

## Friends of the Boyne River

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*"The purpose of the Friends of the Boyne River is to improve and conserve the environmental health and recreational quality of the Boyne River and its watershed."*

### 2025 Friends of the Boyne River Bulletin

Dear Members,

- \* We're pleased to announce the 2025 schedule of guest speakers and membership activities.
- \* Progress on new plant identification signage at the Boyne River Nature Area is being made. If all goes well, watch for a grand opening later this summer.
- \* Plans for a July or August children's event are underway.
- \* After 8 years of "Throw Water Not Balloons" on July 4, we are successful—the river was clean of balloon debris! *Thank you to all who helped with this educational and environmental effort.*

~ Board of Directors



### We're excited to announce the 2025 Guest Speakers

~ Note event locations ~ Bring a friend. ~ No reservation ~

May 14, Wed., 7pm, Boyne District Library Two for One Presentation!



Mellissa Zelenak

**ORVs in the Jordan Valley**  
**Melissa Zelenak, Exec. Dir.**  
**Antrim Conservation District**

Melissa will update us on the controversial possible permitting of ORVs in the Jordan River Valley. Katie, CAKE CISMA team, will also be here to talk about identifying invasive plant species and what to do about them. Bring your questions.

*\*Charlevoix Antrim Kalkaska Emmet (CAKE) Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) Co-hosted by the Boyne District Library*

**Invasive Plant Species**  
**Katie Gray**  
**CAKE CISMA\***



Katie Gray

June 18, Wed., 7pm, Boyne City Hall



Eric Hemenway

**History of the LTBB in the Region**  
**Eric Hemenway, Archives Director**  
**Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians**

Eric has lifelong involvement in researching Odawa history, collaborating with museums, universities and schools. Hear about "The Land of Crooked Tree" and LTBB's long, rich history in our area.

*Co-hosted by the Boyne Heritage Center*

Sept. 10, Wed., 7pm, Boyne District Library



Jeremy Wood

**Talking Turkeys – Nature's Marvels**  
**Jeremy Wood, Wildlife Biologist**  
**Michigan DNR, Gaylord**

With a 5-ft. wingspan, it is North American's largest game bird. Learn about their social structure, history of populations, how they survive Michigan winters and more.

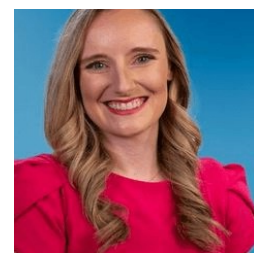
*Co-hosted by Boyne District Library*

Oct. 8, Wed., 7pm, Boyne City Hall

**Forecasting in Northern Michigan: How it works behind the television screen**  
**Heather Bricca, Morning Meteorologist, UpNorthLive ABC 7&4**

What is the Climate Prediction Center and how are day-to-day forecasts made? How does she stay on top of Michigan's ever-changing weather? She will tell us how it works!

*Co-hosted by the Boyne Valley Garden Club*



Heather Bricca

**~ Save 2025 Dates ~**  
**Volunteers are Welcome**

**April 25** (Fri) 10-12pm  
Arbor Day Celebration - Boyne City's  
Veterans Park Pavilion

The FoBR and the Boyne Valley  
Garden Club are giving away sugar  
maple, red oak, American mountain  
ash and basswood seedlings. The City is giving away pine  
and spruce seedlings. Vendors and activities are planned.



Red Oak

**May 6** (Tues) & **Sept 9** (Tues) 9am-noon.  
Join the STREAM TEAM volunteer river  
monitors

The presence or absence of pollution-  
sensitive "water bugs" indicates river health.  
Help catch and identify them!

**231-330-2923 for details**



Stream Team



BRNA Spruce Up

**June 17** (Tue) "Spruce Up" at Boyne  
River Nature Area and rain garden.

Bring garden tools to mulch memorial  
trees, pull weeds, weed whip and plant  
flowers in preparation for summer  
visitors. 10am-noon followed by a light  
lunch. Located in the Boyne City Busi-  
ness Park off M-75 S.



Purple Loosestrife

**June or July** TBD Purple Loosestrife-eating  
beetles delivery & distribution

Purple loosestrife is a wetland plant native to  
Europe and Asia where native insects and diseas-  
es kept it in check. Introduced to North America in  
the 1800s as a garden plant, it spread to wild  
areas and degraded habitat for native plants and  
animals. We partner with Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council to purchase  
and distribute beetles.



River Sweepers

**Aug 16** (Sat) Boyne River Sweep, 9am-noon. Veterans Park boat launch. Bring a kayak to paddle from  
Dam Rd., or walk streambanks. Questions? 231-330-2923

**Sept 3** (Wed) Annual Membership meeting, Veterans Park Pavilion, Boyne City

**Dec 6** (Sat) Christmas Social at Boyne City Hall

***Have you noticed that the five crowd hydrology gauges are absent from the river?***

Our Boyne River crowd hydrology project wrapped up in the fall. In ten successful years of citizen scientists  
texting river water data to a computer, 1,892 water level observations were submitted.

Supported by a National Science Foundation grant, five faculty members from four universities used the  
project as a case study on how to use citizen scientist data to run numerical models to forecast hydrologic  
events. The project supported seven papers in scientific literature.

*Thank you to everyone who helped, especially to citizens who took time to text. This experiment in social interaction is a model of possibilities.*

*A summary letter by lead project professor Chris Lowry is on our website.*



2025 Board of Directors meets fourth Wednesdays, 6pm, Boyne District Library Community Room

Adam Kennedy, President  
Joe Manary, Vice President  
Nancy Cunningham, Secretary  
Sharon Kemp, Treasurer  
Candy Greene, Exec. Committee  
Member at Large

Directors:  
Sam Day  
Bob Greene  
Brian Kozminski  
Sheri Rhoads  
Jeff Freeman  
Julie Hasse  
Gow Litzenburger



**Thank you for renewing your 2025 membership!**  
**Welcome new members!**  
**Your support of river activities is appreciated.**

