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MICHIGAN SEA GRANT EXTENSION

Michigan Sea Grant College Program



Extension Bulletin E-1871 Cooperative Extension Service Michigan State University

WHOM IT SERVES

Michigan Sea Grant Extension programs are open to all who are interested in Great Lakes resources. Sea Grant education and training has assisted:

- charterboat captains
- commercial fishery personnel
- marina operators (public and private) and marine dealers
- professional resource managers
- shoreline property owners
- shipping industry employees
- 4-H and youth groups
- local and regional planners and public officials
- tourism businesses
- citizen organizations
- recreational boaters
- divers and swimmers
- emergency medical technicians/hospital personnel
- homemakers
- anglers

HOW IT WORKS

Working with individuals and organizations, large and small businesses, industry and environmental groups, Michigan Sea Grant Extension seeks to identify needs of people who use Great Lakes resources. Sea Grant agents keep the public informed about water resources and help solve the problems of coastal and water resource users.

Sea Grant agents organize and lead educational and training meetings and conferences at local, regional and state levels for a variety of groups. Some groups may meet on campus; others in a more local or regional setting. Programs feature working professionals, campus specialists, legislators, or representatives from various agencies such as the Michigan Departments of Natural Resources, Agriculture, Public Health and Commerce, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Newsletters, news releases, publications, radio and television features, displays and audio/visual programs are additional ways Sea Grant Extension alerts people of Michigan to Great Lakes issues. Educational publications and newsletters, as well as individual computerized technical assistance, are developed by and are available from the Sea Grant agents (see map for locations and addresses/telephone numbers).

Sea Grant Extension is funded by the National Sea Grant College Program of the U.S. Department of Commerce, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Legislature of the State of Michigan.

PEOPLE IN MICHIGAN SEA GRANT EXTENSION

Michigan Sea Grant Extension relies heavily on the skills and expertise of many people, including:

- District Extension Sea Grant Agents who are located in five areas on the Michigan coast. They work directly with the various groups and individuals who use Great Lakes resources to help them obtain the most pertinent and reliable information available. Each has a master's degree in a natural resources related field. Some agents provide statewide leadership in working with special interest groups.
- A part-time 4-H Sea Grant Great Lakes agent who works with youth groups and their leaders, as well as public school educators, to develop an understanding and appreciation of the Great Lakes.
- A Program Leader based at MSU who assists agents in developing programs, administers

Michigan Sea Grant Extension, and coordinates with other Sea Grant programs in the Great Lakes.

- A Communication Specialist at MSU who assists in obtaining media coverage and in creating both printed and audio/visual educational/informational materials.
- Research and Extension specialists at MSU, U of M and other Michigan universities. They have expertise in such areas as:
 - sport and commercial fisheries
 - cold water near-drowning, hypothermia, and diving safety
 - 4-H and youth education
 - shoreline erosion and coastal flooding
 - toxic substances
 - Great Lakes resource policy
 - recreation and tourism marketing
- Communications Managers at U of M who provide publications, distribution support and displays for the field staff and liaison with the National Sea Grant Office.
- Administrators at MSU and U of M who lead and develop support for all Michigan Sea Grant College Program work.



PROGRAMS OF MICHIGAN SEA GRANT EXTENSION



RECREATIONAL BOATING is a billion dollar business in Michigan. Sea Grant Extension works with marine dealers, marina owners and employees, the Michigan Boating Industry Association and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to keep them informed of important developments and to examine problems affecting the boating business.



PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAMS inform local citizens about ways to become involved in decisions affecting water and other natural resources including lake levels, water quality, public access and others. These programs also help facilitate discussion about Great Lakes issues among policy-makers.



CHARTERBOAT CAPTAINS are part of a rapidly expanding tourist industry. Workshops, a bimonthly newsletter, and technical assistance help them understand the conditions which affect their business, develop management skills and learn about recent developments in fishery management. Michigan Sea Grant Extension helps Michigan citizens put Great Lakes knowledge to work. Contact the nearest Sea Grant Extension agent (on the list above) to find out more about the programs listed below or to ask your Great Lakes question.



BOTTOMLAND PRESERVES protect submerged shipwrecks and geological formations in designated areas of Michigan waters of the Great Lakes. Sea Grant agents assist local communities in designating and managing the preserves and in gaining economic benefits from the thousands of sport divers and other tourists who visit them.



WATER SAFETY is vital in Michigan, where the Great Lakes and many inland lakes and streams offer attractive recreational opportunities. Michigan Sea Grant Extension uses cold water neardrowning, hypothermia and dive accident management research information to help train emergency medical technicians/hospital personnel, recreational boaters and divers, commercial and sport fishers and the general public in preventing and treating water accidents.



COASTAL WATERFRONT AND TOURISM

DEVELOPMENT is important to many Michigan communities that need to capitalize on their unique assets and diversify their economies. Sea Grant Extension offers technical assistance and information about fishing, boating and other Great Lakes matters to local public officials and businesses as they make crucial decisions for their future.



COMMERCIAL FISHING in Michigan is in a critical transition as some state-licensed operations are being phased out and the Native American fishery expands. Sea Grant Extension provides the latest in fishery, fish handling, business management and marketing information to fishery personnel and fish processors through workshops, individual consultations and a quarterly newsletter. Agents also promote greater public awareness and understanding of the industry.



HIGH LAKE LEVELS, SHORELINE EROSION AND COASTAL FLOODING are facts of life for many Great Lakes coastal residents. Sea Grant Extension provides accurate timely information and technical assistance to shoreline property owners and communities to help them deal with their situation.



Great Lakes curricula

GREAT LAKES 4-H AND YOUTH PROGRAMS help young people learn more about "the lakes that sustain us" and explore options for their future either in Great Lakes-related careers or as concerned citizens. Sea Grant Extension supports 4-H camping and leader training sessions on Beaver Island in Lake Michigan. A part-time 4-H Great Lakes Sea Grant agent assists in camp programming, as well as facilitating use of Great Lakes information in ongoing 4-H groups. This person also works with public schools to develop

DISTRICT EXTENSION SEA GRANT AGENTS

UPPER PENINSULA

U.P. Extension Center 1030 Wright Street Marquette, MI 49855 (906) 228-4830

NORTHWEST MICHIGAN

Governmental Center 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, MI 49684 (616) 922-4620

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

Cooperative Extension Service County Building, 11th Floor Mount Clemens, MI 48043 (313) 469-5180

NORTHEAST MICHIGAN

Cooperative Extension Service P.O. Box 599 Tawas City, MI 48764 (517) 362-3449

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN & 4-H/YOUTH

County Extension Office, Rm. 101 Ottawa County Building Grand Haven, MI 49417 (616) 846-8250

HEADQUARTERS

SEA GRANT EXTENSION

334 Natural Resources Building Michigan State University East Lansing, MI 48824 (517) 353-9568

MICHIGAN SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

2200 Bonisteel Boulevard The University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI 48109 (313) 763-1437

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