

Erin McDonough

Growing up on Beaver Island, a sportsperson's gem located off the coast of Charlevoix in Lake Michigan, McDonough spent much of her youth shooting, fishing and enjoying the outdoors with her parents and grandparents. Growing up surrounded by Michigan's forest, waters and wildlife, McDonough has a passion for making sure that everyone has the right to enjoy the outdoors the way she was able to and is dedicated to making sure youth are exposed to Michigan's hunting and fishing heritage. Just don't ask her to take you morel hunting on the Island – her dad will never reveal his secrets, not even to his children!

Before being named Executive Director in August of 2009, McDonough was the Deputy Director of Policy and the Director of the Institute for Conservation Education for the Michigan United Conservation Clubs. In those positions she oversaw the creation and implementation of MUCC's conservation policy, youth and adult education programs and development programs. She first came to MUCC as Resource Policy Specialist in 2003, focusing on forestry and habitat issues. During her tenure at MUCC, McDonough has been responsible for raising over \$1 million in grants and private donations to fuel the organization's conservation advocacy and education work.

Prior to working at MUCC she was an organizer for the National Wildlife Federation's Great Lakes restoration and Great Lakes Compact campaigns. She is a member of the Michigan Oil and Gas Advisory Council and a Trustee of the Great Lakes Fishery Trust.

McDonough has her MS in Resource, Policy and Behavior from the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and a BS in Hydrogeology from Central Michigan University. She is also a 2004 graduate of MSU Extension's Great Lakes Leadership Academy.

McDonough lives in Williamston with her husband, Rob McPherson, and their dog Sara.