

Huron River Chain of Lakes Update

March 13, 2019

New Washtenaw County Contact: Here at Washtenaw County we have a new team player working on the Chain of Lakes projects. Lauren Koloski (koloskil@washtenaw.org) is overseeing the project and is very excited to work with everyone. Please feel free to reach out if you have questions. One of her top priorities is frequent communication with MDEQ and the PBWOA. She is scheduling follow up conversations to ensure we are all informed on permit approval process and anticipated timelines, application restrictions, and processes for the year.

Looking Back: The restrictions associated with the mussels' elevated status coincided with the permit review process last year, holding up the permit approvals for the Chain of Lakes, Wolverine Country Club Pond in Macomb County, Shamrock Lake in Claire County, and others.

MDEQ Updates: We had an informative phone call with the MDEQ to see how the outlook for the permit approval process is looking this year and what are the limited modifications needed for the Snuffbox Mussels. The MDEQ has two meetings coming up with both the Department of Natural Resources and the Fish and Wildlife Service. The MDEQ anticipates a report in the very near future from the Water Toxic Unit detailing application restrictions. Once reports have been received and the meetings have occurred, the MDEQ will proceed with the permitting process.

Looking Ahead: The MDEQ told us they have been streamlining the process and that we should not expect the delays we saw last year. All nine permit applications have been received by the MDEQ and we expect to have responses back regarding the permit status by April 15, 2019. We expect to have all 2018 annual reports from Dr. Pullman by April 15, 2019 and will post when received.

PFAS: The "Do Not Eat" advisory on the Huron River starts when N. Wixom Road crosses in Oakland County and extends downstream to the mouth of the Huron River as it enters Lake Erie in Wayne County. For a full list of water-bodies please visit

<https://www.washtenaw.org/AlertCenter.aspx?AID=136>