



Michigan Wetlands Association Conference 2017
 Innovations in Wetland Protection and Management
 September 27 -29, 2017 • Treetops Resort • Gaylord, Michigan

Conference Agenda

| Wednesday, September 27 – Morning | |
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| 8:30 | Registration Opens and Continental Breakfast – Convention Center |
| 9:45 | Open Plenary – Convention Center Welcome - Todd Losee, President, Michigan Wetlands Association |
| 10:00 | Keynote Speaker Groundwater, Wetlands, and Geology: The Invisible links – Kenneth Bradbury, Director and State Geologist, Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey |
| 10:40 | Policy Trends at EPA – W. Michaels McDavid, Branch Chief, Program Development and Jurisdiction Branch, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |
| 11:20 | The Past, Present & Future of WOTUS: Maintaining or Draining the Swamps? – Stephen Samuels, Department of Justice (Retired) |
| 12:00 | Lunch – The Lodge, Oak Room (with overflow in the Birch Room) |



Wednesday, September 27 – Afternoon

| | Track I: Current Topics in Wetland Science Huron Room | Track II: Protecting Michigan's Wetlands, Lakes and Streams <i>Sponsored by the MDEQ</i> Superior Room | Track III: Wetland Restoration and Stewardship Michigan Room |
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| 1:30 | Concurrent Sessions A | | |
| | Vernal Pool Science and Conservation Moderator – David Mifsud, Herpetological Resource and Management | Update on Michigan's Wetland Protection Program Moderator – Luis Saldivia, MDEQ | Wild Rice Restoration and Stewardship Moderator – Amanda Bosak, MDEQ |
| | Michigan's Vernal Pool Partnership Garret Johnson, Michigan Nature Association | Michigan's 404 Program Kim Fish, MDEQ | Introduction to Wild Rice in Michigan Barb Barton, Michigan Department of Transportation |
| | Citizen Science and the Vernal Pool Patrol Daria Hyde, Michigan Natural Features Inventory | Collaborating with Partners Amy Berry, MDEQ | Wild Rice Restoration Case Study Roger LaBine, Lac Vieux Desert Environmental Department |
| | Inventoring and Mapping Vernal Pools in Michigan Yu Man Lee, Michigan Natural Features Inventory | Mitigation and Mitigation Banking Michael Pennington, MDEQ | Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Manoomin Program Allison Smart, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians |
| 3:00 | Break – Erie Room | | |
| 3:30 | Concurrent Sessions B | | |
| | Monitoring and Assessment of Michigan's Wetlands Moderator – Alli Kneisel, Central Michigan University | Federal Wetland Programs Moderator – Colleen O'Keefe, MDEQ | Planning Wetland Projects: Case Studies Moderator – Matthew Carmer, Environmental Consulting & Technology |
| | The Great Lakes Coastal Wetland Monitoring Program: Seven Years of Implementation Don Uzarski, Central Michigan University | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Updates Melanie Burdick, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region V | The Importance of Utilizing Amphibian and Reptile Data to Protect and Restore Michigan Wetlands David Mifsud, Herpetological Resource Management |
| | Michigan's Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Program Anne Garwood, MDEQ | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Update Charles Simon, United States Army Corps of Engineers | Assessing Macroinvertebrates and Habitat to Develop Restoration Baselines and Recommendations Larissa Herrera, Holland Engineering |
| | National Wetland Condition Assessment Amy Berry, MDEQ | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Update Jessica Pruden, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Influence of Wetland Issues on Remediation of Contaminated Sites Keith Tollenaere, Golder Associates |
| 5:00 | Adjourn | | |
| 5:30 – 8:00 | Reception in the Convention Center | | |

Thursday, September 28 – Morning

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| 7:30 | MWA Business Meeting – (Open to Members and Non-Members) – Michigan Room | | |
| 8:00 | Continental Breakfast – Erie Room | | |
| | Track I: Current Topics in Wetland Science Huron Room | Track II: Protecting Michigan's Wetlands, Lakes and Streams <i>Sponsored by the MDEQ</i> Superior Room | Track III: Wetland Restoration and Stewardship Michigan Room |
| 8:30 | Concurrent Sessions C | | |
| | New Technologies in Wetland Mapping Moderator – Joseph Haas, MDEQ | Mitigating for Wetland Loss: Case Studies Moderator – Jeremie Wilson, Michigan Department of Transportation | Invasive Species Management in Michigan's Wetlands Moderator – Ryan Wheeler, Michigan Department of Natural Resources |
| | Using GIS for Better Project Screening and Evaluation Chad Fizzell, MDEQ | The Brent Run Landfill Sam Prentice, GEI Consultants of Michigan | Michigan's Invasive Species Program Sarah LeSage, MDEQ |
| | Using New Technologies to Update the National Wetland Inventory Jeremy Jones, MDEQ | Challenges of Constructing a Wetland Mitigation Site Near an Airport Todd Losee, Niswander Environmental and Ben Heerspink, Outdoor Discovery Center Macatawa Greenway | Early Detection and Response and Monitoring and Surveying of Invasive Species Tom Alwin, MDEQ |
| | Using ESRI Collector Applications for Resource Inventories Steve Roznowski, Spicer Group | Pine River Watershed Wetland Mitigation Bank Project Stephen Metzger, DLZ Michigan | Decontamination and Wetland BMPs for Invasive Species Anne Garwood, MDEQ |
| 10:00 | Break – Erie Room | | |
| 10:30 | Concurrent Sessions D | | |
| | Climate Change Adaption for Michigan's Wetlands Moderator – Peg Bostwick, Association of State Wetland Managers | New Directions in County Drain Management Moderator – Amy Berry, MDEQ | Lake Shorelines and Shallows Moderator – Eric Calabro, MDEQ |
| | Influence of Climate Change on Water Quantity in the Great Lakes Region Brent Lofgren, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration | The Evolving Role of Drain Commissioners Stacy Hissong, Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes | Restoring and Protecting Aquatic Plants on the in the Nearshore Eric Elgin, Michigan State University Extension |
| | Climate Change Adaptation Toolkit for Wetlands Jennifer Buchanan, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council | Environmental Perspectives on Water Management Tom Zimnicki, Michigan Environmental Council | Fish and Wildlife Habitat Recommendations for the Shoreline Joe Nohner Michigan Department of Natural Resources |
| | Climate Adaptation in Action: Tools & Examples from Wetland Managers Todd Ontl, U.S. Forest Service | Drains and Habitat: The Drain Resource Workgroup Matthew Kowalski, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Technical and Educational Resources for Restoring Natural Shorelines and Shallows: The Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership Julia Kirkwood, MDEQ |
| 12:00 | Lunch – The Lodge, Oak Room (with overflow in the Birch Room) | | |

Thursday, September 28 – Afternoon

| | Track I: Current Topics in Wetland Science Huron Room | Track II: Protecting Michigan's Wetlands, Lakes and Streams <i>Sponsored by the MDEQ</i> Superior Room | Track III: Wetland Restoration and Stewardship Michigan Room |
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| 1:30 | Concurrent Sessions E | | |
| | Innovative Approaches to Wetland Restoration Moderator – Christopher May, The Nature Conservancy | Avoiding Impacts to Rare Species Moderator – Keto Gyekis, MDEQ | Using BMPS for Improved Wetland Management Moderator – Randall Phillips, King & MacGregor Environmental |
| | Ecosystem Service Valuation for Wetland Restoration: What it is, How to do it, and Best Management Practices Marla Stelk, Association of State Wetland Managers | Eastern Massassauga Rattlesnake Yu Man Lee, Michigan Natural Features Inventory | Using BMPS for Improved Wetland Management Case Study: Utilities Margaret O'Connor, Consumers Energy |
| | Bear Creek Hydrologic Reconnection and Wetland Restoration Brian Majka, GEI Consultants of Michigan | State and Federally Listed Freshwater Mussels Jessica Pruden, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Using BMPS for Improved Wetland Management Case Study: Forestry Jim Ozenberger, Hiawatha National Forest Ecology Program |
| | Lessons Learned by Moving Beyond Weed Control in Southeast Michigan Wetlands Greg Norwood, Michigan Department of Natural Resources | Conservation of Rare Fen Insects Daria Hyde, Michigan Natural Features Inventory | Using BMPS for Improved Wetland Management Case Study: Agriculture Matt Meersman, St. Joseph River Basin Commission |
| 3:00 | Break – Erie Room | | |
| 3:30 | Concurrent Sessions F | | |
| | Groundwater and Wetlands Moderator – Todd Losee, Niswander Environmental | Improving the Integration of Stream and Wetland Projects Moderator – Chris Freiburger, Great Lakes Fishery Commission | Restoring Native Plant Communities Moderator – Mike Nurse, Streamside Ecological Services |
| | Michigan's Geology and Groundwater Ralph Haefner, Michigan-Ohio Water Science Center, U.S. Geological Survey | Improving the Outcomes of Stream Alteration Projects Bethany Matousek, MDEQ | Picking the Right Plants Bill Schneider, Wildtype |
| | Relationships Between Groundwater Movement and Wetlands Steve Hamilton, Michigan State University | Stream Function and Floodplain Connectivity Ralph Reznick, MDEQ | Site Preparation Jerry Stewart, Native Connections |
| | Long Term Groundwater Influences to Wetlands Nate Fuller, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy | Approaches to Restoring Floodplain Wetland Features on Incised Rivers Rob Myllyoja, Stantec | Site Management and Maintenance Brian Majka, GEI Consultants of Michigan |
| 5:00 | Adjourn | | |
| 6:00 | Dinner on your own Join us for a “Dine-around” at one of Gaylord’s local hotspots. Sign up at registration table by Thursday at noon. | | |

| Friday, September 29 – Morning | | | |
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| 8:00 | Continental Breakfast – Erie Room | | |
| | Track I: Current Topics in Wetland Science Huron Room | Track II: Protecting Michigan's Wetlands, Lakes and Streams <i>Sponsored by the MDEQ</i> Superior Room | Track III: Wetland Restoration and Stewardship Michigan Room |
| 8:30 | Concurrent Sessions G | | |
| | Wetlands and Green Infrastructure Moderator – Laurie Beth Nederveld, Barr Engineering | Protecting Wetlands, Lakes and Streams at the Local Level Moderator – Brian Rudolph, MDEQ | Advancing Efforts to Protect and Restore Wetlands Moderator – Kurt Brauer, Warner Norcross & Judd |
| | Green Infrastructure for Surface Water Protection Ralph Reznick, MDEQ | Detroit's Revised Stormwater Fee: Raising Awareness and Engaging the Public in Reducing Urban Runoff Cyndi Ross, Friends of the Rouge and Erma Leaphart, Sierra Club | I-75 Corridor Conservation Plan Jeremie Wilson, Michigan Department of Transportation |
| | Utilizing Stormwater Wetlands and Rain Gardens to Reduce Peak Flows to an Impaired Urban Stream Sarah U'Ren, The Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay | Wetland Resource Management: The Charter Township of West Bloomfield, Michigan, A Local Enforcement Municipality John T. Roda, West Bloomfield Township | Working with Legislators Bob Wilson, Michigan Trails and Greenways |
| | Rain Gardens to the Rescue: Engaging Detroit Residents and Urban Gardeners in Managing Stormwater Cyndi Ross, Friends of the Rouge, Erma Leaphart, Sierra Club, and Rick Blanchard, Keep Growing Detroit | Collaborative Approaches in Stormwater Management Carrie Rivette, City of Grand Rapids and Bonnie Broadwater, MDEQ | Wetland Restoration: Contemporary Issues and Lessons Learned Marla Stelk, Association of State Wetland Managers |
| 10:00 | Break – Erie Room Silent Auction bidding ends at the close of this break | | |
| | Closing Plenary – The Future of Wetland Conservation, Science, and Stewardship Convention Center Moderator – Kurt Brauer, Warner Norcross & Judd | | |
| 10:30 | The Future of Conservation in Michigan – Bob Wilson, Michigan Trails and Greenways | | |
| 11:00 | Emerging Issues in Wetland Science – Don Uzarski, Central Michigan University | | |
| 11:30 | The Future of Wetland Protection and Stewardship in Michigan – Patrick Doran, The Nature Conservancy | | |
| Friday, September 29 – Afternoon <i>(Additional Fees for Friday Afternoon Activities)</i> | | | |
| 12:00 | Pre-Ordered Box Lunches Afternoon Field Trips – Meet at Registration Area at 12:30 | | |