



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.



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Lakes in the Offseason: A Look Under the Ice

by Erick Elgin, Water Resource Educator

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The air is brisk, snow is piling up in northern Michigan, and lakes are freezing over. Many think lakes are dormant during winter, but this is far from the truth. Lakes in winter are still very dynamic and support an abundance of life. Here are a few tidbits about lakes in the offseason that may peak your interest in learning more about lakes in the winter.

Did you know that algal blooms can occur under the ice?

Light easily penetrates clear ice, which can lead to algal blooms that are almost comparable to summer levels. This is especially true where lake ice develops without much snowfall. Conversely, when there is an abundance of snow on the ice, light penetration is greatly reduced and algae levels can be very low to undetectable. Interestingly, some algae species can grow within and on the underside of the ice where they can absorb maximum light.

Did you know that in winter the water is warmest at the bottom of the lake?

During the fall months, most lakes in Michigan are fully mixed, meaning they have the same temperature and density from the top to the bottom. As the air cools, the surface water becomes colder than 39 degrees, which is the temperature where water is the most dense or heaviest. As the temperature decreases, the water becomes less dense, resulting in colder and less dense water sitting on top of the relatively warmer 39 degree water. Eventually ice, which is lighter than liquid water, forms and floats on the water's surface.

Did you know the causes of winter fish kills?

Winter fish kills ultimately result from a lack of oxygen under the ice, which occurs for several reasons. Ice does not allow oxygen from the atmosphere to enter the water and although photosynthesis can occur, it may not be enough to replenish the oxygen levels necessary to support fish, particularly in productive lakes. This is because bacteria, which can be very active in the winter, use up the oxygen as they decompose dead algae and plants from previous years. The combination of these factors leads to fish dying due to insufficient oxygen levels.



To view a recently created Story Map whose authors did a beautiful job of using words and photos to describe the now almost 50 year (1974 - 2021) history of the existence of exotic invasive Starry stonewort in the Laurentian Great Lakes region... [click here](#)



2021 Michigan Glacial Lakes Partnership Lake Conservation Webinars Announced

by Joe Nohner, MDNR/MGLP Coordinator
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The Michigan Glacial Lakes Partnership is excited to announce its 2021 Lake Conservation Webinars. These free webinars address a diversity of lake and fish habitat management issues from wake boats to watersheds, from Ogaa (Walleye) management to social marketing, and from algae research to limnology from space. Learn more about each webinar by clicking the registration link.

For more information and/or to register for upcoming inland lake conservation webinars, visit their webinar dedicated webpage by [clicking here](#)

Do you know someone that would be interested in attending? Please forward this email to make sure no one misses out! Would you like to present a future MGLP Lake Conservation Webinar? We encourage speakers from diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise in the MGLP webinar series. Please email MGLP Coordinator [Joe Nohner](#) to express your interest.

2021 MGLP Lake Conservation Webinar Schedule

Leaving a Lake Conservation Legacy – Cost/Benefit analyses for planning lake conservation

February 16, 1:00 P.M. Central Time, Paul Radomski, Lake Ecologist, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources [Register here](#)

Stearns County SWCD Shoreline/Streambank Restoration Program Process

March 2, 1:00 P.M. Central Time, Greg Berg, Riparian Resources Specialist, Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District [Register here](#)

Social/community acceptance of natural shorelines: Lessons from 20 years of promoting soft shorelines

March 24, 9:10 A.M. Central Time, John Hartig, Visiting Scholar, Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research at the University of Windsor

Part of the New Wave of Thinking virtual conference co-hosted with the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership. [Register for the whole conference to attend webinars at their scheduled times.](#)

Promoting lakeshore protection: An introduction to social marketing

March 24, 10:10 A.M. Central Time, Bret Shaw Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin Madison and John Haack, Emeritus University of Wisconsin Extension Natural Resource Educator

Part of the New Wave of Thinking virtual conference co-hosted with the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership. [Register for the whole conference to attend webinars at their scheduled times.](#)

How Waves Work

March 24, 12:00 P.M. Central Time, Brian Majka, Restoration ecologist, GEI Consultants

Part of the New Wave of Thinking virtual conference co-hosted with the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership. [Register for the whole conference to attend webinars at](#)

their scheduled times.

Defining No-Wake Zones for Wake Surf Boats – A Data Driven Approach

March 24, 1:00 P.M. Central Time, Alex Ray, Recreation Management Consultant, Payette Environmental Services, LLC

Part of the New Wave of Thinking virtual conference co-hosted with the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership. Register for the whole conference to attend webinars at their scheduled times.

Wave Energy and the Bioengineering Continuum

March 24, 2:00 P.M. Central Time, Jen Buchanan, Associate Director, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

Part of the New Wave of Thinking virtual conference co-hosted with the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership. Register for the whole conference to attend webinars at their scheduled times.

[Click here to view the entire Webinar Schedule](#)





**To register for the Michigan Lakes and
Streams Association 60th Annual Conference,
[click here](#)**



**Bring the
Mobile Boat Wash
to your community!**

MSU MOBILE BOAT WASH

It's not too soon to start looking forward to summer, right?

Contact us to book the Mobile Boat Wash for your 2021 event! We will bring our boat cleaning systems, provide boat washes, and educate boaters about how they can help prevent the spread of invasive species. As always, the MBW services are completely free.

Check out [our flyer](#) to learn more.

E-mail us at latimor1@msu.edu in order to get the best date.



The Mobile Boat Wash unit is an outreach program from Michigan State University designed to educate boaters about aquatic invasive species.

[Click here](#) to visit the MSU Mobile Boat Wash website...

[Click here](#) to visit the MSU Mobile Boat Wash [Facebook](#) page...



MNSP Shoreline and Shallows Conference

and



MGLP Lake Conservation Webinar Series

Present the online conference:

A New Wave of Thinking

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

AGENDA

- 10:00am EST *Introduction* – Julia Kirkwood, Chair, Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership and Joe Nohner, Coordinator, Michigan Glacial Lakes Partnership
- 10:10 *Social/community acceptance of natural shorelines: Lessons from 20 years of promoting soft shorelines* – John Hartig, Visiting Scholar at University of Windsor's Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research and Board of Directors of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, Detroit
- 11:10 *Promoting lakeshore protection: An introduction to social marketing* – Dr. Bret Shaw, Associate Professor, Department of Life Sciences Communication, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI and Dr. John Haack, Emeritus University of Wisconsin Extension Natural Resource Educator, Madison, WI
- 12:10 BREAK
- 1:00pm EST *How Waves Work* – Brian Majka, Senior Restoration Ecologist, GEI Consultants
- 2:00 *Defining No-Wake Zones for Wake Surf Boats – A Data Driven Approach* – Alex Ray, Recreation Management Consultant, Payette Environmental Services, LLC
- 3:00 *Wave Energy and the Bioengineering Continuum* – Jen Buchanan, Watershed Protection Director, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council, Petoskey
- 4:00 Adjourn

Please join the [Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership](#) and [Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership](#) on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 for our virtual free conference on Zoom.

Register on the [MNSP](#) website or directly at [Shoreline Conference](#)

Co-sponsors: Michigan State University Institute of Water Research; Michigan Department of Natural Resources; Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; MSU Extension; and GEI Consultants

[Click here](#) to download a flyer

for the "A New Wave of Thinking" on-line conference

**[Click here](#) to register for the
"A New Wave of Thinking" on-line conference...**



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY



The Michigan Clean Water Corps ([MiCorps](#)), a network of volunteer monitoring programs that collect and share surface water quality data throughout the state, is accepting 2021 funding proposals for two grant programs.

Volunteer Stream Cleanup Program: A total of \$25,000 is available for grants (ranging from \$500 to \$5,000) to support local units of governments in efforts to clean up garbage from Michigan's rivers, streams, and creeks. This program is funded by fees from the sale of Michigan's specialty water quality protection license plates, available from the [Secretary of State's Office](#).

Volunteer Stream Monitoring Program: A total of \$75,000 is available across three grant types for volunteer benthic macroinvertebrate monitoring and habitat assessment in wadeable streams and rivers. Local units of government and nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply.

- **Startup Grants:** These grants are for organizations that seek to learn the MiCorps protocols of monitoring and set themselves up to submit successful Implementation grant proposals in future years. There is a maximum amount of \$5,000 per grant award for one-year projects under this funding area.
- **Implementation Grants:** These funds support volunteer training and macroinvertebrate data collection for the purpose of assessing water quality that help state and local efforts to protect and manage water resources. Grants may be used to fund a monitoring coordinator and/or to buy water quality monitoring supplies. There is a maximum amount of \$20,000 per grant award for two-year projects under this funding area.
- **Maintenance Grants:** These one-year grants are for groups that are already monitoring with MiCorps procedures. Funds can pay for staff time, equipment and travel to MiCorps trainings and conferences and are a maximum of \$2,000.

The request for proposals for each of the grant opportunities can be found at the [Stream Monitoring and Cleanup Grants webpage](#).

Grant applications are due by 5:00 P.M. on Monday, February 22, 2021.

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered for funding. Questions about the grant application process should be directed to Dr. Paul Steen, Huron River Watershed Council, at 734-769-5123 (Extension 601) or PSteen@HRWC.org; or Tamara Lipsey, Lake Michigan Unit, Surface Water Assessment Section, Water Resources Division, EGLE, at 517-342-4372 or LipseyT@Michigan.gov.

The [MiCorps program](#) was established in 2004 to assist the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) in collecting water quality data for use in water resources management and protection programs.



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.mcnaalms.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 mcnaalms@mcnaalms.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 roberttfrye@gmail.com from scottb1952@gmail.com

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