



The John and Mary
Dahlem Environmental
Education Center

**VISITOR BUILDING
HOURS**

Tuesday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday
Noon - 5:00 p.m.

TRAIL HOURS

The trails and grounds
are open from dawn to
dusk every day. The
entrance gate is opened
at 6:30 a.m. and locked
at 9:00 p.m.

CONTACT

7117 South Jackson Rd.
Jackson, MI 49201

Phone: (517) 782-3453
Fax: (517) 782-3441
www.dahlemcenter.org

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It's Holiday Bazaar Time!



Believe it or not, it's that time again! Christmas is creeping ever closer and that means Dahlem's annual Holiday Bazaar will be taking place soon. Shoppers can expect to find a wide array of items including hand-made crafts, baked goods, clothing items, and special Holiday gift shop merchandise. As always, plenty of bird seed and feeders will be available to keep your backyard alive this winter.

The Friends of Dahlem would like to notify everyone that they will be in search of baked goods for the Holiday Bazaar this year. While the Friends plan to contact individuals who might be interested in contributing this year, they welcome anyone who is willing to contribute. For more information on donating, please call Kathy Clark at 787-3163 or any other

Friends member.

The Friends will also be selling a limited number of red, white, pink, and marble colored poinsettias at the Bazaar this year.

We look forward to seeing all of you out here for the Bazaar. The event will take place Friday and Saturday, December 4th and 5th, from 10 am to 4 pm in the Nutshell Giftshop and classrooms. We will also be holding a Wreath-



Mission Statement: The mission of The Dahlem Conservancy is to provide environmental education and land conservancy services to the residents of South Central Michigan.

Owls at Dahlem!



As winter draws nearer, so too does the breeding season of owls, hunters of the night sky. In response to the upcoming "owl season", Dahlem has a few items in store to help educate the community on these fascinating birds.

The next time you visit, be sure to check out our new exhibit on owls (pictured above), filled with photos, facts, and even real specimens, sure to intrigue your curiosity!

On December 12th, prime owl-spotting time, People for Wildlife Coordinator, Gary Siegrist will present an informative program on owls with an "owl prowling" afterwards. See pg. 4 for more information.

Or, if you simply feel like searching for owls yourself, our trails are a great place to prowl just before dusk. Be on the lookout for a Barred Owl that's already been heard

*Paw Prints is published for members of
The Dahlem Conservancy.*

THE DAHLEM CONSERVANCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: John McLaughlin
V. President: Myrna Berlet-Dutcher
Treasurer: Gary Krupa
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Kathleen Clark Victor Marshall
Betty Desbiens Robert Price
Kelley Emerson Kathy Shaw
Todd Emmons Andy Walz
Robert Henning
Samuel Barnes - JCC Representative

THE DAHLEM CONSERVANCY STAFF

Executive Director: Brad Whaley*
Education Director: Kimberly May *
Office Coordinator: Denise Bigham
Receptionist: Linda Danley
Naturalist: Carrie Benham
Maintenance: Mark Snedeker
People for Wildlife Coordinator: Gary Siegrist
Development Coordinator: Rebecca Mehall
Weekend Manager: Linda Crocker
Communications Assistant: Cody Porter
* Full-time staff

Are You a Dahlem Member?

If not, become a member today and you will receive:

- Free admission to most public programs
- Advanced registration and reduced rates for Day Camps and Goblin Walks
- 10% discount on purchases in the Nutshell Gift Shop
- Paw Prints monthly newsletter of events and information
- Access to trails for cross-country skiing.

Membership Fees:

Individual Membership \$24
Family Membership \$36
Senior Membership \$12

Memberships also make great gifts for friends and family!!

Your membership makes a difference!

Help us protect the outdoors for future generations!

A Tip for Recycling Styrofoam Peanuts

Living in a world of technology, you may have already purchased an item online. Perhaps you had your prescriptions filled, or even received a package from an old friend. Either way, chances are you are stuck with the curse of disposing of those packing peanuts. Many people dispose of them with their daily trash, unaware that the small pieces of Styrofoam are actually recyclable. According to PaceButler.com, "Styrofoam recycling is slowly expanding in the US, but at present there is still so much of this material that ends up in our landfills. It is estimated that 30% of the total solid waste volume dumped in landfills is polystyrene." Polystyrene is the main component of packing peanuts.



Luckily, there is a location in Jackson to save you from wasting those pesky packing peanuts.

PakMail, at 1737 Spring Arbor Road, provides a convenient location to recycle packing peanuts and other loose fill items. Clean and ready-to-reuse materials, such as packing peanuts, bubble wrap, brown kraft paper, and air pillows are welcomed at Pak Mail. "Loose fill packing material can be recycled 4 or 5 times during its useful life," said Jennifer Miller, PakMail Shipping Associate.

For more information on recycling Styrofoam and other materials, visit www.pacebutler.com.

Jennifer Miller

Save The Date!

THE DAHLEM CONSERVANCY

2ND ANNUAL BENEFIT BREAKFAST

*Celebrating The Gifts of Nature
For This and Future Generations*

November 11, 2009

Complimentary Breakfast & One Hour Program

begin promptly at 8:00 a.m.

Davis Conference & Banquet Center - 3575 Francis Street

call 782-3453 to reserve your seat by 11/5/09



Goblin Walks 2009



-Biggest Attendance Ever!



On Friday, October 23rd and Saturday, October 24th, the trails of Dahlem were adorned with pumpkins, performances, and people as Dahlem celebrated its annual Goblin Walks.

Despite potentially adverse weather conditions, this year's Goblin Walks saw a record attendance of 423!

Many thanks go out to all who attended, including the many volunteers who put in a great deal of time and effort to make this year's Goblin Walks such a success!



The Dahlem Book Club

New members are always welcome! For more information, please call 517-782-3453.

November 19 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Wickwire Farm

“Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens”

by Doug Tallamy

“With nothing less than the future of North American biodiversity at stake, Tallamy imparts an encouraging message: it's not too late to save the ecosystem-sustaining matrix of insects and animals, and the solution is as easy as replacing alien plants with natives.” Doug Tallamy is Professor and Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware. His book was awarded the 2008 silver medal by Garden Writer's Association.



January 14 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Wickwire Farm

“My First Summer in the Sierra” by John Muir

John Muir, a young Scottish immigrant, had not yet become a famed conservationist when he first trekked into the foothills of the Sierra Nevada, not long after the Civil War. He was so captivated by what he saw that he decided to devote his life to the glorification and preservation of this magnificent wilderness. My First Summer in the Sierra, whose heart is the diary Muir kept while tending sheep in Yosemite country, enticed thousands of Americans to visit this magical place, and resounds with Muir's regard for the "divine, enduring, unwasteable wealth" of the natural world. A classic of environmental literature, My First Summer in the Sierra continues to inspire readers to seek out such places for themselves and make them their own.



Free to
Big Brothers
Big Sisters
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Nov/Dec 2009 Public Programming

Free to
Big Brothers
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Ecology and Environment Series.....

Was That Another LBJ?: 2:00 p.m. Saturday, November 7

How many different sparrow species can you name? (Or perhaps you thought they were all the same bird!) Join Gary Siegrist, People for Wildlife Coordinator and past president of Michigan Audubon, in exploring the sometimes confusing world of those nondescript native sparrows. Gary will make sense of these “little brown jobs” that can be so difficult to identify. Helpful tips about their markings and songs will go a long way toward your birding



Discover Dahlem Outdoors.....

Harvest of Fun: 2:00 p.m. Sunday, November 8

Children in grades five and under are invited to come and get “crafty” while exploring the sights, sounds, and scents of autumn. Materials for several nature crafts and fun outdoor activities will be provided by Education Director, Kimberly May. Please wear proper outdoor attire. Guardians are welcome to stay and participate or may return at 3:30 p.m. if child is 8 years or older.

Discover Dahlem Outdoors.....

Autumn Amble: 2:00 p.m. Saturday, November 14

Join People for Wildlife Coordinator, Gary Siegrist, for an Autumn Amble on the trails! Put on your hiking shoes and enjoy a casual, but educational stroll while witnessing the seasonal beauty of autumn’s flora and fauna. Watch and listen as wildlife prepares for the coming winter...cedar waxwings gorging on fall berries, eastern chipmunks hoarding seeds, and deciduous trees revealing their true colors beneath the fading green chlorophyll.



Outdoor Travel Adventure Series.....

Antarctica: Penguins and the Shackleton Trail: 2:00 p.m. Saturday, November 21

Abby and Dick Mortenson will share their fascinating 25 day photographic expedition from Argentina to the Antarctic Peninsula this past spring. Come aboard the National Geographic *Endeavor* and join the Mortenson’s in navigating around icebergs, watching whales off the bow, and walking among colonies of penguins on the beach as they pick up the trail of the famous Antarctica explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton during his 1914 expedition.

Ecology and Environment Series.....

Winter Bird ID: 2:00 p.m. Sunday, November 29

What’s at your feeder? People for Wildlife Coordinator, Gary Siegrist, will share his tips and techniques for identifying the winter birds braving our harsh Michigan winter. Hand-outs will include which feeders and types of seed attract which birds in your backyard. Gary will also present what makes a good backyard feeding station and how to thwart off unwanted mammals.



Ecology and Environment Series.....

Owl Prowl: 2:00 p.m. Saturday, December 12

Some of these night sky hunters can be heard right here at Dahlem. Join People for Wildlife Coordinator, Gary Siegrist for “North American Owls - Their Secret Lives” on our nocturnal predators. Afterwards, at 4:00 pm we will venture out on the wooded trails and listen for the owls’ eerie calls as well as other wildlife sounds of twilight.

All programs presented at the Dahlem Center at
7117 South Jackson Rd. Jackson, MI 49201

Advance Registration is Required.

To Register Call 517-782-3453

Admission is \$3.00 per person

Dahlem Conservancy Members Admitted FREE
unless otherwise noted

Check www.dahlemcenter.org for the most up-to-date program offerings!

The Dahlem Conservancy is proud to announce that
these programs are sponsored by a generous grant from:



Free to
Big Brothers
Big Sisters
With I.D.

2009 Public Programming

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Big Brothers
Big Sisters
With I.D.

Discover Dahlem Outdoors.....

Guided Nature Hikes: 9:00 a.m. Every Other Tuesday

Join Dahlem staff for an educational and rewarding hike on Dahlem's five miles of scenic trails in search of our seasonal fauna and flora. Whether you are a birder with your eyes to the sky, an amateur botanist with your nose to the ground, or simply enjoy a stroll outdoors, all are welcome. Please wear appropriate outdoor attire and hiking shoes. Binoculars suggested but not required.



Discover Dahlem Outdoors.....

Golf Cart "Tour of the Trails": 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Saturdays (by request)

Do you want to enjoy the outdoors but walking the trails poses a problem? Guided golf cart tours of Dahlem's scenic trails are available with advance registration. Up to five guests may be accommodated so invite a relative, friend, or a neighbor for a one hour peaceful exploration of Dahlem's forests, prairies, and wetlands. Please reserve your tour at least 7 days prior to your selected tour date and wear appropriate outdoor attire; golf cart is uncovered.

You've Got Mail!

Want an email update of up-coming programs? Dahlem is collecting member and non-member emails to place on our distribution list for a monthly email that will describe up-coming scheduled programs and announcements. It will serve as a friendly program reminder or an opportunity for you to forward the program information onto interested friends, family, and neighbors. Please email kmay@dahlemcenter.org with your email address in the subject space. Your email will not be shared with anyone else. If you choose to unsubscribe, simply email kmay@dahlemcenter.org your request. Thank you!



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Admission is \$3.00 per person

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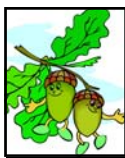
Check www.dahlemcenter.org for the most up-to-date program offerings!

*The Dahlem Conservancy is proud to announce that
these programs are sponsored by a generous grant from:*



**New Times!
New Themes!**

Little Acorns Toddler Nature Program



A series of one hour hands-on adventures in nature for toddlers accompanied by an adult

Nature-based activities, stories, mini hikes, creative crafts, and much more! A new theme each month.

\$25/ month for members \$35/ month for non-members

**November Mondays 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
November Saturdays 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

Please Call The Dahlem Center to pre-register. Space is limited.

The Dahlem Conservancy is proud to offer

Project WET Educator Workshop November 7th 9:00am-3:00pm

Water Education for Teachers! Hands-on fun, interactive instruction, and Project WET Activity Guide full of K-12 cross-curricular activities!

Formal and non-formal educators working or residing within the Upper Grand River Watershed are welcome to attend for FREE. Please contact Education Director Kimberly May for registration info. 517-782-3453

kmay@dahlemcenter.org
Lunch and snacks will be provided





Come Deck the Halls!
Join us for
Wreath Decorating
December 1st
5:00pm

All supplies provided.
Wreaths will be sold at our
Holiday Bazaar to support the
Dahlem Center.

The Dahlem Conservancy is co-sponsoring the

Community Forum Series: "EAT"

We are what we eat... just what are we eating?

November 19th, 6:30 pm

*at the Carnegie Library Branch
244 W. Michigan Ave., Jackson
in the Clare Sergeant Auditorium*

The **FREE** forum will include selected viewing of the
documentary *Food Inc.* with group discussion following.

Presented in collaboration with the Jackson District
Library and Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty
For more information, please contact Debby Sears, 517-788-4087.
Child care on site. Please call in advance (517)740-2629.



ARE YOU CRAFTY?

Our Annual Holiday Bazaar is coming soon, and we need your help. Dahlem is looking for people to make/donate craft items to be sold at the bazaar. All proceeds go to support the continuation of quality educational programming at The Dahlem Conservancy.

*"Nature-themed" craft items may include
(but certainly are not limited to):*

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Pottery and Clay | Pet Attire |
| Handmade Jewelry | Floral Arrangements |
| Sculptures | Handmade Stationary |
| Woodworking | Wax Candles |
| Creative Birdhouses | Garden Ornaments |
| Wooden Toys | Nature Prints |

If you would like to donate a craft item(s), just call
The Dahlem Center at 517-782-3453.

Don't Forget!
Great Shopping Opportunities at
the Holiday Bazaar!
December 4th & 5th 10:00am - 4:00pm



Grand River

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Upper Grand River Watershed
www.uppergrandriver.org

Legacy Land Conservancy
www.legacylandconservancy.org

Jackson Fitness Council
www.fitnesscouncil.org

Up-Coming Community Events

**Legacy Land Conservancy
Stewardship Workday at
The Johnson Preserve**

November 7th
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

The Lloyd and Mabel Johnson Preserve is our newest preserve and we need your help to get it in good shape. Volunteers will be assisting with trail clearing and invasive shrub removal. We'll provide all training, tools, and snacks.

The Johnson Preserve is located on Platt Road in Pittsfield Township, south of Ellsworth, immediately south of the Lillie Woods section of Lillie Park. Call **(734) 302-5263** to register or for more information.

**Upper Grand River
Watershed
Grand River Expedition
Meeting**

November 18th
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

The Upper Grand River Alliance, the Grand River Environmental Action Team (GREAT), the Upper Grand River Implementation Project (UGRIP), and The Dahlem Conservancy, request your assistance in planning the first 3 days of the trip. We are off to a good start, our 5th regional planning meeting will take place at:

**Blackman Charter
Township Hall
1990 W. Parnall Rd.
Jackson, MI**

**Jackson Fitness Council
Greater Jackson Habitat for
Humanity 5k Run/Walk**

November 23rd
kid's 1/2 mile @ 1:00 pm
5K @ 1:30 pm

Ella Sharp Park
Museum Grounds
3225 Fourth St.

Entry Fee: \$20.00
you may pre-register or
pay the day of the race

Registration begins at Noon.
Entry fees are non-refundable/
non-transferable.

For Forms or Info:
Phone: **517-784-6620** or
email: jacksonhabitat@acd.net
FAX: 517-784-3890
Step One: 517-788-6140
FAX-788-6940

News from the Friends of Dahlem

Goblin Walks a Success!

For this year's Goblin Walks the Friends of Dahlem provided delicious refreshments in the pavilion adorned with seasonal decorations donated by Betty Desbiens. Hanover Orchards and Wal-Mart donated the apple cider (and we especially appreciate the kindness of the Johnson's at the Hanover Orchards when we had to come back for more!). Flavor Fruit Farms gave us a discount on our donuts and a Sam's Club gift card provided other essential Goblin Walk items.

Braving the wind and the cool weather, Ken and Ruth Smith, Allie Mae, Bob Henning, and Kathy Clark served goodies Friday evening. Mary White, Kyle White, Kathy Clark, and Bev Strickrodt served on Saturday evening. Dorothy Dyer was also on hand to help out where needed.

Many thanks to all participants of the

this year's Scarecrow Contest and to those who volunteered their time towards the Goblin Walks. This year we entertained our biggest crowds yet!

The Friends are still selling Poinsettias. Plants are \$12 each and are guaranteed florist quality. Available colors include red, white, pink, and marble. Order forms are available at Dahlem and must be returned as soon as possible. They make perfect holiday gifts for family, friends, and neighbors!

*-Kathy Clark
Friends President*



Thank You For Your Generous Donations:

(9/24/09 - 10/22/09)

Barbara T. Anderson
Mike Hoover
Michael & Laura Kinder
Anthony & Bonnie Krupa
Maria Maldonado
Frederick & Deborah Marshall
Nancy McCormack
James & Betsy Meyers
Peggy Smith
Glen Spencer
Todd Zeller
Brad Whaley

Benefit Breakfast Sponsor
Abbott Thomson & Beer PLC

For Walk to Remember
Allegiance Health

For Part-Time Naturalist
Friends of Dahlem

In Memory of Carl Kobert
Frank Jamieson
Margaret Wertzbar
John & Patricia Ziembra

In Memory of Joseph Sikora
Dolores Walbrecq

Gifts in Kind

John & Cathie McLaughlin
*Refreshments for
Chamber After Hours event*

Harold Mead
Pictures in frames

Joan Black
Beeswax candle molds

Pat Huebner
*Halloween glow-in-the-dark cups for
Goblin Walks*



Thank you!

Members Corner

(Through 10/22/09)

Welcome New Members!

Kay Brown
John & Stephanie Denney
Erin Dupree
Karen Edwards
Roger & Edythe Gilbert
Karen Golba
Mike & Jan Hoffbauer
Jennifer Huff
Dennis Johns
Kristina Kirkpatrick
Elizabeth Ledyard
Karen Lewan
Marcia MacCready
Scott Richardson
Shane Rudolph
Denise Sajtar
Songbird Company
Lisa Smith
Peggy Smith
DeAnna Struck

Thank You for Your Membership Renewal!

Cindy Allen
Dave & Susan Arkles
Evelyn Barbour
Nicholas Bartz
Steve & Margaret Beison
Bob Callison
Jennifer & Brian Daly
Mrs. Jane Damm
Richard & Karen Deraedt
Elyse, Julie, Steve &
Jonathan Dickerson
Richard Dixon
Diane Dray
Shelly Farhat
Madeline Gifford
Sheryl Gonzalez
Ronald Haselswerdt
Bridget Hawkins
Mike Hoover
Mr. & Mrs. John Hoye
Pat Huebner
Marilyn Jonas
Mike & Linda Killian
Michael & Laura Kinder

Susan Larson
Doug & Sandy Leffler
Beverley McGill & Bob
Maloney
Dan Messerly
James & Betsy Meyers
Ed & Kristy Miller
Patricia & Earl Miller
Herbert Louis
Rita Luppó
Maria Maldonado
Ellyn Meyers
Marta Oliver
Cynthia O'Rourke
Colleen Phenicie
Jacqueline Price
Karlene Rydjord
Lilly Sill
Cheryl Simonetti
Dyane Snow
Donald & Nora Jean
Sowers
Glen Spencer
Bert & Liz Vander Lee
Leo Warren
John O. Webster
Melissa Wilcox
Todd Zeller

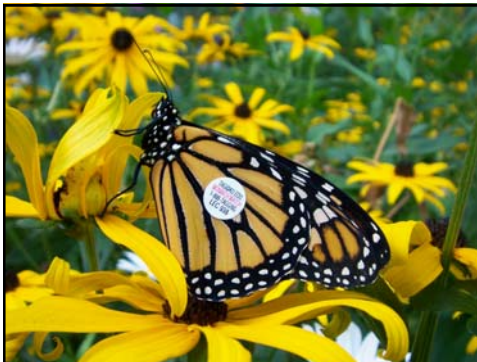
Naturalist's Niche

“Monarch Migration”

by Cody Porter

As you read this article, chances are the majority of monarch butterflies you watched fluttering eloquently through open, sun-dappled fields of milkweed this summer have just completed a 2,000 mile journey to their wintering grounds in groves of Oyamel Firs in Mexico.

Over 55 million monarchs complete this extensive voyage each year, which consists of a “round-trip” from their summer breeding grounds to winter roosting areas and back again. Depending on where the monarchs were born, they will spend the winter in one of three locations. Butterflies born west of the Rocky Mountains tend to migrate to small tree groves along the California coast, while most butterflies born east of the mountains usually migrate to Mexico, though there are always exceptions. Butterflies born



on the east coast, near Vermont, normally spend the winter in southern Florida.

This “round-trip” is never completed by an individual butterfly. On their way north in late winter, monarchs will get only as far as the U.S. Golf Coast, where they will lay eggs and die. It is their offspring that must complete the trip.

Obtaining information on the voyage of these paper-thin warriors is no simple task. For this reason, the University of Kansas began

“Monarch Watch”, a program enlisting the help of citizen scientists from around the country to aid in the retrieval of the monarch’s migration information.

Dahlem has been participating in Monarch Watch for two years now and had a particularly successful 2009 season. Since August 18th of this year, 132 monarchs, 70 males and 62 females, were reared and tagged at the Center.

For all animals, whether our beloved wood warblers or these majestic monarchs, migration poses many perils. The most prevalent dangers for monarchs include storms, predators, and automobiles. With the reasonable assumption that many monarchs will perish during migration, it is the hope of monarch researchers that deceased tagged butterflies will be recovered by caring citizens willing to call in the tag information.

Extensive studies such as this stand to answer many questions about the migrating behavior and patterns of monarchs. For more

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www.dahlemcenter.org

Jackson, MI 49201

7117 S. Jackson Rd.

The Dahlem Conservancy

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