

Great Lakes Environmental Festival (GLEF)

GLEF Promotion 9&10 News
on March 29, 2024



Join us any or all 3 days:

Friday, April 19th – Award Dinner at Bluefish

Saturday, April 20, 2024, 10am-4pm; Manistee High School. 525 12th St.

Sunday, April 21, 2024, 10am, 412 4th St.

Additional details in Newsletter or www.GLEF.us

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By: Ziggy Kozicki
www.glef.us

This is how we all save the planet.

GLEF has become a regional event. GLEF celebrates how each person can do something that adds to the solutions we need to improve the environment we all share. Presenters in 2024 will create an environmental awareness about how our water, food and the air we breathe are improved or threatened by human behavior. The human right to safe drinking water and food as well as clean air has never been more important in this age of man. We can even save the planet one beer at a time. Join us.





Water expert Joan Rose to talk about water pollution at Great Lakes Environmental Festival

By: Genevieve Fox

Dr. [Joan B. Rose](#) will be the **keynote speaker** at this year's Great Lakes Environmental Festival on April 20th in Manistee, Michigan.

Rose holds the Homer Nowlin Chair in Water Research at Michigan State University and is the Director of the Water Alliance.

<https://research.msu.edu/water-alliance>

She is a member of the National Academy of Engineering (2011) and winner of the 2016 Stockholm Water Prize. She is an international expert in water microbiology, water quality and public health safety. Her research focuses on the application of new molecular methods, pathogen surveillance, removal of pathogens by water and wastewater treatment and quantitative microbial risk assessment (>300 publications). She is currently collaborating with Michigan's environmental agency EGLE on the State-wide program on Wastewater Surveillance.

The Great Lakes Environmental Festival is hosted by Ziggy Kozicki, associate professor of population health at the University of Detroit Mercy, and wife Stephanie Baiyasi. Dr. Rose was asked to speak at this year's festival after working with Kozicki and Baiyasi on their award winning film "Great Lakes: One Water for Life".

"Ziggy asked if I would come and chat," Rose said. "I'm going to open up my presentation so people can ask questions if they want, it'll be fun."

Her research circles around finding new methods and technologies to study pollution in water. One of those methods is Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR), which studies the DNA in the water.

"That's been exciting these advancements in these methods because it's led us to new tools like source tracking where we can go into water and know where fecal pollution came from," Rose said. "It gives us a way to clean it up and identify the risks."

In her research, she's studied watersheds in the Great Lakes and wastewater plants by taking samples to identify what's in the water and then looking at ways to remove pathogens in the water. That includes viruses like Rotavirus.

Many viruses are found in wastewater, Rose said. This is because they replicate in the gut and then shed through fecal matter which then spreads into our water systems. If these viruses can live through the body and be released through wastewater into the lakes or rivers, then that creates another way that these illnesses can be spread.

According to the CDC, over [7 million Americans](#) get sick every year from waterborne illnesses.

Looking at wastewater treatment for removal and reduction of viruses is very important, Rose said. It's not just looking at wastewater treatment like activated sludge which removes all of the solid particles, but to disinfect the water itself.

One of the new ways of disinfecting the water is through UV disinfection which uses electromagnetic energy to inactivate or kill the virus. There are also other methods like cloth filtration that is being used in Michigan to reduce the microbes. She adds, by combining filtration and disinfectant, you're actually improving the quality of the water.

In other states like California and Florida, they are looking into wastewater reuse, Rose said. By using these advanced methods to recover the wastewater, it becomes clean and purified which makes it safe to drink, she said.

"We use clean water to wash all of our dirty stuff and now the wastewater plants are using these advanced methods to recover and reclaim the clean water and either put it back in the environment or reuse it," Rose said.

Michigan is a great place for us to be able to evaluate all of the innovations as we move towards a modern state of managing waste water and fecal waste, Rose said.

At the festival, Rose will be sharing during her presentation on why Michigan is the epicenter of water quality, the challenges with keeping our waterways clean and how to get people more engaged in improving our water systems.

"Water touches everybody's lives and people are very intimate with water," Rose said. "We really are the blue planet and water is so integral to everything that makes this world beautiful."

Genevieve Fox - Environmental Journalism

Genevieve Fox is an award-winning environmental journalist who is now exploring the world of freelance. She primarily focuses on topics about environment, climate, health and solutions. Recently, she graduated from Michigan State University where she was a reporter for Great Lakes Echo and WKAR-Radio. There she dove into environmental journalism and gained experience in different reporting mediums like photography, short form videos, podcasts, and radio broadcasting. Since graduating, she has been freelance writing for different news outlets like Planet Detroit and Michigan Outdoor News. She is also the project editor for Metromode's Macomb series Live, Work, Play and Parks & Trails.



Genevieve will be presenting beginning at 9:45am and will MC the event.

Maryann Lesert – Changing our Climate Story

Maryann Lesert writes about people and place in equal measure. Her first novel, *Base Ten* (Feminist Press, 2009) followed an astrophysicist's quest for self among Lake Michigan's dunes and the stars. *Land Marks* (She Writes, 2024) is based on two years of boots-on-well-sites research on fracking in Michigan's state forests. Her plays have been published by *New Issues* and in Smith & Kraus's *Best Ten Minute* series. Her articles have appeared in *EcoWatch* and *In These Times*, and she is a regular presenter on art and activism. Maryann lives in west Michigan, where she teaches writing and writes by the big lake.

Maryann will be presenting from 10:45am-11:15am



Jennifer Flynn - SEEDS



Jennifer expresses her love for the natural world by seeking regenerative solutions, weaving them into both personal and professional life. As an Ecopsychologist she values the reciprocal healing benefits shared between humans and the natural environment. Living in the mountains of North Carolina for the past 14 years, she worked as an eco therapist, a rural community and economic developer, and as a consultant for regenerative enterprises. As the leader of SEEDS EcoCorps Program, she incorporates ecopsychological design practices, business and skill development into the training program for those looking to engage with the natural world. Grounded in praxis, inspired by our natural community and her Michigan roots, Jennifer is a permaculture designer and herbalist. Over 50 medicinal herbal concoctions comprise her apothecary, made by her for family and friends. This avid hiker/dog walker is also a seamstress and a sculptor using clay, metal and natural materials.

Jennifer will be presenting from 11:15am-11:45am

Les Eckert, MBA, CEPC, CCE, AAC will be presenting on Farm-to-Table from 11:45am-12:15pm



Les Eckert is the Director of Culinary at Great Lakes Culinary Institute (GLCI) at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City, Michigan. Chef Eckert has been in the culinary industry for over 30 years, is a Certified Executive Pastry Chef and Certified Culinary Educator with the American Culinary Federation (ACF).

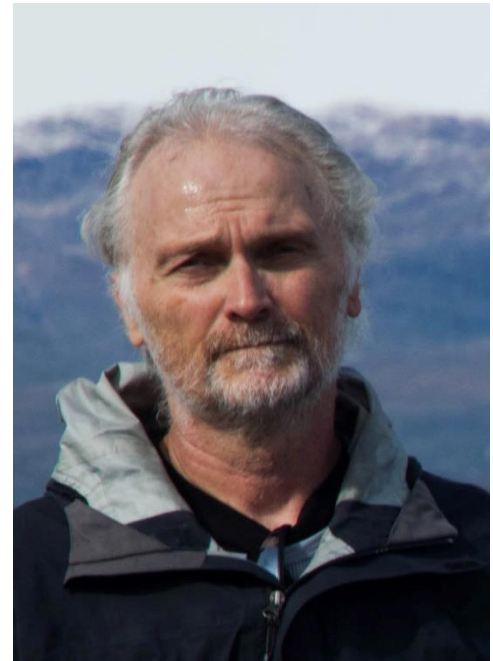
In 2022, Chef Eckert and the GLCI team added environmental stewardship to their overarching college strategic plan and embedded initiatives throughout their curriculum. Since then, students, faculty, and staff have been identifying what that means and looks like within their courses and the institute.

Peter Sinclair is a Videographer, specializing in climate and energy issues, based in Midland, Michigan.

For 12 years, Mr. Sinclair produced a monthly video series for the Yale University School of Environment, and has interviewed, worked with, traveled with and learned from hundreds of the world's leading scientists and engineers.

As Media director of the Dark Snow Project, an international crowd-funded science communication initiative, Mr. Sinclair has embedded with scientific teams in climate hot spots, including 7 times and around the Greenland Ice Sheet, as well as documenting numerous scientific conferences.

His videos are recognized by experts internationally, and have established Mr. Sinclair as a frequent presenter on climate, renewable energy, and science communication. He posts frequently to his internet page www.thinc.blog, and is a consultant to clean energy developers throughout the midwest. In 2017, the National Center for Science Education recognized Mr. Sinclair as a "Friend of the Planet".



Peter Sinclair will be presenting on Farmers & Clean Energy from 1:00pm-1:30pm



Maya K. van Rossum is author of the book [The Green Amendment, The People's Fight For a Clean, Safe & Healthy Environment](#) (2d edition). Maya is the Founder of Green Amendments For the Generations, a grass-roots non-profit inspiring constitutional recognition and protection of environmental rights in every state and ultimately at the federal level. van Rossum is also the Delaware Riverkeeper, leading the 4 state, watershed-based advocacy organization, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, for 30 years. She co-hosts Green Genes, an environmental podcast with her daughter. Since launching her Green Amendment movement, New York passed a Green Amendment in 2021, proposals are advancing in 15 additional states, and there is increasing use of amendments in MT and PA, including legal actions of which Maya is a part.

Maya will be presenting the Green Amendment from 1:30pm-2:00pm

Anibal Bher – Compostable plastic



Anibal Bher has been serving as a Research Associate at the School of Packaging at Michigan State University since 2020, where he collaborates with Dr. Rafael Auras. His research interests are focused on biodegradable packaging, polymer processing, mass transfer, biodegradation, sustainability, and life cycle assessment (LCA). He holds a B.Sc. in Chemical Engineering from Misiones, Argentina, and a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Technology from the National University of San Martin, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Anibal will be presenting from 2:00pm-2:30pm

Lara Treemore-Spears – Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)

Lara Treemore-Spears is a project manager with the Healthy Urban Waters program in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. She brings an interdisciplinary background in aquatic and terrestrial ecology, resource conservation behavior, brownfield redevelopment, water chemistry and wetland construction to her role coordinating complex research projects. At Wayne State prior to helping Dr. Wager manage the microplastics project, she designed and oversaw field operations for the Flint Area Community Health and Environment Partnership, coordinated Detroit engagement in ErieHack, oversaw improvements to the Huron-to-Erie Alliance for Research and Training Field Stations, and assisted in launching the Transformative Research in Urban Sustainability Training program.



Lara will be presenting from 2:30pm-3:00pm

Albert Duoibes will present on "Energy from Beets" from 3:00pm-3:30pm



Albert Duoibes is an executive, entrepreneur, and innovator with combined 35 year expertise in life science, agri-food supply chain valorization, sustainability, decarbonization, and renewable energy. He is passionate about using his skills to help businesses and organizations achieve their sustainability goals. He holds several US patents in these fields.

Duoibes is a highly skilled and experienced professional with a unique blend of technical expertise, business acumen, and creative thinking. He is adept at abstract thinking, communication, and problem-solving, and has a strong formal education in information technology and bio-science.

Duoibes is passionate about using his skills and expertise to help businesses and organizations achieve their sustainability goals. He is particularly interested in decarbonizing the food supply chain, developing new bioenergy solutions, and helping businesses make the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Duoibes is a firm believer that growth and innovation are essential for success in business. He has a proven track record of helping small to medium-size businesses develop and execute corporate and business development strategies that fit their unique needs. He is confident that his perspective and experience could also be an asset to large businesses.

Duoibes is a creative thinker who is always looking for new ways to connect the dots and develop innovative solutions. He is also a strong communicator and team player, and is passionate about building successful teams and businesses that make a positive impact on the world.

HOMETOWN SHOUT OUT!

Kevin Postma will be presenting on Orchard CO₂ capture from 3:30pm-4:00pm

I am high school teacher at Manistee High School and a PhD candidate in Dr. Julianna Wilson's lab using the eddy covariance method to study the carbon dioxide exchange between apple orchards and the greater atmosphere. I am also investigating the use of deep-rooted, native grasses in orchard alleys as a means to increase soil carbon sequestration. While the goal is to increase soil carbon, I am also quantifying the impact that this plant community change has on the nematode and microbiome communities.



2024 Great Lakes Environmental Festival EXPO participants

Organization	Organization	Organization	Organization
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians	Manistee County Democratic Party	Michigan Health Department District #10	Michigan Conservation Voters
Michigan Conservation District	Michigan Environmental Council	Spirit of the Woods Conservation Club	Michigan Green Communities
Rural Michigan Action Alliance	Michigan Climate Action Network	League of Women Voters	US Forest Service
Manistee Coast Guard	Maple Sugar and History	Amnesty Freedom Farm	Weesies Garden Center
MDHHS Environmental	Michigan Tech University	CBS Solar	Sierra Club
SEEDS	Genevieve Fox	Maryann Lesert	MDP Rural Caucus
Bay Area Recycling	Wayne State University	Michigan Clinicians for Climate Action	Manistee County Environmental Activists
Oil and Water	Little Manistee River Watershed District	Authors Table	True North Beach Art



There will be an electric car rally, too!!

The Great Lakes Environmental Festival Award Dinner is Fri., April 19th at the Bluefish Kitchen + Bar, 312 River St., Manistee. Happy Hour with a Meet and Greet will begin at 5:00pm and the dinner begins at 6:00pm.

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Dr. Joan B. Rose, our Saturday Keynote Presenter
 Russ Franzen, Great Lakes ballad performer
 Recipients of the Guardian of the Environment Awards
 Several sponsors for the GLEF



Russ Franzen is a simple acoustic storyteller. The stories he tells are original songs about lighthouses, lake boats, shipwrecks, canals, and life along the Great Lakes. Many of his songs were inspired by stories he heard while living in Alpena, MI. He is the author of two books and has recorded five CDs. He is a Historic Interpreter, singing and telling the stories of the Miami and Erie Canal on a mule-driven canal boat at Providence Metropark. He plays his solo acoustic music for house concerts, festivals, schools, and community groups in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois.

The Dinner Entrée options are:

- o Champagne Chicken with Creamy Shallot Champagne Sauce, Parmesan Risotto
- o Grilled Salmon with Dill Cream Sauce and Parmesan Risotto
- o American Wagyu Sirloin with Red Skin Mashed Potato
- o Vegetarian/Gluten Free Thai Curry Entrée

The Dinner cost is as follows:

\$40/person or \$75/couple. Please submit your payment to Great Lakes Environmental Festival along with your dinner option by April 11, 2024. You can mail a check made payable to GLEF and include your dinner option choice(s) to P.O. BOX 203, Manistee, MI 49660 or if paying by credit card, please click your dinner at this site (<https://www.glef.us/environmental-dinner.html>) and you will be taken to the payment webpage. Dinner choice buttons are provided. The "2 custom dinners" button allows for 2 dinners and you can note your dinner choice at the payment site or an e-mail will be sent from GLEF to determine which dinners are desired. There is a convenience fee of \$3.00 for credit card payments.

Desserts (by Dannee Hoffman) and the award ceremony will follow the dinner.

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There will also be an Environmental Worship Service on Sunday, April 21 10am at the First Congregational UCC Church, 412 4th Street Manistee, MI

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**We look forward to you joining us for the
 Great Lakes Environmental Festival 2024
 and all or any of the 3-day event!**



Donate to support GLEF



March 2024 GLEF newsletter
 compiled by Stephanie Baiyasi

The 2024 GLEF is made possible by a grant from the Manistee County Community Foundation and an award from the Lakeside Club of Manistee County