

HeadWaters April 2021 E-News



Spring Wetland Hike at Michi-Lu-Ca
Saturday April 24th: 5-7PM
Please RSVP on our website at:
www.headwatersconservancy.org
Or Call the office!

Check us out on Facebook at:
[HeadWatersLandConservancy](https://www.facebook.com/HeadWatersLandConservancy)

The office is currently closed to the public,
if you have any questions for us,
please call 989-731-0573

Laura Justin
Executive Director
Ljustin@headwatersconservancy.org

Libby Gunderson
Director of Conservation
Lgunderson@headwatersconservancy.org

Dianne Farner
Outreach & Development Coordinator
Dfarner@headwatersconservancy.org



Michigan Marsupials

Shoulder season is here folks, and that means sleepy critters begin their search for food. My favorite early spring animal is the opossum. Not only are they the sole marsupial in Michigan, they are incredibly beneficial to the environment. Though they are known to eat garbage, these guys love to eat ticks and other vermin that are far more irritating to humans. One opossum can eat upwards of 5,000 ticks a year! They also rarely contract rabies or Lyme disease! These creatures can look rough and tumble, however they are very timid and scare easily. Unfortunately, the opossum becomes one of the first casualties of spring traffic. Because the opossum carries its young inside of a pouch, the joeys may still be alive after the mother has been hit. Now, I know not everyone is willing to go rifling through an opossum's pouch. Luckily there are some great wildlife rescues that are more than happy to save a few opossums.

Wildlife Rescue

You might be thinking, hey it's northern Michigan, there are tons of wild animals, there should be a wildlife rescue in every county. This is not the case, as that level of specialized care is not widely available and there are very few that are licensed in our service area. The A.R.K. in St. Helen (Roscommon County), and Nature's Kingdom Wildlife Rehab in Herron (Alpena County) are doing their best to save and rehabilitate the wild animals in northeast Michigan. Knowing who to call about an injured critter is half the battle of getting them help. From there one of these wonderful rescues will assist you in the next steps to take. Depending on your location you can meet, deliver or have the rescue retrieve the animal in need. Even though you may have the best intentions in mind, never keep a wild animal. For the list of licensed rehabilitators in Michigan visit <https://www2.dnr.state.mi.us/dlr/>.

Nature's Kingdom Wildlife Rehab

7130 Wegmeyer Rd, Herron, MI
49744
(989) 727-3893

Ark Association To Rescue Critters

3878 S Maple Valley Rd, St Helen, MI
48656
(989) 389-3305