

The Program

The Michigan Conservation Stewards Program is made up of a group of citizens who share a passion for and want to conserve Michigan's unique natural resources. Participants earn Conservation Stewards Program Certification by fulfilling the following requirements:

- **Completion of the core curriculum (40 hours of in-class learning and field-based training).**
- **Completion of 40 hours of approved volunteer conservation service within one year.**
- **8 hours of advanced training and 40 hours of volunteer conservation service are required for annual recertification.**



Program Partners



Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources & Environment

Michigan Chapter North American Lake Management Society

Michigan Natural Features Inventory

MSU Extension

MSU Dept. of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies

Oakland County Parks & Recreation

Oakland County Planning & Economic Development Services

The Stewardship Network

Huron-Metropolitan Authority

Clinton River Watershed Council



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Michigan Conservation Stewards Program

A great opportunity to learn about conservation and natural science in a community context and assume leadership roles through volunteering time, knowledge, and skills as a Conservation Steward

**Oakland County
September 8 to
November 10, 2012**



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



Introduction

The Michigan Conservation Stewards Program (CSP) is a collaborative effort among community-based volunteers, conservation organizations/agencies, and educational institutions throughout Michigan.

This collaboration provides a statewide network of dedicated, well-prepared volunteer Conservation Stewards who understand, promote, support, actively contribute to or lead significant conservation management activities on public and private lands.

These volunteers take part in informed, scientifically based conservation and resource management. Together volunteers work to sustain healthy ecosystems across Michigan.

“Volunteers are rewarded with a larger voice on what work should be accomplished, because volunteers work on projects that are meaningful to them.”

-2009 CSP Graduate

"The best people in their fields are teaching this. Where do you get an opportunity to learn from people like that? How else will you get the information to the average citizen?" – CSP Graduate



Volunteer Conservation Service

Participants have the opportunity to earn volunteer hours through a local service Capstone project that begins during training and continues after course-work is completed. This project involves a variety of conservation organizations, agencies, and educational institutions.

Program Instructors

Instructors are faculty and staff from:

- MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
- MSU Extension
- Michigan Natural Features Inventory
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- Oakland County Planning & Economic Development Services
- Oakland County Parks & Recreation

Class Schedule

Weekday evening sessions:
Wednesdays 6-9 pm.

Saturday field sessions: 9 am - 4 pm.

Introduction & Conservation Heritage

Ecological Foundations

Making Choices to Manage Our Natural Resources

Forestland Ecosystems and Management

Grassland Ecosystems and Management

Terrestrial Field Experience

Wetlands Ecosystems and Management

Lake and Stream Ecosystems and Management

Aquatic Field Experience

Serving as an MSUE Volunteer

Putting it All Together: Volunteer Expo Night

Capstone Project Presentations & Commencement

CSP Annual Volunteer & Partner Recognition Banquet

Location

Wednesday evening classes are held at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd., Waterford.

Saturday sessions will be held at the MSUE Tollgate Education Center, Indian Springs Metropark, and Independence Oaks County Park.



County Contact

MSU Extension Oakland County
Phone: 248-858-0887
Fax: 248-858-1477
Email: smithlin@oakgov.com

Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling Linda Smith at 248-858-0887 at least three weeks before the start of the program to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be accommodated if possible.

How to Register

To start the application process, complete the application form and submit to:

**MSU Extension Oakland County
North Office Bldg, Bldg 26 East
1200 N Telegraph Road
Pontiac, MI 48341-0416**

Call MSU Extension Oakland County 248-858-0887 to request an application by mail.

COST: \$275 per participant covers materials, notebook, Saturday lunches, snacks and park permits when required.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER:
September 1, 2012

SPACE IS LIMITED!
Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

CANCELLATION POLICY:
Registration fee will be fully refunded if requested no later than 3 weeks before the first class. *No refunds will be issued after this date.*