Michigan Waterfront Alliance Update for Monday, August 17, 2026
1 message

Photo by Scott Brown

Welcome to the Michigan Waterfront Alliance

Update for Monday, August 17, 2026

Michigan Waterfront Alliance

P. O. Box 392

Mecosta, MI 49332-0392

michiganwaterfrontalliance.com

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.

Photo by Scott Brown

Michigan State University On-Line Courses Offer an Efficient and Cost-Effective Way of Educating Local Government Decision Makers About Michigan's Extraordinarily Valuable Freshwater Resources

by Scott Brown

MWA e-Newsletter Editor

Readers of this twice monthly e-newsletter are aware of the fact that Michigan's vast natural heritage of inland lakes, rivers, streams, groundwater, wetlands, and forests and their associated ecosystem's form the very foundation of Michigan's economy. Our readers are also likely to be aware of the fact that local government elected and appointed decision makers have done a historically poor job of enacting ordinances designed to help protect and conserve the extraordinarily valuable freshwater resources that exist within their county or township.

The primary reason for this on-going failure is the fact that very few of the thousands of Michigan citizens who serve as elected or appointed local government officials possess any level of knowledge of the thousands of inland lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands that exist in their particular county or township. One of the most important things that lake associations or concerned lakefront residents can do to help protect their particular lake and surrounding watershed is to encourage local government officials to dedicate the time and effort to complete Michigan State University's Institute of Water Research's **Watershed Management** and/or Michigan State University Extension's **Introduction to Lakes Online** course.

To learn more about these two unique Michigan State University's freshwater resource awareness enhancing courses, click on the links below.

Michigan State University Institute of Water Reseach

Watershed Management, Cert | MSU Online | Michigan State University

Watershed management requires an interdisciplinary approach to problem solving. Law, policy, community planning and development, stakeholder involvement and resource economics contribute as much to solutions as engineering, biology, hydrology and chemistry. To meet this challenge the Michigan Water Environment Association and the Institute of Water Research (IWR) at Michigan State University have teamed up and developed an interdisciplinary educational program that offers professionals and advanced students with responsibilities or interests in watershed management a unique opportunity to acquire certification online.

Michigan State University Extension

Introduction to Lakes Online - Natural Resources

Introduction to Lakes Online is designed for interested individuals, decision makers, local leaders, resource professionals, and lakefront property owners interested in gaining knowledge about inland lakes and connecting with others who have a similar interest. In this introductory course, participants increase their knowledge and understanding of the following six topics:

- Lake ecology
- Watersheds
- Shorelines
- Aquatic plant management
- Michigan water law
- Community involvement

EGLE intern Maggie Styf kayaking on the Kalamazoo River.

Recreation helps restore waterways

August 11, 2026

Media Contact:

MI Environment Team

EGLE-Media-Office@Michigan.gov

517-284-9278

*Today's **MI Environment** story is by Maggie Styf, who is serving as an intern in the Office of Public Information at the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). A*

student at the University of Michigan majoring in Environment and Sustainability, Styf is working on a project involving river data collection and community engagement at the Kalamazoo River.

Many Michigan waterways have long faced contamination from a variety of sources such as industrial facilities, farms, and even regular households. One area especially affected is the Kalamazoo River and its larger watershed. With a history of pollution from paper mills and other industries, the river has required decades of dedicated restoration work. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), along with numerous local partners, has worked tirelessly to clean up contamination and return these natural areas to full health.

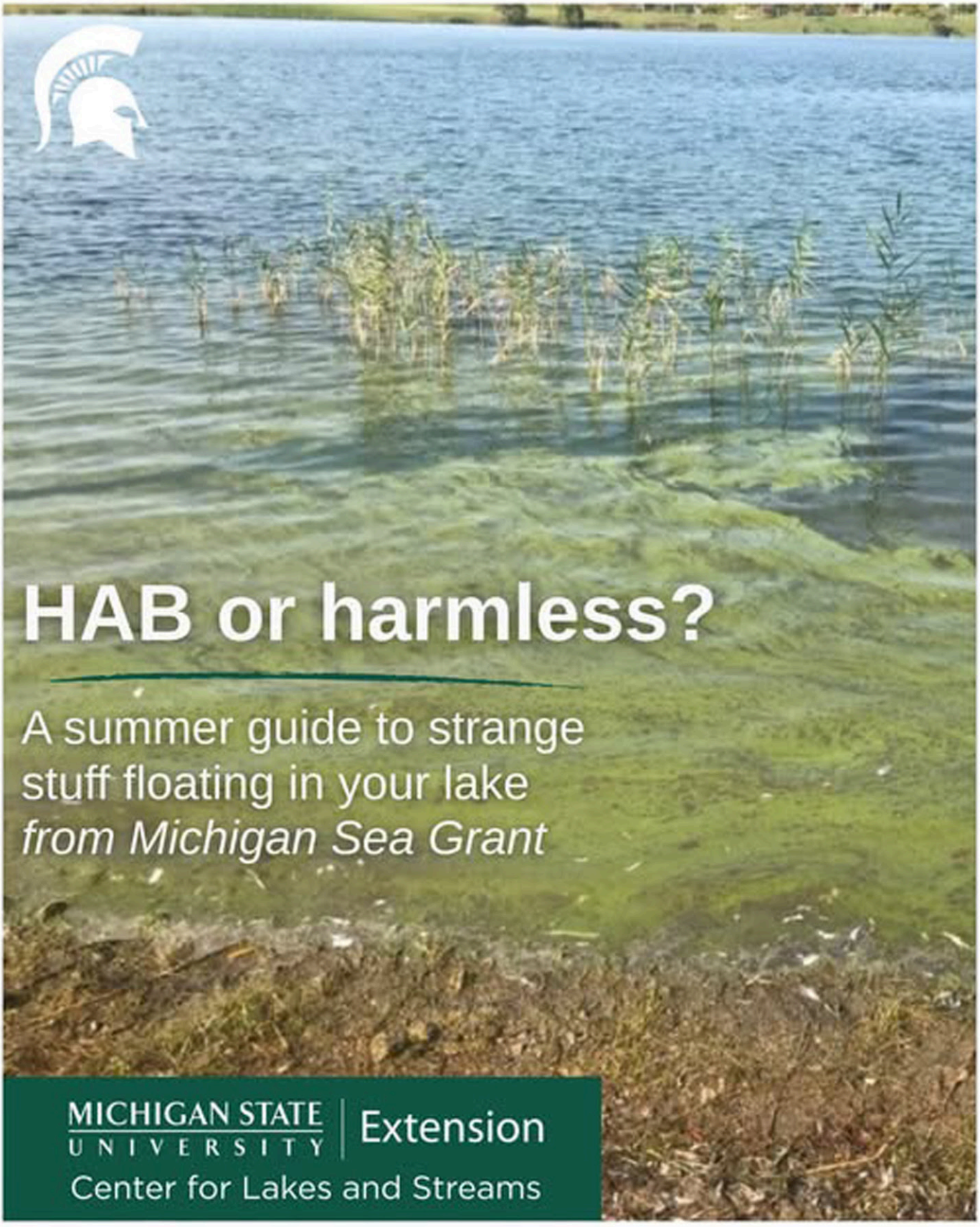
Ecosystems, however, don't recover through environmental remediation alone. Restoration of a waterway includes a healthy relationship between it and the people who live nearby. In some Kalamazoo communities, restoration progress is incomplete, in a sense, due to limited public involvement. Longstanding warnings about contamination have left many residents uncertain about interacting with the river, resulting in fewer opportunities for connection.

For Michigan's waterways to thrive, the community needs to engage with them. Participation in recreational activities such as paddling, hiking, birdwatching, or simply spending time near the water helps people build meaningful relationships with their local ecosystems. It encourages exploration, sparks curiosity, and deepens appreciation for the natural areas that surround them. Once these connections form, community members often feel more invested in the protection and restoration of these places which, in turn, inspires greater participation in stewardship efforts. These renewed relationships give Michigan's ecosystems a chance to flourish for generations to come.

So get out there! Grab a kayak, canoe, paddleboard or simply wade and see all that Michigan waterways have to offer.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Center for Lakes and Streams



What's that weird stuff floating in your lake?

Ever looked at a lake and noticed something strange or unexpected floating on the water's surface? What should you do next? It's good to rule out if what you see is a natural phenomenon like pollen or bacteria or aquatic plants. Sometimes small plants, such as watermeal or duckweed, floating on the surface can make it look like the whole lake is green. If you have ruled out a natural phenomenon and aquatic plants, you may be looking at an algal bloom.

What are algal blooms?

Algal blooms happen when tiny, naturally occurring organisms grow rapidly in water and are visible without a microscope. Most algae is not toxic, but an algae-like organism called cyanobacteria can produce toxins that are harmful to people, pets and livestock. Algal blooms that can produce toxins dangerous to humans or animals are considered harmful algal blooms (HABs). During a HAB, the lake water may look green (or other colors, like purple) or have scum floating on top.

There have been increased reports of HABs in inland lakes and the Great Lakes since 2013. Most counties across Michigan have had reports of HABs on inland lakes. Western Lake Erie and Saginaw Bay, as well as Lake Superior, have also had confirmed HABs. An online map shows confirmed blooms through the current season.

Reporting a potential HAB is important

There are some steps you can take to report a harmful algal bloom:

- Take clear pictures that show the bloom close up, with a leaf or familiar object to show scale.
- Get photos of the surroundings too, and try using your map or camera app to pinpoint the location.
- Report information online to Michigan.gov/HABs or call EGLE's Environmental Assistance Center at 800-662-9278.

Your report will reach trained staff at state agencies. If they agree that the photos show a HAB, the location will be added to Michigan's map of confirmed HABs. They can provide guidance on how to keep your family and animals safe.

Staff from a state agency or local health department may visit the site to take a water sample, especially if a HAB hasn't been reported at the location before. A test strip and/or laboratory test

will confirm whether the water contains algal toxins. If the location has a history of confirmed HAB reports, staff may not visit the site, but your report will still show up on the online map. Staff will follow up if they need more information or if the photos don't appear to show an identifiable HAB.

If a HAB is confirmed, the local health department may notify nearby residents. Your report also becomes valuable data for studying where and when HABs occur.

Take precautions!

If you suspect a HAB is present, don't touch the water. HABs can cause human health impacts like skin rashes, runny noses, stomach pain, and headaches. Also keep livestock and pets away from the water. If you think a domestic or wild animal is ill or dead because of a HAB, submit one of the forms on the EGLE HABs webpage.

Find out more about HABs by viewing this Michigan Sea Grant video. You can also view resources about HABs on the HABs 101 resources website.

Michigan Sea Grant helps to foster economic growth and protect Michigan's coastal, Great Lakes resources through education, research and outreach. A collaborative effort of the University of Michigan and Michigan State University and its MSU Extension, Michigan Sea Grant is part of the NOAA-National Sea Grant network of 34 university-based programs.

A contractor for the State of Michigan uses a tablet to document potential PFAS contamination.

Solving the puzzles of PFAS

August 12, 2026

PFAS, short for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, are man-made chemicals used in firefighting foam, stain repellants, nonstick cookware, and many other products. PFAS don't break down easily in the environment, and some PFAS can build up in our bodies and affect our health.

Seven state agencies including the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) make up the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART), which was formed in 2017 in response to a gubernatorial executive directive to coordinate responses to PFAS contamination. The goal of MPART is to protect public health by identifying sources of PFAS, address PFAS contamination at those sources, and work with local health departments to protect people in areas where groundwater is impacted by PFAS. At its foundation, MPART strives to be data-driven and transparent, and has a robust website referred to by people around the world. As

of July 2026, MPART has identified 350 sites in Michigan where groundwater exceeds criteria for one or more PFAS.

In the year ahead, MPART will continue sampling drinking water wells near fire training centers and sites with PFAS in groundwater over criteria. MPART will also continue to implement a statewide educational campaign to encourage private drinking water well owners to sample for PFAS, use the Eat Safe Fish Guide, stay out of foam on surface waters and try to purchase consumer products that don't contain PFAS. Additionally, MPART will administer grants to airports where firefighting foam has contaminated groundwater or surface waters. The grants will support testing, studying the best ways to address contamination, and cleaning out fire trucks to use newer firefighting foam. MPART agencies will also continue implementing the programs identified below.

Identifying sources of PFAS

EGLE has tested for PFAS at landfills, airports, industries, metal platers, wastewater treatment plants (WWTP), and other locations that received or used the substances. EGLE has also conducted routine monitoring of lakes and streams, finding elevated levels of PFAS that are then traced to sources. Identifying many of these locations has allowed EGLE, working through regulatory programs, to require source locations to use treatment technologies to remove PFAS from discharges to WWTPs, stormwater, and groundwater.

Protecting Michiganders' wells

MPART coordinates across state agencies to investigate PFAS groundwater contamination. For every site where groundwater is found to be over PFAS criteria, a team composed of EGLE, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), and local health staff evaluate nearby drinking water wells that could be affected. EGLE collects any needed sampling, and MDHHS coordinates the health response, which includes education and possibly filters. MPART also proactively samples around likely sources of PFAS. To date, more than 7,000 drinking water wells have been sampled and residents protected from PFAS. EGLE has a list of certified PFAS laboratories offering test kits for private residential drinking water wells among other resources at Michigan.gov/PFASresponse.

PFAS in Michigan fish populations

From 2020 to 2024, EGLE collected 5,163 fish to test for PFAS and other contaminants of concern. These data help EGLE, MPART, and MDHHS understand, target, and eliminate PFAS exposures and also inform the state's Eat Safe Fish Program. Most fish contain some concentration of the specific PFAS compound PFOS (perfluorooctane sulfonate), which, like some other forms of PFAS, bioaccumulates in living tissue over time. PFOS typically constitutes 75% of the total PFAS concentration in fish.

Eat Safe Fish Program

Michigan's Eat Safe Fish Guides are based on levels of chemicals found in the portions of fish that people eat – typically the fillets – analyzed by MDHHS labs. A recent scientific review found PFOS a greater threat to health than previously thought. This resulted in changes to the 2025 Eat Safe Fish Guides. Additional guidelines are included now for some entire water bodies and specific fish species because of PFOS, including additional Do Not Eat guidelines. For more information, visit Michigan.gov/EatSafeFish and select Find Your Area, or call MDHHS' Environmental Health division at 800-648-6942.

PFAS and dredging

Sediments can be a significant reservoir and potential long-term source of PFAS contamination in aquatic ecosystems. But many harbors and channels need to be dredged regularly, disturbing the sediments, to allow safe passage for ships and boats. MPART's collaboration across agencies has streamlined a process to screen proposed sediment dredging permits for potential impacts from PFAS sites. EGLE and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have evaluated all 64 proposed Great Lakes dredging projects for the next three years for the possible need for PFAS testing of sediments and found 14 that may require PFAS testing as part of the permit. This process will ensure the necessary data is submitted to decide about placement of any dredged sediments containing PFAS.

Surface water intake testing

EGLE's PFAS Surface Water Intake Monitoring (SWIM) program collects data on PFAS in surface waters often used as public water supplies. This effort has helped EGLE understand seasonal fluctuations in impacts and differences in impact between untreated and treated water. SWIM also

provides participating public water suppliers with site-specific information on source water quality. Most Michigan surface water supplies have had no detectable levels of PFAS or values below regulatory thresholds. But with the ever-changing regulatory framework for PFAS and unpredictable weather patterns and climate affecting surface waters, it is important to continue evaluating source waters for PFAS and other contaminants.

Interim biosolids strategy

Biosolids are the solid organic material left over after sewage treatment, sometimes used as fertilizer. Lacking federal criteria for PFAS in biosolids, EGLE has implemented and updated an interim strategy to protect public health with thresholds for how biosolids may be applied to land (along with other requirements for WWTPs) based on concentrations of PFAS. EGLE identifies and controls industrial PFAS sources to WWTPs to decrease concentrations in biosolids and prohibits land application of industrially impacted biosolids. EGLE also investigates areas known to have received industrially impacted biosolids in the past – areas with PFOS concentrations 1,000-10,000 times greater than non-industrially impacted biosolids. For reports of sampling from land application sites, search “PFAS in biosolids” at Michigan.gov/EGLE.

Adapted from an article in the 2025 Michigan State of the Great Lakes Report by Abigail Hendershott and Amy Peterson, of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy.

Photo by Scott Brown

Pumpkin Seed Sunfish

Scientific Name: *Lepomis gibbosus*

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

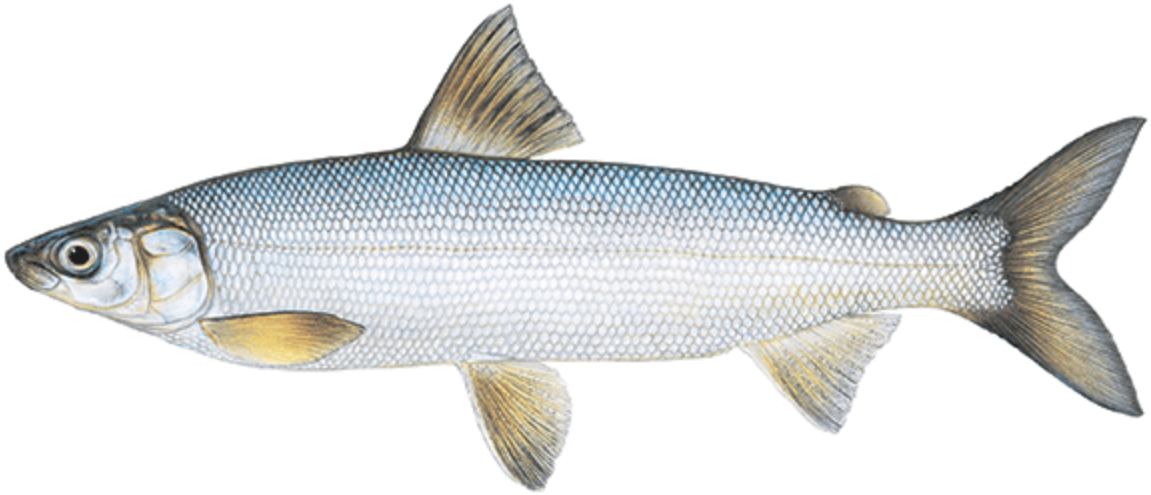
Please don't count on others to support the only organization in Michigan that is completely dedicated to voicing your legitimate concerns to our state legislators in Lansing.

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



Guiding lake whitefish through troubled waters

August 06, 2026

Historically, lake whitefish (atikameg to local Indigenous peoples) have maintained a special status in the Great Lakes region as a source of sustenance and livelihood that remains important today. Whitefish have survived numerous challenges to the ecology of the Great Lakes, including the establishment of invasive species such as the sea lamprey, which wreaked havoc on fish populations throughout the Great Lakes beginning in the 1950s.

More recently, the quagga mussel has emerged as a threat. This small bivalve became established in the Great Lakes in the late 1980s. Despite its small size (an average adult measures roughly an inch) and an appearance far less frightening than the sea lamprey, the quagga mussel has nonetheless been linked to the widespread disruption of the Great Lakes food web.

The proliferation of quagga mussels has coincided with a significant decline in whitefish populations in the Great Lakes, particularly in large parts of lakes Michigan and Huron. The situation points to the delicate equilibrium necessary to sustain the Great Lakes and the fish that define the region

Whitefish are part of the “salmonid” group of fishes that includes trout and salmon. They are found throughout the Great Lakes, with lakes Michigan and Huron historically supporting the most abundant populations and the most productive fisheries. Prized for its mild flavor, the lake whitefish has long played an important role in supporting tribal culture, commercial fisheries, and the locally sourced food economy, including the many fish shops, markets, and restaurants that offer customers this familiar staple of the Great Lakes experience.

Unfortunately, too few young whitefish are surviving to the adult stage. The problem: Quagga mussels filter out algae from the water column that would otherwise feed zooplankton, the microscopic animals most juvenile fish feed on.

How can such a small mussel cause such a problem? Sheer numbers.

Unlike their smaller cousin, the zebra mussel, quagga mussels can occupy deeper areas and are less reliant on rocky habitat, meaning their habitat range encompasses nearly the entire lake bottom, with populations in the trillions.

Except in Lake Superior, which is less hospitable to quagga mussels and where whitefish populations have so far remained stable, quagga mussels are now the dominant feature of the benthic (bottom) zone of the Great Lakes. Their filtering has completely changed the flow and availability of energy in the system, resulting in uncharacteristically clearer water and fewer resources being available for fish.

Whitefish have proven particularly sensitive to this disruption. Prey fish populations that support other fish species have also declined in lakes Michigan and Huron, but the impacts to other game fish species have thus far been less significant. And while efforts to revitalize historic river runs of whitefish continue and more productive areas of lakes Huron and Michigan, such as Saginaw Bay and Green Bay, still produce young whitefish, that does not lessen the concern.

Consistent funding and research on the dynamics of maintaining the smallest pieces of the food chain are just as important as research on iconic species such as lake whitefish to inform adaptive management. Despite being established for many decades, quagga mussel populations remain dynamic. Continued monitoring of their populations and research into control options are critical.

There is still much to learn, and the clock is ticking. The vulnerability of lake whitefish – these unique freshwater marvels – is a cautionary tale: Without proper care and continuing to grow our understanding of these fish and how they depend on a complex ecosystem to survive, we are on a perilous path for valuable resources that define the heritage of the Great Lakes.

Tackling a large-scale problem together

Research into controlling invasive quagga and zebra mussels is critical to restoring and sustaining a healthy, balanced Great Lakes ecosystem that can support species such as lake whitefish. While controlling these mussels poses a more complex problem than sea lamprey, we can look there for a model.

A multinational intervention aimed at controlling sea lamprey in the Great Lakes commenced in the 1960s, helping numerous Great Lakes fish species that had collapsed after sea lamprey became established.

Similar partnerships such as the Invasive Mussel Collaborative – a consortium of federal, state, provincial, and tribal agencies and nongovernmental entities – seek to advance the science of mussel control.

The Great Lakes Spawning Whitefish and Invasive Mussel (SWIM) Project, a multi-agency working group, was formed in 2022 to prioritize the implementation and assessment of invasive mussel control technologies that show promise for improving spawning and nursery habitats for lake whitefish.

Adapted from an article by Stephen Lenart of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in the 2025 Michigan State of the Great Lakes Report.

Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership

Events Listing

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

August 19, 10:00 AM: What local leaders need to know about wastewater treatment in your community. Host: Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy.

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 2, 9:00 AM: New game, new game plan: Building teams to tackle watch list invasive plants. Presented by Katie Grzesiak and Drew Rayner, Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Host: Michigan Invasive Species Program.

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 21, 9:00 AM: How'd that get there? The invasive species regulation process in Michigan. Presented by Susie Iott, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development; and Katie Grzesiak, Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Host: Michigan Invasive Species Program.

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, 9:00 AM: Where did you come from, where did you go? Standardizing boater data in the Great Lakes region. Presented by Theresa Gruninger and Taaja Tucker-Silva, Great Lakes Commission. Host: Michigan Invasive Species Program.

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

North American Lake Management Society

To have your live webinar or virtual event included here, contact us.

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.

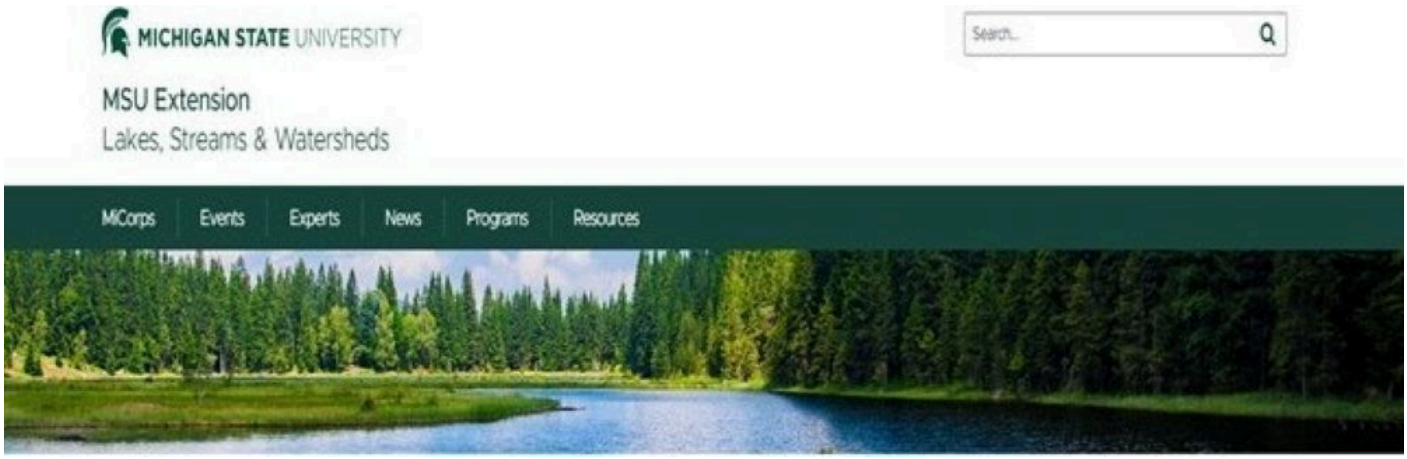
If you think you have found any of these species in Michigan, please report the occurrence via the methods given below by clicking on an individual species name.

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:

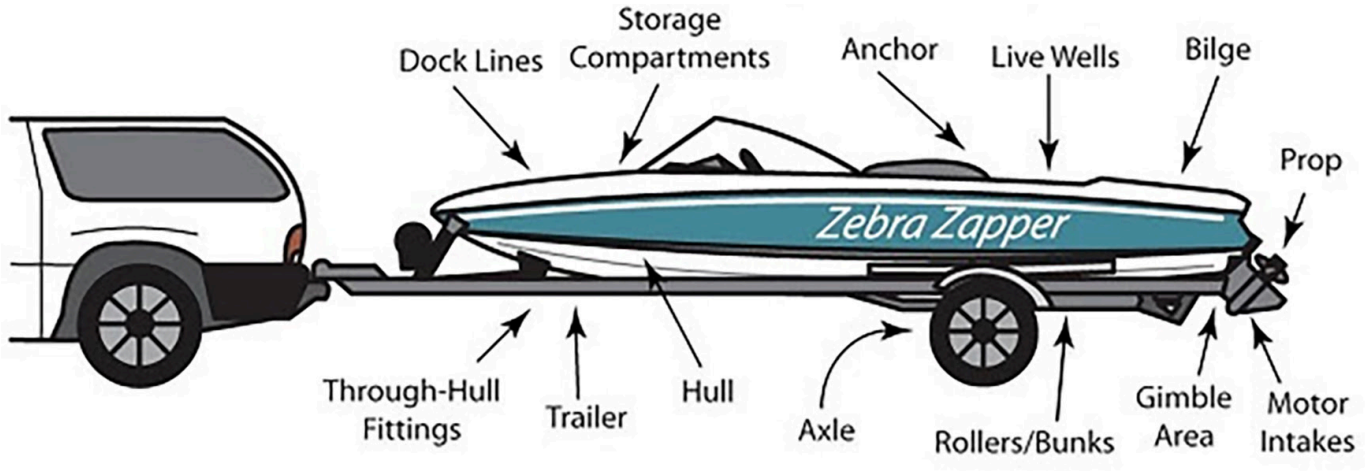
Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is a 501(c)4 non-profit corporation formed to protect, preserve, and promote wise use of the inland waters of the State of Michigan. Our mission will be accomplished by active participation in the legislative process, court cases, and/or direct involvement with related 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!!!**

Michigan Invasive Species Program



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.

MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE

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 Champion	MI Healthy Lakes Champion	MI Healthy Lakes 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

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