



# Notes from the desk of Amy Keranen

Spring  
2016

Hi! This note is brought to you by the Remediation and Redevelopment Division (RRD) of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Calumet Field Office. Our division's goal is to keep you up to date on the RRD's environmental projects underway in the Keweenaw Peninsula. My name is Amy Keranen and I'm the DEQ project manager for the Abandoned Mining Wastes—Torch Lake project. I can be reached at the following phone number and addresses, and hope you'll keep in touch! DEQ Calumet Field Office (MSP Post), 55195 U.S. 41 North, Calumet, MI 49913; 906-337-0389; [keranena@michigan.gov](mailto:keranena@michigan.gov).

*Amy*

## Abandoned Mining Wastes Reports Finalized

As mentioned in the Fall-Winter 2015-2016 Newsletter, the reports of our work in the C&H Lake Linden (CHLL) and C&H Tamarack City (CHTC) Operations Areas of the Abandoned Mining Wastes (AMW) project have been finalized and are available for viewing.

The report is available as a PDF version for viewing on a computer and we are in the process of making a website for the project where these reports can also be found. In the meantime, there is a set of CDs (one for each CHLL and CHTC) at the Lake Linden Public Library. Copies have also been distributed to the Torch Lake Area of Concern Public Action Council (PAC) who represents local stakeholders with the federal and state agencies working at the Torch Lake Area of Concern (AOC) and Superfund site.

## Project Open House Scheduled for May 17th 4-8 pm

The DEQ AMW project team is hosting another project Open House - our last one was in May of 2015. We received good feedback from the attendees that the opportunity to come meet with us and to talk about the project was appreciated.

From 4-8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17th, the AMW project team involved in the planning, field work, and reporting for the project will be on hand at the Lake Linden-Hubbell High School Auditorium to share our findings with the community. The DEQ sampling crew who conducted on-land and in-lake investigative activities will be there with some of their equipment and pictures and videos of their findings. We will have maps and other photos on display to show you where we conducted our work and what we found.

It will be an informal open house, providing you with the opportunity to drop in to meet the project team and to get your questions answered. We hope to see you there.

### Inside this issue:

Reports Finalized	1
Project Open House Announced	1
2016 Field Work Planned	2
Eat Safe Fish—June meeting	2

**We're on the web!**

**DEQ/RRD**

[http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3306\\_28608--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3306_28608--,00.html)

## 2016 Field Work Plans Under Development

As previously mentioned in the Winter 2015/2016 newsletter from February, the AMW project team is working on the details for field work. The items we are focusing on, to start in mid-May are:

- Preparing a Limited Feasibility Study and conducting pre-design studies to support remediation of the CHLL Hubbell Processing Area (the former Coal Dock & Mineral Building properties) pertaining to PCB containing materials, asbestos containing building materials (ACBM), waste piles, drums and soil erosion prevention. Until conditions at the site can be improved, the public should avoid accessing this private property without taking appropriate precautions.
- Conducting geophysical investigations of suspected buried waste in the CHTC area (to determine the extent of waste buried in the stampsands).
- Developing plans to address an old dump area with ACBM in the CHTC area.
- Conducting additional underwater camera work in the CHLL Hubbell Processing Area; and,
- Conducting in-lake side-scan sonar investigations in the “Quincy-Mason” area of the AMW project, in advance of our on-land investigation anticipated in 2017.

The EPA Emergency Response Branch is working on asbestos issues at the former Calumet Stampmill.

### **Eat Safe Fish Workshop**

**Fisheries Division of the DNR  
Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)  
Office of the Great Lakes, DEQ  
Water Resource Division, DEQ**

**June 1<sup>st</sup> 5-8:30 pm Lake Linden High School Auditorium**

Staff from various State agencies will be providing information to the public about how to “Eat Safe Fish” from Torch Lake. They will be sharing what the current recommendations are and what is causing the fish consumption advisory in Torch Lake. Information about local interest in creating a watershed management plan will also be discussed. Staff will be available to meet with the public starting at 5pm, with a presentation of information from 6:30 until 8:30pm.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, have other information regarding historic waste handling we should be aware of, or have any concerns you wish to discuss with me, please contact me. This spring and summer I'll be busy out in the field so you won't easily find me at my desk. If you don't bump into me around town as I work at the various sites, the next best way to find me is via my email at [keranena@michigan.gov](mailto:keranena@michigan.gov). I'll keep you informed as significant progress is made. Thanks for your interest, patience, and attention. I am hoping to see you at the project open house on May 17th. *Amy*