

May 13, 2009

If you're out looking for morels this week, be sure to keep an eye out for one of Michigan's nastiest plants, poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*). If you're allergic, you'll need to avoid more than just the leaves. Our ecologist Jennifer Muladore asks this about the very effective irritator:

### **What is the only part of a poison ivy plant that is not poisonous?**

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

Haven't read our [Spring Newsletter](#)? We've also just posted the [Spring RC&D Report](#).

Below is the 5/13/09 biweekly update for Huron Pines.

- AmeriCorps Volunteer Project a Success
- Thank You Michigan Trail Riders
- Keep the Au Sable Clean – River Greenbelt May 20
- Get Help with Removing Invasive Species – Funding Available
- Opportunity for Nonprofits – TechSoup
- Northeast Michigan Events

Thank you!  
Huron Pines

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

### **AmeriCorps Volunteer Project a Success**

[Huron Pines AmeriCorps](#) members and nearly 60 volunteers came out last Saturday to protect state-threatened lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) through erosion control on the Black River. Co-sponsored by [Sturgeon For Tomorrow](#), the day focused on reducing erosion on two sites near Tower, MI. Throughout the brisk but sunny day, over 3,000 native plants were planted and erosion control measures were taken to improve sturgeon spawning habitat. Thanks to everyone for coming out to help!

See photos from the [Black River Habitat Improvement Day](#) (posted in the Gaylord Herald Times).

Want to join us on the next [Volunteer Day](#)?

### **Thank You Michigan Trail Riders**

The Michigan Trail Riders Association (MTRA) came out in full force on Saturday, May 2, 2009. In addition to completing the original boardwalk reconstruction project, they were able to team up with Huron Pines on a [River Protection Project](#) along the shore-to-shore trail near Mio.

The MTRA provided nearly a dozen volunteers to help refurbish a trail used by equestrians to access the Au Sable River. The work will serve to provide a better path to all users and be effective in preventing further erosion and sedimentation of the Au Sable River (visit [Au Sable River Protection Project](#) to view pictures). **Thank you Michigan Trail Riders Association!** We look forward to partnering on many future projects.

## **Keep the Au Sable Clean – River Greenbelt May 20**

The Au Sable River Property Owners Association and Huron Pines are hosting a [greenbelt](#) and [large woody debris](#) demonstration next Wednesday, May 20. Participants will learn about preventing erosion through using [native plants](#) and woody debris placement. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Jennifer Muladore at [jennifer@huronpines.org](mailto:jennifer@huronpines.org).

## **Get help with removing Invasive Species– Funding Available**

We are offering a cost share program to private landowners in **Iosco and Alcona counties** for removal of phragmites. Funds provided by the US Fish and Wildlife Service will cover 75% of the total project removal costs up to \$1,000; with the remainder being covered by the landowner.

Interested landowners in Alcona County should contact [Lisa Myrick](#) at the Alcona Conservation District and landowners in Iosco County should contact Huron Pines Invasive Species Coordinator [Tim Engelhardt](#).

[Download the Invasive Species Cost Share Application](#). The deadline is June 1.

## **Opportunity for Nonprofits - TechSoup**

We wanted to share with you a great resource for nonprofits called TechSoup. They produce free and discounted technology products for nonprofits and public libraries. We used this resource for a number of products including computers, GIS software and Adobe programs. Visit [www.techsoup.org/](http://www.techsoup.org/) to learn more.

## **Northeast Michigan Events**

These events along with other regional events are also listed on the [Huron Pines Calendar](#).

- Kirtland's Warbler Festival: Saturday, May 16, Kirtland Community College, Roscommon, visit <http://warbler.kirtland.edu/>
- Muskegon River Watershed Assembly: May 20, 6:30pm–8:30pm, Prudenville, Denton Township Hall, contact [mrwa@ferris.edu](mailto:mrwa@ferris.edu)

- Au Sable Greenbelt Day: Wednesday, May 20, 9am–2pm, Grayling, contact [Jennifer Muladore](#)
  - Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program Training: May 28, 10am–1pm, Ryde Marine on Crooked Lake, contact [Kevin Cronk](#) from Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council or visit <http://www.watershedcouncil.org>
- AmeriCorps hosts an Adopt-a-Forest Clean-up: May 27, Roscommon, contact [Daniel Schultz](#)
- 39th Annual Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited Fly Fishing School: June 5–7, Traverse City, Ranch Ruldoph, visit [www.michigantu.org](http://www.michigantu.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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