

Photo by Scott Brown

Welcome to the Michigan Waterfront Alliance

Update for Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023



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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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Department of Natural  
Resources



**Where passion meets a career**

**By SIERRA WILLIAMS**

**Communications representative, Fisheries Division**

**Michigan Department of Natural Resources**

It's the age-old question many children are asked, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Well, around the age of 10, Jim Dexter knew exactly what field he wanted to work in, but he never imagined or planned that it would lead him to be the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division Chief.

Dexter caught his first fish, which was a northern pike, at the age of 3 with his grandfather. Not only was this the start of him being hooked on the thrill of catching fish, but his appreciation for the world of fisheries grew with each cast and catch.

Dexter credits his grandfather for his love of fishing, as he was the one who taught him all the tips and tricks on how to fish.

Throughout his childhood, Dexter spent a lot of time outdoors. He and his friends would share fishing tips, trade tackle and catch bluegill, bass and crappie at a small local lake. If they weren't on the water, then they were likely found at the local Kmart to pick up the latest lure that came out.

His love for the outdoors carried on to his junior and high school years as he volunteered nearly every weekend at the Bloomfield Hills E.L. Johnson Nature Center.

He helped manage the pond on the grounds and built a dock for visitors to fish from. Here is where he met his first mentor, who he spent time with discussing careers and the outdoors. With a career path in mind, Dexter graduated high school and prepared for college.

In 1983, Dexter earned his Bachelor of Science degree in fisheries and wildlife from Michigan State University. This was at the tail end of a recession, which made it difficult to find a full-time job.

However, Dexter was able to secure consistent part-time positions between the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Michigan State University and the National Park Service.

The string of part-time fisheries jobs led to a full-time position offer from the Indiana DNR in 1985.

Knowing that his goal was to eventually end up back in Michigan, Dexter waited for a full-time position in his home state to open, which finally occurred in 1987 when the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act was enhanced, which brought dozens of professional fishery job openings to the Michigan DNR.

**“The four-hour interview process was nerve-racking,” Dexter said. “I remember prioritizing my locations, with the southwest Michigan Plainwell office being my first choice. When I received the official offer, I received my last choice. But within a couple days and some other staff taking transfers, I was able to secure the Plainwell position. I still live in Plainwell even though I have worked for 15 years out of Lansing.”**

**Throughout his 36-year career, Dexter has held the positions of biologist, manager, staff specialist, Lake Michigan basin coordinator, acting Fisheries Division assistant chief and Fisheries Division chief.**

**As he moved through the ranks, each position was a different world. With each position he needed to think more broadly, and his perception and appreciation grew with each position.**

**“They don’t teach you this stuff in college. You’re trained as a biologist, but you need to learn as you go to hone and grow your management and leadership skills,” Dexter said. “I have had a number of mentors throughout my career, and without their advice and support I would not be where I am today.**

**“I view my job as chief (being) to break down the barriers for everybody else to help them get their work done. Teams and units and sections produce the results. Sometimes I refer to myself as a gatekeeper or air traffic controller. A good leader needs to set aside time to think about future strategies and objectives for the division, gain acceptance for them and then figure out implementation.”**

**There have been numerous milestones and achievements over Dexter’s career.**

**Most notably, during his time as the Lake Michigan basin coordinator, Dexter was instrumental in developing and implementing the lake trout management plan for Lake Michigan. This was no small effort, as the plan took seven years to develop across multiple fish and wildlife agencies, including Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission.**

**Another achievement during his time as chief was obtaining two new Great Lakes research vessels and, most recently, a \$30 million investment by the Michigan Legislature and executive administration in infrastructure improvements at state fish hatcheries.**

**“I’m so thankful for the work the staff has put into these investments to ensure our future work to enhance our fisheries resources is secure,” said Dexter. “We continue to be forward-thinking and invest in our future, such as being a natural resource agency leader in installing solar power at our hatcheries to reduce our carbon footprint and help offset electrical needs to save costs.”**



The Michigan Arctic Grayling Initiative is another notable project that was begun under Dexter's direction. In June 2016, the Michigan DNR, in partnership with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, proposed the initiative that aims to bring back the extirpated species to the state.

The initiative seeks to establish self-sustaining populations of this species throughout its historical range in Michigan. The initiative has more than 40 partners collaborating on the reintroduction.

While preparing for retirement, Dexter has had some time to reflect on his career and share advice with staff and future employees of the DNR Fisheries Division.

"Our future is bright with the staff we have and who we continue to onboard," Dexter said. "I foresee the division working on broader-scale issues such as watershed and dam management to help our future fisheries."

Dexter will close out his official role as chief of the Fisheries Division on April 28, but he doesn't plan to miss out on some volunteer field work during his retirement. He plans to participate in future egg takes, surveys and other field work.

"I'm looking forward to spending more time with family and friends," Dexter said. "But I also plan to keep in touch with my work family and get back to my roots of helping out on the rivers, streams, inland lakes and the Great Lakes."

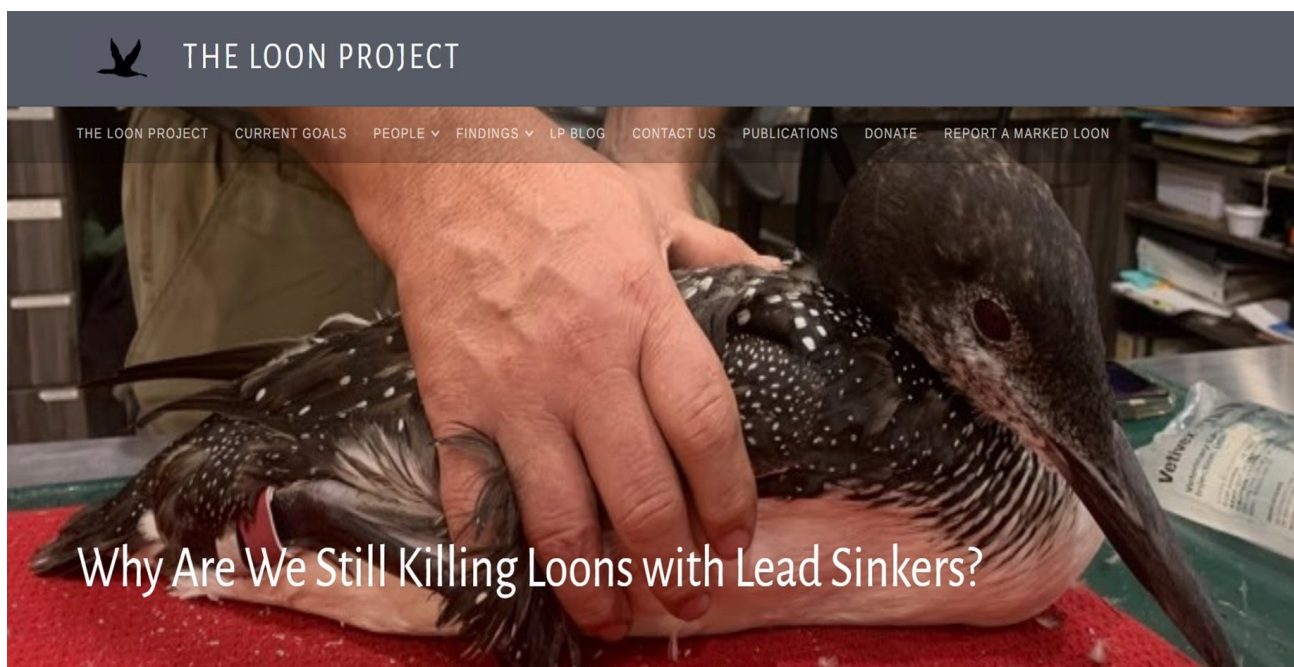


Of course, Dexter will have more time to dedicate to fishing during his retirement.

Michigan is home to tens of thousands of miles of rivers and streams, and he plans to add some more miles to his boots and entries to his fishing trip journals.

**Editor's Note: On behalf of Michigan Waterfront Alliance, a hearty congratulations to Jim Dexter on his upcoming retirement as Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division Chief. In recognition of a long and productive career driven by knowledge, passion, and an abiding love for Michigan's lakes, rivers, and streams and the diverse array of both big and small fish that inhabit them, thanks a million to Jim for all he has done for this wonderful natural resource and Michigan's fishing community!!!!**

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In the interest of full disclosure, I will admit that I am grouchy. In the past five days, we have lost three adult loons from our study area. The first of these was the Arrowhead Lake male who, having broken his right wing in early July, finally succumbed to that injury last Friday, leaving his mate and two almost-grown chicks. We all knew that the Arrowhead male was going to die before the end of the season, but it still hurt when his lifeless body finally washed ashore.

The second loon that we lost was an adult male found in the eastern part of Minocqua Lake. He was un-banded, and the only un-banded male we know of from that location is the territorial male from the Minocqua-East territory, who nested unsuccessfully with his mate in the thoroughfare to Lake Tomahawk in May. So we are fairly confident that this male is from Minocqua-East. On Saturday he became incapacitated, beached himself near the Minocqua boat landing, was reported by lake residents, and was picked up in this defenseless condition by Linda and Kevin Grenzer, who took him to Raptor Education Group, Inc. Linda and Kevin could tell from his green droppings and lethargy that he was likely a victim of lead poisoning, and their suspicion was confirmed by a blood test at REGI on Saturday. The folks at REGI started chelation treatment to remove the lead from his blood, but their efforts were too little, too late. A large male weighing about 4.5 kilograms when he was healthy, he had wasted away to 3.1 kg at his death.

The third death of a male loon from the study area occurred just a day later. On Sunday Chris Rocke e-mailed me to say that while paddle-boarding on Lake Michigan, he had run across a marked loon that stayed very close to shore (see his photo, above) and seemed reluctant to dive. He became concerned about the bird's odd behavior and listlessness. Over the few days that Chris watched him, this loon became weaker and weaker, to the point where Chris was able to capture him by hand on Sunday afternoon. His bands, photographed by Chris, below, showed that he was "silver over red, taupe-stripe over red", an individual that we have come to know well over the years. First banded in 2004 on Lake Seventeen with his mate and two chicks, this male and the four females he was paired with during his breeding career on Seventeen cranked out eight offspring before his eviction in 2014. He then relocated to Katherine Lake, where he nested unsuccessfully for six straight years. This year, he and his mate failed in a way that we had not observed previously — first



one of their eggs and then the other rolled off into the lake, because the nest had been placed on a slope near the water. Still, this male's breeding success on Seventeen made him one of the most productive breeders in the study area. Like many loons from the Upper Midwest, he was making a stop on Lake Michigan prior to completing his migratory journey south.

To continue reading this article

**[click here](#)**





# Cottage & Lakefront Living Show - Grand Rapids<sup>TM</sup>

*DeVos Place*



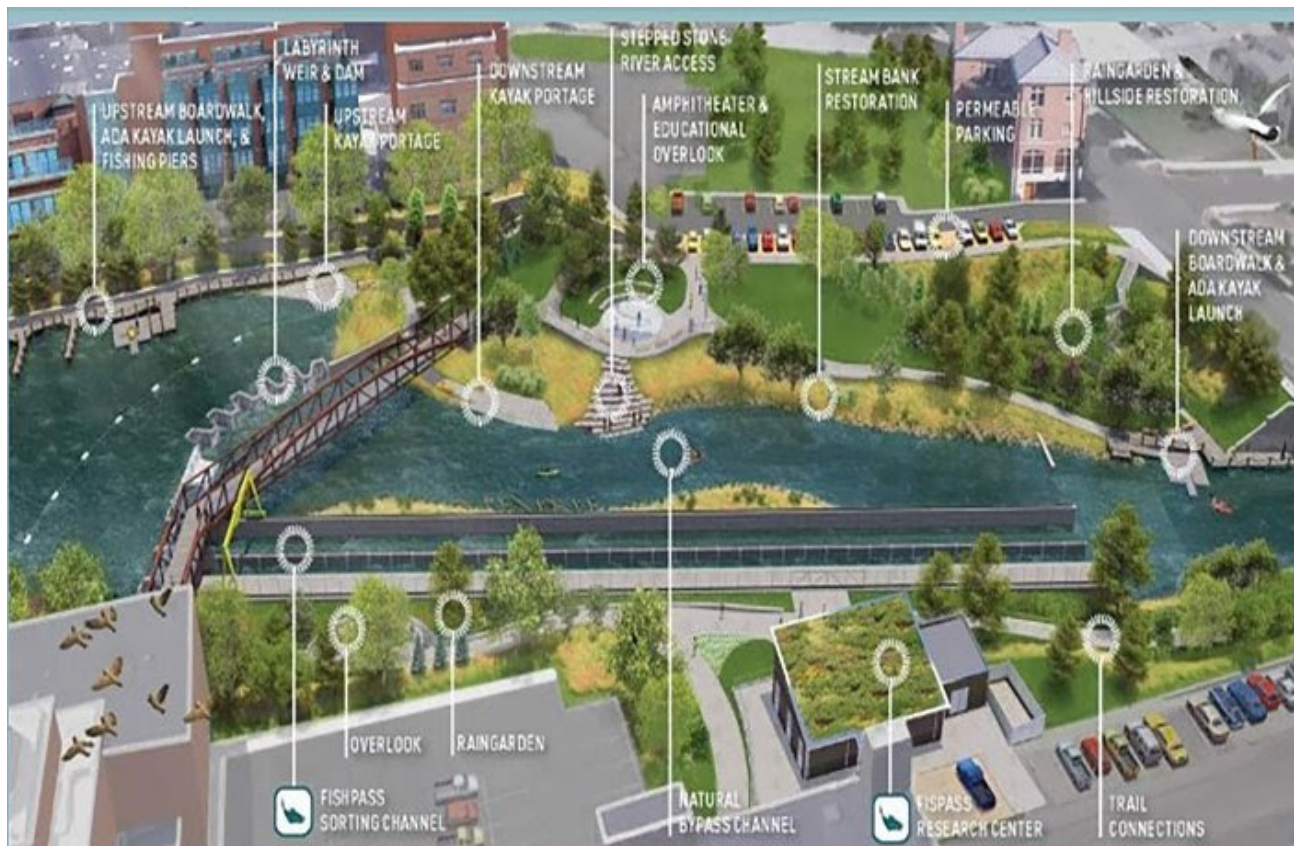


**A hearty thank you to Michigan Waterfront Alliance  
Director Nancy Beckwith for dedicating the considerable  
time and effort in order to cover the entire Grand Rapids**



**Cottage and Lakefront Living Show on our behalf on  
Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, March 24 - 26, 2023.**

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## **Ice Breaker Speaker Series: Go with the Flow**

Join us next Wednesday for our penultimate Ice Breaker of the year! Rivers and streams crisscross the landscape, providing thousands of miles of essential habitat for fish and other aquatic life, until dams, roads, and other obstacles impede access to critical habitat for refuge, spawning, and forage. Join Dr. Daniel Zielinski, Principle Engineer/Scientist with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, to discuss ongoing efforts to restore connectivity for stream health, biodiversity, and water quality protection, including FishPass on the Boardman River.

**Join us  
virtually!  
Wednesday,  
April 5th  
Noon to 1 PM**



## About Our Speaker:



Dr. Daniel Zielinski is a Principal Engineer / Scientist with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. Dan received his B.S. in civil engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota with emphasis in water resources. He has authored numerous publications examining behavioral responses of fish to acoustic and hydrodynamic stimuli and the integration of this data into numerical models.

He is broadly interested in integrating engineering and biological principles to better understand how the aquatic environment influences physical and behavioral responses in fish, and has built a research approach focused on exploiting computational resources and experimental technology to enhance fish passage and invasive species control. He is currently stationed in Traverse City, MI, where he works closely with FishPass project partners to oversee construction of FishPass, develop research and assessment plans supporting FishPass objectives, and communicating with stakeholders.

**Register for the Event by**

**[Clicking Here](#)**

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## 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](https://Michigan.gov/EGLE/Outreach) under "Featured Webinar Series."

### Upcoming webinars in the series

**April 25, 9:00 - 10:00 AM**

#### [Vampires of the Great Lakes: A review of the binational sea lamprey control program](#)

The sea lamprey is often depicted as the poster child for invasive species in Michigan. With rows of teeth in their circular mouths, these parasitic fish attach themselves to larger sportfish and literally suck out their blood and internal fluids! Join Ross Shaw, communications and policy associate with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, to learn more about the fascinating history of this species and the multi-faceted control program that keeps their populations in check.

**May 25, 9:00 - 10:00 AM**

#### [To infinity...and beyond \(beauty\)! Highlighting a statewide ornamental invasive plant outreach program](#)

Did you know that many invasive plants in natural areas originally arrived as ornamental garden plants? That's why the *Go Beyond Beauty* program recognizes garden professionals and community members who have committed not to sell or use high-priority ornamental invasive plants. Shelly Stusick, program specialist at Northwest Michigan Invasive Species Network, will provide an overview of the recently expanded *Go Beyond Beauty* program and highlight the benefits of partnering with local nurseries, garden centers, and concerned citizen groups to provide ornamental invasive species education.

**June 14, 9:00 - 10:00 AM**

### **Life's a beech! Another disease is threatening Michigan's majestic giants**

Beech leaf disease was first detected in Michigan in 2022, raising concern about the future of the state's 37 million beech trees, already decimated by beech bark disease. Join Simeon Wright, DNR forest health specialist, to learn about the potential impacts this new disease might have on Michigan's forests, what's being done to address it, and how to spot the symptoms of beech leaf disease on your trees.

**July 13, 9:00 - 10:00 AM**

### **Can this moth help save monarchs? Swallow-wort biological control efforts in Michigan**

Invasive swallow-wort vines, kin to native milkweed plants, are disrupting the life cycle of monarch butterflies. *Hypena opulenta*, a defoliating moth that can only develop on invasive swallow-worts, was discovered in Ukraine and is now approved for field releases in North America. Marianna Szucs from the Department of Entomology at Michigan State University will describe research efforts to establish this moth in Michigan, and the importance of climate match and genetic diversity of the biocontrol agent.









A composite image showing two microscopic views of algal blooms. The top half shows a dense, light green bloom with many small, round cells. The bottom half shows a similar bloom but with more prominent, darker green, elongated structures. A dark blue banner with white text is overlaid in the center.

## ALGAL BLOOM ACTION TEAM WEBINAR SERIES

### HAB EFFECTS ON WILDLIFE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY SCIENCE

**Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 11: 00 AM CT / Noon ET**

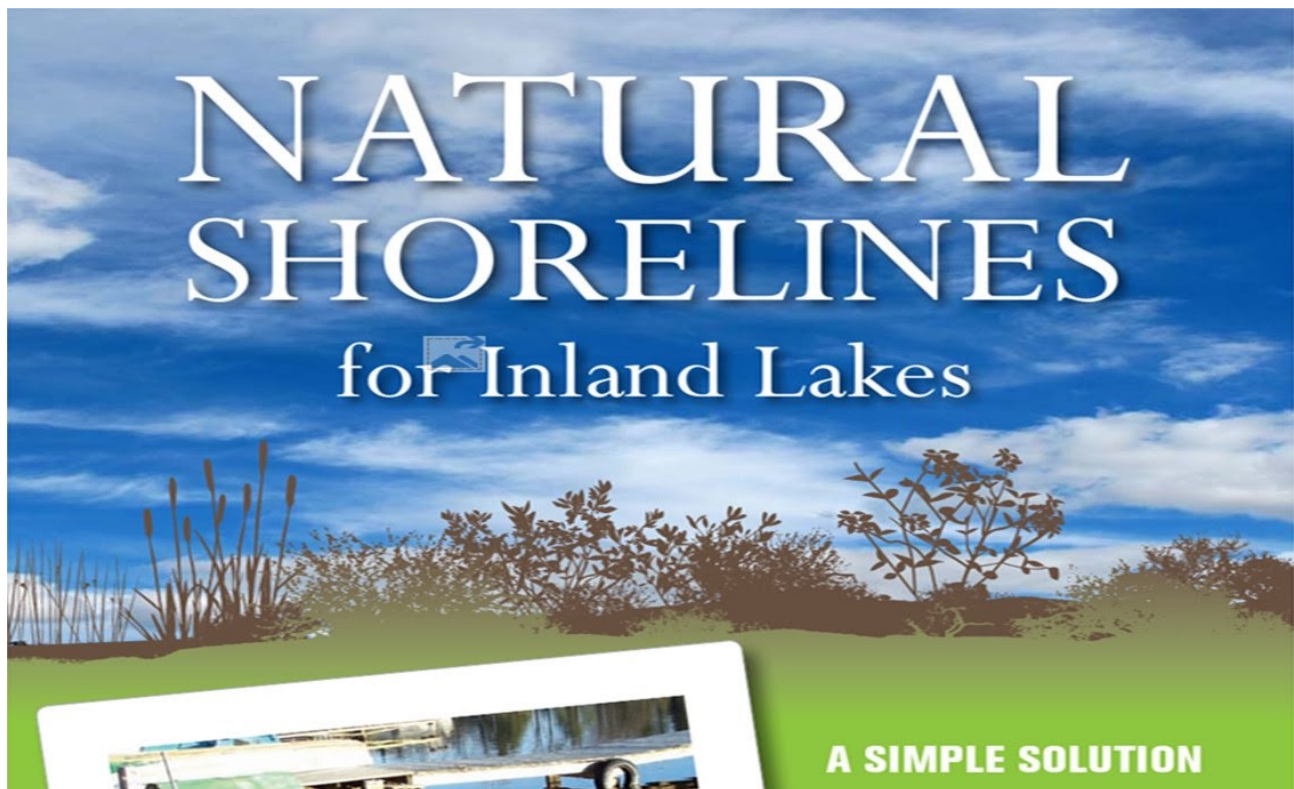
The Algal Bloom Action Team will host Dr. Jeanine Refsnider and Dr. Alba Argerich for their April webinar. Dr. Refsnider from the University of Toledo will present her research on the effects of Lake Erie HABs on wildlife health. Dr. Argerich from the University of Missouri will discuss the importance and lessons learned from 30 years of community science in Missouri.

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**

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Photo by Scott Brown



The Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership (MNSP), a collaboration of state agencies, academia, nonprofit organizations and private industry, was formed in 2008 with the belief that a change was necessary in shoreline development practices in Michigan from high impacting methods that change the natural riparian condition to healthier and sustainable erosion control practices that:



1. *Restore/Preserve the ecological function of the shoreline.*
2. *Effectively stabilize shoreline erosion.*
3. *Are attractive options to lakefront property owners.*

#### **Partnership Objectives:**

1. *Train contractors and landscape professionals about shoreline technologies and bioengineered erosion control.*
2. *Educate property owners about natural shorelines and technologies that benefit lake ecosystems.*
3. *Research, demonstrate, and develop natural shoreline technologies that benefit lake ecosystems.*
4. *Encourage local and state policies that promote natural shoreline management.*

#### **MISSION:**

Protecting Michigan lakes through conservation and restoration of natural shorelines.

**<https://www.shorelinepartnership.org/>**

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# If not **you**, then who?

## We need **you**!

Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is the only all-volunteer non-profit organization in Michigan that is completely dedicated to reaching out on a daily, pro-active basis to our state representatives and senators in regards to their on-going need to act now to protect our precious inland lakes, wetlands, rivers, and streams.

Please do not expect other lake associations, other individuals, and other corporations to fund MWA's efforts in Lansing.

If **you** want your voice to be heard in Lansing **you** need to be the other lake association, the other individual, and the other **corporation** to make a generous contribution to helping fund our on-going efforts in Lansing.

Please don't count on others to support the only organization in Michigan that is completely dedicated to voicing your legitimate concerns to our state legislators in Lansing.

We hire professional lobbyists - **Karoub Associates** - who understand the intricacies of dealing with state government - to reach out to our legislators. As you might imagine, the cost of hiring a professional, highly respected Lansing-based lobbying firm whose downtown Lansing office's are located within a literal stone's throw of Michigan's state capitol building is expensive - we believe, however, that to have someone in constant contact with our state senators and representatives it is more than worth the significant on-going expense.



To put it in blunt "no ifs, ands, or buts" terms, without **your** generous support we will be unable to continue our erstwhile efforts in Lansing.

Please also remember that with the exception of a few relatively minor expenses related to keeping our website updated, and on-line, and a few relatively minor costs associated with distributing our e-newsletter, **all** of our membership and donation derived income goes to paying our downtown Lansing-based lobbying firm, and our attorneys. No exorbitant employee salaries or fringe benefit packages to pay!!!!!!!!!!

It is also important to note that last year **Michigan Waterfront Alliance** lawyers took a case all the way to the Michigan Supreme Court in order to get the State of Michigan to do it's job in protecting our lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands.

**Thank you** for reading and considering this hopefully convincing appeal for donations - **no amount is considered too small** - all donations of money are happily received and acknowledged within the context of the generous spirit that prompted them!!!!!!!!!!

**Click here** to become a dues paying member of MWA

**Click here** to make a generous donation to MWA



Michigan Department of  
**Natural Resources**

Caring for Michigan's outdoor places and stories since 1921



## **Talk with fisheries staff at spring 'Conversations & Coffee' meetings**

Have questions about fishing in Michigan and 2023 fishing regulations? Check out these upcoming virtual "Conversations & Coffee" events, focusing on fisheries management around the state, to get answers and talk with Michigan Department of Natural Resources fisheries staff.

These events cover local and statewide regulation changes and other topics related to managing fisheries and aquatic natural resources on inland lakes and streams and the Great Lakes. They're also great opportunities to meet fisheries managers and biologists, provide feedback on regulation proposals, and discuss local issues and management activities. Get specific questions answered at one of the DNR Fisheries Division's "Conversations & Coffee" virtual meetings:

### **Lake Huron Management Unit**

- Tuesday, April 4, 6 to 7 p.m.
- Contact: [Randy Claramunt](#)

### **Lake Erie Management Unit**

- Tuesday, April 4, 7 to 8 p.m.
- Contact: [Sara Thomas](#)

### **Southern Lake Michigan Management Unit**

- Tuesday, April 11, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- Contact: [Brian Gunderman](#)

For detailed meeting and contact information, visit the ["Conversations & Coffee" webpage](#).

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

**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](#)**

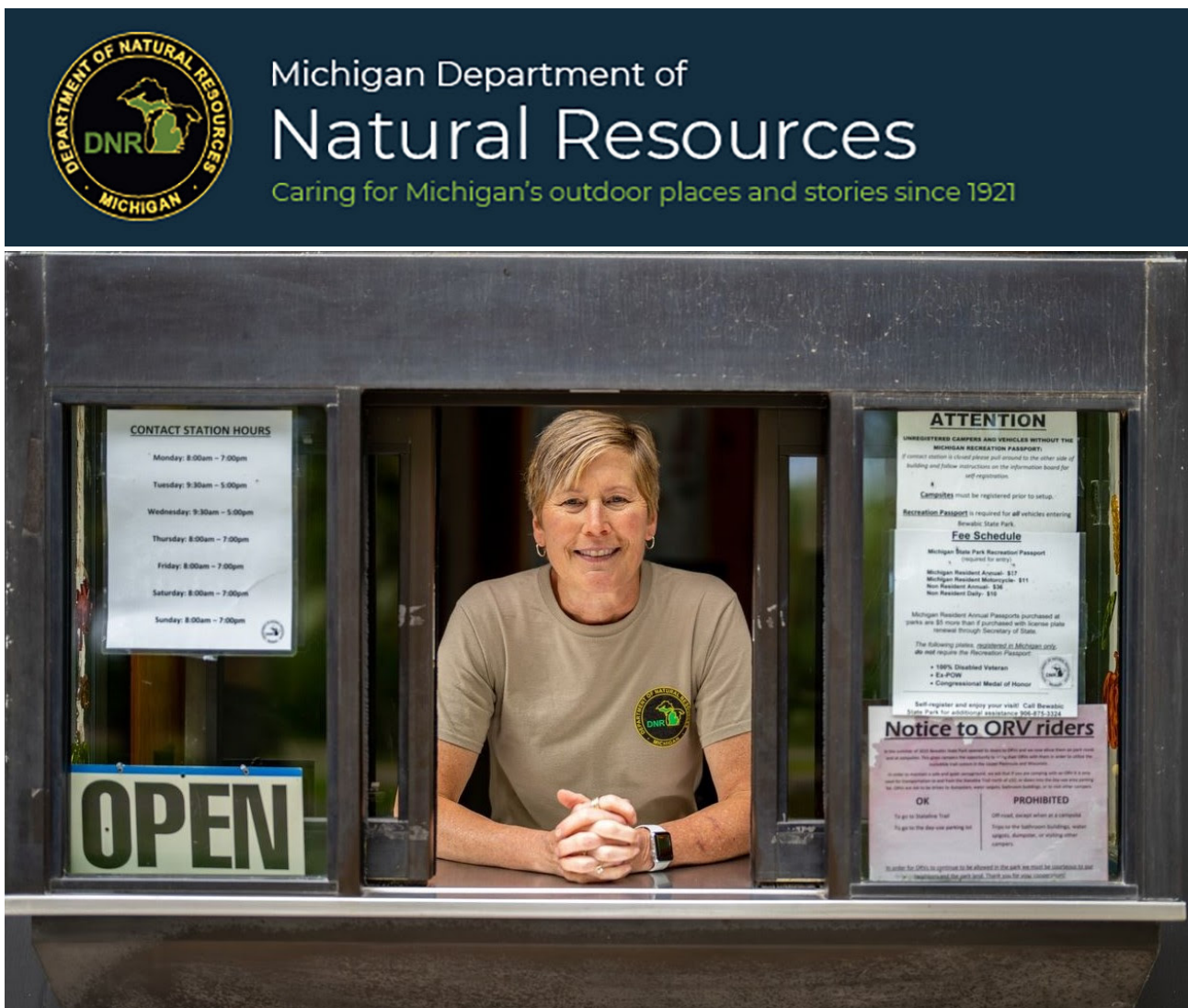
Managers facing transforming lakes can benefit from considering broader objectives beyond a traditional focus on resisting change. They can also consider whether accepting inevitable change or directing it along some desirable pathway is more practical and appropriate under some circumstances (the [RAD 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.



## 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](http://www.Michigan.gov/DNRJobs)

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Photo by Scott Brown

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# Virtual Lake Learning Opportunities

April 4, 6:00 PM: Michigan DNR Fisheries Division "Conservations & Coffee" - [Lake Huron Management Unit](#). *(These events cover local and statewide regulation changes and other topics related to managing fisheries and aquatic natural resources on inland lakes and streams and the Great Lakes. They're also opportunities to meet fisheries managers and biologists, provide feedback on regulation proposals, and discuss local issues and management activities.)* Host: Michigan Department of Natural Resources. [More details](#).

April 4, 7:00 PM: Michigan DNR Fisheries Division "Conservations & Coffee" - [Lake Erie Management Unit](#). *(These events cover local and statewide regulation changes and other topics related to managing fisheries and aquatic natural resources on inland lakes and streams and the Great Lakes. They're also opportunities to meet fisheries managers and biologists, provide feedback on regulation proposals, and discuss local issues and management activities.)* Host: Michigan Department of Natural Resources. [More details](#).

NEW April 5, Noon. HAB (*harmful algal bloom*) effects on wildlife and the importance of community science. Presented by Jeanine Refsnider, University of Toledo; and Alba Argerich, University of Missouri. Host: North Central Region Water Network. [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 11, 6:30 PM: Michigan DNR Fisheries Division "Conservations & Coffee" - [Southern Lake Michigan Management Unit](#). *(These events cover local and statewide regulation changes and other topics related to managing fisheries and aquatic natural resources on inland lakes and streams and the Great Lakes. They're also opportunities to meet fisheries managers and biologists, provide feedback on regulation proposals, and discuss local issues and management activities.)* Host: Michigan Department of Natural Resources. [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 19-21: 2023 Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention (*hybrid event with in-person and virtual options*)** Host: Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Partnership. [More details.](#) \$

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

**NEW April 25, 9:00 AM: Vampires of the Great Lakes: A review of the binational sea lamprey control program.** Presented by Ross Shaw, Great Lakes Fishery Commission. Host: Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. [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.](#)

**NEW August 20-24: 153rd American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Grand Rapids, Michigan (*hybrid event: virtual and in-person options*).** Host: American Fisheries Society. [More details.](#) \$

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**>>> 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 proactive 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**



**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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## **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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**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**

