Actions for water protection today have a ripple effect on our future.
Jump in.

Make a splash.

What you do to protect Northern Michigan’s water today has a significant ripple effect on future generations.
**Letter from the President**

*RIPPLES*

It is interesting how many faces our surface waters have: crashing waves on the Great lakes, gurgling currents in streams, and quiet lapping in inland lakes. And in all these waters, there can be ripples.

To me, ripples in water are a good example of cause-and-effect. Drop a stone into a still pool, and immediately there will be ripples. But other types of ripples have a less immediate effect.

When our Watershed Protection Team works with landowners to restore shorelines and build in a manner that respects the resources, they create ripples.

When our Policy and Advocacy Team works with state and local officials for decisions that protect our water resources, they create ripples.

When our Development and Communications Team reaches out to the community with educational materials and solicits the funding that enables the continued work of the Watershed Council, they create ripples.

When we attend public hearings to voice our support of decisions that protect our resources and our opposition to the actions that degrade those resources, we create ripples.

Although the effects of these ripples generally take a while to see, they can last beyond our lifetimes.

As my tenure as board member and president comes to an end, I want to thank the originators of the many ripples that have touched and enriched my life these past six years.

Now let’s go make some ripples!

Denise Simon
June, 2007
Watershed Protection
2006 Highlights

Each of the Watershed Council’s programs and activities are an integral component in a comprehensive watershed protection approach. From individual lake aquatic plant surveys, to updating watershed-wide plans, to preventing shoreline erosion, to educating sixth graders – each of these programs serves to protect and enhance all of the water resources in our magnificent watersheds.

✦ Forty volunteer lake monitors collected data on 24 lakes in 2006, as we coordinated our 22nd year of volunteer lake monitoring.

✦ The Watershed Council, along with Sturgeon for Tomorrow and other partner organizations, hosted a field trip at spawning sites and worked with volunteers to plant vegetation on the streambank to improve spawning habitat for lake sturgeon throughout the Black Lake Watershed.

✦ For the second year, the Mullett Lake Area Preservation Society contracted with the Watershed Council to monitor the water quality of major tributaries flowing into Mullett Lake. Staff collected physical and chemical data from the Cheboygan River, Indian River, Pigeon River and Mullett Creek to assess impacts of these tributaries on the water quality of Mullett Lake.

✦ In its second year, the Watershed Council’s Volunteer Stream Monitoring program monitored eight streams with the help of over 50 volunteers. The volunteers, who are often members of lake and stream associations, collected macro-invertebrates to assess water quality. Volunteers monitored streams in the Lake Charlevoix, Little Traverse Bay, Mullett Lake, and Torch Lake watersheds.

✦ At the recommendation of the Watershed Council, the Walloon Lake Association sponsored an aquatic plant survey in the Mud Basin with a focus on Eurasian watermilfoil and began treatment of the infestations using aquatic weevils.

✦ The Watershed Council, in cooperation with Larks Lake Association and other area organizations, developed a community-driven watershed management plan with recommended actions to improve the quality of Larks Lake with the generous support of the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation and the Ann K. Irish Charitable Fund, a component fund of the Community Foundation.
The Watershed Council updated the Little Traverse Bay Watershed Protection Plan to meet new criteria established by the EPA (funding provided by Michigan DEQ). The goal of the plan is simple but important--protect and improve the water quality of Little Traverse Bay. A copy of the plan and other watershed management plans are available on our website, www.watershedcouncil.org.

The Watershed Council launched the Runoff Remedies program to help communities, businesses, and individuals manage and reduce stormwater pollution. With funding from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation, we are working with the Cities of Boyne City, Charlevoix, and East Jordan to install one low-cost stormwater collection and treatment demonstration in each community.

The Watershed Council began our “Native Lakescaping: Educating Riparian Property Owners about the Beauty and Benefits of Native Plants” project with funding provided by the Wildflower Association of Michigan’s Glassen Educational Grant. The project included the planting of a variety of native plant species in a demonstration greenbelt at the Watershed Council’s property on Crooked Lake.

The Watershed Council initiated a Volunteer Algae Monitoring Program to document the frequency and extent of algae growing along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

Watershed Council staff members and the Walloon Lake Association conducted an extensive Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) survey and worked with property owners to help them identify potential sources of nutrients and solutions to reduce nutrient pollution and ultimately improve the quality of Walloon Lake.

The Watershed Council conducted an aquatic plant survey of Wycamp Lake for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (LTBB).

Burt Lake Preservation Association (BLPA) and the Watershed Council hosted the fourth “Restore the Shore” seminar at University of Michigan Biological Station to learn about the importance of shoreline vegetation and its impact on the water quality of Burt Lake.
Thanks to a grant from the Frey Foundation, we installed stormwater treatment education signs at our office building in Petoskey. Visitors to the Freshwater Center can now take a “tour” of the grounds and read about the four elements of our Stormwater System which include a sand filter, an infiltration basin, rain barrels, and a rain garden. In conjunction with the signs, the Watershed Council produced brochures thanks to a grant from the Bay Harbor Foundation, which describe how these treatment solutions can be used by other organizations and individuals to handle the excessive runoff produced by impervious surfaces.

The Watershed Council produced a stormwater education piece called *Why Stormwater Matters* that will help engage local government officials, advocate groups, and local residents to make stormwater work to the advantage of their local community. The Bay Harbor Foundation funded this publication.

The Watershed Council created the Aquatic Invasives Species Patrol Early Detection program in 2006. Volunteer participants learned to identify purple loosestrife, Eurasian watermilfoil, and round goby; management options for each species; and inventory methods to record the location of these aquatic invasive species in our service area. Using this data, the Watershed Council will develop a database to track the spread of invasive species, identify areas that are free from invasives, and determine management options for specific locations with aquatic invasive species. This project was funded with a grant from the MDEQ Aquatic Invasive Species Small Grants Program.

The Volunteer Purple Corps project also was initiated in 2006 to build upon the work of the Michigan State University Purple Loosestrife Project. Volunteers from Pickerel-Crooked Lakes Association and Burt Lake Preservation Association worked through the summer to perform a detailed inventory of purple loosestrife in their watersheds. This data will aid the Watershed Council in developing purple loosestrife management plans. This project was funded through a grant from the Michigan Nongame Wildlife Fund and citizen contributions to the fund.
In mid-October, the Watershed Council stabilized approximately 150 feet of severely eroding streambank along the Pigeon River with whole tree revetments. Thank you to the Mullett Lake Area Preservation Society for recognizing the importance of restoring the Pigeon River and for their financial support of this project.

2006 marked the twelfth year we have offered “Experience Lake Charlevoix” to middle school children living within the Lake Charlevoix Watershed. The students learn about water quality and resources while spending some fun time on Lake Charlevoix.

In an effort to build appreciation and awareness of the Lake Charlevoix Watershed, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council produced and mailed a brochure to shoreline residents along Lake Charlevoix. The brochure aimed to make the connection between actions, polluted runoff, and water quality for residents and visitors to the Lake Charlevoix Watershed.

A single drop of rain creates ripples that extend beyond the horizon.

Together, our efforts do the same.
Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat Network and Fund
2006 Highlights

The Watershed Council’s GLAHNF project served the aquatic habitats and the grassroots organizations that work to protect them well in 2006. The GLAHNF network of individuals and groups extends our effectiveness well beyond our Petoskey address replicating the important work of the Watershed Council many times over.

- The Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat Network and Fund (GLAHNF) 2006 theme was Stormwater: From Runoff to Renewal. GLAHNF developed stormwater materials, in conjunction with other groups in the U.S. and Canadian Great Lakes Basin, focusing on effective stormwater advocacy and grassroots strategies to enable citizens to affect positive stormwater change in their communities.

- The Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat Network and Fund coordinated a networking and planning meeting for people from around the Superior Basin, representing 15 different organizations, working to protect aquatic habitat in the Lake Superior Basin.

- GLAHNF hosted the third annual Grassroots Symposium in Sault St. Marie on stormwater and other capacity building workshops.

- GLAHNF awarded 4 theme grants totaling $30,000 on stormwater issues. GLAHNF also awarded 33 project and technical assistance grants totaling over $86,000 thanks to generous funding from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.
Whether we are in Lansing, Washington DC, or a Northern Michigan village, the Watershed Council’s policy and advocacy staff speak on behalf of our waters. Actions taken on the national and statewide stage have a ripple effect on our water resources. Actions taken locally, by government officials, organizations, and individuals are opportunities to have a positive impact on our lakes, streams, and wetlands.

✦ Watershed Council staff reviewed dozens of dredge and fill permit applications impacting water and wetlands. Our comments resulted in permit modifications and permit denials thus preventing destruction of water resources.

✦ Watershed Council staff were actively involved in the adoption of water use legislation for the Great Lakes Basin. On December 13th, after nearly five years of negotiations, two public comment periods, and tens of thousands of citizen comments, Great Lakes governors and premiers endorsed the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact and its companion bi-national agreement. The agreements provide the most fundamental change to the region’s water laws in the last century.

✦ The Watershed Council hosted a public forum on the cleanup at Bay Harbor Golf Course and East Park. Staff members continue to communicate with the involved parties including CMS, EPA, and MDEQ on a regular basis, providing feedback with regard to the development of the long-term solutions in an effort to ensure the cleanup is done properly and that Little Traverse Bay is protected for years to come.

✦ Watershed Council staff participated in a statewide task force that studied and made recommendations regarding shoreline algae and related issues. The committee was charged with identifying the major source categories of phosphorus loading to Michigan’s surface waters, and to review and recommend management approaches. Funding for this project was provided by the Michigan Environmental Council.
The Watershed Council has been very active in efforts to further Great Lakes Restoration, thanks to support from the Joyce Foundation. Our unremitting effort was successful with the introduction of a bipartisan bill that will help reduce the threat of invasive species, restore fish and wildlife habitat, halt sewage contamination, and clean up toxic pollution. The Great Lakes Collaboration Implementation Act of 2006 is intended to implement the recommendations put forth in the $20 billion restoration strategy released in December 2005.

Upon our suggestion, CMS and Resort Township have taken measures to reduce the impact from stormwater runoff in East Park neighboring the Bay Harbor Resort, with plans to install a stormwater management feature. By utilizing the Downstream Defender, there will be a net benefit created to the ecosystem and the water quality from Little Traverse Bay will be protected from runoff.

In an effort to educate shoreline property owners about the importance of coastal wetlands and the detrimental consequences of grooming the bottomlands, the Watershed Council created and distributed Living with the Lakes: Understanding the Impacts of Vegetation Removal and Beach Maintenance. The publication describes the potential long-term impacts to our coastal wetlands and Great Lakes from “beach grooming” activities.

Watershed Council staff participated on revisions of the Emmet County Master Plan and weighed in on many other local issues.

The Watershed Council helped defeat the Coast Guard’s proposal for live fire training on the Great Lakes.
Financial Highlights

2006 Operating Fund Programs & Supporting Services

- 8% Development & Fundraising
- 3% General Management
- 15% Communications & Outreach
- 23% Watershed Protection
- 31% Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat Network & Fund
- 20% Policy & Advocacy

TIP OF THE MITT WATERSHED COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 2006

ASSETS

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<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CURRENT ASSETS:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash in bank</td>
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<td>Investments, at market</td>
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<td>FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT,</td>
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<td>net of accumulated</td>
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<td>depreciation (Note D)</td>
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<td>Investments (Note C)</td>
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<td>of discount (Note E)</td>
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<td>Net assets invested in</td>
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<td>community foundation</td>
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<td>(Note J)</td>
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<td>Total other assets</td>
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<td>Total assets</td>
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LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

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<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
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<td>Accounts payable</td>
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<td>Total current liabilities</td>
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<td>OTHER LIABILITY,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total liabilities and net assets</td>
<td>$2,648,241</td>
<td>$2,065,607</td>
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The accompanying notes are a part of the financial statements.
In 2006 we welcomed 181 new members and retained 92% of our membership.

The large change in temporarily restricted (or grants) net assets was due to the fact that projects completed in 2006 were from funds received in prior periods; the largest being the C.S. Mott Foundation-GLAHNF grant of $326,000 received in December 2005 and carry-forward from 2004 of $27,815. An additional $30,000 was received at year-end 2005 for a major project carried out in 2006; and $42,704 of carry over funds of other grants completed this year.

Our change in permanently restricted (or endowment) net assets was negative due to our intentional transfer of $310,000 from our invested funds to local community foundations. The additions this year to the endowment funds were $2,135.
Our Members – Making ripples that will last a lifetime.

The Watershed Council would like to extend our gratitude to everyone that gave of their time, efforts, and financial resources to make water quality protection in Northern Michigan a reality in 2006.

In 2006, our membership increased to 2,252 and we welcomed 181 new members. Our 2006 membership renewal rate of 92% was excellent with total membership contribution of $260,193.74. We would like to thank each and every one of our members. We look forward to serving your water quality needs in the future.

Benefactor *$1000 and up
- Mrs. Beulah H. Appleton
- Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Benson
- Bear Lake Preservation Association
- Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Carruthers, IV
- Clannad Foundation
  - Mr. and Mrs. David G. Crouse
  - Mrs. Catharine G. Curran
  - Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Curtis, Jr.
  - Mr. and Mrs. Howard Doles
- Driggers Foundation
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  - Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton E. James
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  - Mr. and Mrs. Louis W. Kasischke
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  - Mr. and Mrs. Edward DeRosa
  - Douglas Lake Improvement Association
  - Mrs. and Mr. John J. Armstrong

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- Mr. Terrence Adderley
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- Mrs. Elise B. Allen
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- Col. Robert McNair and Mary Bookwalter
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- Maureen Radke and Rick Brandi
- Mr. and Mrs. Juris Brants

Denotes additional gifts given to support our water quality research and monitoring programs.
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Mrs. Asho I. Craine
Morton and Mary Sue Cox, Jr.
Cornwell Cottage, Sequanota Club

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Todd Collins, II
Coldwell Banker Northern Lakes
Joel M. and Karen Cohn
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Lake Superior Conservancy
and Watershed Council
Dr. Joanna E. Mertz
Network of Lake Associations
Petroskey Regional Audubon
Pickerel & Crooked Lakes Association
Raven Hill Discovery Center
US Inc.
Wal-Mart

Honorariums & Memorials
The Watershed Council, together with our members and friends, has many occasions to celebrate such as weddings, birthdays, and holidays. We also have the passing of friends to mourn. We thank all our Endowment Fund donors who chose to remember friends and family by helping to preserve Northern Michigan’s waters. We have an additional $547,857 in contributions added $2,135 to the $553,381 in other assets invested permanently restricted assets and $553,381 in other assets invested perpetually.

In memory of Helen Cheney
Martha B. Cheney

In memory of Janice Lee Fenske
Mr. Kelley D. Smith

In memory of Norris Ingells
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Otter

In memory of Alice R. Sloatmaker
Ann Beck

In memory of Ruth B. Slough
Ms. Leslie Patterson Debeded

In memory of Mary Jane Rousseau
Ms. Mary B. Joliffe

In memory of James Wingate
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Knookes

In memory of Matthana Young
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gilbertson

In memory of Mrs. Clarence H. Howard
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Troth

In memory of Joseph and Mary Pepper
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert L. Hodge

In memory of Juanita Ulrich
Ed and Diane Strelinski

In memory of David Barton
Mr. and Mrs. Max Dillingham

In memory of Gary Erber
Huffman Lake Property Owners Association

In memory of Jack Schulte
Joanne and Mark Goodgoff
Laura and Mark Sellhau
Bill and Mary Spoer

In memory of Donna Sims
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Damstra

In memory of Shirley A. Sims
Huffman Lake Property Owners Association

In memory of Emma Ambrose
Huffman Lake Property Owners Association

In memory of Fred J. Bogardus
Mrs. Harry C. Porter

In memory of John Rinehart
Mr. Hilla Kanaan

In honor of J. Blackmore
Barbara Blackmore

In honor of Carolyn Blackmore
Mrs. Barbara C. Blackmore

In honor of Simon B. Gelb
Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Saltzman

In honor of Roseanne and Jim
Mrs. Nancy Byrum

In honor of Martha and Mike Cameron
Ray and Lynn Pennington

In honor of Arthur W. Curtis, III
Mr. Owen Curtis

In honor of Quintin Kuebler
Roe and Alice Shafter

In honor of Fritz Sceott
Ms. Lilian B. Gold

In honor of
Joe Hance, MD
Mark McMurray, MD
Brian Wittenberg, MD
Rose Ronquist, MD
Fred Wroblewski, MD
Dan Wilcox, MD
Steve Vorenkamp, MD

In honor of Alex Gray
Mr. and Mrs. John Neiferis

In honor of Mark Priele
The Richard F. Priele Family

In honor of:
Dan and Ell McElroy
Deborah and Sandra Orr
Bob and Nancy Forney
William and Pat Anton
Bryant and Sheila Keil
Ronald and Nancy
Denbesten
Don and Diane Brooks
Joan Quinlan
Kathleen Glass
Michael and Noreen Parker
Nicholas White

In honor of:
Winston and Joel Kellogg
Christina Kellogg
Courtney and Jay Bramhill
Jeff, Jared & Catherine Kellogg
Laura and Eric Strader
Mr. and Mrs. Fraser Strome
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Villella
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Waigand
Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Blackmore
Mr. Rodney Blackmore
Scott and Jenny Blackmore
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Blackmore

Dr. and Mrs. Patrick Hoffman
Mr. T.J. Hoffman
Dr. M.R. Hoffman
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Johnson
Leanne and Tim Kreps
Barbara Blackmore

Our Volunteers
Volunteer Lake and Stream Monitoring
Drain & Christina Abramowski
Brenda & Gil Archarcho
Alice Arnett
Ralph Ayres
Dann Balesky
Gary Barknecht
Patty Barrette
Richard Beck
Clif Bickel
Jackie Biliello
Norton Bretz
William R. Brooks
Dr. Art Budden
Michael Bufftegic
Dave Clapp
Dale Cauzepe
Eric Crossman
Phillip Crossno
Richard and Lori Crotchers
Nancy Cunningham
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Barb Dauer
Joseph Digler
Sue Dohoney
Richard Dragoo
Herb Ebel
Fred Eckhoff
Ruth Engstrom
Duane Engstrom
Ann & Dan Ernst
Audrey Etienne
Clint Etienne
Bruce Felker
Jonathan Friendly
Jon Gasfll
John Gaylord
Tom Gee
Ken Geoghan
Liane Hagerman
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Bill Hennie
Bill Hicklin
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Richard & Garth Anne Schifer
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Scott & Christina Steensma
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Beth Varty
Greg Warner
Bob Williams
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Anne Zukovick
Drain Marking
Gary Barknecht

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Michael Buttigieg
Nancy Cunningham
Susan L. Dickov
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Nancy Ferguson
Robert Green
Steven V. Hansen
William M. Hennie
Donna Mott

Sally and Kenyon Stebbins

Mailings
Barbara Blackmore
Sharon Brown
Bernard and Jennie Bur
Ann Burik
Tillie Conen
Maria Corp
Norman Catshall
Perry Daily
Doris Fedus
Aiden and Mary Fieshman
Donald and Gretchen Gregory
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Donald and Gloria Krusell
Marge May
Maxine McDowell
Irene Phelps
Jean Shalton
Lester and Ellie Stevens
Virginia Stolt
Margaret Upton
Iris Walker
Bernadette Walsh

Office Work
Sharon Brown
Marge May

Other
Sally and Kenyon Stebbins

Your name is important to us. If your name has been misspelled, incorrectly listed, or omitted, please accept our apologies and bring the error to our attention so that we may correct our records.
OUR MISSION

Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council is the voice for Northern Michigan’s waters. We are dedicated to protecting our lakes, streams, wetlands, and ground water through respected advocacy, innovative education, technically sound water quality monitoring, and thorough research. We achieve our mission by empowering others and we believe in the capacity to make a positive difference. We work locally, regionally, and throughout the Great Lakes Basin to achieve our goals.