

EMMET CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Annual Report Fiscal Year 2011

New Master Naturalist Program

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Administrator/Program
Coordinator

Chris Anderson-
Groundwater Technician

District Meetings

The District meets the first Tuesday of the month at 8am in the Emmet County building located at 3434 M-119 in the lower level conference room. All meetings are open to the public.

Last winter, Program coordinator, Cydney Steeb was looking for naturalist training programs to improve her skills and knowledge in this area. She found that the only program in the state of Michigan was held in Grand Rapids.

She contacted the program coordinator Ginny Wenty who graciously supplied all the materials to start a program here in Emmet County.

Local experts with different ecology and conservation backgrounds were contacted to teach the units and publicity was sent out.

The District was thrilled to have 20 people sign-up for the first program.



Hunting for macroinvertebrates in wetlands.

The program was made up of six classes on different local ecological topics.

Tom Bailey, Director of Little Traverse Conservancy, addressed the issue of Conservation History, Theory and Practice.

Next Maureen Stine, Naturologist, lead a tour of Young State Park and sharpened our skills in identifying our native trees and shrubs.

The third class, Wetland Ecology, had us in boots, fishing for macroinvertebrates with Kevin

Cronk and Jen Gelb of Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. We learned that these invertebrates can tell us how healthy our environment is...or isn't.

Next the class traveled up to Surgeon Bay for Dune Ecology. Jackie Pilette of LTTB introduced us to the flora and fauna of our critical dunes and the role they play maintaining this unique area. cont...



**Financial Report Fiscal Year 2011
Receipts and Disbursements as of
Sept. 30, 2011**

Income	
County Grant	2,500
Interest	308
Tree Sales	18,596
Donations	399
Workshops	4,040
Other	538
Total Income	26,381
Expense	
District Operations	13,910
Tree Sales	11,053
Total Expense	24,963
Net Income	1,418
Beginning Fund Balance	35,232
Ending Fund Balance	36,650

Other 2011 Projects.....

Master Naturalist cont...

The next class, covered a hot topic in our area, Invasive Species. Jackie also lead this class and took us out in the field to learn the subtle differences between native and invasive species of the same plant. Invasive aquatic life issues were also presented.

The last class of the program provided insight into our native fish species, fishing equipment, and fishery re-stocking efforts. Maureen who once worked at the Oden Hatchery lead this class.

Due to the positive feedback received from this years class, the class will be held again in 2012.

**Thank You to the
Following People for Their
Generous Donations in
Support of the District in
2011**

Judith Barnwell
Audrey Bauer
Merle Bontrager
Cathy Bradley
Joyce Cather
Roxanne Cook
Trudy Day
Joel Donaldson
Tim Drayton
Pat Duffy
Dennis Firman
Fran Gano
Lawrence Goethals
Leroy Gregory
Mary Hemstreet
Stephen Hume
Frank Jones
Sheridan Jones
Jerry Kilpatrick
Russ LaBeau
Bruce Marshall
Steve Roberts
Mike Tiedeck
Patricia West

Volunteer Recognition

The District received many hours of volunteer labor this past year. It would have been impossible for us to accomplish our work without this volunteer assistance. We would like to thank them all for their help.

Pat Duffy

Dee Irwin

Terri Law

Master Gardeners