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## Michigan Waterfront Alliance Update for Friday, July 1, 2022

1 message

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**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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Photo by W. S. Brown





## **Governor Whitmer Proclaims July 2022 as Lakes Appreciation Month in Michigan**

by Ralph Bednarz - MWA and McNALMS Board Member

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency in partnership with the North American Lakes Management Society (NALMS) promotes the value and health of the nation's lakes and reservoirs each year by designating July as Lakes Appreciation Month ([www.nalms.org/lakes-appreciation-month/](http://www.nalms.org/lakes-appreciation-month/)). Part of this promotion is for the nation's Governors to recognize the value of the lakes in their state by issuing a proclamation for Lakes Appreciation Month in their state. The Michigan Chapter of NALMS (McNALMS) along with the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership worked with the Governor's office on issuing the July 2022 Lakes Appreciation Month Proclamation.

Michigan is very fortunate to have over 11,000 inland lakes and over 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline. The quality of Michigan's inland lakes is ranked among the highest in the nation. However, invasive species, nutrients and other stressors continue to threaten these lakes and shorelines.

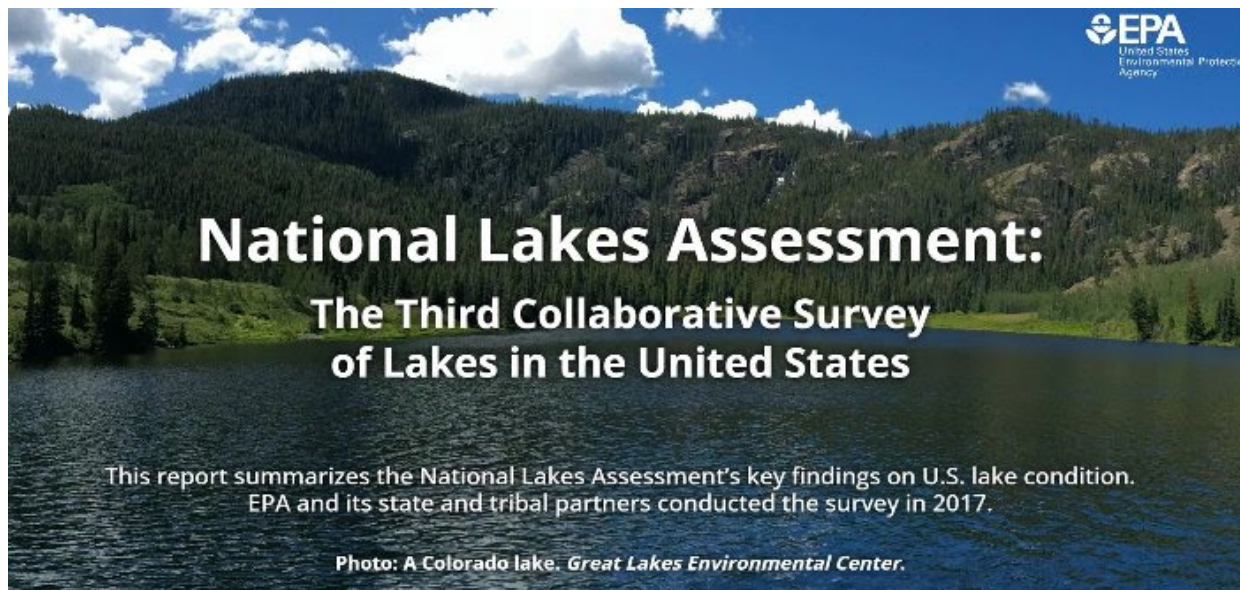
The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) have programs to monitor lakes, manage the fisheries, permit nuisance plant control activities and promote best land management practices at the shorelines and on the shore lands. Through the Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps), hundreds of community volunteers are organized and trained to monitor their lakes every year; bringing education, resources and assistance to lake properties and their owners across the state.

The Michigan Chapter of NALMS, a statewide lake organization for professionals and practitioners, engages in a collaborative effort to ensure the quality, sustainability and ecological diversity of lakes, while considering society's needs ([www.mcnalms.org/](http://www.mcnalms.org/)).

We need to continue to encourage all citizens and communities to actively participate in the protection and preservation of our lakes and lake shorelines.

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## Introduction

Healthy lakes enhance our quality of life. They sustain food webs and provide habitat for fish and wildlife. Lakes contribute to a healthy economy, supporting tourism and recreation, as well as supplying drinking water. For the National Lakes Assessment (NLA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), states, tribes, and other partners surveyed a wide array of lakes, from small ponds and prairie potholes to large lakes and human-made reservoirs, on federal, tribal, state, and private land (see [Acknowledgments](#) for a list of partners).

*The National Lakes Assessment: The Third Collaborative Survey of Lakes in the United States* presents the results of the 2017 survey of lake condition in the conterminous

United States. The first two surveys took place in 2007 and 2012. During spring and summer of 2017, 89 field crews sampled 1,005 lakes, using standardized sampling procedures to collect data on biological, chemical, physical, and recreational indicators. The measured values were compared to NLA benchmarks to assess lake condition.

The NLA is designed to answer the following questions about lakes across the United States.

1. What percent of waters support healthy ecosystems and recreation?
2. What are the most common water quality problems?
3. Is water quality improving or getting worse?
4. Are investments in improving water quality focused appropriately?

The NLA is one of four statistical surveys that make up the National Aquatic Resource Surveys (NARS) program, which is designed to assess the condition of all

waters nationally over time. For more information, see the [NARS history](#) page. The NLA can help stakeholders plan for the protection and restoration of lakes across the United States.

In addition to examining the health of lakes on a national scale, the NLA is designed to provide statistically valid results on the condition of a number of subpopulations. Subpopulation results can provide additional information on the conditions of the nation's lakes on a regional scale or for a particular lake type (natural lakes vs. reservoirs).

This report focuses on NLA 2017 results at national scale, comparing the condition of lakes to that from NLA 2012. Regional highlights are provided as well.

Results from the NLA can help us better understand the condition of lakes in the United States, some of the stressors affecting them, and how stressors relate to local conditions. While this report explores associations between these indicators, it does not explain or identify the causes of degraded conditions or sources of stressors. Additional research is needed to address these questions. Further, data from future assessments will help determine whether changes observed between 2012 and 2017 represent a trend or are the result of natural variability.

[Click here](#) to continue to reading the [2017 National Lakes Assessment](#) web-based report



Photo by W. S. Brown



**Michigan Waterfront Alliance is Proud to  
Be A Platinum Level Sponsor of the  
2022 Michigan Inland Lakes Convention**



**CALLING  
ALL LAKE  
LOVERS**

**MICHIGAN INLAND LAKES CONVENTION**  
**PROTECTING LAKES  
TODAY FOR TOMORROW**  
VIRTUAL EVENT: SEPT. 14-16

Keynote addresses, workshops, and  
breakout sessions dedicated to helping  
lake enthusiasts and professionals  
better understand inland lakes.



<https://bit.ly/milc2022>

**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.

**Join us!**

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.

## **Registration**

Registration is open! Registration for the event is \$60, \$15 for students, and free for speakers. Registration deadline: September 11, 2022. [Register here](#).

## **Agenda**

We're pleased to present the [draft Convention agenda](#) (updated June 21, 2022). For more details on each session, see our [current list of abstracts](#), sorted by speaker last name (updated June 22, 2022).

**REGISTRATION FOR THE 2022 MICHIGAN INLAND  
LAKES CONVENTION IS NOW OPEN!**

**REGISTER HERE**

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Photo by W. S. Brown

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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.

**[“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](#)**.

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## 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](mailto:scottb1952@gmail.com)

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**>> 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!!!

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**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](#)**

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**Visit the Michigan Waterfront Alliance Web Site by Clicking Here**