

**You are invited to *Great Lakes Now Connect: Beaches*, a Great Lakes Now Town Hall Meeting.**



**Date & Time:**

**Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>** from 9 A.M. till 12 noon

**Who:**

Detroit Public Television and The Nature Conservancy

**Where:**

Detroit Public Television  
1 Clover Court  
Wixom, MI 48393

**RSVP:**

Please let us know your plans and RSVP with **Heather Forgione at (248) 305-3707**  
or at [hforgione@dptv.org](mailto:hforgione@dptv.org)

Just in time for the summer season, Detroit Public Television and The Nature Conservancy are teaming up again to bring you another Great Lakes Now town hall event, this time on beaches.

From sandy shorelines to cobblestone coastal areas, beaches in the Great Lakes are as different as the people who enjoy them. But this intersection of land and water is also among the places most heavily used by people, and the most expensive to protect. Today, green-colored water tinged from algal blooms and shoreline covered with sharp zebra mussel shells keep tourists away from the world's largest freshwater system. So, is it safe to go the beach this summer? And what's being done to restore and maintain this global treasure?

The special will feature two panel discussions, hosted by veteran journalist Christy McDonald. Confirmed panelists so far:



***Panel 1: How Safe Are Our Beaches?***

**Katherine Kahl**, Ph. D., Conservation Policy and Practices Specialist, The Nature Conservancy in Michigan, Moderator

- **Joan Rose**, the Homer Nowlin Chair in Water Research & Co-Director of the Center for Water Sciences and Center for Advancing Microbial Risk Assessment at Michigan State University, Dept. Fisheries and Wildlife in East Lansing, MI.
- **Steve Madewell**, Director, Toledo Metroparks
- **Gene Clark**, Coastal Engineering Outreach Specialist, Wisconsin Sea Grant Superior field office

***Panel 2: Where Is My Lake?***

**Patrick Doran**, Director of Conservation Programs, The Nature Conservancy in Michigan, Moderator

- **Jon Allan**, Director, Michigan Office of the Great Lakes
- **Drew Gronewold**, Hydrologist, Physical Scientist, NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab

The morning will be broadcast live on DPTV's Channel 56.2 and will be streamed live online from 10am-12am at [GreatLakesNow.org/Connect](http://GreatLakesNow.org/Connect). The broadcast will also be available "on demand" online within 24 hours of the broadcast.

For more information: [GreatLakesNow.org](http://GreatLakesNow.org)