



**MICHIGAN
WATERFRONT
ALLIANCE**

Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is a 501(c) 4 non-profit corporation formed over twenty years ago in order to effectively advocate for the creation or preservation of state laws, and/or policies designed to protect, preserve, and promote the sustainable and wise use of our state's immense treasure of high quality freshwater resources. Our primary mission will be accomplished by pro-active participation in Michigan's legislative process (lobbying), by participating in court cases whose outcomes may have significant statewide ramifications, and/or by direct involvement with natural resources management, or environment focused state agencies or departments.





The Laurentian Great Lakes Region's Large and Highly Mobile Recreational Boating Community Primarily Responsible for Lake-to-Lake Spread of Exotic Aquatic Invasive Species

Frequently operating on a readily accessible and easily navigated network of large lakes and rivers such as the Detroit/St. Clair River system that are widely recognized for their spectacular scenery and world class freshwater fisheries, and that over the course of the past 150 years have also become international “hotspots” for spectacular biological invasions, the Laurentian Great Lakes region’s highly mobile recreational boating community continues to play an instrumental role in contributing to the increasingly widespread “success” of often highly invasive exotic aquatic animals, plants, and algae that now thrive in many of our lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands (Bossenbroek *et al.*, 2001; Johnson *et al.*, 2001; Leung *et al.*, 2006). Capable of having a deep and pervasive influence on the aquatic ecosystems that they successfully invade, the exotic aquatic invasive species that have thus far entered the waters of the Great Lakes region include an increasingly diverse array of crustaceans that act as voracious scavengers, fish that are capable of disrupting aquatic food webs, freshwater-borne viruses such as viral hemorrhagic septicemia that cause large scale fish die-offs, and filter-feeding mussels, submerged macrophytes, and macroalgae that are capable of acting as powerful ecosystem engineers (Strayer, 2010).

[Click here](#) to read more of this article...



Since 2006 the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program has been educating Michigan boaters about aquatic invasive species with trained volunteer boat inspectors. New funding from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has enabled Clean Boats, Clean Waters to grow into a comprehensive aquatic invasive species boater outreach program. The program's mission remains the same: to prevent new aquatic invasive species introductions and limit their dispersal from water recreation activities through outreach and engagement. The reinvented [Clean Boats, Clean Waters program](#) promotes understanding of boat cleaning practices and regulations through the distribution of educational materials, an online resource library, boat washing demonstrations, grants and partnerships.

Michigan State University Extension is leading the effort to refresh and implement the new [Clean Boats, Clean Waters program](#) in cooperation with the [Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy](#). The reinvented Clean Boats, Clean Waters program builds upon existing partnerships with statewide and local partners including the [Michigan Lakes and Streams Association](#), Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas and lake associations and is actively seeking new opportunities and partnerships to share the clean, drain, dry message.

If you have questions about the Michigan State University Extension Clean Boats, Clean Waters program, please contact:

[Paige Filice](#)

Natural Resources Educator

[MSU Extension](#)

filicepa@msu.edu

[517-676-7291](tel:517-676-7291)



Jan. 11, 2021

Contact: [Joanne Foreman](#), 517-284-5814

Register now for upcoming NotMISpecies webinars

Invasive species pose a threat to Michigan's environment, economy and sometimes even human health. What is at stake? What is being done?

The Michigan Invasive Species Program's NotMISpecies webinar series is returning for 2021 to explore how agencies, universities and locally led organizations are working together to protect Michigan's natural resources.

If you are concerned about the impacts of invasive species or interested in the techniques used to control them, join us as we examine species-specific actions, innovations in research and technology, and programs designed to help communities prevent and manage harmful invasive species.

You can register now for each free session by following the link in each title.

Friday, Jan. 22, 9 a.m.

[Hemlock rescue! Collaborating to stop the spread of hemlock woolly adelgid](#)

Hemlock woolly adelgid has killed hundreds of thousands of hemlock trees in eastern states, including significant areas in the Appalachian and Great Smoky mountains. When infestations began spreading in West Michigan, a team of technicians went to work to "hold the line" through rigorous survey and treatment of infested trees in an effort to save Michigan's 170 million eastern hemlocks from the same fate. Join Drew Rayner, coordinator of the West Michigan Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area, to learn how federal, state and local resources are coming together to save Michigan's hemlock resource, one tree at a time.

Tuesday, Feb. 16, 9 a.m.

[Ahoy, boaters! Resources to help prevent the introduction and spread of AIS](#)

Recreational boating, paddling and water sports are extremely popular in Michigan, but they also can introduce and spread aquatic invasive species in Michigan's lakes, rivers and streams. Fortunately, the Clean Boats, Clean Waters and MI Paddle Stewards programs are here to help. With free classes, signage, outreach materials and grants, both programs serve as resources for boaters, recreational groups, local communities and property owners working to keep Michigan's waters free from invasive species. Presenters Paige Filice, natural resources educator at Michigan State University Extension, and Mary Bohling, extension educator at Michigan Sea Grant, will share resources and information about their programs and answer questions.

Thursday, March 25, 9 a.m.

[Why spotted lanternfly? Assessing the potential threat of invasive species to Michigan](#)

Spotted lanternfly was added to Michigan's invasive species watch list in 2018. What makes this colorful insect a threat to our state? What can be done to prevent it? Learn how local and national collaboration helps Michigan's Invasive Species Program determine which species are real threats and then prepare for their potential arrival. Hear from presenter Rob Miller, an invasive species prevention and response specialist for the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development who is leading Michigan's spotted lanternfly response.

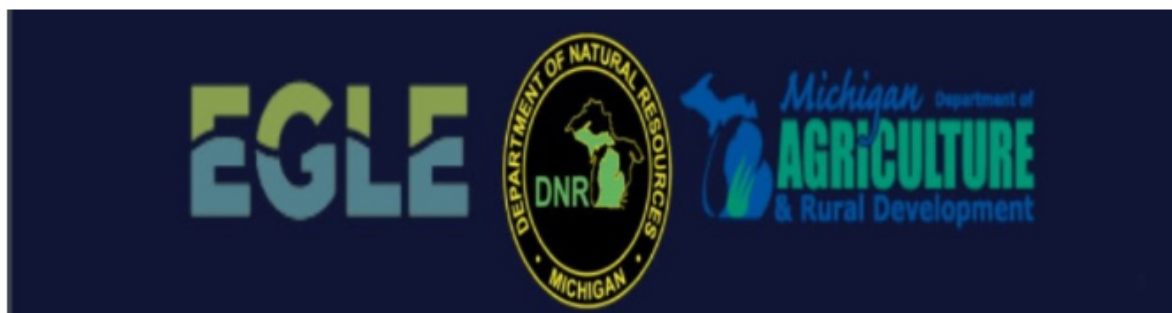
Tuesday, April 20, 9 a.m.

[Not in MI waters: Responding to watchlist aquatic plants in Michigan](#)

What happens when a new invasive plant is found in Michigan waters? That's when a special team of biologists and technicians grab their waders, load their boats and get to work. Find out about the science of early detection and response (EDR), who is involved and how Michigan's aquatic invasive plant EDR initiative responds to emerging issues in waters across the state. Presenter Bill Keiper, an aquatic biologist with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, will share his field experience working with partners to control European frog-bit, parrot feather and other recently introduced aquatic invasive plants. A question-and-answer period will follow.

For more information on the NotMISpecies webinars, visit Michigan.gov/EGLEvents.

Michigan's Invasive Species Program is cooperatively implemented by the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; the Department of Natural Resources; and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.





MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF

NATURAL RESOURCES



**A friendly reminder from your Michigan Department of
Natural Resources...**

Keep safety in mind out on the ice

With winter now (officially) begun, many anglers are heading out to the ice for some frozen fishing fun. It's important to make safety your top priority anytime you're on the ice. Remember: there is no reliable "inch-thickness" to determine when ice is safe.

Your safety is your responsibility, so always make sure you're prepared. Dress warmly and bring a life jacket, ice picks and a cell phone that will have signal while you're on the ice. Avoid areas of ice with protruding debris and areas with weak ice, which will appear milky.

Never fish alone (but make sure to practice proper social distancing of at least 6 feet if you're with people who don't live in your household), and always tell someone where you're going and when you expect to return.

Use extreme caution if temperatures begin to rise or fluctuate during the season. Repeated thawing and refreezing of ice weakens its integrity, decreasing its ability to support additional weight of people, snowmobiles, ORVs and shanties. Deteriorating ice, water currents and high winds increase the probability of pressure cracks, which can leave anglers and others stranded on ice floes or at risk of falling through the ice.

Visit Michigan.gov/IceSafety or watch [this ice safety video](#) for more in-depth tips, including what to do if you fall through the ice.

Ice fishing is a great way to enjoy time out in nature. Check out the DNR's [ice fishing page](#) for more info on techniques and where to fish.



Contact: [Paige Filice](#), 517-676-7291, or [Kevin Walters](#), 616-250-8637

New Clean Boats, Clean Waters grants available for outreach activities

Applications now available for 2021 projects

Clean Boats, Clean Waters, an outreach program focused on limiting and preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species in Michigan, is offering a new grant opportunity to organizations communicating prevention information to boaters.

The program is now taking applications for grants of \$1,000 to \$3,000 for projects that produce and distribute aquatic invasive species outreach materials or removal supplies, host boater outreach events or install prevention signage.

This funding opportunity is non-competitive, and complete and eligible applications will be funded in the order they are received if project funds are available.

A maximum of \$20,000 total will be distributed in 2021. Applications will be accepted until Feb. 19, 2021, or until \$20,000 has been allocated, whichever comes first.

Applicants will be informed of grant decisions by March 1, 2021. Grant activities must be completed by Dec. 31, 2021, to be eligible for reimbursement.

There is no match or cost-sharing requirement. Funds will be distributed via a one-time reimbursement of eligible expenses.

Partnering with other conservation organizations to conduct boater outreach on a regional scale is highly recommended. Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas and other organizations qualified for Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program funds are encouraged to pursue those funds instead of the CBCW grant to perform boater outreach activities.

More information about the Clean Boats, Clean Waters grant program, including the [grant fact sheet](#), [application form](#) and instructions, is available at MICBCW.org.

CBCW is a joint effort between Michigan State University Extension and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. Funding for CBCW and this grant opportunity is provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.





We Need Your Help!

Did you know that a very high percentage of every dollar made available to MWA goes directly to pay for our efforts in Lansing to pass legislation that benefits Michigan's water resources and the interests of waterfront property owners?

Only You Can Help Amplify the Power of Our Collective Voice in Lansing By Becoming a Member and/or by Making a Generous Donation to Michigan Waterfront Alliance !

By becoming an Individual, Association, or Corporate member of Michigan Waterfront Alliance, and/or by making a donation to our non-profit organization, you will be contributing to enhancing our ability to help preserve and protect our extraordinary treasure of freshwater resources.

The fact is, a very large percentage of the funds generated by membership dues and your generous donations are utilized by our organization to fund our capacity to effectively lobby the state legislature on behalf of protecting Michigan's freshwater resources, and the unique interests of our member waterfront communities. In the coming year, for example, Michigan Waterfront Alliance will be engaged in intensive lobbying efforts focused on encouraging our state legislature to (finally!) create a sustainable revenue source with which to fund the management of an increasingly destructive array of aquatic invasive species that continue to invade and degrade our inland lakes, streams, and wetlands. Our lobbying efforts will also focus on restricting the operation of wake boats to areas of large lakes that will help ensure that shorelines and critical shallow water habitat are not damaged or destroyed. As a founding member and key partner in the Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force, Michigan Waterfront Alliance will also continue to work on a collaborative basis in 2020 with the DNR Parks and Recreation Division, and the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy to develop and implement new programs and initiatives intended to prevent or minimize the spread of aquatic invasive plants and animals.

Please consider becoming a member, and/or of donating to Michigan Waterfront Alliance!

[Click here](#) to visit our Membership page.

[Click here](#) to visit our Donation page.



Student Proposals Sought for Lake Research

Once again, the Michigan Chapter, North American Lake Management Society and the Michigan Lakes and Streams Association have teamed up to offer their annual Lake Research Student Grants Program for research on Inland Lakes for 2021. If you have a student or know of someone who might be interested in applying for funding, please pass this information on to them. Complete details as well as a link to the Application and Grant Proposal form are available at <https://www.mcnalms.org/grants/>.

Up to \$4,000 is available for the funding of one or more proposals. Announcement of grant recipients will be made by the end of March or early April.

Proposals are due by Friday, February 26, 2021. For further information about the lake research focused grant program, contact mcnalms@mcnalms.org.



Michigan Waterfront Alliance

is a proud member of the

Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership

A Collaborative Partnership Dedicated to Protecting Michigan's Vast Heritage of High Quality Inland Lakes

The Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership (MILP) is made up of a broad range of organizations and agencies that have a common interest - protecting inland lakes. Explore this site to learn more about Michigan's lakes, the organizations involved with the Partnership, and how you can be a part of the effort. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes. Most are high quality resources highly valued by society for recreation and as places to live. These cultural demands place significant stresses upon these ecosystems, often resulting in undesirable changes. How can these lakes be strategically managed to minimize undesirable changes and protect them for this and future generations?

The purpose of the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership (Partnership) is to engage state and local agencies, Native American Nations, outreach institutions (universities and other educational institutions), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), businesses, industries and citizens in a collaborative effort to ensure the quality, sustainability and ecological diversity of lakes, while considering society's needs. The Partnership will promote communication and cooperation between partners, communities and citizens interested in the management of Michigan's inland lakes, educating leaders, and strengthening stewardship efforts.

The MILP Coordinating Council is the decision-making body of the Partnership. The Council sets the goals of the Partnership, and all Council Partners have a vote in the activities and policies of the Partnership. The Council currently meets four times per year. Coordinating Council member organizations are listed alphabetically below. Clicking on an organization name will take you to that organization's website.

To learn more about the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership, and its ensemble of inland lake protection focused collaborative organizations, [click here](#)



Join Michigan Waterfront Alliance!

- Are you tired of funding the management of aquatic invasive species on your lake that were introduced by recreational boaters using the local MI Department of Natural Resources public boating access site?
- Are you just a bit angry that recreational boaters using your lake are not being asked to contribute their fair share to combat the negative influences of aquatic invasive species?
- Are you worried about the fact that your lakefront residential property values are being negatively influenced by the steadily increasing presence of aquatic invasive species?
- Are you concerned about the fact that it is nearly impossible to find an inland lake in Michigan that does not currently host one or more potentially harmful aquatic invasive species?
- Are you aware of the fact that inland lakes are Michigan's most valuable natural resource, and that our state legislature has thus far appropriated almost nothing in the way of budget resources to help ensure they remain healthy and viable?

If your answer is yes to any of these important questions, please help ensure that your voice is heard in Lansing by joining Michigan Waterfront Alliance today.

Click here to Join MWA

Visit the Michigan Waterfront Alliance Web Site by Clicking Here

[Unsubscribe](#)

This message was sent to walter_koziol@comcast.net from scottb1952@gmail.com

William Brown
Michigan Waterfront Alliance, Inc
5989 Sibley Road
Chelsea, MI 48118-1261