide users to a more appropriate area to gain access to the river.

[View photos of the project](#) at our photo site. Visit our [watershed protection](#) page to see current and recent Huron Pines river restoration projects.

#### Black River Rope Swing Site Restored

Restoration of the third major erosion site on the Upper Black River is nearly complete as of Wednesday, August 26. This site, also called the Rope Swing site, featured severe erosion of a steep hill that had been used for years as an access point to a rope swing into the river. Addressing this site is part of a larger project to reduce the amount of sediment from human activities entering the Black River

and affecting the spawning habitat of state-threatened lake sturgeon. All three of the erosion sites have benefited from brush placement, stone, or cedar terracing to stop erosion; topsoil; seeds; native plants; mulch fabric and access restriction.

View photos of the project [here](#). To learn more about the Black River project and see a list of project supporters, visit [Upper Black River: Protecting Sturgeon Spawning Sites](#) or contact Patrick Ertel at (989) 344-0753 x19 or [patrick@huronpines.org](mailto:patrick@huronpines.org).

### Huron Pines AmeriCorps Member Celebration

With their year of service beginning to wind down, [Huron Pines AmeriCorps](#) members took a day to celebrate their accomplishments at [Hartwick Pines State Park](#) on August 18. Park staff led a tour of the park and logging camp museum and after a presentation highlighting the many great projects members completed over the year, the day was capped off with a vintage baseball game.

Through June 2009, Huron Pines AmeriCorps members have made a deep and lasting impact on Northeast Michigan with

- 27 habitat improvement projects
- 169 presentations reaching 5,682 people
- 524 volunteers recruited totaling 2,246 hours of service
- 96 press releases and articles about conservation issues distributed in local and statewide media

[See photos of the Member Celebration](#) at our photo website or visit the Huron Pines AmeriCorps page on our site to see ongoing projects and what's in store for next year. Contact Casey Ressler at (989) 344-0753 x30 or [casey@huronpines.org](mailto:casey@huronpines.org) for more information.

### MiCorps Newsletter Featuring Huron Pines

The efforts of Huron Pines and our partners to monitor local streams is getting attention through the [August 2009 MiCorps Monitor](#) online newsletter by the Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps). Huron Pines monitoring programs are the focus of two articles, one on how Huron Pines is working to grow the program in our area and the other on tireless volunteer Gene Stagner. Huron Pines has been working to establish macroinvertebrate monitoring programs in the [Pine River watershed](#) near Oscoda since 2007 and in the Upper Manistee River starting in 2009.

Learn more about our MiCorps programs at our [Volunteer Stream Monitoring](#) page or contact contact Patrick Ertel at (989) 344-0753 x19 or [patrick@huronpines.org](mailto:patrick@huronpines.org).

[Support Conservation in Northeast Michigan Today!](#)

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Huron Pines is a nonprofit organization whose goal is to conserve the forests, lakes and streams of Northeast Michigan.

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