

June 3, 2010

The mayflies are here! Get ready to hit the beautiful coldwater streams of Northeast Michigan with your fishing gear or get out a good hat. The order of mayflies (*Ephemeroptera*) is indicative of high-quality water. When mayfly larvae hatch, like the brown drake right now, it means big fishing activity. One of the upcoming hatches, *Hexagenia limbata*, represents one of the world's biggest mayflies, and one of the strangest fishing experiences in northern Michigan.

## **What is the shortest lifespan of an adult mayfly?**

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

Below is the 6/3/10 update for Huron Pines.

- Improving the North Branch Au Sable—Huron Pines Receives Funds for Restoration
- Crawford County Volunteer Day—Protecting the Manistee River
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Huron Pines

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## **Improving the North Branch Au Sable—Huron Pines Receives Funds for Restoration**

Huron Pines is pleased to announce that the US Forest Service, through the [Great Lakes Restoration Initiative](#), has awarded \$475,000 to improve at least eight road/stream crossing sites within the North Branch, part of the [Au Sable River Watershed](#). In addition, the North Branch Area Foundation has also committed \$25,000 of much needed non-federal match funds.

Two years ago, Huron Pines worked with several conservation groups dedicated to the North Branch Au Sable River to identify resource concerns and develop solutions. As identified in the [North Branch Action Plan](#) the number one goal was to, “Improve water quality by reducing sediment loading.” By taking the time to conduct a detailed inventory and identify individual sources of pollution, we were able to begin fundraising for implementation. More fundraising needs to take place, but the momentum is building and we thank everyone for their support.

This work was a direct result of our watershed planning approach. By conducting watershed inventories to identify the highest priority sites, we are well positioned to move projects from conception to completion. Learn more about this approach and what's on our project list at [The Megalist](#).

## **Crawford County Volunteer Day—Protecting the Manistee River**

It was all sunshine and smiles at the Crawford County 11/11 last Saturday. Twenty volunteers came out to sample bugs in the Manistee River as a way to monitor water quality. The efforts of highly trained volunteers is essential to monitoring the health of our natural resources and without their work, it's much more difficult to identify trends impacting our rivers and wildlife.

A special thanks goes out to the Kalkaska Eagles Club and the Thorsen Family for sponsoring this event.

Learn more about the day at [Local volunteers protect the Manistee River](#) and see photos from the day at the [Huron Pines Flickr](#) page.

## **Presque Isle County 11/11 Volunteer Event Up Next!**

Two Huron Pines 11/11 volunteer events down—nine opportunities left to join Huron Pines staff and volunteers to learn more about your local watershed!

Our next event in the [11/11 Volunteer Program](#) takes us to [Silver Creek](#). Such a small stream, so why such big attention? Silver Creek is a high-quality coldwater tributary to the Ocqueoc River and it's about to receive some serious TLC. Give us a few hours of your time and we'll give you a hands-on experience of stream restoration, a free t-shirt and a free lunch. Who says conservation isn't fun?

Huron Pines would like to invite you to join us on June 10th from 9:30am-1:30pm on Silver Creek in Presque Isle County to explore planned practices and expected results for the restoration and protection of a coldwater stream. Expert staff will present and lead tours on the topics of how to use bugs to determine water quality, ways culverts can alter streams, physical stream surveys, and much more. This is a great opportunity for volunteers to become more involved with the habitat restoration projects going on virtually in their backyards.

Supporters of the restoration efforts on Silver Creek are the Presque Isle County Road Commission, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Great Lakes Commission – Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, Wolverine Power Cooperative, Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Paul H Young Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Headwaters Chapter of Trout Unlimited, and the Ocqueoc River Commission.

Interested event sponsors or participants are encouraged to contact Huron Pines for further details. Learn more at [11/11 Volunteer Program](#). Space is limited. RSVPs required. Please call Jill at (989) 344-0753 x21 or email [jill@huronpines.org](mailto:jill@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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