



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR ZOOM MEETING
December 9, 2020 6 PM

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. APPROVE AGENDA
3. APPROVE MINUTES
 - A. November 18, 2020 Minutes
4. COMMUNICATIONS
5. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Re-Naming Preserve Properties
6. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. 2021 Meeting Resolution
 - B. Stewardship Coordinator Intern
7. STAFF REPORT
 - A. Stewardship Coordinator
 1. Deer Management Update
 2. Meridian Conservation Corps Annual Report
 - B. Quarterly Newsletter and volunteer hours
8. COMMENT FROM THE PUBLIC
9. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS
10. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 13, 2020, 6 pm, Zoom meeting.
11. ADJOURNMENT

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Land Preservation Advisory Board by contacting: Director LuAnn Maisner, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4600 - Ten Day Notice is Required.

Meeting Location: Zoom Meeting

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable prime community.



A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, November 18, 2020, 6 PM

PRESENT: Board Members: James Kielbaso; Yu Man Lee; Steve Thomas, Mark Stephens, Jamie Hiller, Kris Parnell, Chanelle Russ
ABSENT: NONE
STAFF: Emma Campbell, Stewardship Coordinator
TOWNSHIP: Township Trustee, Dan Opsommer

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

BOARD CHAIR KIELBASO MOVED TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00 PM.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

- A. Kris Parnell, Board Member
- B. Chanelle Russ, Board Member

3. APPROVE AGENDA

CHAIR KIELBASO WOULD LIKE TO AMEND THE AGENDA BY ADDING THE APPROVAL OF THE PERSVATION MILLAGE TO ITEM F.) IN OLD BUSINESS.

VICE CHAIR HILLER MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 18, 2020 AGENDA. Trustee Opsommer seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVE OCTOBER 14, 2020 MINUTES

TRUSTEE OPSOMMER MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 14, 2020 MINUTES. Seconded by Board Member Stephens.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Staff member Campbell updates the board on the new hybrid work from home program for all township departments.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Lake Lansing South Preserve
 - 1. DNR Fisheries guidance on Pike spawning area: Board Member Stephens updtaes the board members on information gathered at meeting with DNR fisheries experts. There will be a meeting onsite by DNR to assess the area and what management practices we can instill to enhance the area for fish and wildlife habitat. DNR is not able to meet in

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- person so they will be doing a site visit and will report back to us.
2. Staff member Campbell gives an update on the Lake Lansing South neighborhood encroachment. Letters will be sent out and signs put up for no mowing.
- B. Wetland mitigation project at Central Meridian Uplands
1. Staff member Campbell updates the board on the project – Central Meridian Uplands is no longer being looked at as a candidate, so we do not need to pursue anything further.
- C. Lake Lansing Park North Boardwalk and Path Improvements
1. Update from Coe Emens – Staff member Campbell passes on correspondence from Coe Emens on the timeline of Path Improvements (email format).
- D. Lake Lansing North burn update
1. Staff member Campbell attended the Ingham County Park Commission meeting on November 16, 2020. Prescribed burning at Lake Lansing North Conservation Easement was approved and moving on to the next step.
- E. Re-Naming Preserve Properties
1. Ideas will be revisited at December meeting.
- F. 2020 Land Preservation Millage Renewal
1. The millage passed and will be renewed at a lower millage rate of 0.1.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Prescribed burn management plan at Davis-Foster Preserve
1. Staff member Campbell describes the proposed area for burnings and associated benefits: invasive phragmites control, reinvigoration of plant community. The prescribed burn is open for discussion.
 2. Questions and concerns raised from Board Members:
 - i. Chair Kielbaso questions whether we should also look at performing a prescribed burn on the wetland property on the west side of Van Atta Rd. Staff Member Campbell agrees that a burn could be helpful to the plant community but burn breaks may be hard to create. It will be something to look toward in the future.
 - ii. Board Member Lee asks about how the burn will affect the Henslow Sparrow; a rare grassland bird that has been sighted at Davis-Foster. Staff Member Campbell takes note of this, and it will be a high priority when considering future burn units at Davis-Foster Preserve. Local Audubon will be consulted before any burns take place.
 - iii. Board Member Stephens and Chair Kielbaso are in favor of putting a plan together to pursue the prescribed burn.

8. STAFF REPORT

- A. Stewardship Coordinator
1. Deer management update
 - I. 128 deer harvested
 - II. 2,007 pounds of venison donated to local food banks
 - III. Staff member Campbell updates the board on the Meridian Township Police Department sharpshooter program starting January 1, 2021
 2. Stewardship Workdays
 - I. Southwest Uplands Preserve
 - A. 10/24/2020
 - B. 15 volunteers removed honeysuckle from back western corner

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of preserve

II. Lake Lansing North Fall Cleanup

A. 11/07/2020

B. 11 volunteers removed piles of leaves off a hillside in Lake Lansing North that is known to harbor rare native plants

III. Southwest Uplands Neighborhood Orientation

A. 11/07/2020

B. 19 volunteers from the Woods of Heron Creek neighborhood

C. Orientation on invasive identification and removal – removed honeysuckle from bluestem prairie

9. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - NONE

10. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

- A. Board Member Stephens inquired about taking large valuable fallen trees from the parks to use for wood in various park projects. Example, large oak fallen in Hillbrook to be used to replace plank road in historical village. Staff member Campbell will look into the matter.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, December 9, 6 pm, over Zoom.

12. ADJOURNMENT

CHAIR KIELBASO MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. Seconded by Board Member Thomas.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm.

Re-Naming of Preserve Properties

***Not all preserves are subject to a name change due to the acquisition process of donated land to include naming rights. The following are land preserves that are able to undergo a name change. Please fill in your ideas to discuss at the December 9th meeting – we are looking to name them according to geographic location, or landmarks.**

- 1. Lake Lansing South (formerly known as the Potter Property)**

- 2. Central Meridian Uplands**

- 3. Meridian Central Wetlands**

- 4. North Ridge Preserve (I think this is named after the glaciation ridge located**

- 5. at the preserve, so not sure if this one should be changed)**

- 6. Southwest Uplands Preserve**

- 7. Tihart/Cornell Wetlands**

- 8. Tihart Preserve (Judy Lynn has requested that her name be on the sign, but we are not obligated to name the preserve after her)**



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE
2021 LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING RESOLUTION**

At a virtual regular meeting of the Land Preservation Advisory Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Service Center, in said Township on the 9th day of December 2012 at 6:00 pm, Local Time.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

The following resolution was offered by Board Member ____ and supported by Board Member ____:

WHEREAS, the Land Preservation Advisory Board desires to announce the time, date, and place of all meetings of the Land Preservation Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, the Land Preservation Advisory Board deems the 2021 regular meeting schedule sufficient to uphold the Township Board's Policies and Procedures, and advancement toward the Board's Global Ends; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THAT THE LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD ADOPTS ITS REGULAR 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS:

Date

January 13	Regular Meeting	6 pm
January 26*	Joint Meeting	6 pm
February 10	Regular Meeting	6 pm
March 10	Regular Meeting	6 pm
April 14	Regular Meeting	6 pm
May 12	Regular Meeting	6 pm
June 9	Regular Meeting	6 pm
July 14	Regular Meeting	6 pm
August 11	Regular Meeting	6 pm
September 8	Regular Meeting	6 pm
October 13	Regular Meeting	6 pm
November 10	Regular Meeting	6 pm
December 8	Regular Meeting	6 pm

*Joint Meeting of the Township Boards and Commissions

1. The Land Preservation Advisory Board has set a schedule to meet on the second Wednesday of the month; except for the joint meeting with the other Township boards and commissions on Tuesday, January 26.
2. Each of the above meetings shall be held at the specified time over Zoom, at a prespecified park or preserve, or in the lunch room of the Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct., Haslett, Michigan, (517) 853-4000; with the exception of the joint meeting of the boards and commission which is held in the Town Hall Room, Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos; unless changed and noticed in accordance with MCL 15.265
3. Special meetings of the Land Preservation Advisory Board may be called pursuant to the statute thereto appertaining.
4. Regular meetings may be canceled, recessed or postponed by members of the Land Preservation Advisory Board pursuant to the statute thereto appertaining.
5. A summary of this resolution stating date, place, and time shall be posted in the Meridian Municipal Building within ten (10) days after the first regularly scheduled meeting of the year in accordance with the MCL 15.265

ADOPTED:

YEAS:

NAYS:

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss:
 COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Chairperson of the Land Preservation Advisory Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Land Preservation Advisory Board held on the 9th day of December, 2020.

 Chairperson Jim Kielbaso
 Land Preservation Advisory Board

DEER MANAGEMENT UPDATE
December 2, 2020

Deer Management Season: October , 2020 – January 1, 2021

Total Deer Harvested to Date: 146

Total venison donated to date: 2,007 lbs

Recipients of venison: Okemos Community Church Food Bank
 Haslett Community Church Food Bank
 Capital Area Community Services (Mason)
 St. Paul Lutheran Church (Lansing)
 First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale
 LMTS Outreach Center (Lansing)
 Our Savior Lutheran Food Bank (Lansing)

	Total Hunters	Properties Hunted	Deer Harvested	Reported Deer/Car Collisions
2011	25	7	43	152
2012	50	18	90	153
2013	60	20	127	180
2014	73	21	150	137
2015	30	19	63	144
2016	73	31	73	164
2017	66	30	80	129
2018	74	38	57	129
2019	84	38	88	153
2020	75	40 (2,300 acres)	145 (as of 12/12/20)	-----

FALL 2020

VOL. 1

THE CORPS RAPPOR



Meridian Conservation Corps Quarterly Newsletter



WHY WE NEED THE M.C.C.

A note from Meridian Township's Land Stewardship Coordinator, Emma Campbell

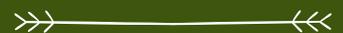
2020 is the kind of year that makes one take stock of life. It makes us think of what we value, what we hold dearest. All of my life, nature has been important, but this year, it has been vital to my well-being. In the upheaval of 2020 I have been reminded of what I love about nature. It has healing properties. It makes us look both inward and outward. It drags our eyes from our screens and gives us a sight to behold. Nature is a community in which we belong. As humans we often think of ourselves as separate from nature, but we are nature, and nature is us. This is a perfect time to realize our place in the environment, and our connectivity to the world and each other. The M.C.C. is here to bring us all closer and foster this connection to improve our physical and mental health, as well as our environment. This year will be known for many things, but in Meridian it will be known for the start of a beautiful relationship between our community and the land. Thank you all for joining the M.C.C. on this journey. I hope you enjoy our first ever quarterly newsletter!



**STEWARDSHIP
SUCCESS**



2021 EVENTS



**SUSTAINABLE
HOLIDAYS**

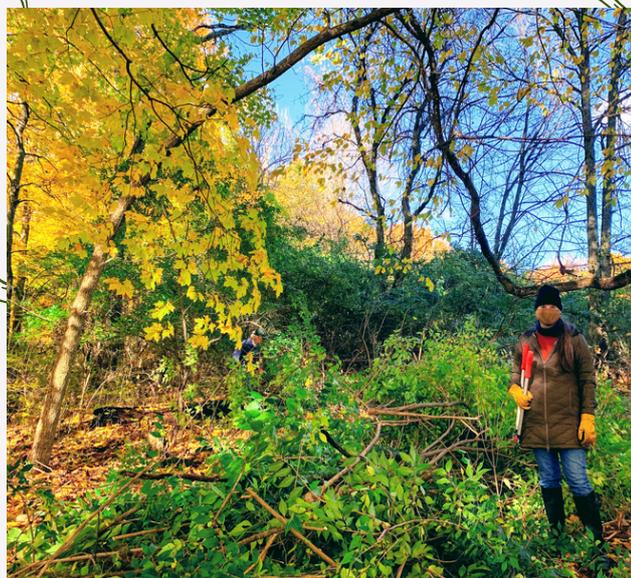




STEWARDSHIP SUCCESS

*2020 Stewardship Accomplishments
September to November 2020*

- **315 HOURS OF HABITAT RESTORATION COMPLETED**
- **263 POUNDS OF LITTER REMOVED FROM 12 PARKS**
- **135 CORPS MEMBERS**
- **65 VOLUNTEERS ACTIVELY WORKING ACROSS 7 PARKS & PRESERVES**
- **12 NATIVE PLANT SPECIES CULTIVATED IN PRESERVES**
- **10 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF INVASIVE PLANTS REMOVED**
- **6 STEWARDSHIP SATURDAYS**
- **4 CONSERVATION PROGRAMS LAUNCHED**
- **1 SENTINEL TREE ADOPTED BY FOREST WATCH VOLUNTEERS**





2020 STEWARDSHIP IN IMAGES

The Conservation Corps at work



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BEFORE

BEFORE & AFTER REMOVING INVASIVE HONEYSUCKLE AT SW UPLANDS PRESERVE IN THE UNDERSTORY OF THIS OAK & MAPLE GROVE. WHAT A DIFFERENCE!

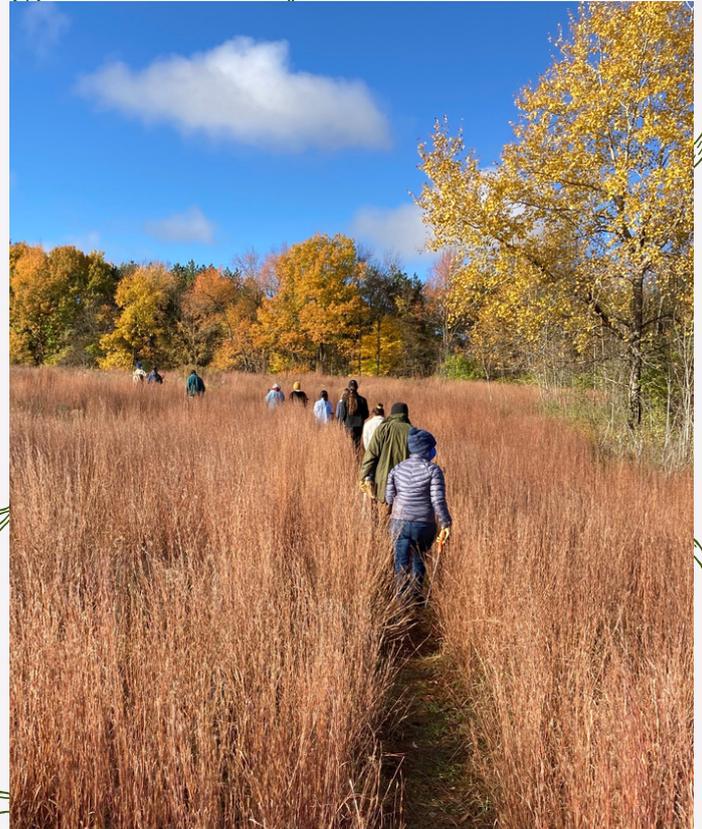


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AFTER

(BELOW) VOLUNTEERS PLANTING NATIVE BLUE COHOSH IN SOWER WOODS PRESERVE



(ABOVE) WALKING THROUGH SW UPLANDS BLUESTEM PRAIRIE ON A LOVELY STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY

(BELOW) NATIVE BLUE COHOSH SEEDS



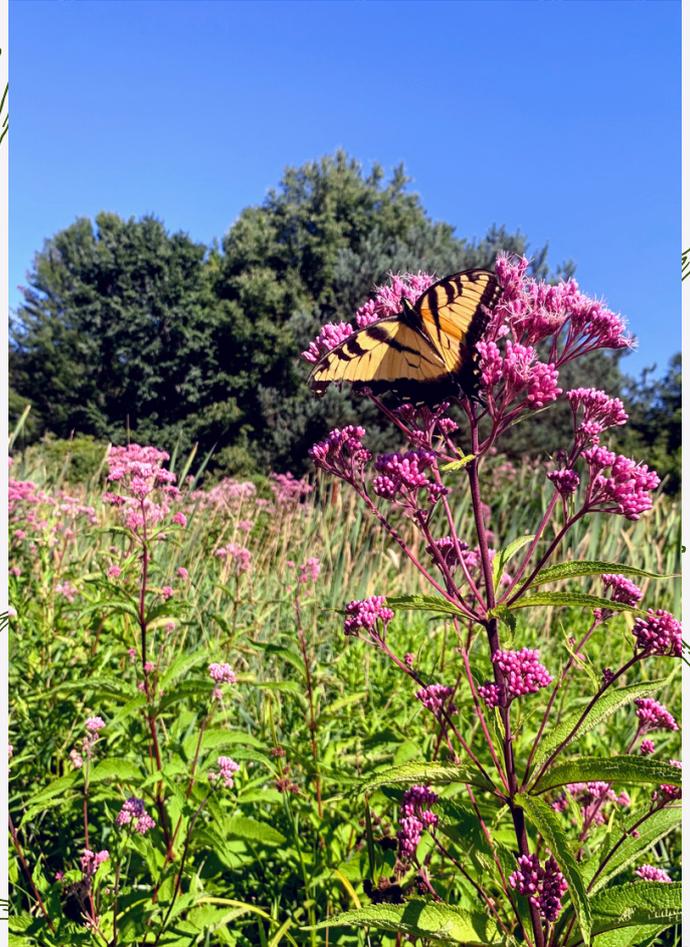


WHY WE DO IT

Protecting what is important



(ABOVE) BEECH, MAPLE AND OAK FORESTS ALONG THE RED CEDAR RIVER AT RED CEDAR GLEN PRESERVE

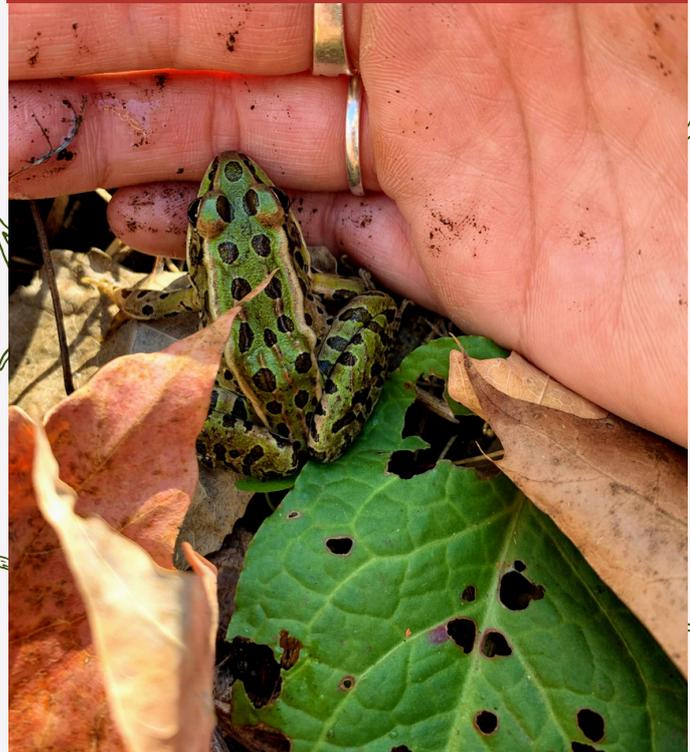


(ABOVE) A TIGER SWALLOWTAIL FEEDING ON THE NECTAR OF JOE-PYE WEED AT NORTH MERIDIAN ROAD PARK

(BELOW) MOVING A NORTHERN LEOPARD FROG OUT OF HARMS WAY DURING INVASIVE REMOVAL



RARE NATIVE WOODLAND SPECIES BLUESTEM GOLDENROD (ABOVE) & TICK-TREFOIL (BELOW)





M.C.C. EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO

- **STEWARDSHIP SATURDAYS**
 - WILL RESUME DECEMBER 19TH AT TIHART PRESERVE (PENDING COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES)
 - 9:30 AM - 12 PM EVERY OTHER SATURDAY AT A DIFFERENT PARK & PRESERVE
- **INVASIVE SPECIES TRAINING WEBINAR**
 - JANUARY 23, 2021
 - 10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM
 - INFORMATION ON IDENTIFICATION, REMOVAL & LONG TERM MANAGEMENT
- **INVASIVE SPECIES TRAINING FIELD PORTION**
 - MARCH 13, 2021
 - 9:30 AM TO 12:00 PM
 - IN PERSON FIELD TRAINING FOR IDENTIFICATION & REMOVAL TECHNIQUES
- **VERNAL POOL PATROL TRAINING WEBINAR**
 - MARCH 27, 2021
 - TIME TBD - FIELD TRAINING PENDING COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES

PLEASE EMAIL ME IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND ANY EVENTS



MCC
SWAG
COMING
SOON!!



CONSERVATION DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Sustainability however you celebrate!

NATURAL DECORATIONS



(Above) Try using natural items such as fruit, which can be dried in a dehydrator or baked in an oven at 150 degrees for 3-5 hours

Holiday Wreath



Use this



American Bittersweet

- Berries are at tips of vines only
- Orange fruit capsule
- 6+ fruit/flower per cluster
- Narrow leaves

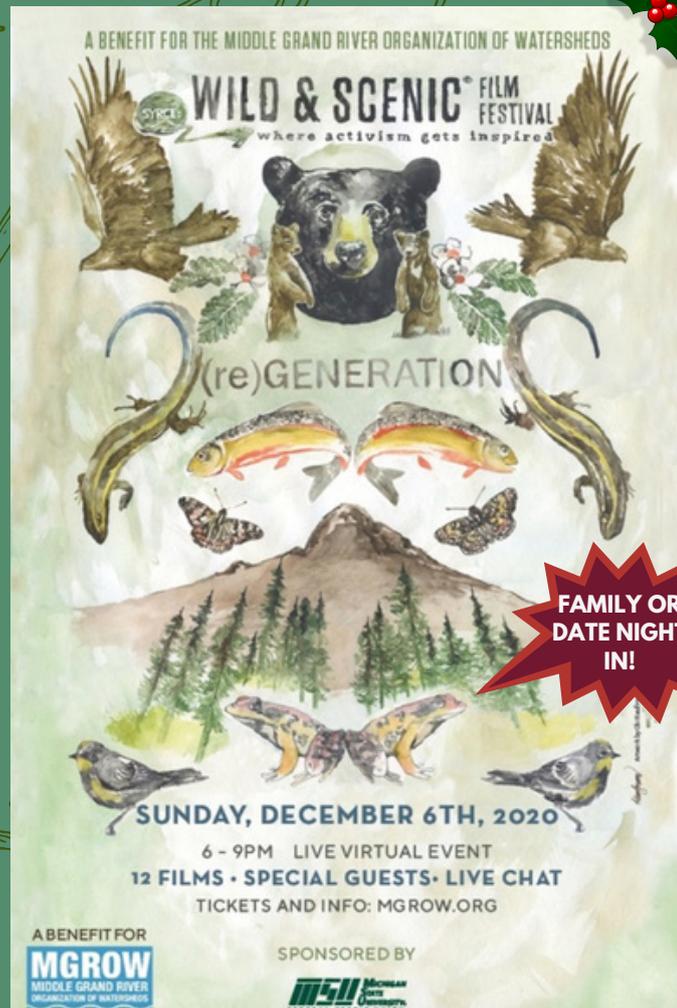
Not that



Oriental Bittersweet

- Berries grow along the vine
- Yellow fruit capsule
- 2-3 fruit/flowers per cluster
- Broader leaves

Opt for plastic free & use natural materials for decor and gift wrapping. For gifts use newspaper, or old maps & adorn with a stone, or evergreen. Please do keep invasives in mind (above), don't over harvest materials, & be aware of local ordinances. American bittersweet can be a rare sight in Michigan, but artificial foliage can look just as pretty!



FAMILY OR DATE NIGHT IN!

(Above) This Sunday, December 6th, benefit MGROW & register to view award winning environmental & adventure films. Dinner & drink packages are available through Lansing Brewing Company!



EVERGREEN MAKES A LOVELY DECORATION AND SMELLS GREAT TOO!

CONSERVATION DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Sustainability however you celebrate!



It can be overwhelming to think about sustainability in your home & as a consumer. Check out this plastic detox mind map that offers a variety of routes you can travel down to start your plastic free journey. Don't forget that each step counts, no matter how small. You don't have to do everything in one day or one year, but you can start somewhere!

IDEAS FOR SUSTAINABLE SHOPPING

- **SHOP LOCAL!** Challenge yourself & loved ones to find gifts only at local businesses. Online sites like Etsy offer local & independent sellers!
- **DIY & ANTIQUES!** Instead of buying something new, up-cycle an old item already in circulation, or go the handmade route. Antiques can make a fun & super unique gift!
- **BE A CONSCIOUS CONSUMER!** Research the companies you purchase from: What sustainable initiatives does their organization pursue? Are they using sustainably harvested products? As a consumer, you hold the power to change the world!



For local gifts visit Meridian's Winter Market every Saturday 10am - 2pm until Dec. 19th