

# A Water Luncheon Seminar

▶ Presented by:

The Water Management Association of Ohio  
and  
The Ohio Water Resources Center

**April 18, 2018; 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District Office,  
1404 Goodale Blvd, Suite 100, Columbus OH 43212

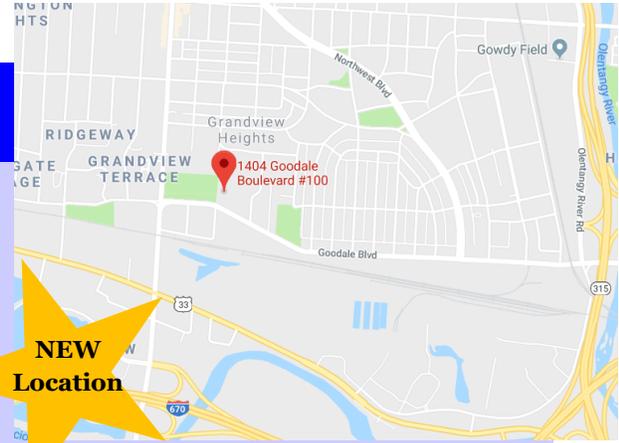


## Biological Invasions & Novel Species Interactions in Aquatic Ecosystems

**Dr. Lauren Pintor**, School of Environment & Natural Resources,  
The Ohio State University

Introductions of non-native, invasive species often alter predator-prey interactions, which are important drivers of many ecological processes in aquatic ecosystems. Although many predators forage adaptively in response to changes in the abundance of their prey, some predators may be slow to adapt to a novel prey that is added through biological invasion. A slow response may be due to lack of evolutionary history, initial rarity of the novel prey, and constraints to learning. To understand the potential for native predators to limit the invasion success of non-native species, there remains a critical need to identify the factors that affect a predator's interactions with novel prey and the mechanisms through which they adapt to a novel resource over time. Here I'll discuss research on the recent invasion of the non-native, invasive Green Porcelain crab prey (*Petrolisthes armatus*) into economically-valuable oyster-reef communities in the southeastern United States. My lab's research on this system aims to test the general hypothesis that predation on a novel prey varies across predator populations as a function of the relative value of the prey and that this value will increase over time as adaptation and learning occur within predator populations. Because escape from natural enemies is a major proposed mechanism for the establishment and impact of non-native species, understanding the variation behind when native predators eat and do not eat non-native prey strengthens our ability to predict the contributions of native predators to biotic resistance against invasion and the potential for biotic control of non-native species. I'll conclude with a short-discussion of the relevance of this research for invasive species affecting aquatic ecosystems in Ohio.

**NEW  
Location**



**Please register by April 16, 2018.** Late or on-site registrations cost \$5 extra and are not guaranteed a meal. For registered engineers who need Professional Development Hours (PDHs), this presentation offers 1 PDH.

WMAO Member (\$15)  Nonmember (\$18)  Student (\$7) Special meal? \_\_\_\_\_

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Please send form and check to: WMAO-Luncheon, 8584 E. Washington St. #206, Chagrin Falls OH 44023.

OR, register online with a credit card at: [www.wmao.org](http://www.wmao.org).

Proceeds from the luncheon benefit the continued operation of WMAO and our scholarships. Sponsorship opportunities are available for those interested in providing extra support. More information on sponsorship is available at [www.wmao.org](http://www.wmao.org).