



A Legacy of Innovation

Jim Haveman walked into his first day of work as a District Conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service (now the Natural Resources Conservation Service) in Reed City on April 29, 1974. After 7 years working with farmers to conserve habitat and water quality, he saw intriguing possibilities in the Resource Conservation and Development program, and landed the Traverse City RC&D Coordinator job in 1981. Jim spent the next 10 years building the operation into a regional stronghold for conservation projects. CRA staff people are still unearthing a surprising number of projects in our 13-county service area that benefited from Jim's technical input and creative pass-through funding, a boon to rural northern Michigan during the heyday of federal funding. In addition to a whole laundry list of community enhancement projects, such as the harbor at Elk Rapids, Peterson Park in Leelanau County, and improvements to the Boardman River waterfront in Traverse City, the flagship Pere Marquette River Restoration project was launched to answer the cry for help coming from rural Lake County. This project shaped the future for CRA as the first comprehensive watershed restoration project of its kind in North America. It was the brainchild of Jim Haveman and a handful of strong-willed partners who support creative, pro-active resource management to this day.

We liked to tease Jim about the guy who had agency bureaucrats literally spitting mad at him, saying that the Pere Marquette restoration project was too big, too hard, too expensive. Was he crazy? How in the world did he imagine that anyone could reverse almost 2 centuries of damage



Jim's priorities: family and nature

from logging, massive erosion, and subsequent recreation and development?

Well, we thank Jim everyday at CRA, for succeeding. You see, every day now, 8 employees, along with hundreds of partner groups and volunteers, owe our careers to Jim! By setting the pace with the Pere Marquette river restoration project, bringing many energies and funding sources to bear on a big, tough problem, Jim created the formula that's at work today in 15 of northern Michigan's best watersheds, from the Big Sable and Pere Marquette in the south, to Emmet County's Maple River near the Mackinac Bridge. We are finishing major projects, such as repairing each and every logging-caused erosion site on the Betsie, Little Manistee and Pine Rivers, and still using Jim's formula for tackling new problems, like the fragmentation, or breaking apart, of important wildlife habitat connections as northern Michigan develops.

Almost 25 years to the day after he began his assignment with CRA, Jim retired, again without flourish, again with heartfelt thanks from the friends and families in and around CRA. And we promise to go forward remembering all the things you taught us, Jim, especially to do conservation the right way, according to good science and putting the resource needs first. After all, we can still hear you saying, "...because haphazard conservation is not much better than no conservation at all."

Lately, Jim has been living it up, spending time with his 2 granddaughters, his 20+ year taxidermy business, Nature's Reflections, and generally enjoying the fish and wildlife he worked to protect. We miss Jim terribly at CRA, but every one of us aspires to follow his path. We honor the courage and vision that Jim invested in growing CRA from a one-person, government supported office, to the nonprofit conservation force that the organization is today. Each one of the staff members at CRA would be proud to retire with the type of accomplishments under our belt that Jim has.

Note: Cards and well wishes may be directed to CRA's office. Jim has suggested donations to the River Care Permanent Fund in lieu of gifts.

Congratulations Jim and Sarah!





Green River Dam Project

Recently, proposals were solicited from ten prospective engineering firms for a concept design that would allow for the Green River Dam's removal while still providing needed surface water to the adjacent trout farm. Proposals for the work are due by mid April, and will be evaluated and scored prior to selecting the winning firm.

Once the firm is selected, it is expected that work begin immediately and that a design alternative be selected by summer's end. CRA and MDNR Fisheries Division will then begin seeking funds to replace the existing structure. The engineering phase of the project is being funded by grants from Nestle Ice Mountain and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, with matching contributions from the DTE Energy Foundation.

Boardman River Dams Committee

The process of determining the fate of four dams on the Boardman River continues to move along. The Boardman River Dams Committee (BRDC) is currently working toward selecting a qualified team to conduct an Engineering and Feasibility Study to evaluate economic, environmental, social, and engineering aspects of the various alternatives regarding dam retention and removal. The study is expected to take 18 months to complete, and should commence this summer.

The BRDC is made up of interested members of the public and meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 6-8 pm at Northwestern Michigan College's Great Lakes Campus in Traverse City. We encourage all those interested to get involved in the process and learn more about one of northwest Michigan's crown jewels, the Boardman River!



The Wildlife and Forestry Connection

This past winter, 3 Emmet County landowners participating in the Wild Link program completed timber harvests as recommended in their Wild Link plans. Timber harvests can mimic natural disturbances that various plants and animals are adapted to and so will react well to these disturbances. As more sunlight is able to reach the forest floor, vegetation responds with an explosion of growth. This increased growth benefits wildlife by providing more food and cover.

A total of about 375 acres of forest have now been impacted by these cuts: a direct result of landowner participation in the Wild Link program. While we truly enjoy helping individual landowners reach their goals for their property, the real reason for Wild Link, and the reason that the average citizen in northern Michigan should be supportive of it, is that we are striving to help the region as a whole. By keeping a high percent of important wildlife habitat undivided, regional wildlife populations, local economies dependent on natural resources, and the rural character of northern Michigan all stand to benefit!



It Must Be Spring - Greens Fore Streams is Back!

Start with a perfect bluebird skies spring day, add 150 or so very fun people, good food and drink, great prizes and activities, and one of the most beautiful golf courses in northern Michigan, and you'll end up with CRA's Green Fore Streams golf outing. Although we can't guarantee the weather, the rest of the event is a slam-dunk with the help of the crew from Crystal Mountain's Mountain Ridge course and all of the dedicated friends and sponsors that help make this annual event a big success. We are especially pleased to welcome back Scientific Anglers-3M as our title



sponsor. Bruce Richards will return with world-class fly-casting demonstrations and contests for everyone to enjoy. Golfer registration is \$100 per person, \$400 for a foursome team and includes golf, cart, contests, snack lunch, reception, and buffet dinner. Bob Garner will again emcee the ceremonies and auction. Come join the fun Wednesday, May 31st by

returning the registration form that you recently received or by giving us a call at 231-946-6817 to sign up a team, individual golfers, a hole sponsor, or to donate prizes. We need your help and participation. See you on the links!

Greens Fore Streams



Thank you for your recent support of CRA, River Care™ and Wild-Link™

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Anonymous	Judy Egeler	John & Linda Kearns	Andy Robinson	In honor of Ed & Carole DeVilbiss Robert & Alison DeVilbiss
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	Richard Ford			
	Jack Fuller			

We're Moving!

Well, sort of. Our mailing address will remain the same but we will be moving to the Terrace level of the Bayview Professional Centre (formerly the Grandview Plaza Building) in the next few months. You may have noticed some of the exciting changes taking place in and outside the building. Stop by and see our new suite this summer!

Want to Join Our Team?

The Conservation Resource Alliance has a full-time position opening for a program manager to develop and lead the exciting Wild Link program, a community-based effort to protect and improve wildlife habitat in northern Michigan. This job involves working with landowners, partner organizations, agencies, and funders, a rewarding mix of field, development, and outreach duties. Candidates must have a degree related to natural resources, and the initiative to lead the Wild Link program.



Yes! I Want to Support CRA & Practical Conservation!

Enclosed is my CRA Membership contribution:

Contributor \$30 Supporter \$50 Sponsor \$100

Benefactor \$500 Patron \$1000 Other \$ _____

Business Membership: Small \$100 Large \$500

Special recognition and employee benefits available

I would like to make a special contribution of \$ _____

Gift Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

In Memory/Honor of (circle one): _____

River Care Permanent Fund

My employer will match my gift (please send forms)

I wish my support to be anonymous

Send Free T-Shirt, Size: S M L XL XXL

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____

Please Charge My Credit Card Visa Master Card

Card No.: _____

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Credit card payments are also accepted on line at: rivercare.org

Your donation is tax-deductible. Make all checks payable to:

Conservation Resource Alliance

10850 Traverse Highway, Suite 1111, Traverse City, MI 49684

Thank You For Your Support!

An Opportunity to Make a Difference

Thank you everyone that have joined the growing number of individuals and businesses that are making a difference for northern Michigan's woods and waters by becoming supporting members of the Conservation Resource Alliance. The grass roots energy and financial support that comes from members is a big part of CRA's continued success. Wayne Andersen, chairman of the Big Sable Watershed Restoration Committee, says it best, "It is very easy for me to support CRA. The staff is first class and CRA is result oriented."

For the 7th year we are able to offer all members another original Richard Forrest watercolor art CRA t-shirt just for joining or renewing. This year's dragonfly design is very cool. Make your gift online at www.rivercare.org, by sending in the form in this newsletter, or by calling CRA at 231-946-6817. With your help, we can change the future of coldwater streams, forests, and wildlife!





**Conservation
Resource Alliance**
COORDINATING SENSIBLE
STEWARDSHIP OF THE LAND

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Stewardship Spotlight

Established in 1983 in Traverse City, Michigan, the Pirate’s Cove Adventure Golf mission has always been to provide a wholesome, quality, family oriented entertainment option that promises a fun and unique experience for everyone. For twenty years, patrons have been testing their skills on well designed golf holes, experiencing the rush of white water from cascading waterfalls and streams, enjoying elaborate and lush landscaping, delighting in pirate themed decors and props, and appreciating the cleanliness, attention to detail, and sincere customer service. Pirate’s Cove has slowly grown to over twenty locations, extending north to Bar Harbor, Maine, south to Orlando, Florida, and west to Rapid City, South Dakota. Two of the principals in the Pirate’s Cove – P.C. Management team, Jeff and Brad Graft, grew up in the management responsibilities for this vast network of outdoors, especially cold-water streams. From this has been a key component to the success for road on cross-country and trans-continental National River Care Expedition, to benefit folks, “We believe in and support CRA’s match to our own conservation values model that drives CRA to success.” The proud to know and work with P.C.

business that their father started. The “boys” not only share fun, but also a love and respect for adventure and the has grown a commitment for stewardship that CRA’s River Care Program. Jeff has taken to the biking excursions, Riding for Rivers and the this initiative. The Graft brothers often tell mission because of a close philosophical and the well focused, real work business Conservation Resource Alliance is Management and the Graft family!



Thank You for Your Generous Support!