Michigan Water Network

*Interesting and important news, data, facts, etc. pertaining to the water-related issues of Michigan and the Great Lakes. “All things water”*

December 2013
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**River Raisin Watershed – Now Hiring**

The River Raisin Watershed Council (RRWC) is now seeking a Watershed Coordinator. The primary responsibilities include: fundraising, program development, budgeting/fiscal management, and promoting the organizations achievements through public and media relations. For a more comprehensive job description, click here.

**Partridge Creek/Deer Lake Restored**

The City of Ishpeming, the U.S. EPA and the State of Michigan have restored Partridge Creek after mercury from the mines the creek passed through infiltrated both the creek and the nearby Deer Lake. The restoration will most likely lead to the removal of Deer Lake from the AOC’s in 2014. For more information, [http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDEQ/bulletins/996392](http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDEQ/bulletins/996392)

**Sustain Our Great Lakes Webinar**
Sustain our Great Lakes will be hosting a webinar on January 15, 2013 at 11 am EST. The webinar will discuss funding priorities and the application process for the Sustain Our Great Lakes Request for Proposals. To sign up for the webinar, go to www1.gotomeeting.com/register/412717097. For more information about the organization, visit www.sustainourgreatlakes.org.

Plan to Restore the Rapids Revealed

A group working to restore the rapids to Grand Rapids has released their plans and are now pending city approval. The Grand Rapids Whitewater Organization introduced a plan to dramatically change the look of the river to reflect its original appearance while also appealing to fisherman, kayakers and anyone who enjoys adventure. For the full article & video, http://www.woodtv.com/news/local/grand-rapids/grand-river-rapids-plans-revealed.

“Be the Solution” Mini Series

The Farmington Public Schools have created a miniseries starring high school students called “Be the Solution.” It includes four short videos that discuss how we can have a positive impact on environmental sustainability in our schools, homes and communities. To view the videos, click here http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5p7MxoUoLXEaJGGce5KNNj2b3ht5wtS-2014 Kids’ Clean Water Calendar Contest Winners

The Kid’s Clean Water Calendar is designed to impress upon young people the importance of protecting our rivers, lakes and streams from pollution in Oakland County and across the region. Nearly 1,000 4th & 5th graders entered and the results were announced on the December 14th. To see the winners & order a FREE calendar – click here http://www.oakgov.com/water/Pages/default.aspx.

Great Lakes Fishery Trust Accepting Pre-proposals

The Great Lakes Fishery Trust is now accepting preliminary proposals under its Ecosystems Health and Sustainable Fish Populations focus area through two grant categories:

- Ecological and Biological Fisheries Research to Inform Management
- Social, Economic and Technology Research to Inform Policy and Practice

Submissions must be submitted online on or before January 13, 2014. For more information, visit the GLFT website at www.glft.org.

What Lies Beneath Lake Michigan (Natural & Unnatural)

A Chicago certified Open Water SCUBA Diver discusses the natural and unnatural things he has discovered while diving in Lake Michigan. He provides a historical context, complete with videos that discuss how these underwater scenes have come to be. Read the whole blog here - http://www.chicagonow.com/sail-lake-michigan/2013/11/what-lies-beneath-the-natural-and-unnatural-in-lake-michigan/.
EPA Announces Availability of Green Infrastructure Assistant Program

The U.S. EPA’s Office of Wastewater Management has announced the availability of $400,000 in technical assistance for 5 - 7 communities interested in implementing green infrastructure to protect water quality and build more sustainable communities. For more information, http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/upload/RLI-2014-Version-4.pdf.

Interactive Storm Replica

2013 marks the centennial anniversary of the Storm of 1913, the deadliest and most destructive natural disaster to hit the Great Lakes. A website has been put together to show photos of the wreckage, interactive wave reports and first hand accounts of the storm. To visit the site click here - http://www.regions.noaa.gov/great-lakes/centennial_anniversary_storm_of_1913/.

Upcoming Events

- **Annual AOC Meeting**
  The next Areas of Concern Annual meeting is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, March 18-19 at the EPA Region 5 office in Chicago. Follow up information will be provided but please mark your calendars.

- **No Spills Conference**
  The 24th Annual No Spills Conference is scheduled for January 6-8, 2014 at the Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City. This year’s keynote speakers will be Jon W. Allen, Director of the Office of Great Lakes for Michigan. To sign up, please visit http://no-spills.org/.

- **Michigan Green Infrastructure Conference**
  The Green Infrastructure Conference is coming to Lansing on May 8-9, 2014. The conference will expand on the theme of improving water quality in Michigan creating recreational space at the same time as addressed in the Governor’s Special Message on Energy & Environment. CEC’s will be available. For more information, click here. http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3308_3333_4169_21606-312197--,00.html

- **Michigan Inland Lakes Convention**
  The inaugural Michigan Inland Lakes Convention will take place May 1-3 at Boyne Mountain Resort in Boyne Falls. Convention sessions will cover a variety of topics including aquatic invasive species, shoreline management, lake research and water law. For more information, http://michiganlakes.msue.msu.edu/convention.

- **Borchardt Conference**
  The Borchardt Conference is scheduled for February 25 & 26, 2014 at the University of Michigan. The conference will feature speakers from universities across the region discussing advancements in water and wastewater. To sign up, visit www.mi-water.org.