



all photos top of this page by Brad Carlson



Dogs on LTC Preserves

Seems like more and more often these days we are asked whether dogs are allowed on our nature preserves, and if so, if they must be leashed. The answer is YES, dogs are allowed on all of our preserves, and YES, state law requires that dogs be leashed. Only if a dog is working (leader dogs, hunting dogs, or dogs being trained to hunt would fit in this category) is it ok for them to be off-leash. Admittedly, it is difficult for us to effectively enforce this rule, but we hope that dog owners will be considerate of other preserve users and wildlife, and comply with the law. See text of the law below.

We also expect dog owners to be responsible and clean up after their dogs. This means carrying a baggie, picking up after the dog, and taking the waste away for proper disposal – not just flinging it into the woods with a stick. Another option would be to carry a small trowel and bury the waste. At our more popular and heavily visited preserves near cities, such as The Hill in Boyne City, and the Offield Preserve in Harbor Springs, we have received a few complaints about dogs that are off-leash, or about large quantities of dog waste on the preserve. We plan to post special signs stating the leash rule at these (and possibly other) preserves soon.

Nature Preserve (Management Unit) Statistics as of April, 2012

County #	Acres	
Charlevoix	39	2,148
Cheboygan	24	1,520
Chippewa	18	4,280
Emmet	66	3,629
Mackinac	14	2,717
TOTAL	160	14,294

Michigan Chapter 287. Animal Industry. Dog Law of 1919.

Licensing and control of dogs; hunting dogs; female dogs in heat; straying dogs

Citation: MI ST 287.262 Citation: M. C. L. A. 287.262

Statute in Full:

Sec. 2. It shall be unlawful for any person to own any dog 6 months old or over, unless the dog is licensed as hereinafter provided, or to own any dog 6 months old or over that does not at all times wear a collar with a tag approved by the director of agriculture, attached as hereinafter provided, except when engaged in lawful hunting accompanied by its owner or custodian; or for any owner of any female dog to permit the female dog to go beyond the premises of such owner when she is in heat, unless the female dog is held properly in leash; or for any person except the owner or authorized

agent, to remove any license tag from a dog; or for any owner to allow any dog, except working dogs such as leader dogs, guard dogs, farm dogs, hunting dogs, and other such dogs, when accompanied by their owner or his authorized agent, while actively engaged in activities for which such dogs are trained, to stray unless held properly in leash.

Source:

P.A.1919, No. 339, § 2, Eff. Aug. 14, 1919.

P.A.1925, No. 322, Eff. Aug. 27, 1925.

C.L.1929, § 5246.

C.L.1948, § 287.262.

P.A.1951, No. 173, § 1, Imd. Eff. June 8, 1951.

P.A.1969, No. 195, § 1, Eff. March 20, 1970.

C.L.1970, § 287.262.



SPECIAL 2012 MAINTENANCE REQUEST

Sign Check: Maintaining Preserve Signs

Almost every Little Traverse Conservancy nature preserve has what we call a “logo sign,” “name sign,” or “location sign.” Some preserves have more than one. We started installing these in about 2001, replacing the brown routed signs with green lettering that were on our preserves in the 1980s and 1990s. We estimate that there are now over 100 of our logo signs in place around our five county service area. Bruce Janssen at The Wood Shop in Boyne City custom makes every logo sign for us, and is very good at repairing them when they get damaged.

Some of the more common mishaps include snowplow damage, or breakage when trees fall on the signs. Occasionally someone will back their vehicle into a sign that is near a parking lot, breaking the posts. Most uniquely, there’s a woodpecker that likes to excavate holes in the West Wequestonsing sign. And, unfortunately, vandals sometimes damage our signs, using them for target practice (both paintball and firearms). A few years ago we had several logo signs stolen from preserves in Cheboygan County.

Although they are very high quality, durable signs, they do require some maintenance. The ones that have been in place for

seven years or more are starting to show some wear, and at the minimum need to be cleaned and touched up with fresh paint.

Rather than go around to every single sign with a touch-up kit, we are hoping that you can help us out this year by taking a closer look at the logo sign(s) on your preserve – and letting us know where our efforts are needed most. We’ve added the following categories to both the on-line monitoring report form and to our paper monitoring reports. Please be sure to fill out this little extra bit of information for us. Thanks!



Nature preserve signs are perhaps the number one reason people know about LTC.

Sign Inspection Checklist

- Peeling Sticker
- Crooked/Leaning
- Bare Wood/Weathered/Needs Paint
- Broken Sign
- Broken Post(s)
- Holes
- Vandalism
- Theft/Missing
- Lichens
- Dirty



All photos top of this page by Julie Falk



Bill Swindaman



Brad Carlsson



Dejian Gray

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

Please Join Us!

When: Saturday, June 23, 2012

Time: 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Where: Veteran's Memorial Park picnic pavilion, Boyne City waterfront



We appreciate all your efforts to help us take care of our nature preserves and hope you'll let us treat you to a meal! This year we'll be having a picnic lunch on the waterfront in Boyne City. We'll have a short staff intro and presentation starting at 11:00, lunch from 11:30 to 12:30, followed by an optional hike at The Hill Preserve just north of town. This is a great opportunity for LTC staff to meet with you, answer questions you might have, and for us to say thanks. You'll also be able to visit with your fellow stewardship volunteers. Your invitation with more details will be mailed in early June. We hope you'll be able to join us.

Priority Nature Preserve Projects - 2012

The Stewardship staff have planned to work on various projects at the following preserves during the 2012 field season. If you see your preserve listed and would like more details about what we've got planned, give Doug or Cindy a call, or send us an email.

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

Barney's Lake
Driggers
Little Sand Bay
Oyster Bay
Petritz
Ransom
Raven Ridge
Rogers Family Homestead
Taylor/Olstrom
Taylor Horton Creek
The Hill

CHEBOYGAN COUNTY

Andreae
Banwell
Chaboiganing
Hanel
Helmer's Dam
Michigan Wildlife Foundation

EMMET COUNTY

Braun
Cameron
Curtis
Goodhart Farms
Johnston, Elmer
Kalman
Kingle
McCune
Meadowgate
Offield
Sharkey

MACKINAC COUNTY

Aldo Leopold
Gros Cap
Search Bay
St Helena

CHIPPEWA COUNTY

Cook Island
Hobbins-Meyer
Round Island Point
Vermilion

HELP US STREAMLINE OUR COMMUNICATIONS

On-line monitoring report forms can be found at: <https://app.formassembly.com/forms/view/14516>
You can also get to the report form by going to our website at www.landtrust.org, clicking on "Stewardship," then "Reporting Form for Preserve Monitors." If you are able to submit reports on-line but are still receiving a blank paper report form from us, or if your email address has changed, please let Cindy know by sending her an email at cindy@landtrust.org.

2012 Stewardship Work Days

We hold work days throughout the year, many of which are too spontaneous to publish in our newsletter. If you would like to be on our Project Volunteer list, we will send you an email to let you know about upcoming work days. Tasks include trail work, cleanups, invasive plant control, tree planting, and more. Also, keep an eye on our Facebook page where we post upcoming activities. Contact Cindy at 231.344.1011 or cindy@landtrust.org with questions or to sign up.

Banwell Preserve Cleanup – Earth Day

Saturday, April 21, 2012

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Kick off the field season and celebrate Earth Day by helping us clean up a couple of sites at the Banwell Preserve. We'll need volunteers to fan out through the woods to look for scrap metal and other items, demolish a shed and an old truck, and sort materials into piles to be recycled. We'll also be hauling bridge and boardwalk lumber in for the Andreae/Banwell connector trail. Come for the whole day, or just an hour or two – it's up to you. Be sure to set aside some time to hike along the Pigeon River during your visit.

Andreae and Banwell Preserves Volunteer Meeting

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

6:30 pm at the Andreae Cabin

Are you interested in helping us take care of the Andreae and Banwell Preserves? We'll try to get all potential preserve monitors and trail stewards all in one room at the same time. The various jobs will be explained and some basic training given, and then folks will be assigned their positions according to the best fit in terms of interest and location.

Rogers Family Homestead Preserve Work Bee

Saturday, May 12, 2012

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Located less than half a mile from downtown East Jordan, the 148-acre Rogers Preserve protects over a mile of Jordan River frontage and has a 1½-mile trail system. We're looking for volunteers to help us do trail work, clean up some old farm debris, remove barbed wire fencing, and plant native trees and shrubs along the river. Come for the whole day, or just an hour or two – it's up to you. The Wagbo Center, only a mile down the road, is having a noon potluck — so you may want to plan that into your day! Contact Doug at 231.344.1009 or doug@landtrust.org for more information, or to sign up. This event is part of The Grand Traverse Regional Invasive Species Network (ISN) Heritage Plant Week. ISN partners will host a variety of activities and workshops throughout the week from May 5-12. To learn more about ISN and other activities during Plant Week, visit www.natureiscalling.org.

Vermilion Point Knapweed Pull

Friday, July 20 and Saturday July 21, 2012

Dawn to dusk Friday, dawn to 3:00 pm Saturday – you choose your own hours

For the sixth year in a row, we will be pulling spotted knapweed at Vermilion Point. This high priority project is a cooperative effort of Little Traverse Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, Lake Superior State University, and the Eastern UP Cooperative Weed Management Area, and will help keep Vermilion's habitat in shape for Piping Plovers and Lake Huron Tansy. This is a rare opportunity to stay overnight at Vermilion in the historic Life Saving Station barracks.

Stew Crew 2012



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