

From: Kevin Haight <kevinhaight58@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 3:44 PM
To: Roxann Isbrecht
Subject: Two Rivers Coalition Upcoming Events

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Now that we have hopefully weathered the "Winter of our Discontent", TRC is excited to get to work in 2021 on our water quality mission in the Black River and Paw Paw River watersheds.

UPCOMING EVENT on MARCH 23!

TRC is excited to announce that on Tuesday March 23 at 7:00 p.m., it will host a very timely and interesting on-line presentation about microplastic pollution in the Great Lakes. A speaker from the Alliance for the Great Lakes will present

about this often over-looked but increasingly worrisome problem of micro-plastic particles building up in the lake environment. The presentation will cover the following topics: the importance of the Great Lake ecosystem, how the Alliance for the Great Lakes works to protect the Great Lakes and its communities, the threat of plastic pollution to the Great Lakes, and actions we can take to address plastic pollution in the Great Lakes.

To watch this presentation, simply click on this link or call the number to participate by phone:

Topic: Two Rivers Coalition: Microplastics in the Great Lakes. Presentation from The Alliance For The Great Lakes

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4983302025>

Meeting ID: 498 330 2025

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TRC ACCOMPLISHMENTS in 2020:

In case you missed it, 2020 was actually a very successful (although trying at

times) year for TRC. Here are some highlights:

TRC was the recipient of a large donation from One Hundred Women Who Care of Van Buren County. The money is to be used for the Paw Paw River Water Trail in Van Buren County, including the installation of signs on all bridge crossings over the PPR in the county.

TRC applied for and received a grant from the Berrien Community Foundation to fund installation of signs on bridge crossings over the PPR in Berrien County.

Despite COVID-19, TRC and its partner Van Buren Conservation District were able to conduct macroinvertebrate sampling in the two watersheds for a 7th consecutive year. Plans are underway for our Spring macro sampling event tentatively scheduled for Sunday May 2, 2021.

Thanks to a generous donation from Dick and Carol Purdy, TRC was able to conduct it's 4th consecutive year of testing for E. coli in both watersheds. If you would like to see the maps and graphs of our findings now available on our website, please go to: tworiverscoalition.org/ecoli.asp. Also, we are excited to announce that we have applied to EGLE for a grant to do DNA testing as part of our E. coli testing program in 2021.

Paddling with groups was a challenge in 2020, but TRC persevered and held some socially distanced paddling events on both rivers. Also, TRC teamed up with SW x SW CISMA to hold two "Paddle with a Naturalist" events. This was a great opportunity to learn about both invasive species of concern and native species of importance to wetland environments. GOOD NEWS: We will be hosting more "Paddle with a Naturalist" events in 2021! Keep an eye on the "Upcoming Events" section of our website and/or follow us on FaceBook.

TRC super volunteer Dan Burton got us involved in a cool new project to install bird nest boxes in remote areas of the PPR for Prothonatory Warblers. We are currently trying to work out the logistics for some kind of limited group paddle in early to mid June to hopefully view the nest boxes in use.

Finally, the Paw Paw River Water Trail won the prestigious Graham Woodehouse Award for intergovernmental cooperation. TRC is proud to be part of the consortium of governments and organizations who make up the steering

committee for PPRWT. But we also give ourselves a little pat on the back for successfully nominating the water trail for the award.

Remember, you can keep current with TRC upcoming events (including on-line presentations) by checking the "Upcoming Events" section on the homepage of our website: www.TwoRiversCoalition.org and/or by following us on FaceBook: @TwoRiversCoalition.

Hope to see you at one or more of these events in 2021!



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Two Rivers Coalition is a citizen-based group working to protect the health of the Black River and Paw Paw River watersheds through conservation, education and advocacy. You can become a member or renew your membership by using the interactive form at www.TwoRiversCoalition.org/giving.asp. If you do not wish to be on our mailing list, please unsubscribe.

Our mailing address is:

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