

## PRESS RELEASE

May 27, 2009

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Web Link: *To learn more visit [www.glstewardship.org](http://www.glstewardship.org)*

### Agenda:

10:15 a.m. Student Displays  
10:45 a.m. Welcome, GLSI Overview  
11:00 a.m. Student presentations (1)Oakridge High School (2)Fruitport Middle School (3)Grant Middle School (4)Mona Shores High School (5)Whitehall Middle School (6)Newaygo Middle School (7)North Muskegon Middle School (8)North Muskegon High School (9)Montague High School  
12:00 p.m. Break, additional display viewing time  
12:15 p.m. Lunch & Panel Discussion  
Peggy Weick, Ottawa Conservation District  
Kyle Fiebig, Montague High School teacher  
Sarah Pregitzer, Grant Middle School teacher  
Vyctoria Vis, Newaygo Middle School student  
Hilary Howard, Oakridge High School student  
Dave Krebs, MAISD Math/Science Center  
1:30 p.m. Closing Remarks

## Middle & high school students share success of “green” activities

On Thursday, May 28, 2009, from 10:15 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. the first-ever **West Michigan Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative (WMGLSI) Youth Symposium** will take place at Muskegon Community College in the Collegiate Hall. Approximately 60 middle and high school students from Mona Shores, Oakridge, North Muskegon, Whitehall, Montague, Fruitport, Newaygo, and Grant will showcase the environmental activities they have been engaged in this school year.

Students will present stories and photos from their “place-based” environmental stewardship projects. Students released salmon, restored streambanks, planted native plants, removed invasive species, restored raingardens, placed stickers on storm drains, and revived schoolyard habitats. Community members worked with the students and schools to make these projects possible.

Their efforts were sparked by a \$200,000 grant from the Great Lakes Fishery Trust. The grant, one of three in the state, was awarded to the MAISD Regional Mathematics and Science Center in March 2008, to establish the WMGLSI in Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, and northern Ottawa counties. Since that time one additional hub was added. Two more hubs are expected to be added by the end of July 2009.

The center, working collaboratively with the Muskegon Conservation District, has connected a number of community organizations with specially trained teachers and their students as they engage in hands-on learning experiences. These experiences are designed to increase student achievement, make a lasting impact on the environment, and help young Michigan residents become lifelong advocates for the Great Lakes. Students learn content while studying local issues they can impact within their own communities. Visit [www.glstewardship.org](http://www.glstewardship.org) to learn more about the initiative.

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