



Hot Topics

Protecting your water

Melissa DeSimone

MLSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



MLSA Statewide Membership

219

Association and
Nonprofit Members

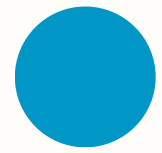
939

Individual Members

28

Corporate Members

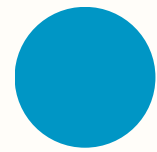
What we do



Riparian and Association Assistance and Education

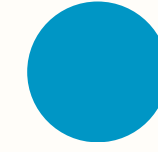
Support for associations with organization, lake management, and educational initiatives.

Monthly newsletter for all.



Advocacy for water friendly policy and riparian rights

Follow policy at the state and federal level to support water protection.



Coalitions, Partnerships, Advocacy

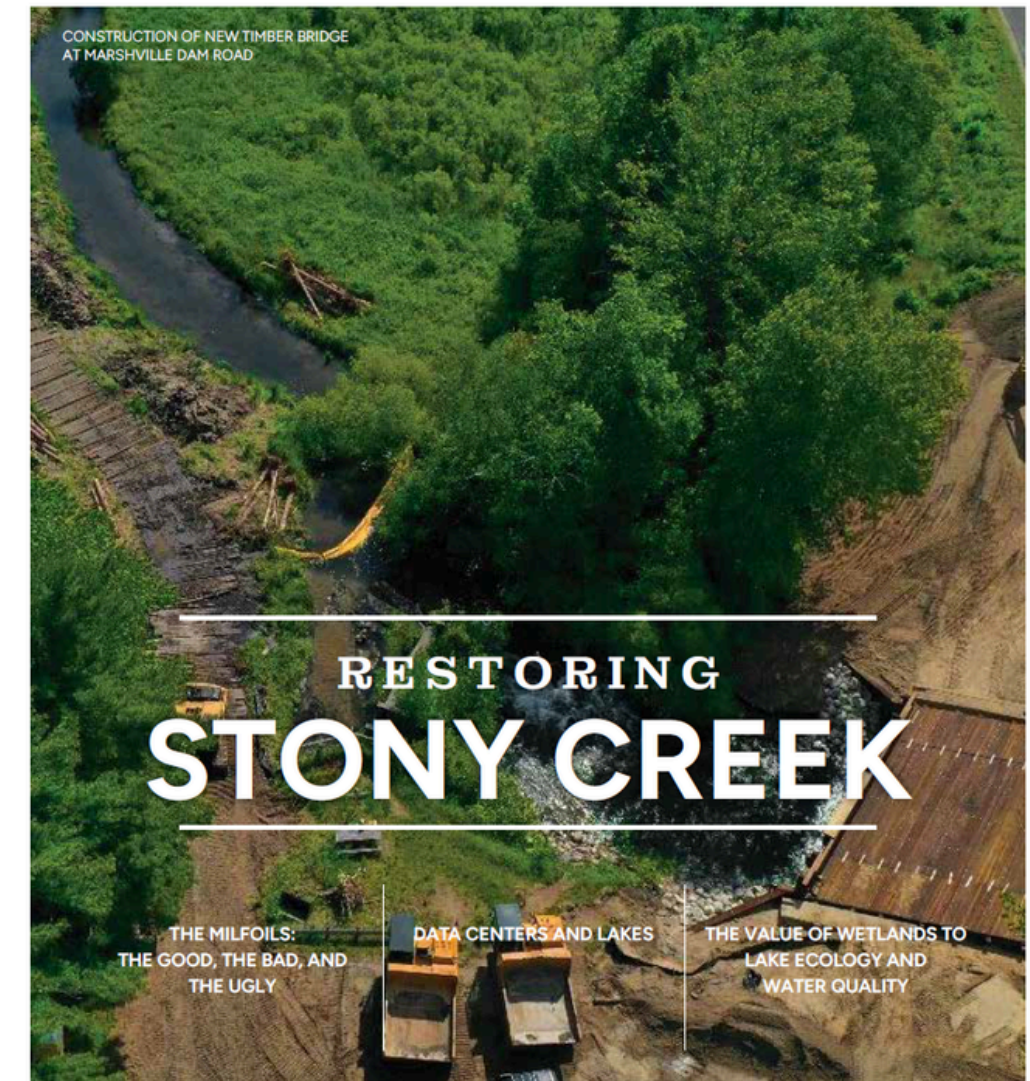
Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership
Michigan Clean Water Corps
Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership
Michigan Environmental Council
National Partners - Wake Boat Concerns
MORE!

The Michigan Riparian

Quarterly magazine available to members of MLSA.

- Lake and Stream article features.
- Attorney articles about current riparian issues.
- Science-based informative articles about lake management.
- Timely topics for water protection.

THE MICHIGAN
RIPARIAN
SPRING 2026 | VOLUME 62 | NUMBER 2



Annual Conference

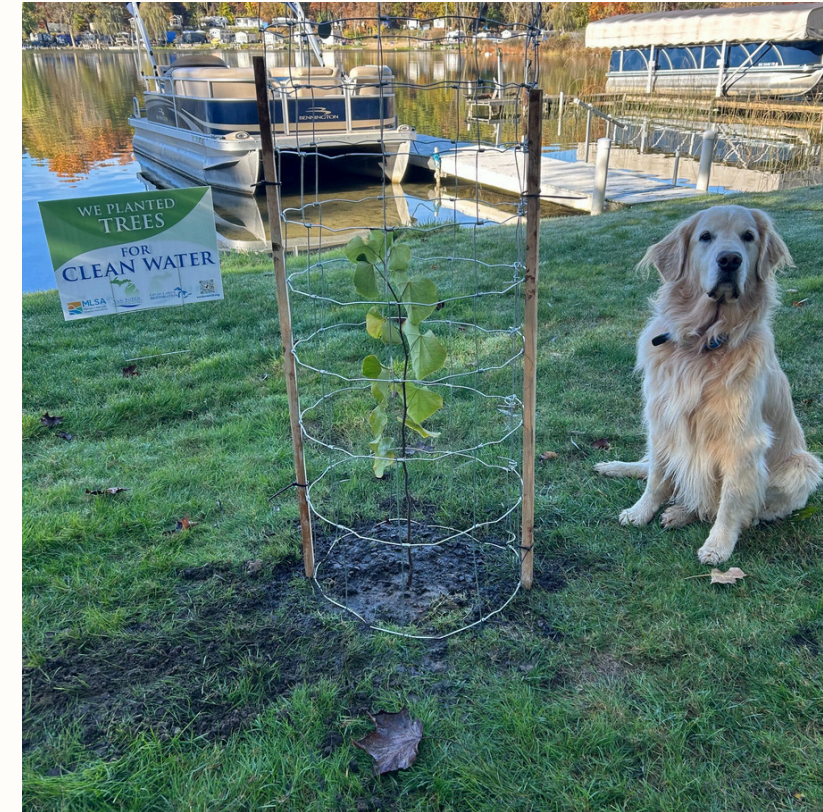
- Two days of lake and stream topics
- Networking with fellow riparians and experts
- MiCorps CLMP in-person training



What you can do for your water

At Home

- The shoreline is the frontline - the closer to the water to larger the impact
- Strike a balance between human usage and natural habitat
- Let's change fashions: Native not Turf
- Reduce run-off



Local Issues

STAY INVOLVED



Lake Association

Support your local association, volunteer, ask questions about water quality, and do your part to improve water quality

Township

Go to township meetings, get to know your township board, go to planning commission meetings, bring issues and ideas for ordinances to the township and planning commission

EGLE

Check the MiEnviro Portal regularly, look up permits for projects happening near water, and REPORT anything you think could be a violation

Algae Blooms

Mostly Harmless

- Caused by rain events and temperature changes
- [Learn more from EGLE](#)

Prevention?

See slide "At Home"

Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) pictured

- Naturally occurring but hazardous
- [Report possible HABs](#)



Aquatic Invasive Species

Hydrilla (top)

- Battle in Southwest Michigan

New to the list as of June 19:

- Water Hyacinth (left)
- Water Lettuce (right)



State and Federal Policy

- Who is your Representative and Senator for Michigan?
- Call, email, write letters about issues important to you - constituents matter to elected officials!
- Call, email, write letters to your US Senators and Representative - constituent stories matter!
- Federal policy does affect Michigan

Big Ideas for Water Protection

Michigan Water Trust Fund Act



MICHIGAN GREEN AMENDMENT



Advancing in
Michigan

**GREEN AMENDMENTS
FOR THE GENERATIONS**
Pure Water. Clean Air. Healthy Environment.

Enhanced Wakes

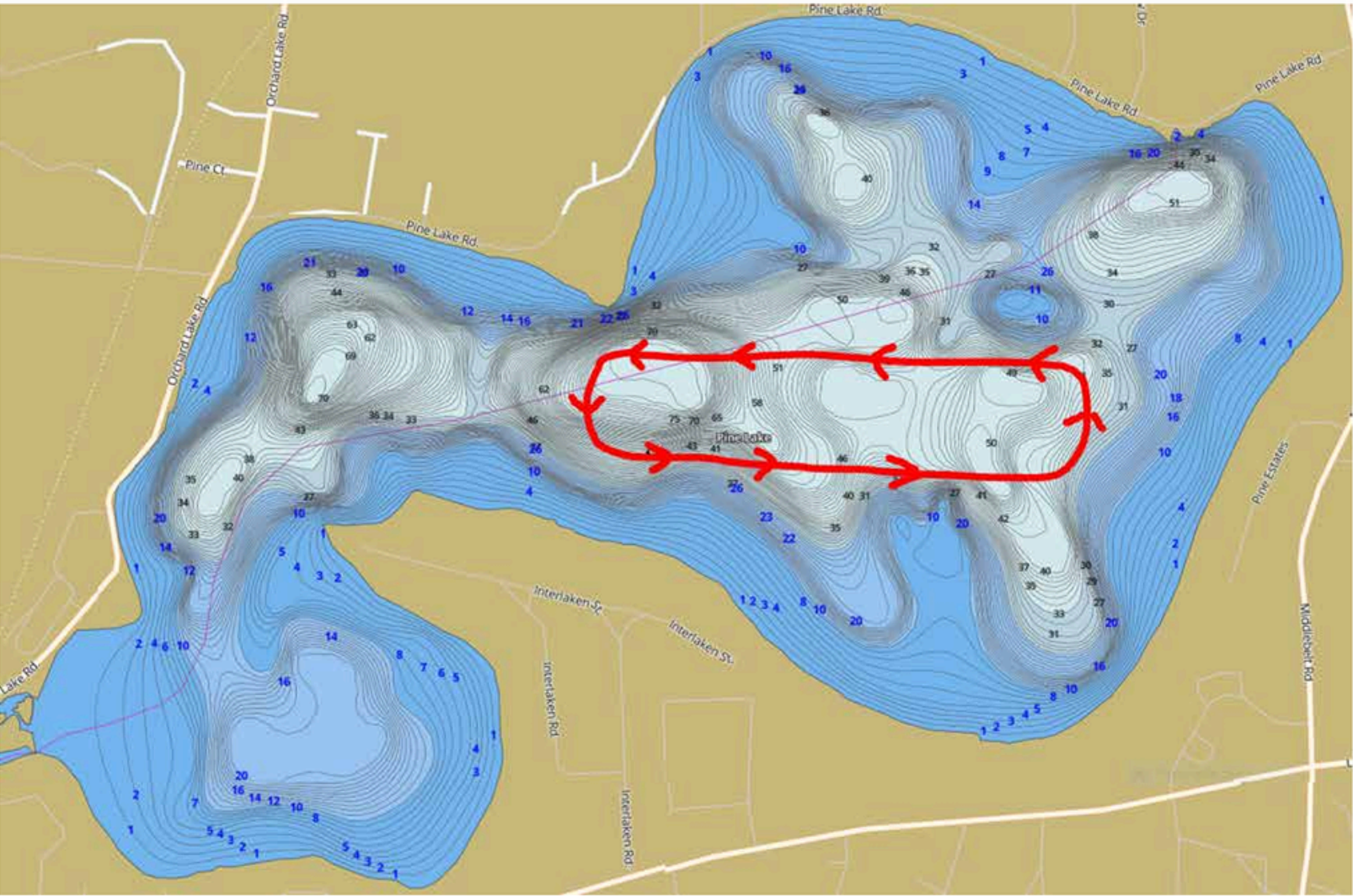
Michigan Senate Bill 812 - introduced in February 2026
by Senator Rosemary Bayer, District 13

(10) An individual shall not operate a vessel in wake sport mode on waters of this state where the water depth is less than 20 feet. An individual who operates a vessel in wake sport mode shall maintain a distance of not less than 500 feet from the shoreline or a dock, a raft, a buoyed or occupied bathing area, or a vessel moored or at anchor.



Other Options for Wakes

Pine Lake (below) and Walloon Lake (right) - local action examples.



24 THE MICHIGAN RIPARIAN // FALL 2022

WALLOON LAKE ASSOCIATION AND CONSERVANCY **MAKE WAVES WISELY**

- Recommended for Wake Sports
- NOT recommended for Wake Sports

KEEP WAKE
20+ ft. deep
500+ ft. from shore

A map of Walloon Lake, Michigan, showing the lake's irregular shape. Dark blue areas indicate regions recommended for wake sports, while light blue areas are not recommended. The recommended areas are primarily in the deeper, central parts of the lake, away from the shore.

We are privileged to enjoy the waterways of Michigan and have a great responsibility to protect those waters for future generations.

Thank you!

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