

NEWS RELEASE

Record number of lakes registered to receive water quality monitoring this summer through Board of Commissioners Healthy Lakes initiative

April 4, 2018, Pontiac, Mich. – Earlier this year, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, in partnership with the Health Division and Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps), launched the Oakland County Healthy Lakes initiative, which provides Oakland County residents with free training and equipment to monitor lake water quality this summer through the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP).

The Board received an overwhelming number of residents interested in volunteering for the program. In 2017, only 14 Oakland County lakes were registered in the CLMP. This year, 74 lakes registered as part of the Healthy Lakes initiative. Registration closed Monday, April 2.

“We are very excited about the fivefold increase in Oakland County lakes participating in water quality monitoring this year over last,” said Paul Steen from MiCorps. “Our partnership with Oakland County has helped expand this important program, which will result in gathering important data that we can use to better protect our lakes now and in the future.”

The CLMP has been an important component of Michigan's inland lakes monitoring program for over 40 years, making it the second oldest volunteer monitoring program for lakes in the country. From mid-May through mid-September, volunteers will take weekly samples and conduct a survey of aquatic invasive plants.

“We are very excited about the lake communities’ response to this initiative,” said Commissioner Marcia Gershenson. “Water is one of Michigan’s most valued resources, and we need to make every effort to keep our lakes healthy.”

Registered volunteers will attend a training session on Saturday, May 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The training will be held in the Commissioners Auditorium at 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Building 12E in Pontiac, Michigan.

“We all have a responsibility to improve the health of our lakes,” said Commissioner David Woodward. “The community support for this new Oakland County program has been tremendous. I’m confident this initiative will play an important role in helping keep our lakes healthy and safe for generations.”

For more information about the CLMP, please visit www.micorps.net/lake-monitoring or call (989) 257-3715. For more information about the Oakland County Board of Commissioners and its programs, please visit www.oakgov.com/boc or call 248-858-0100.

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