

October 29, 2008

This week, we have a very timely trivia question from Hartwick Pines Park Interpreter Craig Kasmer. If you take a walk in the woods, perhaps through [Hartwick Pines State Park](#), keep your eye out for this hardy fall flower's unique seed dispersal.

How far can witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), a small understory tree found in northern Michigan forests, shoot its seeds?

See the [answer](#).

If you have a trivia question you would like posted, send them to info@huronpines.org.

Below is the 10/29/08 biweekly update for Huron Pines. Happy Halloween!

Thank you!

Huron Pines

www.huronpines.org

Welcome 2008-2009 Huron Pines AmeriCorps Members

Please welcome our newest Huron Pines AmeriCorps members. These members will be serving at nonprofit organizations that further conservation in Northeast Michigan.

[Tim](#), Huron Pines, *Invasive Species Coordinator*

[Erin](#), Grand Traverse Conservation District, *Outreach Specialist*

[Matthew](#), Michigan Association of Conservation Districts, *Training and Communications Coordinator*

[Kristin](#), Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited, *Monitoring Specialist*

[Emily](#), Otsego County Conservation District, *Natural Resource Education Coordinator*

[Matthew](#), Gahagan Nature Preserve, *Environmental Educator*

[Ben](#), Freshwater Future, *Advocate Mentor Program Coordinator*

[Steven](#), Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, *Education and Outreach Specialist*

See what projects the members will be organizing in their year of service by visiting www.huronpinesamericorps.org.

Thomas Buhr receives the 2008 Michigan Keeper of the Great Lakes Award

Congratulations to Thomas Buhr for receiving the 2008 Michigan Keeper of the Great Lakes Award, presented in Grayling by Lt. Governor John Cherry. Thomas has been doing it all in his Au Sable River protection efforts this year, from organizing projects to volunteering his time with Huron Pines efforts and working on environmental issues. Check out the group he recently organized, a key partner in our Au Sable Restoration

efforts, the [Au Sable Big Water Preservation Association](#). Thanks Thomas for all your hard work!

In addition, thank you to all of our partners who came to the Great Lakes Water Quality Meetings. We appreciate your participation and look forward to continue building effective partnerships to further conservation in Northeast Michigan.

Volunteers make Water Quality a Priority

This past weekend our Restoration Project Manager Patrick Ertel was in Oscoda for the first water sampling event for the [Pine River-Van Etten Lake](#) MiCorps program. The group recently secured funding through the MiCorps program to conduct and share water quality information in their watershed. Ten volunteers helped sample and identify aquatic insects. They sampled five sites, including two on Van Etten Creek. The essence of this project is to have volunteers that live or recreate in a particular watershed get out and collect aquatic insects at various sites. Aquatic insects, due to their sensitivity to environmental conditions, tell the story of the water quality.

The [Michigan Clean Water Corps \(MiCorps\)](#) is a network of volunteer monitoring programs in Michigan. It was created through an executive order by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm to assist the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in collecting and sharing water quality data for use in water resources management and protection programs.

Presque Isle Conservation District Annual Meeting- November 6th

The Presque Isle Conservation District is holding their annual meeting on Thursday, November 6th at the Rogers City Senior Center (131 East Superior Street) from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. There will be a meal served at the Senior Center that people can purchase for \$5.50. Please join them in discussing conservation in one of our area's most beautiful coastal counties.

For more information, contact Ralph Stedman at rstedmanPICD@core.com or call (989) 734-4000.

Visit [Membership Information](#), to learn about becoming a member and helping conserve Northeast Michigan's natural resources.

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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.

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