## The Beaver Island Association Supporting Environmental and *Economic Sustainability*

## Thursday April 28th from 3-5:30 p.m.

Please join us at the Beaver Island Community Center for an Open House with the Office of Great Lakes, Maine's Island Institute, and Maine islanders.

A joint project between the Beaver Island Association, the Island Institute and Michigan Office of the Great Lakes

We will continue the discussion on "Sharing Solutions between Beaver Island, Michigan and Maine Island Communities – Building Local Capacity through Community Exchanges". The purpose of the project is to initiate and facilitate dialogue and collaboration between the Beaver Island community and similar island communities along coastal Maine.

## **Meeting Objectives:**

- 1) Information sharing-to summarize the major project activities to date, including progress towards advancing the Beaver Island priority issue areas and longer term coordination opportunities; and
- 2) Engagement-to seek support, interest, and involvement by Beaver Islanders and others to assist with project components going forward.

As isolated island communities, we have much in common and would benefit from sharing solutions to our most pressing social, economic, and environmental challenges, which span multiple disciplines such as education, health care, and environment. Project partners anticipate that this project will lay the initial groundwork and galvanize interest among other island communities throughout the Great Lakes, with the potential to spur the creation of a broader, cross-region network of island communities.

Who should attend: community members, summer residents, business owners, local organizations, county and township officials, students, and anyone interested in the vitality of the Beaver Island community.

**For further information** contact Beaver Island Association board members or members of the "Maine Away Team"-Kitty McNamera, Ernie Martin, Bill McDonough, Patrick McGinnity, or Pam Grassmick.

Agenda

3:00 PM	Welcome: TBD, Beaver Island Association		
3:05 PM	Introductions of Maine Islanders & Island Institute		
3:30 PM	Update on Project Tasks: Pam Grassmick, Beaver Island Association		
	• Task 1: Project Kick-off and Open House, Beaver Island, September 22, 2015		
	• Task 2: Knowledge Exchange Trip #1, Islesboro and Vinalhaven Islands (Maine), November 9-13, 2015		
	• Task 3: Knowledge Exchange Trip #2, Beaver Island, April 25-29, 2016		
	Task 4: Lessons Learned and Path Forward		
3:45 PM	Progress on Beaver Island priority areas: Multiple Islanders		
	Broadband/cell	<ul> <li>Marketing</li> </ul>	• Island Assessment Report
	Healthcare/EMS	<ul> <li>Young Child Program</li> </ul>	Island leadership
	K-12 education	<ul> <li>Aging in place</li> </ul>	Other
	Workforce housing     DNR Northern Lake MI Islands Collaborative		
4:30 PM	Island Fellows Program: Karen Burns, Community Development Director, Island Institute		
5:00 PM	Great Lakes Islands Coordination – Where do we go from here?		
	Matt Preisser, Lake Coordinator, Michigan Office of the Great Lakes		
5:15 PM	Wrap-up: Jon Allan, Director, Michigan Office of the Great Lakes		
5:20 PM	Coffee hour/meet & greet and Adjourn @ 6 PM		