



Contact:

Christine Crissman
The Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay
ccrissman@gtbay.org
231.935.1514 ext. 1

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OPEN WATER SWIM EVENT IN GRAND TRAVERSE BAY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS
SWIM FOR GRAND TRAVERSE BAY SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 10, 2024**

Traverse City, MI; July 18, 2024 – The [Swim for Grand Traverse Bay](#) is a 2-mile, open water swim event to benefit The Watershed Center that will take place on Saturday, August 10, 2024, in Traverse City. Registration is currently open for [swimmers](#) (\$45/swimmer) and [support paddlers](#) (\$20/paddler), as well as for [volunteers](#) that are needed to make the event fun and safe.

“The Swim for Grand Traverse Bay is unique because it gets our community of passionate swimmers into the water we collectively work to protect,” said The Watershed Center’s Executive Director Christine Crissman. “This event wouldn’t be possible without the work of dedicated volunteers so we’re asking community members that take pride in our water and want to help us put on an exceptional event to consider donating their time.”

Interested individuals can sign up [online](#). Volunteers will receive a t-shirt and be treated to a pancake breakfast immediately following the event. Volunteer opportunities include:

- **Safety Squad:** Serving on the safety squad is a great opportunity for an experienced open water paddler (kayak, SUP). Safety squad paddlers will monitor the field of swimmers and individual support paddlers, assist with swimmer counts along the course, and create additional visibility along the course. There will be a mandatory safety briefing at 7:15am to allow paddlers to be out on the course before the swimmers start.
- **General Volunteers:** A small group is needed to help with pre-event set up and organization, packet pickup, event clean-up, and other event-related tasks.
- **Buoy Set Up & Retrieval:** Help set and retrieve the course buoys the day of the event. Equipment and coordinates are set; we just need a boat and the expertise to get them in the water.

In addition to these volunteer opportunities, The Watershed Center is also in need of certified lifeguards for to help ensure the safety of our swimmers and support paddlers. Certified lifeguards will receive \$50 per event and a free ticket to the pancake breakfast.

Visit swimfortgbay.org to learn more about the 2024 Swim for Grand Traverse Bay.

#

About The Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay

The Watershed Center is a non-profit organization that advocates for clean water in Grand Traverse Bay and acts to protect and preserve its watershed. The Watershed Center blends



scientific and policy expertise with education, advocacy, collaboration, and solution-oriented actions to serve as a multi-faceted resource for the community. Learn more at gtbay.org.