

February 10, 2010

According to our marmot friend, we're in for at least another six weeks of winter. Lucky for us, February is a great month to get out and enjoy the beautiful winter landscapes of Northeast Michigan. According to our Executive Director Brad Jensen's observations, February is the sunniest winter month. Today, we're looking to our readers to shine some light on this question.

On average, how many of the 28 days of February are sunny in Northeast Michigan?

Email your answers to info@huronpines.org.

Latest Huron Pines newsletter available online: visit www.huronpines.org to download the [February 2010 Huron Pines Newsletter](#). Featuring some of our agency partners, this newsletter put a face on those agency partners that help us achieve our mission through funding and project help. [Become a member](#) and receive hard copies of our quarterly newsletter.

Below is the 2/10/10 update for Huron Pines.

- Powerful presentations and productive partners—Huron Pines Annual Meeting a success
- Launching \$1 million road/stream crossing project in Iosco and Alcona counties
- Events and Announcements

Huron Pines

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Powerful presentations and productive partners—Huron Pines Annual Meeting a success

Making her first public presentation since being named Director of the newly created Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Rebecca Humphries was the keynote speaker February 6th at the Huron Pines Annual Meeting in Gaylord. Director Humphries spoke about challenges facing Michigan's conservation future and fielded questions from the 130 conservation and community leaders from across northern Michigan. View her response to how the DNRE is handling Asian carp and thoughts on public funding initiatives on [YouTube- Huron Pines](#).

Awards were also presented to some of the leaders of conservation in Northeast Michigan. The Huron Pines Award was presented to Bob Andrus, former Chair of the [Au Sable River Watershed Restoration Committee](#), for his two decades of leadership of that coalition. Roger Rasmussen, a Huron Pines Board Member, received recognition through the Volunteer Service Award, which is approved by the U.S. President. Brenda

Archanbo received the O.B. Eustis Award for her work in preserving Lake Sturgeon as the leader of [Sturgeon For Tomorrow](#). The [Pine River-Van Etten Lake Watershed Coalition](#), based in Alcona and Iosco counties, also received an O.B. Eustis Award for their volunteer environmental work.

Read more at [Powerful presentations and productive partners—Huron Pines Annual Meeting a success](#).

Launching \$1 million road/stream crossing project in Iosco and Alcona counties

In 2009, The US Forest Service received \$8.55 million dollars to improve natural resources in the Huron-Manistee National Forest Lands through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Of this amount, \$1 million dollars of ARRA funding has been granted to restore seven road/stream crossing sites in the Pine River-Van Etten Lake watershed, located in Alcona County. Because Huron Pines had already completed a Watershed Management Plan and identified priority sites, we were ready to take advantage of these funds and bring them to Northeast Michigan.

The seven sites that were selected for improvement will have a direct benefit for the National Forest and the Pine River Van-Etten Lake watershed by reconnecting over 70 river miles for fish and other aquatic organisms while also annually reducing 80 tons of sediment delivered to the downstream portions of the Pine River.

Read more about the project at [Pine River-Van Etten Lake Watershed Restoration](#).

Events and Announcements

DNRE grants available for local units of government: Application materials are currently available from the Michigan DNRE for the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and the Land and Water Conservation Fund programs. Grants are available to local units of government for the development of public outdoor recreation facilities and the acquisition of land for outdoor recreation and/or resource protection. Have a project idea you'd like some feedback on? Feel free to contact Huron Pines Program Director Lisha Ramsdell at lisha@huronpines.org or (989) 344-0753 x29. The deadline for submittal is April 1.

February 22, Request for Host Site Applications for Huron Pines AmeriCorps due: We are seeking applications from organizations interested in hosting a member from May-September (each member will serve 900 hours). This is a competitive process and host sites will be selected based on the impact members would have in Northeast Michigan. Download a [Host site Application](#).

March 6, Snowshoe through Pigeon River Country: Local naturalist and Pigeon River State Forest historian, Joe Jarecki, will lead participants on a snowshoe hike through beautiful Pigeon River Country on Saturday, March 6 from 10:00am to 12:30pm. This

event is hosted by HeadWaters Land Conservancy. For more information, call (989) 731-0573 or email land@headwatersconservancy.org.

March 13 – 14, Midwest Fly Fishing Expo: Join Huron Pines and angling resources galore at the Macomb Community College Sports & Expo Center in Warren. Learn more at <http://www.midwestflyfishingexpo.com/>.

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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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