



Waterloo News

Gregg Burg is the new WHNA Chairperson

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Gregg Burg

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Gregg Burg, a long time member of the board, is the assuming the WHNA presidency.

Gregg Burg was born in Chelsea, and lives in Scio Township with his wife, Laurie and their dogs Ned, a white German Shepherd, and Indie, a Shiloh Shepherd. He works at Thomson-Shore, Inc. in Dexter, Michigan—a full service book manufacturer where he is a print estimator. Gregg has been with Thomson-Shore for more than 15 years.

He has been a member of WNHA since 1990, and served on the board as secretary since 1996, when he took over from his father Vince J Burg.

Gregg was educated in Chelsea, first at St. Mary's and then graduated from Chelsea High in 1975. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in history, with minors in geography and military science from Eastern Michigan University.

Spring Building Hours (Beginning the Sunday After Easter)

Tuesday—Friday 10:00 a.m.
to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday - 10:00 a.m. to
5:00 p.m.

Sunday - Noon to 5:00 p.m.

Closes Monday

Trails and Grounds will be
available
From Dawn to Dusk Daily

In 1981, through the ROTC program at EMU, he entered active duty service with the United States Army, serving until 1987.

Having grown up in the Waterloo Recreation Area Gregg has a deep affinity for the area, the center, and all they have to offer. He likes to hunt and fish in the local area, and get outside as much as possible with Laurie and the dogs to observe nature during all seasons of the year.

Gregg has also been the maple sugar evaporator tender at all of the Maple Sugar Festivals from the beginning of the event.



Naturalist's Niche

Best Wishes from the Eddy Discovery Center. I hope all of you have started the new year with some of your favorite outdoor activities! As you know, we in southern Michigan had our share of cold temperatures in January, but not much snow for skiing and snowshoeing. However, snow enthusiasts were definitely happy in February as it turned out to be the fifth snowiest February ever recorded.

March in Michigan can go either way as far as the weather is concerned, still winter, yet holding an exciting anticipation of spring...Early March is when I normally see the first groundhog of the year, out of hibernation after the winter sleep. No groundhog in southern Michigan would be awake on February 2nd with the ground still frozen, and nary a parcel of food to eat.



The spring thaw also awakens frogs from their winter hibernation. The chorus frog above will be singing for a mate beginning in late March or early April.



In March the lakes become ice free making it possible for the return of waterfowl like this pair of blue-winged teal.

Later in March, you can almost always hear chorus frogs, wood frogs and spring peepers. The first frog calls of spring, in particular, never cease to evoke my full attention, never an indifferent ho-hum! March can bring with it ducks to our lakes, while April and May bring back the songbirds to several of the ecotypes in Waterloo that can supply stopover food, water, cover for resting. Many other species will continue their flight north to nest. Along with the wildlife happenings of spring, there are many natural history programs offered by the WNHA and Discovery Center staff. Please call the center to register for programs: (734) 475-3170.

In addition to our programs, there are more opportunities to get outdoors. Helping to remove invasive species is a great way to enjoy the outdoors and help the environment. There is at least one workday per month during the winter, and usually more than one during other seasons. You can remove invasive species that harm our natural communities, and at other times there are designated days for seed collecting, and planting. The stewardship coordinator educates volunteers about the process and the

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So when can you be here? The hours for the Eddy Discovery Center will be different from last year's hours. The Discovery Center is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Sunday after Easter Sunday is the first Sunday of the year we will be open, and the hours are 12 noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays through November. This year we will keep those hours, Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 12 noon-5 p.m., and closed Mondays, with the exceptions of Memorial Day, May 31, Monday, July 5, and Labor Day, September 6. On those three holiday Mondays, we will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hope to see you this spring!

Kathy Kavanagh
Park Interpreter



Sandhill cranes will already be nesting in area marshes by the end of March. Their eggs will hatch in late April.

DNR Staff Conducted Programs *April through June 2010*

FROGS & TOADS of MICHIGAN

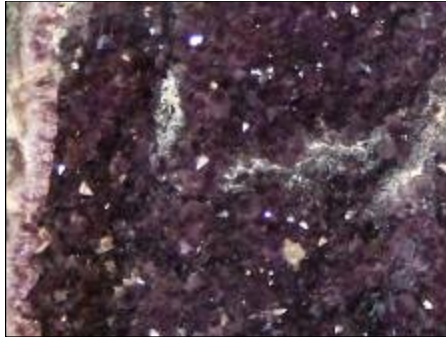
Saturday April 10 2 p.m.



Join us for a brief overview of these fascinating amphibians; then we will hit the trail and 'look and listen' for frogs commonly found in the park. Be prepared for a walk outdoors; trails may be muddy-

AMAZING MINERALS

Saturday April 17 11 a.m.



We use minerals in our lives every day. Discover where minerals are hidden in Michigan, and how our state benefits from our mineral treasures.

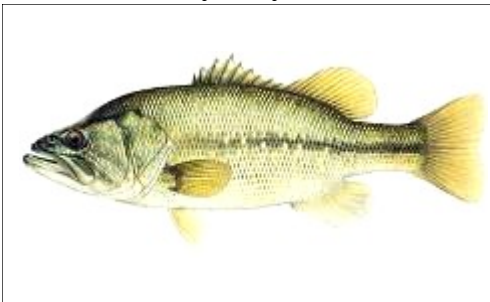
ROCKIN' ROCKS

Saturday April 24 2 p.m



Geologic landscapes are the foundation for all our habitats. Take a walk through geologic time to discover fossils, minerals and rocks, and learn how they were formed

MICHIGAN FISH Saturday May 1 11 a.m.



Learn about fish habitat and what is required to keep our fish healthy. Water pollution and invasive species threaten our fish and lakes. Find out what can you do to help our fish?

PRESSED FLOWERS Saturday May 8 11 a.m.



Learn to press flowers using domestic flower varieties that we will provide. Choose the flowers, design, and type of craft you prefer, i.e. bookmark or picture frame. A great Mother's Day gift!

POLISH PETOSKY STONES- Saturday May 15 11 a.m.



You supply the elbow grease, and we supply the stones and other materials. Learn about the Petoskey stone's history, and take home your own polished fossil.

TELESCOPE TIME TRAVELS Saturday May 22 2 p.m.



Make your own telescope, and observe what Galileo saw in the night sky.

WHAT'S BLOOMIN'? Saturday May 29 2 p.m



Take a walk on the wild side, to see the beautiful blooms, and learn a bit of natural history and folklore about each wildflower we view.

DON'T FORGET!!!

Advance Registration is required for all programs. To Register call 734-475-3170.

A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry. A daily permit \$6.00. The annual permit is \$24.00 and provides admission to any Michigan State Park for the 2007 calendar year.

Waterloo Natural History Association Programs

April through June 2010

MICHIGAN SNAKES ALIVE
Sunday, April 11 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.



Fact or fiction? Learn the truth and the misconceptions associated with snakes. Nature Discovery will bring live snakes and discuss their characteristics and how they survive. You will have a chance to handle them and watch them feed at the end of the program.

SPRING POND CREATURES :
Sunday, April 18 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.



Naturalist Tom Hodgson will introduce you to many fascinating and little-known creatures – from delicate damselflies to ferocious diving beetles. You will also learn how to find these creatures yourself and to “Pour-a-Pond” of your own.

THE NIGHT CREW:
Sunday, May 2 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.



What is it like to be a nighttime predator? Learn how owls find their prey and what they must do to survive as you get a close-up view of live owls from Leslie Science Center

INCREDIBLE EDIBLES
Saturday, May 8 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.



Come for a walk with wild edibles expert Tom Jameson and get acquainted with samples from Mother Nature’s kitchen. Tom will share some of his gourmet cooking after the hike. **Limited to 35 people.**

LIFE IN A BEEHIVE
Sunday, May 16. 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.



Beekeeper/educator Jane Levy will present a program for all ages on how bees make honey and why they do it. Children will have a chance to try on a beekeeper’s suit. After the program, Jane will be available to discuss setting up your own hive.

ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS
Sunday May 23 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.



Potter Park Zoo will bring a variety of live animals for this entertaining family program. Find out about the remarkable ways their bodies are adapted to their surroundings and their survival strategies for life in the wild.

ROCKHOUND BASICS
Sunday, June 6. 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.



Discover what you can learn about ancient Michigan from rocks. Geologist Larry Bean will show how to “read” the story told by rocks and help identify specimens at a local quarry. We meet at the Discovery Center before driving to the quarry.

NATURE’S TANK THE TURTLE
Sunday, June 13 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.



Naturalist Tom Hodgson will introduce you to Michigan’s turtles with several live specimens for you to observe. Learn about turtle biology and life cycles as well as what to do when turtles are encountered in the wild.

DON'T FORGET!!!

Advance Registration is required for all programs. To Register call 734-475-3170. Admission is \$2.00 per person or \$5.00 per family. WNHA members admitted free.

A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry. A daily permit \$6.00. The annual permit is \$24.00.

It's Waterfowl Time At Waterloo

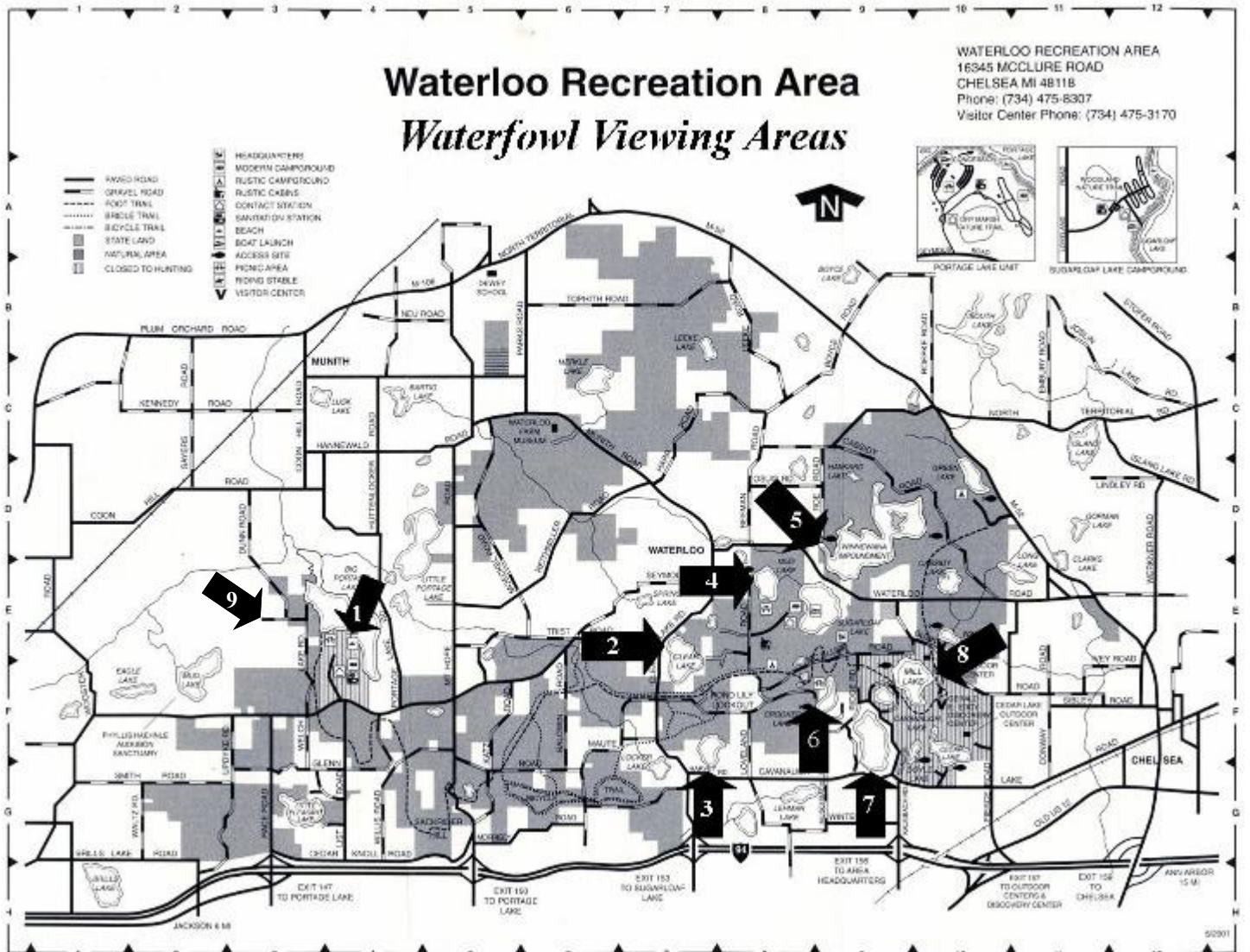
The Map Below Identifies the best areas to View Waterfowl



Hooded Merganser



Northern Shovelers



1. Big Portage Lake Boat Launch. 2. Clear Lake County Park 3. Pond Lily Lake 4. Mud Lake Picnic Site 5. Winnewana Impoundment Access Site 6. Crooked Lake Access Site 7. Cavanaugh Lake Park 8. Discovery Center & Mill Lake Access Site. 9. Cutler Road

April Showers Bring April Flowers

If you wait until May to look for spring wildflowers you may miss some of the most colorful!



Blood Root



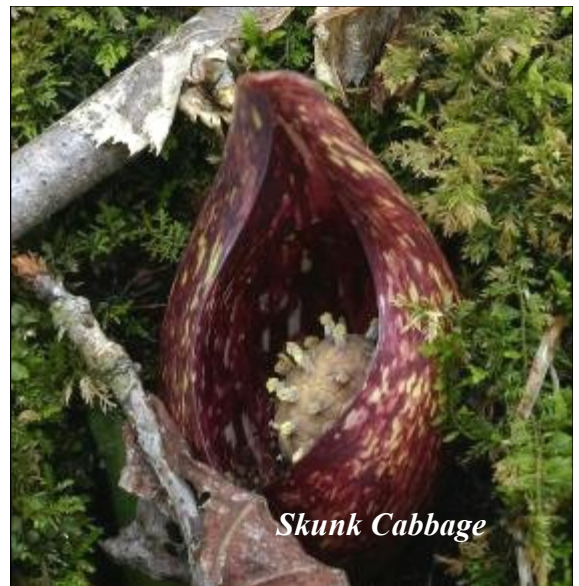
Spring Beauties



Adder's Tongue



Round Leaved Hepatica



Skunk Cabbage

The Best Local Wildflower Viewing Areas are Described Below

The Discovery Center

The lowland woods and oak woods trails are the best for early wildflowers including hepatica, spring beauties, skunk cabbage, marsh merrigold, trillium spring cress, may apple, and wild geranium..

Along the shoulders of Bush road east of the Discovery Center entrance are adder's tongue and blood root.

Glenn and Baldwin Roads

On Glenn Road just west of the intersection with Baldwin Road is a bridle trail off to the South. The trail and both sides of Glenn Road have one of the best wildflower populations in the park.

Expect to find trillium, spring beauties, spring cress, jack in the pulpit, marsh merrigold, adder's tongue, blood root and many others.

The Nan Weston Preserve

Owned by the Michigan Nature Conservancy, is one of the best areas for spring wildflowers in Washtenaw County.

At the junction of I-94 and M-52 take M-52 south for 7.4 miles to Pleasant Lake Road. Turn right (west) on Pleasant Lake Road, follow it for 3.2 miles to Sharon Hollow Road. Turn right (north) on Sharon Hollow Road, and follow it to its end at Easudes Road. Turn left (west) and travel 0.9 mile on Easudes Road. You will see the preserve sign on the left (south) side of the road. Park on the left side of the road.

Remember, All Wildflowers Should be Left Where They are Found. Be a Good Steward. Take Only Pictures and Leave Only Footprints

Look for These Heron Family Members in Waterloo This Summer



1. American Bittern

This is the most difficult heron to find due to its cryptic coloration. It hides among the reeds and cattails along the shores of area lakes or in area marshes. When approached it freezes with bill pointed into the air making it very difficult to spot.

It's deep, resonant call variously described as "pomp-er-lunk," or "onk-a-BLONK," or as sounding like a vomiting dog is most often heard in morning or evening.

2. Great Egret

You'll have no trouble spotting these white birds as they feed in area wetlands. We begin seeing them in late spring and throughout the summer. A few nest in Michigan, but most are post nesting season wanderers from the Southeastern U.S.

They are frequently seen on Pondlily Lake on Harvey Road and the Haehnle Audubon Sanctuary on Seymour Road, although they can show up in any marshland.

3. Great Blue Heron

This is the largest heron in North America and the one most commonly seen in Michigan.

Expect to see the great blue along the shores of most of the lakes and in most of the marshy areas in the park.

There are at least two large nesting colonies called rookeries in the park. The most visible, is on Little Mud Lake on the east side of Clear Lake Road. It can be viewed with binoculars from the road.

4. Green Heron

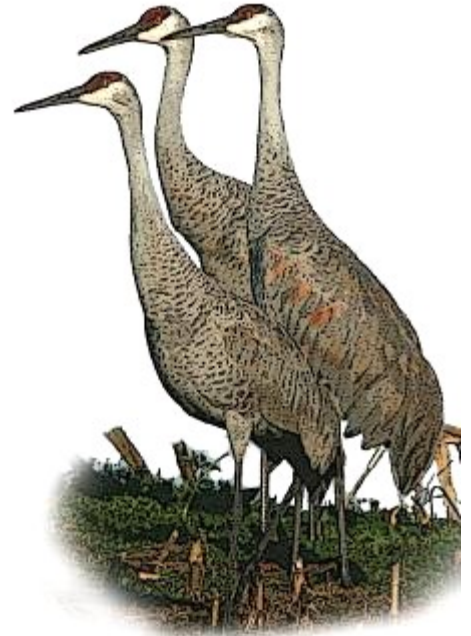
This crow sized bird is less conspicuous than the great blue. It feeds on frogs and small fish in weedy wetlands. It does not nest in colonies. It gets its name from the green cast to the wing feathers that is only obvious in the best light.

It can be found along the shores of Mill Lake, Mud Lake, Winnewana Impoundment, Pond Lily Lake, and other lakes or wetlands with natural shorelines.

Waterloo Natural History Association
17030 Bush Rd.
Chelsea, MI 48118



Official Newsletter of the Waterloo
Natural History Association



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MEMBER'S CORNER

The Waterloo Natural History Association gratefully acknowledges the support of the following new members and those who have recently renewed their memberships:

Benefactor

Angela and Dave Johnson/Beck
Jane E. Bishop

Sustaining

Gregg and Laurie Burg
Peter and Grace Duren
Don Enderby
The Fisher Family

Family

Danielle Doyle
Kimberly Friedman
Patrick and Yvonne Sturt
Susan Zale
John and Kathy Gourlay
Chad Quintanilla
Elsie Swanberg
Vincent and Susan Brattin
Wayne Uckele
Michael and Amanda Ebbs
Barry Lonick
Maggie O'Sullivan
Susanne VandenBosch

Individuals/Seniors

Larry and Cecilia Robinson
Robert Clayton
Nik Lulgjuraj
Michael McEvoy