A message from the MIA Directors

The Michiana Irrigation Association Board and Extension personnel are excited about the topics and guest speakers slated for the December 11 program. This workshop promises to be an informative day for irrigators and agri-business personnel.

The MIA Board of Directors

Current Directors of Michiana Irrigation Association

Scott Beecher

Todd Feenstra

Damon Hershberger

Doug Pedler

Brian McKenzie

Mike Morehouse

Ben Russell

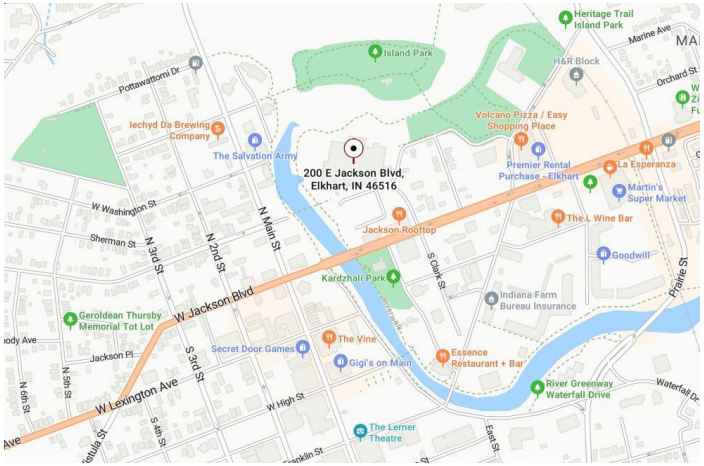
Jeremy Walker

Andy White

Winter Irrigation Workshop Map

Beacon Health and Fitness, Elkhart, IN

200 East Jackson Blvd, Elkhart, IN 46516



MICHIANA IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

PURDUE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Michiana Irrigation Association Winter Workshop



Friday, December 11, 2026

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Beacon Health & Fitness
Elkhart, IN

Tentative Workshop Agenda

8:00 **Registration**

8:30 **Michigan Water Use Advisory Council Updates, Regional** - Kelly Turner, Michigan Potato

9:00 **Extension Research and Programming - Lightning Round Updates**

1. Bridging Producer Needs and Research: Lessons from the Irrigation Needs Assessment, Angie Gradiz, MSUE
2. MSU Mobile Irrigation Lab: Updates and First-Year Findings - Riley Johnson, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering (BAE)
3. A Quick and Practical Method for Setting Irrigation End Gun Arcs - Brenden Kelley, MSUE
4. Applications of Geophysical Survey Techniques in Irrigated Agricultural Systems – Estee Swartz and Younsuk Dong, BAE
5. New Irrigation Tool Mapping Michigan Irrigated Lands and Irrigation Investment Analyzer - Dr. Tyler J. Lark, MSU
6. Exploring Off-Peak Irrigation Pumping to Reduce Energy Costs, Caden Wade, BAE

10:45 BREAK

11:00 **USDA Grant Research Project Results - Utilizing Irrigation Pivots for Aquifer Testing** - Maria Swearingen, Project Hydrogeologist, Tritium, Inc.

11:30 **NE Indiana Regional Water Study - INTERA Inc. - Water Demand and Availability in the St. Joseph and Maumee River Basins**

12:00 LUNCH

1:05 **MIA Business Meeting and Election of Board Members**

1:15 **Progress Update on Water Districts: Building Communities of Good Water Stewards** - Todd Feenstra

1:45 **DiSC Assessments: Transforming Your On-Farm Communication, Culture, and Productivity** - Leo Boeglin, Sackett Farms

2:15 **What's next for Irrigated Field Scale Vegetable Production in Michiana - Panel** - Curt Utterback, Red Gold Inc. & Hartung Brothers Inc.

2:45 **Beaver Creek, Litchfield, Michigan: Fully Advocated Watershed Data Collection Project** - Claire Rose, Michigan EGLE

3:10 **The Endangered Species Act - Indiana Mandatory PARP Topic** - Brianna Slonaker, Purdue North Region Field Crops Educator

Irrigation Workshop Registration Form

Name_____

Organization_____

Address_____

City_____

State____ Zip Code_____

Phone_____

E-Mail_____

Cost: $60.00 per person, including dues to MIA and Lunch

Pay by December 4, 2026

Make check payable to:

Michiana Irrigation Association

Return to:

MIA Meeting
52540 Lawrence Road
Leonidas, MI 49066

For more information:

Phone: 269/998-1177
E-mail: mumbyde@yahoo.com or kelleyl@anr.msu.edu

Reservations are required. Please send registration by mail with check.