Sunsets and sandy feet, campfires and coastal climbs, star-filled skies above and waves sliding onshore far below. Savoring time amid our coastal dunes is the epitome of a Michigan summer well spent. Come hang out with one of the world’s leading coastal dune experts, meet researchers studying Michigan’s outdoor recreation economy, and learn about organizations working to understand, protect and help people get outdoors to enjoy Michigan’s amazing sand dunes. More information here http://www.swmpc.org/dunes.asp

AGENDA
Welcome - Marcy Hamilton, Preserve The Dunes
Introductions & Project Overview – Brad Garmon, MEC & Elaine Isely, WMEAC
The Latest in Coastal Dune Science – Dr. Alan Arbogast, MSU
Measuring the Value of Coastal Sand Dunes - Dr. Robert Richardson, MSU
Discussion, Questions, Comments

Dr. Alan Arbogast, Chair of the Department of Geography at Michigan State, is a world leading expert on coastal sand dunes. Since coming to Michigan nearly 20 years ago, Dr. Arbogast has systematically improved – and disrupted – our understanding of the age of coastal sand dunes; the timing and nature of their development and evolution. He has served as an expert witness on several controversial dune development projects.

Dr. Robert Richardson is an ecological economist at Michigan State University with over 15 years of experience in research and outreach related to sustainable development and natural resource management. He has conducted research in the Western US, Maine, Central America, southeast Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa, and is in the midst of analyzing survey data on the recreational and social value of coastal sand dunes in Michigan.

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