

The Program

The Michigan Conservation Stewards Program is comprised 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:

- Completion of the core curriculum (40 hours of in-class learning and training).
- 40 hours of approved volunteer conservation service within one year.

For annual recertification, 8 hours of advanced training & 40 hours of volunteer conservation service are required.



"The most useful thing about CSP for me was networking and finding others with my interests and passion about the environment as well as the professionals in the field... I ended up with knowledge across the board. This has helped me to fill in the missing pieces of knowledge regarding the environment as well as encouraging me to be involved." 2007 CSP participant Oakland County



Program Partners

MSU Extension
MSUE Fish & Wildlife, Water and Forestry
Area of Expertise Teams
Washtenaw County
Washtenaw County Environmental Health
Department
Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources
MSU Dept. of Community, Agriculture,
Recreation and Resource Studies
Michigan Natural Features Inventory
Washtenaw County Conservation District
Natural Area Preservation
Stewardship Network
Washtenaw Land Trust
University of Michigan Matthaei
Botanical Gardens & Nichols Arboretum
Huron River Watershed Council
Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy
Washtenaw Co. Drain Commissioner
Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

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 Conservation Stewards

Washtenaw County

February 28—April 23, 2009



Introduction

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

“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?” – 2006 Michigan Conservation Stewards Program Participant



Volunteer Conservation Service

CSP participants have the opportunity to earn volunteer hours through a local service project that begins during the training and involves a variety of conservation organizations and 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 DNR, DEQ, and other state agencies
- Conservation organizations & land conservancies
- Local naturalists, Washtenaw County and City of Ann Arbor
- Huron River Watershed Council
- University of Michigan

Class Schedule

Meeting Dates, Times	Location	Unit Topic
Sat. Feb. 28 9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Huron River Watershed Council, New Center, Ann Arbor	Introduction to the Conservation Stewards Program And Conservation Heritage
Thurs. March 5 6:00 pm -9:00 pm	Washtenaw County MSU Extension Classroom	Ecological Foundations
Thurs. March 12 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Washtenaw County MSU Extension Classroom	Making Choices to Manage Our Natural Resources
Thurs. March 19 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Huron River Watershed Council New Center, Ann Arbor	Wetlands Ecosystems and Management
Thurs. March 26 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Huron River Watershed Council New Center, Ann Arbor	Serving as an MSUE Volunteer Lake and Stream Ecosystems and Management
Sat. March 28 9:00 am – 4:00 pm	U of M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, Ann Arbor	Aquatic Field Experience
Thurs. April 2 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Washtenaw County MSU Extension Classroom	Forestland Ecosystems and Management
Thurs. April 9 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Washtenaw County MSU Extension Classroom	Grassland Ecosystems and Management
Thurs. April 16 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Washtenaw County MSU Extension Classroom	Putting It All Together: Volunteer Expo Night
Sat. April 18 9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Leslie Science Center Ann Arbor	Terrestrial Field Experience
Thurs. April 23 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Washtenaw County MSU Extension Classroom	Sharing Capstone Projects, Participant Commencement

County Contact

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How to Register

Complete the 3-page application form and submit it with payment to:

MSU Extension—Washtenaw County
P.O. Box 8645
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8645

Obtain an application online at
<http://extension.ewashtenaw.org>
OR

Call MSU Extension—Washtenaw County 734-997-1678 to request a form by mail.

COST: \$250 per participant
(covers materials, notebook, Saturday lunches and snacks)

DEADLINE TO REGISTER:
February 13, 2009

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

CANCELLATION POLICY:
Registration fee will be fully refunded if requested no later than February 13.
No refunds will be issued after this date.

Michigan State University Extension Programs are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.

Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling Jessica Roles at 734-222-3857 at least three weeks before the start of the program to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be accommodated if possible.