

# Aquatic Invasive Species Update

## Washington & Waukesha Counties



June 2020

Email: [samantha.lammers@co.washington.wi.us](mailto:samantha.lammers@co.washington.wi.us)

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## 2020 Trainings

To register for trainings, please contact AIS Coordinator Samantha Lammers at [samantha.lammers@co.washington.wi.us](mailto:samantha.lammers@co.washington.wi.us) or call 262-483-9687

### **CBCW Training Dates:**

\*Limit of 10 individuals per training/MUST PRE-REGISTER\*

\*Social Distancing will be applied\*

#### Washington County:

5/30/2020 10 am - 12 pm Public Agency Center (Meet Outside Main Door)

6/8/2020 10 am - 12 pm Public Agency Center (333 E. Washington St. Suite 2300)

6/8/2020 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm Ackerman's Grove County Park (Shelter #3)

#### Waukesha County:

6/11/2020 9 am - 11 am Waukesha Administrative Center (515 W Moreland Rd)

6/11/2020 5:30 am - 7:30 pm Retzer Nature Center

### **Additional (Virtual) Training:**

'Contact Sam for additional details

6/1/2020 1 pm - 3 pm

6/4/2020 9 am - 11 am

## Project RED Training/Information Meeting:

\*Social Distancing will be applied\*

### Washington County:

6/8/2020 3:30 pm until 5:30 pm Ackerman's Grove County Park (Shelter #3)

### Waukesha County:

6/27/2020 1 pm until 3 pm Waukesha Administrative Center (515 W Moreland Rd)

## Meet the Waukesha Team

### **Mohammad Kenj-Halabi: Waukesha County**

Mohammad is a student at UW-Milwaukee finishing up his degree in Conservation Sciences. He is very passionate about wildlife preservation and is excited to be on Waukesha's waters this summer fighting the spread of invasive species.

Mohammad has volunteered for the Dane County Humane Society in 2019 and 2017, where he helped rehabilitate injured birds as well as care for abandoned and orphaned ducklings. He also loves meeting new people and has experience working as a part time teacher at Best Brains, an after-school tutoring center for children.

Mohammad grew up in Madison and has spent most of his free time in Wisconsin's beautiful natural areas and lakes. He treats fishing like a part time job and loves swimming, camping, hunting, and boating. Mohammad is happy to be starting his first job in the field of natural resources and proud that first step is being taken at Waukesha County.



### **Steve Schwartz: Waukesha County**

Steven is currently studying to earn a Professional Master's degree in Freshwater Science and Technology from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee through the School of Freshwater Sciences. Prior to that, he

has earned a Bachelor of Science at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point where he majored in Wildlife Ecology and Wetland Science. He has also worked with the Minnesota DNR with their Sentinel Lakes program, a project that aimed to make certain lakes well studied baselines to compare other lakes to.

Outside of work, he enjoys nature photography, going on hikes along the Ice Age Trail, spending time with his family, and playing with his dog Ginger.



### **Maggie McGinnis: Golden Lake Intern**

Maggie McGinnis has joined the Waukesha County AIS team as the intern at Golden Lake this summer. Maggie is a rising senior at Boston College, working towards bachelor's degrees in both Environmental Geoscience and Applied Psychology. She is super excited to combine her two passions of ecosystem health and educational outreach in her work with Clean Boats, Clean Waters. Maggie has spent a lot of time on lakes recreationally in her life, and is looking forward to engaging with lake environments in a professional context. Outside of lake recreation, in her free time Maggie enjoys dancing, reading, and spending time outdoors.

### **Leah DiMaggio: Ashippun Lake Intern**

Leah has worked for the Milwaukee County Park System where she was as a Natural Resource Specialist and research intern. She has training in terrestrial invasive species management and has accomplished an extensive research project regarding the impacts of the herbicide known as Imazapyr on a deciduous forest habitat.

Leah is a Biology and Conservation Biology graduate with minors in Environmental Studies as well an Integrated Studies in Science, Engineering, and Society from the University of Wisconsin- Madison. At the University of Wisconsin-Madison, she has explored how mitigation strategies can be created to protect endangered species, such as Southeast Asian elephants in Cambodia. Additionally, Leah has gained coastal ecology experience in Panama exploring coral restoration techniques, invasive aquatic species, as well as how cushion sea stars respond to tourists and large numbers of people encroaching on their habitat where I have gained experience conducting aquatic transects and

surveys.

Leah has a high interest in conservation, properly managing ecosystems, and environmental education. She is extremely passionate about the environment and is grateful for this opportunity to work for Waukesha County as an AIS intern.

### **Chip Howenstine: Silver Lake Intern**

Chip is from Naperville Illinois where he graduated from Naperville Central High School. In Naperville, Chip was a Boy Scout for Troop 111 where he earned the rank of Eagle Scout. During his time with Troop 111, Chip fell in love with the outdoors which has inspired him ever since. Chip currently attends Marquette University in pursuit of a bachelor's degree in biological science with a minor in environmental studies. His main academic interest is ecology where he has field research experience on Barro Colorado Nature Monument in Panama. Chip expects to graduate from Marquette in the Spring of 2021 and hopes to use his background in biology and love for the outdoors to start his career shortly thereafter.

In Chips free time he enjoys spending time with his dog Gus and playing tennis. Chip is excited to start working for Waukesha County and the Silver Lake Community!

### **Dani Alba: Upper/Lower Nemahbin Lake Intern**

Dani studies animal behavior at Carroll University and plans to graduate with her bachelor's degree in 2021. She is an avid animal lover and is intensely passionate about reducing the spread of invasive species, fighting well-known threats such as house sparrows, garlic mustard, and common buckthorn in her family's and neighbor's backyards.

Some of her hobbies include birding, exploring, identifying animal sign, and playing video games. Dani would consider herself a novice birder and tracker, but she is constantly improving her skills. At this moment, her birding life list contains a modest 67 species; her most recent additions to the list are black-and-white warbler and eastern kingbird. Dani is incredibly excited to begin work on the Upper and Lower Nemahbin Lakes this summer and hopes to learn some new skills in invasive species management that she can use in future endeavors.

### **Nate Hucke: Pretty/Hunters Lake Intern**

Nate is an Environmental Sciences/Ecology and Conservation major student at Carthage College. He plans to graduate in 2021. Last year Nate worked as a storm water intern in Spokane, Washington. He performed field inspections of structural storm water facilities and assisted storm water staff with engineering research. He loves to travel and spent last semester in Tokyo, Japan. He plays Lacrosse on the Carthage Lacrosse team. He is passionate about community service and spending time outdoors. Nate is excited to be on Pretty Lake and Hunters Lake this summer.

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*The Aquatic Invasive Species Program is a cooperative effort between Washington & Waukesha Counties, supported by grant funds from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and a number of generous local lake groups working to control the spread of AIS. Thank you for your support!*

For more information:

Email: [samantha.lammers@co.washington.wi.us](mailto:samantha.lammers@co.washington.wi.us)

Washington County  
262-335-4800

[www.co.washington.wi.us/lcd](http://www.co.washington.wi.us/lcd)

Waukesha County  
262-896-8300

[www.waukeshacounty.gov/ais](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov/ais)