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**For Immediate Release**

**Traverse City Light & Power Supports Boardman River Nature Center  
\$21,500 given**

**Traverse City, Michigan** -- The Grand Traverse Conservation District accepted a gift of \$21,500 from the Traverse City Light & Power Community Investment Fund to support the Boardman River Nature Center. This grant will be used to purchase a biomass boiler to heat the future Nature Center. The Center will be located at the Sabin Pond Trailhead of the Grand Traverse Natural Education Reserve on Cass Rd. in Traverse City.

“This award fits right into our grant criteria for renewable energy resources, education, natural resources, and long term community benefit. The other thing that appealed to us about this project was the fuel itself, (corn, cherry pits, etc) which will support local agriculture. All this helped lead to a positive award from the Light & Power Board.” Said Linda Johnson, Chairman

Johnson went on to say, “The thing that really cinched it for me was the amount of natural resource education the Conservation District does. I was just astounded. This project will introduce thousands of area youth to future energy (non traditional) resources. This was a unique request and I’m just thrilled it was awarded.”

Ground breaking for the Center is planned for spring 2007. To date, \$670,000 has been raised toward the Campaign goal of \$1.5Million.

The Grand Traverse Conservation District offers year ‘round nature education programming. For more information contact Rebecca Teahen at 941.0960 or visit [www.gtcd.org](http://www.gtcd.org)

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