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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

17th ANNUAL FRESHWATER SUMMIT OCTOBER 30, 2024
REGISTRATION AVAILABLE THROUGH THE WATERSHED CENTER

TRAVERSE CITY, MI – October 16, 2024 – The Freshwater Roundtable is proud to announce the 17th Annual Freshwater Summit. The Summit will be held on Wednesday, October 30th from 9:00am – 3:00pm at the Hagerty Center at Northwestern Michigan College. A full agenda and registration information is available online at www.gtbay.org/freshwater-summit/. Cost is \$40/person or \$20/student and includes lunch.

“We are thrilled to host this event that provides our community with the latest research and information regarding the health of our Great Lakes,” said Christine Crissman, executive director of The Watershed Center. “We have another great lineup of professional speakers and look forward to discussing current challenges and opportunities facing local and regional freshwater efforts.”

Presentations include aging whitefish populations and creative new restoration strategies, employing effective swimmer’s itch prevention strategies to protect freshwater ecosystems, preliminary survey of microplastics in the Boardman-Ottaway River and what you can do about microplastics, and lightning talks about local initiatives. In addition to these presentations, the Freshwater Summit will conclude with a workshop on tips for talking with youth experiencing climate anxiety.

The 17th Annual Freshwater Summit is sponsored by the [Great Lakes Environmental Center, Inc.](#) and [FishPass](#), a project sponsored by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and City of Traverse City.

“We are honored to offer our continued support of the Freshwater Summit,” said Dennis McCauley, president of the Great Lakes Environmental Center and one of the sponsors of the event. “The Freshwater Summit is a highly valued venue that brings environmental professionals, citizens, and businesses up to date on matters that mean the most for the understanding and protection of the Grand Traverse Bay watershed.”

“FishPass and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission are honored to be a part of the greater Traverse City community,” said Leah Bagdon McCallum, community engagement officer with



FishPass. “The Freshwater Summit showcases the meaningful collaboration in the region, and we look forward to sharing and learning with our fellow attendees.”

The Freshwater Summit is a product of the Freshwater Roundtable and is organized by The Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay, NMC’s Great Lakes Water Studies Institute, Michigan Sea Grant Extension, Great Lakes Environmental Center, Inc., Inland Seas Education Association, NOAA’s Office for Coastal Management, and Conservation Resource Alliance.

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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.