

Dear Partners,

Please see below for a summary of topics and points discussed during the partner meeting which was held on August 31st, 2020. Please forgive any errors (grammar/spelling or otherwise) or omissions.

Sincerely,

Shikha

Summary for the August 31st , 2020 Partner Meeting

Twelve people total plus the coordinator attended the meeting. We discussed past and upcoming events (to be listed below), If attendees wish to have their related events circulated, they are to email me, and I can advertise/send reminders via Facebook and/or email.

Katie (River Raisin Watershed Council): have a series of short YouTube videos that touch upon a variety of environmental topics, including invasive species and plant identification in preserves. Thus far they have received positive feedback on them! Recent video includes one on frog bit.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UctNOUYxxW6Sn6o6K0m2G73w/videos>

Melissa (Michigan Lakes and Streams): Acknowledgement of JLW CISMA attending MLSA meeting, brought awareness about the CISMAs). Other partnerships include North Country CISMA wrote about their experiences/projects in their magazine (first sent to members, then available online later). They also partner with MSU extension, MiCorps, Michigan Natural Shoreline Protection etc. In addition to having informative seminars posted online, they will be hosting a virtual "Michigan Inland Lakes Convention". Please visit this link for more information: <https://mymlsa.org/> and their YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLORU88QSI7X4bHvHMnf1vTr18Na6jX9O6>

Alice (Legacy Land Conservancy): Reported on the second year of stiltgrass management. More less the same work as last year. Thus far, 132 properties have been surveyed and, 48 properties treated by hired contractors (Drew L). Saw improvement from last year (80% of sites saw a decrease?). Mentioned how pre-emergent was also used in some cases (herbicide that kills seeds in the ground, not what has sprouted), and is effective for stiltgrass. Most of the activity on this is happening in the Scio township region.

Catie (Washtenaw Water Resources): Talked about the free online rain garden class which is popular (<https://www.washtenaw.org/2456/Online-Certification>), and saw increases in users. Have done some one on one consultations (remotely). Gardens being managed with contractors. Washtenaw Co. District fall sale plant sale (https://www.washtenawcd.org/store/c1/Featured_Products.html). Megan (Washtenaw Conservation District) mentioned a good increase in participants.

Things to keep in mind:

- Sybil mentioned contacting "Southwest Washtenaw Council of Governments"- includes Bridgewater, Manchester etc. I think the next meeting is December 2nd ..., hopefully we can get

the agenda and make a case for partnership. I checked the website, but it seems to have a broken link (<http://www.swwcog.org/>)

- Is anyone interested in helping brainstorm ideas for fundraising?
- Katie mentioned treating knotweed in Adrian (hiring plantwise), found a new patch in Tecumseh
- Bob: Next Dahlem workday scheduled for Oct 3rd, but not sure of the status of this. Don't know if work will be invasive species related.
- Sybil: Grand Raisin Conservation Community working with TSN (Sybil and Spencer Kellum) on a US Forest landscape grant which requires a 50-50 match. Focused on landscape restoration in the Upper River Raisin and Upper Grand watershed area. Still working on it, aspects of interest to this group includes native plants and fighting invasive species.
- Logging on to the conference call was easy, maybe will do zoom the next time around

- Upcoming event from River Raisin:

Adopt-A-Stream: Stream Search (*note from JLW CISMA: might be a good opportunity to look for invasive species!*)

Last week of September

Across Watershed

Are you interested in getting in the river to collect macroinvertebrates (AKA bugs living in the river)? Do you want to contribute to a long-term study related to river health? You're invited to be a part of the Adopt-A-Stream: Stream Search, where small groups of people will visit different sites across the river and watershed to collect bugs that can tell us how healthy the river is. We are doing things differently this year due to COVID-19 and will be keeping safety at the forefront. If you're interested in participating, please fill out the following form so we can arrange where you'll be going in the watershed and your preferred dates/times. Each person interested must fill out the form. [Find the form by clicking here.](#)