



West Michigan Watershed Partners (WMWP)

November 20, 2025

Meeting Notes

Attendance: Garry McKeen, Dani McGarry, JoAnn Barrett, Ray Schinler, Meredith Freeby, Grayson Kosak, Chris Bobryk, Sara Kane-Smart, Glen Myers, Jack Epstein, Tonya Lewandowski, Rich Pugsley, Emma Waatti, Kathy Evans, and Fallon Chabala

1. WMSRDC/NFWF Resilience Planning for Drown River Mouth Systems

- See attached ppt presentation from ECT

2. Watershed Updates

- White: White Lake had smart buoy in most of the summer, received EGLE funds to add additional sensors next year. White River complete update of the website for WRWC (whiteriverwp.org), next year they will have nine sites of temperature logging, continue monitoring macroinvertebrates, collected algae at ten sites for Ditymo.
- Little Flower Creek: Muskegon CD submitted a proposal for watershed management planning and culvert replacement work.
- Stony: Marshville project is finished and hosted a ribbon cutting in August. Planning a disabled veterans fishing tournament next year.
- Pentwater: Looking for ways to repair Big Sandy Bend, E.coli study in Village Creek was completed in the summer, planning to study E.coli survey in North Branch next summer, water quality testing was done by EGLE in Pentwater this summer, putting in a watershed council funding proposal for watershed awareness days and other educational/outreach efforts.
- Mona Lake/Black: Muskegon CD is working on the Mona Lake Watershed Management Plan (not sure if that is complete yet). WMSRDC is working with local partners on additional help in Little Black Creek from EGLE.
- Muskegon: Muskegon Lake put in proposal for watershed management plan, the lake has been delisted as an AOC, working on project development for Grand Trunk and Verplank habitat improvements, both sites have public access components. Muskegon River working on Maple River and Penoyer Creek projects, finished the lower watershed management plan, developing projects for non-point source issues in Brooks Creek and Minnie Creek, and building citizen science programs.
- Duck: Trails at Duck Creek natural areas are finished, started a foundation for managing trails, will be working on management of invasive species with Muskegon CD.
- Pere Marquette: Timber bridge to replace a culvert over N Cole Creek is complete, volunteer plantings at Indian Trail Rd and Rainbow Rapids, a reach of Little South Branch received woody habitat installations, planning more habitat work next summer, Baldwin Dam meeting coming soon regarding sea lamprey barrier, fund raising continuing. High bank area of erosion downstream of Green Cottage.

- Manistee: Ground truthing of sites impacted by EAB, working on road crossing replacements on Maple Creek and a trib to the N Branch, finalizing designs on four other crossings (Fife Lake, Adams Creek, Anderson Creek), and removed a culvert and restored 400 feet of wetland on Anderson Creek. Lake-Mason CD is working with Forest Service on inland HWA survey work and summer treatments. Ranked eroding stream banks using EPA model, application to 319 funding for streambank work was not funded, LMWCC adopted a three year strategic plan, migrated the website, updated a database on property owners, invertebrate sampling at six sites, water quality testing showed E.coli in high levels, identified 10 sites for temperature profiling, received funding from community foundation for temperature logging hardware and software, electrofishing project at three road stream crossings, developed a proposal for a TU summer intern, and proposal for MI DNR fish habitat grant submitted.
 - Lincoln: Submitted a watershed management planning proposal and planning on water quality sampling next spring.
3. Other:
- EGLE watershed council support grants out right now - \$40,000 proposals due December 10th
 - Michigan Conservation Stewards Program is an eight week program now out of Oceana County
4. Next Meeting Dates:
- January 15, 2026
 - April 16, 2026
 - July 16, 2026
 - October 15, 2026