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**65TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

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# **RENEWING OUR WATERS: RENEWING OUR PROMISE**



# **MLSA**

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**MAY 1 AND MAY 2, 2026**

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**MUSKEGON, MI**

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CLMP  
Training Schedule  
available on page 9

Enroll your  
lake for 2026!

Visit the  
MiCorps team in  
Section D





# MLSA

## Michigan Lakes and Streams Association

Protects lakes and streams for future generations

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Represents waterfront property owners

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Provides education and guidance to associations,  
lawmakers, and individuals

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Partners with organizations, universities, and state agencies

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In addition to supporting our programs and services,  
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*The Michigan Riparian* magazine.

[mymlsa.org](http://mymlsa.org)

SCAN ME



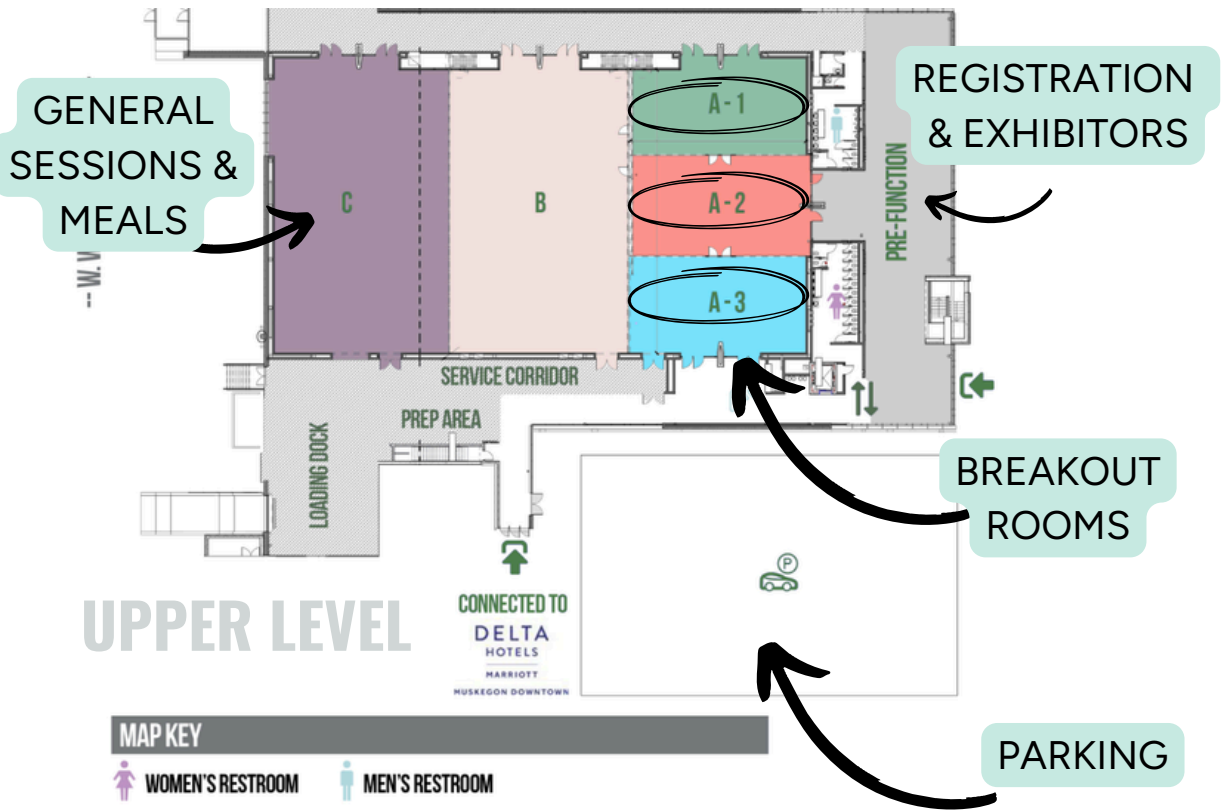
# MAP & LOGISTICS

## Entrance and Parking - Navigate to Third St.

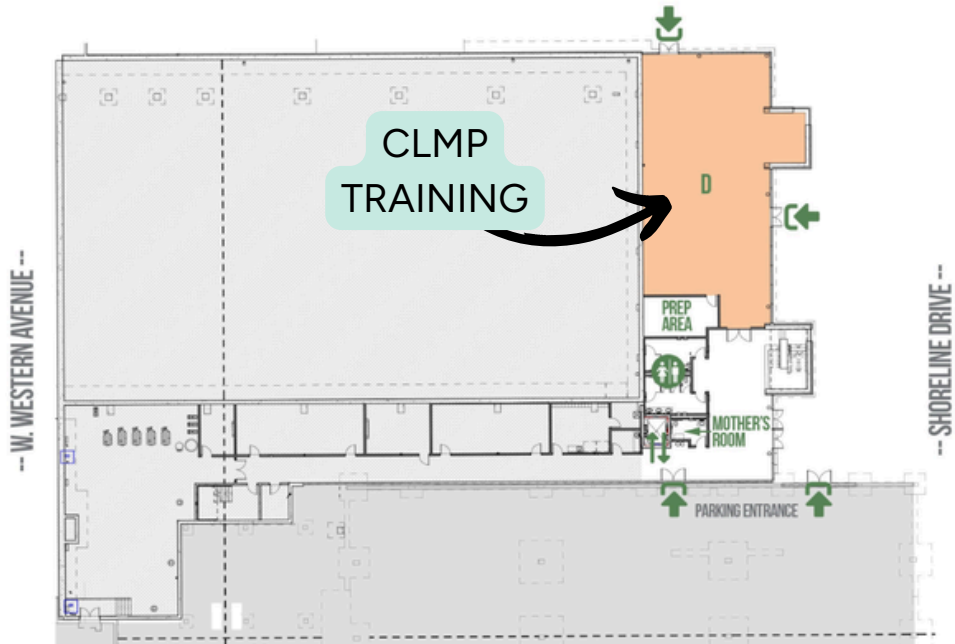
Following parking signs on the Delta Hotel side and use the guest lot.

## Registration and Information Table

Pre-Function Area | Opens at 7:30 AM each day



## LOWER LEVEL



## Friday Meals - All Located in Section B/C

### 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM: Breakfast

CONTINENTAL BUFFET - Hard-Boiled Eggs gf & df / Fresh Cut Seasonal Fruit & Berries vv & gf / Croissants v / Scones v / Muffins v / Danishes v / Vanilla Yogurt Parfaits with Berries / Granola v

### 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM: Break - Sponsored by Davey Resource Group

Coffee and Tea in Pre-Function area

### 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Lunch

SOUP & SALAD BAR - Warm Rolls / Soup: Minestrone v OR Santa Fe Chicken df / Salad Bar: Mixed Greens vv & gf / Spinach vv & gf / Grilled Chicken gf / Deli Turkey gf / Diced Ham gf / Bacon Pieces gf / Mushrooms vv & gf / Peas vv & gf / Pickled Beets vv & gf / Cucumber vv & gf / Shredded Carrot vv & gf / Onion vv & gf / Diced Bell Pepper vv & gf / Artichoke Hearts vv & gf / Shredded Cheddar v / Feta v / Bleu Cheese v / Hard-Boiled Egg gf & df / Tomato vv & gf / Garbanzo Beans vv & gf / Ranch Dressing v / Italian Dressing v

### 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM: Break - Iced Tea and Water in Pre-Function area

## Friday Evening Program

### 5:00 PM: Happy Hour\* - Bar remains open until evening program ends

**Kieser & Associates Signature Cocktail - The Algae Bloom** - Bailey's Irish Cream + melon liqueur, shaken and chilled, garnished with tapioca pearls

\*You get 2 drink tickets complimentary with your registration, good for any beverage at the bar.

### 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM: Dinner

PASTA BUFFET - Herbed Linguine v / Penne Aglio e Olio v / Italian Meatballs (includes pork) / Herb Grilled Chicken / White Wine Alfredo v & gf / Old-World Marinara vv & gf / Rustic Bread / Antipasto Salad Bar: Cucumber / Feta / Red Onion / Pepperoncini / Black Olive / Tomato / Marinated Artichoke Hearts / Genoa Salami / Balsamic / Ranch

## Saturday Meals - All Located in Section B/C

### 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM: Breakfast

MICHIGAN WAKE-UP - Cage-Free Scrambled Eggs with Cheddar Cheese gf / French Toast with Maple Syrup v / Bacon gf & df / Oatmeal with Fresh Berries & Brown Sugar vv / Fresh Cut Seasonal Fruit & Berries vv & gf

### 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM: Break - Sponsored by Davey Resource Group

Coffee and Tea in Pre-Function area

### 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM: Lunch

LAKESIDE PICNIC - Turkey Club OR Black Forest Ham / Included: Kettle Chips vv & gf / Pasta Salad v / Tossed Garden Salad vv & gf

Dietary Key: gf = Gluten Free, df = Dairy Free, v = vegetarian, vv = vegan

If you indicated any additional needs, please see the catering staff.

# FRIDAY SESSIONS

May 1, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM: Registration in Pre-Function Area

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM: Breakfast in Section B/C

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9:00 AM – 10:00 AM: Keynote Speaker in Section B/C

**Richard Phillips - President, Last Wilderness Alliance**

Wake Surfing Regulation - the Experience in Wisconsin and Suggestions for Michigan

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10:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Breakout Sessions

**Section A-1: Aquatic Plants**

- Understanding Aquatic Plants in Michigan's Inland Lakes: Insights from Point-Intercept Surveys Across 100+ Lakes
  - Jeremy A Hartsock, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, MSU
- Water-primrose (*Ludwigia* sp.): A New Aquatic Invader in Michigan
  - Billy Keiper, Aquatic Biologist, EGLE Water Resources Division

**Section A-2: Further Discussion with Keynote Speaker**

- Richard Phillips and Carol Phillips, Last Wilderness Alliance

**Section A-3: Harmful Algal Blooms on Higgins and Black Lakes**

- Mark Kieser, Kieser & Associates, and Mark Luttenton, Annis Water Resources Institute, GVSU
- 

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM: Lunch Served in Section B/C

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1:00 PM - 2:30 PM: Breakout Sessions

**Section A-1: Invasive Species**

- Preventing the Spread of Invasive Crayfish in Michigan
  - Kathleen Quebedeaux, Fisheries Biologist, MDNR
- Sea Lamprey Control in the Great Lakes
  - Nicole Lexson, Sea Lamprey Control Infrastructure Specialist, Great Lakes Fishery Commission
- Zebra and Quagga Mussels
  - Ashley Elgin, Research Benthic Ecologist, NOAA

**Section A-2: Shoreline Education Initiatives**

- Block the Flock: How Shoreline Gardens Keep Geese at Bay
  - Noah Jansen, Restoration Manager, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council
- Reimagining natural shorelines through art – Developing arts-based outreach and engagement for shoreline landowners
  - Ben Eiler, Master's Student, Fisheries and Wildlife, MSU and Jade Sun, Undergraduate Research Assistant, MSU

**Section A-3: Working with University Partners**

- Charlyn Partridge, Principal Investigator, Partridge Lab, AWRI-GVSU, Al Steinman, Allen and Helen Hunting Research Professor, AWRI-GVSU, Jeremy A Hartsock, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, MSU, and Dr. Erin Dreelin, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, MSU

May 1, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**3:00 PM - 4:30 PM: Breakout Sessions**

**Section A-1: Local Government Session**

- Zoning 101: How to Stay Engaged in Local Decision Making
  - Abbie Hawley, Director of Community and Government Relations, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council
- Holding the Line: How Conservation Districts, Part 91, & Local Planning Protect Michigan's Waters
  - Veronnica Kenreich, Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, Cass County

**Section A-2: ANPs (Artificial Nesting Platforms) and Loon Habitat**

- John Yadro, Wisconsin Loon Ranger

**Section A-3: Waterfront Landscaping**

- Trees and plants for people and wildlife from top to bottom
  - Julia Kirkwood, Nonpoint Source Program, Michigan EGLE
- Your Natural, Edible Yard: Un-Lawning for Watershed and Human Health
  - Sally Wenczel, Environmental Author, Illustrator, and Community Educator

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**Friday Evening Program in Section B/C**

**5:00 PM – 6:00 PM: Happy Hour and Riparian of the Year Presentation**

Kieser & Associates Signature Cocktail - The Algae Bloom

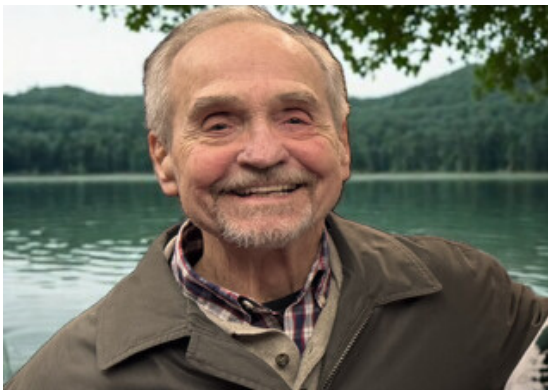
**6:00 PM - 7:00 PM: Dinner Served**

**7:00 PM - ?: Riparian Rights Q&A Session - Ask Anything!**

- Attorney Cliff Bloom, Bloom Sluggett, PC and MLSA Attorney  
(Cliff will answer questions until they are all answered)
- 

FRIDAY SESSIONS

2026 Riparian of Year



Ed Dewey

Green Lake and Duck Lake Association  
Interlochen, Grand Traverse County



# SATURDAY SESSIONS

May 2, 2026 | 7:30 AM - 1:30 PM

**7:30 AM – 9:00 AM: Registration in Pre-Function Area**

**7:30 AM - 8:30AM: Breakfast in Section B/C**

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**7:45 AM - 8:45 AM: Breakfast with Cliff Bloom in Section B/C**

Update on Riparian Rights Issues in Michigan

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**9:00 AM – 10:30 AM: Breakout Sessions**

**Section A-1: MI Shoreland Stewards Program – Spread the Message!**

- Julia Kirkwood, Nonpoint Source Program, Michigan EGLE

**Section A-2: Internal Phosphorus Loading in Michigan Lakes: Drivers, Dynamics, and Management Strategies**

- Joe Bischoff, Senior Limnologist, Barr Engineering Co. and Kate Lucas, Water Quality Scientist, Barr Engineering Co.

**Section A-3: Play the Watershed Game and learn to reduce nutrient inputs that can cause harmful algal blooms**

- Erica Anculle, Extension Educator, Michigan Sea Grant

**Section D: Aquatic Plant Identification Workshop**

- Jo Latimore and Erick Elgin, MiCorps CLMP and MSU Center for Lakes and Streams
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**11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Panel Discussion in Section B/C**

The Shifting Sands of Water Policy - State and Federal Considerations

David Lossing, Government Relations, Huron River Watershed Council

Megan Tinsley, Water Policy Director, Michigan Environmental Council

Carrie La Seur, La Seur Law Firm, PLLC

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**12:30 PM - 1:30 PM: Lunch Served in Section B/C**

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**Saturday Field Trip – Vessel Leaves at 1:30 PM**

\*Please Note: The field trip has limited capacity, and registration has closed. If you are a registered passenger, please be sure to arrive ahead of the trip time to board the vessel.

Location: The W.G. Jackson will be boarded at the GVSU Lake Michigan Center facility of the Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute on the waterfront in downtown Muskegon. There is ample parking near the Jackson vessel, in front of the beige, green, and white building.

Further details were emailed directly to registered passengers last week.

Please visit the registration table if you have questions.



May 2, 2026 | 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**1:30 PM - 3:00 PM: Breakout Sessions**

**Section A-1: Challenges for Common Loons in Michigan: Human Disturbance, Climate Change, and Contaminant Exposure**

- Scott C. Hedberg, President, Michigan Loon Preservation Association

**Section A-2: Current Research**

- Restoring the bed, reshaping the web? Macroinvertebrate response to sand removal in a Lake Superior tributary
  - Connor Ford, MS Student, Biology Department, Michigan Tech
- West Michigan Inland Lake Salt Survey
  - Mike Hassett, Scientific Technician, GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute
- From Strains to Strategies: Integrating Genetics and Herbicide Response in Aquatic Plant Management
  - Ashley Wolfe, Research Professional, Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology, Montana State University and Ryan Thum, Department Head, Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology, Montana State University

**Section A-3: State regulations and best practices for construction-based projects on Michigan's inland lakes**

- Eric Calabro, Inland Lakes Policy Specialist, EGLE

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**3:00 PM: Conference Adjourns - Safe Travels!**

**Speaker Bios**

Information about all speakers at this event can be found online:

<https://mymlsa.org/mlsa-events/annual-conference-2026/2026-speaker-bios/>



# MiCorps Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) Training Agenda



Michigan Lakes and Streams Association Conference, May 1-2, 2026  
VanDyk Mortgage Convention Center, Muskegon, MI  
All training sessions will be in Section D, Lower Level



## Friday, May 1, 2026

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM CLMP Information Table & Equipment Disbursement

### MiCorps CLMP Training Sessions

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM

#### **Welcome**

Jo Latimore, MiCorps/Michigan State University (MSU)  
Tamara Lipsey, MiCorps/EGLE Water Resources Division

9:30 AM – 9:45 AM

#### **Introduction to Lake Monitoring**

Erick Elgin, MiCorps/MSU

9:45 AM – 10:15 AM

#### **Secchi Disk Transparency**

Kate Laramie, MiCorps/ Huron River Watershed Council

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM

#### **BREAK**

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

#### **Spring and Summer Phosphorus**

Kate Laramie, MiCorps/ Huron River Watershed Council

11:00 AM - Noon

#### **Chlorophyll-a**

Tamara Lipsey, MiCorps/EGLE Water Resources Division

Noon – 1:00 PM

#### **LUNCH**

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

#### **Exotic Aquatic Plant Watch**

Erick Elgin and Jo Latimore, MiCorps/MSU

2:30 PM – 3:00 PM

#### **BREAK**

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

#### **Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature**

Tamara Lipsey, EGLE and Erick Elgin, MSU

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

#### **Score the Shore**

Jo Latimore, MiCorps/MSU

## Saturday, May 2, 2026

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

#### **Aquatic Plant Identification Workshop – Latimore and Elgin**

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

#### **BREAK**

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

#### **Aquatic Plant Mapping Protocol and Practice with Plant ID**

Latimore and Elgin

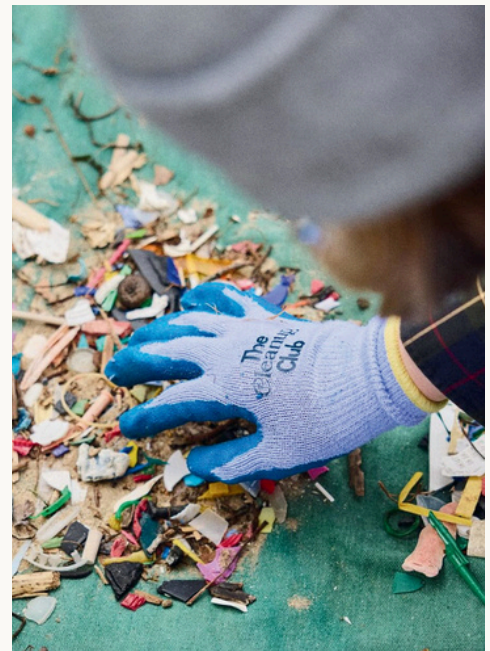


# We need YOU in our ECOsystem

As we face unprecedented backsliding on some of our nation's most historic and critical environmental protections, it's up to Michigan to hold the line with powerful, state-level protections that protect the air we breathe, our water and the places we love. **Michigan is ours to protect.** The Michigan Environmental Council and our ecosystem of over 115 environmental and conservation organizations (ECOs) across the state are working together to do just that. And we need as many passionate advocates, volunteers and ECOs on our team—including you. Whether your background is in water protection, invasive species management, community action, wildlife conservation or any issue in between, we need your voice and your expertise. Please join us in our private digital community, the **Michigan ECOsystem**, to connect with the Environmental Council and other environmental allies.



SCAN TO JOIN!





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**GVSU AWRI**



Event Survey  
How did we do?





# MLSA

Michigan Lakes and  
Streams Association

Save the Date:

**2027 in Muskegon**

Same Conference, New Content!

Friday, April 30

and Saturday, May 1