Michigan Waterfront Alliance Update for Wednesday, February 15, 2023
1 message

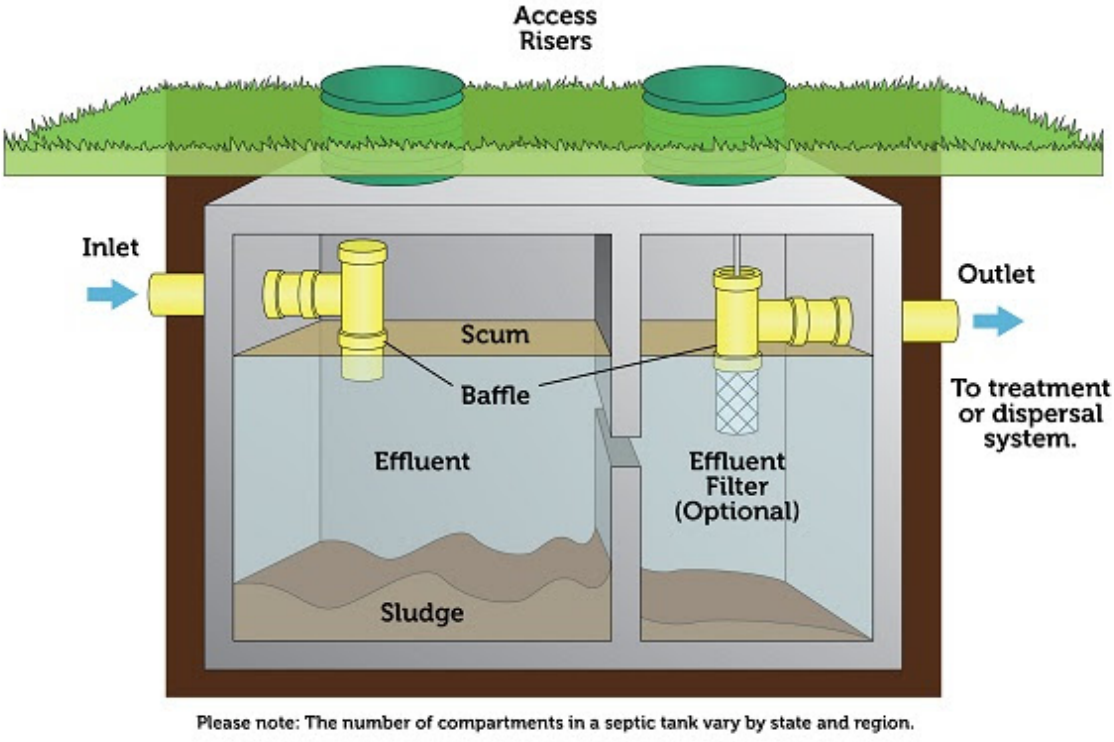
Photo by Scott Brown

Welcome to the Michigan Waterfront Alliance

Update for Wednesday, February 15th, 2023

MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE

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.



Hundreds of Thousands of Failing Septic Systems Contribute to an Ongoing Major Public Health Issue in Michigan

Groundwater, and the Waters of our Fragile Lakes, Rivers, and Streams are Subject to Contamination by Failing Residential Septic Systems

by Scott Brown
MWA E- Newsletter Editor

Attributed to the fact that Michigan continues to be the only state within the United States of America that has not yet enacted a state-wide law requiring regular septic system inspections, and to the fact that only eleven out of eighty three, or 13% of counties in Michigan have enacted local regulations that require regular septic system inspections, hundreds of thousands of failing septic systems continue to be a major source of e-coli and human fecal bacteria laden raw sewage that contaminates ground water, and renders the waters of many our lakes, rivers, and streams unfit for total contact water sports such as swimming or snorkeling. The steadily escalating environmental and public health associated problem is derived from that fact that approximately 20%, or 280,000, of the 1.4 million septic tanks that were constructed in the 1950's and 1960's throughout Michigan are now failing. The problem has also been exacerbated by the fact that many Michigan homes, and their now severely antiquated septic systems were built prior to the construction of sewer systems that now serve even the smallest of towns and villages.

Septic systems, otherwise known as on-site waste water disposal systems, are designed and installed in order to manage and treat the waste generated by toilets before it reaches ground water. In a properly designed septic system, the septic tank serves to remove larger solids from wastewater. Wastewater that flows out of the septic tank is saturated with contaminants that must be removed before the water can safely be combined with surface and/or groundwater. Public health issues stem from the fact that septic tank effluent contains large concentrations of toxic micro-organisms that are capable of making people sick. Moreover, the organic matter present in wastewater effluent creates bad odors, and contains algae growth stimulating nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) that can have a negative impact on aquatic ecosystems. Properly designed septic systems include a disposal field comprised of a mixture of sand, silt, and clay that are often referred to as loamy soils that act to successfully treat bacterial and inorganic compounds. Phosphorus that is produced within the household that passes through the septic tank is also captured within a properly designed disposal field's soil.

On-site waste water disposal systems continue to be installed in support of residential and commercial development that occurs in rural settings where sanitary sewer systems are not available. According to Michigan State University Extension, when an on-site waste water disposal system is correctly located, properly designed, carefully installed, and properly maintained, they are capable of serving as effective waste disposal systems that are economical and that do not pose a threat to public health or to the fragile ecosystems of surrounding streams, rivers, and lakes.

Michigan's on-going failing septic system crisis is best exemplified by Kent County where a volunteer only septic system inspection program allows an estimated 11, 250 failing residential septic systems distributed throughout the county to leak approximately one million gallons of raw sewage into vulnerable groundwater supplies each day. In inland lake inundated Oakland County, as another prime example, where public health threatening cases of e-coli contamination of rivers and

lakes are reported on a more and more frequent basis, and where county officials have also yet to establish a program that would mandate regular septic system inspections, approximately twenty-five to thirty percent of the 100,000 septic systems located in Michigan's most affluent county are known to be leaking. The gravity of the situation is also effectively illustrated by the fact that the results of a 2015 study conducted by Michigan State University researchers on sixty-four Michigan rivers revealed that concentrations of e-coli that were higher than U. S. Environmental Protection Agency permitted water quality standards. The significance of the issue is also amplified by the fact that the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lake, and Energy (EGLE) reports that approximately one half of Michigan's thousands of miles of rivers and streams suffer from concentrations of toxic e-coli that exceed minimum water quality standards.

Representing a major environmental and public health issue that promises to escalate in significance as increasing numbers of septic systems fail and begin to leak with the passage of time, past efforts to enact legislation that would have established a meaningful statewide standard for how septic tanks are designed, built, inspected, and maintained have sadly disintegrated in the face of arguments suggesting that in addition to treading on individual property rights, regulating septic tanks in a manner that would require regular inspections and maintenance would be too costly for homeowners, over burden local health departments, and make it more difficult to sell homes.

It is important to note, however, that Michigan Governor Whitmer recognized the significance of the on-going problem and declared the week of September 20-24, 2021 as Septic Smart Week that encouraged homeowners and communities to properly maintain their increasingly vulnerable septic systems. In addition, Governor Whitmer and Senator Jon Bumstead proposed dedicating $35 million of the 2022 state budget to enable the establishment and funding of an EGLE administered program that would make low interest loans available to homeowners seeking to repair, replace, or eliminate leaking residential septic systems.

The latest attempt at passing legislation that would require septic tank inspections was introduced as House Bill 6101 on May 17, 2022 by Representatives Yaroch and Rendon, and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation. Known as the "septic tank inspection at time of sale act", due to an upcoming election, and perceived wide spread opposition to the legislation, neither the Michigan House of Representative or the Michigan Senate took any sort of action on the bill. Only time will tell if Governor Whitmer and the leadership of both houses of the Michigan legislature will pursue a viable solution to an on-going environmental crisis by enacting a state law requiring property owners to inspect and maintain their septic systems on a regular basis.

For more information on how failing septic systems are capable of degrading our precious freshwater resources, visit the U. S. EPA's web page entitled "How Your

Septic System Can Impact Nearby Water Sources" . The always wise, inland lakes preservation focused folks from northwest Lower Michigan's Glen Lake Association have also created a **septic smart webpage** that contains valuable information regarding the proper maintenance of septic systems.

Photo by Scott Brown

Clean Lakes Support – Now's the Time!

by Ralph Bednarz, MWA Director and NALMS Region 5 Director

The Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) Board is excited to share with you some information about an advocacy campaign for restoring funding to, and enhancing Section 314 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), formerly known as the Clean Lakes Program.

When the Clean Water Act (CWA) was enacted in 1972, Congress explicitly acknowledged the importance of healthy lakes in Section 314. This voluntary Clean Lakes Program provided funds to help assess the water quality of lakes in a state or tribal jurisdiction, conduct diagnostic feasibility studies to identify the causes of pollution in the lake, implement projects to mitigate the problems, and carry out post-restoration monitoring studies. The Clean Lakes Program awarded $145 million in grants through 1995. But Congress has appropriated no funds for the Clean Lakes Program since

1995, even though 45% of the nation's lakes continue to be in poor condition as a result of nutrient enrichment and other stressors, according to the most recent National Lakes Assessment .

Michigan was awarded a lake classification grant in 1980 which supported the state's inland lakes water quality monitoring and assessment program. In addition to the lake classification grant support, Michigan was awarded 16 individual project grants: seven Diagnostic-Feasibility Studies (Phase I) awards, eight Restoration and Protection Implementation Projects (Phase II) awards, and one Post-Restoration Monitoring Studies (Phase III) award, during the time period of the Section 314 Clean Lakes Program financial assistance.

Another important part of the CWA is Section 319 Nonpoint Source Program that was established in the 1987 Amendments to the Act. Since 1990, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been providing financial support to states and tribes through Section 319 grants to implement their nonpoint source management programs.
The EPA has encouraged states and tribes to use Section 319 funds to support the Clean Lakes Program work previously funded under Section 314. The use of Section 319 funds to support lakes-related projects varies widely by state and tribes but it has been reported in the range of 5-19%, far less than needed to keep the nation's lakes healthy. Michigan does not track individual lake watershed projects supported with Section 319 grant funds.

Significant new funding needs to be allocated to support a coordinated effort to address the many threats to lake water quality and prevent further deterioration of existing healthy lakes.

The North American Lakes Management Society (NALMS) has been developing the elements of an advocacy campaign related to restoring funding to Section 314 of the CWA to once again allow for diagnostic-feasibility studies to be conducted on lakes across the country and to enhance the Clean Lakes Program by including funding for preservation and protection efforts for high quality waters.

NALMS recommends:

- **Congress reauthorizes funding for the Section 314 Clean Lakes Program and significantly increases annual appropriations over previous funding levels.**
- **Revising the implementation of the Clean Lakes Program by adding a Healthy Lakes component to protect high quality lakes and prioritize lakes with significant cultural**

heritage value and lakes in communities where there are environmental justice concerns.

- **Evaluation of existing programs like Section 319 Nonpoint Source Program, Healthy Watersheds, Urban Waters and 106 Monitoring Program to identify additional opportunities to advance lake restoration and protection.**

The NALMS 314 Working Group is taking the lead in developing materials to communicate with partner organizations and has engaged a college student intern for
developing public outreach materials centered on the importance of the Clean Lakes Program and the value of lakes to the National, state and local economies, and the American way of life. The intent is for these materials to be used by lake advocates across the country to campaign for restoring funding to, and enhancing Section 314 of
the CWA.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN SPRING 2023

- **Fact sheets, brochures and other informational resources geared to stakeholder groups related to this effort, and recommendations for mobilizing stakeholders.**
- **Packaged slideshows with narration for various audiences.**
- **A survey for state agencies and their collaborators on what is needed at the state level if funding is re-appropriated.**
- **A template letter for constituents to use in contacting their congressional representatives to express their support for re-funding and enhancing Section 314 of the Clean Water Act.**

To learn more background behind the NALMS 314 Working Group efforts, visit the NALMS Enhanced 314 Clean Lakes Program position statement.

Photo by Scott Brown

Michigan Department of
Natural Resources
Caring for Michigan's outdoor places and stories since 1921

In the spirit of Saturday, February 11, 2023 International Day of Women and Girls in Science, we're spotlighting some of the dedicated, accomplished women who help Michigan's fisheries thrive, and what inspired them to pursue their passion. Who knows? Their words just might encourage you or someone you know to seek out the sciences—fisheries or otherwise!

(Each image features, in their own words, why they got into the field of science. Enjoy!)

Shoreline & Shallows Conference 2023

Registration Open! In Person

Date: Thursday, March 9th

Location: Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing

Time: 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Registration Information

Cost: Early Bird - $50 (until February 26) Regular: $65 (Starts February 27)

REGISTER NOW

This year's Conference will include topics on the current state of Michigan's shorelines through the National Lake Assessment, why woody structure is good for lakes and how it can be used for In-Lake Habitat Improvements such as "fish sticks" and "turtle logs", highlights of one of the largest projects in Michigan to install woody structure for shoreline erosion control, discussion about the future state of bioengineering , aquatic plants and an overview of the best management practices associated with the updated shoreline permits.

Registration Questions: Contact Lois Wolfson 517-230-9281 E-Mail: wolfson1@msu.edu

---

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. For more information, stop by our website, follow us on Twitter, or reach out to our coordinator, Joe Nohner.

Spring 2023 MGLP Lake Conservation Webinars

Tools for Building Resilience in Midwest Lake Organizations

Eve Whittaker & Chris Solomon

February 28, 1:00 PM Register here

Introducing the Lake Resilience and Systems Thinking Hub. Whether you are a lake organization member, environmental educator, or you have an interest in protecting lakes—we are excited to share our resources with you. This webinar introduces resources that were developed and tested alongside lake and watershed conservation groups. These materials are designed to facilitate discussions around long-term changes and planning that lake social-ecological systems may experience. We encourage you to come learn how to use these resources to facilitate discussions with your organization members, your partners, and your leadership team. These tools may guide discussions that focus on a specific, existing issue, or they could be used to direct preemptive planning.

Dissolved oxygen in warming lakes

Steve Jane

March 28, 1:00 PM Register here

Dissolved oxygen (DO) is a fundamental component of lake ecosystems. It is an important attribute of habitat in that low levels make habitat unsuitable for most aerobic organisms like fish. In addition, because of its role in redox reactions, DO strongly influences water chemistry. Low oxygen can result in internal loading of limiting nutrients, accumulation of the greenhouse gas methane, as well as formation of the toxic form of mercury in the water column. Therefore, changes to lake DO strongly impact the functioning of lake ecosystems with implications for drinking water quality, biodiversity, and possibly, fish toxicity. In theory, DO should respond to warming surface waters through a variety of mechanisms. This talk will summarize recently published work that used long-term and geographically extensive lake water quality data to explore the relationship between warming of surface waters and DO.

Managing for RADical lake change: applying the Resist-Accept-Direct (RAD) framework to support walleye management in Wisconsin

Abigail Lynch and Colin Dassow

April 11, 1:00 PM Register here

Managers facing transforming lakes can benefit from considering broader objectives beyond a traditional focus on resisting change. They can also consider whether accepting inevitable change or directing it along some desirable pathway is more practical and appropriate under some circumstances (the RAD framework). Here, we'll introduce the RAD framework and highlight a decision-support tool for the walleye recreational fishery in Wisconsin as an example of how to link the RAD framework to real-world management of a large recreational fishery.

On thin ice: Are lakes feeling the heat?

Sapna Sharma

April 18, 1:00 P.M., Register here

Our planet is experiencing accelerated climate warming, with dramatic consequences not only on lake ecology, but also on the ecosystem services we rely on from our freshwater resources. Lakes with seasonal ice cover, which represent more than half of the world's lakes, are especially sensitive to a changing climate, as ice cover is a strong determinant of lake ecosystem functioning. Lakes are losing ice cover at unprecedented rates. On average, ice duration is shorter by 17 days/century. However, in the past 25 years, lake ice loss is 6 times faster, with some lakes not freezing every winter. By the end of the century, over 200,000 lakes may no longer regularly freeze and almost 6,000 lakes may permanently lose ice cover with climate warming. With reduced ice cover, lakes may stratify earlier which can lead to

elevated water temperatures, primary production, and likelihood of algal blooms, some of which may be toxic. Mitigation of greenhouse gases is essential to preserving this ecological, cultural, and economically important resource.

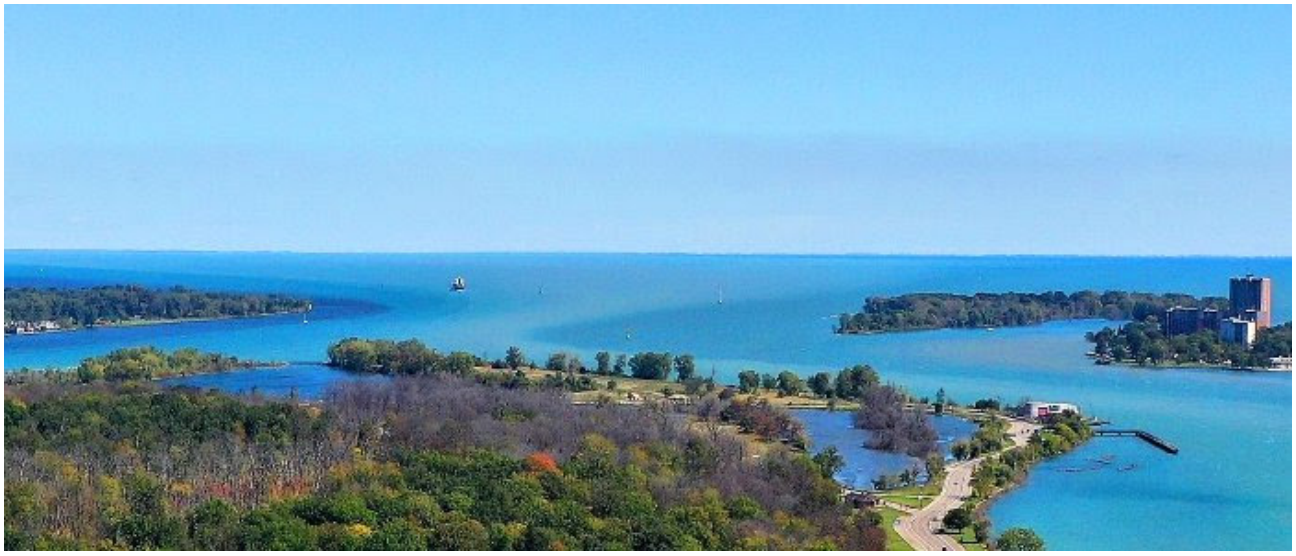


Photo by Scott Brown

2023 Great Lakes Conference

The Great Lakes: Managing Fisheries and Exploring Islands

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

9:30 AM - 3:45 PM

Zoom Webinar

For more information:

Contact: Lois Wolfson
Phone: 517-230-9281
E-mail: wolfson1@msu.edu

Register Now!

Conference will take place on-line through Zoom

>>>Free to attend<<<

but registration is required

The 33rd Annual Great Lakes Conference will feature two themes with three presentations per theme as well as a panel discussion with Q/A from participants.

The themes are Fisheries Management in the Great Lakes and Great Lakes Islands. The day will also feature a presentation on PFAS in Great Lakes Fish. More information, as well as a complete agenda can be found on the conference website.

The conference is sponsored by Michigan State University Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Institute of Water Research, Michigan Sea Grant Extension, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, and MSU Extension. Support is provided by US Geological Survey Water Resources Research Program. The conference is free to attend.

Michigan Department of
Natural Resources
Caring for Michigan's outdoor places and stories since 1921

State parks, trails, and waterways

Do you like to spend your summers outdoors? What if you could get paid for it, too? We've got just the thing! We're hiring!

Starting rate is $15/hour.

Know someone that might be interested?

To learn about these opportunities, visit

www.Michigan.gov/DNRJobs

Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership Request for Proposals:

2024 Lake Conservation Grant

The Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership (MGLP) is accepting proposals for their 2024 Lake Conservation Grant. Projects should 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. 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, from individual or multiple lakes to entire watersheds. Projects should address the processes that cause fish habitat impairments as opposed to managing or treating the symptoms of those causes. Applications are due by

Friday, February 17, 2023

If you have any questions, please contact Joe Nohner at nohnerj@michigan.gov or 517-599-6825 or John Hiebert, MGLP Steering Chair, at john.hiebert@state.mn.us.

Photo by Scott Brown

NotMISpecies Webinar Series

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 explores 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. Recorded versions of all previous NotMISpecies webinars are available at Michigan.gov/EGLE/Outreach under "Featured Webinar Series."

Upcoming webinars in the series

Tuesday, March 21, 9:00 - 10:00 AM
Rowing the boat: The Michigan Invasive Species Program 2022 year in review

The hearty crew of staff, partners and volunteers that make up the MISP navigated through some rough waters in 2022 with new detections of beech leaf disease and spotted lanternfly in the state, but they also managed to make a lot of headway. The program's communications coordinator, Joanne Foreman, will highlight response efforts, prevention, outreach and survey work undertaken in 2022 to protect Michigan's natural resources from the effects of invasive species.

To access previously recorded NotMISpecies Webinars

click here

Michigan.gov/EGLEevents

REGISTRATION QUESTIONS:

Joel Roseberry: RoseberryJ@michigan.gov

Alana Berthold: BertholdA@michigan.gov

Virtual Lake Learning Opportunities

February 16, 1:00 PM: New report: Strategies and an action plan for protecting and restoring wetland and floodplain functions. *(View the report here.)* Host: Natural Floodplain Functions Alliance. Register.

February 22, Noon: Bioengineering for healthier shorelines. Presented by Noah Jansen, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council (Michigan). Host: Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. Register.

February 27, 6:00 PM: Understanding conservation easements. Presented by Chase Heise, Leelanau Conservancy. Host: Grand Traverse Conservation District. More information.

February 28, 2:00 PM: Tools for building resilience in Midwest lake organizations. Presented by Eve Whittaker, Arizona State University; and Chris Solomon, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership. More details.

March 8, Noon: An overview of Tribal fisheries. Presented by Kevin Donner, Little Traverse Bands of Odawa Indians. Host: Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. Register.

March 15, 2:00 PM: Preventing the spread of invasive species through PlayCleanGo and WorkCleanGo. Presented by Lindsey Cathcart, PlayCleanGo Program Manager. Host: North American Invasive Species Management Association. Register.

March 21, 9:00 AM: Rowing the boat: The Michigan Invasive Species Program 2022 year in review. Presented by Joanne Foreman, Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Host: Michigan Invasive Species Program. More details.

March 22, Noon: Great Lakes Coastal Resiliency Study. Presented by David Bucaro, US Army Corps of Engineers. Host: Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. Register.

March 28, 2:00 PM: Dissolved oxygen in warming lakes. Presented by Steve Jane, Cornell University. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership. More details.

April 5, Noon: Go with the flow *(Restoring connectivity for stream health, biodiversity, and water quality protection)*. Presented by Daniel Zielinski, Great Lakes Fishery Commission; and Jennifer Buchanan, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. Host: Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. Register.

April 11, 2:00 PM: Managing for RADical lake change: applying the Resist-Accept-Direct (RAD) framework to support walleye management in Wisconsin. Presented by Abigail Lynch, US Geological Survey; and Colin Dassow, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership. More details.

April 18, 2:00 PM: On thin ice: Are lakes feeling the heat? Presented by Sapna Sharma, York University. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership. More details.

April 19, Noon: A model for evaluating septic pollution. Host: Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. Register.

April 24-28: 13th National Monitoring Conference. (*hybrid conference with limited virtual format*) Host: National Water Quality Monitoring Council. More details. $

May 2, 2:00 PM: Shoreline Living Volume Two: Property owner experiences in lakefront conservation. Presented by Erin Fuller, Van Buren (Michigan) Conservation District. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership. More details.

May 9, 2:00 PM: Conservationists' perspectives of governance in the Iowa Great Lakes. Presented by Austin Holland, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership. More details.

May 16, 2:00 PM: Healthy Watersheds, High-Quality Waters- A new program for protecting the wonderful waters of Wisconsin. Presented by Pamela Toshner, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership. More details.

MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE

>>> We Need Your Help!!! <<<

Why You Should Join Michigan Waterfront Alliance today?

Do you care about your favorite lake, river, or stream?

Do you care enough to contact your state senator or representative about issues that may affect the quality of your waterbody?

Do you keep track of the bills that are important to your lake, river, or stream that may have been introduced in the Michigan House or Senate?

The good news is that Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is doing this for you.

And while we're at it - we will remind you that the activities and efforts of the Michigan Waterfront Alliance are conducted entirely by passionate volunteers who donate their own time and personal resources to helping preserve and protect Michigan's extraordinary freshwater lakes, ponds, rivers, stream and wetlands.

Did you know that not a single person who works directly on behalf of our non-profit organization receives compensation of any sort - financial or otherwise?

Did you know that with the exception of paying our attorneys to represent your interests, and the best interests of preserving our freshwater resources in court, that the majority of the relatively modest amount of revenue we generate from memberships is entirely dedicated to paying our Lansing-based lobbyist to work on your behalf and on behalf of protecting Michigan's water resources in our state capitol??

Did you know that Michigan Waterfront Alliance is a pro-active member of the collaborative lake conservation focused organization known as the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership???

Did you know that Michigan Waterfront Alliance was a 'platinum' level sponsor of the 2022 Michigan Inland Lakes Convention??

Did you know that Michigan Waterfront Alliance is a founding member of the Michigan Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force, a collaborative effort that is comprised of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE), the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and several statewide non-profit organizations that is dedicated to stopping the introduction and spread of exotic aquatic invasive plants and animals??

Did you know that our volunteers often reach out to elected members of the United States House of Representatives, the United States Senate, and to the United States Environmental Protection Agency in regards to resolving federal government level issues that pertain to protecting Michigan's freshwater resources??

Why not become a pro-active part of our efforts to help preserve and protect Michigan's incredible freshwater resources for future generations by becoming a member today??

Please remember that we rely entirely upon 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!!!

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

---

MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE

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