

Huron Pines

*Conserving the Forests,
Lakes and Streams of
Northeast Michigan*



2009 Annual Report

About Huron Pines

Our Mission

Huron Pines' mission is to conserve the forests, lakes and streams of Northeast Michigan.

Our Vision

Huron Pines is the recognized leader for developing projects and partnerships that restore, enhance and sustain the natural resources in Northeast Michigan.

Reflections on 2009

Huron Pines had a big year in 2009. In addition to expanding on the success of our Large Woody Debris and Huron Pines AmeriCorps programs, we broadened our reach within our service area: we launched new small dams and invasive species programs, we completed multiple erosion control projects, and we initiated multiple road/stream crossing improvements. More importantly, we reached more people and mobilized more volunteers than ever before to help conserve the resources of Northeast Michigan. Whether it was killing invasive plants on the coast or protecting sturgeon habitat on the Black River, hundreds of people had an amazing impact on our natural resources.

We have even more great work on deck for 2010: check our website to learn more about our 11/11 volunteer program, LWD, invasive species, dams, and much more.

Contact Us

Huron Pines

501 Norway Street

Grayling, MI 49738

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www.huronpines.org

Service Area

While we're most known for river restoration work, Huron Pines engages in conservation in Northeast Michigan through a variety of project types. From on-the-ground projects to volunteer coordination, we address resource issues across 11 counties including Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle and Roscommon.



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Restoration Crew Leader
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AmeriCorps Coordinator
Susan La Vanture,
Staff Accountant
Jill Scarzo, Program Assistant

Our Programs

Our Approach

From completing resource inventories and documenting pollution problems to working with stakeholders to implement solutions, projects coordinated through Huron Pines are based on taking an action-oriented approach. Once we complete an inventory of road/stream crossings, erosion sites, fish passage barriers, or other resource issues, we prioritize them on our “Mega List,” which helps us to coordinate multiple projects and partners and apply for funding. We kick off each project by getting input from our Resource Advisory Group, a committee of resource professionals from across our service area who are committed to improving our natural resources. To learn more about starting new projects, visit www.huronpines.org.

Early detection and rapid response form the core approach in our **invasive species program**. By implementing a Cooperative Weed Management Agreement for Northeast Michigan, Huron Pines is working to find and treat invasive plants like phragmites, purple loosestrife, buckthorn, and garlic mustard on public and private lands.



One issue affecting the valuable northern Michigan fishery is dams blocking flow and fish passage in otherwise high quality streams. The Huron Pines **dams program** is a new approach to restoring streams through inventorying small dams and finding innovative solutions, including removal and restoration.



Designed to activate the spirit of volunteerism and stir the passion to make a difference in the community and the environment, **Huron Pines AmeriCorps: Developing Leaders in Conservation** gives individuals the opportunity not only to develop real-world skills, increase experience, and network with other resource professionals, but to have a real impact on the area by completing conservation projects that otherwise would not be done.



Our **Large Woody Debris** projects include working to control erosion on streambanks, creating fish habitat, and improving water quality. By replacing the fallen trees that were removed from streambanks during the logging era, we're helping to restore an ecosystem and the economy.



As identified in our many resource inventories, **road/stream crossings** are one of the worst contributors of pollution in the form of sand and sediment to Northeast Michigan streams. Huron Pines is addressing priority crossings throughout our service area with the help of partners like the U.S. Forest Service, road commissions, and watershed groups.



Financials

A person wearing a red hard hat and a safety vest is working on a streambank restoration project. They are using a tool to dig into the soil. The background shows a stream with a large tree trunk in the foreground.

By the Numbers

2,300 whole trees placed in the Au Sable River as Large Woody Debris

1,200 feet of streambank restored

50 river miles enhanced

35 river miles surveyed

840 volunteers served **3,350** hours

25,000 people reached

100+ partners

15 acres improved

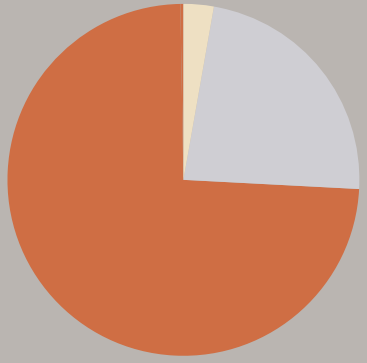
18 plans developed

94 site visits

2009 Revenue

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Annual Giving | \$30,835.00 | 3% |
| Project Contributions | \$240,302.24 | 23% |
| Grants and Contracts | \$759,884.61 | 73.7% |

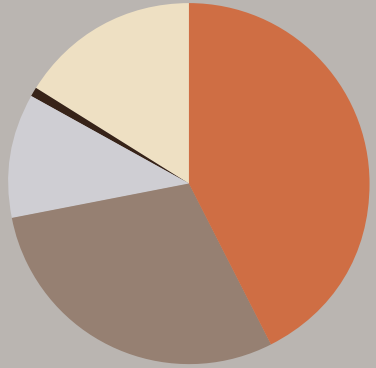
Total \$982,784.67 100%



2009 Expenses

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Conservation Leadership | \$262,295.75 | 29.3% |
| Land Stewardship | \$100,927.49 | 11.3% |
| Watershed Protection | \$381,730.83 | 42.7% |
| Management | \$142,621.25 | 15.9% |
| Fundraising | \$7,115.55 | 0.8% |

Total \$894,690.87 100%



Funding Priority Projects

The past year has been an unprecedented year for partnerships. Our staff has worked with over 100 watershed groups, recreation clubs, and state and federal agencies to get projects done and start new initiatives. In a time of limited state and local resources, partnerships enabled us to pool funds to get more done with less.

One of the ways we're able to work better with partners to coordinate large projects is through our "Mega List." We compiled all of the information in our watershed resource inventories and combined it with other known priority projects to create a list of priority projects in every watershed in our service area, with Best Management Practice recommendations, cost estimates, and partner input. Doing this enables us to tailor grant proposals to the funder's requirements quickly and easily. We're also able to track projects from conception to completion, using the Mega List to calculate costs, time, and partner contributions. To learn more about the list, visit our website or contact Lisha Ramsdell at (989) 344-0753 ext. 29 or lisha@huronpines.org.

2009 Contributors

Major Donors

\$20,000+

W.K. Kellogg Foundation
DTE Energy Foundation
Great Lakes Commission
Wolverine Power Cooperative
Consumers Energy
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

\$5,000+

ORVIS
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Anglers of the Au Sable
Paul H. Young Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Economic Development Alliance for Oscoda County
Rice Family Foundation

Watershed Champions \$2,500+

Headwaters Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Mason-Griffith Founders Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan
Michigan Fly Fishing Club
FishAmerica Foundation

River Patrons \$1,000 - \$2,499

Au Sable North Branch Association
Eric Bankhead and Connie Schrieber
J.A. Woollam Foundation
Challenge Chapter of Trout Limited
William B. Mershon Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Clinton Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan
Kalamazoo Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Upper Au Sable River Preservation Association
Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan (Frank W. Lynch and Roberta Jane Lynch Endowed Family Fund suggested by Sally Binard)
Dawson-Kure Family

Sustainers \$500-999

Cheboygan County
Paul and Carol Rose
Village of Roscommon
Jerry and Fran Rucker
Pat and Vicki Springstead
Twin Lakes Property Owners Association
Thomas Buhr
Robert and Michaele Malecki

Thank you to the people who make our hands-on conservation programs possible—our members. The supporters below allow our organization to do much of the important work you've heard and read about.

Partners \$100-\$499

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Alpena County
Gregory and Cecilia Bator
Sally Binard
Greg and Stephanie Bovee
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2009 Project:
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Habitat Survey

Roscommon County
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2009 Project:
Indian Creek ORV
Restoration

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Terrance and Lisa Yarema
Steve Zulczyk

In Honor Of

Rusty Gates from Glen and Martha Eberly
Tom Green from Josh Green

Howard Johnson and his Cedars for the Au Sable Project from Nathaniel Rowe
Kip and Wendy Petherick's 50th Wedding Anniversary from Kristin Howland
Roger Rasmussen from Mary Sanders

Jerry Rucker from John and Shirley Babcock

Jerry Rucker's efforts to improve conservation and quality fishing in Michigan from
Gale Frazee

Dave Smrcek from Wolverine Power Cooperative

In Memory Of

Floyd Benghauser from Karl Benghauser

Floyd Benghauser from Kristin Benghauser

Carl W. Beuthin from Paul and Marla Alati

Carl W. Beuthin from Joann Channon

Carl W. Beuthin from Ramona McDonald

Carl W. Beuthin from Lebert and Gloria Alati

Carl W. Beuthin from Patty Reff

Carl W. Beuthin from Hildegarde Barretta

Carl W. Beuthin from Joyce Pruett, Michael and Sarah Pruett, Gregory and Emily
Pruett and sons Rhodes and Noah

Carl W. Beuthin from Patricia O'hara

Carl W. Beuthin from Bob and Carole Boyes

Ken Dennings, Sr. from Ken and Teresa Dennings

David Dickinson, from

Anonymous

Stephanie Ebling from George Ebling

Tom Erdmann from Frank Kohl

Rusty Gates from Neil Wallace

Gretchen Goodbread from Veronica Greason

Betsy Hunter from Jon and Mary Lou Hunter

Norine Kern from Harvey Kern

Jerry Kniaz from Darryl Dorda

John Madden from Mrs. Anton Kalbli

Bill Myers from Daniel and Patricia McCarthy

William Myers from Sharon Myers

Kurt Nitschke from Heidi Fetz

Kurt Nitschke from Ann Gallo

Kurt Nitschke from Claus

Petermann

Walter Reuther from Robert Slingerlend

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Leroy Schaerer, Sanford

Brumley, and Anthony Lang from Peter and Pat Schmid

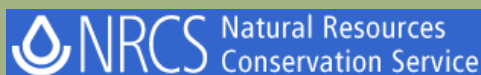
John E. Schultz from Shirley Schultz

James Parley Smith, DDS from Laurie Smith Tudor

Ted Thomas from Ralph and Nancy Rucinski

Tom Worley from Patrick and Judith Benson

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