



MICHIGAN NATURAL SHORELINE PARTNERSHIP

Promoting Natural Shoreline Landscaping to Protect Michigan's Inland Lakes

Volume IV, Issue 2

The Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership Newsletter

April 2014

News and Notes...

Compiled by Julia Kirkwood, MNSP Chair

Happy return of Spring! Well at least for part of the state anyways.

The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another.

The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month.

Henry Van Dyke

Spring is the time of plans and projects. - **Leo Tolstoy**

Hopefully there are many future natural shoreline projects being planned. For those that do get implemented, the MNSP would like to hear about those projects: your successes, challenges and any barriers that you came across. We know we are trying to make a big change in the culture of landscaping at the water's edge and we would like to hear some feedback from any landowners so we can better tailor any outreach approaches.

We know our inland lakes are an invaluable resource to our state, to us as individuals, and to the wildlife they support. But how do we put that in words? How do we put a value on that? Should we put a monetary value on it, and if so, how? The University of Wisconsin Extension Lakes has started putting together a website compiling different studies on "[The Economics of Water](#)". One particular summary that was put together is called "[The Economics of Shoreland Protection](#)". A growing body of research shows that waterfront property owners, local governments, economies and taxpayers benefit economically as a result of the amenities shore land zoning preserves: clean water, wildlife, scenic beauty, and peace and quiet.

While this information is great and the numbers are important, do they really "sell" the idea of a natural shoreline to a reluctant landowner? It might help in some cases. However there is a persistent barrier that is hard to overcome - "the neighbor influence". The MNSP would be interested in hearing about successes in overcoming this barrier along with others that have come up. We would like to share those with others to keep the conversation moving forward. If you are willing to share, please send your information to Julia Kirkwood at kirkwoodj@michigan.gov

Michigan inland lakes thank you for all that you are doing out there!

Certified Natural Shoreline Professional Update

By Jane Herbert, Michigan State University Extension
MNSP Vice-chair

Act now!

Multiple opportunities to earn CNSP CEUs in the next few weeks.

- April 24 & 26 in Stevens Point, Wisconsin
- May 3 in Boyne Falls, Michigan
- May 9 in Lansing, Michigan
- June 13 near East Jordan, Michigan (construction project – space is limited)

SEE DETAILS FOR THESE CEU OPPORTUNITIES ON PAGES 3, 4, 5 and 6 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

Note: if you are unsure about how many CEUs you need to maintain certification, please contact Amy Frankmann at amyf@mnla.org Also, it is your responsibility to keep your contact info on the MNSP web listing up to date. The MDEQ and other partners are sending potential clients to this listing. Please check your info at

<https://sites.google.com/site/mishorelinepartnership/certified-natural-shoreline-professionals-listing>

and contact Amy with any changes.



WISCONSIN LAKES CONVENTION

April 24-26, 2014

Stevens Point, Wisconsin

Michigan Certified Natural Shoreline Professionals may earn CNSP continuing education units (CEUs) by attending one or both sessions described below.

Click [HERE](#) to register.

Thursday Afternoon, April 24

1:30 - 4:30 pm (Three CNSP CEUs available)

Session title: Erosion Control Workshop

Session description: Looking for erosion solutions? By identifying and understanding the various causes and the effect of erosion factors, certain techniques can help you control or eliminate erosion altogether. This presentation gives you answers: samples, photographs, case studies, drawings, and techniques to help you face this challenge with success. Findings from a three year study at Michigan State University's Kellogg Biological Station, comparing traditionally-built and prefabricated soil lifts, will provide valuable guidance to some of these erosion control techniques.

Co-presenters:

Mariquita Sheehan, Vilas County Land & Water Conservation Department

Stacy Dehne, Department of Agriculture Trade & Consumer Protection

Jane Herbert, Michigan State University Extension

Saturday Afternoon, April 26

1:30 - 4:30 pm (Three CNSP CEUs available)

Session title: Rain Garden Installation

Session description: This is a hands on workshop learn the ins and outs of rain garden installation and basic storm water management. The workshop will be held on site at the Feltz Family Farm in Stevens Point, WI this is the location for the 2014 Farm Technology Days event. You will learn the initial steps to prepare and design a rain garden, then we will put those lessons into practice and plant a large scale rain garden and see how our native plant species work in this application. Limit: 20 Workshop takes place off-site. Must provide your own transportation.

Co-presenters:

Nick Homan, Lakescape Solutions LLC.

Rob Bursik, Dragonfly Gardens

MICHIGAN INLAND LAKES CONVENTION

May 1-3, 2014 in Boyne Falls, Michigan

Michigan Certified Natural Shoreline Professionals may earn CNSP continuing education units (CEUs) by attending one or both Saturday morning sessions A3 and A4 (see session descriptions below).

Click [HERE](#) to register. Or register at the door.

Saturday Morning, May 3rd

Session A3, 8:00 - 9:30 A.M. (Two CNSP CEUs available)

Session title: Natural Shoreline Research Findings from Michigan Tech and MSU

Session description: Jim Bess, Michigan Technological University and Jane Herbert, Michigan State University will be discussing the use and performance of native plant seeds in two types of encapsulated soil lifts in the context of three natural shoreline research projects in the Upper and Lower Peninsula. Portage Lake and Keweenaw Bay are two primary waterways along the Keweenaw Peninsula and are subject to water level fluctuations and significant wave action. In 2010, restoration of coastal wetlands at two sites, each 2,000 square feet in size, utilized native wetland plant seeds, mixed with milled peat moss to test for effects on seed germination and seedling establishment. The alternating logs and wet meadow plots were treated with milled peat moss and monitored for 3 years. Gull Lake is a 2,000 acre, moderate to high energy, all-sports lake in Kalamazoo County. In July 2011, forty feet each of traditionally-built and prefabricated soil lifts were constructed side-by-side at MSU's Kellogg Biological Station on Gull Lake. Both lift types were seeded to native plants. Over a three-year period, the performance of the two structures was monitored regularly and compared for plant establishment, resistance to invasives and ability to withstand wind waves and ice action.

Session A4, 10:15 - 11:45 A.M. (Two CNSP CEUs available.)

Session title: Phragmites Control Update for Managers and Landowners

Session description: Kile Kucher, Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Brian Majka, Cardno JFNew will provide both state agency and private contractor perspectives and will explore all the options available to prevent and control Phragmites in Michigan. The invasive Phragmites plant is a major threat to shoreline vegetation and it is spreading fast throughout Michigan and the United States. Phragmites obstructs views and crowds out native vegetation and habitat. Control is costly once populations become large and widespread. Current distribution and mapping of Phragmites through the Midwest Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN) will be discussed along with additional resources, local cooperatives, emerging tools, control strategies, and where to go for more information.



4820 Stover Road
Bellaire, MI 49615
Phone: 231-533-8363 Fax: 533-6388

PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION FORM

Date _____

Registration closes June 1, 2014 (space is limited)

**Jordan River Bank Restoration
CERTIFIED NATURAL SHORELINE PROFESSIONALS
CEU Construction Project**

This one-day, continuing education opportunity will provide Certified Natural Shoreline Professionals with hands-on experience constructing encapsulated soil lifts using the prefabricated, BioD-Block soil lift system. The project will repair an eroding bank on the Jordan River in Antrim County near East Jordan, MI. This training is hosted by the Antrim Conservation District and taught by active members of the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership.

Registration fee: \$70 payable to the Antrim Conservation District, 4820 Stover Road, Bellaire, MI 49615 (includes lunch)

Mail, fax, or email form with payment

Fax: 231-533-6388

Email to: heidishaffer3@yahoo.com



Friday June 13, 2014

8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Meet at the Jordan River Watershed Center
101 Union Street, East Jordan, MI 49727

NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING: _____ x \$70 = _____ amount owed
For services rendered. Not to exceed the amount shown.

NAME as it appears ON CARD: _____

ADDRESS associated with card: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ **PHONE #:** _____

CASH: \$ _____ **CHECK:** # _____

CREDIT CARD TYPE: _____ **CREDIT CARD #:** _____

I _____ authorize **Antrim Conservation District** to charge my credit card.
(PRINT NAME)

CREDIT CARD CV2 #: _____ **EXPIRATION DATE:** ____/____/____

**6 CEUs: must attend ALL DAY!!!!!!
NO EXCEPTIONS**





Photo: Scott Brown

Found clinging to the soft bottom sediments near the shoreline in hard water inland lakes throughout Michigan in depths of up to eight feet, *Chara vulgaris*, also known as muskgrass, is a highly beneficial macro-algae that often grows to two feet in length. Considered a “connoisseur of high quality freshwater”, *Chara vulgaris* helps promote good water clarity by preventing the re-suspension of bottom sediments and acting as an effective nutrient sink, thus inhibiting the production of phytoplankton. *Chara vulgaris* meadows also provide excellent fish habitat and a food source for waterfowl.

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www.mishorelinepartnership.org

www.facebook.com/MNSP1



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