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## Michigan Waterfront Alliance Update for Wednesday, November 15, 2023

1 message

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Photo by Scott Brown

**Welcome to the Michigan Waterfront Alliance  
Update for Wednesday, November 15, 2023**

**[Click here](#) to download a copy of the Wednesday,**



**November 1, 2023**  
**Michigan Waterfront Alliance e-Newsletter**

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**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!**

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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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**facebook**

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A photograph of a calm blue lake with a green shoreline in the background. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

# Michigan Chapter North American Lake Management Society

The purpose of McNALMS is to promote understanding and comprehensive management of Michigan's  
inland lake ecosystems





**MI Chapter**

**North American Lake Management Society**

**2023 Lunch and Learn:  
Current Perspectives on Wake Boats**

**JOIN US FROM 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023**

**IN BRODY HALL, ROOM 134 LOCATED ON THE MSU CAMPUS IN EAST  
LANSING**

**Registration for this interesting and  
informative event is now open !!!**

**TO REGISTER FOR THE 2023 LUNCH AND LEARN EVENT**

**-----CLICK HERE-----**

**For more information regarding the 2023 Lunch and Learn event contact:**

**Lois Wolfson at [wolfson1@msu.edu](mailto:wolfson1@msu.edu).**

**The Michigan Chapter, North American Lake Management Society is excited to announce its next in person Lunch and Learn event. The topic will be on Wake Boats, and we'll have guest speakers, Joe Nohner, Inland Lakes Habitat Analyst & Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership Coordinator, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Nicki Polan, Executive Director, Michigan Boating Industries Association; Ethan Hellier, Midwest Government Affairs Manager, Water Sports Industry Association and Jesse McArdell, Policy and Engagement Manager, National Marine Manufacturers Association to talk about their perspectives on Wake Boats on inland lakes.**

**Wake boats are powerboats specially designed to increase wave height for watersports, such as surfing or tubing. Their popularity and sales have soared over the last decade. Several studies on wake boats and their effects on inland lakes have identified issues ranging from damage to shorelines, piers, and docks to hazardous conditions for swimmers and small non-motorized craft. Recently the Michigan DNR Fisheries Division released a report on voluntary best operating practices in support of the continued use of wake boats while minimizing the effects on natural resources and near shore property. The Michigan Boating Industries Association has publicized Wake Responsibilities through flyers, handouts, and signage and provided guidelines for operation of**



these vessels. Each speaker will discuss their agency's or organization's perspectives on wake boats and recommendations to minimize impacts.

Registration is now open, and can be made on this website or through mail.

Cost to attend which includes lunch is \$30; \$20 for full-time students. Seating capacity is limited to 80.

Registration deadline is Monday, November 20, 2023.

For more information, contact: Lois Wolfson at [wolfson1@msu.edu](mailto:wolfson1@msu.edu).



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

**!!!!!! NOW !!!!!**

**If you, and/or your organization care in the least bit about what Michigan Waterfront Alliance is attempting to achieve in Lansing by lobbying (pro-active encouragement!) our Governor and state legislators to do the right thing and pass laws intended to help protect and preserve the extraordinary capacity of our state's freshwater lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands to contribute ecological and economic services worth billions of dollars annually to our state's economy, culture, and unique way of life, please consider becoming a member, and/or of making a generous contribution now to**

**Michigan Waterfront Alliance**

**today!!!!**

**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?? As you very well may imagine, state capitol based lobbyists do not come cheap!!!!!!!!!!!!

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**

**\$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!!!**





**Photo of grumpy looking green sunfish "forcefully" asking you to become a member, and/or to donate now to MWA by Scott Brown**

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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY



The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has developed a variety of new resources in order to assist individuals who want to improve their shoreline and learn more about bio-engineering and other inland lake best management practices (BMP).

Five new fact sheets covering [low energy bioengineering](#), [biotechnical erosion control](#), [aquatic plants](#), [shoreline woody structure](#), and [soil lifts](#) have recently been published on [EGLE's Shoreline Protection website](#).

Six new documents have also been created with illustrations and corresponding plans in order to implement best management practices for shoreline protection and lake health that are consistent with EGLE permit guidance.

[Seawall replacement with Native Buffer Strip](#)

[Lower Energy Bioengineering](#)

[Higher Energy Bioengineering](#)

[Riprap; Docks and Boardwalks through a Wetland](#)

[Shoreline Woody Structure](#)

These have recently been published on [EGLE's Shoreline Protection website](#).

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Photo by Scott Brown



# MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

**Michigan Environmental Council—a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization—is a coalition of nearly 100 organizations created in 1980.**

**Our mission is to champion lasting protections for Michigan's air, water, and the places we love.**



In our vision, Michigan is a national environmental policy leader where a powerful network of advocates has built a track record of enacting enduring and equitable policies that protect the health of our communities and offer unparalleled stewardship of our land, air, and water in the face of climate change.

<https://www.environmentalcouncil.org/>

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## Michigan Clean Boats, Clean Waters grant applications now open!

[Kelsey Bockelman](#) and [Paige Filice](#), [Michigan State University Extension](#)

October 25, 2023

**\$35,000 is available for Michigan organizations dedicated to aquatic invasive species education and outreach.**



2022 grantees show off parts of their grant projects from a few summers ago! East Jordan High School (Left) displays their new aquatic invasive species decontamination sign. Photo Credit: East Jordan High School

For the fourth year running, the Michigan Clean Boats, Clean Waters program has grant funding available to support aquatic invasive species outreach efforts. This opportunity is for Michigan organizations dedicated to the protection of our waterways including lake associations, local units of government, and non-profit organizations. This year, up to \$35,000 is available to engage the Michigan boating community in invasive species prevention actions.

Funding requests can be up to \$3,000 each and do not require local match or cost sharing. Clean Boats, Clean Waters grants can be used for a variety of activities including signage, invasive species supplies such as plant removal tools, sponges and towels, and staff time to perform watercraft inspections and demonstrations of boat cleaning techniques. Eligible applicants include lake associations, watershed groups, local or tribal units of government and non-profits. Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMAs) and organizations with a statewide impact are highly encouraged to support local groups or pursue [Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program](#) funds to perform boater outreach activities.

Interested groups can apply for a grant now on the [Clean Boats, Clean Waters website](#). The deadline to apply is January 19, 2024. This is a competitive funding opportunity and complete applications will be ranked based on group eligibility, project significance, anticipated outcomes, and target audiences. Accepted grantees will be notified in March of their award.

Over the last three years Clean Boats, Clean Waters has awarded 31 grants to lake associations, watershed groups, high schools, local units of government, and nonprofit organizations to educate the public about aquatic invasive species. Below are some examples of their projects.

- The Elk-Skegemog Lakes Association, located at the tripoint of Antrim, Grand Traverse, and Kalkaska Counties, installed Clean Boats, Clean Waters Decontamination Station signs and distributed education materials around Elk and Skegemog Lakes. The lake association hosted invasive species education events and partnered with the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council to host boat washing demonstrations.
- The Alger Conservation District, in partnership with the Lake to Lake Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area and Burt and Au Train Townships, installed interpretive signs at public boat and kayak launches on the Au Train River and at the Burt Township Marina. In addition, a Clean Boats, Clean Waters Decontamination Station sign was installed at the marina for residents and visitors. The Conservation District and partners also hosted outreach events to educate the public about

relevant invasive species and conducted boat and kayak decontamination demonstrations.

- The Kalkaska Conservation District partnered with Coldsprings Township and Manistee Lake Association to install a Clean Boats, Clean Waters Decontamination Station sign and display educational messaging near the boat launch at Manistee Lake Sands Park. In addition, the Conservation District sponsored paid advertising about clean boating practices in local media and hosted outreach events during busy weekends.

## Michigan Clean Boats, Clean Waters Program

Michigan State University Extension is leading the effort to implement the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy. Since 2006 the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program has been educating Michigan boaters about aquatic invasive species with trained volunteer boat inspectors. The program has grown into a comprehensive aquatic invasive species boater outreach program thanks to funding from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. Clean Boats, Clean Waters promotes understanding of boat cleaning practices and regulations through the distribution of educational materials, an online resource library, boat washing demonstrations, grants, and partnerships. The program builds upon existing partnerships with statewide and local organizations including the Michigan Lakes and Streams Association, CISMAs, and lake associations and is actively seeking new opportunities and partners to share the clean, drain, dry message.

More information on Clean Boats, Clean Waters can be found on the MSU Extension website, Facebook (@MichiganCBCW), or Instagram (@michigan\_cbcw).

Questions about the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program and this grant funding opportunity can be directed to Kelsey Bockelman, bockelm4@msu.edu.

This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. For more information, visit <https://extension.msu.edu>. To have a digest of information delivered straight to your email inbox, visit <https://extension.msu.edu/newsletters>. To contact an expert in your area, visit <https://extension.msu.edu/experts>, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

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# Great Lakes **VIRTUAL** PFAS SUMMIT

**Register today!**

**2023 Virtual Great Lakes PFAS Summit  
December 5-7, 2023**

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) is hosting the [fourth annual virtual Great Lakes PFAS Summit](#) on December 5-7, 2023.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) continue to present some of the biggest challenges in chemical contamination across the world. States throughout the nation, including the Great Lakes region, are finding PFAS contamination in a growing number of locations where these persistent chemicals pose a threat to human health and the environment. The Great Lakes PFAS Summit will bring together environmental program managers, policy experts, researchers, and contractors from around the Great Lakes region to share new methods of addressing this contamination and present innovative technical solutions developed to address these “forever” chemicals.

Participants will include local, state, and federal government officials; environmental consultants and vendors; academic researchers and students; industry managing PFAS contamination; and community organizations. The Summit will be held virtually through a combination of Zoom and the event app, *Whova*. All registrants will have the ability to network, chat with peers, [visit with exhibitors](#), and contact speakers.

**[⇒ VIEW THE AGENDA](#)**

Register today!

- Get information on the most current and reliable science and policy.
- Network with hundreds of professionals from around the Great Lakes Region using our online event platform, Whova.
- Explore current and future research topics related to PFAS.
- Hear the latest from federal, state, and local officials on their challenges and innovative solutions in dealing with these "forever chemicals."
- Earn Continuing Education Hours (CEH) / Professional Development Hours (PDH). (The Summit does not provide water operator CECs.)

**All of this for only \$35!**

Registration Deadline: December 1, 2023

**[Michigan.gov/EGLEevents](https://michigan.gov/EGLEevents)**

#GLPFASSummit

**PROGRAM QUESTIONS:**

Nicole Sanabria: [SanabriaN@Michigan.gov](mailto:SanabriaN@Michigan.gov)

**REGISTRATION QUESTIONS:**

Alana Berthold: [BertholdA@Michigan.gov](mailto:BertholdA@Michigan.gov)

Joel Roseberry: [RoseberryJ@Michigan.gov](mailto:RoseberryJ@Michigan.gov)

**Exhibitor opportunities available!**

The Virtual Summit gives exhibitors unique opportunities to gain visibility and connect with the Great Lakes scientific community charged with solving complex environmental issues. Exhibitors will be available online to share their innovative products, services, and solutions. Exhibitor registration fee is \$95 and includes event attendance for one exhibiting staff.

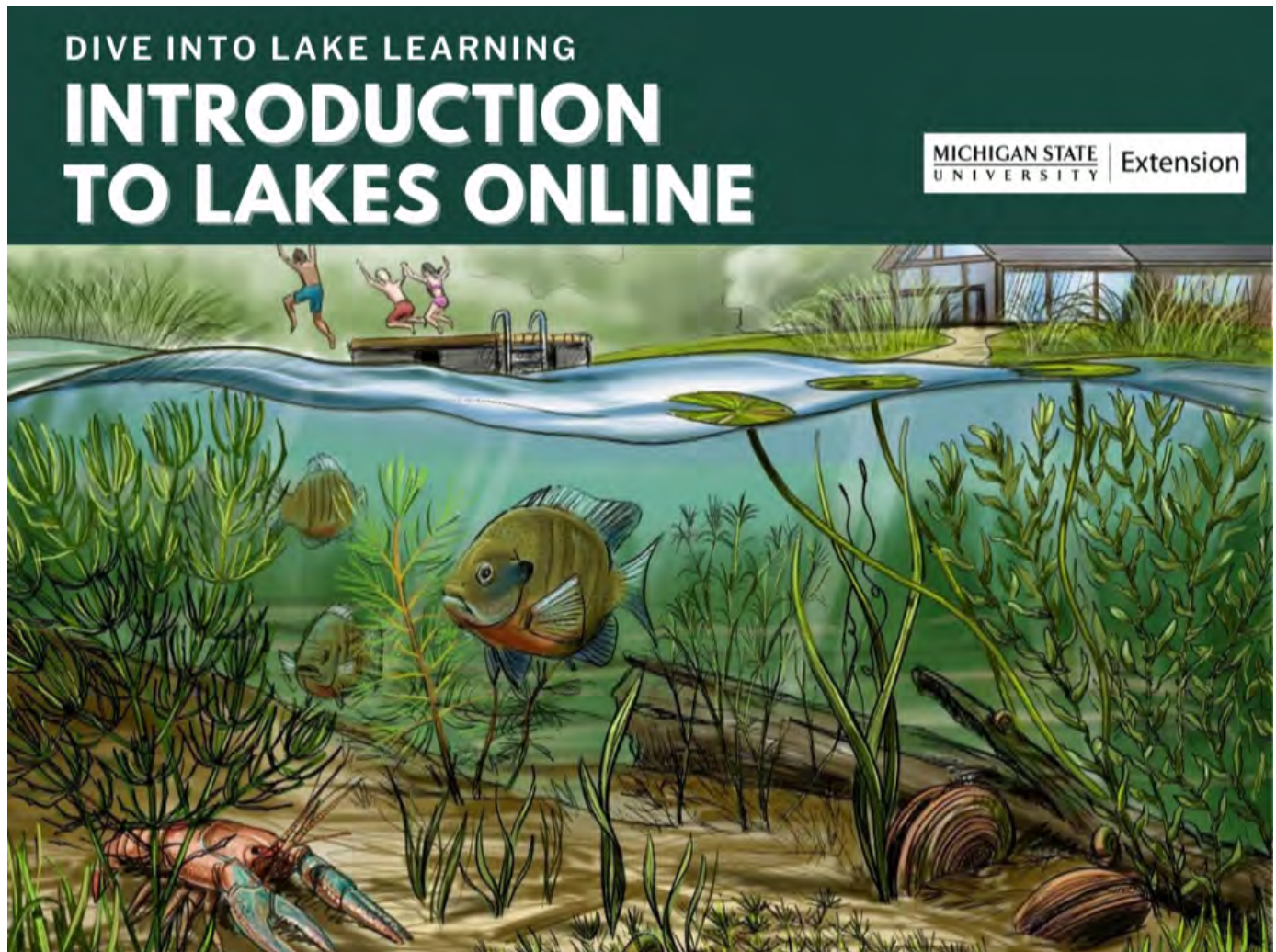
**[⇒ Exhibitor Information and Registration](#)**

Individuals needing language assistance or accommodations for effective participation at this event should contact Joel Roseberry at 517-599-9494 by November 21 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.

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## **MSU Extension's popular Introduction to Lakes Online course is back this January**

From lakefront property owners to local government officials, this course has something for everyone. Over 1,800 people have participated in the class since it was first offered in 2015 and we'd love to see this number grow.

Course topics include lake ecology, watershed management, shoreline protection, aquatic plants, Michigan water law, and community engagement. Each topic is explored via video lectures, interactive activities, discussion forums, and additional learning resources. We also host three live Ask-an-Expert webinars featuring experts from Michigan State University, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy.



This year the course will kickoff on January 30, 2024.

Registration is open until January 28.

The cost is \$115 per person.

Register by January 12, 2024 for an early bird price of \$95 per person.

Scholarships are available.

A course schedule and registration details are available on the Introduction to Lakes website at [www.canr.msu.edu/lakesonline](http://www.canr.msu.edu/lakesonline).

Course website

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Photo by Scott Brown

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



We need **you!**

**Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA)** is the only all-volunteer non-profit organization in Michigan that is 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

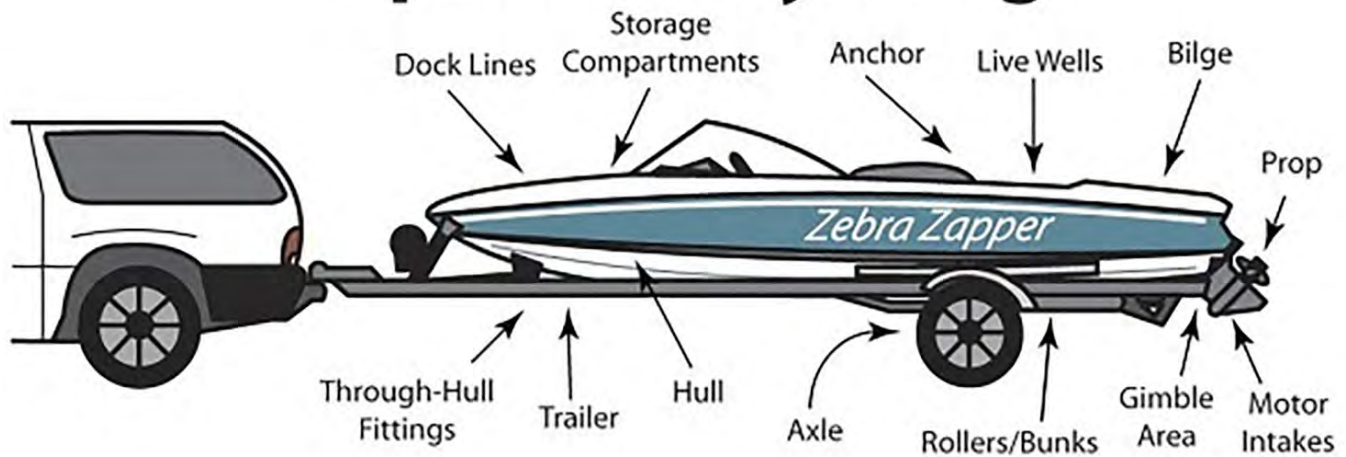
**Click here** to make a generous donation to MWA

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# Michigan Invasive Species Program

Before leaving and before launching...  
**inspect everything!**





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





# Michigan Chapter North American Lake Management Society

The purpose of McNALMS is to promote understanding and comprehensive management of Michigan's inland lake ecosystems

## ***Join McNALMS***

If you share an interest in protecting and restoring Michigan lakes, we invite you to join the Michigan Chapter, North American Lake Management Society (McNALMS) and add your voice to our growing and active effort. With membership, you receive our informative newsletter; access to our parent organization's newsletter (national NALMS); reduced registration to our biennial Lunch and Learn meeting; eligibility to apply to our Student Grants and other financial assistance programs; information on other grants, courses, fact sheets, and announcements; and becoming a part of a network of individuals and corporations interested in lake conservation.

[Click here](#) to join McNALMS

[Click here](#) to download and read the Spring 2023 McNALMS Newsletter



## Events Listing

*All times Eastern. "\$" indicates there may be a cost to participate.*

December 5, 7:00 PM: Otterly amazing: Dive into the fascinating world of otters and our lakes. Presented by Susie Spikol, Harris Center for Conservation Education. Host: NH Lakes.

December 5-7: 2023 Virtual Great Lakes PFAS Summit. Host: Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. \$ (fee waived for government, non-profits, and students; scholarships also available)

December 6: 2023 Michigan Vernal Pools Partnership Annual Meeting. Host: Michigan Vernal Pools Partnership.

NEW December 13, 1:00 PM: Unique pathways of invasive mussel spread. Presented by James Dickey, Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries; Courtney Larson, US EPA; and Daniel Sandborn, University of Minnesota Duluth. Host: Invasive Mussel Collaborative/Great Lakes Commission.

January - March 2024: Introduction to Lakes online (6-week online course) Host: Michigan State University Extension. \$

January 4-5, 2024: 4th Annual Harmful Algal Bloom Virtual Research Symposium. Host: Algal Bloom Action Team of the North Central Region Water Network.

NEW February 7, 9:00 AM: What's the damage? Ecology and effects of invasive European frog-bit in the St. Marys River. Presented by Kevin Kapuscinski, Lake Superior State University. Host: Michigan Invasive Species Program.

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

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**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.**

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## Convention??

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**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](#)

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[Visit the Michigan Waterfront Alliance Web Site by Clicking Here](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)