



HEADWATERS
LAND CONSERVANCY

Preserving the lands and waters of northeast Michigan.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15th, 2010

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HeadWaters Land Conservancy to Host a Family Geocaching Adventure at the Marguerite Gahagan Nature Preserve

Do you often find yourself day dreaming about hunting for treasure in wild and beautiful places? Do you enjoy the thrill of stepping into the wilderness with only a compass and your trusty GPS unit to guide you? If you do, then you might be a geocacher and not even know it! Geocaching is an exciting activity that is quickly becoming a worldwide phenomenon - uniting people of all ages, with a deep sense of appreciation for the environment and a strong commitment to community. Geocaching uses GPS and navigation equipment to find hidden treasure boxes, called "caches." Caches can be hidden anywhere outdoors, and contain small items that other geocachers have left behind. The rule is that if you remove an item from the cache, you must leave something to take its place! Often, geocachers will write about their experiences and share them with others.

Please join HeadWaters Land Conservancy as we go on our own geocaching adventure through the Marguerite Gahagan Nature Preserve in Roscommon, MI! We'll head out on an exciting journey through forests, along rivers, and through fields learning valuable navigation and orientation skills while at the same time increasing our appreciation for the beautiful lands of northern Michigan.

This event, the third in a series of successful programs hosted by HeadWaters Land Conservancy in 2010, will be held on Saturday July 31st from 10:00am to 12:30pm. The program is designed for



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Huron Pines AmeriCorps, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and an equal opportunity provider, is supported in part by the Corporation for National and Community Service, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, DTE Energy Foundation, Huron Pines and contributions from host sites.

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children 10 to 15 years of age, but parents are encouraged to stay and participate as well. Participants will learn about the history and culture of geocaching as the program moves through interactive map reading and compass activities. The program ends with a hunt for geocaches that have been hidden within the beautiful property of the Marguerite Gahagan Nature Preserve.

The Conservancy is excited to be partnering with the Marguerite Gahagan Nature Preserve for this program! Approximately 53 of the preserve's 60 acres was placed into a conservation easement agreement with HeadWaters Land Conservancy in 2004 protecting important wetlands around Tank Creek, a tributary to the Au Sable River, forever. The preserve is open to the public for hiking, birding, and snowshoeing and provides valuable environmental education opportunities for the residents of Roscommon County and beyond. The July 31st Geocaching Adventure is an excellent opportunity for families to experience the power of land conservation partnerships in northeast Michigan while learning a new and fun way to explore the beautiful places our region has to offer – together!

Compass and GPS equipment will be provided for this event, however if you have your own we ask that you please bring it along. The program will have participants trekking through the woods so sturdy shoes and comfortable clothes are a must. All great treasure hunters bring a hat for protection from the sun, sunscreen, bug spray, and water so we ask that you do the same! If you are interested in participating in this event, please RSVP by calling 989-731-0573 or e-mailing us at land@headwatersconservancy.org. The Marguerite Gahagan Nature preserve is located at 209 Maplehurst, Roscommon, MI 48653 and can be found on the web at www.gahagannature.org

HeadWaters Land Conservancy is dedicated to protecting the natural beauty of northern Michigan by preserving significant land and scenic areas, and fostering appreciation and understanding of the environment.

Huron Pines AmeriCorps is supported in part by the Corporation for National and Community Service, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, DTE Energy Foundation, Huron Pines and contributions from host sites. For more information, visit www.huronpines.org or contact Casey Ressler, AmeriCorps Coordinator at (989) 344-0753.