



Good Morning,

Here is your February 18th, 2008 edition of the Heart of the Lakes bi-monthly Headlines. Heart of the Lakes Headlines are a 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!

In this issue...

General Interest Headlines:

2.1.08 Vacations blend public service, hiking

Getting outdoors during time off deemed fulfilling by those volunteering to maintain hiking trails.

http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2008/02/vacations_blend_public_service.html

2.12.08 Kids need more nature, less time with TV, video games

Detroit News features Nature Conservancy report on declining outdoor time for kids and adults.

<http://www.detnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080212/OPINION03/802120340/1007/OPINION>

2.15.08 Tax credit proposed for land conservation

Capital News Service features the recently introduced Michigan conservation tax incentive legislation spurred by Heart of the Lakes.

http://blog.mlive.com/cns/2008/02/tax_credit_proposed_for_land_c.html

2.5.08 Farmers cashing in on carbon credits

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reports on Wisconsin farmers' success with carbon credit trading programs for quality land practices, like no-till farming.

<http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=714488>

Regional Interest Headlines:

Upper Peninsula:

2.7.08 DNR approves Upper Peninsula mining project

Associated Press update on the status of approval of the controversial Kennecott Eagle mining proposal.

<http://www.wtol.com/Global/story.asp?S=7840125>

Northern Lower Peninsula:

2.13.08 Posh RV park near Bay Harbor moves forward, PUD request approved

The Petoskey area may get its second high-end RV park

<http://www.petoskeynews.com/articles/2008/02/13/news/doc47b308b2bf202297573003.txt>

2.14.08 Au Sable fends off polluters

Coverage of a recent court decision denying a proposal to discharge treated water into the Au Sable system. Highlights difficulties faced by citizens groups and the role state departments ought to play in natural resource protection.

<http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080214/SPORTS10/802140411/1058>

Southern Lower Peninsula:

2.12.08 Feedback needed on use of Novi Fuerst Farm land

Public input sought for future use of historic farmland.

<http://www.detnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080212/METRO02/802120304/1411/METRO02>

2.17.08 Dune lease discussed

Preliminary talks have been approached by the City of Saugatuck and Aubrey McLendon's staff to allow the city to lease a parcel of duneland owned by McLendon to expand Oval Beach.

http://www.hollandsentinel.com/stories/021708/local_20080217011.shtml

National Interest:

2.5.08 Lawmakers will debate tax credits for land conservation

Idaho Lawmakers consider that state's conservation tax incentive proposal.

http://www.montanasnewsstation.com/Global/story.asp?S=7826933&nav=menu227_8

International Interest:

2.3.08 Hikers find adventure in conservation area

Thunder Bay paper covers the National Marine Conservation Area of Lake Superior's northern shore in winter.

http://www.chroniclejournal.com/stories_local.php?id=89902

2.13.08 Green development sought for GRCA land

Urban conservation concept: The Grand River Conservation Authority of Ontario's Waterloo region, which conserves local wetlands, will require that any developer who buys surplus land from the organization must build green.

<http://news.therecord.com/article/308490>

2.14.08 Lawsuit hopes to save grouse dance floor – and other endangered species habitat

EcoJustice is suing the Canadian environmental ministry to attempt to set precedent for habitat protection.

<http://news.therecord.com/article/210649>

Events and Funding and Employment:

LTA and Center for Whole Communities cooperation survey (Deadline Feb. 29):

http://www.lta.org/resources/enews_survey_011508.html

Lapeer County organizations will host a **public meeting on land and water protection** and prevention efforts February 25th, 6-9 PM, at Lapeer Center Building; 425 County Center St. in Lapeer. Contact: Phil Kaatz, Lapeer County MSU Extension director: 810-667-0341, kaatz@msu.edu

2008 Invasive Plant Symposium: The [Michigan Invasive Plant Council \(MIPC\)](#) is pleased to announce its "[2008 Invasive Plant Symposium](#)." This year's symposium will be held at the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center in East Lansing, Michigan, on February 29, 2008, and will focus on techniques for control and management of invasive plants. To register or for more information about the symposium, visit [Invasive Plant Symposium](#) or contact Brian Majka at 616.847.1680.

2008 Midwest Land Conservation Conference: *Cultivating Conservation Close to Home*

March 6 - 8 | Mundelein, IL

[The Conference Center at the University of St. Mary of the Lake](#)

The Land Trust Alliance and the 2008 Midwest Conference Program Committee invite you to the 7th annual Midwest Land Conservation Conference— "*Cultivating Conservation Close to Home*." The conference provides focused learning experiences through high-caliber workshops, as well as full and half-day seminars that allow for in-depth discussion. This learning opportunity will prepare you for the conservation challenges and opportunities you will face in your hometown. Reconnect with your neighbors and partners in conservation and share your triumphs and challenges. You and your colleagues will be challenged, inspired and recharged!

Early registration discount ends February 19th.

[Download a Brochure](#) (PDF, 2MB)

Funding Opportunities:

2008-2009 Michigan Coastal Management Program

Deadline: May 1, 2008

Sponsor: Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Description: Funds are being made available to encourage projects that reflect Michigan's Coastal Management Program objectives which include:

- Create and enhance coastal public access.
- Protect, manage and/or restore coastal resources, habitats and watersheds.
- Control of development in erosion or flood hazard areas.
- Research and educational outreach on Great Lakes and coastal issues.
- Preserve and restore historic and cultural coastal structures.
- Redevelop urban waterfronts, brownfields and ports.
- Protect coastal water quality and reduce nonpoint source pollution in coastal watersheds.
- Reduce the adverse impacts of coastal growth and development.

www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-ess-clm-08-09CZMGrantRFPandAPPLICATION_223919_7.pdf

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

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

National Integrated Water Quality Program

Deadline: April 29, 2008

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES)

Description: The goal of the National Integrated Water Quality Program is to improve the quality of our Nation's surface water and groundwater resources through research, education and extension activities. Projects funded through this program will facilitate achieving this goal by advancing and disseminating the knowledge base available to agricultural and rural communities. Funded projects should lead to science-based decision-making and management practices that improve the quality of the Nation's surface water and groundwater resources in agricultural and rural watersheds.

www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/water_quality.html

Miscellaneous Funding:

Do you know of a college student interested in land conservation, land policy, or planning issues? The Piedmont Environmental Council is offering such students fellowship program placement to learn more about these issues and hone their skills to be ready for their future work in conservation.

Learn more at: <http://www.pecva.org/anx/index.cfm/1,220,0,0,html/PEC-Fellowship-Program>

Employment Opportunities:

Director of Grantwriting and Foundation Relations

The Ecology Center is seeking a talented and experienced person to oversee its fund development and donor relations with private foundations and government funders. This is a 30-hour-per-week position that could be made full-time under certain circumstances. Excellent benefits. Send cover letter, resume, and writing sample to jobs@ecocenter.org.

For more information, please visit <http://www.ecocenter.org/jobs/grantdirector.php>

OAKLAND LAND CONSERVANCY DEVELOPMENT AND OUTREACH DIRECTOR

The Oakland 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 Oakland Land Conservancy in the community through all its outreach activities in order to increase the Conservancy's visibility. This is a full time position. [Click here](#) for more information on the position. If you are interested, please send Resume and cover letter by February 29, 2008 to:

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

Program Director

The Land Information Access Association (LIAA), located in Traverse City, Michigan, seek an experienced Program Director with strong leadership and strategic thinking skills to help move LIAA to the next level. The Program Director will lead our development and communications programs and participate in the design, development and management of new programs to help people build more sustainable communities.

Program Coordinator

The Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association (GLREA), 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.

Click on http://www.landpolicy.msu.edu/modules.php?name=Pages&sp_id=334 for details on the above mentioned jobs.