

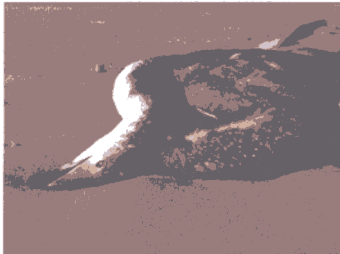
Snapping turtle photo  
by Jeannine McKenzie

# U. P. Environment

Quarterly Newsletter for the  
**Upper Peninsula  
Environmental Coalition**  
The oldest grassroots  
environmental organization  
in the U.P.

## Last Year's Lake Michigan Botulism Outbreak

### Claimed Thousands of Migrating Loons and Water Birds



Common loon. Long-tailed duck. Horned grebe.

It was surreal : a seemingly endless array of dead water birds in all stages of decomposition, some half-buried, strung along the sandy beaches of northern Lake Michigan. Responding to reports of bird deaths in various locations in late October, my colleagues and

I set out to evaluate the scope of the carnage caused by an outbreak of type E botulism on the lake. While individually each loon, duck or grebe had its own story, together - an estimated 8,000 birds along a 250-mile stretch of shoreline and islands between Escanaba, in the western U.P. and Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in the northern Lower Peninsula - their numbers spelled concern for breeding populations elsewhere.

Type E botulism is a disease caused by the Type E strain of the

bacterium *Clostridium botulinum*. The spores of *C. botulinum* are known to occur in many freshwater lakes. However, the bacterium requires warm temperature, a nutrient-rich substrate and an oxygen-depleted environment to germinate

(Continued on page 3)



Photos of dead common loon (top) and long-tailed duck (left)  
By George Desort

## Summer 2008

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## A New Look — An Old Commitment

You may have noticed changes in this venerable publication over the past year. Photos started popping up—and out! - in vibrant color. We brought

you cutting edge environmental stories, but now they shared space with poetry and stunning visual images provided by some of our talented readers and

board members

And now this, a complete makeover. We hope you've enjoyed these changes as much as we've enjoyed bringing them to you.

And, oh, yes—this newsletter is printed on 100% post-consumer paper. Always has been. Always will be. We just thought you'd want to know.  
-Ed.

## **Don't forget those Econo Foods Slips!**

Thanks to you and Econo Foods, UPEC has earned several hundred dollars over the past few years by submitting grocery receipts from the store collected by UPEC members. That amount represents 1% of total gross receipts from all the slips.

That may not seem like a lot, but when you're a non-profit organization every little bit helps. Of course, that amount could be even higher this year if more of you were to save your slips and send them to us!

Either save them throughout the year and mail them off to us before the end of May, or simply hand them to a UPEC board member when you attend a meeting—whichever is most convenient. It's one of the easier ways you can offer your support.

## **About UPEC...**

The Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition has a 30-year track record of protecting and seeking to maintain the unique environmental qualities of the U.P. through public education and watchful monitoring of industry and government.

UPEC seeks common ground with diverse individuals and organizations in order to promote sound planning and management decisions for all the region's natural resources.

Our newsletter, the *U.P. Environment*, is published four times a year.

You can send your comments or contributions to UPEC by standard mail at P.O. Box 673, Houghton, MI 49931, or e-mail us from our website at [upenvironment.org](http://upenvironment.org).



UPEC is a proud member Of Earth Share of Michigan, an organization that allows working people to donate to environmental organizations through work place giving campaigns.

Each year Earth Share provides UPEC with critically-needed funding for environmental education and program operation.

If you would like to help us earn more funding for UPEC, consider letting your employer know you want the Earth Share of Michigan giving option at your workplace and give to the annual payroll deduction plan.

**For more information, please call**

1 (800) 386-3326 or view the website at [www.earthshare.org](http://www.earthshare.org)

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**← Editor/ Business Manager**



Herring Gull  
Photo by George Desort

and produce the toxin that causes paralysis and death when ingested by water birds and other wildlife.

The outbreak on Lake Michigan in 2007 was not the first evidence of type E botulism in the Great Lakes. Large water bird die-offs associated with botulism were first described on Lake Michigan in the early 1960's and occurred periodically until the early 1980's.

In 2006, an outbreak at Sleeping Bear Dunes which claimed approximately 3000 birds, marked the reemergence of the disease on Lake Michigan after a nearly 25 year disappearance. On Lakes

Erie and Ontario, botulism-related die-offs began back in 1999 and have occurred annually ever since. Thus far, Lake Superior is the only lake that has not been impacted by botulism.

The increased frequency and extent of type E botulism outbreaks throughout the Great Lakes appear to be associated with the invasion and proliferation of at least three exotic species, all of which likely entered the Great Lakes through ballast water exchange by oceanic ships. By filtering the water and improving water clarity, invasive zebra and quagga mussels are believed to be driving a resurgence of the native macroalgae, *Cladophora*. Decaying algal biomass, in turn, provides the low-oxygen, high-nutrient environment needed for the production of the botulism toxin. For perspective, some parts of northern Lake Michigan now support biomass of *Cladophora* that rival levels seen during the 1960s, when parts of the Great Lakes were declared "dead" as result of phosphorous pollutants often associated with detergent. That situation encouraged the passage of the Clean Water Act in 1972, the strongest and most effective control over water pollution in United States.

Also in play is the round goby, an exotic fish that eats mussels and provides a vehicle to transport the botulism toxin directly to fish-eating birds, such as common loons. When ingested, the botulism toxin causes paralysis and affected birds eventually drown.

Described by scientists as an 'invasional meltdown,' this altered food web could wreak havoc on populations of bird species such as loons. Since 1999, the cumulative toll of botulism E on the Great Lakes is estimated at 75,000 birds, including 9,000 loons. It is currently unclear which breeding populations of loons that have been most impacted by these mortality events. In Wisconsin and Michigan, where monitoring efforts of banded populations are ongoing, the onset of spring will provide a good indication of the degree to which Great Lakes loons were affected by the outbreak.

To learn more about botulism E, visit the Michigan Sea Grant website at [www.miseagrant.umich.edu/habitat/avian-botulism-faq.html](http://www.miseagrant.umich.edu/habitat/avian-botulism-faq.html)

- Keren Tischler

Common Coast Research & Conservation, Hancock, Michigan

## Western U.P. Kids Have a Winter Blast Learning on UPEC-Supplied Snowshoes!

(This is a report from a 2007 UPEC Environmental Education Grant winners, the Western Upper Peninsula Center for Science, Mathematics and Environmental Education.)

The Winter Field Trips were quite a success again this year! Thirty-three programs were provided for schools in the western U.P., serving over 650 students this winter alone!

Here are some things the participants had to say:

"It was fun! I loved snowshoeing! We should snowshoe longer! (Hancock 4th grader)

"Snowshoeing in the woods was so much fun! (Chassell 4th grader)

"I liked searching for animal tracks on snowshoes." (Chassell 4th grader)

"This is fun!" (Houghton 3rd grader)

"Thanks! It was very cool!" (home-school student)

"It was my child's first time on snowshoes. Thank you! (mother of home-school student)

"This is great!" (Ironwood 3rd grader)

"I wish we could do things like this more often!" (Ironwood 4th grader)

"Loved it!" (Ironwood 5th grader)

Our field trip program is a vehicle to get students outside the four walls of the classroom. The program engages students in observation, exploration, data collection and analysis, as well as provides (them with) a context for learning about a variety of environmental topics, including forest management, biodiversity, wildlife management, ecosystems and habitat, stewardship, insulating qualities of different fabrics, moisture content of snow, wind chill and heat loss, to name a few!

Field trip activities enhance classroom learning and have been correlated to Michigan Grade Level Content Expecta-



Students intent on taking measurements and creating data for later study

tions for science and math. During activities, students utilize many science and math skills, such as observing, predicting, data collecting and graphing. Using the outdoors as a classroom is a great way to get students excited about science and make connections to the real world!

What's more, the winter field trips have the added excitement of snowshoeing! For many students, it is their first time on snowshoes. What's better than learning about winter ecology on snowshoes? Not only do the students learn about the wonders of winter, but they also develop a sincere enthusiasm for outdoor winter recreation.

The new snowshoes you helped us purchase made a significant difference this year in the quality of the students' experience. They were durable, easy to walk in, and, most of all, they were easy to put on and didn't fall off! This allowed the students to enjoy their experience instead of struggling with the equipment!

— Kathy Carter,  
Outdoor Science Explorations  
Field Trip Coordinator



Junior scientists assisting one another in their quest for truth.

## A Mineral Rights Primer (or What You Don't Know Can Hurt You)

As always, we had a full house at our annual spring meeting April 19 at the Women's Federated Clubhouse in Marquette. Our guests that evening, National Wildlife Federation attorneys Michelle Halley and Jane Reyer, as well as Save the Wild U.P.'s Scott Bouma, were, of course, a huge draw.

But, truth be known, fear probably also helped to bring the people out. Many of those in attendance already had done everything they could to oppose the proposed metallic sulfide mine on the Yellow Dog Plains. They had attended public meetings. They'd cited scientific background information and informed downstaters about local opinion. They had written letters to every legislator they could think of opposing the mine. And yet, here we all were, still fighting the same battle, only this time in the courts.

What we didn't have was a clear understanding of how the laws applied to mineral rights in Michigan. Using a Q & A format, Halley, Reyer and Bouma did their best to give us the condensed version of the law. Here are some of their more surprising answers to our questions.

Q: Who has standing (*i.e.*, a legal right to contest an entity's actions on a particular piece of land)?

A: Anyone who can show they will be adversely impacted by that entity's actions. Halley said that included anyone who ever visits the Plains, even if only for a few times a year.

*You can ever have legal standing if you've been in the case of the Yellow Dog Plains*  
*It was also pointed out that if you lived downstream and your groundwater stood to be affected, even if you never set foot on the area in question, you still had the legal standing to file suit and halt that activity.*

In the past, U.P. courts have taken ~~more of~~ a hard line than the federal law by insisting a person had to have an economic stake in the property. However, Michigan's Supreme Court modified that tough stance by using the federal

~~Definition.~~ It is no longer necessary to prove economic injury.

Q: Who owns the minerals beneath my property?

A: Maybe you, maybe somebody else. Mineral rights are held separate from property rights. That means ~~that~~ while you may hold the deed to the surface land, the mineral rights may be held by the state or even some private corporation you've never even heard of. The only way to be sure is to do a mineral search through the register of deeds office or by hiring a title search company. If you discover your own ~~the~~ subsurface rights, nothing more needs to be done. Those rights stay with you unless you choose to sell them. They are not subject to property tax.

However, if like many of us living in the U.P. the mineral rights ~~under our land~~ were once held by the state or a large company, such as the Ford Motor Co., who eventually sold off those rights to another entity, it pays to be on your toes. Those companies must renew their mineral rights every 20 years. Failure to do so makes those rights available to anyone who wants to buy them—including the surface property owner.

Without ownership of mineral rights, surface property owners cannot stand in the way of the mineral owner coming onto the property without the surface owner's knowledge or permission to do exploratory drilling. Surface owners do have the right to demand compensation for trees cut down, houses demolished or land destroyed, but the burden is on the landowner to prove value if there is a discrepancy in the amount claimed by the surface and mineral owner?

~~Some~~ Other states have an accommodation doctrine. This law states that any mining structures built, shafts sunk, etc. must be put in locations where they have the least amount of impact. Michigan has no such law.

(continued on page 6)

## **UPEC Announces Six 2008 Environmental Education Grant Winners**

At our annual spring meeting, board members voted to award more than \$2500 in grants to educators throughout the U.P. As always, the grant requests ran the gamut, limited only by the teachers' imaginations. The only uniting thread in the fabric of the applications was the teachers' insistence on getting their students outdoors to learn about, monitor and just plain experience the environment in which they lived. Here are the grant winners in no particular order:



Another picture by 2007 grant winner

Kathy Carter

- ◆ Dorrena Scharlow, Pelkie Elementary Teacher, was awarded \$500 to purchase a dozen pairs of snowshoes for her students to use. Another dozen was purchased with the help of the Copper County ISD. Scharlow will use the special child-sized shoes to lead her students in winter exploration. The students will be wandering fields, forest and along the river close to their school, identifying animal tracks and learning about animal, plant and water life. They will also be learning how rivers change course and how that affects water quality, as well as identifying fish species and looking at the conditions which allow them to grow.
- ◆ Ruth Ann Smith and Linda Rulison of Hancock Middle School received \$266 so they could purchase 35 presentation boards and 17 double-packs of disposable cameras. The kids will be using these in the fall as they explore the wetlands between Hancock and Calumet. The program will teach those students how to gather information, map, interview and work with community members and do presentations at the end of their study.
- ◆ Susan Rosemurgy, Calumet art teacher, was awarded \$500 for her Reading the Landscape: Nature Journaling in the Keweenaw project. She will be taking her students to Horseshoe Harbor on the Redwyn Dunes in the Keweenaw where they will be writing and sketching what they see and how they experience these places. The journals may eventually be offered for public viewing at the Calumet Public Library.
- ◆ Tim Bliss, a Superior Central middle and high school teacher, was given \$500 for a water quality field testing kit and hip boots to use it! Approximately 100 students will be sharing the equipment to monitor the micro-watershed on which their schools reside. Every two weeks, the student scientists will be checking the levels of dissolved oxygen, nitrate, phosphates, coliform bacteria, pH, temperature, turbidity and Benthic Macro-invertebrates in neighboring ponds and rivers. Their observations will be incorporated into the Alger County Conservation District's water quality data.
- ◆ Lynn Dunham, a Sault Ste. Marie schoolteacher, will be using her \$400 to purchase core samplers and taking her students to Envirothon Team competitions. Team members will be taking snow samples on and around area snowmobile trails to determine the sport's impact on the environment. With help from the Lake Superior University Chemistry Department, they will be collecting samples along four transects to gauge pH levels conductivity and presence of oil and grease. Then the team will compete against other students at the regional, state and perhaps even at the national level with presentations of their findings.



One of the biggest challenges for those opposed to mining is knowing exactly who is digging where. Since no permits are required for exploration activities, unless someone happens to observe work being done or equipment suddenly appearing on a patch of land, no one may ever know about that activity.

"In many ways," Halley said, "we're doing the work they (Kennecott and the Michigan DEQ) should have done. There is no meaningful oversight at all."

- Ed. *previews*

(2008 Environmental Education Grants cont. from page 3)

- ♦ And, finally, Brian Rajdl of Hancock High School was given \$500 to start the Keweenaw Outdoor School (KOS). He will use the money to purchase lab books and software to engage youthful "citizen stewards" in a cross-curricular study. Students in the KOS will draft a management plan for newly acquired land in the Ottawa National Forest, including the Sturgeon River Gorge and Falls, and assist the Keweenaw Land Trust by monitoring water quality on Boston Pond. This will help the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in their restocking and management of the pond's fishery.

As always, we're looking forward to hearing about these outdoor adventures. We'll be publishing articles and photos of their activities in future newsletters.

- Ed.

(New Board Member cont. from right column)

fields, lakes, and wild creatures. The natural surroundings are Upper Peninsula's greatest resource, but are threatened on many fronts every day. I know the power and influence of a healthy and untouched environment, from mind to body to community.

"Wild places need protection and I want to help secure the few magical places remaining as an active board member with the Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition. I am proud not only living in the magnificent U.P., but am excited and challenged as UPEC's newest board member. Long live the wilderness on the U.P."

(7)



## UPEC Welcomes New Board Member

At the spring meeting, we were delighted to

welcome a new member onto the board, Chassell

artist George Desort. Those are his images gracing the front page.

When he heard about the toll botulism was taking on the water bird population, he aimed his camera at the dead birds, preserving their beautiful, disturbing images in an effort to educate others about the growing threat to our lakes. But let George introduce himself in his own words:

"Growing up in Riverside, Illinois, I was introduced to the natural world with short explorations through the nearby forest along the muddy banks of the Des Plaines River. Family vacations to the Northwoods of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and Northern Wisconsin influenced my decision to enroll at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, (which offered) endless opportunities to wander the region's lakes and natural areas.

"After I graduated with a degree in psychology, I immediately headed to the mountains of Aspen, Colorado, where I taught downhill skiing and began exploring my surroundings through the lens of a camera. Following photography courses and workshops in Colorado, I returned to Chicago and enrolled in the filmmaking program at Columbia College.

"I now live in the Keweenaw Peninsula and work out of a studio in Chassell, Michigan, where I am currently in the post-production phase of a feature-length documentary, focusing on the wolf-moose study of Isle Royale National Park.

As a two-year resident of the U.P., I know I live here for its awesome environment, the forests, streams,

(cont. in column on left)

more  
contrast  
lighter



Miner's Castle at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore photo by 2007 Enviro Grant winner Kristy Gollakner

## National Park Service and Grand Portage Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa <sup>5</sup> Approve VHS Prevention and Response Plan

The four units of the National Park System on Lake Superior (Isle Royale National Park, Apostle Islands and Pictured Rocks National Lakeshores, and Grand Portage National Monument) and the Grand Portage Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa have approved a plan to protect park and tribal fishery resources from viral hemorrhagic septicemia, or VHS.

VHS is a deadly fish virus that was first detected in the lower Great Lakes in 2003 and continues to spread to additional locations each year, but has not yet been found in Lake Superior.

VHS is known to infect at least 28 species of fish within the Lake Superior Basin, including many popular species for both commercial and recreational fishing and has been the cause of large fish kills in other parts of the Great Lakes. It spreads be-

tween fish through urine, feces and reproductive fluids released into the water and through the eating of other infected fish. Park and tribal fishery biologists believe the virus has significant potential to impact the ecological integrity of fishery resources in these protected areas and recreational fishing opportunities. The virus does not impact humans.

The plan developed by the National Park Service and the Grand Portage Band identifies six major categories of vectors which could cause the spread of VHS into and within these parks and reservation waters: Aquaculture, Untreated Ballast Water, Commercial and Subsistence Fishing, Movement/Migration of Fish, NPS and Reservation Operations and Water-Based Recreational Activities.

The plan also analyzes the likelihood (relative risks) associated with these various vectors and includes recommendations on what must be done to mitigate the threat posed by that specific risk. The highest risk vectors include the use of VHS infected bait by fisherman, the spread of VHS by infected water and/or fish in boats, agency and tribal operations, and untreated ballast water exchange. Bullets

The plan outlines 16 recommended prevention actions including an aggressive public education and outreach campaign, recommendations to restrict the use of any fish bait that is a potential vector of VHS within park units, requiring that agency and recreational boats and associated equipment be properly decontaminated before launch within National Park Service waters, prohibiting the exchange of ballast water within park units, and close collaboration between other federal, state and local agencies and organizations that have broader authority and jurisdiction over VHS related issues. The plan was developed by an interagency group of subject matter experts representing a broad spectrum of perspectives and expertise.

"The National Park Service has a legal obligation to do everything we can possibly do to keep VHS from impacting the fishery resources in these parks, and we also want to be good citizens in preventing the parks within the Lake Superior Basin from becoming an initial source of VHS infection in the larger Lake Superior



watershed,” said National Park Service Midwest Regional Director Ernie Quintana. “However, because these four parks are linked by Lake Superior but located in three states—Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota - all of which have taken slightly different approaches to preventing the spread of VHS, we needed a comprehensive plan to protect the parks, where we have a very high preservation mandate.”

Size 12  
“I commend these four parks and the Grand Portage Band for working together to develop a solid prevention and response plan,” Quintana added. “But it is also clear that we can not do it alone. This is a complex issue over which we do not have full control or jurisdiction. Preventing this disease from impacting the fishery resources in these parks will require sensitive and sophisticated collaboration between a number of other agencies, the respective states, local boaters and anglers, and the visitors to these parks,” Quintana emphasized.

“Fish are life,” said Norman Deschampe, Grand Portage Band Tribal Chairman. “They sustain us physically and are a part of who we are. Our people have lived along the lake and have fished from the lake forever. We are delighted to work with the National Park Service, or any entity, to prevent VHS from entering Lake Superior. We must all collaborate to keep it from spreading westward into Lake Superior and into other inland lakes.” The Grand Portage Band is a full partner in the creation of this prevention plan and has joint management responsibilities for Grand Portage National Monument along with the National Park Service.

“This virus is known to emerge and spread fairly rapidly in the early spring. With the spring shipping and fishing seasons upon us, we will have to move quickly to prevent the spread of the virus ~~this spring~~. Some parks may have to impose emergency restrictions to require boat decontamination and prohibit the use of potentially infected bait within the park. However, we look forward to and appreciate the opportunity to work with all interested stakeholders, including individual anglers, in implementing this plan and protecting local fishery resources from this and other aquatic nuisance species,” Regional Director Quintana concluded.

Copies of the plan are available at these park websites.

~~Apostle Islands National Lakeshore -- [www.nps.gov/apis/arkmgmt/vhs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/apis/arkmgmt/vhs.htm)~~

~~Grand Portage National Monument -- [www.nps.gov/grpo](http://www.nps.gov/grpo)~~

~~Isle Royale National Park -- [www.nps.gov/isro](http://www.nps.gov/isro)~~

~~Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore -- [www.nps.gov/piro](http://www.nps.gov/piro)~~

- National Park Service



Man in canoe

Pencil Drawing By Mike Keranen

## **Join the Central U.P. Sierra Club for Annual Summer/Fall Cleanups**

### **Little Presque Isle Cleanup Dates:**

Sunday, June 22  
Saturday, August 2  
Sunday, August 24  
Saturday, September 20 (includes Superior Shore Run cleanup)  
Saturday, October 18

The CUP group has been cleaning up Little Presque Isle for many years. In the early periods we would get about a ton of trash per pickup; now we get a couple of decent trash bags full. A clean area tends to stay clean. (And I enjoy doing it.)

↪ Meet at 10am in the Little Presque Isle parking lot for a two hour outing. Often we do an afternoon activity out there as well. Call me, Dave Allen, at (906/228-9453) or John Rebers (906/228-3617) if you want more information.

### **Water sampling with the Sentinels on the streams of the Yellow Dog Plains:**

Saturday, June 21  
Sunday, August 3  
Saturday, August 23  
Sunday, September 21  
Sunday, October 19



Yellow Dog Falls

Photo by Joyce Koskenmaki

It is likely that baseline measuring is over and monitoring must be done. We all fervently hope that development on the plains will not bring water pollution. The EPA could still deny a permit or legal efforts to block mine construction may succeed. But the likelihood of no pollution increases if all know that many eyes are watching the streams.

↪ Meet at 10:00 am at the Huron Mountain Realty in Big Bay. Bring lunch—we usually get back to Big Bay about 5pm. Call me at 906/228-9453 or John Rebers (906/228-3617) if you want more information.

## New Fund Started

For years now, you've probably gotten used to seeing the membership application/renewal box as shown below, paying attention to it only when your membership needed renewing. However, you might want to take another look at it now. From here on out you'll be seeing a new box that can be checked off in the donation portion of the form. At our annual spring meeting, UPEC board members voted to create a new fund, the UPEC Outreach Fund. Just like the UPEC Land Acquisition/Protection Fund, UPEC Environmental Education Fund and the UPEC Endowment Fund, donors may specifically designate funds to be used by that fund alone.

So what is that use? According to a description put together by board president Jon Saari, the UPEC Outreach Fund will be used to underwrite outreach activities promoting land protection in the Upper Peninsula. It's assumed some of that promotion will occur outside the confines of the U.P., either downstate or in neighboring states. But any such outreach effort must take as its purpose the enhancement of land protection up here. The funds may be used to recompense the writing of newspaper op-ed columns; making radio appearances; funding informational tours featuring lectures and slide shows; creating and printing of brochures and other handouts; and promoting the protection of land in the U.P. at regional recreation and/or environment fairs.

Unlike the Environmental Education grants, groups or individuals may make application for a grant from the UPEC Outreach Fund at any time. The board will review grant applications at each of its quarterly meetings. Disbursement of funds will be entirely at the discretion of the board. Grant proposals must specify what activities are planned and give a specific time period for accomplishing those activities. Any changes in a grant proposal needing to be made after an award has been given first must be approved by the board or one of its representatives. Persons requesting a grant are welcome to present their case before the board. However, that is not a requirement. It is generally expected that those making application for a grant from this fund will be UPEC members.

- Ed.

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### Yes! I Want to Help UPEC Make a Difference!

(Please complete and mail to UPEC, Box 673, Houghton, MI 49931)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I'm already a member, but I'd like to make an additional contribution to:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ UPEC Land Acquisition/Protection Fund  
\_\_\_\_\_ UPEC Environmental Education Fund  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ UPEC Outreach Fund  
\_\_\_\_\_ UPEC Endowment Fund\*

I would like to support the goals of UPEC by enclosing a contribution for (please check one):

Regular Membership (\$20)  
Supporting Membership (\$50)  
Student/Low-Income (\$15)  
Other (\$) \_\_\_\_\_

\*If you make your 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 Michigan income tax (up to \$200 for individuals; \$400 for couples)

OR you can make your contribution directly to UPEC.

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, dues and contributions are tax deductible.

← **Thank you!**

**Upper Peninsula  
Environmental Coalition**

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*Painting attribution???*