



A SPORTSPERSON'S
CONSERVATION CLUB
Conservation Center
5641 Myers Lake Ave.
Belmont MI, 49306

IKE's NEWSLETTER

DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER
• OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA •

www.michiganikes.org

March 2013

Greetings from Georgia

Hello!

We now have money to spend on youth and nature programs, thanks to the **George Schad** memorial fund, and can go forward with the archery program we've been talking about. Archery is always



popular at our community events, with kids lined up to have their turn. Many would relish the chance to practice more often.

I think it would be good to start the way we have **Kids' Fishing** on Saturday mornings in May. We pick a time, maybe every Saturday afternoon in May, or every Monday evening in August, whatever, and have 2 people for set-up and assistance. Open to members and friends, and we take it from there.

So, what we need is a couple of our members who enjoy archery to say they're interested. We need to buy targets. Regular circles on

straw bales are fine, but a deer would be great, too. Does anyone have a good source for bows, arrows, wrist-guards and targets? Archery really does engage youth. Talk about focus! When kids are pulling back and taking aim, they are not wiggling their thumbs on a video game, they are loving being outdoors, in 3D real-life!

If you would do this, **YOU** can pick the times. Ideally, we'd get maybe 2-4 people to cover the dates. **Bill Skallos** from the **Rockford Sportsmen's Club** has given very generously of his time, and could assist in finding appropriate equipment. Please contact **Duane De Vries** or me and help kids hit a bull's eye!

What a wonderful, fun evening we had at the **Conservation Banquet**, and thank-you to all who attended! Our program

Highlights This Issue:

Awards Banquet

Stream Monitoring

MAEAP Program

Fracking

...and much more!

by **Charles St. Charles** about Trumpeter Swans was beautiful and interesting. If you're not sure what kind of swans you might be seeing, in general the native Trumpeters hold their necks a bit straighter, and have an all black bill, rather than the orange one on a Mute Swan. Trumpeters are the world's largest waterfowl, and **St. Charles** had amazing footage

(continued on page 5)

Conservation Award Winners



Conservationist of the Year Ward

Tom Watson

Kent Career Tech Center was given the **Conservationist of the Year**. Their Hospitality Program received a three-start rating from the **Green Restaurant Association**. Additionally, they teach students in their **Alternative Energy Program** and we recognize their **Conservation and Recycling Practices**. Principal **John Kraus** accepted the award. Also present were Dr. **Bill Smith**, Asst. Superintendent for Instructional Services, Ms. **Sarah Waller**, instructor in their Hospitality program who chaired their Green Restaurant Certification process, and her students, **Kaleb Younkers** and **Kaleb Markllin** and Ms. **Danette Bull**, instructor in their Alternative Energy program, and her students, **Kaleab Mammo** and **Andrew Schremser**.

Congratulations KCTC.

Student Editor

The banquet collage in this issue was designed by Chris Vandermeer.

Great job Chris!

Special Recognition and IKEs of the Year

Georgia Donovan

This year recognition is being spread around to several recipients who are active with their time and love of the natural world. **Bruce** and **Pat Dutcher** received a Special Recognition award for working to repair the habitat of **Cobmoosa Creek** by pushing to have the erosive pipe replaced with a proper bridge, so that fish could swim where they ought to. It took Bruce years of persistence, and we know he had Pat's full support.

The work of **Shirley Kallio** to protect against the repercussions of fracking led her to a conference in Houston, so she missed the banquet, but her work deserved the Special Recognition award she received. I'm sure that there are things she would rather be doing than worrying about water pollution and methane leaks, but she is determined to do what she can to preserve our resources.

Ike of the Year is plural this year, as it goes to the team of **Mark DeHaan** and **Paul Sherd**, the "Bluebird Guys." They take such good care of the bluebird trail along Cannonsburg Rd., and have helped hundreds of kids build great bluebird houses. As a girl, I was a "Bluebird" and learned "The Bluebird Wish," so I know they're doing a good job!

Thank-you to all of you.

MAEAP Program

Submitted by Connie Redding, KCD

Kent Conservation District has recently hired a new employee to help farmers and other producers with technical assistance through the **MAEAP** program in Kent County. The **Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program** (MAEAP) is an innovative, proactive, and voluntary program that helps farms of all sizes and all commodities voluntarily prevent or minimize agricultural pollution risks. An on-farm verification ensures the farmer has implemented environmentally sound practices and continues to do so. New to the MAEAP program is the **Safe Food Risk Assessment**, which will be offered to small fruit and vegetable producers beginning this March. Of the estimated 6,500 Michigan fruit and vegetable producers who market directly to consumers, less than five percent participated in a formal USDA Good Agricultural Practices (**GAP**) audit in 2010.



The Safe Food Risk Assessment is aligned with USDA GAP requirements, but is small farm scale-appropriate to encourage more farmer adoption of cost-effective food safety management practices that can be implemented and maintained by those producers not currently seeking a certified food safety audit. The voluntary program is delivered

by trained conservation district technicians. We encourage everyone to ask your local farmers and producers if they are MAEAP verified and local farm markets if they have went through the Safe Food Risk Assessment.

For more information on either the MAEAP program or the Safe Food Risk Assessment please contact **Earl Krom** or the Kent Conservation District at 616.942.4111 ext. 163 or earl.krom@mi.nacdnet.net

Stream Insect Monitoring Event

Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair

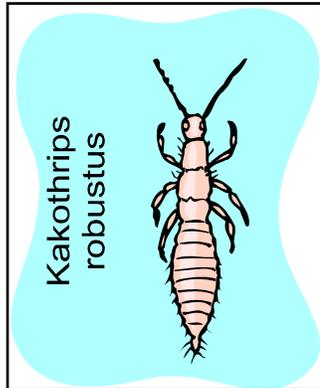
You may want to join with fellow IKEs and friends of the IKEs for a great three hours in the outdoors and in the creek! Not up the creek.

What: **Rogue River Watershed Spring Insect Monitoring Event**

When: **Saturday, April 6, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Where: **Algoma Township Hall**

See the flyer on the event on page 11. This basic monitoring was developed by the IWLA back in the 1960's. Back then there were lots of streams getting polluted from various sources. Remember this was before the **Clean Water Act** and other regulation now in effect. But even with all of the current regulations there are plenty of runoff problems such as much more impervious surfaces, more industry, and more chemicals being used. Because of this **Stream Monitoring** is still important and when done consistently will bring to attention slow and insidious changes in a trout streams like the **Rogue River** and its tributaries.



The process is fun, interesting and important but is rather labor intensive. That is where IKEs and their friends can come in and help out. As the flyer says, "you don't need any experience to help and all ages are welcome." Saturday April 6 likely will be a great spring day to get into the creek and capture, identify and count these "creek critters."

Mark your calendar now and contact **Nichol De Mol** by phone or e-mail. I hope we can get a number of IKEs to volunteer. You can do this directly with Nichol and through **Steve Norman** or me. We would love to have your participation in this fun event. Please pass this on to anyone who may be interested.



Want to get in a little deeper?

Go to www.iwla.org and click on "water" then "Save Our Streams" and "Creek Freek." There is much more there!

Contact me at: 616.481.5497

THE BEETLE Battle Against PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE That Began In May Of 2007 Continues In May 2013

Bob Stegmier

Sometimes programs to control non-native invasive species, whether plants or aquatic species, can be very discouraging due to the lack of control options and therefore the lack of success. But the good news is that is not the case regarding **Purple Loosestrife**. The control beetle, *Gallerucella californiensis* and volunteers are the key here. This program has lots of proven success and is fun, easy and rewarding to do.

We will continue this volunteer program again this April and May with a little expansion of it. In the past the effort has been largely concentrated in the **Rogue River** watershed and in **Cannon Township**. We will be active there again but want to open the effort to anywhere

there is Purple Loosestrife.

If you know where there is PL outside these two areas please bring it to our attention. We will work with you in the collection of control beetles and advising you and your friends in the proper placement of the beetles. You may have seen the PL in lakes you visit to swim or fish. You may see it along streams or as you travel. Let us together spread the control and knowledge.



Contact either **Jim Biener** at bienerjj@gmail.com or **Bob Stegmier**, 616.866.4769, rstegmier@ameritech.net and let's get started this spring.

Greetings from Georgia

(continued from page 1)

of a swan fending off a coyote who was heading in to the nest.

Cottage & Lakefront Living Show is March 15-17, and the **Sport Show** is March 21-24. Our tickets to either one are cheaper and include entry into the fishing-charter and casino raffle. At our booth we promote nice ecological practices for our waterways. If you'd like to join the party for a shift, contact **Barry Gilbertson**.

Michigan means the land between the waters, and we are naturally proud of our fresh water. Right now our water is under assault from current hydro-fracking. One of **Encana's** fracking wells in Michigan set a national record for using 21 million gallons. Their pad of 3 wells north of Gaylord used over 42,000,000 gallons. This water is not returned.

Since it is too contaminated with chemicals, it is injected deep underground. The HOPE is that we never use it again. Combined with methane leaks, diesel trucks transporting water, sand, and brine, and permanent water pollution, does natural gas seem "clean?" It's pretty sad that with parts of the country experiencing severe drought, any water should be wasted. The gas is mainly for foreign sale.

There will be a **public meeting** about fracking in our area on March 25, 6:30, at **Rockford High School**. **Kent County Water Conservation** is spearheading this event, with input from local groups as to what might do. If you live near state land, or are worried about the air and water, please attend!

Georgia Donovan

Office of the Great Lakes 2012 Report:

Submitted by Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair

"Michigan's two peninsulas are defined by the Great Lakes. They shape our lifestyle and economy, as well as our coasts. The natural beauty of the



"sweetwater seas" last year attracted 3.2 million out-of-state visitors who, odds are, enjoyed a taste of the 65 million pounds of fresh fish the lakes provide each year. The Great Lakes Basin is also home to 40 million residents in the U.S. and Canada."

Below is the link to the 2012 Great Lakes 2-12 Report and it's index. I suggest you take a look to see what it reports:

http://michigan.gov/documents/deq/State_of_the_Great_Lakes_2012_405640_7.pdf

- Governor's Introduction 1
- On the Sustainability of Systems 2
- Chapter I: Water Quality 3
- Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement: 2012 Update 4
- Chapter II: Water Use..... 6
- Chapter III: Aquatic Invasive Species 8
- Asian Carp: Prevention, Detection and the Role of Citizens 9
- Chapter IV: Great Lakes Fisheries 12
- Chapter V: Coastal Wetlands 13
- Chapter VI: Localized Restoration Efforts 16

Deadline for the March issue is Monday, March 25th at 8:00 AM.



Fracking! Fracking in Michigan!

Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair

There is a lot going on regarding this controversial oil and gas recovery process. *Gasland*, which showed in Grand Rapids a couple of years ago is just one of the documentaries highlighting some of the environmental and health issues associated with it. **EcoWatch** is a web connection where you can find just tons of information or maybe one should say millions of gallons of water being contaminated and not cleaned and removed from the environment for the well being of mankind in every single Fracking of a well.

There is a great article, *America Strikes Oil, The Promise and Risk of Fracking* on the Fracking in the oil and gas extraction going on it **North Dakota** in the March 2013 issue of *National Geographic*. If you get the magazine be sure to read it.

I call this a **MUST READ FOR EVERYONE!**

If you don't get it borrow a copy or get it from the library. It is extremely informative. The article will point out regulations, some of which seem unfair, and more importantly the lacking of others. **CRRM** (Citizens for Responsible Recourse Management) is an activist group in which some of the **IKEs** have become active, including **Shirley Kallio, Georgia Donovan, Duane De Vries, Travis VanLuyn** and myself.

Please talk to Shirley to see how you can fit in, if you want to get information or get involved on a steady basis. You will need to have an e-mail address.

Now you may ask what all the excitement is and concern is this

for Michigan? Well this picture shows that the entire **Lower Peninsula** is underlaid with shale, the kind that holds gas and oil potential. Note this is about the size of the **Bakkan** shale area in N.W. North Dakota. Be sure you have read the *National Geographic* article and then picture, could this be "Pure Michigan"? At first blush all the money and jobs may sound great, but these are both finite in quantity and also withdraw and consume oil resulting in huge amounts of green house gases. The U.S. currently emits 20% of all such emissions. Read the article and go to at <http://goo.gl/AxBuX>

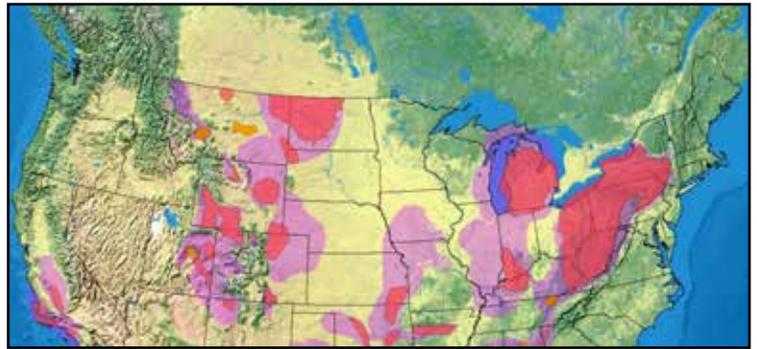
where you can see the new "Black Marble" imagery from NASA / NOAA. Northwest of Chicago you will see

two illuminated areas. The smaller intense light is Minneapolis and the larger but not so intense is the Bakkan shale oil and gas activity. Could that someday be our Pure Michigan's lower peninsula at night? When you read the article be sure to catch the statement that this energy recover activity will last about another 20 years. That just seems to be a very short time for all of that environment and social turmoil. Compare that scene with our green energy goal of 10% from renewable sources, largely wind and solar about to be obtained. Also remember the obtainable goal of 25% by 2025 was defeated, I believe, because it was to be put into the state constitution. I had more than one person tell me they were in favor

of the goal but against having this in the constitution and voted against it. This non-polluting energy is available for everyone. No depletion allowances are needed, which is very different from the oil and gas scenario.

If you go to EcoWatch you will find this report:

FracFocus says the first well, State Excelsior 3-25 HD1, was fracked on Oct. 30, and **Encana** used 21,112,194 gallons of water. Combined with two other horizontal wells on the same pad, **FracFocus** says more than 42



million gallons went permanently downhole. The **Excelsior** pad (named after the township) is on **Sunset Trail** between **Kalkaska** and **Grayling** in the **Mackinaw State Forest** in Kalkaska County.

What we usually hear from the **MDEQ** is the millions of gallons of water used to frack a well. Another well in that same area is permitted to be fracked with 16 million gallons. That makes me wonder where the credibility is with the MDEQ? Maybe down the hole or up in the air with the great amounts of natural and methane gas emitted from each well. Well, is it worth it?

The **IWLA** at convention
(continued on page 7)

League Strategic Planning Process Moving Forward

Submitted by Bob Stegmier

The **Izaak Walton League** is undertaking a comprehensive strategic planning process in 2013. The process, led by the League's Executive Board, will focus on developing a compelling vision for the future and shared goals across the organization. This effort will be open, participatory, and inclusive. There will be multiple opportunities for every League member and leader to be engaged, provide their input, and help shape the strategy. These opportunities will include in-person meetings, conference calls, and online surveys.

meeting to this effort. Later in the month, an online survey will be available to gather input from IKEs across the country (a link will be e-mailed to all League members for whom we have e-mail addresses), and we are scheduling conference calls with chapter, division, and other League leaders as well. If you have ideas, recommendations, or comments during any stage of this strategic planning process, please e-mail them to strategicplan@iwla.org



The League's Board of Directors will devote part of its February

Fracking! Fracking in Michigan!

Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair

(continued from page 6)

approved a conservation policy calling for a moratorium of fracking until the EPA completes its study. I believe at this point the state of **New York** has recently established a moratorium. Many groups in Michigan are now calling for a ban or a moratorium. The CRRM group supports either of the two and the sooner the better.

In support of a ban or moratorium on fracking in Michigan four CRRM members attended the **Common Ground Against Fracking** conference at **Circle Pines near Delton MI** on Saturday 2-23. There were 23 separate groups in attendance with some familiar names such as **WMEAC, Sierra Club Michigan, IWLA** and **Ban Fracking in Michigan**. The agenda included 1. How to Approach & Inform Your Local Government. 2. Resource & Information Sharing. 3. Statewide Water Testing Initiative. 4. State of the State Legislative & Legal Overviews. Attendees were **Shirley Kallio, Betty Kronemeyer, Ann Tuck** and myself.

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Catherine McClung	Houlihan's	Sundance Grill
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Chamberlin's Old Forest Inn	Jim Bedford, Author and Fishing Guide	Tam Bagby & Tom Watson, Members
Charles St. Charles	Jim Hegarty, Digital Photography	Tanaz Hair Boutique
Chase Klinesteker, Member	Joel & Doris Stinson	Thousand Oaks
Cheshire Barber Shop	John Hesse, Member	Timbers Inn
Country Vineyard	John Stegmeier, Member	Van's Sports Center
David E. Doss	Kathleen Chaney Fritz and Frame & Mat Shop	Venture Creations
Discount Tire	Kevin Feenstra, Fishing Guide	West Michigan Caterer
Dixie Olon	Lattitudes Roadhouse & Steelhead Tavern	West Michigan Whitecaps
DLC - IWLA	Laura Allen's Beads	Woodland Travel Center
Dr. Elias, Dentist	Marie Catrib's	

A Neighbor to Fracking in Michigan

Georgia Donovan

I met a guy with a cottage at Atlanta, Michigan, near Gaylord. He said the fracking activity nearby has ruined his time there, that the cha-kink cha-kink cha-kink all night every night has destroyed the peaceful feeling that he used to enjoy up there. I said, maybe they'll stop that part of it after while. He said, "Not in my lifetime." He said that they did have a meeting to address public complaints, and that they put up a sort of wall around it, but it didn't

do any good, you can still hear it all the time. This must effect property values. Would you buy a place where you could expect to hear that all day and all night? He suggested that when fracking starts here, we encourage them to use electrical power, as the generators create quite a racket as well. He has not seen too many tanker trucks, and thinks they probably pumped ground-water to use in that location.

**Thought of
the Month**
Jay Huston

It is not how much you
do, but how much love
you put in the doing.

Mother Teresa

2013 Cottage & Lakefront Living Show

Friday March 15th through Sunday March 17th
WORK SHIFTS SIGN-UP-SHEET

Day _____ Date _____

Shift Number _____ Time _____ to _____

Name: _____ Phone Number _____

Set Up: _____

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
5. _____

***Shifts:**

- #1: Friday 15th 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm
- #2: Saturday 16th 10:00 am to 4:30 pm
- #3: Saturday 16th 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm
- #4: Sunday 17th 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
- #5: Sunday 17th 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

***Due to length of Cottage Show shifts
working split shifts is OK
Please indicate 1st or 2nd half
if that is your intention.**

2013 ULTIMATE SPORT SHOW/OUTFITTERS EXPO

Thursday March 21st through Sunday March 24th
WORK SHIFTS SIGN-UP-SHEET

Day _____ Date _____

Shift Number _____ Time _____ to _____

Name: _____ Phone Number _____

Set Up: _____

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

Co-Chairman Barry Gilbertson 957-3218

Shifts:

- #1: Thursday 21st 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- #2: Friday 22nd 11:00 am to 4:30 pm
- #3: Friday 22nd 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm
- #4: Saturday 23rd 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
- #5: Saturday 23rd 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
- #6: Saturday 23rd 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- #7: Sunday 24th 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
- #8: Sunday 24th 1:00 pm to close
(approx. 4:30)

Email your shift choices to: Gilby40@msn.com

DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER of the IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE of AMERICA Core Event Schedule 2013

NOTE: See later updates for confirmed dates, especially late year events.

	Chairperson
March 15-17 Cottage & Lakefront Living Show-Grand Rapids	Georgia Donovan
March 21-24 Ultimate Sport Show-Grand Rapids	Barry Gilbertson, ?
April 20, Saturday Michigan Division Meeting DLC-CC	Div. Pres. John Sturgis
April 25, Thursday Fish & Game Dinner & program @ CC	Tom Watson
May Kids Fishing every Saturday from 9 am to 12 noon @ CC	Bill Kirk
May 16, Thursday..... Steak Dinner, Annual Meeting-& Short Program	Tom Watson
June 12,19, 26 .. Kids FREE Fishing at Versluis Lake, Plainfield Twsp. 6:30-8 pm	Jim Biener
June 22, Saturday Summerfest Community Family Day @ CC	Maurie Houseman
July 23-27 2013 IKEs Convention, Fredericksburg, VA	Open to all Members
August 15, Thursday Chicken & Ribs Dinner/Program @ CC ...	Houseman, program Watson, food
September 11, Wednesday Harvestfest @ CC	Tom Watson
October 9, Wednesday Chili Cook-off/Potluck @ CC	Tom Watson
November 7, Thursday Game Dinner @ CC	Tom Watson
December 5, Thursday Christmas Dinner @ Timbers Restaurant	Jay Huston

Membership Application ... Izaak Walton League of America

Dwight Lydell Chapter, 5641 Myers Lake Ave. Belmont MI 49306

Conservation Needs a Friend Ask a friend to join the IKEs!

NAME _____

SPOUSE _____ CHILDREN & AGES _____ HOME PHONE _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DATE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ SPONSOR _____

_____ Individual - \$54, _____ Family - \$74, _____ Student (18-21) - \$26, _____ Youth (under 18) - \$13.80

Mail to Izaak Walton League, PO Box 541, Belmont MI 49306. Checks payable to "Izaak Walton League"
Call Ron at 616.361.1422 for more information. If you want a GATE KEY so you can walk our 39 acres at your leisure ADD \$5 to the membership fee.

Indicate which of these important committees you're interested in working on:

Natural Features Stewardship _____ Finance _____ Membership _____ Building & Grounds _____

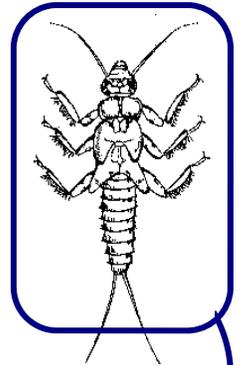
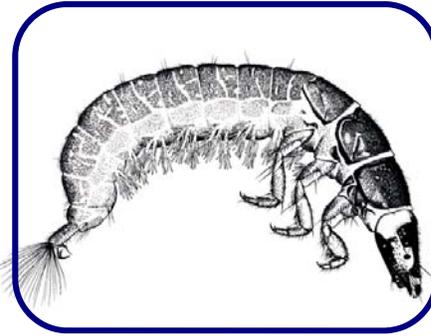
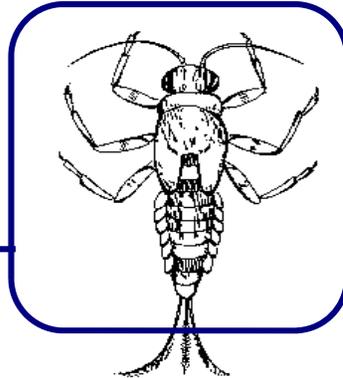
Conservation _____ Programs _____ Every Member Dinners _____

The Izaak Walton League of America – a non-profit conservation organization – is recognized as a Section 501(c)(3) public charity under the Internal Revenue Code. Minimum national dues are \$40 for individual and \$60 for family memberships, which includes \$4.00 for *Outdoor America* magazine. Magazine is inseparable from dues. Chapter and Division dues may vary.

STREAM INSECT MONITORING

**TROUT UNLIMITED ROGUE RIVER HOME RIVERS INITIATIVE
& MI TROUT UNLIMITED RIVER STEWARDS PROGRAM**

CONTACT PERSON: NICHOL DE MOL NDEMOL@TU.ORG OR 231-557-6362



Why monitor stream insects? Stream insects are a good measure of water quality since many are pollutant sensitive and can be rapidly identified.

.....
What will we do? Volunteers will be assigned to a monitoring group with a team leader. Each group will collect and identify insects from different stream sites. You don't need any experience with stream insects to participate and all ages are welcome.

.....
What will I need? Please RSVP to Nichol De Mol if you would like to attend. Lunch will be provided for all volunteers. Please bring waders if you have them and dress for the weather conditions.

DATE: 4/6/13

TIME: 9:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M.

WHERE:

**Algoma Township Hall
10531 Algoma Ave, Rockford**



The Rogue River Home Rivers Initiative Project is funded by the Wege Foundation, Frey Foundation, Wolverine World Wide, Schrems West Michigan Trout Unlimited, and Robert DeVilbiss.



**Dwight Lydell Chapter
of the Izaak Walton League**
4905 Cresthill Dr NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

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pass it on to a friend.



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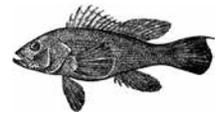
**Come see the IKEs booth
in DeVos Place at the**



**Cottage &
Lakefront
Living Show!**
March 15-17, 2013

and

**then the
Ultimate
Sport Show**
March 21-24, 2013



**DON'T
FORGET!**

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

OUR ANNUAL

**FISH & GAME
DINNER**

