Thank you for the honor of selecting me to serve as your president this year. Also welcome Erick Elgin as president-elect to the board and filling the open at large positions are, Scott Brown, Lois Wolfson and Joe Nohner. Welcome all.

We collaborated to host some amazing events recently, the Inland lakes conference last fall and the Shoreline and Shallows conference during ANR week on March 7. We are working on our next Lunch and Learn program. Stay tuned for more on that. Also, if you have not yet liked us on FB or Twitter join the in crowd and click on that like button! FB is a great platform for having conversations about water issues and lake management practices, ask questions from your peers, show off what you are doing, and connect in real time with likeminded folks.

Just to share little about myself: I am an MSU Extension Educator for natural resources/water quality and a long-time lurking member of McNALMS. Most recently I concluded a grant in partnership with Michigan Lake Stewards Associations for the Michigan Clean Boats, Clean Waters program. www.micbcw.org This summer I will be partnering with Sea Grant and their Michigan Paddling Stewards program. Stay tuned for more on that as things move forward.

McNALMS is continually welcoming new members. We appreciate your continued efforts to encourage others to join. With representatives from other NGOs, state agencies, Universities, drain commissioners, lake practitioners, students, and riparians we possess a wealth of knowledge and experience that combined can affect real change. However, unless we all remain actively involved, keeping up on policy initiatives, emerging issues, and getting our information out to people across the state will become increasingly challenging. Please join us and encourage others to join our efforts by contacting us at mcnalms@mcnalms.org and indicating your interests.

I’m looking forward to a busy summer educating people on preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species … clean those boats! --Beth

McNALMS and MLSA Award Student Grant for 2019

Congratulations Jasmine Mancuso, recipient of the Lake Research Student Grant from the Michigan Chapter, North American Lake Management Society (McNALMS) and Michigan Lake Stewardship Associations (MLSA). Jasmine’s proposal on “Exploring drivers of cyanobacterial blooms with time-series observations, biogeochemical modeling, and in situ experimentation in a model Great Lakes estuary” sounded very interesting, and we proud to financially assist cyanobacteria research.

The Lake Research Student Grants Program, sponsored by McNALMS and the Michigan Lake Stewardship Stream Associations, Inc., (MLSA) promotes University student efforts to work on inland lakes and/or with lake communities to enhance inland lake management. Projects that increase the understanding of lake ecology, have applicability to Michigan lakes, strengthen collaborative lake management, build lake partnerships and/or expand citizen involvement in lake management were eligible for consideration.
McNALMS Corporate Member Spotlight

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
PO Box 369 Fenton, MI 48430

McNALMS Corporate Members

New Senate Bill to Help Riparians Combat AIS

A new legislative bill was passed in October 2018 to help riparians with the cost of managing invasive aquatic plants. Senate Bill 1136 or Public Act 671 of 2018, which was spearheaded by the Michigan Aquatic Managers Association, requires the DEQ to establish an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) funding program for lakes that currently have a special assessment district or statutory lake board and public access site with a valid DEQ Aquatic Nuisance Control permit. Although the program is still in the implementation phase, an appropriation of $1,000,000 to help cover costs associated with invasive aquatic plant control is being initiated. For the 2019 season, it is anticipated that a portion of these funds will be awarded for reimbursements of ANC permit application fees.

McNALMS Corporate Member Spotlight

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INVESTIGATE:
- Factors that impact Michigan water
- The Blue Economy
- Fiscal benefits of water management
- Incorporating water into local planning and place making
- Risk assessment approaches
- Resources to help address water problems
- Water policy at the federal, tribal, state & local levels

Registration: $175 (Space is limited)
New Boating & Fishing Laws

Michigan’s Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (Act 451 of 1994) Part 413 has been amended with changes for boaters and anglers that took effect March 21, 2019. The changes are intended to strengthen protection for Michigan waterways against the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species.

What boaters need to know: Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers

Prior to the amendment, the law only required that a person not place watercraft or trailers in the waters of Michigan if an aquatic plant is attached. In addition to this requirement, the new changes require all of the following prior to transporting any watercraft over land:

- Removing all drain plugs from bilges, ballast tanks, and live wells.
- Draining all water from any live wells and bilges.
- Ensuring that the watercraft, trailer, and any conveyance used to transport the watercraft or trailer are free of aquatic organisms, including plants.

This means that after trailering boats, and before getting on the road, boaters must pull plugs, drain water and remove plants and debris.

Violation of the law is a state civil infraction and violators may be subject to fines up to $100.

What anglers need to know: Don’t Dump Your Bait!

A person shall not release baitfish in any waters of this state. A person who collects fish shall not use the fish as bait or cut bait except in the inland lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught, or in a connecting waterway of the inland lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught if the fish could freely move between the original location of capture and the location of release. A person, who catches fish other than baitfish in a lake, stream, Great Lake, or connecting waterway shall only release the fish in the lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught, or in a connecting waterway of the lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught if the fish could freely move between the original location of capture and the location of release. Whether purchased or collected, unused baitfish should be disposed of on land or in the trash – never in the water. Any baitfish an angler collects may be used only in the waters where it was originally collected. Anglers who are catching and releasing fish should only release the fish back into the same water or in a connecting body of water the fish could have reached on its own.

Violation of the law is a state civil infraction and violators may be subject to fines up to $100.

What you should do: To comply with the law and prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species, boaters should:

- CLEAN boats, trailers and equipment
- DRAIN live wells, bilges and all water
- DISPOSE of unwanted bait in the trash.

(Article and picture courtesy of Michigan.gov)