



Photo by Scott Brown

Welcome to the Michigan Waterfront Alliance

Update for Wednesday, July 1, 2026



Michigan **W**aterfront **A**lliance

P. O. Box 392

Mecosta, MI 49332-0392

Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is a 501(c) 4 non-profit corporation formed over twenty years ago in order to effectively advocate for the creation or preservation of state laws, and/or policies designed to protect, preserve, and promote the sustainable and wise use of our state's immense treasure of high quality freshwater resources. Our primary mission will be accomplished by pro-active participation in Michigan's legislative process (lobbying), by participating in court cases whose outcomes may have significant statewide ramifications, and/or by direct involvement with natural resources management, or environment focused state agencies or departments.



facebook





Wake Boats: Bigger Waves, Bigger Impacts

Wake boats are designed to create large, powerful waves for wake surfing and wakeboarding. Many use ballast tanks that add thousands of pounds of water weight, producing waves much larger than those created by typical recreational boats.

Wake Responsibly

The greatest impacts occur in shallow water and near shore. Current research suggests impacts are reduced when wake surfing occurs only where:

- Water depth is at least 20 feet
- The boat is at least 500 feet from shore
- The lake has a large enough area to maintain these distances

Shoreline Erosion

Large wakes can accelerate erosion along shorelines and streambanks.

Disturbs Lake Bottoms

In shallow water, powerful wakes can stir up sediments and aquatic plants.

Algae Blooms

Disturbed sediments often contain stored nutrients such as phosphorus, which can fuel algae growth.

Impacts Fish Habitat

Healthy fish habitat depends on stable lake bottoms and aquatic vegetation.

June 26, 2026

Wake Boating in Northern Michigan

Understanding Wake Surfing and Protecting Our Waters

Wake surfing has become an increasingly popular way to enjoy Northern Michigan's lakes. However, where and how it occurs matters. Research over the past several years has improved our understanding of how large, surf-style wakes interact with lake ecosystems and shorelines.

The information below summarizes current research and recommendations to help protect the lakes we all enjoy.

What is a Wake Boat?

A wake boat is a specialized motorboat designed to create large waves for wake surfing and wakeboarding. Unlike traditional recreational boats, wake boats often use ballast tanks, which fill with water and can add thousands of pounds of weight to the boat. This additional weight, combined with specially designed hulls and wake-shaping devices, creates larger and more powerful waves.

These waves allow riders to surf behind the boat without being directly pulled by a rope. However, the same characteristics that create ideal surfing conditions can also increase environmental impacts if wake surfing occurs in areas that are too shallow or too close to shore.

You may continue to read this outstanding article as recently posted to the **Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council** website by **clicking here**...



Photo by Scott Brown



News Release

The following news release was issued earlier today by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

For immediate release: June 23, 2026

Media contact: [Jennifer Holton](#), 517-242-2575

Invasive elm zigzag sawfly detected in Michigan

LANSING, Mich. – The **Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development** has confirmed the state's first detection of **elm zigzag sawfly (*Aproceros leucopoda*)** in St. Clair County. The invasive insect was identified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service following a report submitted by an arborist through the [Midwest Invasive Species Information Network online reporting tool](#).

“While this is the first detection of the invasive elm zigzag sawfly in Michigan, it’s important to emphasize the insect does not pose a significant threat to Michigan’s people, animals, agriculture or natural resources,” said MDARD Director Tim Boring. “The elm trees this invasive pest feeds on can typically recover from defoliation by producing new foliage. We encourage residents to be aware of this pest and report suspected sightings to help track its distribution in Michigan.”

Elm zigzag sawfly feeds on the leaves of elm trees (Ulmaceae) and can defoliate several elm species. Young larvae create distinctive, meandering “zigzag” patterns starting at the leaf edges as they feed. Older larvae consume a greater amount of leaf material, creating large notches. While repeated defoliation can stress trees, healthy elms can recover from feedings and produce new leaves.

Elm zigzag sawfly is native to Asia. It was initially detected in Canada in 2020 and was first identified in the United States in Virginia in 2021. Since then, it has been reported in several eastern and midwestern states. Elm zigzag sawfly can spread quickly because adults are capable fliers and the species reproduces rapidly.

Most people are likely to encounter elm zigzag sawfly in its larval stage, when the yellow green caterpillar like larvae feed actively on elm leaves. These larvae grow to about 10–11 millimeters long and can be recognized by a brown band on the head and dark T shaped markings on the hind legs.

Adult sawflies are less commonly noticed; they are small, about 7–8 millimeters long with shiny black bodies, smoky wings, pale yellow to whitish legs and distinctive three segmented antennae, with the final segment much longer than the first two.

MDARD encourages the public to help track the spread of elm zigzag sawfly in Michigan.

Suspected infestations can be reported by using the [MISIN online reporting tool](#) or downloading the [MISIN smartphone app](#) and reporting from your phone. Be prepared to report the location of infested trees and to take one or two pictures of infested branches to help confirm identification.

Members of the public can also help prevent the spread of invasive species by inspecting vehicles, outdoor equipment and recreational gear after traveling; by removing plant debris and soil from vehicles and outdoor equipment; and by not moving firewood and other potentially infested materials.

For more information on elm zigzag sawfly, see the [USDA pest alert](#). To learn about other invasive species in Michigan, and to find out what you can do to help prevent their spread, visit Michigan.gov/Invasives.

Michigan's Invasive Species Program is cooperatively implemented by the Michigan departments of Agriculture and Rural Development; Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; and Natural Resources.





June 22, 2026

Contact: [Jim Francis](#), 517-242-3593

DNR checks in on inland fisheries with lake and stream surveys

If you were out on the water last year, you might have noticed something interesting: crews with nets and measuring boards, catching and documenting fish. In 2025, Michigan Department of Natural Resources fisheries management units completed more than 350 fisheries surveys across the state. Staff completed 225 surveys of inland lakes and 127 surveys of streams.

“The fisheries management units performed inland fisheries surveys to evaluate if management actions, like fish stocking or habitat improvement projects, had the desired effect,” said Jim Francis, DNR Fisheries Division Lake Erie basin coordinator. “Survey data helps us understand

whether our management actions resulted in better recreational fishing in certain areas or improved the overall health of a lake or stream.”

These surveys help track inland fisheries populations, evaluate stocking efforts to increase angler opportunities or address concerns from the public, all of which is critical for effectively managing the state’s diverse fisheries.

Fixed status and trends sites are specific locations where researchers regularly collect data to monitor fish populations and habitat conditions over time. At those sites for key species — usually trout in coldwater streams and smallmouth bass in warmer waters — fish population abundance is estimated and in-stream habitat data is collected annually on a three-year rotation. The DNR also performs random site surveys, which are intended to give a species snapshot and show relative abundance.

Discretionary surveys, which usually account for 50% of the department’s annual survey effort, are used to answer questions or address current concerns that may have been raised by a local biologist, angling group or lake association. Such surveys might also be conducted to assess habitat suitability for threatened and endangered fish species.

The DNR’s ability to regularly complete fisheries surveys requires sufficient, sustainable, long-term funding. But due to funding shortfalls, critical fisheries management activities, like surveys, are at risk of reduction.

“Under our current funding level, an inland lake in Michigan is likely to be surveyed only once every 90 years,” said DNR Fisheries Division Chief Randy Claramunt. “This affects our ability to deliver on our public trust responsibilities to Michiganders and needs to be addressed.”

The fisheries management work that these surveys inform is valuable not only to the DNR, but to partner organizations, anglers and all Michigan residents and visitors.

“Fisheries managers use the information resulting from all types of surveys to strategize actions, detect early indicators of invasive species, recognize developing threats to fish and habitat health, and much more,” Francis said. “Anglers rely on information from these surveys when planning fishing trips, and a number of partners depend on survey findings to inform strategic efforts such as habitat protections. Healthy, high-quality aquatic ecosystems and waters benefit everyone.”

If you’d like to learn about the DNR’s lake and stream surveys, especially in your part of the state, contact the [fisheries management unit](#) in your area. Interested in more information about your

favorite fishing spot? Check out the [Status of the Fishery Resource Reports](#), which contain the results of major fisheries surveys on Michigan lakes and rivers.



A large poster with a yellow and blue background. At the top, the text "CLEAN.DRAIN.DRY." is written in large, bold, white letters. Below the text, there are three circular images: a person cleaning a boat, water draining from a boat, and a person cleaning a boat. Each image is accompanied by a list of instructions. The poster also includes a green banner at the bottom with the text "STOP INVASIVE SPECIES!" and "LEARN MORE AT CLEANDRAINDRY.ORG". At the very bottom, there are four logos: Great Lakes Restoration, Wildlife Forever, CLEAN DRAIN DRY INITIATIVE, and STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!.

News Release

June 25, 2026

Contact: [Kevin Walters](#), 616-250-8637

Michigan boaters, anglers urged to help protect lakes and rivers during Aquatic Invasive Species Awareness Week

As thousands of Michiganders head to lakes and rivers for the Independence Day holiday, state and local partners are reminding boaters and anglers that a few simple steps can help protect Michigan's waters from harmful invasive species.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has [proclaimed June 28 through July 4 as Aquatic Invasive Species Awareness Week](#), an annual effort to educate the public about preventing the spread of nonnative aquatic plants and animals that threaten Michigan's ecosystems, recreation opportunities and economy.

To mark the occasion, volunteers and partner organizations will host more than 31 outreach events at boat launches across Michigan as part of the 13th annual AIS Landing Blitz. During these events, local lake associations, cooperative invasive species management areas and other partners will share information with boaters and anglers about invasive species prevention and Michigan's boating regulations.

Visitors can find a Landing Blitz event near them through the [regional AIS Landing Blitz website](#). Similar outreach efforts will take place throughout the Great Lakes region, including in neighboring states and Canadian provinces.

"Preventing the spread of invasive species in our waterways is as simple as cleaning, draining and drying boats, trailers and gear between uses," said Kevin Walters, aquatic biologist with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. "AIS Awareness Week serves as an important reminder that every boater and angler can play a role in protecting Michigan's waters for future generations."

What you can do

Michigan law requires boaters to:

- Remove all aquatic organisms, including plants, from watercraft and trailers before launching or transporting.
- Remove drain plugs and drain all water from bilges, ballast tanks and live wells before transporting a watercraft.

- Dispose of unused bait in the trash rather than releasing it into the water.

Additional recommended practices include:

- Removing plants, mud and debris from boats, trailers and equipment before leaving an access site.
- Washing boats and trailers before launching into another body of water.
- Allowing boats and equipment to dry for at least five days between uses in different bodies of water.
- Disinfecting live wells and bilges with a bleach solution (1/2 cup bleach to 5 gallons of water).

Other ways to help

In addition to boat launch outreach events, the Michigan Clean Water Corps, or MiCorps, will host its second annual [AIS Detection Blitz](#) during AIS Awareness Week. The statewide community science initiative encourages residents and visitors to help identify and document aquatic invasive species in Michigan's lakes, rivers and wetlands.

Participants can use the free [iNaturalist app](#) to photograph suspected invasive species — such as zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil or other unfamiliar aquatic organisms — and submit observations to the MiCorps AIS Detection Blitz project. The information collected helps support early detection efforts and informs invasive species management across the state.

Whether spending the holiday weekend on the water or exploring a favorite local wetland, volunteers of all experience levels are encouraged to participate.

Boat launch events are weather-dependent and subject to volunteer availability. Contact [Kevin Walters](#) for information about events in your area.

AIS Awareness Week is sponsored by EGLE's Water Resources Division in partnership with the Michigan departments of Natural Resources and Agriculture and Rural Development, federal agencies, and nonprofit and private organizations.

For more information about Aquatic Invasive Species Awareness Week, the AIS Landing Blitz or ways to prevent the spread of invasive species, visit Michigan.gov/Invasives.

Michigan's Invasive Species Program is cooperatively implemented by the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; the Department of Natural Resources; and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

EGLE



Michigan Department of
AGRICULTURE
& Rural Development



**MICHIGAN
WATERFRONT
ALLIANCE**

**Please Consider Donating, and/or Becoming a Dues Paying
Member of Michigan Waterfront Alliance Today**

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.

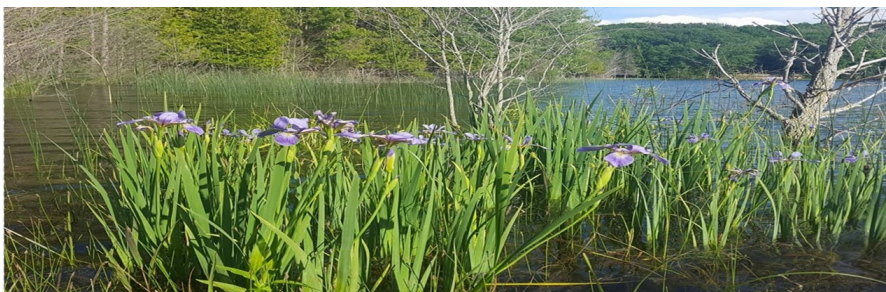
We hire professional lobbyists - **Karoub Associates** - who understand the intricacies of dealing with state government - to reach out to our legislators. As you might imagine, the cost of

hiring a professional, highly respected Lansing-based lobbying firm whose downtown Lansing office is 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.

TO BECOME AN MWA MI HEALTHY LAKES CHAMPION

[CLICK HERE](#)



Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership

Events Listing

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

July 8, 2:00 PM: [Genomic surveillance of zebra mussel populations using genotyping by sequencing.](#) Presented by Daryl Gohl, University of Minnesota. Host: University of Minnesota AIS Detectors.

August 27-28: [Water Commons Virtual Conference.](#) Host: Indiana University.

September 1, 2:00 PM: [MGLP Lake Conservation Grant](#). Presented by Joe Nohner, Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership.

September 9, 2:00 PM: [Restoring our underwater forests: Can native revegetation enhance invasive resistance in lakes?](#) Presented by Abha Panda, University of Minnesota. Host: University of Minnesota AIS Detectors.

September 16, 11:00 AM: [Growing aquaculture in the Great Lakes: Aligning regional action with national trends](#). Presented by Lauren Stigers, Michigan Sea Grant. Host: Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research (CIGLR).

October 7-8: 2026 [Great Lakes Microplastics Summit](#). Host: Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE).

October 13, 2:00 PM: [Disentangling the historical impacts of warming and fishing on exploited freshwater fish populations](#). Presented by Luoliang Xu, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership.

October 20, 2:00 PM: [Lake weeds or plant communities? Some thoughts on Eurasian watermilfoil management, control prioritization, and new work to nurture care and appreciation](#). Presented by Alison Mikulyuk and Katie Hein, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership.

October 27, 2:00 PM: [Protecting land for water quality: Watershed-based land conservation strategies](#). Presented by Steve Epting, US Environmental Protection Agency. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership.

November 17, 2:00 PM: [Walleye stocking success in the Midwestern USA](#). Presented by Robert Davis, Young Harris College; and Daniel Isermann, US Geological Survey/University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. Host: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership.

You may also wish to explore these websites for additional events, recordings of past events, and more:

[Michigan Inland Lakes Convention presentation recordings](#)

[Michigan Lakes and Streams Association](#)

[Michigan State University Extension Center for Lakes and Streams](#)

[Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership](#)

Michigan Invasive Species Program



Pictured: A mile-a-minute weed vine, showing arrow-shaped leaves, recurved thorns and a circular leaf to shield fruit. Credit: April Savickas, BCK CISMA.

New biological control will target invasive mile-a-minute weed in Michigan

June 23, 2026

This summer, the Barry, Calhoun, Kalamazoo Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area will pilot the first release of the mile-a-minute weevil (*Rhinoncomimus latipes*) in Michigan as a biological control agent to reduce populations of invasive mile-a-minute weed in Calhoun County.

A mile-a-minute weed vine, showing arrow-shaped leaves, recurved thorns and a circular leaf to shield fruit.

Biological control, or biocontrol, is an ecological and sustainable method of managing problematic plants or insects by using their natural enemies instead of pesticides. When biocontrol agents come from other countries, they are studied extensively in laboratory settings to ensure they don't harm native or desirable species before the U.S. Department of Agriculture permits them to be released in monitored locations.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development issued the BCK CISMA a biocontrol permit to release the weevil, authorizing its introduction at specific sites under the oversight of qualified experts. Native to Japan, China, Korea, and Eastern Russia, this weevil reproduces exclusively on [mile-a-minute weed](#)—an invasive vine currently known only in a localized area in Calhoun County. Though this marks the first release in Michigan, the species has been used safely and effectively in the United States since 2004.

Four sites infested with mile-a-minute weed each will receive 1,000 adult weevils in a release planned for June 18. These locations will be monitored to measure the weevil's ability to damage the invasive vine, to migrate to other areas of mile-a-minute weed infestation and to overwinter in Michigan.

What's the problem?

Mile-a-minute weed vines cover trees and shrubs at a site in Calhoun County, Michigan.

The invasive mile-a-minute weed, *Persicaria perfoliata*, takes over forest and field edges essential to wildlife. It can invade agricultural sites such as hayfields, orchards, vineyards and Christmas tree farms.

"This highly invasive vine is on [Michigan's Watch List](#) and is currently limited to Calhoun County in Michigan, making it crucial that we locate all occurrences and remove the plant," said Katie Grzesiak, terrestrial invasive species coordinator for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Pictured: Mile-a-minute weed vines cover trees and shrubs at a site in Calhoun County, Michigan.

Credit: April Savickas, BCK CISMA.

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“This highly invasive vine is on [Michigan's Watch List](#) and is currently limited to Calhoun County in Michigan, making it crucial that we locate all occurrences and remove the plant,” said Katie Grzesiak, terrestrial invasive species coordinator for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

The mile-a-minute weed vine can be identified by bright green, triangular leaves and recurved barbs found on the underside of leaves and along its rounded stems. By mid-summer, clusters of round, pea-sized fruit are visible. Ranging in color from light green to purple, and finally metallic blue when ripe, each cluster is nestled in a circular leaf, called an ocrea. Seeds are black, BB-sized and can survive in the soil for six years. Seeds are spread by birds, water and human movement and may cling to boots and equipment.

What is being done?

Since the first detection of mile-a-minute weed in 2020, BCK CISMA has worked with private and public landowners to survey 34,000 acres. The BCK CISMA strike team assists landowners with treatment, covering around 480 infested acres across 119 sites. This work is funded by the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program, which has allocated \$390,750 since 2021 for mile-a-minute weed early detection and response efforts.

Gabe Lagina of BCK CISMA uses herbicide to treat mile-a-minute weed in Calhoun County.

Of the 119 sites confirmed in Calhoun County, most are an acre or less, but a handful of sites have 10 to 100 acres of infestation. Small sites with a few plants are hand-pulled when found, while larger sites are treated with herbicide, following guidance from Pennsylvania State University Extension, where researchers have been working to curb mile-a-minute weed infestations present since the 1930s. Both postemergent herbicides that kill the plant on contact and pre-emergence herbicide, which targets sprouting seeds, are used.

“Mile-a-minute weed is an annual vine; it has to regrow each season, so preventing the plant from producing seed and depleting the seed bank is the path to successful management,” said Sara Rahn, BCK CISMA coordinator.

Pictured: Gabe Lagina of BCK CISMA uses herbicide to treat mile-a-minute weed in Calhoun County. Credit: April Savickas, BCK CISMA.

How can the weevil help?

The mile-a-minute weevil, a tiny, black insect, was intentionally introduced into the United States in 2004 to assist in control of mile-a-minute weed in the northeastern United States. Adult weevils feed on the flower heads and leaves of mile-a-minute weed, while larvae bore into the stem to develop, killing small mile-a-minute plants and reducing seed production by adult plants.

The mile-a-minute weevil (*Rhinoncomimus latipes*) on the underside of a mile-a-minute weed leaf which shows damage from beetle feeding.

Adults may feed on other plants in the *Persicaria* genus, but tests by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service during its initial evaluation showed that these weevils do not lay eggs or undergo larval development on any other plant species. [The United States Department of Agriculture determined it safe for biocontrol within the United States in 2004.](#)

“The introduction of this weevil will help slow the spread of mile-a-minute weed in large, infested sites while we aim to eradicate smaller infestations,” said April Savickas, BCK CISMA program specialist. “This will free up some time to survey new areas and contact more landowners in known infested areas.”

What's next?

Landowner permission has been obtained to release the biocontrol weevils on four sites in Calhoun County with very large populations of mile-a-minute weed. These sites were selected to provide the best chance of the weevils assisting with invasive species management.

After release, BCK CISMA staff and researchers from Grand Valley State University will visit the four sites every two weeks for approximately one year to monitor plant damage, population size and spread from the release sites. This data will be used to determine if these weevils can overwinter and maintain population size for effective control in Michigan. BCK CISMA will continue to monitor the weevils after the study is complete, until the weevil population is depleted.

For more information about the mile-a-minute weed biocontrol project, contact Sara Rahn, BCK CISMA, at BCKCISMA@gmail.com or 269-908-4136.

EGL



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To download a copy of the MWA
2026 Winter Newsletter,
[click here](#)



The Department of Natural Resources is committed to providing Michigan residents the opportunity to share input and ideas on policy decisions, programs and other aspects of natural resource management and outdoor recreation opportunities.

One important avenue for this input is at meetings of the public bodies that advise the DNR and, in some cases, also set policies for natural and cultural resource management. Frequently check the [DNR boards, commissions, committees and councils webpage](#) for updates.

The links below will take you to the webpage for each group, where you will find meeting details such as location and agenda (when finalized).

NOTE: Please check these pages often, as meeting details may change and sometimes meetings are canceled.

To visit the MI DNR web page dedicated to Boards,

Commissions, Committees and Councils, [click here](#)



Michigan's Invasive Species Watch List

Invasive species on the watch list have been identified as posing an immediate or potential threat to Michigan's economy, environment or human health. These species either have never been

confirmed in the wild in Michigan or have a limited known distribution.

If you think you have found any of these species in Michigan, please report the occurrence via the methods given below by clicking on an individual species name.

View the watch list as a printable PDF - [InvasiveSpecies-WatchList](#)

Invasive Species Watch List Viewer

Use this mapping tool to find out where watch list invasive species have been confirmed in Michigan and where they have been successfully eradicated.

[Invasive Species Watch List Viewer](#)



Our long-term vision is to address Michigan's most pressing lake, stream, and watershed conservation and stewardship challenges and provide research-based, timely support to clientele and partners.

The **Michigan State University Extension Center for Lakes and Streams** stream lines lake and stream research, engagement, and education activities at the university and highlights the many programs MSU Extension and its partners offer throughout the state. The **MSU Extension Center for Lakes and Streams** is not a physical center with a brick-and-mortar headquarters. It is a team

of Extension educators and outreach faculty based throughout Michigan with a shared mission of advancing the conservation and stewardship of Michigan's inland lakes and streams.

To achieve this vision, the Center will welcome affiliated faculty from various departments at MSU and will invite external stakeholder input. Affiliates and stakeholders will support the work of the Center by identifying emerging issues and assisting with the prioritization of research and education activities. The Center will welcome stakeholder input from diverse perspectives, including state agencies, tribal partners, other Michigan universities, local and regional decision makers, agricultural producers, and nonprofit, community and riparian organizations.

Want to learn more?

Reach out to the **Center for Lakes and Streams Director**

Dr. Jo Latimore at latimor1@msu.edu.



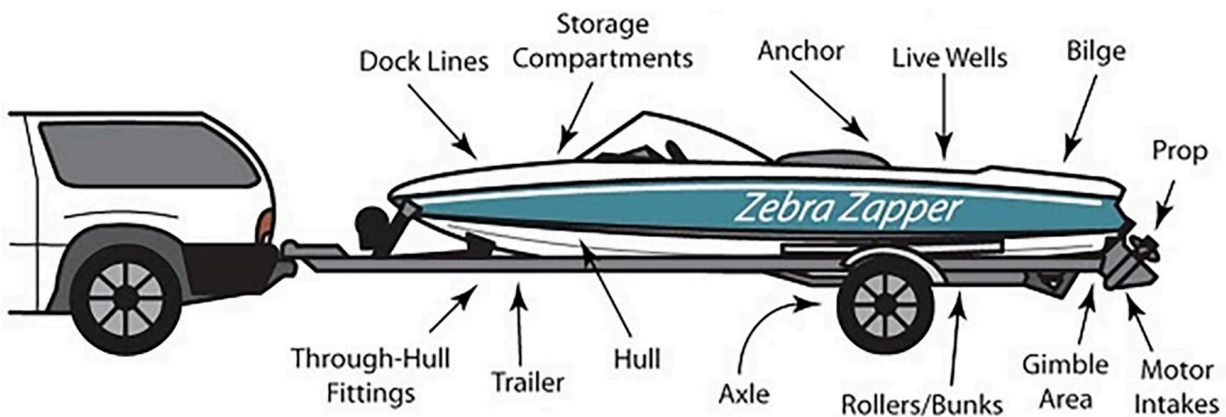
**What We Would Like Readers of this Newsletter
to Know about Michigan Waterfront Alliance**

Our Mission:

Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is a 501(c)4 non-profit corporation formed to protect, preserve, and promote wise use of the inland waters of the State of Michigan. Our mission will be accomplished by active participation in the legislative process, court cases, and/or direct involvement with related state agencies or departments. This membership-enabled corporation maintains the ability to influence legislation through lobbying, an action that is not permitted by 501(c)3 non-profit organizations.

- Michigan Waterfront Alliance is one of just a few non-profit organizations that is permitted by law to influence our state's legislative process in regards to the enactment of state laws, regulations, or policies whose implementation and enforcement ultimately have a direct impact on Michigan's vast natural legacy of high quality freshwater resources by lobbying. Lobbying is defined as the act of attempting to influence decisions made by government officials. Enabled through direct communication and pro-active advocacy, lobbying involves various activities aimed at persuading policymakers, especially state legislators, to support or oppose specific legislation, regulations, and/or other government actions.
- The vast majority of the revenue derived through membership or by donations to Michigan Waterfront Alliance is utilized to compensate our Lansing-based lobbyist - Michigan's longest serving multi-client lobbying firm, Karoub Associates.
- Not a single person who works for Michigan Waterfront Alliance, including the Officers and Directors of our Board of Directors, receive any form of monetary compensation.
- Those who work to enable the day-to-day operation of Michigan Waterfront Alliance are motivated by the desire to contribute in some modest way to the conservation of Michigan's extraordinary valuable natural legacy of high quality inland lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands.
- It is important for our readers to understand that most of the revenue we receive through the payment of individual, association, or corporate dues as well as donations to Michigan Waterfront Alliance go directly to support our Karoub Associates enabled Lansing-based lobbying efforts that occur on behalf of our freshwater resources, associations, and lakefront property owners (riparians). A small percentage (about 10%) of our total revenue goes to fund the payment of non-discretionary administrative expenses.
- **The fact is, only a small fraction of the thousands of readers of this newsletter have thus far chosen to become individual, association, or corporate members, and/or to donate to Michigan Waterfront Alliance.**

- In order for Michigan Waterfront Alliance to sustain our commitment to working on behalf of the preservation of our precious inland lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands, and the protection of the riparian rights of lakefront property owners, we desperately need many more of our readers to make the wise decision to become Individual, Association, or Corporate members, and/ or to make a generous donation to our efforts by becoming a Bronze, Silver, or Gold MI Healthy Lakes Champion today!!!



Bringing a boat

When a watercraft is part of your fishing routine, remember to “Clean, Drain and Dry” boats, trailers and all equipment and gear after each use on any lake, river or stream. State law requires:

- Making sure watercraft and trailers are free of all aquatic organisms and plants before transporting or launching.
- Removing drain plugs and draining all water from bilges, ballast tanks and live wells before transporting watercraft over land.

Drying boats, trailers and gear is an important step to ensure live organisms, like hard-to-see zebra mussel larvae, plant fragments and didymo cells, don't travel to the next fishing spot. Between sites, do one of the following:

- When possible, dry boats, trailers and gear in the sun for five to seven days.
- Wash boats and trailers with a pressure washer.
- Apply a chemical disinfectant like those listed above.
- Dry surfaces with a towel.

Preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species is the responsibility of everyone who uses Michigan's valuable fresh-water resources. For more information on invasive species and prevention methods, visit Michigan.gov/Invasives.

Michigan's Invasive Species Program is cooperatively implemented by the Michigan departments of Agriculture and Rural Development; Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; and Natural Resources.





Please join Michigan Waterfront Alliance!

**We Need the Support of People Like You Who Care about
Preserving and Protecting our Extraordinarily Valuable
Freshwater Resources for Future Generations Now!!!**

- 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 owned and operated 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 Michigan Waterfront Alliance today !!!



---The Problem is Real---

***The loss of natural shorelines is the biggest threat
to the overall health of Michigan lakes***

National Lakes Assessment

Shoreland development is impacting Michigan's lakes causing issues such as poor water quality, erosion, and loss of fish and wildlife habitat. Taking action on your

property now can help reverse these effects and protect the health of your lake.

To learn more about the mission, goals, and
unique educational opportunities provided by the

Michigan **N**atural **S**horeline **P**artnership

[Click here](#)



**MICHIGAN
WATERFRONT
ALLIANCE**

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
MI Healthy Lakes	MI Healthy Lakes	MI Healthy Lakes
Champion	Champion	Champion
\$250	\$500	\$1000
Donate	Donate	Donate

PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE MI HEALTHY LAKES CHAMPION TODAY!!!

YOUR GENEROUS DONATION OF \$250, \$500, or \$1,000 WILL AMPLIFY OUR CAPACITY TO LOBBY FOR THE PASSAGE OF COMMON SENSE LEGISLATION THAT IS PENDING IN LANSING IN REGARDS TO REGULATING WAKE BOATS AND SEPTIC TANKS!!! AS OUR READERS ARE WELL AWARE, OUT

OF CONTROL WAKE BOATS ARE DAMAGING OUR LAKES, AND TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DYSFUNCTIONAL SEPTIC SYSTEMS ARE DEGRADING OUR LAKES, RIVERS, STREAMS, AND GROUNDWATER!!!

TO BECOME AN MWA MI HEALTHY LAKES CHAMPION

[CLICK HERE](#)



Please Consider Donating, and/or Becoming a Dues Paying Member of Michigan Waterfront Alliance Today

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 is 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.



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 about **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.

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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

