

October 16, 2009

Have a trivia question? E-mail Jennifer@huronpines.org.

What is the highest amount of snowfall we've ever had in this area in October?

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

Below is the 10/16/09 update for Huron Pines.

- Indian Creek ORV Restoration Completed
- South Branch Au Sable LWD Underway
- Phragmites Treatment Update
- Upcoming Events and Announcements

Thank you!

Huron Pines

www.huronpines.org

Indian Creek ORV Restoration Completed

A small tributary to the Au Sable River system near Oscoda is protected now thanks to the [Indian Creek ORV Restoration](#) project. Through a grant from the [Michigan Department of Natural Resources](#), Huron Pines staff and contractors installed 600 feet of fencing, metal guardrail, and a stump barrier to help keep ORV users on the designated trail that runs through a power line corridor in Iosco County. Then, they installed four biologists and a truckload of native plants to restore the streambank, which had been eroded by illegal stream crossing with ORVs. This area provides ideal habitat for the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake as well as many other species.

[Visit our website](#) to view before-and-after [photos](#) of the project and to read more about the project partners. Or, contact Jennifer Muladore at Jennifer@huronpines.org or (989) 344-0753 ext. 31.

South Branch Au Sable LWD Underway

The [Huron Pines River Restoration Crew](#) has successfully completed work on the mainstem Au Sable River and has begun adding [large woody debris](#) (LWD) to the South Branch Au Sable. Through \$30,000 in funding from Anglers of the Au Sable and ORVIS, the crew will be spending the next couple of months using chainsaws and a winch to place trees at crucial sites on the river, improving fish habitat and helping to control erosion.

Learn more about LWD and its benefits on our website. Interested in having LWD added on your property? Contact Patrick Ertel at patrick@huronpines.org or (989) 344-0753 ext. 19.

Phragmites Treatment Update

Thanks to the efforts of [Huron Pines AmeriCorps](#) Invasive Species Coordinator Tim Engelhardt, we have now treated eight private properties on Lake Huron and Avery Lake (in Montmorency County) to control the invasive grass phragmites, bringing the total acres treated to 1.5 and the total shoreline feet restored to 1,250. Huron Pines staff, AmeriCorps members and volunteers hand-swiped each plant on the sites with water-safe herbicide to kill the phragmites while preserving native vegetation growing around it. Landowners have reported that the once strong, green jungles of plants are beginning to die back already.

Visit the [Invasive Species Program](#) page on our website for a project update with [photos](#). In addition, Huron Pines will be offering the same cost-share opportunity to private landowners again in 2010, thanks to funding from the [U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service](#); sign up for the program on our website. Contact Jennifer Muladore at Jennifer@huronpines.org or (989) 344-0753 ext. 31 to learn more.

Upcoming Events and Announcements

The **Au Sable river fall volunteer work day** has been scheduled for Saturday, October 24. Volunteers will meet at the Dam Four road-end on the North Branch at 10 a.m. The work project will repair landings at both Dam Four and Morley Road. Brats, beans, and soda will be served at 1:30. The project, sponsored by the Mason-Griffith Founders Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Au Sable River Watershed Restoration Committee, will require ten volunteers. If you might want to participate on this project contact Bob Andrus at 989-390-2814 or randrus@netscape.com.

Get your project ideas in: Huron Pines is scheduling upcoming Resource Advisory Group meetings—send in a project form (download from the [How to Get New Projects Started](#) page on our website, which also lists meeting dates) to get your idea on the list for discussion. In addition, Huron Pines is working on several proposals to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; partners interested in collaborating on projects should contact Brad Jensen at brad@huronpines.org or (989) 344-0753 ext. 18.

Private Landowners: Interested in stewardship news, funding opportunities for farms or tax and legal news relating to conservation? Visit www.privatelandownernet.org and sign up for their e-newsletter.

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

To **subscribe**, send an email to: newsletter-subscribe@lists.huronpines.org. To **unsubscribe**, send an email to: newsletter-unsubscribe@lists.huronpines.org. For questions about this email or if you are unable to automatically subscribe/unsubscribe, contact: info@huronpines.org

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

Huron Pines • 501 Norway Street • Grayling, MI 49738
Phone 989.344.0753 Fax 989.348.7945
www.huronpines.org