

PIPELINE

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONERS

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WINTER CONFERENCE TEASER
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**CLINTON-OAKLAND INTERCEPTOR
54-INCH SANITARY SEWER**
—

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BRIAN WENDLING

Saginaw County Public Works Commissioner



Greetings fellow MACDC members,

As I write this, I look out the window and can't help but notice that the trees are now stripped of their leaves. There's been the attention grabbing morning frost and many of us have already seen our first snowfall.... significant in some cases.

For most people this time of year is focused on getting the yard cleaned up before winter fully sets in, making their final winter vacation plans, and, of course, the festivities of the Holiday Season. For those in the drain world, however, fall and early winter are just the beginning of a whole different focus.

By now, everyone has been through their budget and assessment process and likely started into everyone's favorite project of putting together annual reports. I suspect by the time this has been published, we will all have heard from a plethora of residents who have received their winter tax notice and want more information regarding the drain assessment. In the midst of all of that you're working diligently with contractors and consultants to wrap up as many projects as possible to avoid the tasks of revising completion dates, extending permits, creating change orders, and the like, all while dealing with an extraordinarily wet fall that not only pushed projects beyond timelines, but created a mountain of maintenance issues.

If that wasn't enough, many of you are working with less than adequate staffing levels and/or budgets. Even with all of the curve balls thrown at you, you find a way to get everything done. Probably not without a few headaches, a few colorful words thrown around, or staff looking at you cross eyed, but nonetheless things get done.

Finally, to my point: I've taken note throughout many conversations with fellow Commissioners of how proud all of you are of your staff and recognizing that the office is really nothing without them. In addition, the many, many

compliments directed towards the contractors and consultants of varying professions used. Let's be honest, most of the previously mentioned tasks couldn't be done without all of them.

As the clock ticks away and we begin the transition from a busy work schedule and start to focus on the festivities of the Holiday season ourselves, it might be a good time to take a few moments to recognize the people that work so hard to complete all of those tasks and provide us the opportunity to be successful.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year! I hope everyone can take a little time for themselves, spend some time with family and friends, and just enjoy the holidays.

Brian Wendling
Saginaw County Public Works Commissioner
MACDC President



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122nd Winter Conference

February 9-11, 2022

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Wednesday, February 9

8:00 AM	Exhibitor Set-up
10:00 AM	Registration Opens
12:00 PM	Lunch on your own
1:10 PM	Call to Order and Welcome
1:15 PM	Educational Sessions
3:00 PM	Break/View Exhibits
3:30 PM	Educational Sessions
6:00 PM	Reception/View Exhibits
7:00 PM	Strolling Dinner/View Exhibits
8:30 PM	After Dinner Activities

Thursday, February 10

7:30 AM	Breakfast
8:30 AM	Exhibit Area Open
9:15 AM	Educational Sessions
10:30 AM	Break/View Exhibits
11:00 AM	Educational Session
12:15 PM	Lunch/2022 Awards Program
2:15 PM	Educational Sessions
3:15 PM	Break/View Exhibits
3:45 PM	Exhibitor Tear-down
3:45 PM	Educational Sessions
4:45 PM	Associate Member Meeting
6:00 PM	Reception
7:00 PM	Dinner
8:30 PM	After Dinner Activities

Friday, February 11

7:30 AM	Breakfast
9:30 AM	MACDC District Meetings
10:00 AM	Business Meeting
11:00 AM	Adjourn

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Wednesday, February 9

1:15 - 2:00 PM How to Breach Your Dam, The Right Way

Rich Graham PE., Spicer Group & Ryan Woloszyk PE., Oakland County Water Resources Commission

In recent years, the risks associated with dam failures have become more prevalent at all levels of government. One way to assess these risks is to simulate dam failure. Dam breach modeling is an innovative way to analyze these risks and can be used for a variety of purposes, including meeting requirements for Emergency Action Plans, developing flood warning systems, evaluating dam capacity, and assessing economic losses to a community. This presentation will outline the necessary decisions, regulations, and methods to develop a model to breach your dam, the right way!

2:00 - 2:30 PM Section 433: Districts, Drains, & Development

Cole Hedrick, Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes, PLC

This session will discuss the different types of 433 agreements and the situations under which each type is needed. It will also provide tips on language and requirements to include in these differing agreements to protect your drain office and drainage district.

2:30 - 3:00 PM Equalization Department Information Q&A

Shila Kiander, Mecosta County

The Equalization Department has information that can be a resource for the Drain Commissioner. From legal descriptions to mapping, learn about the basics and come prepared to get answers to any questions you may have about assessment administration.

Grand Traverse Resort, Acme, MI



Wednesday, February 9

3:30 - 4:15 PM Flying and Diving to the Point – ROV's assist by Land, Air, and Sea

Jason Kenyon, Wade Trim & Jason Yoscovits, Lead Drone Pilot, Wade Trim

As innovation catches up with imagination, the opportunities for exploration and investigation have developed in ways that drastically change the way we think about work in our own industries. The advances in technology of Remote Operated Vehicles allow us to explore and record previously inaccessible areas with precision. ROVs are able to collect a vast array of Bathymetry and Photogrammetry data from potentially unsafe environments and allows for data to be analyzed from our Offices and Living Rooms. The data collected can help to identify issues and can be used to solve complex problems with accuracy. The use of ROVs for aerial and subsurface investigations will continue to bridge the gap between impossible and plausible. This presentation will provide case studies utilizing various ROV technologies used in open drains, confined spaces and underwater applications.

4:15 - 5:00 PM Legislative Update

Deena Bosworth, Michigan Association of Counties

MACDC lobbyist Deena Bosworth will discuss the bills that have been introduced this legislative session that affect the work of county drain offices.

Thursday, February 10

9:15 - 9:45 AM Use of Wetland & Aerial Data to Document Historic & Proposed Water Levels

Stu Kogge, PWS, GEI Consultants of Michigan, PC

Describe various types of wetland data that can be collected via desktop and in the field, assessed, and along with various agency databases and aerial photography can be used to “tell the story” and document historic, current, and support proposed water levels in inland lakes. Pictorially show wetland indicators, presence/absence of specific flora, and other visual indicators within wetlands and inland lakes as indicators of past and present water levels.

9:45 - 10:30 AM Making Life Easier

Eric A. Schertzing, Ingham County Treasurer

A little upfront relationship building can make County life better. Let's explore the relationship in small, medium and large counties. Drain and Treasury work are both difficult but build out communities.

11:00 - 11:30 AM EGLE Updates

EGLE

Hear about what's new with the department, upcoming priorities, and other items of interest to the department and MACDC.

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Pesticide General Permit Program Overview

Marya N. Colpaert, P.E., Saginaw County Public Works Commission, Kevin Kern, Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD) & Darrin McCullough, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)

A brief history of the NPDES Pesticide General Permit Program and a general overview/introduction to NPDES Pesticide application process, permitting, and reporting requirements.



CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Thursday, February 10 cont.

2:15 - 2:45 PM Geotechnical Friday the 13th... You Could Be Next

Aaron J. Reed, P.E., SME & Brad Ewart II, P.E., SME

Geotechnical engineering is not typically the first thought when planning a project, but it should be. Please join Aaron and Brad as they take you on a journey through geotechnical engineering and disasters. (IN A DEEP CINEMATIC VOICE) Just when you thought it was safe to dig that hole, you never know what is lurking below the surface... Be afraid; be very, very afraid...

2:45 - 3:15 PM Soil Erosion Plans and You

Ryan McEnhill, ENG, Todd Sattler, Montcalm County Drain Office & Joel Morgan, Kent County Drain Office

The panelists will discuss what is required for soil erosion and sedimentation control plans, how to prepare good SESC plans, and what to do when you have an audit from EGLE.

3:45 - 4:15 PM Drones & Drains

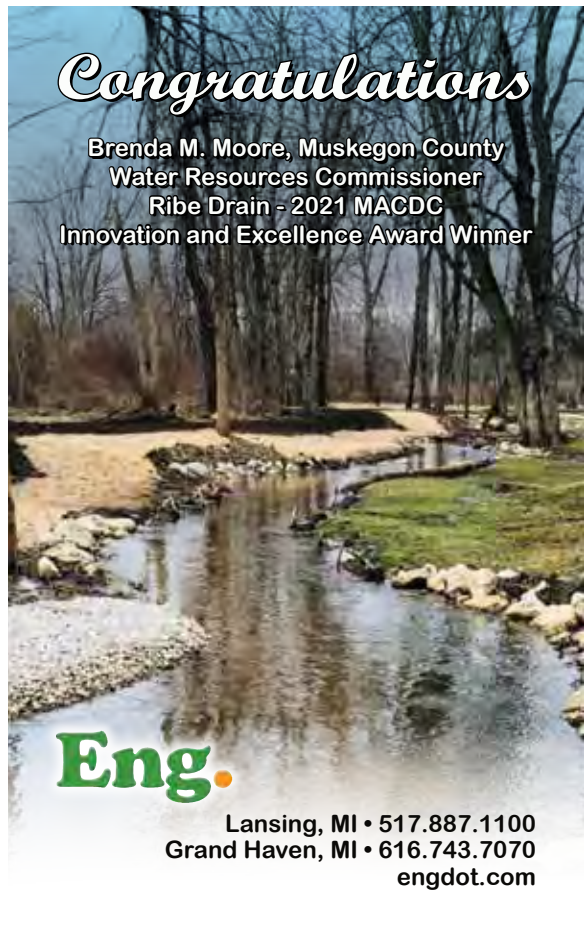
Taylor Mantey, PE, LRE

A review of small-scale remote sensing and geospatial analysis using unmanned aircraft systems in water resources engineering. Project applications include drain impairment identification and classification, earth volume measurements for detention ponds and post-construction quantity verification of materials.

4:15 - 4:45 PM Interactive Session

Event Planning Committee

A half-hour session full of trivia, games, and fun. Questions about drains, recent events, pop culture, and anything in-between.




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Ground surface settlement (sinkhole) developed in the right-turn lanes of eastbound Elizabeth Lake Road due to soil loss into the underlying 54-inch diameter Clinton-Oakland Interceptor.

CLINTON-OAKLAND INTERCEPTOR 54-INCH SANITARY SEWER / ELIZABETH LAKE ROAD SINKHOLE – EMERGENCY RESTORATION

By: Joel Schanne, P.E., NTH Project Engineer

As a sinkhole developed over an existing 54-inch diameter sewer, causing closure of a busy road in the Metro Detroit area, it was imperative that decisions regarding types of repairs and method of excavation through challenging subsurface conditions, such as high groundwater and silty soil, be made in an expeditious manner. After assessment of the sewer pipe condition in the sinkhole area, it was clear that the project required excavation and replacement of the damaged portion of the sewer located approximately 35 feet below the road right-of-way (ROW), and rehabilitation of other sections of the sewer adjacent to the failure area.

The office of the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner (OCWRC) selected NTH Consultants, Ltd. (NTH) as the engineer of record for this project based on their familiarity with NTH's capabilities in providing multi-disciplinary and cost-effective solutions to similar emergencies. NTH was also tasked with providing an Opinion of Probable Cause for the sinkhole.

Challenges

On the morning of Sunday, June 7, 2020, the office of the OCWRC was informed of a localized surface depression within the two right turn lanes of eastbound Elizabeth Lake Road near the intersection with M-59. The surface depression

continued to develop and eventually collapsed a portion of Elizabeth Lake Road pavement, initiating closure of the eastbound lanes and an emergency repair operation. The 54-inch inner diameter Clinton-Oakland Interceptor extends parallel to Elizabeth Lake Road approximately located under the eastbound curb line and conveys sanitary sewage flow from west to east to Elizabeth Lake Pump Station at the northeast corner of Elizabeth Lake Road and M-59. The interceptor also crosses the Otter Drain with the location of sinkhole located immediately to the east of the Otter Drain crossing.

The portion of the interceptor affected by the failure was constructed in 1970. In reviewing the history of the sewer, NTH found that, in the spring of 1998, a failure of the same sewer was caused by an exploratory soil boring that was drilled through the interceptor in the vicinity of Otter Drain. The 1998 failure was repaired by open-cut replacement of approximately 144 feet of 54-inch diameter C76 Class V pipe and the addition of an 8-foot diameter manhole. Review of the available historical drawings and documents indicated that the sinkhole observed on June 7, 2020 was located in the same vicinity as the 1998 repairs. CCTV inspection and manned-entry inspections in the days that followed the initial surface settlement of the June 2020 sinkhole showed



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SINKHOLE RESTORATION CONT.

that an approximately 40-foot-long section of the interceptor's invert had settled due to loss of support from the surrounding soil, caused by infiltration at several pipe joints. The lowest point of the settlement or sag was determined to be approximately 19.5-inches below the design invert. The invert measurements also determined that the upstream manhole is approximately 12.5-inches lower than the downstream manhole (located east of the sinkhole). The interceptor in this reach is sloped in the incorrect direction of intended flow.



Following a closed-circuit video (CCTV) inspection to verify that the 54-inch diameter Clinton-Oakland Interceptor was stable, a manned-entry inspection was performed to survey the damage in the sewer and determine the extent of sewer settlement.

The reverse grade of the whole reach could not be totally corrected without a costly and time-consuming excavation and replacement of the entire reach. Such undertaking would have required bypassing of the Otter Drain, replacement of the two CMP pipes carrying the drain flow under Elizabeth Lake Road, additional dewatering wells and extensive temporary earth retention system, and replacement of an additional 230 linear feet of pipe, which would

have added several months to the already tight schedule to open the road, and likely millions of dollars to the cost. As a result, the decision was made to excavate and replace the section of the interceptor with the worst invert settlement, and still maintain the hydraulic requirement of the interceptor. The whole reach would then be lined with a cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) liner. The CIPP liner creates a jointless repair for the full length of sewer between manholes and will eliminate the potential for future groundwater and soil infiltration through the existing precast concrete pipe joints.

Unique Solutions

The emergency response plan included the following major items of work:

- Mobilization of bypass pumping to ensure continued sanitary sewer service in the event of a full collapse of the interceptor.
- CCTV inspection of the affected reach of interceptor to determine the extent and severity of the distress.
- Subsurface exploration, through drilling and sampling vertical soil borings and installation of piezometers in the vicinity of the sinkhole, to assess current subsurface soil and groundwater conditions.
- Development of a remediation plan, including repair operation and construction sequencing.

The forensic investigation and repair operations were conducted simultaneously, beginning with a manhole-to-manhole CCTV inspection on June 9, 2020 using a raft mounted camera.

Emergency repair operations were conducted to maintain sanitary service, limit impacts upon existing utilities, stabilize the subsurface, replace and repair the interceptor and, ultimately, to restore the sinkhole area to pre-failure conditions.

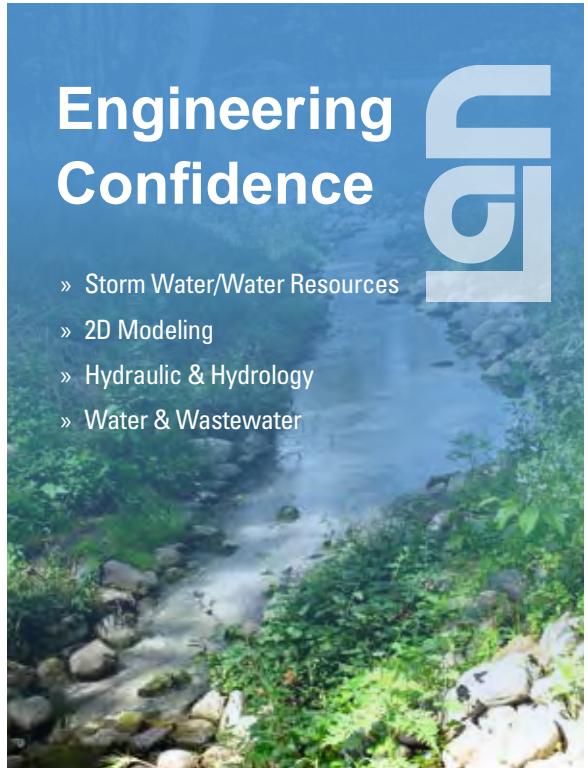
Complexity

The ground surface settlement from the sinkhole was located immediately adjacent to the Otter Drain to the west and south of a 12-inch watermain and high-voltage DTE conduits. In addition to the

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It was determined that an approximately 32-foot-long section of the sewer would need to be excavated and replaced. The ground water table within an upper aquifer was lowered approximately 20-feet and a sheet pile access shaft was used to support the excavation.



Thirty-two feet of 54-inch diameter pipe was replaced. Heavily reinforced collars at the ends were designed to ensure a worry-free connection between the existing sewer pipe and the replacement pipe.

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tight working area for excavation of the damaged sewer pipe, the geotechnical investigation indicated the presence of challenging soil conditions. Existing soil conditions included intermittent loose granular soils, organic peat and marl layers, and soft cohesive soils. There are also two distinct groundwater regimes in the area. Historical documents indicated that the 1998 repairs performed in open-cut required the use of eighteen (18) dewatering wells over several months to sufficiently lower the groundwater level enough to allow for safe excavation and replacement of the sewer pipe at that time. As a result, NTH recommended the use of a tight sheeting, sheet pile shaft over the section of sewer identified for replacement during the June 2020 sinkhole. In combination with the tight sheeting a modular, hydraulically adjustable bracing system was used to speed up excavation within the sheet pile shaft. The use of the tight sheeting and strategically located dewatering wells allowed for excavation of the damaged pipe to be reduced to several weeks instead of several months, as experienced in 1998. Dewatering was also able to be accomplished with four (4) dewatering wells




Using a modular shoring system to expedite access shaft excavation, a 37-foot-deep excavation was needed to expose and replace the section of damaged 54-inch diameter sewer.


instead of the previous eighteen (18).

When the crew excavated to approximately 30 feet below grade, they carefully exposed the top and sides of the damaged interceptor. The joint where the 1998 repair and original in-tunnel pipe connection was located and observed to be vertically offset 3-inches. Based on the observed condition of the pipe joints and sagging pipe invert, four pipe segments were replaced with 54-inch diameter ASTM C76 Class V precast pipe. The two end connections between the existing precast pipe and new replacement pipes were encased in steel reinforced concrete collars.

Following the completion of the pipe replacement operations, chemical and cementitious grouting was performed to seal infiltration and stabilize the soil surrounding the interceptor. Over 2,000 gallons of acrylamide chemical grout were pumped to seal joints and 27 cubic yards of cementitious grout was pumped from inside the sewer to stabilize the soil around perimeter of the




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interceptor.

Upon completion of the in-sewer grouting operation and to provide additional structural support and ensure longer service life for the sewer, the pipe was lined with a fiberglass reinforced CIPP liner designed for a fully deteriorated pipe condition to handle the full groundwater hydrostatic loading, soil overburden loading, and ground level live loading (traffic) and extending the useful life of the interceptor. The CIPP liner was installed as a manhole-to-manhole lining between the two access manholes where sewage was bypassed during rehabilitation. NTH prepared drawings and performance specifications for the CIPP liner design and installation. The CIPP liner was installed in the interceptor using water inversion to push the liner through the interceptor to the downstream manhole.

During the CIPP lining process it was observed that the interceptor reach immediately upstream of the sinkhole affected reach also had a significant number of joints with running and gushing infiltration and a single offset joint. The decision was then made to seal those leaking joints using acrylamide chemical grout, perform cementitious grouting around the offset joint, and apply a spray-on geopolymer liner to reinforce the sewer. Due to the existing bypass pumping plug in the upstream reach, this portion of the sewer was lined with spray-on geopolymer liner for a distance of approximately 128 feet. NTH also prepared design drawings for support of the offset joint and for the spray-on geopolymer for the accessible stretch of the sewer upstream.

Successful Fulfillment of Client Needs

In implementing the solutions for this project, NTH was very mindful of the tight schedule to open the road with upcoming cold weather, the deadline for availability of asphalt paving materials to repair the road quickly approaching, and the continued cost of by-passing the sewage. NTH worked very closely throughout the project with OCWRC and their general contractor and subcontractors to provide solid engineering which led to successful completion of the project.

The solutions that NTH implemented, including a modular bracing support system that did not require any welding or bolting, in combination with groundwater cut-off deep sheeting, and strategically placed dewatering wells, reduced the construction schedule by several weeks and saved the client thousands of construction dollars.



Sewer repairs completed, and Elizabeth Lake Road successfully re-opened to traffic.



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Station exterior

RENOVATIONS TO DEQUINDRE PUMP STATION ENSURE LONGEVITY

By: **Brendan Lindberg, Oakland County Water Resources Commission**

Earlier this month, renovations to the George W. Kuhn Dequindre Road Pump Station were completed in the City of Madison Heights. The project began in May of 2019 to rehabilitate and replace much of the mechanical, electrical and process piping apparatuses of the retention treatment basin's dewatering pump station.

A covered outdoor storage space has been added, along with a fresh coat of paint and the installation of a new emergency generator to restore power to the facility in the event of an outage.

“Proactively identifying infrastructure that’s in need of restoration is extremely important when you’re working in the water industry,” said Jim Nash. “Much of this facility’s infrastructure was established in the 1970s. Now that this improvement project is completed, we’re proud to say the recent upgrades to this pump station will provide a high level of service for decades to come.”

Crews were able to expertly navigate the rehabilitation project without causing any interruption to the facility’s daily operations.



Pumps

Located on Dequindre Road, North of 13 Mile, this pump station serves 14 surrounding communities including Berkley, Birmingham, Clawson, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Madison Heights, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak, Southfield, Troy, Charter Township of Royal Oak, and the Village of Beverly Hills. The \$7 million dollar project has been funded by the George W. Kuhn Drain Capital Improvement Reserve.

The pump station, which is a part of the George W. Kuhn drainage system, contains seven horizontally mounted dry-pit submersible pumps, each with a capacity of 24 cubic feet per second. When a major rain event occurs in the system, combined sanitary sewer and stormwater flows by gravity through the basin before it is discharged to the Red Run Drain. As water is leaving the basin, our team samples the water and sends it for testing at our Walled Lake Treatment facility, where we ensure we are meeting the standards of our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit.



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‘CUT TO DROWN’ PROVES SUCCESSFUL IN CONTROLLING NON-NATIVE PHRAGMITES

By: Norb Franz, Macomb County Public Works Office

Invasive phragmites.

It seems like they’re everywhere.

This year, the Macomb County Public Works Office completed a successful three-year partnership with the Lake St. Clair Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area and non-profit Six Rivers Land Conservancy on a grant-funded pilot project called “Cut to Drown.”

“Cut to Drown” is a method to control non-native phragmites commonly seen in creeks, streams, and other wetlands and roadside ditches, without using chemical treatments.

Working in shallow drains only a few feet deep or from kayaks, Macomb County Public Works employees and Six Rivers staff cut the stalks of phragmites as far below the surface as possible in three drains so that what remained of the plant in the sediment was deprived of oxygen.

While slowing the spread of the species in the area, Cut to Drown also achieves the goal of improving the flow of storm water in the open channel drains to reduce the risk of flooding and improve water quality.

The invasive phragmite – formally known as *Phragmites australis* -- is a hardy, fast-growing tall perennial grass that grows in and around wetlands and shore areas, including roadside ditches or other low spots in the landscape. They form dense stands that can grow to 12 feet in height and remain standing through all seasons.



Severed phragmites stalks at Starks Pond in Clinton Township.

While there are phragmites that are native to Michigan, the non-native variety crowd out plants that are necessary for a healthy ecosystem, and create hazards by blocking roadway views, storm water flow and shoreline views. Additionally, the large quantity of annual dead biomass can block drains, which reduces water quality and may increase flooding hazards.

The invasive phragmite is a problem in much of Michigan and other parts of the Great Lakes region.

The partnership between Macomb County Public Works Office and the Lake St. Clair CISMA

and Six Rivers was launched after CISMA was awarded a nearly \$38,000 grant from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) through the U.S. Forestry Service for the pilot project to combat the non-native common reed using the Cut to Drown method. The grant was extended through 2021.

Macomb County Public Works Commissioner Candice S. Miller admits she was skeptical at first that the method would be successful.

“I said, ‘How in the world can you drown a phragmite? They’re in the water and they love water. It sounds like you’re trying to drown a fish,’” Miller said. “I didn’t think it would work. But guess what, I’m so glad I was wrong!”

HOW IT WORKS

The Cut-to-Drown method originated in Canada. It works best in waterways at least 18 inches in depth. To achieve that level in shallower areas,

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'CUT TO DROWN' CONT.

use sandbagging (in streams and creeks) or mechanical methods at ponds.

Using a raspberry cane cutter, hold the phragmite plant with one hand. With the other hand, place the cane cutter's hooked blade against the stalk below the lowest leaf, slide the blade down the stalk as close to the sediment as possible, then give the cutter a gentle tug toward you to sever the stalk. The deeper the water, the greater chance of starving the remaining stalk of oxygen, in order to drown the plant. If seeds are present, there's one earlier step: Pull the plant over, place the seed head inside a plastic bag and, using pruners, sever the seed head prior to cutting the stalk. Dispose of the seeds after they have rotted.

Re-sprouting can cause even further spread. To prevent it, remove all cut material out of the water and onto dry land to dry it out. Canoes, kayaks, row boats, and ice fishing sleds and barges are useful for collecting and transporting the cut material to dry land. Do not compost phragmites. If dried plants cannot be burned, bury them to a depth of 1 meter, or store them in plastic bags until rotten.



A Macomb County Public Works employee cuts phragmites in the Murdock Ballard Relief Drain in Harrison Township.

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SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP

The Lake St. Clair CISMA is a partnership of local and state governments, non-profits and education institutions, and was founded in 2015 with the goal of preventing, detecting and controlling priority invasive species. It operates within the vast boundaries of the Lake St. Clair Watershed, covering 2,100 miles. One of the non-profits is the Six Rivers Conservancy, with its mission to conserve, sustain and connect natural areas, lands and waters in Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair, Lapeer and Genesee counties. Lake St. Clair CISMA teamed with the Macomb County Public Works Office, which provided more than \$17,600 in in-kind match during the project.

In Macomb County, Cut to Drown was conducted in the Murdock Ballard Relief Drain in Harrison Township, the Disco Drain in Shelby Township and the Starks detention pond in Clinton Township. The grant also funded chemical treatment of phragmites along the dry banks of the Disco Drain because the drowning method was not applicable, and to pay for bank restoration there. Stalks that were cut away were buried in a landfill.



A raspberry cane cutting tool is used to cut and drown phragmites.

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'CUT TO DROWN' CONT.

The project was deemed successful by stakeholders, with an approximately 85% kill rate of drowned phragmites.

“After seeing it with my own eyes, I was delighted,” Miller said. “At the Macomb County Public Works Office, our motto is ‘Water quality equals quality of life,’ and this project helps achieve that.”

Another aim of the partnership was to show private property owners and homeowners associations an alternative to herbicides applied by licensed chemical contractors to kill the invasive species in private ponds and retention basins.

A video of the partnership/project can be seen on the Macomb County Public Works Office YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/Xgd-1TOUDUs>

To provide additional information to the public about invasive phragmites and how to handle them, MCPWO has links to other sources on its website at <https://publicworks.macombgov.org/index.php/PublicWorks-phragmites>.



Macomb County Public Works employees cut invasive phragmites in a local drain.

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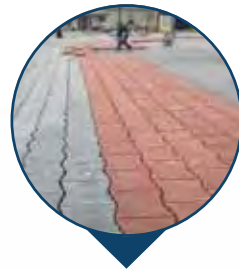
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ASSOCIATE MEMBER NEWS

VLAHAKIS COLE LAW FIRM ANNOUNCES NEW ASSOCIATE



Katz-Hedrington

Vlahakis Cole Law Firm is very pleased to announce the addition of attorney Sherry Katz-Hedrington. Sherry joins the Firm in an “Of Counsel” capacity, bringing with her over 30 years of legal experience, particularly in the areas of Civil Litigation and Drain Law. This arrangement is effective as of November 1, 2021.

Sherry graduated from the University of Michigan, magna cum laude with a bachelor’s degree and then received her law degree from Notre Dame Law School, cum laude. Sherry began her legal career working with the law firm of Dickinson Wright in bond finance and then joined the office of Miller Canfield where she became a partner. Most recently, Sherry was a partner with the Joseph and Hedrington law firm. She has focused her work on commercial and municipal litigation, including arbitration, trial, and appellate work.

Sherry has represented clients in Michigan and Federal Courts. Sherry is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and is admitted pro hac vice in Ohio. She is also admitted to both the Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan and the Sixth Circuit.

Sherry resides in Lansing, Michigan with her hunting dog, Bud, along with her 3 other dogs and pet quail.

FLEIS & VANDENBRINK ANNOUNCES PROMOTIONS

The Board of Directors for F&V Companies, Inc. (FVCI) has announced promotions of company officers.

FVCI is the parent company of Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering (F&V), Main-Tech

Services (MTS), F&V Operations and Resource Management (FVOP), and F&V Construction Management, Inc. (FVC).

John R. DeVol, who was previously president of F&V and MTS, is now the president of all the FVCI companies.

Craig L Shumaker has been promoted to senior vice president and Robert Wilcox is the new vice president of operations for all five companies.

F&V, which was founded by Larry Fleis and Steve Vanden Brink in 1993, initiated its leadership and ownership transition plan in 2006 with the creation of the Principal/Associate program.

“The transition in leadership from the founders is continuing,” said Larry Fleis, chairman of the FVCI Board of Directors. “It’s been a progression we’ve all been working on for a while.

“It’s an exciting time at F&V.”

DeVol, who has been responsible for the day-to-day operations of the engineering company since December 2020, now oversees all four operating companies and supports the management teams. DeVol joined F&V in 2004 as an engineer-in-training in the Traverse City office and progressed through company leadership roles.

Shumaker, who joined the firm in 2006 when F&V merged with Gove Associates, Inc., has been part of the executive team driving strategy and operations for several years. He is also the former Kalamazoo office manager.



DeVol



Shumaker



Wilcox



Galdes

Wilcox, this year's Michigan Water Environment Association's Outstanding Environmental engineer, joined F&V in February of 1999. His focus areas have been in planning, design, construction, start-up and operations assistance for water and wastewater treatment systems projects. Wilcox is also currently leading the construction management delivery team. The senior project manager was named Senior Associate in 2016 and Principal earlier this year.



Rice

"I am very excited to welcome Bob to our executive team," DeVol said. "He has clearly demonstrated how to deliver successful projects and grow our business. He has also earned the trust of many of our clients and our staff as well."



Bogus

Other officers for all the companies include Paul Galdes, vice president; Brian Rice, secretary; Shumaker, treasurer; and Kate Bogus, chief financial officer.

"We are fortunate that our founders put a plan in place 15 years ago focused on developing our leaders," DeVol said. "It has prepared us to be able to step in and continue the companies' operations smoothly as some of our original leadership eases toward retirement.

"We are poised to build on our success in the coming years with the leadership team we are assembling."

SPALDING DEDECKER WELCOMES PHIL STRUNK, PE AS PUBLIC ENGINEERING SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER



Strunk

Spalding DeDecker (SD), a leading civil engineering, planning, and surveying firm, hires Phil Strunk, PE as Public Engineering Senior Project Manager

Mr. Strunk is a registered Professional Engineer in Michigan, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania. He

earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Michigan State University. He has more than 22 years of experience in the design, construction, and management of various municipal, private site development, institutional/governmental site development, and wastewater related projects. He specializes in local roadway design, road programs, sewer/stormwater design, and client relations. He has worked closely with architects, contractors, and clients throughout the design, permitting, contract administration, construction, and project close out phases of various projects. Phil's primary focus will be municipal client development in the public engineering industry.

"Phil brings a strong municipal engineering background, private development experience, and excellent communication and client service skills," said Steve Benedettini, president of Spalding DeDecker. "Phil is another awesome addition to our team."

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IN MEMORIAM, JUNE WILLIAMS



We are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of June Williams, Administrative Manager at Spicer Group, over the Thanksgiving weekend.

June is survived by her sons, Ethan (Maria) and Brandon; granddaughter, Eleanor and many extended family members and dear friends.

June started at Spicer Group in 2003 and was promoted to Administrative Manager within the St. Johns Water Resources department in 2009.

June was a loved member of the MACDC family having spent countless hours working with both members and associate members to organize and lead many different events, most notably the Tuesday night dinner at the Drain Conference. June's happy personality and infectious smile will be sadly missed.

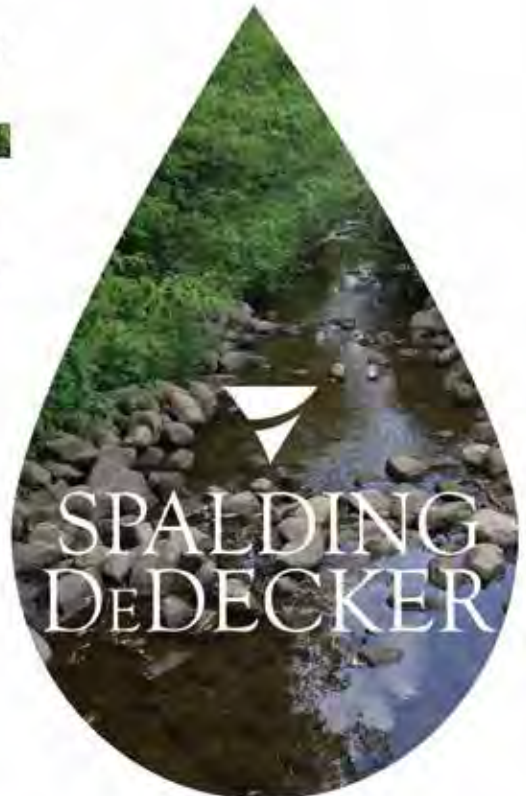
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MACDC EVENT CALENDAR


FEBRUARY 9-11, 2022

MACDC Annual Winter Conference
Grand Traverse Resort, Acme


JULY 13-15, 2022

MACDC Annual Summer Conference
Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville

Editor's Note: to place your event on this calendar, contact us at admin@macdc.us or 517.484.9761.



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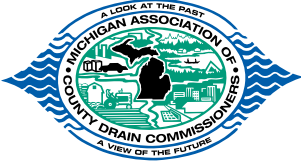


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