Michigan Waterfront Alliance Update for Monday, January 3, 2022



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.









ATTENTION!!!

Michigan Waterfront Alliance is in Dire Need of Your Assistance Now In Order to Continue To Advocate in Lansing on Behalf of Protecting Michigan's High Quality Inland Lakes and Streams!!!

- Did you know that Michigan Waterfront Alliance is one of just a few non-profit organizations in Michigan lobbying our state senators and representatives on behalf of preserving and protecting our lakes and streams?
- Did you know that Michigan Waterfront Alliance is managed and administered by an all volunteer, nonpaid staff of concerned citizens who are passionate about preserving and protecting our high quality inland lakes and streams?
- Did you know that Michigan Waterfront Alliance commits a very high percentage of every dollar we bring in through memberships and donations to advocating on behalf of our lakes and streams?

- Did you know that representatives of Michigan Waterfront Alliance are currently working with the senior leadership of the MI Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and the Department of the **Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) in** order to improve our collective ability to prevent and manage aquatic invasive species?
- · In order to continue our critical mission in Lansing we need you, your association, or your corporation to become a member, and/or donate to Michigan **Waterfront Alliance now!**
- · To become an individual, association, or corporate member of Michigan Waterfront Alliance, click here
- To make a generous donation to Michigan Waterfront Alliance, click here
- Your support of Michigan Waterfront Alliance in the form of a membership and/or donation is greatly appreciated!!!





Training and Outreach

WEBINAR

Advancing inland lake stewardship through shoreline **Best Management Practices**

January 25, 1:00 - 2:30 PM



Photo credit: Eric Calabro, EGLE

Traditional methods of hard armoring and installation of seawalls along inland lake shorelines have reduced shoreline habitat and degraded water quality; however, incorporating Best Management Practices can minimize impacts to our inland lakes. This webinar will provide an overview of the Best Management Practices for lakefront shoreline protection and erosion control, including bioengineering, riprap, and replacement of existing seawalls. We will also cover considerations for determining the best shoreline protection method at your site, basic descriptions and information on the different methods, and the new Minor Project categories for seawall replacement permit applications.

This webinar is for consultants, contractors, and homeowners who are interested in inland lake shoreline protection.



> Michigan.gov/EGLEevents <

PROGRAM QUESTIONS:

Ryan Blazic: BlazicR@Michigan.gov

REGISTRATION QUESTIONS:

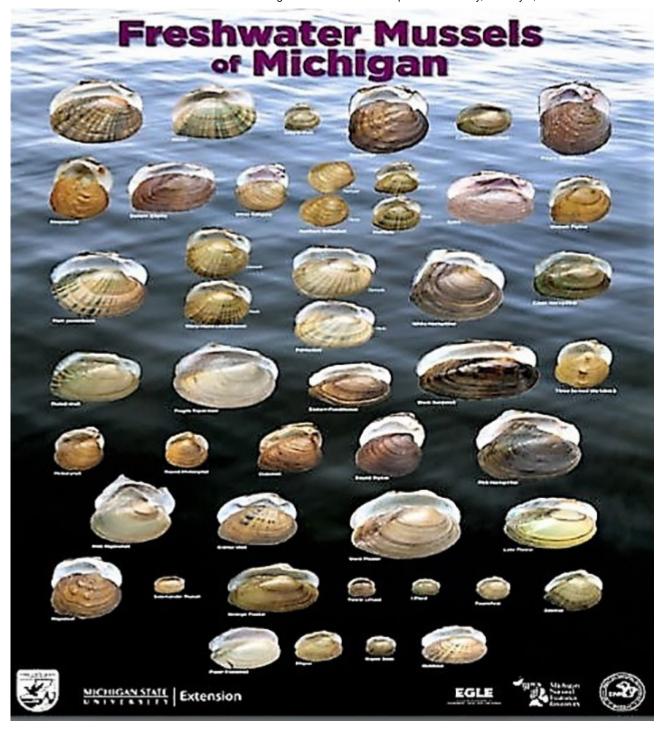
Alana Berthold: <u>BertholdA@Michigan.gov</u>

Joel Roseberry: RoseberryJ@Michigan.gov

Individuals needing language assistance or accommodations for effective participation at this event should contact Joel Roseberry at 517-599-9494 by January 11 to request language, mobility, visual, hearing, translation, and/or other assistance.

EGLE does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, marital status, disability, political beliefs, height, weight, genetic information, or sexual orientation in the administration of any of its programs or activities, and prohibits intimidation and retaliation, as required by applicable laws and regulations.





"While the tropics are known for their diverse insect and plant communities, eastern North America is home to some of the richest freshwater animal communities in the world. The United States in particular has more species of mussels, crayfish, snails, stoneflies, mayflies, and caddisflies than any other country. There are nearly 300 species of freshwater mussels (Unionidae) in eastern North America, with 43 species occurring in Michigan."

To learn more about Michigan's diverse, though increasingly threatened freshwater mussel populations that are known to play a critical role in helping to sustain the ecological health of our lakes and rivers, we encourage our readers to download a copy of this outstanding "Freshwater Mussels of Michigan" focused Michigan State University Extension produced educational brochure by clicking here.



Learn about inland lakes on-line from MSU Extension

Registration for the award-winning Michigan State University Extension Introduction to Lakes Online course is now open! This six-week online course runs January 25-March 16, 2022 and is designed for anyone interested in inland lakes, including lakefront property owners, recreational users, and managers. Course topics include lake ecology, watershed management, shoreline protection, aquatic plants, Michigan water law, and community engagement. Each topic is explore through pre-recorded video lectures, interactive activities, and discussion forums. In addition, there are three live Ask-an-Expert webinars featuring experts from Michigan State University, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and the Michigan Department of **Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy.**

Registration is open now through January 21, 2022. The cost of the course is \$115 per person. Register by January 3, 2022 for an early bird price of \$95.00.

Register here for the MSU Extension Introduction to Lakes On-line Course





Michigan Clean Boats, Clean Waters

The 2022 MI CBCW Grant Application season is now closed! We received a whopping 42 applications across the state from lake associations, conservation districts, and environmental groups who are passionate in continuing outreach and education on AIS prevention.

We want to send out a huge thank you to everyone who took time to apply this year. Applicants will be notified in February 2022 of their funding

status.



Click here to download and read the

Michigan Chapter, North American Lake Management Society

Fall 2021 Newsletter



MDARD

Governor Whitmer releases Michigan's final adaptive management plan to improve Lake Erie water quality

Plan aimed to help state meet 40% nutrient reduction goal

Immediate release: December 17, 2021

LANSING, MI - Governor Gretchen Whitmer and departmental leaders today unveiled Michigan's final adaptive management plan serving as the companion document to

the previously released Domestic Action Plan (DAP) addressing the causes driving harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie.

"In Michigan, we are defined by our Great Lakes, and we have to work together to protect these precious natural resources for future generations and our economy," said Governor Whitmer. "We know that harmful algal blooms are caused by a number of sources in Michigan's portion of the Western Lake Erie Basin and beyond. While it will be challenging to reach our 40 percent nutrient reduction goal, I know we can get it done. Together, we will make the investments we need to reduce algal blooms and continue working to protect our Great Lakes."

The adaptive management plan informs both state-led and partner supported projects to help reduce the amount of nutrients from fertilizer, wastewater and erosion entering Lake Erie from an array of sources as Michigan works to reach its 2025 goal of 40 percent reduction of both total phosphorus and soluble reactive phosphorus, which fuels algae growth in the lake.

The plan outlines Michigan's three main focus areas: reducing loads from specific outlets and general run-off areas (point and non-point sources); wetland restoration, green storm water infrastructure, and other land conservation practices in both the rural and urban areas; and engagement with partners and the public.

By reducing nutrient loads such as phosphorus from farmland and urban sources into Lake Erie, the plan will help decrease the events causing harmful algal blooms. Harmful algal blooms are overgrowths of algae which can produce toxins and can affect water quality.

"Michigan has already reached its target of a 20 percent phosphorus load reduction by 2020, but we have a way to go yet to meet our overall 40 percent goal," said Gary McDowell, director, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD). "By partnering with our sister agencies, local conservation districts and continuing our outreach with farmers, I'm confident we will make a quantifiable improvement to water quality in the state."

The plan, jointly created by a senior management working group from MDARD and the departments of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), and Natural Resources (DNR), is a learning-based management approach. Michigan's adaptive management framework will work in two ways: evaluate the outcomes of deliberate, measured actions taken to reduce phosphorous; and develop and implement scientifically driven research projects to address gaps and uncertainties in existing phosphorus reduction methods and technologies.

The departments will be hosting a public webinar February 7th from 1:00- 2:30 p.m. Click here to register for the webinar. This webinar will highlight what the Adaptive Management Plan is and how it will be used to take action and track progress. This is opportunity for anyone who wants to know what Michigan is doing to reduce nutrient loading to Lake Erie.

The departments are also working on several joint project initiatives in the Western Lake Erie Basin including the United States Department of Agriculture's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, helping Michigan's agricultural producers implement conservation practices. They are also encouraging farmers to participate in the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program, a voluntary effort to provide technical assistance to farmers so they can reduce the loss of nutrients from their farm fields.

The adaptive management plan also supports watershed management planning with an emphasis on completing agricultural inventories. EGLE and MDARD are focusing these agricultural inventories in high priority sub-basins in the Bean Creek Watershed (a sub-watershed to the Maumee River Watershed), the S.S. LaPointe Drain Watershed, and the River Raisin Watershed. The agricultural inventory process will collect data to locate and prioritize sites with the potential to address nutrient runoff and that will have a positive impact on water quality.

"Reducing nutrient loads from nonpoint sources to achieve the 40 percent reduction goal by 2025 has proven to be very challenging," EGLE Director Liesl Clark said. "The agricultural inventories in the priority Western Lake Erie Watersheds will provide a more focused approach to identifying the best options for reducing nutrient losses at the field-scale within a watershed."

The plan also focuses on a pilot agriculture wetland restoration effort to reduce phosphorous runoff to Lake Erie.

"Lake Erie provides a highly important recreational resource for fishing and boating," said DNR Director Dan Eichinger. "We look forward to implementing landscape actions, such as wetland restoration, to help address the factors contributing to the harmful algal blooms."

Implementation of the adaptive management plan is being led by the threedepartment Domestic Action Plan Team. The team is working through a two-year work plan process, and they will also be seeking annual input and feedback from an external, science-based advisory group that is expected to include both rural and urban stakeholder sectors in a balanced manner.

For more information on what Michigan is doing in the Western Lake Erie Basin or to view the Adaptive Management Plan, visit Michigan.gov/LakeErieDAP.

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The Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership (MGLP) brings together resource agencies, non-profit organizations, and other stakeholders to protect, rehabilitate, and enhance sustainable fish habitats in naturally formed lakes of the Midwest. We foster collaborations on fish habitat science, education and outreach, and conservation.

Request for proposals: 2023 Lake **Conservation Grant**

We request project proposals for funding from the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership (MGLP) 2023 Lake Conservation Grant. The MGLP is one of twenty partnerships that span the nation under the umbrella of the National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP). The MGLP area of focus is glacial lakes and their watersheds as depicted by the recently updated service area in the second article below. Nine Midwestern states, federal agencies including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Geological Survey, and the U.S. Forest Service, tribal partners, and private natural resource entities including The Nature Conservancy, have been integral partners in the development and operation of the MGLP.



Examples of past MGLP projects that have restored natural shorelines (left; photo by Mark Keiser), removed fish passage barriers (center; Joe Nohner), and assessed nutrient loading in the watershed (right; Jerry Sweeten).

We support conservation projects that work toward meeting the goals and objectives set forth in the MGLP Strategic Plan to benefit glacial lake fish habitats, which include addressing the chemical, physical, and biological components of the habitats that fishes found in glacial lakes use throughout their lives. We have directed funding toward a wide range of aquatic conservation projects that benefit imperiled, endangered, and recreational fish species and their habitats. We typically fund 3-5 projects annually between \$30,000 and \$100,000, but larger projects will be considered for funding up to a maximum of the approximately \$360,000 expected for distribution. Projects have been successfully implemented because contributions and capabilities of many partners have been combined to accomplish project goals that none of the partnering entities could accomplish on their own.

Projects considered for funding must align with the goals and objectives of the MGLP and can range in scale from projects that affect one or more sites, lakes, or watersheds. Projects should address the processes that cause fish habitat impairments as opposed to managing or treating the symptoms of those causes. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- projects that implement or demonstrate new approaches
- watershed-level nutrient control projects;
- water quality and erosion control measures;
- native vegetation or wetland rehabilitation;
- natural riparian or in-lake habitat restoration and protection;
- barrier removal for improved native fish passage;
- fish population or watershed assessments needed for project evaluation;
- habitat assessment, prioritization and planning for future habitat projects;
- evaluating current and future habitat conditions;
- projects addressing climate change adaptation or mitigation through fish habitat:

- projects training biologists and managers on inland lake fish habitat management tools and approaches; and
- community outreach and education on the importance of and how to better conserve glacial lake fish habitat.

In addition to conducting independent outreach and/or education, successful applicants will be expected to work with the MGLP to coordinate media and public outreach to raise the profile of MGLP-funded projects.

If you have a lake conservation project aligned with the goals and objectives of the MGLP and need financial assistance, we encourage you to submit a proposal for project funding. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Nohner at nohnerj@michigan.gov or 517-284-6236 or Gary Whelan, MGLP Steering Chair, at whelang@michigan.gov. Applications for funding are available at the Lake Conservation Grant website. Applications are due on February 18, 2022, and you can submit your application by emailing it to MGLP Coordinator Joe Nohner at nohnerj@michigan.gov.



ATTENTION READERS!!!

In order to add your friends, neighbors, and/or fellow lake or watershed conservation focused association member e-mails to our growing list of water resource conservation minded people who would like to receive this Michigan freshwater resources focused twice

monthly newsletter, contact Editor Scott Brown at scottb1952@gmail.com



>> We Need Your Help!!! <<

Why You Should Join Michigan Waterfront Alliance?

Do you care for your lake, river, or stream? Do you care enough to contact your state senator or representative about issues that affect your waterbody? Do you keep track of the bills that are important to your lake, river, or stream? The good news is that Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is doing this for you. MWA hires a lobbying firm to keep track of issues and bills which may affect Michigan's waterfronts, and remain in constant contact with senators and representatives. These lobbyists have relationships with those serving in our state legislature, willing to present bills that MWA would support to help protect Michigan's inland waterways, and help to defeat bills that may be detrimental to our waterways. There is an old saying that "you can't fight city hall." This may be true if you do not know how, but with the help of MWA's attorneys, MWA has the experts that know how to deal with legal issues. There have been laws interpreted incorrectly when it comes to our lakes, rivers, and streams.

MWA, with its attorneys, has argued these cases when we believe the law has been misinterpreted.

While the MWA Board of Directors is made up of volunteers, it is expensive to hire lobbyists and attorneys. The Michigan Waterfront Alliance membership is made up of individuals, lake associations, and corporations who care about Michigan's lakes, rivers, and streams. Would you like to be more involved? You can by becoming a member of Michigan Waterfront Alliance and by becoming an active partner in MWA. Membership in MWA is inexpensive:

> We rely entirely on membership dues to fund the operating costs of our organization...

TO BECOME A MEMBER OF MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE VISIT OUR >>>>> <u>MEMBERSHIP PAGE</u> <<<<<

Annual Dues are:

\$50 for an individual;

\$100 for a lake association; and

\$200 for a corporation

With support from individuals like you, lake associations, and corporations, we can continue to work together as a unified voice choosing to protect Michigan's water resources for future generations. Thank you for your consideration!!!



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 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 olivia.kasle@gmail.com from scottb1952@gmail.com

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