

A special thanks to Harold Wing. After several years of his gentle persuasion, Casper “Cap” Haehnle donated 497 acres to Michigan Audubon in memory of his daughter Phyllis. The Haehnle Memorial Sanctuary has grown to its present size through the generosity of many additional individuals and groups.

Join us in supporting the ongoing projects and those planned for the future of this Sanctuary!

Please make your tax-deductible check to Michigan Audubon, 2310 Science Parkway, Suite 200, Okemos, MI 48864 or Jackson Audubon Society, PO Box 6453, Jackson, MI 49204 noting on the memo line that the donation is for Haehnle Sanctuary. Or scan QR code below to donate online.



JAS online Donation

Admission is free

It is open year round from dawn to dusk. Please help preserve and protect our Sanctuary by walking only on the trails. And remember: even good dogs must be on a leash.

Contact: Steve Jerant,
Sanctuary Chairman

jacksonaudubon@gmail.com



Map of Phyllis Haehnle Memorial Sanctuary

Location

Haehnle Sanctuary is located 6 miles northeast of Jackson. From I-94 take Race Rd. (exit 147) and go north 2 miles to Seymour Rd. Turn left (west) and go 1.5 miles to the entrance on the right (north) side of the road.

Phyllis Haehnle

Memorial Sanctuary



A Michigan Audubon Sanctuary

Mission Statement

The Haehnle Sanctuary is dedicated to the protection of and education about Sandhill Cranes, other birds and wildlife and the habitats that support them by providing opportunities for research and recreational viewing.

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View of Mud Lake Marsh From the Observation Hill

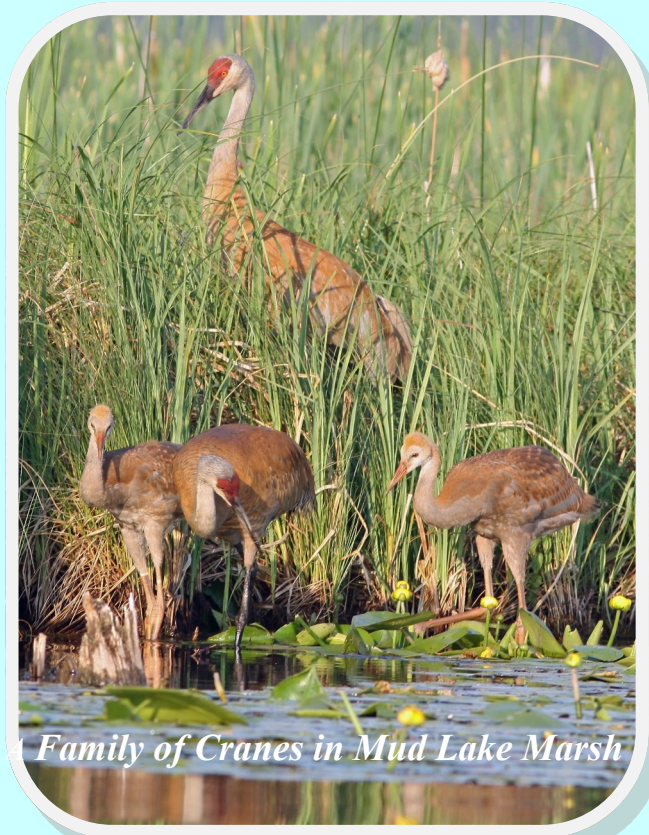
The Phyllis Haehnle Memorial Sanctuary, owned by Michigan Audubon, encompasses over 1,000 acres. Its upland habitats include beech & oak climax forests and grasslands. Wetlands include Eagle Lake, Mud Lake Marsh, the Portage River, fen, hardwood swamp, vernal pond, and wetland shrub.

The Jackson Audubon Society, a chapter of Michigan Audubon, manages Haehnle Sanctuary to optimize its habitats and maximize its variety of native plants and animals. To date 22 species of rare birds and two species of rare reptiles have been identified; along with 400 species of native and alien plants. In 2000, these two Audubon organizations, in cooperation with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, planted 35 acres with native grasses and wildflowers to attract grassland wildlife. In 2001, to increase wetland flora and fauna, nearly 200 acres of degraded wetland were restored with help from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Ducks Unlimited.

Walking trails with an interpretive map permit a view of many of these areas. Occasional guided walks and other activities are enjoyed by visitors throughout the seasons.

The winter months provide an opportunity to hike the trails and observe animals like deer, squirrels, and birds that are more visible on the white snow and in leafless trees.

The Sanctuary is renowned for its Sandhill Cranes. Several pairs nest in Mud Lake Marsh and hundreds or thousands gather here during fall migration (September to mid-November). Over 8,000 cranes were counted as they landed in Mud Lake Marsh in one afternoon in November, 2012.



Family of Cranes in Mud Lake Marsh

On fall weekends, greeters welcome the many visitors who come to witness this glorious sight. This annual rite of fall can be viewed at the Harold Wing Observation Hill, which is located east of the parking lot. Here are interpretive displays in the Tobin Childs Kiosk and benches for weary bird watchers.

Along the interpretive trail, a viewing platform provides a quiet place to sit and watch Eagle Lake. Several Wood Duck nest boxes have been staged here.



Male Wood Duck

Waterfowl can also be viewed from the observation hill. While many nest in the area, total numbers increase during migration. Based on years of observations, record keeping and studies, it is known that over 230 species of birds have been seen at Haehnle. Spring and fall warblers are a favorite of many birders.