The Michigan Botanical Club, the native plant society of Michigan, promotes through its aims, the understanding, enjoyment and preservation of our Great Lakes flora and the conservation of our natural heritage. The Club is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 1941.

**AIMS**

- Conservation of all native plants.
- Education of the public to appreciate and to preserve plant life.
- Sponsorship of research and publications on plant life.
- Sponsorship of legislation to promote the preservation of Michigan native flora.
- Establishment of suitable sanctuaries and natural areas.
- Cooperation in programs concerned with the use and conservation of all natural resources and scenic features.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Conservation of Native Plants**

The Michigan Botanical Club has a number of conservation projects and cooperates with other conservation agencies to protect native plants and natural areas in the state and nationally.

**Education**

Chapter activities include general meetings with illustrated lectures open to the public and field trips to areas of botanical interest. The Michigan Botanical Club sponsors two major statewide meetings each year: an Annual Foray, usually on Memorial Day weekend to a region of botanical interest, and an Annual Meeting, usually held in the fall, with a botanical program and often associated with a mini-foray with several field trips. Occasionally other mini-forays may also be organized at other times of the year. Students may apply for Foray scholarships through chapters.

**Legislation**

The Club has been proactive in protecting native plants and their habitats, for example we testified in 2013-2014 opposing S.B. 78, the state legislature's anti-biodiversity bill. MBC urged the passage of the Michigan Wildflower Protection Act, (P. A.115/1943), to regulate the cutting, removal, transportation, and sale of specified native plants vulnerable to exploitation. A proposal sponsored by the Michigan Botanical Club to declare the dwarf lake iris, *Iris lacustris*, as Michigan’s official state wildflower passed in 1998 (P. A. 454/1998).

**Big Trees Project**

Launched in 1957 by Paul Thompson as part of the American Forestry Association national survey, the Club maintains a database of Michigan's Big Trees. Those interested in accessing the Big Tree database, nominating a Michigan Big Tree or finding directions for measuring a tree, go to:

[http://michbotclub.org/registry/](http://michbotclub.org/registry/)

**Publications**

Chapter newsletters, e-notices and our website [michbotclub.org](http://michbotclub.org) inform members of meetings, field trips, and other items of interest.

Our state newsletter, *Arisaema*, published spring and fall, informs members of state activities, such as the Annual Foray, the Fall Meeting, projects, chapter reports, and articles of general interest.

*The Great Lakes Botanist* (formerly *The Michigan Botanist*) has been published since 1962. It continues to be devoted to all aspects of plant life in the Great Lakes region, but now will publish papers from throughout North America north of Mexico. Supported by dues and subscriptions, all members receive this quarterly journal. Those interested in publishing in *The Great Lakes Botanist* should contact the Editor:

Michael Huft, Editor,  
*The Great Lakes Botanist*  
232 Akela Drive  
Valparaiso, IN 46385  
mhuft@att.net

**Michigan Botanical Foundation**

Our sister group, The Michigan Botanical Foundation, a tax exempt, 501(c)(3), organization was established in 1992 for the purpose of providing financial support for Michigan botanical research, education, publications, field trips, panels, lectures, and other related activities.

Correspondence, inquiries and contributions should be directed to:

Michigan Botanical Foundation  
c/o Judy Kelly, President  
18863 Lakewood Circle  
Lake Ann, MI  
(734) 635-0952  
hfcckelly@gmail.com
MEMBERSHIP

We are a diverse group open to anyone interested in the aims and activities of the Michigan Botanical Club. Amateurs and professionals of all ages are welcome. Your membership will support the Club in its important program to conserve and to protect our native flora and our natural heritage.

Dues are modest, but vary slightly among the chapters. Dues include a subscription to the state newsletter, the Arisaema, to The Great Lakes Botanist journal and to chapter newsletters. Chapter contact persons are listed in the next column.

Membership forms may be downloaded from the Michigan Botanical Club website.
For more information, also visit the Club website: http://www.michbotclub.org

or contact:

Dan Skean, President
Michigan Botanical Club
Email: dan@gw.michbotclub.org

CHAPTERS**

Huron Valley Chapter
General Meetings, 3rd Monday, 7:30 PM
September - April
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Contact: Neal Billetdeaux, President
Phone: (734) 604-6682
neal.billetdeaux@smithgroup.com

Southeastern Chapter
General Meetings, 1st Sunday, 2:00 PM
Oct., Nov., Dec., Feb., March, April
Spicer House, Heritage Park, Farmington Hills
Contact: Emily Nietering, President
Phone: (313) 278-9269
Email: knietering@sbcglobal.net

Southwestern Chapter
General Meetings, 3rd Monday, 6:30 PM
Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., March
People's Church, 1758 10th St., Kalamazoo
Contact: David Wendling, President
Phone: (269) 366-8857
Email: dave.wendling47@gmail.com

White Pine Chapter
General Meetings, 3rd Saturday 2:00 – 4:00 PM
September – April
Grand Valley State University, Allendale
Contact: Craig Elston, President
Phone: (616) 822-4303
Email: cdenature@gmail.com

Great Lakes Chapter
(An on-line chapter for members not affiliated with a local chapter) Visit:
http://michbotclub.org/great-lakes-chapter/
Contact: Derek Shiels, President
Phone: (231) 344-1006 (work)
Email: d.r.shiels@gmail.com

**Chapters typically have field trips through the growing season.