

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.



Aerial Photos by S. Brown





Your Generous Donation May Help Restore the Critical Criteria of
Public Trust to Natural Resource and Environmental Protection
Management Decisions Made by Our Department of Natural Resources
(DNR), and Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)

We are currently asking our readers to please consider making a generous donation that will allow Michigan Waterfront Alliance to file an amicus brief in an important case pending with the Michigan Supreme Court. Our amicus brief filing is intended to encourage the Court to rule in a manner that would enable the ability of Michigan citizens to use Public Act 451 of 1994, Michigan Natural Resources and Environment Protection Act as the basis for filing legal challenges to certain actions, and in particular the issuance of permits, taken by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). Success in this case would represent a real game changer, and greatly enhance our efforts to protect our precious freshwater resources, and restore public trust.

The legal fees for filing an amicus brief in this important case are estimated to be approximately \$15,000. The MWA Board of Directors recently voted to start a goal-specific fundraising effort. Our goal is to raise the \$15,000 cost of filing this important amicus brief in addition to regular membership dues.

Given the importance of the issue at hand, Michigan Waterfront Alliance asks that you please give serious consideration to making a significant donation!

For more information, please <u>read President Bob Frye's article</u> that appeared in the February 1st, 2022 edition of our e-newsletter...

You May Donate to this Worthy Cause by visiting our recently launched

Protect Michigan Waterways Go Fund Me Page

A note to donors:

Your generous donation will only be used to fund the cost associated with filing an amicus brief with the Michigan Supreme Court



An Eloquent Tribute to our Inland Lakes

by W. S. Blatchley & G. H. Ashley, 1900

"The lakes are the brightest gems in the corona of the State. They are the most beautiful and expressive features of the landscape in the region wherein they abound. Numbered by hundreds, they range in size from an area of half an acre up to five and a half square miles. With the fertile soil, the great beds of gravel, and the myriads of boulders, large and small, they are to be classed as mementos of those mighty ice sheets which, in the misty past, covered our State. Outside of the counties in which they occur but few of the citizens know of their presence, their beauty, their value. Their origin, their fauna and flora, the causes of their gradual diminution in size, and final extinction are likewise known to but few.

By the red man these lakes were more highly appreciated than by his more "civilized" Caucasian successor, for the reason that the Indian stood much nearer to wild nature than we. On the higher ridges overlooking the lakes he had his village sites. Over their placid waters he paddled his birchbark canoe, and from their depths he secured with spear and hook fishes sufficient to supply his needs, while mussels, and the roots of the water lily added variety to his daily food. Wild fowl by myriads, in their migrating seasons, came and went, stopping to feed upon the lakes, thusoffering him many a chance to test his marksmanship with bow and arrow, while the skins of the muskrat, otter, and beaver which he trapped about the marshy margins furnished him protection against the cold. Thus, it will be seen that his very existence depended often times upon these living bodies of water."



MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2022

https://michiganwaterfrontalliance.com/

MWA Mission Statement "This corporation is formed to protect, preserve and promote the wise use of inland waters – lakes, streams, rivers, creeks and the waters and bottomlands of the state of Michigan.

Click here

To download a copy of the 2022 Michigan Waterfront Alliance Newsletter



Training and Outreach

WEBINAR

The Michigan Shoreland Stewards Program: Does your inland lake property qualify?

Wednesday, April 13th / 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Do you know what the greatest threat to the overall health of Michigan inland lakes is? Did you guess nutrients? According to the National Lake Assessment (NLA), your guess would be wrong. The correct answer is the loss of nearshore habitat – both on the land and in the lake. Luckily for Michigan's inland lakes, lakefront property owners can help change this trend through the practice and implementation of lakefriendly landscaping and erosion control methods.



The MI Shoreland Stewards Program is a way for property owners to determine if they are using best practices to protect their lake. In this webinar, Julia Kirkwood with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE's) Nonpoint Source Program and chair of the MI Natural Shoreline Partnership will discuss how you can use the program to assess your inland lake property, determine if it qualifies, and how you can receive some general recommendations on improvements to your nearshore habitat.

This webinar will be recorded and made available after the event.

Michigan.gov/EGLEevents

PROGRAM QUESTIONS:

Julia Kirkwood: <u>KirkwoodJ@Michigan.gov</u>

REGISTRATION QUESTIONS:

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

Joel Roseberry: <u>RoseberryJ@Michigan.gov</u>

Individuals needing language assistance or accommodations for effective participation at this event should contact Joel Roseberry at 517-599-9494 by April 1 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.

A New Feature:
Freshwater Conservation Organization

Website of the Month



Our mission is a simple, but powerful one: to forge partnerships among citizens, scientists, and professionals to foster the management and protection of lakes and reservoirs ... for today and tomorrow.

NALMS is not focused on professionals, academic researchers, or any smaller interest group alone; rather, NALMS is a melting pot, welcoming anyone interested in lakes.

https://www.nalms.org/





Feb. 10, 2022

Contact: Joanne Foreman, 517-284-5814

Upcoming invasive species webinars feature law enforcement, boating hygiene,

and Lymantria dispar (formerly gypsy moth)

New sessions of Michigan's NotMISpecies webinar series will cover how conservation officers help prevent invasive species introductions, as well as ways to enjoy the outdoors while minimizing harmful effects of invasive plants, animals and pests.

Supported by the Michigan Invasive Species program, the monthly, hourlong webinars are designed to keep people informed about available programs, current research and emerging issues in the state and the Great Lakes region. Question and answer sessions and links to resources help attendees get the most out of each presentation.

"The AIS-Team" (9:00 AM / Wednesday, February 16) explores conservation officers' role in preventing invasive species introductions through law enforcement. Join Cpl. Nick Torsky of the Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division's Great Lakes Enforcement Unit to learn about enforcing boating and bait-related regulations, oversight of live plant and animal trade in Michigan, interagency cooperation across the Great Lakes Basin and some recent investigations that highlight the DNR's enforcement efforts.

"Step Aboard" (9:00 AM / Thursday, March 24) provides an introduction to Michigan's Clean Boats, Clean Waters grant program, offering resources to groups interested in aquatic invasive species prevention through increased boater education and awareness. Kelsey Bockleman and Paige Filice from Michigan State University Extension and Kevin Walters from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy will reveal 2022 grant award recipients, share information on past projects and help groups prepare to apply for a grant from the program in 2023.

"New Name, Familiar Pest" (9:00 AM / Thursday, April 14) focuses on Lymantria dispar (formerly known as gypsy moth), an invasive pest now considered naturalized in Michigan's forests. An expert panel including Dr. Deborah McCullough from MSU, Dr. Steven Katovich of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, Susie lott of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, and the DNR's James Wieferich will cover the unusual history of this pest in the United States and here in Michigan, and what you can do to reduce some of the unpleasant impacts of an outbreak. You'll learn tips to help stressed trees recover from defoliation and options to help reduce the nuisance around your home.

"Clean It Up, Drain It Out, Dry It Off" (9:00 AM / Thursday, May 12) will show how easy it is for boaters to adopt the Clean, Drain, Dry process to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Kelsey Bockleman from MSU Extension and Kevin Walters from EGLE will provide a live demonstration of each step in the process. The team will demonstrate watercraft decontamination essentials using basic tools like towels and brushes and display the features and operation of a trailer-mounted mobile boat washing system.

If you are new to the series, it's easy to catch up on topics including collaborative efforts in invasive carp management, early detection and response for aquatic invasive species, and the threat posed by spotted lanternfly. Recorded versions of all previous NotMISpecies webinars are available at Michigan.gov/EGLEEvents under "Featured Webinar Series."

Michigan's Invasive Species Program, a collaborative effort of the departments of Natural Resources; Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; and Agriculture and Rural Development, coordinates and supports invasive species initiatives across the state and provides support through the <u>Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program.</u>











FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 2, 2022

EGLE Media Office, EGLE-Assist@Michigan.gov, 517-284-9278

Tamara Lipsey, Aquatic Biologist, <u>LipseyT@Michigan.gov</u>, 517-342-4372

MiCorps volunteer stream cleanup and monitoring grants available

The Michigan Clean Water Corps (<u>MiCorps</u>), a network of volunteer monitoring programs that collect and share surface water quality data throughout the state, is accepting 2022 funding proposals for two grant programs.

Volunteer Stream Cleanup Program: A total of \$25,000 (ranging from \$500 to \$5,000) is available for grants to support local units of government 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 <u>Secretary of State's Office</u>.

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. These grant types include:

- Startup Grants: These grants are for organizations that seek to learn the MiCorps monitoring protocols 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 helps 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 <u>MiCorps Stream Monitoring and Cleanup Grants page</u>. With the exception of the startup grants, the grants require a 25 percent local match commitment.

Grant applications are due by 5 p.m. March 7, 2022. 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 or PSteen@HRWC.org; or Tamara Lipsey, Lake Michigan Unit, Surface Water Assessment Section, Water Resources Division, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, at 517-342-4372 or LipseyT@Michigan.gov.

The <u>MiCorps program</u> was established in 2004 to assist EGLE in collecting water quality data for use in water resources management and protection programs.

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Photo by S. Brown

Make an Important Contribution to Preserving and Protecting Michigan's Extraordinary Freshwater Resources by Becoming a Member of Michigan Waterfront Alliance Today

Your individual, association, or corporate membership in Michigan Waterfront Alliance

will help ensure the continuation of our on-going efforts to:

Protect our extraordinary freshwater resources by working on a day-to-day collaborative basis with the Michigan <u>Department of Natural Resources</u> (DNR), and the <u>Department of Environment</u>, <u>Energy</u>, <u>and Great Lakes</u> (EGLE)...

File amicus briefs with the Michigan Supreme Court in cases whose outcomes carry the potential to adversely impact riparian rights, or public policies that effectively serve to help preserve and protect Michigan's water resources...

Increase State of Michigan funding of programs designed to prevent new exotic aquatic invasive species introductions, and to improve our state's collective ability to manage the destructive array of exotic aquatic plants and animals that already exist in many of our wetlands, lakes, rivers, and streams...

Protect and preserve Michigan's extraordinary inland lakes by pro-actively supporting the mission, goals, programs, and events of unique public/private collaborative efforts such as the <u>Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership</u>, and the <u>Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership</u>...

Prevent new introductions of exotic aquatic invasive species and improve management of existing infestations by working on a collaborative basis with Michigan's regional <u>Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas...</u>

Improve the knowledge of our state legislators in regards to the overall importance of the enormous on-going contributions that our freshwater resources make to Michigan's economy...

>>> Click here <<<

to become a member of

Michigan Waterfront Alliance



2022 Great Lakes Conference

The Great Lakes: Connecting Science and Management

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

A Virtual Conference on Zoom

Registration is open for the 32nd annual Great Lakes conference at Michigan State University. This conference will feature presentations on Great Lakes ecology, environmental justice and fish consumption, and fisheries; water levels, freak waves and flooding; addressing health with environmental surveillance; and connecting people to the Great Lakes.

This virtual conference is free to attend. A reminder will be sent a day before the conference. A full agenda and other information are posted on the conference website at:

Click here to register for the

2022 Great Lakes Conference









Detroit River & Western Lake Erie CWMA

Spring Invasive Species Summit

Zoom Webinar: Saturday, March 19th 10-12:30pm
Hosted by:













Spring Invasive Species Summit



Online: Saturday March, 19

PRESENTED BY SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN CISMAS

Scan & Register Now!



MDARD and Master Gardener credits available pending approval

Schedule

- 10:00am Pathways & Origins of Invasive Species
 Erica Clites, Oakland County CISMA
- 10:15am Stopping Invasive Species in their Tracks
 Shikha Singh, Jackson Lenawee Washtenaw CISMA
- 10:30am Protecting Michigan's State Park Forests Heidi Frei, DNR
- 10:45am Stopping Aquatic Hitchhikers Eric Diesing, CRWC
- 11:00am Keeping Hobby Plants & Pets out of Waterways
 McKenzi Waliczek, Lake St. Clair CISMA
- 11:15am BREAK
- 11:30am Widespread Invasive Identification & Management
 Gadi Krasner, Saginaw Bay CISMA
- 11:45am Reporting Invasive Species

 Matthew Lindauer, Central MI CISMA
- 12:00pm Go Beyond Beauty: Avoiding Ornamental Invasive Plants
 Shelly Stusick, Northwest MI Invasive Species Network
- 12:15pm Supporting Pollinators & Wildlife with Native Plants
 Melissa Kivel, Friends of the St. Clair River

This project was funded by the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (Michigan.gov/invasives)





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) <u>2023 Lake Conservation Grant</u>. 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,

>>> Applications are due on Friday, February 18, 2022

You can submit your application by emailing it to

MGLP Coordinator Joe Nohner at nohnerj@michigan.gov.



Helping You Enjoy and Protect Your Lake With Healthy Shorelines!

Learning Opportunities

Shoreline development along inland lakes often results in the wild native shore being replaced with seawalls, rock and lawns down to the water's edge. As a result, many lakes have little or none of their original vegetation. The reintroduction of natural shorelines through the use of green landscaping technologies and bio-engineered erosion control helps promote a variety of ecological services such as slowing pollutant runoff, stabilizing eroding soils, deterring geese improving fish and wildlife habitat, and revitalizing the ecological function of the lakeshore.

The <u>Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership</u> (MNSP) offers multiple learning opportunities. The "Shoreline and Shallows" Conference is currently offered every other year on the "odd" years and the MNSP joins with other lake partners for the MI Inland Lake Convention in the "even" years. The MNSP also offers Contractor training for those businesses interested in learning how to install more lake friendly solutions for erosion control.

Michigan Waterfront Alliance encourages readers of this e-newsletter to visit the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership website to learn more about lake-friendly alternatives to seawalls, and other ecologically destructive

shoreline hardening practices by clicking here





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 <u>You</u> 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
>>>>> MEMBERSHIP PAGE <<<<<

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 <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter!</u>

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, <u>click here</u>



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

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(c) contact

