Edition #10 March 2024

NEWAYGO COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION

NCEC NEWS

The Environmental Resource Hub for Newaygo County

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

ALL THE BUZZ WITH NCEC!

Links to all the essential NCEC Happenings.

Click for NCEC Special Events Info

- Saturday, March 9th, 2024, 10am-3pm Prescribed Burn Training
- Newaygo County Area Vernal Pool Patrol Field Trainings:
  - Tues., April 9th, 2024, 4pm-6pm
  - Saturday, April 20th, 2024, 10am-3pm
  - Sat., April 27th, 1pm-3pm
- NCEC Vernal Pool Patrol Presentations

Click for NCEC Special Events Info

Volunteer With NCEC

CALLING ALL NEWAYGO AREA FARMERS
NCEC

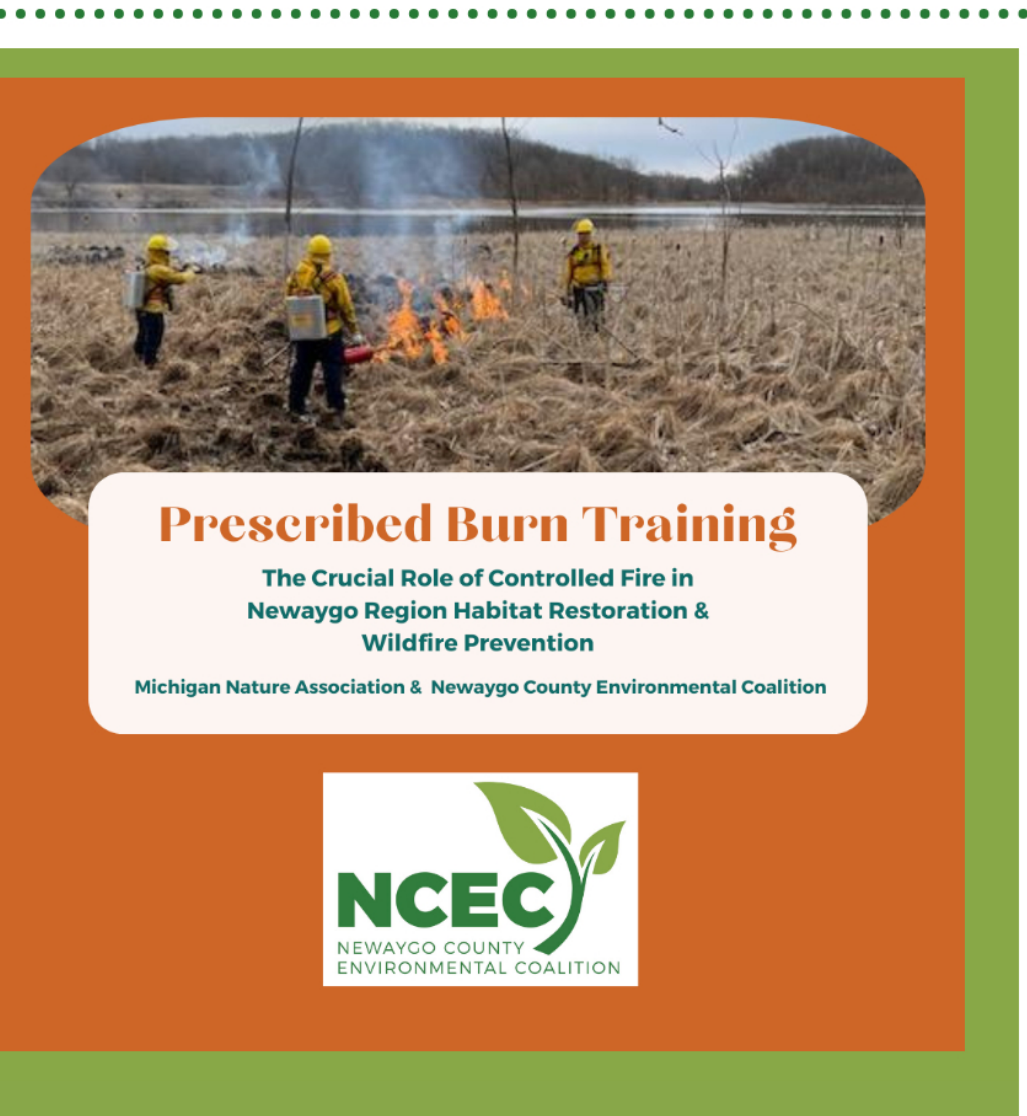
Small Scale Farmers, Growers, Gardeners, and Animal Producers Unite!

Are you a small-scale farmer, grower, gardener or producer?
NCEC would like to know how to support you!
Please fill out this short survey:
Small Scale Farmers, Growers, Gardeners & Producers Unite! Survey:

Click to Fill Out Survey

NCEC has heard from several small-scale producers that a Resource Network Collaboration is needed in the Newaygo Region.

What would a Resource Network Collaboration do?
That is for YOU to tell US!
Let's start a conversation!


Prescribed Burn Training

The Crucial Role of Controlled Fire in Newaygo Region Habitat Restoration & Wildfire Prevention

Michigan Nature Association & Newaygo County Environmental Coalition

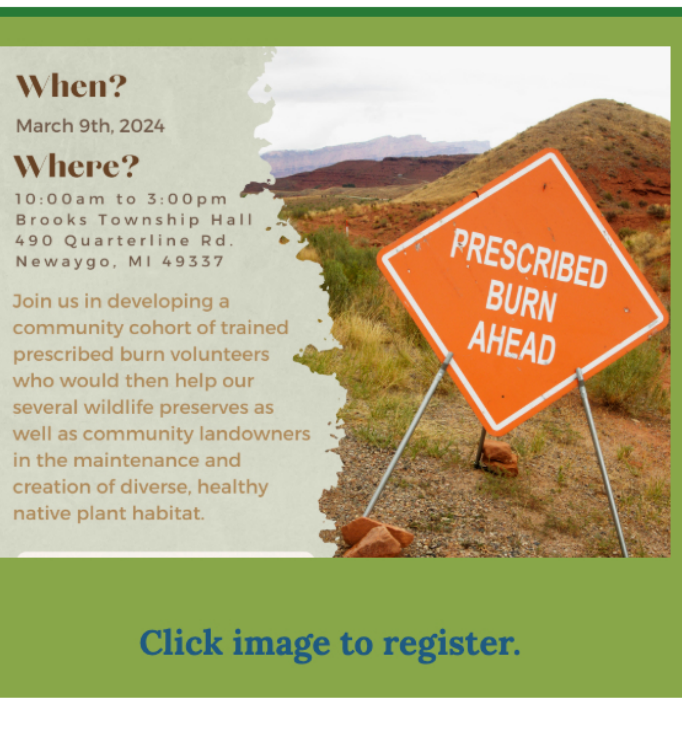
NCEC will co-host the first Prescribed Burn Training for the Newaygo County Region on Saturday, March 9th, 2024. Stuart Goldman, Conservation Coordinator of the Michigan Nature Association for Lower Western Michigan, will lead the program from 10am – 3pm at Brooks Township Hall, 490 Quarterline St, Newaygo, 49337.

A second training will be held outdoors in early spring at Big Bluestem Farm, a native plant nursery near Bitely, MI. A controlled burn demonstration is planned for this next phase of training.

Stuart Goldman manages the habitats and volunteers for the MNA's Karner Blue Nature Sanctuary, Newaygo Prairie Sanctuary, and Brooks Township's Coolbough Natural Areas, all in Newaygo County.

"This training is for private landowners who need controlled fire for habitats and wildfire prevention, and for native habitat stewards and volunteers," stated Stuart. "It will cover why controlled burns are needed to improve the health of native ecosystems and their species. We will stress the safety aspects of controlled burns, as well as when and how they should be used."

READ MORE ABOUT THIS EVENT>>>


When?
March 9th, 2024
Where?
10:00am to 3:00pm
Brooks Township Hall
490 Quarterline Rd.
Newaygo, MI 49337

Join us in developing a community cohort of trained prescribed burn volunteers who would then help our several wildlife preserves as well as community landowners in the maintenance and creation of diverse, healthy native plant habitat.
PRESCRIBED BURN AHEAD

Click image to register.

Honey, I Shrunk the Boat!

Boat Shrink Wrap Recycling Campaign – Spring 2024!

Have you noticed the hundreds and hundreds of shrink-wrapped boats in Newaygo County? Would you like to help us get that film recycled? If so - PLEASE LET US KNOW!

With the early warm weather upon us, boaters will be shedding their plastic boat wraps early.

So, let's get started NOW! Contact: sally.w@nc-ec.org, subject Boat Shrink Wrap Recycling

Together we will keep the Boat Shrink Wrap out of the landfill!

Thank you,
Sally Wagoner
NCEC Board Chair

Click to email Sally Wagoner

Environmental Ally Spotlight

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Michigan Nature Association
People. Land. Legacy.

Read More>>>

Under the visionary leadership of Bertha Daubendiek, what started seven decades ago as a small bird study group became a statewide land conservation organization. From that bold beginning, MNA members, donors, and volunteers built a remarkable statewide network of more than 180 nature sanctuaries across Michigan.

MNA is dedicated to permanently protecting land that provides critical habitat for rare, threatened and endangered species and natural communities.

MNA's Mission

The purpose of the Michigan Nature Association (MNA) is to acquire, protect, and maintain natural areas that contain examples of Michigan's endangered and threatened flora, fauna, and other components of the natural environment, including habitat for fish, wildlife, and plants of the state of Michigan and to carry on a program of natural history study and conservation education..

Restoring Land For The Endangered Karner Blue Butterfly In Newaygo County>>>

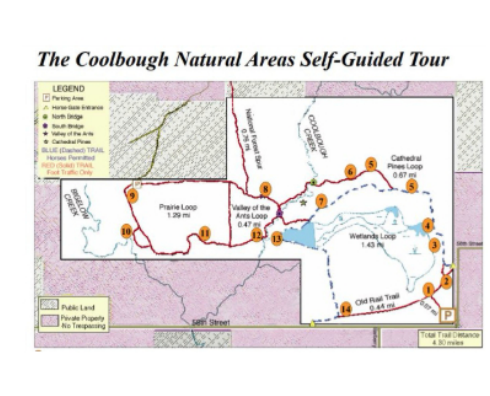
The Karner Blue Butterfly (KBB), one of Michigan's rarest species, is facing the threat of extinction. With its survival closely tied to the presence of wild lupine, a native wildflower, the butterfly requires specific habitats like dry-sand prairies and oak-barren ecosystems.

The Michigan Nature Association (MNA) has taken a significant step towards conserving this beautiful species by purchasing 40 acres of land for the Brooks Oak-Pine Barrens Nature Sanctuary located in Newaygo County, MI. This initiative is part of a KBB mitigation project aimed at restoring the butterfly's habitat and ensuring its long-term survival.

Come help give some loving care to our Newaygo County endangered Karner Blue Butterfly
Check out our TLC Work Days.
&

Volunteer For NCEC's TLC Days

MNA's Nature Area & Sanctuaries in Newaygo County

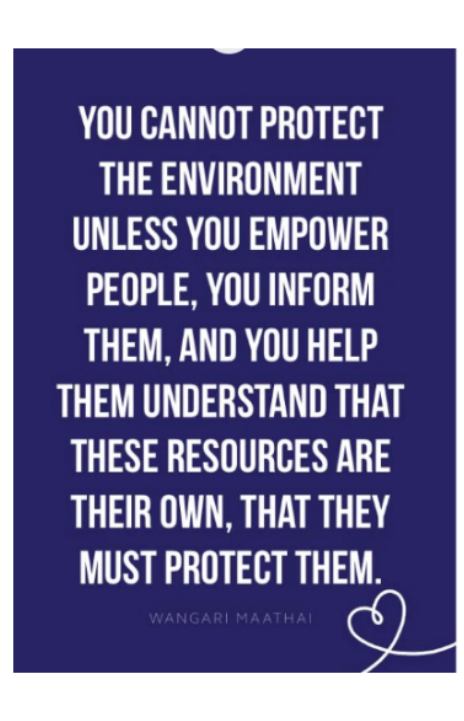


Coolbough Nature Areas: Coolbough has many options for hiking loops in its 400 acres: The Wetland Loop including the Old Rail trail (1.87 miles), Cathedral Pines Loop (.67 miles), Prairie Loop (1.29 miles) and Valley of the Ants (.47 miles) all have points of interest, unique plants, and different ecosystems. These trails can be mixed and matched depending on your interests and stamina. The trails also connect with the North Country Trail for those who want a longer hike than a couple of hours. Maps are posted, especially at intersections, to keep you on the correct trail and numbered markers to tell you about interesting details.

Karner Blue Nature Sanctuary: The Karner Blue Nature Sanctuary is home to more than 100 different plant and animal species. Red oak, white oak, and white pine are the dominant trees in the barrens. Stunning yellow prickly pear cactus blooms throughout the prairies, along with wild blue lupine, puccoon, and doited horsemint. This 95-acre sanctuary is made of a combination of sand prairie, oak-pine barrens, rich conifer swamp, tamarack swamp, northern fen, oak-pine barrens, and emergent wetlands.

Read More about Newaygo County Nature Areas, Preserves, & Sanctuaries

Newaygo Prairie Nature Sanctuary: This sanctuary is located at 5600-5998 S Poplar Ave, Newaygo, MI. It is a 110-acre prairie sanctuary that was purchased by the Michigan Nature Association in 1969. The sanctuary is composed of oak and pine barrens and is home to many high-quality natural features in need of protection.


YOU CANNOT PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT UNLESS YOU EMPOWER PEOPLE, YOU INFORM THEM, AND YOU HELP THEM UNDERSTAND THAT THESE RESOURCES ARE THEIR OWN, THAT THEY MUST PROTECT THEM.

WANGARI MAATHAI

Learn More about Newaygo County's Vernal Pool Patrol>>>

Happy vernal pool season! Today, March 1st, the Newaygo County Environmental Coalition is joining the Michigan Vernal Pools Partnership to celebrate the upcoming vernal pool season!

Watch "Ephemeral" on mivernalpools.com and dive deep into the world of vernal pools with the experts who know them best.

Inspired to be a part of Michigan's vernal pool conservation effort? The 2024 Vernal Pool Patrol training series starts next week, March 6th.

Click to learn more about this community science effort.

Newaygo County Environmental Events, Activities, Education, & Awareness

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Keep Informed & Get Involved

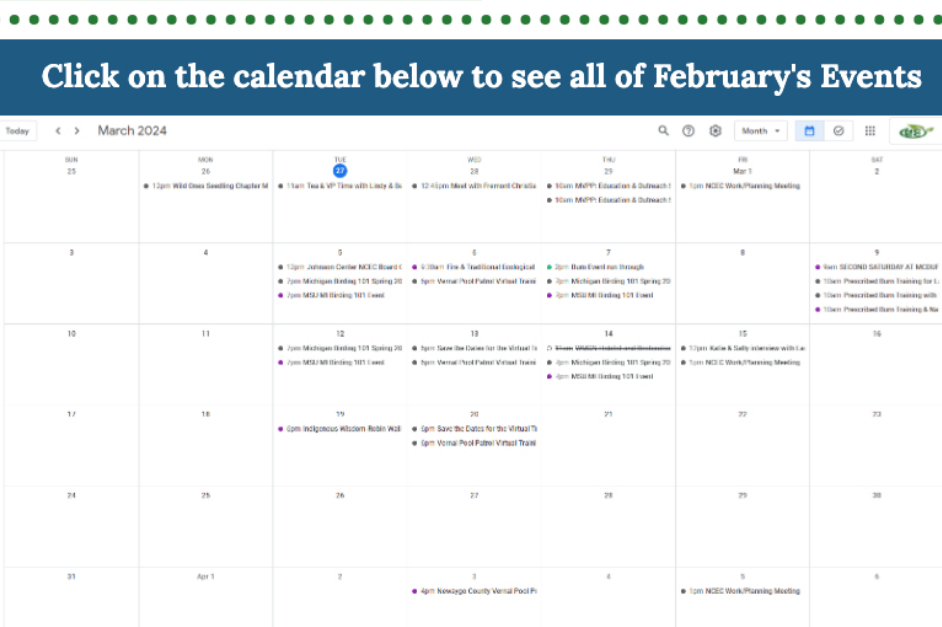
How Can We Get Our Environmental Event Amplified by NCEC?

We will gladly add your organization's environment-related activity to our Calendar, and promote it on our Social Media. Complete the below form to add an event to our calendar which we will also share on our social media.

Need volunteers for a special event? Let us know! We will inform our community through social media and E-news!

Fill out this Event Form via our website.

Click on the calendar below to see all of February's Events

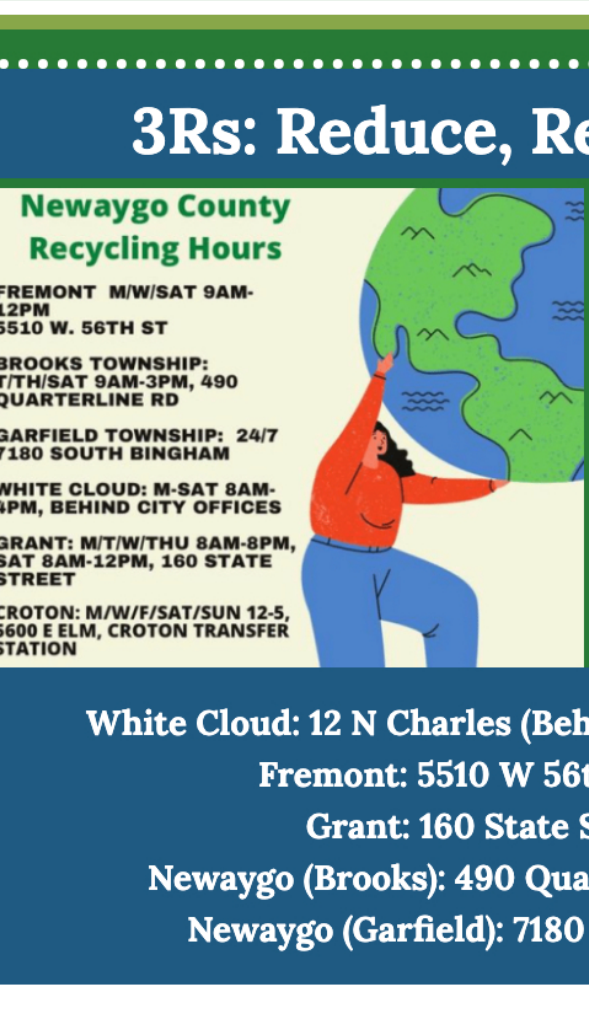


Click on the individual event to get more details.

If you know of events that deal with any of our 4 environmental focus areas, please, fill out the event form or email us the specifics at buzz@ne-ec.org

Click to Fill Out NCEC Event Form to Submit to our Calendar

3Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle


Newaygo County Recycling Hours

FREMONT M/W/SAT 9AM-12PM
5510 W. 56TH ST

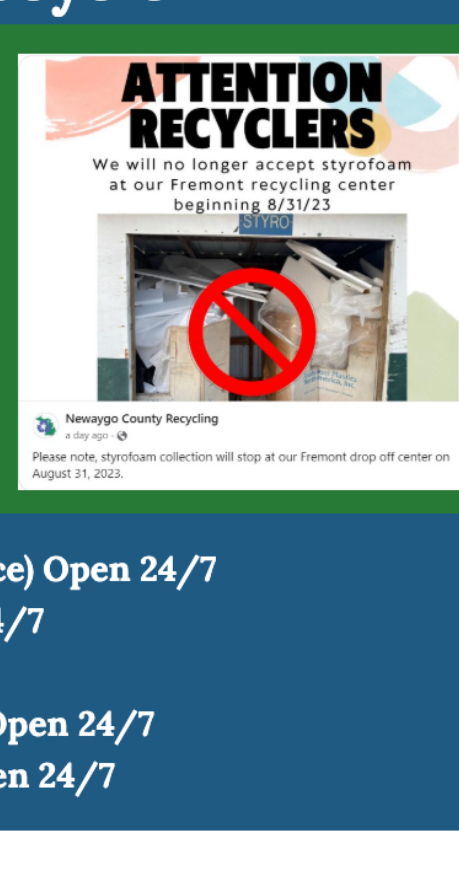
BROOKS TOWNSHIP: T/TH/SAT 9AM-3PM, 490 QUARTERLINE RD

GARFIELD TOWNSHIP: 24/7
7180 SOUTH BINGHAM

WHITE CLOUD: M-SAT 8AM-4PM, BEHIND CITY OFFICES

GRANT: M/T/W/THU 8AM-8PM, SAT 8AM-12PM, 160 STATE STREET

CROTON: M/W/F/SAT/SUN 12-5, 5600 E ELM, CROTON TRANSFER STATION


ATTENTION RECYCLERS

We will no longer accept styrofoam at our Fremont recycling center beginning 8/31/23

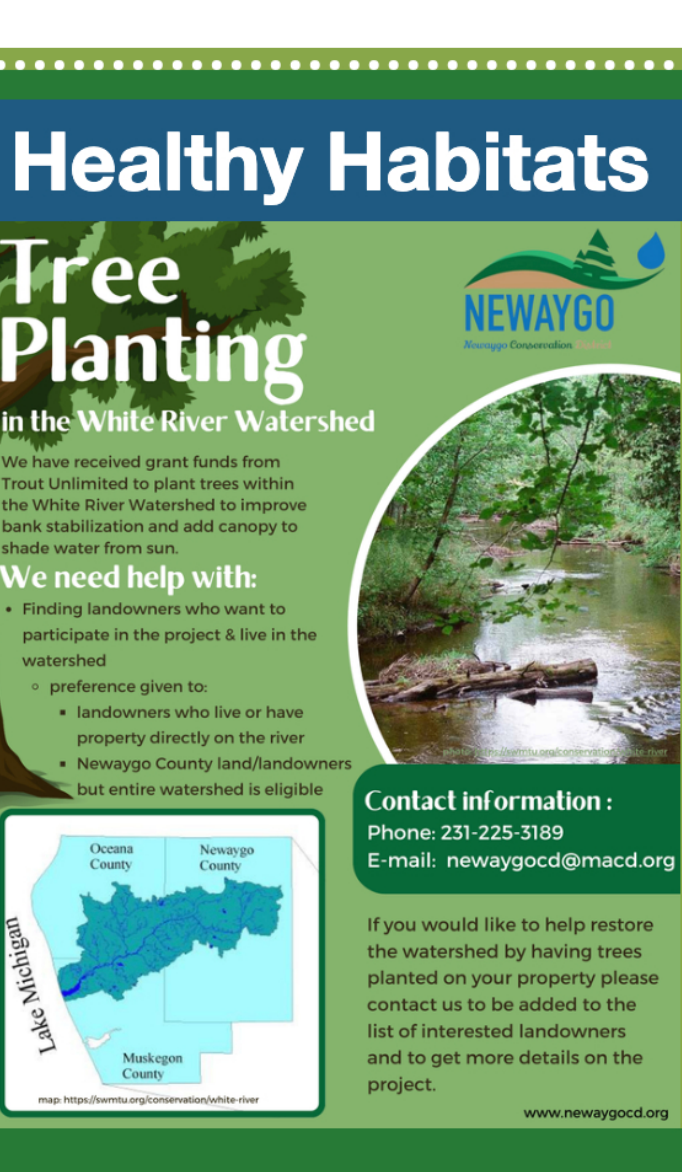
Newaygo County Recycling

Please note, styrofoam collection will stop at our Fremont drop off center on August 31, 2023.

White Cloud: 12 N Charles (Behind City Office) Open 24/7
Fremont: 5510 W 56th St. Open 24/7
Grant: 160 State St. Open 24/7
Newaygo (Brooks): 490 Quarterline Rd. Open 24/7
Newaygo (Garfield): 7180 Bingham Open 24/7

- For frequently asked questions, visit the EPA website by clicking HERE.
- Tires- learn about tire collection day HERE.
- Household hazardous waste- Such as TVs, batteries, lightbulbs, etc. Learn more about what materials are accepted on household hazardous waste collection days HERE.
- More information on these events can be found in the Board of Public Works.

Healthy Habitats


Tree Planting
in the White River Watershed

NEWAYGO Conservation

We have received grant funds from Trout Unlimited to plant trees within the White River Watershed to improve bank stabilization and add canopy to shade water from sun.

We need help with:
- Finding landowners who want to participate in the project & live in the watershed
  - preference given to:
    - landowners who live or have property directly on the river
    - Newaygo County land/landowners but entire watershed is eligible

Contact information:
Phone: 231-225-3189
E-mail: newaygocd@macd.org

If you would like to help restore the watershed by having trees planted on your property please contact us to be added to the list of interested landowners and to get more details on the project.

www.newaygocd.org

Healthy Habitats on Private and Public Lands: Waters, Forests, Meadows and native eco-systems

Click Here to fill out Application for Trees

>>> WMEAC Monthly Virtual Book Club: 02/07/24, 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. via ZOOM

>>> Fire & Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Lake States

>>> Michigan Vernal Pool Patrol Virtual Training 3/6, 13, 20/24, 6:00pm -8:00pm

>>> 2nd Saturday TLC Work Day at McDuffee Creek Nature Preserve 3/9/24, 9:00 am to noon

>>> Prescribed Burn Training & Nature Sanctuary Field Trip 3/9/24, 10:00 am-3:00 pm

>>>Indigenous Wisdom with Robin Wall Kimmer (virtual Wild Ones Presentation w/pd registration) 3/19, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

LOBO: Love Our Beautiful Outdoors

>>>MSU Birding Event 101-Virtual, 3/5,7,12,14, 7:00 pm- 8:00pm

>>>Western MI NCT Guided Hike 3/9/24, 10am-1:00pm

Youth & Young Adult Environmental Allies

- Get Kids Outside: Citizen Scientists
- Western MI NCT Guided Hike 3/9/24, 10am-1:00pm

Nature's calling: will you answer?

Join Our Efforts

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How Can I Get Involved?

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

2. Join an NCEC Team! Bring your skills and knowledge to the NCEC.

Current NCEC Teams to join: 3R, Prescribe Burn, Michigan Green Schools, Vernal Pool Patrol, Native Plant Enthusiasts (or help to create a team that fits your environmental passion.)

3. Would you like to get involved in the nuts and bolts of our organization? Contact us about attending our bi-monthly work sessions or apply to be on our NCEC Board.

4. Donate!

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 here if you'd like to add an event that you would like us to promote: Environmental Ally Events Submission Form.

Support our Efforts

Donate

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.

Stay Connected

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Our mailing address is:

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