



# Michigan Chapter North American Lake Management Society

P.O. Box 4812  
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[www.mcnalms.org](http://www.mcnalms.org)

Spring 2017

## Presidential Ponderings...



### Partnerships: The Key to Addressing Complex Issues, Generating Ideas

By Lois Wolfson, McNALMS President

In Michigan, there is a diverse array of organizations, agencies, educational institutions, and businesses working on inland lake issues. While each entity carves out its own niche to focus on a set of issues or subject areas, many have forged partnerships to address these issues more comprehensively. **McNALMS** has found that building partnerships and working collaboratively allows us to share resources, discover creative ways of addressing an issue, be resourceful at a lower cost, generate innovative solutions, and produce better products. McNALMS is currently engaged in a number of significant partnerships:

McNALMS is a partner of the **Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership** (MILP) and helped develop last year's Michigan Inland Lakes Convention. We also served as the lead for several concurrent sessions. We continue to work with MILP to address some of its strategic goals that promote collaborative protective management for inland lakes in the state and provide educational programs for citizens and groups involved in lake management. We're currently looking for additional partners to help in the research of environmental issues relating to wake boats, particularly research dealing with excessive wave action and its impacts on bottom sediments and near shore areas.

We partner with the **Michigan Lake and Stream Associations, Inc.** to provide grant funding to students wanting to conduct research to address inland lake issues. This newsletter introduces the two new projects that were just selected for funding.

We also are part of the **Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership** and support the programs developed through this Partnership such as the Homeowners training and Train the Trainer workshops that inform residents about natural shorelines and help protect our inland lakes.

One of our goals is to strengthen and build upon collaborations with our members and their respective organizations. If you have a particular lake issue or concern that you want to pursue and/or are looking for partners with whom you might collaborate, let us know. We may be able to connect you with a Board member, another McNALMS member, one of our partner organizations, or even national **NALMS**. Our experiences have found that partnerships are not only beneficial to us but also to the groups involved. At a time when resources are limited, partnering with others is key for protecting our inland lakes.

## What Are You Missing?... Upcoming events, conferences, workshops, job boards and more!

### McNALMS

Michigan Chapter, North American Lake Management Society  
Protecting and Managing Michigan's Inland Lakes

**Michigan Chapter, North American Lake Management Society**  
The purpose of McNALMS is to promote understanding and comprehensive management of Michigan's inland lake ecosystems.

**Upcoming Events**  
NALMS 2017 Call for Abstracts: The North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) encourages you to submit your abstracts for our 20th International Conference to be held in Denver, Colorado from September 14-16, 2017. Abstracts are due by May 31, 2017.

**Recent Events**  
Shoreline and Wetland Increasing Habitat, Building Resilience  
Presentations will be posted online on the Michigan State University website.

**Great Lakes Conference Moving Michigan Forward**  
Presentations will be posted online on the Great Lakes Conference website.

**Michigan Fisheries Law**  
The Michigan Fisheries Law is scheduled for July, 2017. Public Act 114. Michigan has various phosphorus reduction initiatives in place. For more information visit [www.michigan.gov](http://www.michigan.gov).

**Wake Boats**  
A popular recreational activity is the use of Wake Boats for wakeboarding. These boats create large waves and wakes that can be dangerous to other boaters, swimmers, and other recreationalists. What is the real impact of these boats on our environment, lake health, and recreational property? This includes: Erosion and shoreline loss, damage to Wetlands and Wetland-dependent species, increased phosphorus loading, increased sediment loading, increased turbidity, increased costs for fish and wildlife management, and increased costs for shoreline protection.

### NALMS

North American Lake Management Society

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### MLSA - CLMP

55th ANNUAL MEETING  
MICHIGAN LAKE AND STREAM ASSOCIATIONS, INC.

### MSU Extension

**Water School:**  
Essential Resources For Local Officials

Elected and appointed officials wanting to gain access to resources and knowledge about water management are encouraged to participate in this workshop!

**May 22 & 23, 2017**  
**8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.**  
Lawrence Tech. University  
21000 West Ten Mile Rd. Room 1410  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(Registration costs for this pilot course by grant and other resources)

Go to [events.msu.edu/waterschool](http://events.msu.edu/waterschool) to register. For more information or assistance with registration, call 586-469-6440 or email [gibb@anr.msu.edu](mailto:gibb@anr.msu.edu).

Investigate:  
- Factors that impact Michigan water  
- The Blue Economy  
- Fiscal benefits of water management  
- Incorporating water into local planning and programming  
- Risk assessment approaches  
- Resources to help address water problems  
- Water policy at the federal, tribal, state and local levels



### Welcome to NALMS

Our mission is a simple, but powerful one: to forge partnerships among citizens, scientists, and professionals to foster the management and protection of lakes and reservoirs ... for today and tomorrow.

### MiCorps Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program

*McNAlms, Protecting and Managing Michigan's Inland Lakes*

[www.mcnalms.org](http://www.mcnalms.org)

## McNALMS and MLSA Award Two Student Grants

The Michigan Chapter of NALMS and the Michigan Lake and Stream Associations, Inc. have awarded two grants through its annual Lake Research Student Grant Program. Recipients are Jacob Ziegler, a PhD candidate at McGill University Department of Natural Resource Science and the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies and Ryan Van Goethem a Master's degree candidate in the Department of Biological Sciences at Michigan Technological University.

One of the funded projects by Ziegler focuses on young of the year (YOY) fish mortality along a lakeshore development gradient. The study will look at the relationship between coarse woody habitat (CWH) and YOY survival and quantify survival over a large CWH gradient. While some literature suggests that CWH provides a refuge for YOY fish, other studies do not support this hypothesis. This study will provide more information to help lake managers with forecasting fish populations and deciding where to invest resources for maintaining fish populations. The work will be done on 10 lakes in Gogebic County, MI.

The other funded project will study the littoral zones of seven lakes and the effects of invasive macrophytes on primary production. The study will be done on lakes in both the Upper Peninsula and northern Lower Peninsula. The species being studied are *Eurasian watermilfoil* (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) and its hybrid (*M. spicatum* x *sibiricum*). The study will provide further information on how this invasive species affects the growth rate and above ground biomass (standing crop) of various primary producers, including native macrophytes, epiphytes and periphyton within the littoral zone. That information, in turn, may prove valuable in predicting how production in invertebrates and fish, which feed upon the primary producers, is affected.

Results from both of these projects are expected to be presented at either a McNALMS or MLSA co-sponsored conference/workshop or at a conference of a related professional society.



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**MWA Mission Statement** "This corporation is formed to protect, preserve and promote the wise use of inland waters – lakes, streams, rivers, creeks and the waters and bottomlands of the State of Michigan.

**Michigan Waterfront Alliance**

**Membership Application**

Please help us in our efforts to be a legislative "Watchdog" to protect Michigan's Inland Lakes & Streams.

Annual dues:

Individual membership \$50 - Lake Associations \$100

Corporations \$200

Please print:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Michigan Waterfront Alliance

Send dues and contributions to: Michigan Waterfront Alliance

PO Box 369 Fenton, MI 48430

### McNALMS Corporate Members



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# Climate Change and the Effects on the Inland Lakes

## Michigan DNR

Climate, the long-term pattern of temperature and precipitation, varies greatly from the Upper Peninsula to southern Michigan. This variation in climate creates differences in water temperatures and stream flows across the state which in turn influences where different fish species live, how well they reproduce and grow, and the types of fisheries we see around the state.

For example, walleye reproduction is better in northern lakes because those fish experience longer winters and cooler summers which favor this species. Therefore, it's critical to understand the importance of climate on Michigan lakes and streams and their fisheries, and how future changes in climate may affect these resources.

"Our climate is clearly changing," said Kevin Wehrly, a DNR-Fisheries Division research biologist from the Institute for Fisheries Research. "The earth's temperature increased about 1.5 degrees Fahrenheit over the 20th century. We are experiencing hotter summers and shorter winters. Ten of the hottest summers have occurred since about 2000, and 2016 was recently named the warmest year in recorded history."

Climate change isn't just changes in temperature, but also changes in precipitation and an increase in intense storm events.

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## National Wildlife Federation

The Great Lakes are a crown jewel of North America, holding nearly one-fifth of the planet's surface freshwater. They have nearly 11,000 miles of shoreline and harbor, more than 530,000 acres of coastal wetlands and the world's largest freshwater delta (in Lake St. Clair). They range from the cold and deep waters of Lake Superior to the relatively warm and shallow waters of Lake Erie.

The watershed drains more than 200,000 square miles ranging from heavily forested areas to mixed urban and agricultural development, and supports approximately 6,000 species. The lakes are home to numerous fish, including species undergoing restoration efforts such as lake trout and lake sturgeon, and species that are popular in commercial or recreational fisheries, including lake whitefish, walleye, muskellunge and several introduced salmon species.

The Great Lakes are important sources of drinking water, economic livelihood and recreation opportunities for millions of Americans and Canadians. Recreational boating in the eight Great Lakes states produces more than \$35 billion in economic activity annually, and fishing, hunting and wildlife watching amount to more than \$18 billion in annual economic activity in these states.

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## McNalms Future Meeting Dates: August 30 & November 1.

Come join us for lunch, meet the BOD and share new ideas.

### McNALMS Board Members 2017

**President: Lois Wolfson** (Michigan State University)

Dr. Lois Wolfson is a Specialist with the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and Institute of Water Research at Michigan State University (MSU). She also represents MSU Extension for the North Central Region Water Network. Her work focuses on educational and outreach programming in aquatic ecology, invasive species, and watershed management and in utilizing computerized information systems as tools for understanding water related issues.

Dr. Wolfson teaches an upper level undergraduate field and laboratory techniques course which offers experiential learning for students interested in lake and stream processes and biotic interactions. She received her MS in Botany and PhD in Fisheries and Wildlife, with an emphasis in limnology, from Michigan State University. She currently serves as President of the Michigan Chapter of the North American Lake Management Society and is a representative for McNALMS and MSU on the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership and the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership.

**President Elect: Mike Solomon** (Wexford County Drain Commissioner)

Mike Solomon BS in Forestry 1966 MSU; MS in Forest Hydrology 1968 MSU. 32 years as Senior Hydrologist with US Forest Service specializing in lake management, streambank and lakeshore restoration and FERC relicensing. Wexford County Drain Commissioner 2000 to 2017; Osceola County Soil Erosion Officer 2002 to present and Senior Hydrologist with Restorative Lake Sciences 2008 to present.

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## **McNALMS Board Members 2017 Continued**

### **Secretary: Roger Carey** (Zoning Administrator for Lincoln Twp)

Roger Carey, retired (twice), is the Township Lake Commissioner for his local municipality, Secretary of McNALMS and avid fisherman. He is a past Board Member and secretary of MLSA, MLSA Foundation, and MWA. He also served on his local Lake Association Board for 17 years in various capacities including Education, Membership Chair and Newsletter Editor.

### **Treasurer: Jason Broekstra** (PLM Lake & Land Management Corp.)

Jason Broekstra earned his Bachelor's Degree in Biology from Grand Valley State University (GVSU) in 1995. While at GVSU he spent a summer as an intern for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Division. For the past 20+ years, he has worked at PLM Lake & Land Management Corp in a variety of capacities including aquatic plant harvesting and herbicide applications, Pond and Lake Management, Consulting, Special Assessment District assistance and implementation of Integrated Lake Management Programs throughout Michigan. He is the current Vice President of MI Operations. Jason is a Past President of the Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society and the current Vice President of the Michigan Aquatic Managers Association.

### **Executive Director Emeritus Howard Wandell** (retired, MSU Extension)

Howard Wandell, McNALMS' Executive Director since 2008 is stepping down from this position, but will continue to provide input into McNALMS activities and represent the Society at some of our Partner meetings. Howard will be recognized with the title of Executive Director Emeritus. Howard retired from Michigan State University (MSU) in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife as an outreach specialist for lake and stream management. Prior to his employment at MSU he worked as a Lake Specialist for Progressive AE, a consulting firm in Grand Rapids. Before that he worked for 24 years in the Inland Lakes Management Unit in the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR). His last 13 years there were as unit supervisor. Howard received his BS and MS Degrees from MSU in Fisheries and Wildlife.

## **Directors at Large**

### **Ralph Bednarz** (retired, MDEQ)

Ralph Bednarz retired from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in 2011 after a 35 year career in environmental protection and water resources management in Michigan. Three months after retiring, Ralph came back to the DEQ Water Resources Division as a U.S. EPA Senior Environmental Employment Program specialist to coordinate the implementation of the 2012 National Lakes Assessment (NLA) in Michigan. He also served as a national trainer for the 2012 NLA. Ralph managed the DEQ's inland lakes water quality monitoring programs, including the Lake Water Quality Assessment (LWQA) monitoring program and the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP). He was responsible for the implementation of the 2007 and 2012 NLA in Michigan. He coordinated the development and implementation of the Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps) volunteer water monitoring network. Ralph currently stays involved with protective lakes management programs in Michigan through the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership, Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership and McNALMS.

### **Erick Elgin** (Michigan State University)

Erick Elgin is a Water Resources Educator for Michigan State University Extension. His job responsibilities include providing expertise in aquatic ecology to the state of Michigan and delivering educational programs that promote our understanding about water resources. Erick grew up on a small farm in Minnesota and went on to study water resources management and natural resources management from the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He has worked for multiple habitat restoration organizations, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the University of Notre Dame. In the course of these positions, he took part in prairie and lake restoration projects, wildlife lake habitat surveys, and coordinated a large scale early detection monitoring survey. Erick has a master's degree in aquatic ecology from the University of Calgary where he studied shallow prairie lakes in Alberta, Canada. He has extensive experience working with lakes, wetlands, aquatic plants, and invasive species.

### **Joe Nohner** (Michigan DNR)

Joe Nohner is the Lake Habitat Analyst for the Michigan DNR and the Coordinator of the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership. He works with DNR Fisheries Biologists on lake habitat issues, shares DNR lake information and resources with others, and coordinates with fisheries and lake groups across eight states to improve lake habitat science, funding, communication and conservation techniques. Joe has an MS in Natural Resources and Environment from the University of Michigan and is completing his PhD in Fisheries at Michigan State University. As a Knauss Fellow with the National Marine Fisheries Service, Joe coordinated fish habitat science and coauthored a national assessment of U.S. estuaries.

### **Syndell Parks** (GenPass LLC)

Syndell Parks is the owner and operator of GenPass LLC in Muskegon proving genetically base identifications of watermilfoil. She has Bachelors degrees in Biology and Marin Biology and a Master's in aquatic biology. Her research serves to provide insights into management techniques and her passion is to help provide the lake management community with the information and tools necessary for effective invasive species control and the improvement of lake health. She had joined the board of the Michigan Chapter of the North American Lake Management Society in order to continue to learn more about the community and improve the communication and utilization of helpful research in lake management.