



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
Land Preservation Advisory Board
Wednesday, September 9, 2015
6 pm

SITE TOUR NOTES
6 PM – HUBBEL LAND PRESERVE

Members Present: Julie Brixie, Roland Harmes, James Kielbaso,
Jon Mayes

Members Absent: Frank Hatfield, Margo Smith, Mark Stephens, Robert Rusch

Others: Ted Farrell

Site tour notes

LPAB members walked into the Hubbel Land Preserve from the railroad track crossing at Okemos Road. The group then walked north-west through goldenrod, wild raspberries, New England asters, and gray twig dogwood. Features of the site included wet ditches that are draining under the railroad to the south; the Wolverine Pipeline; the Everly Drain; upland areas; and wet woods.

The Wolverine Pipeline crosses the property and is marked with orange stakes. It was noted that the utility company had likely treated the shrubs within the pipeline. This resulted in killing some invasive species, such as buckthorn, but also some desirable species such as walnut. There is a small patch of invasive phragmites grass within the drain area. This patch has been treated twice within the past five years and should be treated again. Full eradication may be unlikely because the seeds tend to be carried through drainage ways.

There are some unusual, curvilinear drainage swales carved within the center of the preserve. It is unknown why these drainage swales exist but they have created some nice edges and islands for wildlife. West of the preserve, along the railroad tracks, are beautiful, large oak trees. The group also sighted two dead deer along the railroad tracks.

The group would like to walk the preserve again but hope to find a more accessible path for the tour.

The site visit commenced at 7 pm.