

MLWP
Muskegon Lake
Watershed Partnership

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Web Site: www.muskegonlake.org

July 24, 2012

Ms. Stephanie Swart
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Office of the Great Lakes
Lansing, MI

Dear Ms. Swart

Re: Recommendation to Remove the Restrictions on Fish Consumption Beneficial Use Impairment

The decision to recommend removal of the BUI was made at a public meeting of the Muskegon Lake Watershed Partnership (MLWP) on July 12, 2012.

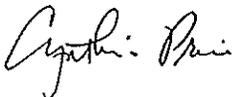
The MLWP is recommending the removal of this BUI is because:

1) A Muskegon Lake Area of Concern fish tissue analysis study was performed by Grand Valley State University Annis Water Resources Institute (GVSU-AWRI), with funding by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. It collected and analyzed fish tissue according to the criteria established for the removal of the Restrictions on Fish Consumption BUI. The MLWP determined that the results of the study have indicated that the BUI Target has been met for the Muskegon Lake AOC.

On behalf of the MLWP, the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission placed the report on the MLWP website at www.muskegonlake.org. Via the MLWP website, facebook page and e-mail distribution list, the media and the public was notified about opportunities to review the study over a two month period, and to attend a public meeting of the MLWP at 12:00 noon on June 14 to hear a presentation on the results. Dr. Rick Rediske, GVSU-AWRI, presented. The meeting was attended by more than 25 local community members and staff from the MDEQ. On July 12, 2012, the MLWP voted unanimously to recommend removal of the BUI.

We appreciate the work that the MDEQ is doing to support and partner with the MLWP to remediate, restore and delist the Muskegon Lake AOC, as well as for your work on other ongoing natural resource concerns in our watershed.

Sincerely,



Cynthia Price, Chair

CC: Kathy Evans, MLWP Support Staff
West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission