



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.





Michigan Dam Safety Task Force Issues its Final Report

by Scott Brown

Responding to two dam failures on the Tittabawassee River during record rainfall events that caused catastrophic flooding in Midland and Gladwin counties in May of 2020 that resulted in \$250 million in damages, in addition to the fact that the impounded waters of both Wixom and Sanford Lakes were completely drained during the event, Governor Whitmer formed the Michigan Dam Safety Task Force in order to perform a comprehensive review of the status of Michigan's 2,500 dams. Comprised of dam safety officials, engineers, senior state agency managers and tribal representatives, the 19-member task force recently issued its report comprised of a set of 86 recommendations that includes quadrupling the number of EGLE staff members dedicated to dam safety regulation; hiring additional dam safety inspectors; establishing a \$25 million dam safety emergency fund over the course of the next five years; ; and establishing a 20-year, \$400 million loan fund dedicated to helping dam owners with much-needed maintenance on aging, crumbling, high-risk dams. In addition, the Dam Safety Task Force also recommended that the Michigan state legislature act to help promote dam owner accountability by revising and adapting new laws and rules that would act to clarify the on-going responsibilities of dam owners, and the structural engineers they hire to help inspect and maintain dams.

[Click here](#) to download a copy of the 69-page Michigan Dam Safety Task Force Report that was officially released on February 12, 2021.

It is important to note that most of Michigan's 2,500 dams were built many decades ago, and are now in a state of severe deterioration as a result of age, antiquated design, severe erosion, and/or neglect as indicated by the fact that many of the dams have been poorly maintained over the years. Dams in Michigan are regulated by Part 307, Inland Lake Levels, and Part 315, Dam Safety, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 Public Act 451. Of Michigan's 2,500 dams, 813 of which are regulated by Part 315, and 235 are regulated by Part 307. Dams are regulated by Part 315 when they are over 6 feet in height, and when they serve to impound over 5 acres of water during the design flood. Dams regulated by Part 307 are structures that were constructed in order to establish and maintain court ordered inland lake levels. Michigan also hosts 99 hydroelectric dams that are regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) under the auspices of the Federal Power Act.

To view an Arc Geographic Information Systems information augmented map of dams regulated by the State of Michigan that is maintained by the Department of the Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Dam Safety Program, [click here](#) . Readers interested in learning more about EGLE's Dam Safety Program should [click here](#).

2nd Annual Winter Water Quality Symposium

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES to Empower Effective Inland Lake Stewardship

**02/26/2021
8:30am to 4pm**

[Detailed Agenda and
Registration Link](#)



In partnership with



Featured Topics include:

- qPCR
- Aerial Drones
- eDNA
- Harmful Algal Blooms
- Communication

Speakers from:

- University of Alberta
- Freshwater Solutions
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Zero Gravity
- Glen Lake Association



**Traverse Area
Community Media**

The organizers of this highly successful event would like our readers to know that

recordings of this program that occurred this past Friday, February 26, are now

available on the Traverse Area Community Media Facebook page located

at [https://www.facebook.com/TACMtv/videos/846129255950067/?
__so__=channel_tab&__rv__=latest_videos_card](https://www.facebook.com/TACMtv/videos/846129255950067/?__so__=channel_tab&__rv__=latest_videos_card)

or on the Traverse Area Community Media YouTube Channel that can be accessed

at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lxXmBR8Rj2c>



Thank you for your interest in the Not MI Species Webinar Series Webinar - Ahoy, Boaters! Resources to help prevent the introduction and spread of AIS we held on February 16.

You can now access a recording of the webinar at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/3146445350467804929>.

If you attended the webinar or viewed the recording, and haven't done so already, please take a moment to complete a short, 5-question evaluation for the webinar at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/notmispecies2-16-21>.

RESOURCES

- Clean Boats Clean Waters webpage: https://www.canr.msu.edu/clean_boats_clean_waters/
- Clean Boats Clean Waters grants email updates sign up page: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bOdtAYOl9mfrw1
- MI Paddle Stewards webpage: <https://www.michiganseagrant.org/educational-programs/mi-paddle-stewards/>

Upcoming webinars in this series and recordings can be found at https://www.michigan.gov/egle/0,9429,7-135-3308_3333-539592--,00.html.

Upcoming Webinar

March 25, 2021, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 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.



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.



PROTECT YOUR LAKE
FROM INVASIVE SPECIES
**NOW SCHEDULING
2021 EVENTS**
MOBILE BOAT WASH
PROJECT

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...**



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.



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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