



## 2017 PROGRAM APPLICATION

A program of the Michigan Department of Environmental  
Quality

In partnership with the  
Michigan Lakes and Streams Associations (MLSA)  
and the Great Lakes Commission

**\*\*You may also enroll online at [www.micorps.net](http://www.micorps.net).\*\***

Please read all directions carefully. Please note that registering your lake into the CLMP program with this application does not automatically register you for the free CLMP training held in April.

### INSTRUCTIONS

**Register** as either a lake association or corporation or as an individual. Each lake you register should be listed separately. Space is provided for enrolling one lake. If enrolling more than one lake, submit a second form. Membership in MLSA is not required to participate in the program.

**Contact Information.** All initial communications will be mailed to the party at the address listed. Once a volunteer monitoring coordinator has been identified on the waiver form, all other communication will be directed to that individual.

**Parameters.** Indicate each of the parameters for which the lake is being enrolled. For more information about the parameters, see the back of this page.

**Equipment.** If participating in the chlorophyll monitoring program for the first time, it will be necessary to purchase chlorophyll testing equipment. In following years, sampling and filtering equipment may be reused but replacement filters and vials will be needed. A Secchi disk may be purchased, or may be built; instructions will be provided.

**Dissolved Oxygen Meters.** If volunteers plan on using their own meter, the meter must be of the same type that the CLMP uses (YSI 95D, 550A, or Pro20). Other meters will not be accepted.

**Payment.** Add the parameter enrollment fees and the cost of any equipment purchased and enter the total amount due in the space provided. All fees are required at the time of registration.

**Paperwork.** Check a box indicating if you want parameter paperwork mailed to you or if you will access the documents online.

**Signature.** The individual submitting the application must sign the form.

**Waiver.** A waiver must be filled out and submitted to MLSA before CLMP testing begins.

**Refund and Carry Over Policy.** Please see the final page of this packet.

**MLSA contact information.** Any questions about the registration can be directed to Jean Roth at (989)257-3715 or [jroth@mlswa.org](mailto:jroth@mlswa.org).

**Application turn-in.** Mail completed application, payment and waiver forms to: MLSA- P.O. Box 303- Long Lake, MI 48743.

## Parameters

### Please note:

- Each volunteer monitor must demonstrate that they can collect consistent quality data before they can participate in the more complicated monitoring parameters. Therefore there are restrictions on parameter enrollment that are clearly defined on the registration form. Applicants that do not follow the restrictions will receive a call or email from MLSA to resolve the problem.
- Similarly, enrolling in the more complicated monitoring parameters will require enrollment in the simpler parameters as well. These restrictions are listed on the registration form.
- Except for Secchi disk transparency and the exotic aquatic plant watch, all monitoring programs have a limited enrollment because of available equipment or laboratory capacity. Register early to ensure your lake community's participation in the monitoring parameters in which you are interested.
- The training for the monitoring parameters is a part of the 2017 Michigan Lakes and Streams Annual Conference, which is April 21-22 at Crystal Mountain Resort in Thompsonville, MI.
- YouTube videos and webinars (live internet-based broadcasts) will be available for training and refresher purposes. Currently, secchi, phosphorus, chlorophyll, exotic plant watch, and Score the Shore videos are available from [www.micorps.net](http://www.micorps.net). The webinar is scheduled for May 1 2017, 6-8 pm EST. Webinar registration information will be sent via email at a later point.

Parameter Name	Parameter Description	Enroll Cutoff Date	Equipment	Training	Other Info
Secchi Disk Transparency	Water clarity is measured by lowering a black and white disk into the water until it disappears. Measurements are taken weekly or every other week from mid-May until mid-Sept.	May 5	A Secchi disk and measuring line. The disk may be built or purchased from MLSA.	Optional but recommended; written sampling procedures, video, and/or webinar.	
Spring Total Phosphorus	The greater the phosphorus concentration in a lake the more weeds and algae are produced. Spring is a good time to measure phosphorus in a lake, because the lake is entirely mixed.	March 1	Sample bottles provided by DEQ. Samples are taken within 2 weeks of iceout, based on volunteer's judgment of the water conditions. A boat and volunteer must be available in early spring.	Optional but recommended; written sampling procedures, video, and/or webinar.	Samples must be delivered to DEQ collection centers on specified dates.
Summer Total Phosphorus	Summer total phosphorus along with chlorophyll and Secchi disk transparency are used in the Carlson Trophic State Index to measure and evaluate the quality of lakes.	May 5	Sample bottles provided by DEQ.	Optional but recommended; written sampling procedures, video, and/or webinar.	Samples must be delivered to DEQ collection centers on specified dates.
Chlorophyll	Chlorophyll is a green pigment in plants. When measured in lake water it is an indication of the amount of algae in the water. Higher phosphorus concentrations in the water produce more algae which reduces water clarity.	April 1	Composite sampler bottles and filtering equipment must be purchased.	<b>REQUIRED</b> , either attend live training or the webinar.	Samples must be delivered to DEQ collection centers on specified dates.
Dissolved Oxygen & Temperature	Lakes in the summer often stratify into layers that have unique oxygen and temperature properties. In many lakes, the oxygen in deep water may be completely lost. Fish will not live in these waters and chemical changes will occur that can impact water quality in the upper layers.	April 1	A dissolved oxygen and temperature meter is loaned to the volunteer samplers by the DEQ.	<b>REQUIRED</b> , attend the live training.	Two or three lakes located near each other will need to share one meter.
Exotic Aquatic Plant Watch	Plants are essential to lakes but sometimes they can become too abundant and cause recreational problems. Plants like the exotic invaders Eurasian milfoil and curlyleaf pondweed cause particularly serious problems.	April 1	Volunteer samplers must build plant collection rakes and have other supplies.	<b>REQUIRED</b> , either attend the live training or webinar	Lakes new to exotic plant watch are eligible for a visit from a MiCorps staff biologist
Aquatic Plant Mapping	A diverse aquatic plant community in lakes provides essential habitat for fish and wildlife. Certain plants can become too abundant and cause recreational problems.	April 1	Volunteer samplers must build plant collection rakes and have other supplies.	<b>REQUIRED</b> , attend the live training.	After the first year, you can get a reduced cost if you do not need the full support of a biologist.
Shoreline Habitat Assessment	Development and natural vegetation on a shoreline are important indicators of the health of a lake's biological community.	April 1	A boat is the only equipment required.	<b>REQUIRED</b> , attend the live training or the webinar.	



**COOPERATIVE LAKES MONITORING PROGRAM**  
**ENROLLMENT FEES REFUND AND CARRY OVER POLICY**

Associations or Individuals that have paid enrollment fees for the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) parameters may notify Michigan Lake & Stream Associations (MLSA) by April 1<sup>st</sup> prior to the sampling season if they can not carry out the program they have signed up for, and they may request a refund or carry-over of the enrollment fees\*\*.

- If a Lake Association or Individual requests MLSA in writing to carry-over the enrollment fee prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>, MLSA will hold their enrollment fees and enroll them in the same testing programs for the following year. Lakes will only be permitted to carry over the enrollment fees for a single year. After this time period, the Lake Association or Individual will have to pay again to enroll in the program.
- If a Lake Association or an Individual requests MLSA in writing for a refund of the enrollment fees prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>, MLSA will refund 90% of the enrollment fees. A 10% fee will be charged for administrative costs.
- **A Lake Association or an Individual that notifies MLSA after April 1<sup>st</sup> will not be eligible for a carry-over or refund of enrollment fees.**
- MLSA will refund the full enrollment fees if CLMP enrollment limits were exceeded for the year.
- Requests for enrollment fees refund or carry-over should be mailed to MLSA's northern office:

Michigan Lake & Stream Associations, Inc. P.O. Box 303, Long Lake, MI 48743

\*\* The Deadline of April 1<sup>st</sup> is necessary prior to mailing of supplies and monitoring procedures for the sampling season