

# The Upper Peninsula Environment

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## Forest Planning with a New Twist: *Learning from our Canadian Neighbors*

by Jon Saari

The watchwords of "sustainability" and "certification" have now been extended into the forest planning process for the Michigan state forests. On June 25-26, a workshop was held in Newberry to bring together internal and external stakeholders in helping shape key components of a future sustainable forest plan for the Lake Superior State Forest (LSSF).

About half the participants were from within the DNR, many from the LSSF itself—the internal stakeholders—and half were from various external groups, from The Nature Conservancy to snowmobile clubs to Mead Corporation and regional environmental groups. Judy and David Allen and I were there for the Central Upper Peninsula chapter of the Sierra Club, and for UPEC.

This was forest planning with a new twist. For starters, the workshop was facilitated by a Canadian team called BioForestry Technology. They are under contract to provide a plan that will meet the certification standards of the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). It is a venture into an international arena where various sustainable forest management systems are being developed, compared, and tested.

At the end of this process, the DNR will be free to accept, reject, or modify the plan developed by BioForestry Technology.

So something—or nothing—may come out of this process.

The Canadian team were witty and skilled as workshop facilitators, and their relative ignorance of American or Michigan forest practices and values added an element of discovery to the process. In Canadian discussions, for example, "spirituality" as a value of forests seldom surfaces, whereas in this discussion of the LSSF it became an important category.

The importance of ownership patterns was also stressed as a variable by Americans more than Canadians, perhaps because in Canada the state forests are assumed to be large unbroken blocks in public ownership. [This is obviously not true of the Escanaba State Forest in the Central Upper Peninsula, which is made up of many scattered parcels.]

Public participation in forest planning in Canada—a country precariously balanced between French and English speakers, and rigorously committed to a formal multiculturalism—was described by the Canadian team as a nightmare of complexity, and not a model they would recommend for American consideration.

What they are recommending is that there must be a plan (four of the six state forests currently lack a forest plan), there must be a monitoring system that builds in credibility and account-

ability, and there must be meaningful public participation. The workshop was intended to engage stakeholders in defining the values of the forest, and then in identifying measurable and useful indicators of those values.

For example, my small group identified large blocks of contiguous forest within the LSSF as valuable for ease of management, for access to remote recreational experiences, and for enhancing the habitat for interior wildlife species. Then we tried to identify "indicators" for these values, such as road densities per square mile, or percentages of LSSF ownership within and outside the formal boundaries. Each indicator was tested to see if it was relevant, understandable, measurable, feasible [Does the data exist now? How soon could it be gathered?], predictable, and valid. Not all indicators and values survived this scrutiny!

This first workshop was preliminary, designed to build toward consensus and an understanding of the complexity of the value of this particular state forest. More workshops are projected for later in the year. A sense of where this process might be heading comes through a report entitled "A Description of the Lake Superior State Forest" (June, 1998), prepared (one assumes) by the Canadian consulting team, and given to the participants in the workshop.

According to the report, which is based on the operations

inventory data of the LSSF, this state forest is more than one million acres in size, and contains more than 750,000 acres of forest representing a broad range of forest cover types native to the Upper Peninsula. Some of these forested acres are assumed to be unavailable for industrial timber extraction, however, because they are classified as special management areas or influence zones. The report estimates that perhaps 500,000 acres might be available for timber management.

As environmentalists and forest activists, we should be thinking hard about several aspects of this "description." First, is the classification scheme inclusive enough to describe the forest? Second, are the acreage amounts assigned to various special categories truly reflective of this forest? Featured wildlife species other than deer, grouse and rabbits warrant only 28,949 acres out of 1,045,922? Special botanical area 1,118 acres? Endangered species area 2,194 acres? Wild or natural areas 10,262 acres? Real or potential old growth 2,055 acres? On the face of it, these figures lack credibility.

Then third, how do these classifications link up with what is being done, or what should be done, on the ground? The report itself pointed to a weak linkage between the classification system and management practices?

The attributes of area class, influence zone, and special management areas describe divisions of the land which imply differences in land use or management emphasis. To properly utilize such classifications in planning, a set of "guidelines" should be available to describe permissible management practices. Similarly, for each of the forest cover types, a set of silvicultural guidelines should identify which silvicultural systems are used to manage them. The complex web of classification found in the operations inventory should be

backed up by management guidelines and differences in management practice on the ground. (*A Description of the Lake Superior State Forest*, p. 25.)

Before a single sawlog or stick of pulpwood out of the LSSF merits the stamp of "certified wood," we need to be convinced, not only that the tree itself was sustainably harvested, but that other nontimber uses of the forest have not been jeopardized by this harvest.

###

## CALL FOR HELP

from Virginia Killough

Can you help us? We are a group of concerned citizens of Marquette and environs who oppose development of an old industrial site that is contaminated with multiple toxic substances. This site is right next to our eroding shoreline and a treasured city park.

The Chicago developers who came in here wowed the city government, but nobody asked the people, and there is much opposition. The proposed (and approved) development includes housing for 600+ people, retail shops, and two 12-story towers. There is no similar development in Marquette or anywhere in the UP, as far as we know.

The developers got permission to just cover up the contaminants, instead of cleaning them up. The people living in the surrounding neighborhood are concerned about disturbing the contaminated soils during construction. We are also concerned

about the effects of the contamination on the people who will live in those condos and know nothing about it. We are further concerned that disturbing the contaminated soils will result in further pollution from airborne and run-off matter.

All of this has been pushed through in just the last six months or so. We are trying everything we can think of, but we don't know how to stop it. The developers were to have taken possession of the land on the 30th of June.

Please, can you help us, or put us in contact with someone who can?

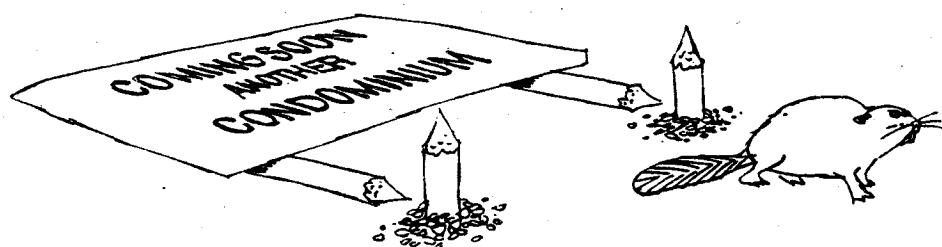
Ginnie Killough  
Citizens for a Community  
Lakeshore  
Marquette, Michigan  
vkill@up.net

###

## BOARD MEETING NOTES

The UPEC Board met on June 24 at the Ford Forestry Center in Alberta, MI. Out of a healthy length agenda, with the chairman keeping things moving right along, the following were among the topics discussed: the White Pine Mine cleanup and its ramifications; status of a possible web page site; ideas for increasing UPEC public exposure; ideas for increasing UPEC group memberships; update of Sylvania Wilderness; UPEC Forestry Handbook; discussion of linkages with FOLK; and the workshop on state forests at Newberry presented by a Canadian team called BioForestry Technology [see J. Saari's article in this issue].

###



## DR. THEO COLBURN SPEAKS AT MICHIGAN TECH

by S. Harting

On May 4, Dr. Theo Colborn, co-author of *Our Stolen Future*, which describes the effects on endocrine-disrupting compounds on humans and wildlife, spoke to an overflowing crowd in Fisher Hall on the Michigan Tech campus.

Dr. Colborn, while a Research Fellow with the World Wildlife Fund, was studying cancer frequencies and developmental abnormalities among people and pesticide-contaminated wildlife in the vicinity of the Great Lakes. Although humans and wildlife seemed to be suffering from a wide variety of abnormalities, Dr. Colborn was able to link all of these problems to a single cause: disruption of the endocrine system.

The endocrine or hormone system is the chemical message center for the body. Hormones are secreted by endocrine glands (pineal, adrenal, thymus, thyroid, etc.) in extremely small (parts per trillion) amounts in response to a specific cue, such as day-length, blood sugar levels or often the presence of other hormones. The hormone fits into a receptor, much like a key fits into a lock, at the surface of the appropriate cell. The hormone-receptor complex then stimulates, either directly or indirectly, a response in the DNA or genetic material of the cell.

This leads to the production of specific enzymes and other proteins which cause chemical reactions to occur, which can then stimulate the production of still more hormones and enzymes. Thus the initial hormone-cell interaction can create often dramatic or rapid changes within the body. The changes that occur during embryonic development, such as organogenesis, sexual differentiation and, later, puberty as well as the "fight or flight" response trig-

gered by the release of adrenalin, are but a few of the many hormone-mediated reactions.

Since hormones cause such dramatic changes in such small concentrations, their concentration in the blood is strictly regulated, and over time there have evolved extremely efficient feedback mechanisms for controlling hormonally-mediated reactions within the body.

Endocrine disrupters are compounds, usually manmade, that either antagonize or mimic the action of natural hormones within the body. The false hormones bind to receptors on the cell surface, but imperfectly so, either "not letting go" after cell stimulus has occurred or not stimulating the cell and blocking natural hormones from doing so. Endocrine disrupters are usually found in the blood at levels at least 10-100 times the concentration of natural hormones, and most bioaccumulate further in the fatty tissue and thus often "override" the effects of natural hormones.

Most of these compounds are passed on to the developing fetus and through breast milk. Compounds that mimic estrogen, for example, effectively "skew" the ratios of the sex hormones, a ratio that is critical during fetal development. Most of these substances are compounds such as chlorinated pesticides, plasticizers, fossil fuel components, dioxins, and PCB's--all substances that were virtually unknown or unencountered in nature until the last half-century. Therefore, there are no mechanisms evolved to control their effects.

Throughout her talk, Dr. Colborn regaled the audience with tale after tale of the effects of endocrine disruption: Herring Gulls in the Great Lakes forming female-female pairings because the males no longer exhibit mating and nesting behavior; hermaphrodite Beluga Whales in St. Lawrence Bay; rare cancers and reproductive abnormalities in the sons and daughters of women who

took DES (diethylstilbestrol) during pregnancy; male fish living downstream from a sewage outfall that secrete ovarian proteins, developmental abnormalities in children in traditional fishing communities; and, closest to home, the tragic fact that no young of Bald Eagles living along the shore of Lake Superior have been found to be capable of reproduction. All successful nesters and large, immature birds are "imports" from inland populations.

At present, there are no standard testing methods for predicting endocrine effects of new chemicals, nor is there any test that can predict the degree of damage that may occur in the "real world," where everything is exposed to not one, but multiple and simultaneous chemical exposures.

As no description of any problem is complete without knowing what **you** can do about it, Dr. Colborn ended her presentation with a discussion of how to minimize the effects of endocrine disruption within yourself and your children. The simplest way to protect yourself is avoiding having plastics come in contact with hot foods, as plastics contain as much as 50% plasticizers, many of which are endocrine disrupters. Dr. Colborn stressed the importance of knowing what goes onto and into your food (the air is everywhere, so we cannot do much about airborne pollutants except to avoid contributing to the problem ourselves) and the importance of protecting future generations by protecting those who will be future parents **now**.

Endocrine disrupters accumulate in the body starting with the fetus, and continue to accumulate throughout life. Waiting until you or your daughter becomes pregnant before changing eating habits is too late, by then, the fetus has already been damaged.

Dr. Colborn ended her presentation with a slide of a graph of dioxin (a potent endocrine disrupter) concentrations in

various foods, including fast-foods such as pizza, hamburgers, ice cream, and fried chicken. The fast-foods had the highest concentrations, dairy products were next, and approximately one one-hundredth of those were components of a vegan (no meat or dairy) diet--definitely food for thought!

Earlier in the day, Dr. Colborn spoke to a class in the Biology department about her work. She stressed that, while researchers in endocrine disruption are desperately needed, students entering this field, which challenges chemical manufacturers, need to do a "reality check."

She began her presentation to the class by stating, "I have been able to do this work, and was able to write *Our Stolen Future*, because I am an old lady, my children are grown and independent; I write grants for my own funding, and cannot be fired". When *Our Stolen Future* was published in 1996, Dr. Colborn was immediately attacked, and continues to this day to be attacked, by representatives of the chemical industry. Now well into her seventies, Dr. Colborn continues to fight back, maintaining a heavy lecture schedule, testifying before congressional committees, and directing research into endocrine disrupters.

Buy, beg, borrow, or steal a copy of *Our Stolen Future*. It is written in such a way that the science is understandable and palatable to everyone, regardless of background. It will probably be the most informative, and the most frightening, book you ever read.

###

## RIVERFEST '98

### Music, Food, Fun for Everyone Who Loves Rivers!

#### The Chocolay River

Watershed Project is proud to be sponsoring the second annual RiverFest! Last year the festival was a huge success, and this year is shaping up to be even better. RiverFest '98 will take place on Saturday, August 8, from 10 am until 3 pm. It will be held at the Beaver Grove recreation area located on US 41 South and County Road 480 (approximately 8 miles south of Marquette)...just look for the big circus tents. Great music will be provided by the local Finnish reggae band Conga Se Menne!

RiverFest is both educational and fun. This year it will feature dozens of exhibitors on a wide variety of river-related topics, including: native plants, erosion control, fishing, forestry, groundwater protection, stream restoration, casting demonstrations...and more. There will also be plenty of hands-on activities, including: minnow races, fish tanks, kids' games, a dunk tank....and more. Enjoy some corn on the cob, and listen to the music as you take in the exhibits. Enter the RiverFest Raffle and you may even win a prize! **Best of all**, RiverFest is free! For more information, call Carl Lindquist at 906/226-9460.

###

### ISLE ROYALE MANAGEMENT PLAN STATUS

We hope to have an update on this effort for you on this important matter in the next issue of the newsletter.

## FOLK IS ON THE WEB! Note from Connie Julien

Check 'em out at  
[www.portup.com/~folk/home.htm](http://www.portup.com/~folk/home.htm)

This has been possible, in part, from a grant from the Environmental Support Center. You will find information about FOLK, Lake Superior and Zero Discharge of Toxic Pollution, the Otter River Watershed, the Torch Lake AOC Superfund Site, Sustainable Economy Options for our Community, FOLK newsletters, FOLK membership information, and an extensive directory of Links to other environmental websites and our regional politicians, to make it easier for you to make your views heard in Lansing and Washington.

We think it is important that groups working on environmental issues in the UP have a way of communicating their ideas and experiences with others interested in keeping this bioregion the best it can be!

Therefore, if your local environmental group would like to create a page to include about your group's activities, we would like to consider adding it to the site, to keep us all more educated on what is being done to help the environment of the UP. For more information, you may contact FOLK by email at: [folk@portup.com](mailto:folk@portup.com).

# Update on the Clean-up of the White Pine Mine Site

by S. Harting

As part of the reclamation and clean-up in progress at the White Pine Mine, a series of regular meetings have been held to discuss problems and progress with clean-up of the property. Hosted by mine president Jochen Tilk, representatives of the environmental consulting firm charged with assessing and remediating the property, and representatives from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), the meetings are a forum where concerned area citizens, tribal representatives, and representatives of local environmental groups can express their comments on the remediation process.

## A Brief History of the White Pine Mine

Copper has been mined at the White Pine Mine, located 5 miles north of Silver City in the Western Upper Peninsula, since the turn of the century. The most extensive ore removal was from the chalcocite (CuS) deposits that were mined during the "modern" Copper Range mining operation from 1952 until 1995. Production from the mine peaked in 1973, at which time the mine employed over 3,000 people.

Ore was removed from the ore body using the conventional "room and pillar" technique, wherein voids ("rooms") were created by excavating the ore and "pillars" of rock were left behind as roof supports. The underground workings now consist of about 13 square miles, having an approximate void volume of over 16 billion gallons, and extend beneath a surface area of approximately 25 square miles. The maximum depth of the underground workings is 2,840 ft.

The above-ground portion of the mine operation includes extensive tailings ponds, a network of roads, and a physical plant consisting of the smelter, as well as numerous refining, milling, and storage buildings.

In February 1995, smelting operations at the mine were suspended in response to lawsuits brought by the National Wildlife Federation, several Anishinabe (Chippewa) tribes, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, over mercury emissions from the smelter. In September 1995, both the conventional underground mining and milling operations were suspended, and in October 1996, dewatering of the underground workings was discontinued.

An acid solution mining project was proposed which would have partially reopened the mine in order to extract or leach out the copper remaining in the "pillars" using a sulfuric acid solution. This project was the cause of a train blockade on the Bad River Chippewa Reservation in northern Wisconsin in 1996. The Anishinabe Ogitchida (Protectors of the People) blocked the Wisconsin Central Railroad tracks from July 22 to August 18 in response to area residents' fears that the sulfuric acid being transported in tanker cars to White Pine would spill into reservation waterways and endanger local residents and wildlife.

On May 29, 1997, the Copper Range Corporation withdrew its permit for acid solution mining at the mine. Since that time the Copper Range's efforts have gone toward remediation of the mine site.

The following is a summary of ongoing actions toward the remediation of this site.

## Underground Workings

During the working of the deepest parts of the mine, a layer of very saline groundwater, seven times as saline as sea water, was breached so that now this highly



salty water flows into the mine, and, if left "as is," will fill the shaft with salt water which would eventually flow into Lake Superior.

There is no way to completely stop this flow, so Copper Range has proposed flooding the affected underground workings with Lake Superior water. The purpose of this action is to create a hydraulic gradient such that the flow of the denser, highly saline water will be slowed and, when the saline water does reach the surface, (in approximately 200 years if the mine is flooded) it will be greatly diluted.

Most of the infrastructure necessary for the mine filling is already in place. The water intake and pump station located in Silver City, that serves the mine and the town of White Pine, is designed to handle a flow in excess of 25,000 gpm. A preliminary engineering report on the required installations to route the flow into the mine has already been prepared. This report concludes that the mine filling project is technically feasible using existing components.

#### Smelter and Bedell Ponds

The Smelter and Bedell Ponds, located to the west and north of the smelter, have been found to be highly contaminated with heavy metals, particularly copper.

The metals concentrations in the ponds are sufficiently high as to warrant dredging and disposal of their sediments. The copper concentrations in the Smelter Pond sediments in particular are so high that an attempt to recover copper from these sediments has been determined to be possibly potentially profitable.

Copper Range is currently submitting a plan (Interim Remedial Action or IRAP) to the MDEQ to allow for construction of a Type 3, clay-lined landfill on-site to dispose of these sediments and other materials from various smaller disposal areas scattered

throughout the property. The area where the Smelter Pond currently exists will then be graded so that water will drain rather than collect in that area. The dredged Bedell Pond will be allowed to revegetate and serve as a passive treatment wetland.

#### Tailings Ponds

Encompassing some 5 square miles, the tailings ponds at the mine are so large as to be visible from the space shuttle. There are three basins: the South basin, decommissioned in the 1960's due to subsidence beneath the pond, and North Basins 1 and 2. Water flowing through these ponds empties into Perch Creek north of White Pine, and from there into Lake Superior.

The area now claimed by the ponds was formerly a wetland that was confined with clay-and-fill dams, and then filled with a mixture of fly ash from the smelter, mine tailings, and water pumped from the mine. Dead trees from the original wetland can still be seen sticking up through the tailings.

Reclamation efforts on the tailings ponds began with the dewatering of the ponds. Copper Range is funding a study into the feasibility of revegetating the pond areas. The tailings would be amended with either sewage or Stone Container sludge, as the tailings material itself has little organic or nutrient content.

The low snow levels and dry conditions of this winter, spring, and early summer have combined to dry out the basins far more than was originally intended. This has resulted in dust storms in the area, especially over the town of White Pine, during periods of high northerly winds.

The tailings material is very fine grained and very abrasive. Many White Pine residents who formerly defended the mine "to the death" are now angry, as the dust is reported to have caused irritated eyes, bloody noses and

respiratory distress, and has soiled carpets, drapes and other household furnishings when it has gotten into homes.

Copper Range is trying to alleviate the dust problem by pumping 25 million gallons of Lake Superior water per day into the basins in an attempt to reflood them and thus stop the dust storms.

The next meeting regarding the status of the White Pine Mine reclamation will be on July 29 at the Porcupine Mountain Inn. The time of the meeting has yet to be announced.

###

**A big thank you** to all UPEC members who sent letters commenting on the Isle Royale management plan, and encouraging an appeal in the Sylvania wilderness case!

And always and ever, thanks to the George Wright Society (and its manpower) for being the vital means for the production of this letter...without which and whom....

###

#### **EDITORIAL NOTE:**

This edition comes to you from out of new hardware, new software and a new body behind the fingers over the keyboard —partly adhering to precedents, partly trying what might be differently pleasing to the reader to absorb. Feedback will be appreciated, and incorporated as the constraints of the aforementioned allow. Articles, notes and tidbits welcome as well, of course.

It's nice to be on board!

--Holley Linn

Membership in UPEC is open to all individuals and groups who wish to support the goals of the Coalition. Applications for membership should be sent to P.O. Box 847, Marquette, MI

49855. UPEC is a nonprofit organization [IRS 501(c)(3)] and dues and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The Upper Peninsula Environment is published four times per year. Articles, press releases, or correspondence intended for the newsletter should be sent to UPEC c/o Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 673, Houghton, MI 49931.

## WE GET LETTERS....

- Bioneers (Visionary Solutions for Restoring the Earth) is presenting a three-day conference October 23-25 at the Fort Mason Center in San Francisco. They promise it's to be all alive, all connected, all intelligent and all relative. Address: Bioneers Conference, Collective Heritage Institute, 826 Camino de Monte Rey, #A6, Santa Fe, NM 87505; tel: 505/986-0366; fax: 505/986-1644; email: [chisf@nets.com](mailto:chisf@nets.com).
- RESTORE: The North Woods requests involvement in working to stop the US government from abandoning wolf protection. Address: RESTORE: The North Woods, PO Box 1099, Concord, MA 01742; tel: 978/287-0320; [www.restore.org](http://www.restore.org).
- The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services Energy Resources Division are cosponsoring a seminar on Cost Effective Use of Compressed Air on August 11 in Grand Rapids, and August 13 in Livonia, Michigan. Seminar information: Barbara Spitzley, 517/373-9283 or [spitzleb@state.mi.us](mailto:spitzleb@state.mi.us).

## Write Your Reps!

Here are the addresses and phone numbers for state and federal lawmakers that represent the U.P. Let them know what you think about the issues!

Senator Spencer Abraham  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
Phone: (202) 224-4822  
Fax: (202) 224-8834  
E-mail:

[michigan@abraham.senate.gov](mailto:michigan@abraham.senate.gov)

Senator Carl Levin  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
Phone: (202) 224-6221  
Fax: (202) 224-1388  
E-mail: [senator@levin.senate.gov](mailto:senator@levin.senate.gov)

Representative Bart Stupak  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  
Phone: (202) 225-4735  
Fax: (202) 225-4744  
E-mail: [stupak@hr.house.gov](mailto:stupak@hr.house.gov)

Both State Senators at:  
State Capitol, P.O. Box 30036,  
Lansing, MI 48909-7536

State Senator Don Koivisto  
(517) 373-7840

State Senator Walter North  
(517) 373-2413

All State Reps at:  
State Capitol, P.O. Box 30014,  
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

State Representative Pat Gagliardi  
(517) 373-2629

State Representative David Anthony  
(517) 373-0156

State Representative Michael Prusi  
(517) 373-0498

State Representative Paul Tesanovich  
(517) 373-0850 or 800-PAUL110

## About UPEC....

The Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition was organized on December 6, 1975. The goals of UPEC are to protect and maintain the unique environmental quality of the U.P. of Michigan; to evaluate and promote planning and sound management decisions for all the resources of the U.P.; and to work toward these goals through coordination of member groups, individual members, and public information.

### UPEC Board Members:

Bill Malmsten, Ishpeming (President)  
485-5909

Jon Saari, Marquette (Vice-President)  
228-4656; [jsaari@nmu.edu](mailto:jsaari@nmu.edu)

Sandra Harting, Toivola (Treasurer)  
288-3181

Janet Zynda, Marquette (Secretary)  
228-8913

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Newsletter Editor: Holley Linn

**Yes!**

**I want to protect the U.P.!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to support the goals of UPEC by becoming a member. My annual dues are enclosed (check one):

Regular Member (\$15)

Supporting Member (\$50)

Student/Senior/Low Income (\$10)

Here's an additional contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I'd like to ensure the long-term viability of UPEC by contributing \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the UPEC Endowment Fund.

NOTE: If you make the endowment check out to the Marquette Community Foundation (MCF) and put "UPEC Fund" on the memo line, you can take a 50% tax credit on your MI state income tax (up to \$200 for individuals, \$400 for couples). Mail Endowment Fund contributions to MCF, Attn: UPEC Fund, P.O. Box 185, Marquette, MI 49855. Or you can send your contribution directly to UPEC and take a regular tax break. Please send membership dues to UPEC at P.O. Box 847, Marquette, MI 49855.

Thanks for helping to support UPEC!

## Calendar

**REMINDER** (again, please): There are still some members in arrears with their dues, and it will be helpful if said dues can come in sooner than later. As someone has said, "Do do your due dues!" Use the form to the left if you've mislaid other paperwork. And thank you! You are needed!

**July 29** – White Pine reclamation meeting. See article above.

**August 6** – UPEC Forestry Committee Meeting, 6-9 pm, Ford Forestry Center, Alberta

**August 8** - RiverFest '98 (2<sup>nd</sup> annual), 10 am to 3 pm, Beaver Grove Rec. Area (See article in this issue.)

**September 27** – (Sunday) Next UPEC Board meeting, 2-5 pm, Ford Forestry Center, Alberta

For more distant upcoming events, check the "We Get Letters" item in this issue.



**The Upper Peninsula ENVIRONMENT**  
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