

# INTRODUCTION

- ARMAS SOORUS-LMWCC
- JOYCE DURDEL-LMWCC
- ED HOOGTERP-Networks Northwest

## WHO WE ARE

- Little Manistee Watershed Conservation Council
- Little Manistee River Watershed Steering Committee
- Networks Northwest

# Little Manistee River Watershed Conservation Council – LMWCC

- Your neighbors on the river
- The LMWCC was Founded in 1996
- OUR MISSION is to bring together persons and organizations who have an interest in the resource conservation and restoration of the Little Manistee River, and preserve the natural character of the watershed by communicating resource problems and then offering and implementing problem resolutions.

# LMWCC - Programs

- Ongoing Programs
  - SWAT Team
  - River Stewards
  - Salmon in the Classroom
  - Permits
  - Water Quality and Aquatic Insect Studies
  - LMWCC.ORG
  - Watershed Management Plan

## Little Manistee River Watershed Steering Committee - LMRWSC

- Formed as part of the Watershed Management Plan.
- How these two groups work together is still evolving.
- Guides a consulting agency to complete and implement the plan.
- Encourages Involvement By ALL Interests.

# LMRWSC - Continued

- Includes Representation From:
  - Individuals
  - Little Manistee Watershed Conservation Council
  - Counties, townships and villages located in the watershed
  - The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
  - Conservation Resource Alliance
  - Businesses; agricultural and forestry groups
  - The U.S. Forest Service
  - The Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources
  - The Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality
  - Other leaders and community groups.

## Networks Northwest – NNW

- Contractor Developing the plan
- Betsie River/Crystal Lake Watershed Plan
- Ed Hoogterp – Environmental Consultant
- Scott Gest - Planning Consultant

# WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH

- Help the Watershed Community Manage the Future of the River
- Funding Opportunities

## WHAT WE ARE NOT TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH

- We are NOT trying to impose zoning on property owners that do not want it.
  - Zoning authority belongs to the townships.
- We are NOT trying to forcibly remove the Luther Dam.
  - The dam belongs to the Village of Luther, they determine its future.

# WE ARE TRYING TO ADVANCE OUR COMMON INTERESTS

- Everyone Lives Downstream of Someone

# WHAT A WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN DOES

- Guides the Community in Managing the River Environment
  - Facilitates Development of a Common Set of Priorities
  - Education
  - Enables Projects
  - Guidelines for Monitoring Rivers Health
  - Recreational and Business Initiatives
  - Funding for Projects

# HOW IS A WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN DEVELOPED?

- The LMWCC and LMRWSC Drive Completion of the Plan
- State and Federal Guidelines for Approved Plans Contain the Questions We Answer
- The watershed community, test results and scientific studies give us the contents of the plan – The Answers to the Questions.

The plan development process invites the involvement of everyone.

- Join us, please.
- We can use your help.

# WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR FROM YOU

- Additional Public Input on the Content of the Plan
- Including, But Not Limited To:
  - Critical Areas
  - Locally Desired Uses
  - Implementation
  - Information/Educational Component
  - Zoning Ordinance Issues

## TONIGHTS AGENDA

- SEE WRITTEN AGENDA

## Next Steps

- Submit Written Comments
- Take the Survey at [LMWCC.ORG](http://LMWCC.ORG)
- Review and Comment on the Draft Plan at [LMWCC.ORG](http://LMWCC.ORG)