



Michigan Chapter North American Lake Management Society

P.O. Box 4812
East Lansing MI 48826

www.mcnalms.org

Fall 2017

Presidential Ponderings...By Lois Wolfson, McNALMS President



Last month, I interacted with a very bright group of 5th and 6th grade students who were taking part in a robotics competition statewide. Their topic was Water Pollution, and they were interested in developing concepts for new or improved technology to deal with some of our most pressing lake contaminant issues. I was amazed with the intelligent questions they asked and excited to know that our next generation of students have such a passion for helping to solve today's pollution problems.

This gives me confidence for organizations like McNALMS that utilize volunteers to help foster research and outreach, and keep themselves and others informed about current and emerging issues. During my tenure as President, McNALMS has funded four student research projects from four different Universities in Michigan and Canada, in partnership with the Michigan Lake and Stream Associations, Inc. We have served as sponsors and organizers for the biennial Michigan Inland Lakes Convention and offered sessions on aquatic Invasive Species, decision support systems, and lake management. We also had some of our previously funded students present their research results at the Convention. We advised several graduate students on a project which resulted in a booklet on Wake Boats and their effects on inland lakes and shorelines. The booklet is posted on our website. We've produced several issues of the newsletter, promoted national NALMS efforts and posted their newsletter on our website. We also submitted a request to the Governor to sign a proclamation proclaiming July as Lakes Appreciation Month (which he did), and have given support to other organizations and issues that continue to help protect Michigan inland lakes and its natural resources.

McNALMS is continually seeking new members to join in our efforts. We have representatives from other NGOs, state agencies, Universities, drain commissioners, lake practitioners, students, and riparians, and together, we possess a wealth of knowledge and experience. I am optimistic that the youth that I interacted with and others like them may one day continue our work, but for now we need your help in keeping up on policy initiatives, emerging issues, and getting our information out to people across the state. Please join our efforts by contacting us at mcnalms@mcnalms.org and indicating your interests.

Do You Have a Financial Plan?

Seems like an odd title for a McNALMS Newsletter, but our members should know that your Board of Directors is considering new investment options: The short story is that our society has maintained a consistent net balance of nearly \$25,000 for several years. Within this net balance we have a CD with an approximate value of \$6,600 earning a rate of 0.6%. With a mildly fluctuating checking account, we typically have at least \$18,000 making no interest for us (YOU!) year after year. Therefore, additional investments will be considered for the near future. Investments will be done in a conservative manner utilizing low overhead/administration costs to help ensure our money is benefiting our future. The goal is to use our capital to develop and build future opportunities to improve our net value "to promote understanding and comprehensive management of Michigan's inland lake ecosystems".



Michigan Highlights

- The Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership has opened registration for their 2018 [Certified Natural Shoreline Professional](#) class. Get signed up today!
- [European frog-bit](#): Be on the lookout for this aggressive invasive plant. European frog-bit is listed on Michigan's Aquatic Invasive Plant Watch List, which identifies species that present an immediate and significant threat to Michigan's natural resources. European frog-bit produces dense, floating mats that cover large areas of shoreline. These mats can hinder recreation, reduce waterfowl and fish habitat, and reduce light conditions for beneficial native aquatic plants. Learn more about this plant from MSU Extension.
- [Understanding Lake Fetch](#). What is lake fetch? In its simplest term, lake fetch is the maximum length of open water that wind can travel. Learn more about lake fetch from MSU Extension.

McNalms, Protecting and Managing Michigan's Inland Lakes

www.mcnalms.org

Evolution, Change, Growth, Sustainability, Success...



As with any business, organization, organism; if you do not evolve you may not succeed. McNALMS is constantly looking at ways to grow our membership, improve our communication, expand our outreach to accomplish our primary goal "to promote understanding and comprehensive management of Michigan's inland lake ecosystems". As your board we have come up with a few ideas to insure that we are evolving in the direction our members support.

In addition to annual dues, we are soliciting donations that are focused on the future, the youthful college students that we absolutely need to further science and sustain our society for decades to come. As an incentive, McNALMS will provide a 50% match up to \$100 for your donation. Further, McNALMS and Michigan Lake and Stream Associations, Inc. will together provide up to a total of \$1000 to help students with travel to meetings and other education and outreach efforts listed below. We hope your donation will help enhance this effort.

2018 Dues - Michigan Chapter North American Lake Management Society

Please make check payable to McNALMS

- ___ \$25 Annual Individual Membership
- ___ \$50 Lake/Watershed Associations and other Nonprofit Organizations
- ___ \$100 Corporation Membership
- ___ Annual Student Membership - Free

**Additional donation options: provide grants to students to promote education and outreach (tax deductible):

- \$ ___ McNALMS/MLSA Research Grant <http://www.mcnalms.org/grantsprogram.html>
- \$ ___ Travel Grant (To support students to present at a Society sponsored student research session at the Michigan Inland Lakes Convention held every two years or Michigan Lakes & Streams Conference or McNALMS function. The three to six presenters selected will be awarded \$250 to \$300 each to help cover convention costs).
- \$ ___ Scholarships (For students to attend special education programs such as Lake and Stream Leaders Institute, and Conflict, Collaboration and Consensus. \$450)
- \$ ___ Sponsor Project (such as a video project to further lake sciences and/or management. \$500)
- \$ ___ Student Appointment Fund (1 year appointment for a student to be directed by McNALMS Board of Directors to assist in operations, programs and outreach initiatives. \$500)

** No funds donated will be used for general McNALMS operating purposes. Once donation goals are met, then implementation of project will be administered.

Name (Please Print) _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address* _____

*Required

Return to McNALMS, P.O. Box 4812, East Lansing, MI 48826

Introduction to Lakes

Michigan is blessed with more than 11,000 inland lakes, each providing unique recreational, scenic and environmental benefits. These inland lakes are complex ecosystems, and are often negatively impacted by both the people that live near them as well as the water that drains into them. Frequently, local communities struggle to protect and manage inland lakes in a way that incorporates the best available knowledge and resources. Concerned citizens, decision makers, local leaders, resource professionals and lakefront property owners can learn about inland lake management and protection by enrolling in the Introduction to Lakes online course.

The 6 week course consists of: Video lectures, Discussion forums, Interactive activities, Additional resources, Quizzes, Live chats with instructors, and a certificate of completion.

For course dates & details: [Introduction to Lakes](#)

Or the [McNalms Website](#)

**Introduction to Lakes
6 Week Online Course**

NOW ENROLLING!

LEARN ABOUT:
LAKE ECOLOGY
SHORELINES
WATERSHEDS
AQUATIC PLANTS
AND MORE!

Photo Credit: Paige Filice

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

Search "Introduction to Lakes" at www.msue.anr.msu.edu

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McNALMS cooperative support for MWA

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

McNALMS Corporate Members

Aquaweed.com

Helpmylake.com

Phycotech.com

Plmcorp.net

Progressiveae.com/water-resources

Restorativelakesciences.com

Invasive Species Watch List, Rusty Crayfish

By Minnesota Sea Grant

Rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*) have invaded much of Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ontario, and portions of 17 other states. Although native to the Ohio River basin and the states of Ohio and Kentucky, rusty crayfish continue to spread into many lakes and streams where they cause a variety of ecological problems. Rusty crayfish are probably spread by non-resident anglers who bring them along to use as fishing bait. As rusty crayfish populations increase in many areas, they are harvested for the regional bait market, biological supply companies, and food. Such activities probably help spread the species farther. Invading rusty crayfish frequently displace native crayfish, reduce the amount and kinds of aquatic plants, decrease the density and variety of invertebrates (animals lacking a backbone), and reduce some fish populations.

Environmentally sound ways to eradicate introduced populations of rusty crayfish have not been developed, and none are likely in the near future. Preventing or slowing the spread of rusty crayfish into new waters is the best way to prevent the ecological problems they cause. The destruction of aquatic plant beds is perhaps the most serious impact. Rusty crayfish have been shown to reduce aquatic plant abundance and species diversity (Lodge and Lorman 1987; Olsen et al. 1991, Wilson et al. 2004). Although other crayfish eat aquatic plants, rusty crayfish eat even more because they have a higher metabolic rate and appetite (Jones and Momot 1983). They also grow larger, hide less often from predators – and therefore feed longer (Stein 1977) – attaining high population densities. Rusty crayfish also displace other crayfish species through crayfish to crayfish competition, increased fish predation and hybridization. To learn how to properly identify the Rusty Crayfish, please visit www.michigan.gov/invasives

DEQ Invasive Species YouTube Channel

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has a YouTube channel dedicated to educating the public about invasive species. This channel is a great way for riparian's to learn how to identify invasive plants and aquatic organisms as well as ways to prevent invasive species from entering their waterbody. Please help spread the word about this great resource. Click [here](#) for a direct link.



Clean Boats, Clean Waters

Michigan is one of the most popular states in the nation for recreational boating, with over 1,300 public boating access sites and over 80 harbors and marinas. There are more than 11,000 inland lakes and 36,000 miles of rivers and streams.

The threat of contamination to these abundant and precious water resources from non-native aquatic invasive species is high. Aquatic invasive species (AIS) can disrupt these ecosystems, outcompete native animals and plants for space and resources leading to excessive plant growth, reduced fish populations, and interference with pleasure boating and other recreational activities.

The Clean Boats, Clean Waters program trains volunteers to organize and conduct boater education in their community helping to protect local water resources. Volunteer teams will work to educate boaters and other recreational watercraft owners about AIS laws and best management practices for stopping the spread of aquatic species. For more information please visit the [Clean Boats Clean Water website](#).

McNALMS Board Members 2017

President: Lois Wolfson (Michigan State University)

President Elect: Mike Solomon

(Wexford Co Drain Commissioner/Restorative Lake Sciences)

Secretary: Roger Carey

(Retired Riparian)

Treasurer: Jason Broekstra

(PLM Lake & Land Management Corp.)

Executive Director Emeritus Howard Wandell

(Retired Riparian)

Directors at Large

Ralph Bednarz (Retired Riparian)

Erick Elgin (Michigan State University)

Joe Nohner (Michigan DNR)

Syndell Parks (GenPass LLC/GVSU)

Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendars!

McNalms Board Meeting

February 8, 2018

MSU ANR Week

March

Michigan State University

ML&SA 57th Annual Conference

April 20–21, 2018

Crystal Mountain Resort