

Thumb Land Conservancy NEWS

May 25, 2020

Southern Lake Huron Coastal Park 42-Acre Bidwell Preserve Burtchville Township, Saint Clair County

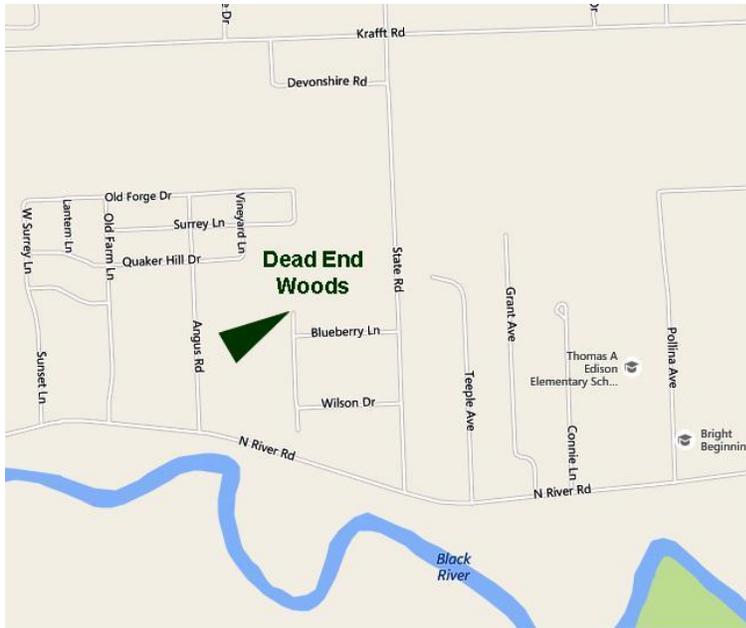
Three days after I sent the May 19 update, we received another \$10,000 donation from Cargill, this time from their corporate headquarters near Minneapolis, Minnesota. Thank you very much to Rene Ofeno and Rafe MacKenzie of Cargill Salt in Saint Clair for making this happen. That same day we received notice, pending specific grant conditions, that we are approved for a grant of \$50,000 we applied for back in January. We can't name the funder yet until they make an official announcement. April and May fundraising was looking dismal until this past Friday. I now believe we can complete this project. We are left with about \$20,000 to raise to complete our fundraising goal of \$305,000. It's been a long haul but I feel that it is possible to accomplish major land protection in this part of the state as a land conservancy. It's certainly not as easy as other regions, which is an understatement, but possible. We hope that the Southern Lake Huron Coastal Park project will wake the public up as to what we can do and will be the first of many projects in the future.

Garlic Mustard Pulls Next Weekend May 30, 31 Dead End Woods Sanctuary Fort Gratiot Township, Saint Clair County

We pulled Garlic Mustard in the Dead End Woods this past weekend. Our usual work area is looking real good. At this point, basically the southwest quarter of the 18-acre preserve is largely free of Garlic Mustard. Our work over the past 11 years has really paid off.

Help us pull invasive Garlic Mustard in the Dead End Woods Sanctuary this coming Saturday and Sunday, May 30 and 31, from 11:00 AM through 4:00 PM. We normally work more than 6 feet apart in the woods, so there should be minimal virus concern. We'll provide a lunch as usual and let everyone self-serve. Jimmy Rankin's Meat Market on Lapeer Road in Port Huron Township (jimrankinmeats.com) is donating hotdogs again. Meet us at the end of Wilson Drive at 3685 Wilson Drive in Fort Gratiot, next to the Dead

End Woods Sanctuary. Be prepared for rain and mosquitoes. Garlic Mustard is very nutritious with a nice flavor. You are welcome to take as much as like home as long as you don't spread it in your yard. Please RSVP at 810-346-2584 or e-mail mail@ThumbLand.org.



**Garlic Mustard Pulls
Saturday June 6 and Sunday June 7
Port Huron State Game Area
Ruby, Saint Clair County**

Help us conduct our fourth annual Garlic Mustard removal in the Port Huron State Game Area on Saturday and Sunday, June 6 and 7, from 11:00 AM through 4:00 PM. We will work in the same location as the past three years. This is a nice opportunity to enjoy the beautiful forest of the Black River valley. We will meet at 11:00 AM at the Ford Road gate, at the intersection of Abbottsford Road, just southeast of Ruby. If you arrive after 11:00 AM, you should be able to drive up the Ford Road trail to a plowed field where other vehicles will be parked. Our work area is east of the field, down in the forest along the Black River. Weather permitting, we will be there until about 4:00 PM. We'll provide a lunch and Jimmy Rankin's Meat Market on Lapeer Road in Port Huron Township (jimrankinmeats.com) is donating hotdogs for lunch again. Be prepared for rain, mosquitoes, midges, and deer flies. Hats are highly recommended although the insects have been minimal every year. You are welcome to take as much Garlic Mustard home as long as you don't spread it in your yard. Please RSVP at 810-346-2584 or e-mail mail@ThumbLand.org.



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