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NEWAYGO COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION

NCEC NEWS

The Environmental Resource Hub for Newaygo County



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Supporting the beauty and sustainability of the Newaygo County environment through Information, Education, and Advocacy®.

NCEC Events



Growing Together: A Homegrown Garden Gathering
Saturday, April 5th
1 - 4 pm
True North
6308 S Warner Ave
Fremont, MI 49412

Seed swap, learn about home composting, microgreens, and more! **Register by 4/2.** Free.

Click to Register



Native Plant Oasis Workshop
Saturday, April 12th
10 am - 12 pm
437 Quarterline St
Newaygo, MI 49337

Learn how to start your own native plant garden on a budget! **Registration required.**

Click to Register



Vernal Pool Monitoring
Saturday, April 19th
12 - 4 pm
Kropscott Farm Environmental Center
6523 W Baseline Rd,
Fremont, MI 49412

Help collect important environmental data!

Click to Register



Dive Into Vernal Pools
Saturday April 26th
10am-12pm
2203 E 14 Mile Rd,
Bitely, MI 49309

A family friendly, hands on learning experience!

Click to Register



Saturday, April 26th
2-5 pm
Brooks Park
28 N. State Rd.
Newaygo, MI

Fun for the whole family! Learn how you can support conservation in your own backyard! Drop-in Event

Whose Earth is it Anyways?

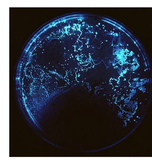
Written by Karis Wojakowski-Bird

If you've ever been on an airplane at night and seen a lit-up city from the sky, perhaps you've also been enraptured by the way that our human-built landscape seems to take on a new character when viewed from above. Once, when flying out of Ft. Myers, Florida, I was particularly struck by this cartographic of radiant lines etched into the darkness.

Since the city is built right on the coast, the light grid is forced to contort itself around the dark, amoebic shapes of lakes and mangroves and along the winding, meandering curve of the coastline. In some places, it seemed as though civilization were floating upon the amorphous dark mass of the ocean and inland tidal flats. Looking out the airplane window, I couldn't help but being put in mind of other ways that life organizes itself: the outward creep of microbial growth from an epicenter, or the sprawling dendrites of a neural network.



The earth from space. *Photo credit:* Telegraph.co.uk



Bioluminescent bacteria in a petric dish. *Photo credit:* Blogs.ubc.ca

As humans, it makes sense that we often think of the Earth from our own point of view. We imagine it as a place with trees and meadows and houses and highways. We think of cities as places for people, roads as ways to get from one place to another. But this is only our experience, and there are about a billion others. Think about a bird soaring over the same city. It doesn't see streets and buildings in the same way we do; it sees a landscape of food sources, nesting sites, and safe places to rest. For the bird, a tree is not a large ornament growing up from the ground, but a 3D maze of spaces between branches.

And what about the mycorrhizal fungus that lives beneath that tree's roots? Maybe to that fungus, the world can be described as a collection of chemical signatures. Each creature has its own "map" of the world, a unique way of understanding its surroundings. And each and every perspective is just as real as another.

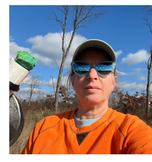
Keep reading



Conservation Stewards In Action

Marie Wilson completed the MSU Conservation Stewards Program in the fall of 2024. This program, offered in Newaygo County teaches participants about Michigan's unique natural community types, the pressures they face from development and invasive species, and empowers participants to take a more active role in the critical conservation of remaining, in-tact ecosystems.

Please join Marie Wilson for a volunteer workday as she continues work on her Capstone Project at the Land Conservancy of West Michigan's McDuffee Creek Nature Preserve in Bitely. Marie will be running workdays **every Thursday in May from 10AM to 1PM**. Volunteers will work on cutting and treating invasive Autumn Olive and Scotch Pine. Interested volunteers should email Marie at Marie.Wilm=c-ec.com. Details for each workday will be distributed as needed.



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Environmental Ally Events



Karner Blue Sanctuary TLC Workday
Saturday, 4/5 10 am - 1 pm
approx address
2700 E 72nd St, Newaygo, MI 49337

Click to Register



Prescribed Burn at Saul Lake Bog Nature Preserve
Saturday, 4/22 11 am - 1:30 pm
10471 6 Mile Rd, Rockford, MI 49341

Click to Register

Reduce Your Environmental Impact





What's Your Passion?

NCEC is fueled by the talents and passions of our members. Under the umbrellas of our main focus areas- youth engagement, enjoying nature, reducing our environmental impacts, and conserving habitats- there are so many opportunities to connect with others. To join or learn more, click any of the icons below or visit the NCEC teams page.



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What Else Can I Do?

This is our home. Help us protect our shared environment.

1. Share our website, posts, E-news with Newaygo Community members and Organizations.

2. Join a Team! about invasive species, native landscapes, and restoration opportunities.

3. Get involved with Environmental Advocacy.

4. Bring your skills and knowledge to NCEC.

5. Donate!

Contact NCEC

Environmental Allies are people, organizations, and departments who are actively doing the work of environmental education, promotion, protection, and recreation in the Newaygo County region.

Your organization can join the list of Environmental Allies by clicking here: Environmental Ally Application.

NCEC will promote your organization, events, activities and volunteer needs!
Click the button below to submit your event.

Ally Event Form

Your Support Makes A Difference

NCEC is a small but mighty 501c3 non-profit organization! We depend on your tax deductible donations to continue our work, and to help us grow with our Newaygo County Environment needs.

Donate

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