

AFFEW NEWSLETTER

APRIL, MAY 1993

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The annual Christmas Tree Recycling effort was carried out in fine style as usual. We recycled at least 615 trees, and the City of Ludington did quite a few more by chipping those they found at the curb. The efforts of all who helped were greatly appreciated. AFFEW also arranged for another mild winter, which cut down greatly on use of fossil fuels and road salt. We have thus helped to keep the air a little bit more clean, and Lake Michigan somewhat less salty.

COMING UP: Earth Day is April 22, just like it is every year. The Earth Day Committee is arranging to get a banner over the road into Ludington, and will sponsor a hike to the top of Desperation Point in the Ludington State Park. Last year we saw what may have been a peregrine, but since there were no bird experts with us, this remains rumor. Bird people, join us and bear witness to any great sightings. Be aware that AFFEW on a hike is rarely in "sneak-up" mode, so most of the birds we see are deaf. Meet at the dam about 6PM on the 22nd. If you don't have a park sticker, maybe you can arrange a car pool from the south side of the Sauble River Bridge.

Audubon will have an Earth-Arbor Day Open House at Lake Bluff, 2890 Lake Shore Rd. Manistee, 723-4042. This is quite a place; you might find it worthwhile to see how they do Earth Day. Their celebration will be on May 2 from 2 to 5 in the afternoon. Their theme is "gifts from the earth." They will have displays and edibles and even that political personality Bill Bobier.

We will plant more dune grass again this year. To help, meet at the fish cleaning station in Ludington State Park on April 17 at 10AM. If we continue to do this so well, soon we can eliminate all those unsightly dunes. Bring a snack. This is hungry-type work.

It looks like PM Township may want to plant some dunegrass in Buttersville Park, and would appreciate our help. This will be in April, but the date isn't yet firm. Watch the paper for time and day or call 843-3526 for more info.

Sierra Club (Mackinac Chapter) will be in town on June 4 and 5. They plan to do a beach cleanup while they're here. Obviously this can only go well if experienced AFFEW troops give them a hand. We will meet at the fish cleaning station on the 5th at 9:00AM. Sierra Club will also present a program at 7PM on the 5th with a video on "Great Lakes Conservation." This will be at the Visitors Center at Ludington State Park. Show up and see what real big-time environmentalists look like.

Adopt-A-Highway crew will spring into action on May 1 this year at 10AM. Call Muriel at 843-3628 to volunteer. Our section of road always has the most exciting trash, so don't delay--call now!

LATE UPDATE: AFFEW will present an "Organic Lawn Care" program. Dave Peterson, Director of Mason County Co-op Ext. Service will be speaker. It will be held Tuesday, May 18 at the Ludington Senior Citizens Center, 308 S. Rowe at 7:30PM. Dave will tell us how to have perfect lawns without any mowing or work.

We are also in the process of trying to arrange a program with "Gypsy Moth Control" as main topic. This will tentatively be in May. Watch paper for more specific time, date and place or call Kate at 843-3526.