



## *News and Notes...*

Compiled by Julia Kirkwood, MNSP Chair  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality



Yep, there is no denying it now - it is most certainly fall as the trees are in their amazing color display. It is also a time for reflection and planning for next year. The MNSP has accomplished a lot towards more natural shorelines for our inland lakes. There have been nine *Certified Natural Shoreline Professional* classes, six *Shoreline Educator* classes, three *Shoreline and Shallows* conferences plus one Inland Lake Convention (a joint effort of inland lake partners across the state), permitting requirements changed to encourage natural shoreline erosion control techniques, a contractor and homeowner guidebooks published, educational tool kits and natural shoreline promotional materials created, many homeowner natural shoreline workshops held by the *Shoreline Educators*, multiple continuing education opportunities held, and more. And yet the work is not done. Looking ahead for 2015 the MNSP Partners are working on two new educational tools.

**Policy:** An inland lake protection guidebook for local officials is currently being developed. This will help guide the discussion of what are the options and provide ideas of how they can protect inland lakes at the local level. Workshops will also be developed around this guidebook.

(continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

**Homeowner Outreach:** An on-line “Natural Shoreline Champion” Program is in the beginning stages. Work on this is expected to begin in January 2015 once the necessary funding for this is achieved and an AmeriCorps staff member is hired. This is through the Huron Pines AmeriCorps Program and the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council will be the host site. (Both are MNSP Partners!) Stay tuned for more details as this project unfolds in the next few months.

If you are having an event there are a few copies available of the Natural Shoreline Promotional Card and Bookmark. If you would like to print them yourself the print files can be made available. Contact Julia Kirkwood [kirwoodj@michigan.gov](mailto:kirwoodj@michigan.gov)

Front



Front



Back



Front



## Certified Natural Shoreline Professional (CNSP) Update

Jane Herbert, Michigan State University Extension

### Save the date! Shoreline & Shallows Conference returning to MSU in 2015.

The MNSP's every popular Shoreline & Shallows Conference is returning to ANR Week next March 11 at the Kellogg Center on MSU campus. CNSP Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be available for attending technical sessions. Be sure to mark your calendars and then watch the [MNSP events page](#) and this newsletter for further details.

### Jordan River bank restoration provides hands-on field experience for fourteen CNSPs.

The August 22, 2014 bank restoration project was deemed a success by Antrim County Soil Erosion Inspector, Heidi Shaffer who told participants she "Couldn't be happier!" with the outcome of their efforts. The site, located near Bellaire on a DTE pipeline crossing, had been a favorite stopping off place for Jordan River paddlers over the years. Foot traffic had trampled vegetation causing bank erosion and recession leading to ongoing delivery of sediment to the river. A soil lift solution was designed by Jennifer Gelb, Restoration Ecologist with Tip of Mitt Watershed Council. Using BioD-Block prefabricated soil lift technology on a rock base, fourteen CNSPs (instructed by Gelb and Herbert) worked together to rebuild the bank. The project was then "armored" with downed wood from the nearby forest and planted with thorny native shrubs to discourage paddlers. A new designated pull out, armored with geo-cell turf reinforcement mat, will be constructed nearby to accommodate paddlers.



### Inquiring minds want to know!

**New "quick reads" on lake and shoreline management posted continually on MSUE website.**

CNSPs looking to broaden their knowledge and understanding of lake and shoreline management issues are encouraged to access the MSU Extension website and click on [Natural Resources](#) at the top right. Quick reads (300-500 words) on such topics as natural shorelines, aquatic plant management, harmful algal blooms and aquatic invasive species are posted by MSUE experts every month – most with links to additional information. For easy access, sign up for topical MSUE News Digests that will give you the heads up every time a new article of interest is posted!

## MNSP Shoreline Educator Training Returns to MACD Fall Convention

[Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership's](#) (MNSP) "Shoreline Educator Training" is returning to the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts' Fall Convention. This is a one day training for individuals interested in becoming a part of the "Shoreline Educator Network (SEN)". The SEN is a statewide network, established in 2011, of natural resource professionals equipped with the tools to conduct inland lake natural shoreline programs for property owners. If you are a natural resource organization representative, member of a waterfront property owners' association, local government official, or a watershed resident interested in motivating your community to learn more – and do more - about protecting your lake and local water quality, then this workshop is perfect for you! During this workshop you will learn about how and why it is important to protect inland lakes with natural shoreline landscaping and erosion.

You will receive the MNSP *"Natural Shoreline Landscapes on Michigan's Inland Lakes: Guidebook for Property Owners"*, be provided access to an educational tool kit specifically for shoreline workshops and events for homeowners and have the opportunity to be listed on the MNSP website as a Shoreline Educator.

- **Day / Date: Monday, October 27th, 2014**
- **Location: Shanty Creek Resort – Bellaire**
- **Time: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (registration begins at 9:00 AM)**
- **Cost: Early bird registration is \$65.00 and regular registration is \$75.00**
- **Registration is through the MACD Conference Registration. [www.macd.org](http://www.macd.org)**

## Common Arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia*): A Multi-Faceted Contributor to Freshwater Ecosystem Health



Photo: S. Brown

Commonly found emerging in abundance from the shallows at the waters edge of Upper Midwest inland lakes, ponds, streams and marshes, native Common Arrowhead (Scientific Name: *Sagittaria latifolia*) makes several important contributions in fostering and sustaining healthy aquatic ecosystems. Capable of surviving even the harshest of winters, Common Arrowhead produces tubers and rhizomes that serve as an important food source for wildlife including ducks, geese and an array of bird species as well as muskrats and beavers. Luxuriant beds of the species growing from a variety of sediment types also contribute

critical habitat for juvenile fish and helps protect shorelines from the erosive affects of wave action. Moreover, Common Arrowhead acts as a nutrient sink, effectively removing phosphorus from the sediments that might otherwise be available for the growth of nuisance and/or invasive algae or plant species.

Reference: Borman, S., Korth, R., & Temte, J. (1997). Through the Looking Glass: A Field Guide to Aquatic Plants. Stephens Point, WI: Wisconsin Lakes Partnership

## Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership

Promoting natural shoreline landscaping to protect Michigan's inland lakes

[www.mishorelinepartnership.org](http://www.mishorelinepartnership.org)

[www.facebook.com/MNSP1](https://www.facebook.com/MNSP1)

### Principal Contacts



**Julia Kirkwood**  
**MNSP Chair**  
 Department of Environmental Quality  
 Water Resources Division  
 Non-Point Source Program  
 269-567-3583  
 7953 Adobe Rd  
 Kalamazoo 49009  
 kirkwoodj@michigan.gov

**Jane Herbert**  
**MNSP Vice-Chair**  
 Kalamazoo County  
 MSU Extension Office  
 P.O. Box 42  
 Nazareth, MI 49074-0042  
 269-383-8852  
 jherbert@anr.msu.edu

