



Happy Holidays from MLSA

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The holidays will be over before you know it but there is more to look forward to in 2020 -- the next issue of *The Michigan Riparian* magazine is coming! To ring in the New Year it will include 3 articles by our attorney, Cliff Bloom, Esq. Do you have the high water blues? Also, learn what makes an easement prescriptive and take a deeper dive into the fall article about the hazards to navigability. The Winter 2020 issue is right around the corner, check your mailbox mid-January!



Updates on riparian rights and water law by Attorney Clifford H. Bloom are always a highlight of our the annual conference. Plan now to participate in these discussions.



**Michigan Lakes and Streams Association
59th Annual Conference
May 1-2, 2020**

**Crystal Mountain Resort
Thompsonville, Michigan**

On-line registration for the 59th Annual Conference and the meeting program will be available in early 2020. Look for details at www.mymlsa.org

Seeing Spots?

by Paul J. Sniadecki, MLSA Board Director

If you are a human being, "seeing spots" before your eyes is many times a sign that you might need prompt medical attention. If you want to protect Michigan waters from further Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) contamination and infestation then "seeing spots" is desirable.

During the summer of 2019, boaters in Illinois began "seeing spots" that provided them time and space to Inspect. Remove. Drain. and Dry their watercraft after being

time and space to inspect, remove, drain, and dry their watercraft after being on the water. Illinois has a state law similar to the Michigan's law to inspect and drain that became effective on March 21, 2019.

Illinois's Waukegan Harbor and North Point Marina are leaders in the state's Transport Zero effort, signs direct boaters to a dedicated area with detailed diagrams and information on how to follow the law. This dedicated "spot" and performance aids make it easy for boaters to comply with the law.



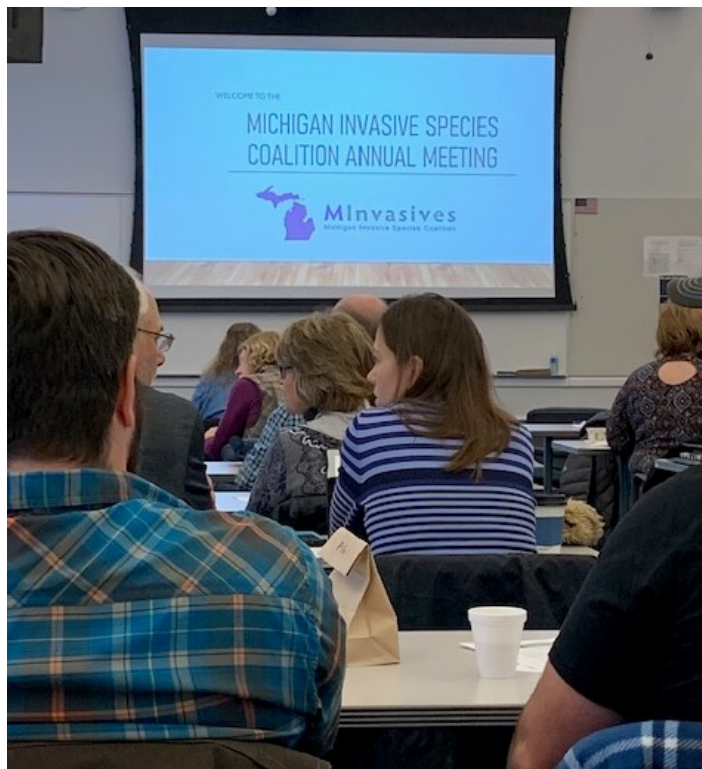
This practice is consistent with human behavior research studies that say if you want to humans to behave in a certain way, then make it easy for humans to be good.

So, what about Michigan's boating access sites? Has anyone observed dedicated "spots" being created for the required Inspect/Drain/Clean of watercraft? Given Michigan's vast water resources and the known scope of existing AIS contamination, should responsible leaders include "spots" to assist watercraft users to comply with the new law? Since Illinois access sites have boaters "seeing spots", it should be easy for Michigan access sites to have their own "spots."





Get Involved with Your CISMA



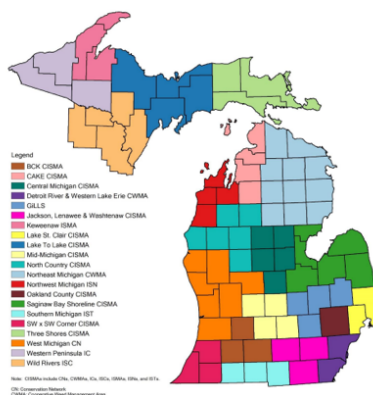
by Melissa DeSimone, MLSA Executive Director

Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) coordinators from all corners of both peninsulas gathered together this week in Gaylord, Michigan. While the snow fell outside, coordinators, steering committee members, and officials spent two days working together to better serve the state of Michigan's invasive species needs.

The daily work completed by the CISMAs to help educate people about invasives and to control species in their areas is all funded by grant money. The coordinators shared their plans for the most effective projects and the best grant programs to tackle the high priority species in their areas. CISMAs survey and treat for invasive species, assist landowners in treatment with cost sharing programs and equipment rental, and educate the public in their areas about invasive species spreading through their area and how they can stop transmission.

Each CISMA operates in a way that is unique to the area so contact your local

Each CISM operates in a way that is unique to the area, so contact your local coordinator to see what is going on in your county. You may be able to get involved with your CISM by joining the steering committee or utilizing their educational programs, click on the map below for more detailed contact information.



Results are in – 2019 EAPW

by Paul J Sniadecki, Board Director

Results are in! Dr. Jo Latimore, MSU, announced that volunteers in Michigan's Exotic Aquatic Plant Watch (EAPW) searched 38 Michigan lakes this summer. The “terrible trio” of Eurasian watermilfoil, curly-leaf pondweed, and starry stonewort were found in 19 lakes. The good news is that the citizen monitors discovered no new European frog-bit infestations/contaminations. EAPW is part of the MiCorps/Cooperative Lake Monitoring Program (CLMP), and the EAPW parameter has been measured since 2007.



Michigan's Specialty Fund Raising License Plate - Water Quality, provides some funding for the Exotic Aquatic Plant Watch program.

For decades, Michigan has prepared a State Management Plan (SMP) for Invasive Species and a “Watch List” for Invasive Species not yet found in Michigan. On the Michigan Watch List are: Parrot Feather, European Frog-bit, Yellow Floating Heart, Water Hyacinth, European Water Clover, Water Lettuce, Water Chestnut, Hydrilla, Water Soldier, and Brazilian Elodea. Participants in the EAPW program are positioned to realize early detection of any watch list plants that might have contaminated/infested their lake.

Give the Gift of MESA this Holiday Season





Looking for a special gift for a person who loves a lake or stream? Want to help "the new neighbor" understand what lake and stream life is all about?

Give ***The Gift of MLSA*** this holiday season! Consider gifting an individual membership to MLSA for only \$45, which includes a one (1) year subscription to *The Michigan Riparian* magazine. Another option is to gift only a one (1) year subscription *The Michigan Riparian* magazine for the low cost of \$25 per year. And your gift purchase can be made on-line!

MLSA Membership

Michigan Riparian subscription



MLSA and the Michigan Chapter North American Lake Management Society (McNALMS) are pleased to announce the 2020 *Lake Research Student Grants Program*. The purpose of the program is to promote student efforts to work on inland lakes and/or with lake communities to enhance inland lake management. Projects that increase the understanding of lake ecology, have applicability to Michigan lakes, strengthen collaborative lake management, address inland lakes fisheries, build lake partnerships and/or expand citizen involvement in lake management are eligible for consideration. This year, McNALMS and MLSA expect to fund two or more projects from a total pool of \$4,000. Proposals may be part of a larger project. Proposals will be funded for one calendar year.

Examples of previously funded projects include:

- A study on littoral zone restoration and nutrient enrichment source impacts on macrophyte and epiphytic algal communities
- Exploring drivers of cyanobacterial blooms with time-series observations,

biogeochemical modeling, and in situ experimentation in a model Great Lakes estuary

- An analysis of phosphorus loading and the ecological impacts from agricultural tile drains in a west Michigan watershed
- A study looking at social, cultural, and economic factors underlying lakeshore property owners' willingness to conserve natural aquatic habitat on their properties.

Applicants must be either University/College graduate student(s) conducting applied research/outreach projects; University/College undergraduate student(s) working on special studies projects; and/or Students enrolled in the Michigan Lake and Stream Leaders Institute, Michigan Conservation Stewards Program, or similar Watershed Academy.

If you know a student who might be interested in applying for funding, please pass this information on to them. Deadline for submission is **February 21, 2020**. Announcement of recipients will be made by the end of March 2020.

2019 MiCorps Conference: Presentations Now Available

Announcement from the [Michigan Clean Water Corps](#)

The 15th annual Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps) conference was held November 18-19, 2019, at the Kettunen Center on Center Lake near Tustin, Michigan.

This year's conference showcased presentations from volunteers around the state, regional experts, as well as Michigan EGLE and MiCorps staff covering both lake and stream topics of interest and success stories from volunteer monitoring efforts. In particular, the 2019 conference focused on community engagement and the use of monitoring data to inform management decisions and protect and improve water quality.

Jeremy Geist, Great Lakes stream restoration manager at Trout Unlimited (TU), was this year's featured keynote speaker. During his remarks, Jeremy shared examples of ecological connections in streams and rivers that can be influenced by human activity, as well as TU's restoration efforts and use of citizen science to improve knowledge of the State's cold-water resources and evaluate project effectiveness.

Two in-depth training sessions on insect identification and plants of Michigan's lakes and streams were also offered as part of the conference.

Please visit the [15th Annual MiCorps Conference webpage](#) to access the conference program and presentations.

Interested in becoming a volunteer monitor?

Visit <https://micorps.net> for more information!

This Season of Giving, Can You Give Back to MLSA?



Tis the season for "2019 end-of-year" tax deductible donations to 501c3 charitable organizations. MLSA is an IRS approved 501c3 Non-Profit Educational Organization. Please consider making a potential tax-deductible contribution to our mission today. Your generous gift will go toward on-the-ground stewardship work for inland lakes and streams. (Please consult your tax advisor to determine if you qualify for deductions)

If you are 70.5 or older: Consider the significant tax benefits of a Qualified Charitable Deduction (QCD) to MLSA as part of your qualified retirement account's Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). Your direct gift to MLSA would not be taxed and the full gift amount would be used to support our many programs helping inland lakes and streams.

Please help—donate by December 31 to make the biggest difference!

[Donate](#)

Join the Discussion on Facebook!

Are you looking for a way to network with other lakes around Michigan? Join us for discussion on Facebook, we now have a MLSA member group! Follow the link: [Michigan Lakes and Streams Members](#), click [+ Join Group](#), answer the membership questions, and standby for approval. See you there!

Southwest Michigan

The next Region 3 meeting will be May 16, 2020 and all are invited to come join the discussion. You can contact Craig DeSimone (cucad4@hotmail.com) to be added to the region email list or for more information about the meeting.

South Central Michigan

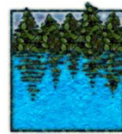
There is not a meeting scheduled at this time but you may contact Dennis Babjack (dennisbabjack@gmail.com) for information about meetings in this area.

Northeast Michigan

Several Lake Associations in Northeast lower Michigan have expressed interest in having MLSA Regional meeting in their area. MLSA has agreed to explore the level of interest. If you would like to participate in such a meeting contact MLSA at: info@mlswa.org. Additionally, Rex Vaughn, Cedar Lake, in Alcona/Iosco County, cell [810-516-6686](tel:810-516-6686), has agreed to facilitate questions and answers for lakes in his area. If there is a sustainable level of interest, MLSA will assist in coordinating Regional Meetings in Northeast Michigan.

Your Region Here!

We want all members to have access to regional opportunities! If other parts of the state have a similar interest, please contact MLSA at: info@mlswa.org



*Michigan Chapter, North
American Lake
Management Society*



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Questions? Contact us today [\(989\) 831-5100](tel:989-831-5100) or info@mlswa.org