



# Residents Working Against Huron River Flooding

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November 21, 2024  
Organization Meeting

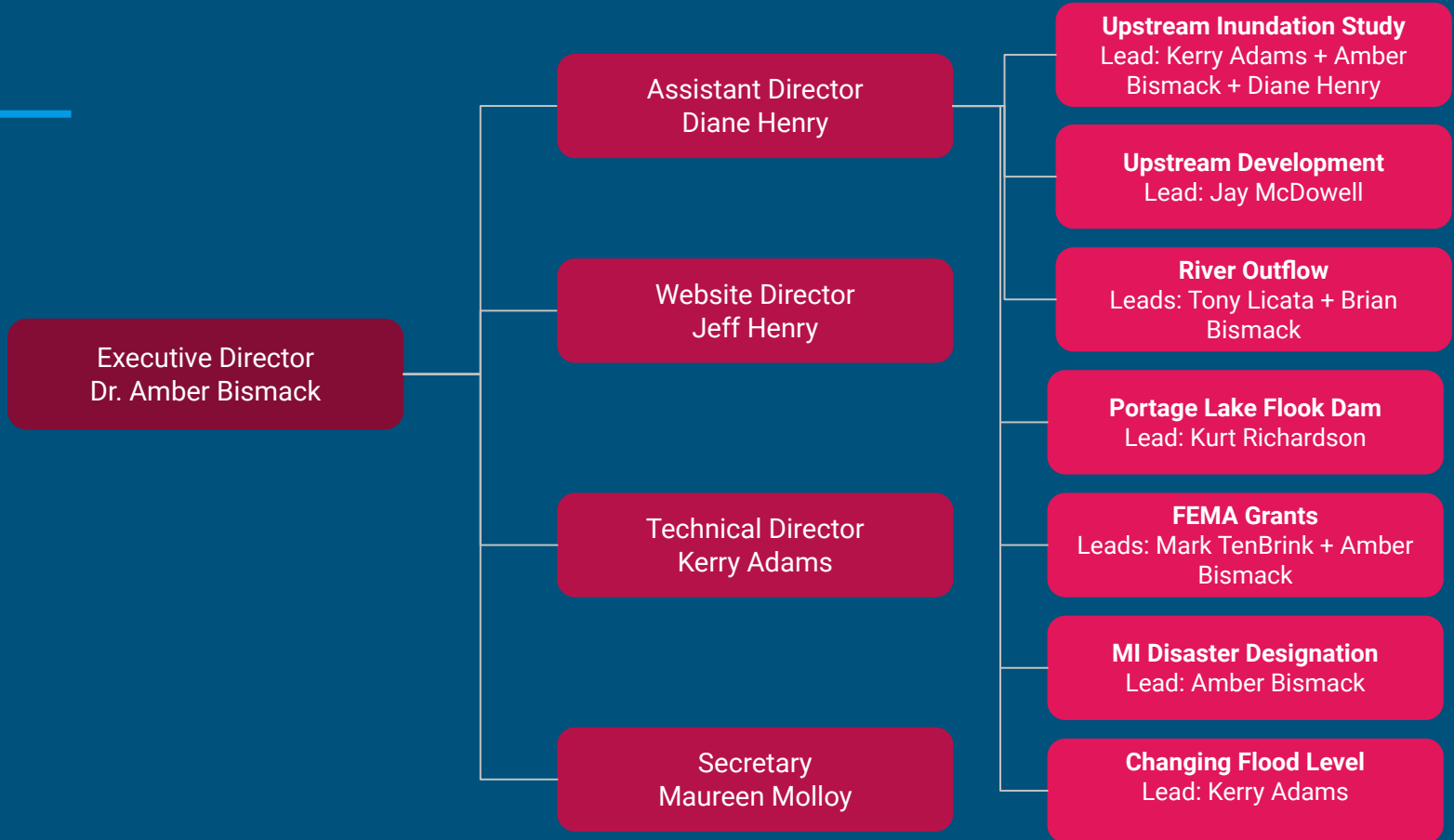




# Thriving Earth Exchange

AGU's Thriving Earth Exchange advances community solutions. We help scientists, community leaders and sponsors work together to solve local challenges related to natural resources, climate change and natural hazards.

# Advisory Board



# Input: Flood Inundation Study (USACE & Hydrologists)

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- USACE: Progress is being made and we should hear more from them very soon
- Data Collection and Gage Removal

# Flood Inundation Study (USACE & Hydrologists)

**Ms. Claire Zarakas**

Community Science Fellow



**Dr. Wendy Robertson**

Associate Professor of Hydrology @ CMU

**Mr. Scott Dierks**

Senior Water Resources Engineer @ GEI Consultants



**Dr. Rod Lammers**

Assistant Professor of Engineering @ CMU



**Ms. Emma Giese**

Water Resources Engineer @ GEI Consultants

# Resources on Huron River Watershed Council

<https://www.hrwc.org>

- Addition of 2 real time gages showing elevation and flow (can then calculate discharge)
  - S. Ore Creek: <https://maps.open-storm.org/>
  - Dibrova Creek: Awaiting installation

# Input: Urban Development (Innovation Academy)

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- Focus on effectiveness and monitoring of urban retention ponds (above ground and underground)
  - Regulations for:
    - Construction
    - Monitoring
    - Enforcement

Input: Un

- Focus (above

GENOA TOWNSHIP

## Your questions answered: What's up with the Latson Road PUD?



**Tess Ware**

Livingston Daily

Published 4:16 a.m. ET Oct. 3, 2024 | Updated 4:16 a.m. ET Oct. 3, 2024



GENOA TWP. – Why are people talking about the Latson Road PUD again? Didn't the expansion request get dropped?

When last we left our coverage, that was the case. The application for a 138-acre expansion of the existing Latson PUD project was withdrawn in October 2023, following a hearing at which dozens of community members voiced their disapproval and planning commissioners for Genoa Township recommended denial.

The proposal would've seen the development expand south toward Crooked Lake Road and add residential units. The original PUD, spanning 193 acres, was approved in August 2020 and includes high-tech industrial and commercial construction along Latson Road.

Once the expansion was dropped, so too was the lawsuit filed by neighborhood group "Coalition to Stop the Latson PUD," which aimed to see the whole project

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# Output: River Outflow Project Team

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- Mapping of vegetation changes in the river, including flow changes
- Removal of debris from the River
- Regulations by EGLE of the Huron River

# Output: Flook Dam Project Team

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- Flood Dam will lower Huron River levels to winter level on Nov. 26
  - We will gather data on upstream river and lake levels after it is lowered
- Repairs to Flook Dam
  - Washtenaw Commissioners will solicit bids in November; contract awarded in December
  - Public hearing in Chain of Lakes SAD to allow affected property owners to review proposed apportionments
  - Livingston and Washtenaw County Commissioners will need to approve before construction begins in Spring 2025
- Huron River Watershed Council does not support removal of the Flook Dam
- Ongoing discussions about options to see if the dam level can be lowered during high water events

# Flood Response: Changing Flood Level Project Team

- Using iFlood data



[Home](#) [Submit a Flood Report](#)

Improving flood predictions  
to support resilient coastal  
communities.

[Report Flooding](#)

**iFlood is a citizen-science flood reporting project to identify flooding hotspots and to improve understanding of the processes that cause flooding.**

iFlood is a partnership between researchers at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, communities, and managers to identify flood hotspots, improve flooding predictions, and develop mitigation strategies. Citizen-scientist flood reports submitted by you provide our research team with data about the location and timing of flooding events that help us create and improve our models of flooding. Citizens can also help us

# Flood Response: MI Disaster Designation Project Team

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- FEMA only provides support when they have a “Formal statement by a jurisdiction that a disaster emergency exceeds the response and recovery capabilities”
  - Hamburg Township, Livingston County, State of Michigan - all only declare a disaster when the emergency exceeds the response and recovery capabilities
- Gathering information about other Township disaster designation requirements - trying to determine if there are other thresholds that could be considered
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# Flood Response: FEMA Grants Project Team

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- Submitted HMGP application to elevate 10 houses two feet above the 100-year flood level!
  - Team effort
  - Extensive documentation
  - Awaiting feedback from MSP/EMHD
  - MSP/EMHD will submit to FEMA in January 2025
  - Final decisions in Spring 2025 (hopefully)
- Submitted FMA Swift Currents application to elevate 2 houses two feet above the 100-year flood level!
  - Team effort
  - Some documentation
  - Feedback received from MSP/EMHD and FEMA
  - Replying to FEMA's Request for Information
  - Final decisions in next few months

# Updates from Tuesday's Hamburg Township Board of Trustees Meeting

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- Hamburg Township Board of Trustees verbally affirmed their commitment to continued funding of weed harvesting and emergency management response during flooding events (as per the Hamburg Township FRAP)
  - See the recording of the Board meeting, November 19, 2024 at 7:00pm
- Discussion on the SAD petition
- Unclear whether Hamburg Township will continue to pay to have debris removed from the river
- Acknowledgement of their funding for flood-related things: Weed harvesting, debris removal, flood response, and previous grant application efforts

Thank you to all who spoke during the meeting! It is important that we show support for our community!

# Updates from Tuesday's Hamburg Township Board of Trustees Meeting

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Questions?

# Update on current progress of SAD petition

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- Aspects to be included in SAD are drafted and sent to Hamburg Township
- Awaiting official language of the petition
  - Once finalized, then it will be shared with Green Oak Township to develop a SAD petition with the same language
- Hamburg Township will use deeded access to Ore Lake to determine which properties are included (or not)
- Once properties identified and petition language finalized:
  - Circulation of petitions will begin
  - Two public meetings
    - Residents will be able to change their votes after those meetings
  - If SAD passes with 60% approval, then Board of Trustees must approve
- If approved, SAD monies would be applied to the Winter taxes - beginning in December 2026



# Update on current progress of SAD petition

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- Questions?

# Information and Next Organization Meeting

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- **HELP NEEDED:** In need of someone to monitor Hamburg Township Board of Trustees **meeting packets** for topics related to flooding
- March 13, 2025 at 7:00pm on Zoom (same link)

Residents Working Against Huron River Flooding will be on sabbatical from this work from November 27, 2024-January 1, 2025. We will resume work on January 2, 2025.