



The 12th Annual Conference of the Michigan Clean Water Corps

November 2-3, 2016 ❖ Kettunen Center ❖ 14901 4-H Drive, Tustin, MI

**** All Overnight Guests Arriving after 5 pm Should Check-In with the Front Desk ****

Wednesday, November 2 (Optional Pre-Conference Events)

12:45 – 5:00 pm **Conference / Training Registration and Check-In** (Mawby Learning Center, Downstairs Lobby)

1:00 – 5:00 pm **Training Workshops** (Mawby Learning Center, Lakeview Room)

Two free training sessions will be offered. Participants may attend one or both of the sessions. Advanced registration is required through our online registration form.

<p>1:00 – 3:00 pm (Lakeview Room)</p>	<p>Insect Identification <i>Dr. Paul Steen, MiCorps Staff, Huron River Watershed Council</i></p> <p>Both beginners and advanced volunteers are welcome to attend this combined session. Participants will meet for discussion and tips on identifying aquatic macroinvertebrates to the family level. This year, Dr. Steen will put a specific emphasis on identifying true flies (i.e. crane flies, black flies, horse flies, deer flies). Then, practice your identification skills on all different kinds of aquatic macroinvertebrates with microscopes and preserved specimens.</p>
<p>3:30 – 5:00 pm (Lakeview Room)</p>	<p>Plants of Michigan’s Lakes and Streams <i>Dr. Jo Latimore, MiCorps Staff, Michigan State University, and Erick Elgin, Michigan State University Extension</i></p> <p>This classroom-based training session will give participants hands-on experience in identifying aquatic plants commonly found in our lakes and river systems. Emphasis will be placed on invasive plants and how to distinguish them from beneficial native plants. Participants will use fresh and dried pressed plants to practice their identification skills, and will learn about a variety of books, web sites, and other resources that are helpful tools for learning more about Michigan's aquatic plants. There will also be time for informal discussion of plant-related topics, like early detection and management of invasive plants and volunteer monitoring survey techniques for aquatic plants.</p>

5:30 – 6:30 pm **Dinner** (Main Lodge, Dining Room) – *Available for an additional fee. Please use our online registration form to reserve your place.*

6:30 – 7:30 pm **Evening Presentation: Invasive Species Acronym Soup: NZMS, YFH, WL, PF, WH, EWC, FB, Oh My!**
(Mawby Learning Center, Lakeview Room)
Tom Alwin, Michigan DEQ

Come hear about recent and emerging aquatic invasive species in Michigan. Learn what all these acronyms stand for, species identification, what the state is doing, and what you can do to help.

7:30 – 10:00 pm **Reception and Networking** (Main Lodge, Lobby and Deck)
The evening presentation will be followed by refreshments, music, games, and a bonfire at the lake (weather permitting).

Thursday, November 3 (Conference)

7:30 am **Breakfast** (Main Lodge, Dining Room) – *Available for an additional fee. Please use our online registration form to reserve your place.*

8:15 am **Conference Registration and Check-In** (Mawby Learning Center, Downstairs Lobby)

9:00 am **Welcoming Remarks** (Mawby Learning Center, Lakeview Room)
Marcy Knoll Wilmes, Michigan DEQ

9:15 am **Morning Keynote: Does Volunteer Monitoring Really Make a Difference?**
Kris Stepenuck, University of Vermont, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources

With so much data being collected by volunteer monitors, the question arises, are these data being used to help inform management decisions, to impact policies, or to protect or improve water quality? In this presentation results and anecdotes from a recent national survey of these programs will be shared that clearly demonstrate that the answer to this question is, unmistakably, yes! From discovering faulty septic systems, and illegal municipal stormwater connections, to requiring compliance to regulations on the part of dam owners, stormwater districts, and wastewater treatment plants, these programs have effectively contributed to helping protect and improve local waters. Come find out what these programs have in common and hear stories of their successes.

10:15 am **Awards for New MiCorps Members and Long-Term Volunteer Recognition**
Presented by: Marcy Knoll Wilmes, Michigan DEQ, and Dr. Paul Steen, MiCorps Staff, Huron River Watershed Council

10:45 am **Break** (Move into Breakout Sessions)

11:05 am **Breakout Session 1** (Breakout sessions A and B will be held concurrently. Participants may attend one session.)

<p>Option A: (Main Lodge Lower Level, Ford Room)</p>	<p>MiCorps 101: An Introduction to the MiCorps Program <i>Marcy Knoll Wilmes, Michigan DEQ, with other MiCorps Staff</i></p> <p>This session is geared toward those who are new to MiCorps and volunteer monitoring, or those who would simply like a refresher. We will provide an overview of the program and how you can get involved.</p>
<p>Option B: (Mawby Learning Center, Lakeview Room)</p>	<p>Stream Flow Monitoring Pilot Programs <i>Moderator: Dr. Paul Steen, MiCorps Staff, Huron River Watershed Council</i></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lindsay Peterson, Dickinson Conservation District</i> • <i>John Ransom, Benzie Conservation District</i> • <i>Q&A</i> <p>In 2016, MiCorps introduced a new monitoring parameter to measure the speed and amount of water flowing down a stream. The two project leads who managed these pilot programs will discuss their experiences monitoring water flow from this past summer and share their results.</p>

11:45 am **Lunch** (Main Lodge, Dining Room) – *Included in conference registration fee.*

12:45 pm **Sharing Resources Around the State: A Networking Activity**
(Mawby Learning Center, Lakeview Room)

This networking activity will help to connect you with other conference participants to share experiences, resources, and expertise.

1:35 pm **Move into Breakout Sessions**

1:45 pm

Breakout Session 2 (Breakout sessions A and B will be held concurrently. Participants may attend one session.)

<p>Option A: (Mawby Learning Center, Lakeview Room)</p>	<p>How to Interpret Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) Data <i>Dr. Paul Steen, MiCorps Staff, Huron River Watershed Council</i></p> <p>Volunteers collect a lot of lake information through the CLMP. This presentation will review how this data should be interpreted to keep lake residents updated about what is happening in their lake over time. Paul Steen will review how he puts together the year end summary sheets for CLMP lakes and will go over several examples from lakes monitored by people in the audience. Reach out to Paul ahead of time if you plan to attend and want your lake to be included as an example (psteen@hrwc.org).</p>
<p>Option B: (Main Lodge Lower Level, Ford Room)</p>	<p>Road-Stream Crossing Inventory Projects <i>Moderator: Jason Frenzel, MiCorps Staff, Huron River Watershed Council</i> <i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Matt Einheuser, Clinton River Watershed Council</i>• <i>Kelly Goward and Carolyn Ulstad, Macatawa Area Coordinating Council</i>• <i>Brett Riser and Brooke Mainville, Calhoun Conservation District</i>• <i>Q&A</i> <p>Road-Stream crossings are potential sources of stream degradation through erosion, improperly sized-culverts, and poor maintenance. Inventories are important to prioritize road and bridge fixes. Three project coordinators share their experiences in conducting Road-Stream Crossings Inventories in the summer of 2016 and ways that their inventories can be used to make improvements to the water quality of the streams in their area.</p>

2:45 pm

Break

3:00 pm

Breakout Session 3 (Breakout sessions A and B will be held concurrently. Participants may attend one session.)

<p>Option A: (Main Lodge Lower Level, Ford Room)</p>	<p>CLMP and Beyond: How Monitoring Data Help Protect Michigan Lakes <i>Moderator: Dr. Jo Latimore, MiCorps Staff, Michigan State University</i> <i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Joe Nohner, Michigan DNR – The Importance of Lake Monitoring for Fish and Lake Management</i>• <i>Ken Gill, Deer Lake – Using CLMP Data in Real World Situations</i>• <i>Stacy Daniels, Crystal Lake and Watershed Association – Inland Lake Levels Matter</i>• <i>Q&A</i>
<p>Option B: (Mawby Learning Center, Lakeview Room)</p>	<p>Macroinvertebrate Survey Stream Monitoring Programs <i>Moderator: Dr. Paul Steen, MiCorps Staff, Huron River Watershed Council</i> <i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Elan Lipschitz and Andrea Foster, The Little Forks Conservancy</i>• <i>Andy Raymond, Ingham Conservation District</i>• <i>Sarah Baker, Friends of the Shiawassee River</i> <p>MiCorps grantees will discuss their macroinvertebrate volunteer stream monitoring programs: where they monitor, how their program runs, and the successes and lessons they have experienced along the way.</p>

4:00 pm

Conference Evaluation and Adjournment (in Breakout Session Rooms)

Please take a moment before you leave to complete the evaluation form provided in your meeting folder and leave it with the session moderator. Thank you!