

# Great Lakes Environmental Festival (GLEF)

Presenting at Detroit Bioneers Conference



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4.20.23

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### 2023 Recap

Beach Cleanup Reveals Plastic Pollution in Lake  
Michigan.

2023 GLEF was memorable  
<https://www.manisteenews.com/news/article/manistee-environmental-festival-highlights-17912790.php>

## News from GLEF

By: Ziggy Kozicki  
[www.glef.us](http://www.glef.us)

As 2023 came to an end, GLEF continued to focus on the environment we all share. The community support to promote awareness about the Great Lakes Basin and the ongoing action to protect our air, water, and soil continues. In 2024, GLEF will involve more people in this important effort. Join us.

### Manistee Beach Clean Up



## Microplastics in the Great Lakes

<https://www.michigan.gov/egle/newsroom/mi-environment/2023/04/04/breaking-down-the-problem-of-microplastics-in-the-great-lakes>

## What is the Anthropocene and why does it matter?

<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/what-is-the-anthropocene.html#:~:text=Although%20Earth's%20climate%20has%20been,a%20new%20epoch%20%2D%20the%20Anthropocene>

### Lakeside Club of Manistee County Supports GLEF

The Lakeside Club of Manistee County provided a substantial award to the GLEF. The funding will be used to support the 2024 Great Lakes Environmental Festival [www.glef.us](http://www.glef.us)

### Manistee Community Foundation Supports GLEF in 2023

The Manistee Community Foundation supports many projects and organizations. The Great Lakes Environmental Festival received a grant from the Foundation in 2023. The funding will be used to involve people in promoting conservation and continued management of the Great Lakes natural resources. Together we are building a community that values our environment.



**2024 GLEF sneak preview.** We hope to add a presentation about plastic recycling.

- ❖ Award Dinner at the Blue Fish 4.19.24
- ❖ 2024 GLEF 4.20.24 at Manistee High School
- GLEF will promote a 5K run
- 2024 electric car display
- Environmental Expo
- Presentations

## Great Lakes Environmental Festival 2024

Expo area is open to exhibit advocates for the environment and services providers.

\*All high school students can submit a proposal for an art and/or science display, poster, etc. around the theme(s) of reduce, reuse, recycle, and remember to the GLEF webpage [www.glef.us](http://www.glef.us). Accepted student work will be displayed in the Expo area at Manistee High School. Judging will take place for best in category and best of show.

Visit [www.glef.us](http://www.glef.us) for more details

## 2024 Great Lakes Environmental Festival [www.glef.us](http://www.glef.us)

Here is a sneak preview.

April 19, 2024 Award Dinner at the Bluefish 4.19.24 at 6:00 PM

April 20, 2024 Expo Set up time 9:00 AM. The Expo ends 4:00 PM

2024 GLEF Gathering & Presentations 4.20.24 at Manistee High School

GLEF will promote a 5K run

2024 electric car display Environmental Expo

April 20, 2024 Set up time 9:00 AM. The Expo ends 4:00 PM

Movie Documentary Climate Sisu, vers.2 (2023) by K. Davis, E. Lioubimtseva, and L. Anderson.

Environmental Presentations on 4.20.24

(1) Dr Joan Rose, MSU will be the Keynote Presenter. Water Conservation

(2) Lara Treemore Spears WSU Volatile Organic Chemicals

(3) "One Health and One Water" Movie Stephanie Baiyasi-Kozicki and Ziggy Kozicki

(4) Anibal Bahr (and possibly Professor Rafael Auras), MSU Compostable Food Packaging

(5) Chef Les, Great Lakes Culinary Institute at Northwestern Michigan College. Emerging Trends about Food, Climate Change and Less Waste.

Lunch

(6) Albert Duobies, Sugar Beet Energy

(7) Genevieve Fox will share her thoughts about Environmental Journalism.

(8) Maryann Lesert speaking about a tribute to the waterways that connect us, the land that sustains us.

(9) Marshall Kilgore will be "Exploring Eco-Anxiety in modern times.

(10) Maya K. van Rossum Founder of the Green Amendment for The Generations Movement

(11) Open Forum What is on your mind?

\*Media arts display in the EXPO area. Student work will be displayed in the Expo area at Manistee High School. Judging will take place for best in category and best of show.

The 2024 themes are the four R's: "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Remember and Plastic Pollution.

These submissions can be made to the webpage. <http://www.glef.us> Students will be responsible to set up their own submission.

Students can bring their work to Manistee High School April 20, 2024 beginning at 9:00 am and need to take it with them at the end of the day 4:00 PM.

### Community Awareness

Letter to: Manistee News Advocate and Benzie County Record Patriot 12.28.2023

Are you thinking of a New Year's Resolution that has nothing to do with losing weight? Try "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Remember ...or to follow through". Like you, I hate waste and thinking of all that garbage in landfills polluting our land and water. Over the holidays, it even gets worse. Consider ways to reduce consumption, especially of single-use plastics and plastic bags. Purchase items that can be used and re-used as long as possible, then can be recycled or composted. Household garbage tends to increase around 25 percent in the weeks between Christmas and New Year's Day in the United States, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. The goal is to keep as much as possible out of the landfill!

We have great thrift shops in Manistee County that will gladly take donations of gently used clothes, household items, and furniture. Echo Re-sale store at 160 Memorial Dr. will accept almost everything except computers, TVs, and building supplies. When you donate to Echo, profits from the sale of your donations are used to fund Echo programs for low-income families in our county.

Computers and TVs are best recycled through Bay Area Recycling Center (BARC) in Kaleva: open Mon-Sat, 10-5 (231) 492-6138. BARC now has a re-sale shop that re-sells many refurbished donated items, like mattresses. Check it out!

Many items, like textiles, can be imaginatively used to create art. At recent Christmas craft shows, I saw beautiful quilts, mittens and hats made from recycled clothing. The Armory Youth Project held the Upcycle Art Challenge last week for students in grades 6-12. This art challenge is part of a statewide and national contest making sculptures with an environmental theme out of recycled materials.

Plastics, because of their inability to decompose, are the #1 cause of environmental damage to habitats, harming animals, creating toxins and disrupting natural processes. It is best to avoid single-use plastics altogether. You can drop Meijer's bags back at Meijer's. Better yet, bring re-useable bags with you.

We can do so much better in cleaning up our environment, and we will be so much happier without all the garbage we create. Make it your New Year's resolution, and remember.

*Judy Cunningham*

## Looking back at the 2023 GLEF

- Julia Chambers Environmental Activism Friday 1pm
  - Marc Miller Sustainable Tourism Friday 2pm
  - Frank Beaver LRBOI Wild Rice Restoration Project Friday 3pm
  - Lara Treemore Spears Microplastics in the Great Lakes Friday 4pm
  - Elana Warsen Composting Tips Friday 5pm
  
  - Ellen Vial MI Environ Council Saturday 1pm
  - Allen O'Shea Renewable Energy Saturday 2pm
  - Jim MacInnes A Sustainable/Reliable Energy Grid Saturday 3pm
  - Denise Keele MI Climate Action Network Saturday 4pm
  - David Milarch Archangel Ancient Tree Project Saturday 5pm
  - --The Film: [A to Zig: Drought and Deluge, circa 2023, Great Lakes E Films \(36 minutes\)](#) will be shown on Friday April 21, 2023 at 12:00 noon at the West Shore Community College (WSCC) Address: 400 River St, Manistee, MI 49660
  - The Film: [Great Lakes: One Water for Life, circa 2022, Great Lakes E Films \(60 minutes\)](#) will be shown on Saturday April 22, 2023 at 12:00 noon at the West Shore Community College (WSCC) Address: 400 River St, Manistee, MI 49660
- Friday noon showing of [Keep the Medians Wild \(10:58\)](#), 12:15pm showing of [Healing Nature \(7:33\)](#).
- Additional short films shown between presentations:  
[Kenny PSA \(0:30\)](#), [Dafne and Gabriel's PSA \(0:24\)](#), [Environman \(2:12\)](#), [Green Revolution \(1:55\)](#), [Goby Rap \(1:14\)](#), [Claymation \(:35\)](#), [Fatal Plastic \(1:10\)](#), [Waste to Energy \(1:00\)](#), [Pollution Solution \(1:20\)](#), [Electricity...What a Waste \(:25\)](#), [An Evening with Aaron and Asian Carp \(2:33\)](#), [The Future \(1:01\)](#), [Bio-Beer \(1:00\)](#), [Bio-Plastics \(1:00\)](#), [Fuel from Vegetables \(1:00\)](#)
- Coast Guard - Water Rescue Demonstration occurred on the Manistee River (Maple Street Bridge area) 11:30 AM Saturday.

Environmental Expo at the Wagoner Center Saturday April 22, 2023 in Manistee, MI 49660. 10am-3pm. An Electric Car Rally also took place outside the Wagoner Center starting.



Members of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Natural Resources Department accept The Guardian of the Great Lakes Award from John Helge at the Great Lakes Environmental Festival on April 21, 2023.

## Electric Car Show



A demonstration by members of the U.S. Coast Guard Station Manistee took place at the Manistee River Channel near Maple Street Bridge as part of the Great Lakes Environmental Festival on April 22.



Images courtesy of the Manistee News Advocate ZAK 12.31.23

- ❖ Dr. Ziggy Kozicki (University of Detroit Mercy) and Dr. Stephanie Baiyasi-Kozicki (Saginaw Valley State University) were awarded The Philo T. Farnsworth Award for their documentary film *Great Lakes: One Water for Life* (circa, 2022, Great Lakes E Films) at the Philo Festival of Media Arts in Monroe, Michigan on October 11, 2023. The filmmakers provided an image of the Great Lakes Basin bringing attention to the importance of the largest source of fresh water in the world (and the known universe). Documentary trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AbSIIMF5GcE>

