
Michigan Waterfront Alliance Update for Wednesday, June 1, 2022

1 message



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.



facebook

**An Open Letter from Bob Frye, President of Michigan Waterfront Alliance
to**

Michigan's Lakefront Property Owners Associations

We Need Your Support!

**Please Consider Making a Generous Donation to
Our Legal Defense Fund Today!**

May 25, 2022

Dear Michigan Lake Associations,

The Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) Board of Directors recently filed an amicus brief in a case pending with the Michigan Supreme Court where the core issue pertains to the important question of whether private citizens can use the Michigan Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act (MNREPA) to judicially review MI Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) permitting actions.

This quote from MWA Attorneys Dane Carey and Bill Carey explains it very well: “The MWA has a unique and compelling amicus position to present. MWA is in a sincere position to advocate on the public trust position based upon its prior experiences with EGLE. MWA has worked for several years now to lobby EGLE from negligently introducing aquatic invasive species (AIS) into Michigan lakes. The results of the lobbying have not been too successful. MWA, in its amicus argument, can, in good faith, represent to the Supreme Court that the MWA has tried and failed administratively to convince EGLE that its actions are MNREPA (Michigan Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act) violations. We need to therefore be able to have a legal theory (public trust thru MNREPA) to sue EGLE to obtain relief.”

The disregard for the significant potential for the spread of exotic aquatic invasive plant and animal species by the DNR is illustrated in the permitting process of a new public access site planned for Eagle Lake located near Edwardsburg, Michigan where an administrative law judge agreed with the DNR that it is not responsible for preventing the introduction of AIS at its newly permitted public boating access ramp at Eagle Lake. The position of the DNR in the Eagle Lake matter is indicative of the failure of the agency to take responsibility for protecting the Public Trust as it pertains to Michigan’s Lakes and Streams.

If the outcome of the filing of this amicus is successful and the Michigan Supreme Court ultimately rules that citizens can use MNREPA as the basis for filing a court case it would truly be a game changer, and be a great boost to protecting the public trust in regard to Michigan’s Lakes and Streams!

Here is the link to the Michigan Supreme Court Oral arguments for the case:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y5s7B4_088E

The legal fees for this amicus brief filing are substantial! Out of a total of twenty eight MWA current lake association members we have received Legal Fund Contributions to help cover the considerable expense of this litigation from only five associations. MWA believes that those most likely to reap the considerable benefits of a favorable MI Supreme Court decision in this important public trust - water resources management related case should help shoulder some of the expense of this amicus brief filing.

We need the help of every Lake association in the State of Michigan! Members or not!

Please consider making a contribution to Michigan Waterfront Alliance's Legal Defense Fund!!

Sincerely,

Bob Frye, MWA, President



Photo by W. S. Brown

A Friendly Reminder for those Operating Wake Boats on Michigan's Inland Lakes about the Importance of Always:

- **Operating a minimum of 300 feet from the shoreline and wetlands;**
- **Operating a minimum of 300 feet from swimmers, fisherman, wildlife, and those navigating in kayaks, canoes, paddleboats, and other quiet water users ;**
- **Operating in a minimum water depth of 16 feet;**
- **Minimizing repetitive passages - diversify your operating track;**
- **Minimizing loud music, and the use of alcoholic beverages;**
- **Operating in a manner that respects all other lake users, and lakefront home owners**

**To download a Power Point presentation regarding
what is currently known about the impact of wake
boats on inland lakes, [click here](#)**

Mark your calendars! The Michigan Inland Lakes Convention: Protecting Lakes Today for Tomorrow

will be held on-line on

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

September 14 - 16, 2022

The three-day virtual Convention will include a plenary session with keynote addresses, workshops, concurrent sessions, a virtual educational resource room, awards, photo contests and trivia.

The Michigan Inland Lakes Convention is a biennial event that brings together professionals, researchers, local government officials, students lake enthusiasts, and others interested in protecting Michigan's water resources. The online format will allow us to reach a large audience, provide an archive of recorded presentations, and offer lower registration fees. While the costs are decreased compared to an in-person Convention, there are still substantial costs associated with offering an accessible and successful online event including logistical and technical support, recording, captioning, and posting presentations for future access. Your support helps keep prices reasonable for all participants, allows us to offer student scholarships, and is an excellent exposure opportunity for your business or organization.

CONTRIBUTOR OPPORTUNITIES

Platinum: \$750+

- Special recognition throughout the Convention, including event announcements and press releases
- Organization logo displayed in Convention materials, website and social media

Gold: \$500

- Organization logo displayed on Convention website and social media
- Recognition during Convention

Silver: \$250

- Organization logo displayed on Convention website

To be a contributor:

Please make your check payable to "Muskegon River Watershed Assembly" and indicate that the funds are to be directed to the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership.

Mail your contribution to:
Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership
c/o Muskegon River Watershed Assembly
Ferris State University
1009 Campus Drive JOH 200
Big Rapids, MI 49307-2280

The Muskegon River Watershed Assembly is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and your contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Dr. Jo Latimore at MSU:

latimor1@msu.edu

517-432-1491

Contribution Deadline:

August 12, 2022

<http://bit.ly/milc2022>





MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES
CARING FOR MICHIGAN'S OUTDOOR PLACES AND STORIES SINCE 1921



We're Hiring!



seasonal park workers

Applying is easy!

May 20, 2022

Contact: [Ron Olson](#), 517-243-1477

DNR boosts state park seasonal worker pay to \$15 per hour

Flexible scheduling, a woods-and-water workplace, making memories with a great team, forging connections with professionals who take care of fish, wildlife, state parks and forests – all while earning \$15 an hour? The Michigan Department of Natural Resource is hoping these perks, especially the new bump in pay, will encourage applicants to ask, “Where do I sign up?” and fill about 400 critical vacancies at state parks and harbors as the busy summer gets underway.

The DNR today announced it has increased the starting hourly rate for seasonal park workers to \$15, up from the old starting rate that ranged from \$10.20 to \$12 depending on region of the state and an applicant’s experience.

“We decided we needed to raise our hourly rate in order to stay competitive with other job opportunities for teens, young adults and retirees,” said DNR Parks and Recreation Chief Ron Olson. “Our seasonal summer workers are key to helping us provide great recreation experiences for every visitor. We think this rate increase will help, but we also want to remind people that we offer a positive work atmosphere and opportunities to explore a career in parks and recreation and natural resources management.”

Olson said seasonal park workers are the first line in shaping the customer experience. These frontline staff help answer visitor questions, register campers, clean park buildings, mow grass, maintain trails and help visitors create lifelong memories – all while learning valuable skills and important lessons about working as part of a team.

Who is eligible

The new \$15 hourly pay rate is effective Sunday, May 29, and is available to all new seasonal park worker hires, as well as those previously hired for this summer season. Olson said the department was able to make the hourly increase possible by reprioritizing some state parks funding.

The DNR is seeking about 400 people to complete the ranks of the 1,300 seasonal park workers needed every year to meet the needs of the highly anticipated summer travel season. The positions are flexible (up to 1,040 hours between April and October) and offer the opportunity to work through Oct. 15.

How to apply

It’s easy! The first step in the process is to express your interest at the [seasonal park workers webpage](#) via the [Michigan.gov/DNRJobs](#) website or by texting “Hire” to 80888. Complete the seasonal park worker interest form by providing your name, email, phone number and the work location(s) where you're interested in working. It should take less than five minutes.

Other perks

These positions may qualify for academic or internship credit (applicants should contact their academic advisor for eligibility requirements).

The DNR employs a variety of people who help take care of Michigan's natural resources and connect more people to better, richer outdoor recreation experiences. Several of those professionals – park rangers, wildlife biologists, fisheries technicians, foresters, trails coordinators, conservation officers, marketing and communications staff, education programmers, park interpreters and many, many others – got their start through seasonal positions at state parks.

If spending the summer outdoors and gaining one-of-a-kind experience toward an academic degree or a rewarding, long-term career path sounds right for you, visit Michigan.gov/DNR/About/Careers/Park-Workers to express your interest and get the conversation started.

Learn more about all of Michigan's state parks and recreation areas at Michigan.gov/StateParks.



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

Training and Outreach

Stewarding the Great
Lakes



WEBINAR

**How Michigan's Water Use Program Preserves
and Manages Our Water Resources**

June 7, 1:00 - 2:00 PM

As part of this year's [Great Lakes and Fresh Water Week](#), the Michigan Department of Environment, Great lakes, and Energy (EGLE) is hosting this webinar to explain why we have water use regulations, how they work, and what it all means for Michigan's residents, industries, and future generations.

EGLE's Water Use Program manages the state and federal regulations that help preserve the water resources of the Great Lakes. The webinar will include a presentation followed by a question-and-answer session and will be recorded and posted online.

Michigan.gov/EGLEevents

PROGRAM QUESTIONS:

Andrew LeBaron: LeBaronA@Michigan.gov

REGISTRATION QUESTIONS:

Alana Berthold: BertholdA@Michigan.gov

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 May 24 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.

EGLE COVID-19 RESPONSE: For details on EGLE's work during the pandemic, [visit this webpage](#). Follow state guidelines at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus.



On-Line Resources Dedicated to Monitoring Michigan's Legislative Process

MWA Encourages Our Readers to Explore these Sites!

[MI Legislators](#)

[Michigan Legislature Bill Search](#)

[Michigan House of Representatives](#)

[MI House of Representatives Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Committee](#)

[Michigan Senate](#)

[MI Senate Environmental Quality Committee](#)

[MI Senate Natural Resources Committee](#)



Invasive species pose a threat to Michigan's environment, economy, and sometimes even human health. What is at stake? What is being done? This webinar series will explore how agencies, universities and locally led organizations are working together to protect Michigan's natural resources through the Michigan Invasive Species Program. 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. A question and answer period will follow each presentation.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2022

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

Decon, didymo and DIY: Get ready for summer with NotMISpecies webinars

Now that temperatures finally are warming up across Michigan, it's time to head outdoors! Whether you're planning a weekend on the water or digging into a landscaping project, this summer's [NotMISpecies webinars](#) offer tips to help you prevent and manage invasive plants and animals to protect the places you love.

With more people—and more invasive species—on the move, decontamination (or “decon,” for short) is now an essential part of travel. Upcoming webinars will show you the best tools and methods for assuring no invasive hitchhikers tag along on your journeys. If invasive plants have crept onto your property, NotMISpecies is also offering some do-it-yourself tips for management.

Supported by the Michigan Invasive Species program, the monthly, hour long 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.

[“Didymo: What You Need to Know”](#) (9:00 a.m. Thursday, June 9) will provide important information for anyone fishing or boating in Michigan’s rivers. The December 2021 discovery of didymo (also known as “rock snot”), an aquatic nuisance algae species, in the Upper Manistee River signals the need for increased decontamination practices by all river and stream users. Dr. Ashley Moerke of Lake Superior State University will provide an overview of didymo's ecology, potential effects on cold-water organisms, and what LSSU researchers are doing to better understand spread, impacts and potential triggers of didymo nuisance blooms. Moerke will be joined by staff from the Department of Natural Resources and EGLE to answer questions and discuss techniques to help prevent further spread.

[“Not in My Backyard! Managing Invasives with Help from CISMAs”](#) (9:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 27) demonstrates how you can control invasive plants in your landscape. Vicki Sawicki of North Country Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area and Elise Desjarlais of Lake to Lake Cisma will share identification tips and treatment tricks for common invasives including garlic mustard, Japanese knotweed and several invasive shrubs. Learn the importance of monitoring, re-treating and restoring beneficial vegetation after invasive species removal and how to get additional resources from your local Cisma.

The webinar series takes a break in August and will be back in September with more great information.

If you can’t wait for its return, take some time to catch up on topics you might have missed, including this year’s forecast for spongy moth (formerly gypsy moth), collaborative efforts in invasive carp management, and the threat posed by spotted lanternfly.

Recorded versions of all previous **[NotMISpecies webinars](#)** are available at **[Michigan.gov/EGLE/Outreach](#)** 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 **[Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program](#)**.

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EGLE COVID-19 RESPONSE: For details on EGLE's work during the pandemic, [visit this webpage](#). Follow state guidelines at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus.



European Frog-bit

(*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*)

Established in Michigan

[WATCH LIST](#) - [PROHIBITED IN MICHIGAN](#)

What to look for:

- Free-floating aquatic plant sometimes rooted in shallow water.
- Leaves are small, 0.5 - 2.5 inches, round to heart-shaped, with a purple-red underside.
- Leaves form a rosette.
- Single flower with three white petals and yellow center may be visible from June to August.

To learn more about exotic invasive European Frog-bit, point your browser toward

<https://www.michigan.gov/invasives/id-report/plants/aquatic/european-frog-bit>

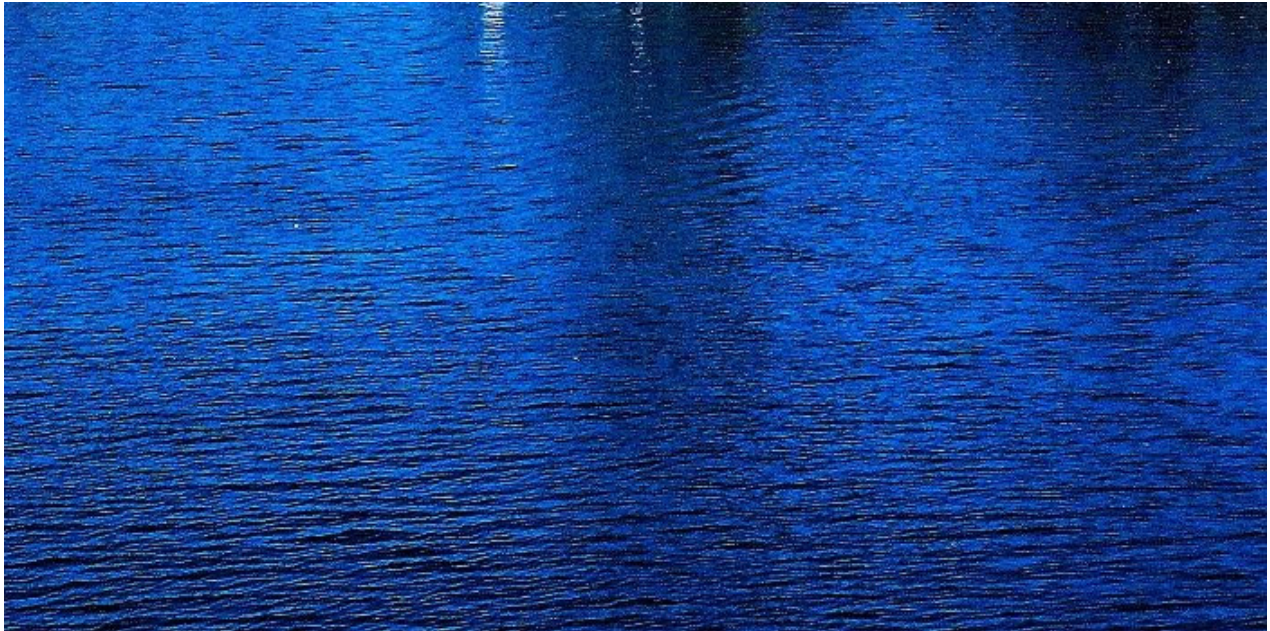


Photo by W. S. Brown



THE MOST UNWANTED AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES: IDENTIFYING, DECONTAMINATING, AND REPORTING

- Wednesday, June 15, 2022
- 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
- [Google Calendar](#) [ICS](#)

Description: Emily Cook, AIS Coordinator at the Benzie Conservation District and manager of the Aquatic Invasive Species Pathways Program, will be presenting on how to protect our special waters from unwanted aquatic hitchhikers. She will discuss how to identify high-priority species, the proper methods of decontamination, the biggest challenges (and wins!) of on-the-ground boat washing, and how to take action as an individual.

This virtual presentation is a part of the Protecting Our Lakes and Shorelands Series developed by the Friends of Spider Lake & Rennie Lake, hosted by the Grand Traverse Conservation District. Speaker: Emily Cook, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator at the Benzie Conservation District

When: Wednesday, June 15th from 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Where: Virtual Presentation

Registration: [Click here](#) to register for this event



Photo by W. S. Brown



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
>>>>>> 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!!!

**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