



## **For Immediate Release**

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September 3, 2013

## **The Geology of the Black River and Paw Paw River Watersheds**

Geology has never been more exciting and it just gets better and better! Two Rivers Coalition is delighted to announce that Dr. Tara Kneeshaw, assistant geology professor at Grand Valley State University, will speak at the Paw Paw District Library on September 11 at 7:00 pm. Dr. Kneeshaw will explore the local geologic history of the Black and Paw Paw River watersheds and relate to the many ways geology affects our daily lives. Soil fertility, erosion potential, runoff infiltration, load-bearing capacity and suitability for construction all depend on the sediments that glaciers left behind. All of our ground water for drinking and irrigation, for instance, either filters through or is stored within glacial deposits. This free presentation is open to the public; you do not want to miss it.



Dr. Kneeshaw conducted research in Bemidji, MN studying how to remediate wetlands polluted by oil and ethanol spills. She was based at the Bemidji National Crude Oil Spill Fate and Natural Attenuation Research Site, where a pipeline ruptured in 1979, resulting in a field laboratory for researchers. Her areas of study include polluted water, soil and wetland remediation by natural means. Dr. Kneeshaw, who earned her doctorate at Texas A&M University, joined the Geology Department at Grand Valley State University in the Fall of 2011 having moved back to Michigan after 3 years as an assistant professor of hydro geochemistry at California State University, Fullerton.

We hope you will join us for this interesting and informative evening. Two Rivers Coalition, an alliance of the Black and Paw Paw River Watersheds, is a citizen based group working to protect the health of our rivers and lakes through conservation, education, and advocacy. For more information visit [www.TwoRiversCoalition.org](http://www.TwoRiversCoalition.org).