



**August 2017**

**In this Issue: Waters of the US request for action; Next BOD Meeting Scheduled and Great Lakes Leadership Academy**

### **Executive Director's Message**

As summer draws to a close and the smell of fall is in the air, I hope that you had a great spring and summer season.

As you know, this organization is now one of a large umbrella and includes all greenhouses. This inclusion is beneficial to not only all greenhouse operators, but the industry as there is power in numbers. As your board of directors work to improve the greenhouse industry it is important to have your participation.



We have been working specifically on crop insurance and indemnity for the greenhouse industry this year. In an unfortunate situation, this coverage could prevent a greenhouse operation from losing everything. We do not want anyone to unnecessarily lose their business. Several of us will be traveling to Washington DC this fall to meet with legislators on the importance of including greenhouses in these opportunities.

You will soon be receiving your 2018 membership renewal. Please take a moment to update your information and renew your membership. We appreciate your participation.

As always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Val Vail-Shirey".

Val Vail-Shirey, Executive Director

### **Submit your Comments to Repeal the WOTUS Rule**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released a proposal to withdraw the overreaching Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule.

EPA will take public comments through September 27 and it is very important for greenhouse growers to share your comments!

### **Extension of Comment Period for the Definition of "Waters of the United States" – Recodification of Pre-existing Rules**

EPA and the Army have extended the comment period by 30 days for the proposed first step of the review of the definition of "waters of the United States" to provide additional time for stakeholders to weigh in.

## Background

The comment period, as now extended, will close on September 27, 2017. The proposed rule was signed by the Administrator and Mr. Douglas Lamont, senior official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, and posted to EPA's website on June 27th and published in the *Federal Register* on July 27th. When finalized, the proposed rule would replace the 2015 Clean Water Rule with the regulations that were in effect immediately preceding the 2015 rule. The public can submit comments, identified by Docket Id. EPA-HQ-2017-0203, at [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov).

## Federal Register Notice

On August 16, 2017, the EPA Acting Assistant Administrator for Water, Michael Shapiro, along with Mr. Douglas Lamont, senior official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, signed the *Federal Register* notice extending the public comment period, which published on August 22, 2017.

### MICHIGAN GREENHOUSE GROWERS COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  RETAIL  WHOLESALE

PRODUCT TYPES: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL NAME(S) FROM OUR FIRM TO RECEIVE UPDATES:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE ATTACH ANY ADDITIONAL NAMES/E-MAILS AS NEEDED.

I do not have e-mail; please send Updates by mail.

#### GROWERS

- Under \$250 thousand..... \$100
- \$250K to \$499 thousand..... \$200
- \$500 to \$999 thousand ..... \$500
- \$1 million to \$1.99 million..... \$1000
- \$2 million to \$3.99 million..... \$2000
- \$4 million and up..... \$2500

#### ALLIED TRADES

- Under \$1 million ..... \$500
- \$1 million and above..... \$1000

#### INTERESTED OTHERS (NON-VOTING)

- Floriculture Educators ..... \$50
- Floriculture Students ..... \$25
- Friend of the Industry (non-commercial)...\$25

*Interested in being a Board Member? How about joining one of our committees (policy and membership)? Or do you just have a general question or comment for us? Please let us know below!*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Pay by credit card or make check payable to and mail to:*

#### MICHIGAN GREENHOUSE GROWERS COUNCIL

Total amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_  Visa  MC  AMEX

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ CID# \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

P.O. Box 278, Bath, MI 48808  
Phone: 517-367-2033 Fax: 517-372-1501  
Email: [mail@mifgc.org](mailto:mail@mifgc.org)

# Next Board meeting is September 21, 2017 at 9 am at the Greenstone Headquarters in East Lansing

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## Great Lakes Leadership Academy

It is time to actively recruit for the next round of Great Lakes Leadership Academy cohorts. They are looking for applicants who:

- Are involved in production agriculture or a career closely tied to agriculture;
- Are open to learning from others very different from themselves, considering different ideas and perspectives, and working effectively with others to set and meet goals;
- Have a sincere interest in developing their leadership dispositions, abilities, and knowledge and are open minded enough to pursue deep self-exploration;
- Have the level of maturity and self-awareness necessary to take full advantage of the learning opportunity and apply the lessons to his/her life;
- Have demonstrated the appropriate level of leadership, interest and participation in service to the agricultural industry for his/her career status and age; and
- Have a significant pattern of commitment to agriculture evidenced by family history, education, and involvement in agricultural related organizations;
- Have the necessary support from their employer or has the capacity within their business to participate fully in the program; and
- Ultimately, you feel the agricultural industry will benefit as a result of the applicant's participation in GLLA.

If you are interested in applying for the 2018 Emerging Leader Program or the 2018-2019 Leadership Advancement Program or if you would like more information please visit [www.glla.msu.edu](http://www.glla.msu.edu)

Application deadline for Leadership Advancement Program 2018-2019 is November 1, 2017.

Application deadline for Emerging Leader Program 2018 is January 1, 2018.

We are happy to come out and talk to individuals or your organization about GLLA. If you are willing to set something up please contact Christy to work out the details at [romanch4@anr.msu.edu](mailto:romanch4@anr.msu.edu) or 517-353-6472.

Thank you for helping us develop the next generation of leaders for Michigan.

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