

TRAIL • WATER • LAND



A L L I A N C E
POWERED BY OAKLAND COUNTY

Fall Celebration ²⁰¹⁹

Thursday, October 3 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
City of Wixom Community Center | 49015 Pontiac Trail | Wixom, MI 48393

In Recognition of TWLA Members & Valued Volunteers

We appreciate all you do throughout the year to improve and preserve the Quality of Life in Oakland County and the region.

In recognition of your efforts, the Trail, Water & Land Alliance (TWLA) invites you to its Annual Fall Celebration.

We hope you will be able to join us for a great day.



REGISTER TODAY FOR FREE
AdvantageOakland.EventBrite.com

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:
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By Invitation to Members & Supporters | Registration Requested by Oct. 1, 2019

Thank You to Our Contributors



Fall Celebration

OCTOBER 3, 2019

City of Wixom Community Center
49015 Pontiac Trail | Wixom, MI 48393

AGENDA

9:00 AM Badge Pick-Up & Continental Breakfast

9:30 Welcome & Introductory Remarks

Kristen Myers, TWLA Chair

Bret Rasegan, Oakland County Planning Division Manager

Steve Brown, Wixom City Manager

9:45 Michigan Air Line Trail: Building a Local Destination

John Hensler, Trail Manager, CW2 Council

Originally a segment of the Michigan Air Line Railroad,* the Michigan Air Line Trail has been under construction this year. The communities are working to make this trail a true destination for residents and visitors. Hear about the trail's special features along this historic transportation route.

**The term "air line" predated aviation, referring to a route that was relatively flat and straight and was a shorter route rather than an easier one.*

10:00 Transforming Public Spaces into Edible Forests

Jonathan Aylward, Natural Resources Professional, Edible Trails Project

Learn what Aylward has done with nonprofits and a tribal government to establish edible and medicinal landscapes throughout the public spaces of northwest lower Michigan. "Productive conservation" not only supports wildlife, biodiversity, and water quality, but also offers healthy food and experiential education for local people. Hear how he started the Grand Traverse Edible Trails Project and planted food forests along the local bike trail network, as well as efforts to plant native fruits, nuts, berries and perennial vegetables on tribal lands, at school, parks and conservancy lands. Emerging collaborative statewide projects are also introduced.

10:45 WHO Cares!

Manja Holland, Regional Education Manager, Great Lakes Regional Center, National Wildlife Federation

Wildlife Habitats of Oakland (WHO) is a collaborative effort among several leading conservation groups, county government and nonprofit agencies in Oakland County. Discover how WHO has been working in conjunction with the National Wildlife Federation to certify all of Oakland County as a Community Wildlife Habitat.

10:55 Break

11:05 The Wilder Side of South Manitou Island

Jonathan Schechter, Nature Education Writer, Oakland County's Information Technology Department

Schechter writes a weekly nature blog called the "Wilder Side of Oakland County." Last spring, he spent 40 days as the lighthouse keeper on South Manitou Island, a wilderness gem of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. He will share images and tales from his lighthouse post and explorations on the wind-swept dunes, including close up encounters with "Brother Coyote," American Pelicans and Eastern Hognose Snakes.

11:25 Real-Time Water Level / Water Flow Monitoring Technology in the Clinton River Watershed

Dr. Brandon Wong, Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Michigan

Learn about "smart" water technologies and their role in reshaping water resource management. Hear the latest advances throughout Michigan – where open source technologies enable watersheds that autonomously adapt in response to changes in weather and land use. Wong discusses local case studies where these developments helped increase the efficiency of existing infrastructure and covers lessons learned from latest endeavors to install massive sensor networks.

11:55 Trail, Water & Land Alliance Awards

Noon Lunch

1:00 PM Walking or Biking Tour on the Michigan Air Line Trail

If riding, please bring your own bike and helmet. Wear comfortable walking shoes and clothing.



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