

Michigan DNR to host a hunter safety class

The Michigan DNR is hosting a hunter safety class May 6 and 7. This class is open to anyone who needs a hunter safety certificate or is interested in learning firearm or archery safety. Parents are encouraged to attend the class with their child. All students 11 or younger must be accompanied by an adult in the class. Pre-registration is scheduled Saturday, April 22 at 9 a.m. at the Lenawee County Conservation League, 1404 Sutton Road, Adrian.

Students are not required to be present at registration. When registering, individuals must have the date of birth and emergency phone number of the individual they are registering. They may also pick up their study guide at the time of registration.

Proudly Serving the Brooklyn Area for 28 Years!

BROOKLYN TIRE

113 Lane, Brooklyn 517-592-3200 Mon - Fri 8:30-5 Sat 8-Noon

Swing into Savings



VISA MasterCard DISCOVER

NO HIDDEN COSTS

INCLUDES: MOUNTING, COMPUTER BALANCING, RUBBERVALVE STEMS, FREE ROTATION, FREE FLAT REPAIRS, ROAD HAZARD WARRANTY, SALES TAX & FRIENDLY SERVICE.

Randy Masters - Owner



This magnificent aerial photo of MNA's Goose Creek Sanctuary depicts the recent prescribed burn to knock out the glossy buckthorn, a European invasive species. MNA stewardship organizer Rachel Maranto predicts a vibrant flush of early summer wildflowers at the sanctuary as a result of the burn.

MNA's local impact from page B1

ana/Ohio border to the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula in the Upper Peninsula. It is the largest network of natural areas owned and maintained by a nonprofit conservation organization in Michigan.

"The sanctuaries must have enough high-quality habitat features that house these imperiled species," said Rachel Maranto, regional stewardship organizer for the Southeast Lower Peninsula in describing what lands the MNA seeks to acquire and protect.

MNA has invested a lot of resources into its stewardship staff to care for the many properties the group now owns. One staff person covers all of MNA's U.P. sanctuaries, another covers northern lower Michigan, while two others cover southwest and southeast lower Michigan. Maranto covers the latter, including the Jackson and Lenawee county areas. A total staff of 10 works hard to make it all happen.

The organization also carries on a program of natural history study and conservation education. It has recently started to put more resources into outreach and education and has added long-time Michigan conserva-

tionist and land trust professional Julie Stoneman to the staff. She has responsibilities in outreach, fundraising and education programming.

"We're trying to reach more schools, universities, and the general public," Maranto said. The organization works with schools and teachers across the state to inspire children to

"Some of our properties, like Lefglen, have a marked trail and parking area," says Maranto. "That's sort of our maximum visitor amenities. Other sanctuaries, like Columbia, are a bit harder to access and only have roadside parking and do not have marked trails." Maranto recommends a map and compass to navigate around unmarked sanctuaries like Columbia.

"It all depends on what your comfort level is with exploring," she said. Maranto encourages people to get ahold of her for maps or tips on getting around MNA properties.

MNA's newest acquisition is the McCulley-Bastian Nature Sanctuary, a 70-acre parcel that lies within a priority land protection area along the River Raisin off of M-52 and Sutton Roads between Tecumseh and Adrian. The property is primarily southern floodplain forest and provides excellent nesting habitat for neotropical migratory birds and supports wildlife migration as well. The sanctuary currently has no marked trails or other amenities.

On Saturday, May 6, MNA is hosting a "Bio Blitz" at McCulley-Bastian where they gather local experts in different taxonomic groups to identify as many species as they can. However, no experience is necessary if you'd like to help. Contact Maranto (contact information included at end of story) if you are interested.

Typically, when we acquire new properties, we know there are one or two rare species of interest, but we don't have the full picture," she said. "This is our attempt to generate the species list for the sanctuary."

Typically, a prescribed burn promotes stimulation of the native seed bank and the ash from the fire provides good nutrients for the soil.

"You get this really vibrant flush of early summer wildflowers," said Maranto. "Goose Creek is a great place for viewing wildflowers anyway, but I'm anticipating this to be something like wildflowers on steroids. Where you typically get one or

two wood lilies poking out, we might get 50. That's the scale I'm hoping for anyway."

To capitalize on the predicted flush of wildflowers at Goose Creek, MNA – along with the Huron Valley chapter of the Michigan Botanical Club – is co-hosting a wildflower walk-a-bout hike on Sunday, June 4 from 1 to 4 p.m.

"Each land conservancy has a different mission, so it's a different piece of the conservation puzzle," she said. "Not every land owner is a perfect fit for us, but maybe they're a great fit for another [land conservation organization]. We work together to find the right fit for a property – who's the best fit for caring for the land in perpetuity. Wherever possible we try to seek out opportunities for mutually beneficial collaboration."

Without this management technique, it would turn Goose Creek – which is a prairie fen,

basically a grassland wetland ecosystem – into an impenetrable shrub thicket," said Maranto. "Once you clear out the big shrubs, fire is a great tool to cover a lot of acreage at once." Students from Aaron Wesche's biology and botany classes at Addison High School have helped clear out big masses of glossy buckthorn at Goose Creek over the past couple years.

Typically, a prescribed burn promotes stimulation of the native seed bank and the ash from the fire provides good nutrients for the soil.

"You get this really vibrant flush of early summer wildflowers," said Maranto. "Goose Creek is a great place for viewing wildflowers anyway, but I'm anticipating this to be something like wildflowers on steroids. Where you typically get one or

two wood lilies poking out, we might get 50. That's the scale I'm hoping for anyway."

To capitalize on the predicted flush of wildflowers at Goose Creek, MNA – along with the Huron Valley chapter of the Michigan Botanical Club – is co-hosting a wildflower walk-a-bout hike on Sunday, June 4 from 1 to 4 p.m.

"Each land conservancy has a different mission, so it's a different piece of the conservation puzzle," she said. "Not every land owner is a perfect fit for us, but maybe they're a great fit for another [land conservation organization]. We work together to find the right fit for a property – who's the best fit for caring for the land in perpetuity. Wherever possible we try to seek out opportunities for mutually beneficial collaboration."



White squirrel spotted

We see black squirrels, red squirrels, grey squirrels, fox squirrels and occasionally flying squirrels, but white squirrels not-so-much. The reason is that not only are they rare, but they do not last long in the wild as they do not blend in well with their surrounding, making them easy prey. The squirrel above was photographed by Parrish Stahl in Jackson.

HANOVER-HORTON KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP
APRIL 26, 27 & 28

PARENT MEETING TUESDAY APRIL 18 AT 6:00 PM



MAKE AN APPOINTMENT! 517-563-0103

DEERE SEASON \$300 off X394 SELECT SERIES TRACTORS

X394 SELECT SERIES

- 22 hp (16.4 kW), 726 cc engine
- 48-in. Accel Deep™ Mower Deck
- 4-year/300-hour bumper-to-bumper warranty**

SAVE 15% ON MULCHCONTROL™ KITS!

TIME TO TAKE ON SPRING.

D105 LAWN TRACTOR

- 17.5 hp (13.0 kW), 500 cc engine
- 42-in. (107-cm) mower deck
- 2-year/120-hour bumper-to-bumper warranty**

STARTING AT \$1,499*

X350 SELECT SERIES TRACTOR

- 18.5 hp (13.8 kW), 603 cc engine
- 42- or 48-in. Accel Deep Mower Deck
- 4-year/300-hour bumper-to-bumper warranty**

\$200 OFF!

JOHN DEERE

NAPOLEON LAWN & LEISURE

www.napoleonlawn.com
6595 Brooklyn Road, M-50
Napoleon, MI 49261
517-536-4266

*Offer valid from March 1, 2017 through May 1, 2017, on the purchase of any new X394 Select Series or new X350 Select Series Lawn Tractor. Get \$300 off the X394 Select Series Lawn Tractor and \$200 off the X350 Select Series Lawn Tractor. Offer, prices and savings are in U.S. dollars and available in the U.S. only. Ask your dealer for details. **Prices and models may vary by dealer. Manufacturer suggested list price at \$1,499 on D105 Lawn Tractor. Prices are suggested retail prices only and are subject to change without notice at any time. Dealer may sell for less. Attachments and implements sold separately. Available at participating dealers. *Offer valid March 1, 2017 through May 31, 2017. Receive 15% off the purchase price of one or more MulchControl™ Kits and mulching kits for residential lawn equipment, to be applied to the total before applicable taxes, shipping rates and delivery charges. Maximum discount of \$200. Offer excludes mulching kits for commercial 2900 Series, Quick-Tak™ and commercial front mowers, and cannot be combined with any other attachment offers. **The engine horsepower and torque information are provided by the engine manufacturer to be used for comparison purposes only. Actual operating horsepower and torque will be less. Refer to the engine manufacturer's website for additional information. *Term limited to years or hours used, whichever comes first, and varies by model. See the LIMITED WARRANTY FOR NEW JOHN DEERE TUBER AND UTILITY EQUIPMENT at JOHNDEERE.COM. John Deere, the leaping deer symbol, and green and yellow trade dress are trademarks of Deere & Company. ABB03KCU2A69712-00036548

Closej Overload

Why pay the difference if you can't tell the difference?

Buying Spring

146 N. Main St. Brooklyn (517) 592-8686

Hours: M-F 10:30 - 5 Sat 10 - 4



Frey & Son Automotive

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

536-4869

7150 S. BROOKLYN ROAD • NAPOLEON, MI 49261

WE SELL AND REPAIR FARM EQUIPMENT TIRES



COME TO **AGGIES SPORTSBAR**

Open 7 days M-S @ 11 a.m. Sun @ Noon

~ In Pirate Country! ~

Serving the Community for over 29 years

Large Private Room available at Average Joe's
Can accommodate large or small groups
Catering available

Daily lunch & dinner specials
Karaoke every Friday at Joe's
Pizza • Burgers • Soup • Sandwiches
AUCE Fish Fry Friday Night • Prime Rib Dinner Saturday Night

517-536-8059 • 108 S. Brooklyn Rd. • Napoleon, MI