



Good Morning,

Below is your April 2008 edition of the Heart of the Lakes Headlines. Heart of the Lakes Headlines are a monthly compilation of national and local news related to land conservation and natural resource protection and are provided as a service to members and supporters of Heart of the Lakes Center for Land Conservation Policy. News of note is arranged by region, but most have crossover appeal throughout the state. Also included - info on events of interest and funding opportunities as they are available. Enjoy!

#### **News:**

##### **Business Tax Breaks Proposed for Conservation**

Heart of the Lakes, GTRLC, and Sen. Allen discuss tax credit concept to encourage land conservation.  
[http://blog.mlive.com/cns/2008/04/business\\_tax\\_break\\_proposed\\_fo.html#more](http://blog.mlive.com/cns/2008/04/business_tax_break_proposed_fo.html#more)

##### **253 Acres in Washtenaw Co added to public parkland**

Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy assisted with the acquisition.  
[http://blog.mlive.com/annarbornews/2008/04/washtenaw\\_county\\_adds\\_253\\_acre.html](http://blog.mlive.com/annarbornews/2008/04/washtenaw_county_adds_253_acre.html)

##### **Collaboration helps protect region**

Joining efforts provides land protection benefits.  
[http://blog.mlive.com/ann\\_arbor\\_business\\_review/2008/03/guest\\_opinion\\_partnering\\_prote.html](http://blog.mlive.com/ann_arbor_business_review/2008/03/guest_opinion_partnering_prote.html)

##### **100 acres complete swath of public land**

Leelanau Conservancy assists in public land preservation.  
[http://www.record-eagle.com/local/local\\_story\\_104092739.html](http://www.record-eagle.com/local/local_story_104092739.html)

##### **Sleeping Bear doesn't have cash for land**

National Park Service having trouble acquiring land.  
[http://www.record-eagle.com/local/local\\_story\\_101095603.html](http://www.record-eagle.com/local/local_story_101095603.html)

#### **Events, Funding, and Employment:**

##### **Events:**

Sunday May 4, 9am-Noon Washtenaw Land Trust IDENTIFYING WOODLAND WILDFLOWERS  
This additional session added by popular demand! This workshop will begin with a background on plant identification, an introduction to 'indicator species', and a discussion of threats to wildflower areas. Then we'll hit the trail to see what we can find and identify. Bonus: All workshop attendees will also receive a handy flower identification book to take home. Presenter: Catherine Marquardt, Naturalist. Cost: \$10 for members of Stewardship Network or Washtenaw Land Trust, \$15 for non-members. To register: Register online at:  
<https://www.kintera.org/AutoGen/Register/Register.asp?ievent=275378&en=khIMIXPFL7IGKVOEibJGITMGLjIQK4OEKhJWIaPHKgKWK3OJKnJXJ4OFInJ5G> or call 734-996-3190. Location: Bird Hills Nature Area, Newport Road entrance. For the location and map, please visit:  
<http://www.a2gov.org/government/communityservices/ParksandRecreation/parks/Features/Pages/BirdHills.aspx>

##### **Funding Opportunities:**

##### **Low cost staff assistance option:**

With the increasing role that non-governmental, not-for-profit organizations are having in their communities, a great opportunity for groups to have a bigger impact and expand their services is now available. Through a partnership between the Michigan Community Services Commission and Huron Pines, nonprofit conservation groups can obtain some much needed help through the **Huron Pines**

**AmeriCorps Program.** The Huron Pines AmeriCorps Program is preparing for its second full year and applications are now being accepted from organizations interested in participating. The program is based on the philosophy of helping northern Michigan conservation organizations, particularly those impacting Northeast Michigan, by placing a full-time AmeriCorps Member to directly serve with host sites. Members will complete 1,700 hours between October 1, 2008 and September 1, 2009. Host sites involved with the program will be selected on a competitive basis by Huron Pines. Applications are available at:

For more information about Huron Pines or this program, please visit:

<http://www.huronpinesamericorps.org/>

or contact Lisha Ramsdell: [lisha@huronpines.org](mailto:lisha@huronpines.org) or (989) 344-0753 x 29.

### **Ecosystem Science**

**Deadline:** July 9, 2008

**Sponsor:** National Science Foundation

**Description:** The Ecosystem Science Cluster supports research on natural, managed and disturbed ecosystems, including those in terrestrial, freshwater and wetland environments.

**Research Focus Areas:** The Ecosystem Science Cluster funds research in the following areas.

- Ecosystem studies.
- Advancing ecosystem science through either the pursuit of new theoretical paradigms or novel modeling efforts.
- The cycling of non-nutrient elements.

[www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=12822](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=12822)

### **Ecological Biology**

**Deadline:** July 9, 2008

**Sponsor:** National Science Foundation

**Description:** The Ecological Biology Cluster supports research on natural and managed ecological systems, primarily in terrestrial, wetland and freshwater habitats.

**Research Focus Areas:** Research areas include experimental, observational, theoretical, and modeling studies on the structure and function of complex associations that focus on biotic components, and the coupling of small-scale systems to each other and to large-scale systems. Projects are encouraged that develop conceptual and synthetic linkages among theoretical, modeling, and empirical approaches; that are conducted at one or more scales of ecological or geographic organization; and that synthesize empirical and theoretical findings into new paradigms.

[www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=12823](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=12823)

### **Energy Frontier Research Centers**

**Deadline:** October 1, 2008

**Sponsor:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Science, Basic Energy Sciences (BES)

[http://www.science.doe.gov/Program\\_Offices/BES.htm](http://www.science.doe.gov/Program_Offices/BES.htm)

**Description:** The DOE's Office of Science BES announces the initiation of Energy Frontier Research Centers (EFRCs) to accelerate the rate of scientific breakthroughs needed to create advanced energy technologies for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The EFRCs will pursue the fundamental understanding necessary to meet the global need for abundant, clean and economical energy. The Office of Science BES is seeking applications for the establishment of EFRCs that will bring together the skills and talents of multiple investigators to enable fundamental research of a scope and complexity that would not be possible with the standard individual investigator or small group research project. [https://e-](https://e-center.doe.gov/iips/faopor.nsf/UNID/933104E42D0185E58525742100694C78?OpenDocument)

[center.doe.gov/iips/faopor.nsf/UNID/933104E42D0185E58525742100694C78?OpenDocument](https://e-center.doe.gov/iips/faopor.nsf/UNID/933104E42D0185E58525742100694C78?OpenDocument)

### **Employment Opportunities:**

Development Director: The Michigan Nature Association <http://www.michigannature.org/>, a statewide land conservation organization headquartered in Williamston, is seeking exceptional candidates for their development director position. The ideal candidate will work with the executive director to plan, organize and implement the fundraising activities of the Association.

Chikaming Open Lands is searching for a creative individual to work part time as our Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator. The Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator will be responsible for conceiving, planning, and executing programs, publications, events, and activities to inform and engage the community and membership to further the Conservancy's mission of preserving the open space and diverse natural character of southwest Berrien County. Strong writing, communication and print design skills are required. Prior management of web site preferred. BS/BA or equivalent is strongly recommended. The work schedule is anticipated to be 24-30 hours per week, including occasional evenings and weekends.

Interested individuals should submit resume and writing / marketing sample to Program Director, Chikaming Open Lands, PO Box 291, Lakeside, MI 49116 or by email: [info@chikamingopenlands.org](mailto:info@chikamingopenlands.org). Application deadline is March 10, or until filled.

**Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy: DEVELOPMENT AND OUTREACH DIRECTOR**

Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy seeks a creative, energetic and experienced person to become our first Development and Outreach Director. This person will lead a team that is responsible for positioning Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy in the community through all its outreach activities in order to increase the Conservancy's visibility. This is a full time position. If you are interested, please send Resume and cover letter by February 29, 2008 to:

Donna Folland  
Executive Director  
Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy  
P.O. Box 80902  
Rochester, MI 48308  
248-601-2816

**Program Coordinator**

The Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association (GLREA), <http://www.glrea.org/> located in Dimondale, Michigan, is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Program Coordinator to be responsible for planning and marketing GLREA's Michigan Energy Fair and the Sustainable Energy Homes and Business Tour. This position will assist the executive director on special projects as well.