



**** All Overnight Guests Arriving after 3 pm Should Check-In with the Front Desk ****

Wednesday, November 4, 2015 (Optional Pre-Conference Events)

12:30 – 4:00 pm Conference / Training Registration and Check-In (Mawby Learning Center)

1:00 – 3:00 pm Training Workshops (Mawby Learning Center)

Two free training sessions will be offered concurrently. Participants may attend only one and **advanced registration is required** through our online registration form.

<p>Option A: (Lakeview A, Mawby Learning Center)</p>	<p>Stellar Volunteers and Stellar Volunteer Programs <i>Jason Frenzel, HRWC and Dan Myers, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council</i></p> <p>Volunteers are key to most MiCorps programs. We'll look at volunteer programs from both sides. How does the organization develop and maintain their volunteer program, and how do you as an individual get the most out of the time you spend volunteering? We'll be discussing how to run a stellar volunteer program for your organization, your impact, and your volunteers: how to evaluate and communicate what your volunteer program has to offer in order to recruit the best volunteers for the job. We will also turn the tables and discuss how to be a stellar volunteer: how to pinpoint what you want to get out of the experience and match that to the best volunteer opportunity for you.</p> <p>Join experienced program coordinators, Jason Frenzel of HRWC and Dan Myers of TOMWC, for an exhilarating two hour workshop to learn about and discuss these challenges, both at a theoretical level and from an on-the-ground/in-the-trenches perspective. The workshop will include a hands-on component to help us evaluate our program's strengths and needs.</p>
<p>Option B: (Lakeview B, Mawby Learning Center)</p>	<p>An Interagency Approach to Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach, Monitoring and Control <i>Kevin Walters and Tom Alwin, Michigan DEQ</i></p> <p>Learn basic identification of Michigan's priority AIS Watch List species (including news about the latest new detection in Michigan waters), decontamination techniques used by state agencies for equipment and personnel, and get an update on AIS monitoring and outreach efforts for inland lakes.</p>

5:30 – 6:30 pm Dinner (Dining Room) – *Not included in conference fees. Please pay in advance using the online registration form if you wish to join us for dinner.*

6:30 – 7:30 pm Evening Presentation: The Natural Way – Michigan Shoreland Stewards Program
(Lakeview Room, Mawby Learning Center)
Julia Kirkwood, Michigan DEQ

Did you know that the biggest threat to the overall health of inland lakes is lakeshore development? Learn how the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership is working to address this threat through many different programs and information. A basic overview of the problems with hardening of the shoreline and native vegetation removal will be discussed. You will also be introduced to the soon to be released *MI Shoreland Stewards Program*, which is designed to recognize waterfront property owners for their natural way of caring for the shore and is a natural fit for MiCorps volunteers.

7:30 – 10 pm Reception and Networking (Lakeview Room, Mawby Learning Center)
The evening presentation will be followed by refreshments, music, games, and informal networking.

Thursday, November 5, 2015 (Conference)

7:30 am **Breakfast** (Dining Room) – *Not included in conference fees. Please pay in advance using the online registration form if you wish to join us for breakfast.*

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

9:00 am **Welcoming Remarks** (Lakeview Room, Mawby Learning Center)
Gary Kohlhepp, Michigan DEQ

9:15 am **Morning Keynote: Telling our Story**
David Poulson, Michigan State University’s Knight Center for Environmental Journalism

You got the data, now tell the story. Recording information is half the battle to informed environmental policy. But to make a difference, you need to get it before the public. How can we interview our data so that it tells important stories?

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

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

11:10 am **Breakout Session 1** (Breakout sessions A and B will be held concurrently. Participants may attend one session.)

<p>Option A: (Lakeview A, Mawby Learning Center)</p>	<p>MiCorps 101: An Introduction to the MiCorps Programs <i>Dr. Paul Steen, MiCorps Staff, Huron River Watershed Council, with other MiCorps and Michigan DEQ 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: (Lakeview B, Mawby Learning Center)</p>	<p>Analysis and Use of Water Quality Data for Management <i>Moderator: Jason Frenzel, MiCorps Staff, Huron River Watershed Council</i></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Rich Hannan, Grass River Natural Area – Riparian stresses on the macroinvertebrate population in the Grass River Natural Area</i> • <i>Gerald Wilgus – Exploring and monitoring collection data using simple statistics</i>

12:00 pm **Lunch** (Dining Room) – *Included in conference registration fee.*

1:15 pm **Breakout Session 2** (Breakout sessions A and B will be held concurrently. Participants may attend one session.)

<p>Option A: (Lakeview A, Mawby Learning Center)</p>	<p>Studying Michigan’s Inland Lakes <i>Moderator: Dr. Jo Latimore, MiCorps Staff, Michigan State University</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Madelyn Messner, Oakland University – Environmental predictors of “Swimmer’s Itch” in Northern Michigan lakes</i> • <i>Mike Walterhouse, Michigan DEQ – Update on recent DEQ inland lake monitoring: status and trend monitoring effort, harmful algae monitoring, status of National Lake Assessment effort, and more!</i>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q&A</i>
Option B: (Lakeview B, Mawby Learning Center)	Adding Road–Stream Crossing Inventories to your Monitoring Toolkit <i>Moderator: Patrick Ertel, Michigan DNR</i> <i>Panelists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tom Tisue, White River Watershed Partnership – Initial experiences with MiCorps road–stream crossing assessment protocols and the Roadsoft database</i> • <i>Larry Scheer, HRWC Volunteer – Conducting a road–stream crossing inventory on Norton Creek, Oakland County</i> • <i>Q&A</i>

2:15 pm **Break**

2:35 pm **Breakout Session 3** (Breakout sessions A and B will be held concurrently. Participants may attend one session.)

Option A: (Lakeview A, Mawby Learning Center)	Monitoring for Invasives: Lessons Learned <i>Moderator: Dr. Jo Latimore, MiCorps Staff, Michigan State University</i> <i>Panelists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Jo Latimore</i> • <i>Angela DePalma–Dow, Michigan State University</i> • <i>Lori Mroczek, Eagle Lake Improvement Association, CLMP Volunteer</i> • <i>Q&A</i> <p>Presentations will focus on technical topics, the benefits of volunteerism, and other lessons learned. There will be time for hands–on identification practice with an assortment of aquatic invasive species.</p>
Option B: (Lakeview B, Mawby Learning Center)	Stream Monitoring Programs Presented by Past and Present MiCorps Grantees <i>Moderator: Dr. Paul Steen, MiCorps Staff, Huron River Watershed Council</i> <i>Panelists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Paul Wiemerslage, Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies</i> • <i>Allyson Dale, Marquette Conservation District</i> • <i>AJ Brucks, Van Buren Conservation District</i> <p>MiCorps grantees will discuss their volunteer stream monitoring programs: where they monitor, how their program runs, and the successes and lessons they have experienced along the way.</p>

3:45 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!