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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**THE WATERSHED CENTER ANNOUNCES FLY ROD RAFFLE TO BENEFIT MISSION**

**Traverse City, MI, April 4, 2023** – The Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay is pleased to announce that tickets for their 2023 Fly Rod Raffle are on sale now until Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. Tickets can be purchased for \$50 each in-person at The Watershed Center office or online at [gtbay.org](http://gtbay.org) and picked up at their office.

The Watershed Center works alongside community stakeholders within the Grand Traverse Bay watershed to monitor for emerging threats to our aquatic systems and advocate for policies that protect the health of Grand Traverse Bay and its surrounding waterways. One hundred percent of proceeds from the 2023 Fly Rod Raffle will benefit this critical work.

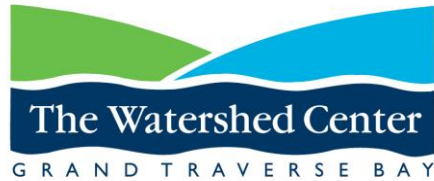
“Whether you’re an avid trout fisherman on the Boardman River, someone who enjoys a relaxing day on Haserot Beach, or a paddler on the Chain of Lakes Water Trail, you understand the deep connection between the “up north” way of life and clean water,” says The Watershed Center’s Director of Philanthropy Michelle Handke. “This raffle is a unique opportunity for our community to support swimmable, fishable, and drinkable water in the Grand Traverse Bay watershed, while also giving you a chance to win some amazing prizes created by local artists and craftsmen.”

With every raffle ticket purchased, individuals will be entered to win one of three hand-crafted prizes, including:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Custom Dave Jankowski Bamboo Fly Rod
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Signed Glenn Wolff “Lost Lake” Original Pen and Ink Watercolor
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Custom Rod Rebant Wooden Landing Net

In addition to the opportunity to win these great prizes, each raffle ticket includes a hand-signed print of artist Glenn Wolff’s “Lost Lake” pen and ink watercolor.

When asked why he donated one of his hand-crafted bamboo fly rods to this raffle, Dave Jankowski said, “I have been an active volunteer with the Watershed Center since 2008, shortly after moving to Northern Michigan. Since then, I have participated in semi-annual stream searches and have been a validator of the program’s search samples. As a passionate fly fisherman, it is all about the insects, and that leads to the desire to ensure that our streams are



healthy and productive. I support The Watershed Center financially and am glad to donate one of my hand-crafted fly rods to their fundraising effort.”

Visit [gtbay.org](http://gtbay.org) to view prizes, purchase your tickets, and learn more about how local waters will benefit from this raffle.

Raffle license #R68573.

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*The Watershed Center is a non-profit organization that advocates for clean water in Grand Traverse Bay and acts to protect and preserve its 1,000-square mile watershed, which covers portions of Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Antrim, and Kalkaska counties. Learn more at [gtbay.org](http://gtbay.org).*