

# 2022 CATF Year-End Report



## Membership and Organizational Summary

- Brian Hummel, Michael Larson, Erik Powers, Karen Schmitt, and Darlene Walch were selected to join CATF by the Membership Committee.
- CATF website reorganized with a new domain and full redesign scheduled for 2023.
- CATF intern Anni Skillicorn worked with Marquette County and Marquette Township staff to draft climate change resolutions for the consideration of the respective commissions.
- CATF members Emily Leach, Tyler Penrod, and Jes Thompson provided interviews for the documentary “Climate Sisu,” the first documentary to address climate change and community resiliency in Michigan. You can watch the trailer here: <https://youtu.be/TIMmvrIGVgk>

### 2022 CATF Members:

- |                      |                  |                            |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| • Karen Alholm       | • Emily Leach    | • Greg Seppanen            |
| • Zosia Eppensteiner | • Carl Lindquist | • Anni Skillicorn - Intern |
| • Scott Erbisch      | • Jerry Messana  | • Dave Stensaas            |
| • Jenn Hill          | • Brad Neumann   | • Ryan Stock               |
| • Brian Hummel       | • Tyler Penrod   | • Jes Thompson             |
| • Bob Kulisheck      | • Erik Powers    | • Darlene Walch            |
| • Michael Larson     | • Karen Schmitt  |                            |

### 2022 Steering Committee Members:

- |                                   |                       |                              |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| • Zosia Eppensteiner – Vice Chair | • Bob Kulisheck       | • Tyler Penrod – Coordinator |
| • Scott Erbisch                   | • Emily Leach – Chair | • Jes Thompson               |
|                                   | • Brad Neumann        |                              |

### 2022 Membership Committee Members:

- |                |                 |                |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| • Brad Neumann | • Greg Seppanen | • Jes Thompson |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|

## 2022 CATF Supported Accomplishments Overview

- CATF submitted public comment in support of the MI Healthy Climate Plan
- CFMC supported local nonprofits and programs with more than \$1 million in grants
- City of Marquette began engaging the community as part of the Master Plan update process
- City of Marquette started the resiliency planning process
- Marquette County and Marquette Charter Township are considering climate resolutions for adoption
- Marquette County Interactive Hazard Mitigation Map tutorial recorded at CATF meeting
- Marquette Charter Township is streamlining the permitting process for residential solar installations
- MSUE hosted webinars and workshops on stormwater management, renewable energy infrastructure, community planning, and sustainable tourism
- Northern Climate Network hosted 6 hybrid Climate@Noon presentations
- NMU’s Sustainability Hub for Innovation and Environment (SHINE) is now 75% powered by solar
- NMU’s Interim Strategic Plan includes a focus area called “Builders of a Culture of Sustainability”
- Superior Watershed Partnership’s Great Lakes Climate Corps had a successful 2022 season
- SWP received several grants to further its initiative to plant 100,000 trees

## 2022 Project Summaries

### *City of Marquette*

The City of Marquette planned for and began implementing the community engagement phase of the Community Master Plan update. Climate change adaptation and mitigation will have its own section in the plan. You can follow the progress of the Master Plan update process here: <https://marquette-master-plan-bria2.hub.arcgis.com/>

The City of Marquette also began a resiliency planning process with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and Smith Group. Representatives from Smith Group gave a presentation to CATF about the resiliency planning process and receive input from CATF members on the utilization of the existing NMU Coastlines and People and Marquette County Climate Plans.

### *Community Foundation of Marquette County (CFMC)*

The Community Foundation's mission is to enrich the lives of all people in Marquette County by connecting donors with community needs, building permanent funds for charitable giving, distributing scholarships and grants, and leading and collaborating to address community opportunities. To further their mission in 2022, CFMC supported local nonprofits and programs with more than \$1.2 million in grants, including funding for education, the environment and human services. CFMC also distributed more than \$130,000 in scholarships from the 76 scholarship funds we administer to 64 college-bound graduating seniors throughout the county.

Community Environmental Monitoring Program (CEMP): <https://swpcemp.org/>

CFMC Clean Energy Fund: <https://cfofmc.org/2021/06/25/clean-energy/>

### *Jenn Hill - Michigan State House Representative*

UPPCO proposed raising residential rates by 12% and small commercial rates by 26%. You can read more about it here:

[https://mipsc.force.com/sfc/servlet.shepherd/version/download/0688y0000044PrZA\\_AU](https://mipsc.force.com/sfc/servlet.shepherd/version/download/0688y0000044PrZA_AU)

The Michigan Public Service Commission met in Marquette on September 21 to receive public input on the integrated resource plan.

5 Lakes Energy is working with Michigan Energy Options and three other groups to create carbon neutrality climate plans for Traverse City Light and Power and Ann Arbor.

More information about Ann Arbor:

[https://www.a2gov.org/departments/sustainability/Documents/A2Zero%20Climate%20Action%20Plan%20\\_3.0.pdf](https://www.a2gov.org/departments/sustainability/Documents/A2Zero%20Climate%20Action%20Plan%20_3.0.pdf)

More information about Traverse City:

[https://www.recordeagle.com/news/local\\_news/tcl-p-orders-climate-actionplan/article\\_0cee7b28-1a7b-11ed-842c-4b735e877a01.html](https://www.recordeagle.com/news/local_news/tcl-p-orders-climate-actionplan/article_0cee7b28-1a7b-11ed-842c-4b735e877a01.html)

The upcoming statewide building code update is an opportunity to require more energy efficient building.

En-ROADS is a freely-available online simulator that provides policymakers, educators, businesses, the media, and the public with the ability to test and explore cross-sector climate solutions: <https://www.climateinteractive.org/enroads/>

Negaunee Township is the pilot community for a discussion around renewable energy led by University of Michigan graduate students.

The State of Michigan passed a solid waste management law with a new holistic approach to materials management. It's anticipated that funding will be available to update Marquette County's solid waste management plan.

### *Marquette County*

Marquette County published a new publicly available map of hazard mitigation action items. The creation of this interactive map is intended for municipalities to work together to make Marquette County more resilient and open new opportunities for funding. The map will be updated every five years as action items are addressed and as new hazards are identified. A recorded tutorial and the map can be found here: <https://www.mqtccoplan.org/hazard-mitigation-plan>

Marquette County's Local Emergency Planning Committee is looking for up to 8 additional members. The State of Michigan is responsible for appointing committee members who act in an emergency planning and preparation capacity. Contact Brian Hummel for more information.

### *Marquette Charter Township*

Marquette Charter Township partnered with the Marquette County Conservation District to plant native species in the median of a highway: [https://www.uppermichiganssource.com/2022/10/06/us-41-corridor-native-planting-project-underway/?utm\\_source=Tagged+and+Merged&utm\\_campaign=8b47263eId-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2018\\_12\\_21\\_02\\_23\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_c712b25a69-8b47263eId-168030709](https://www.uppermichiganssource.com/2022/10/06/us-41-corridor-native-planting-project-underway/?utm_source=Tagged+and+Merged&utm_campaign=8b47263eId-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_12_21_02_23_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c712b25a69-8b47263eId-168030709)

Marquette Charter Township is focused on updating its Zoning Ordinance throughout the winter to make it more friendly to higher capacity development (ADU's, multi-family homes, etc.) and streamlining the permitting process for residential solar which currently requires a special use permit and a public hearing.

### *Michigan State University Extension (MSUE)*

Brad Neumann presented a webinar discussing green infrastructure for stormwater management in rural and suburban settings on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup>.

Brad invited local representatives to participate in the Michigan Renewable Energy Academy on planning for and regulating the development of renewable energy infrastructure. A workshop was held in Marquette County on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Brad hosted the Citizen Planner Program in partnership with Marquette County and Marquette Charter Township.

MSU Extension hosted a webinar series called Critical Conversations on Sustainable Tourism. Recorded webinars from this series can be viewed here: [https://mediaspace.msu.edu/playlist/dedicated/I\\_9vqnpjbj/I\\_q6v8oewn](https://mediaspace.msu.edu/playlist/dedicated/I_9vqnpjbj/I_q6v8oewn)

### *Northern Climate Network*

The Northern Climate Network received a generous donation to hire an intern and hosted the following Climate@Noon seminars:

January 21 – Mayor Jenna Smith: Marquette Climate Action Resolution

February 18 – Biidaaban Reinhardt: Indigenizing Environmental Justice

March 18 – Ahmed Elnoshokaty: Climate Change Petitions

October 7 – Emily Leach: Marquette County Climate Adaptation Task Force

November 4 – John Forslin: Climate Reality Project

December 2 – Dr. Gana Adebisi: Earth Environment & Geographical Sciences

NCN Website: <https://nmu.edu/northernclimatenetwork/>

NCN Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/188899098115459/>

NCN YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCES8I7AnzWqL8yd2TVs5wnw>

### *Northern Michigan University (NMU)*

In summary, sustainability gains made by NMU in recent years have been led by students. NMU's recently adopted Interim Strategic Plan places a greater responsibility on the institution to make structural changes and investments in sustainability. Some action items include developing an energy and carbon neutrality plan, transitioning the University's fleet to hybrid and electric vehicles, implementing a post-consumer composting program, and developing an interdisciplinary sustainability curriculum accessible to students from all degree programs.

NMU's Sustainability Hub for Innovation & Environment (SHINE) is now 75% powered by a solar array paid for by students through the Green Fund.

SHINE Website: <https://nmu.edu/shine/>

EcoReps is a student sustainability peer-to-peer education program designed to give students the resources and knowledge to solve environmental, economic and social sustainability issues. EcoReps participated in Sustainability Week, hosted skill builder workshops, supported campus sustainability initiatives, and funded Green Fund projects aimed to make NMU a more sustainable campus. Project submissions ranged widely from student awareness programs and behavior-changing campaigns to infrastructure upgrades and installations.

EcoReps Website: <https://nmu.edu/sustainablenmu/ecoreps>

EcoReps Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NMUEcoReps/>

### *Superior Watershed Partnership (SWP)*

SWP partnered with the City of Marquette to resubmit a \$1.6 million grant application to the Department of Transportation. The grant was funded and publicly touted by the Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg as an example of the importance of perseverance while encouraging other applicants whose first applications aren't funded to rework and resubmit their proposal. The sand dredged from the port will be repurposed for the renaturalization of the green space between Lakeshore Boulevard and the Lake Superior shoreline. Restoration efforts of Lakeshore Boulevard began this year with trees, shrubs, beach grass and other native

flora planted as the first step of a much larger naturalization project that will continue through next year.

SWP partnered with the City of Marquette to coordinate another salamander migration this year at Presque Isle Park. SWP and NMU's Biology Department incorporated a citizen science component to inform future road closure dates and times and provide local data for classroom exercises.

SWP received a \$216,000 GLRI grant to plant thousands of trees in Ishpeming, Hannahville Indian Community, and Keweenaw Bay Indian Community.

SWP hired, trained, and deployed more than 40 Great Lakes Climate Corps seasonal employees across the Upper Peninsula this summer to work alongside project partners on conservation, restoration, and recreation projects across the UP. Some highlights included initial plantings and recreation infrastructure installation along Lakeshore Boulevard, coastal restoration plantings with the Hiawatha National Forest, more than 100 miles of trail improvements in the Ottawa National Forest, and thousands of trees planted UP wide.

You can learn more about SWP's Stannard Rock Lighthouse & International Climate Research Station by visiting the Marquette Maritime Museum. A new sign was installed overlooking the lake describing the collaborative climate research happening 45 miles out in Lake Superior.

SWP has \$288,000 of funding available to remove hazardous fuel loads (tree and brush removal) around community infrastructure to reduce the impact and risk of wildfire. SWP is looking for partners to help identify fire mitigation/climate adaptation project locations in their community/jurisdiction.

SWP received a service award from Governor Whitmer and the Michigan Public Service Commission recognizing their contributions during the beginning of the pandemic including manning contract tracing phones, hosting food distribution events, and opening campgrounds and trails to allow people to recreate safely outdoors weeks before they would've been able to otherwise.

SWP is partnering with the DNR Forest to Faucet program to plant trees in the Dead River Basin in Marquette County. This project will result in thousands of trees planted in Marquette County for the benefit of drinking water quality.

SWP's MEAP office continued its charge to provide low-income Upper Peninsula residents with free emergency assistance to pay energy bills, financial literacy classes, energy efficiency upgrades, and solar unit installations. This program serves thousands of people each year by lowering their energy bills by improving home efficiency and reducing consumption of GHG emitting energy.

GLCC Website & Video: <https://superiorwatersheds.org/projects/great-lakes-conservation-corps>

SWP Energy Program Website: <https://superiorwatersheds.org/energy-conservation>

Lakeshore Boulevard Website: <https://www.marquettetmi.gov/lakeshore/>