

General Meeting

9/15/2020



Animal of the Week: Red Swamp Crayfish (*Procambarus clarkii*)

- Invasive to Michigan
- Likely introduced via pet trade, classroom use, and food transport
- Most commonly used for crawfish boils
- Outcompetes native crayfish and burrowing causes drainage issues.



General Meetings

- Every Tuesday
- 7-8PM
- Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/99362011129> Meeting ID:
993 6201 1129
- Advisor: Dr. Eila Roberts





Opportunities in Zoology!

**ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS**

- Join AZA!
 - Resume builder
 - Keep up with all the recent news in the zoo world
 - Job postings
 - Connect with zoos all over the world!
 - Get the Connect Magazine

Active Member Status

- Pay Dues!
- Apparel discounts, Reduced trip fees, Graduation pins**, Networking opportunities, Special events, Leadership building
 - **Graduating seniors must be an active member of a committee



Dues!

- \$20 per semester or \$30 annually
- Pay Muning at the end of the meetings (Venmo or cash)
- New members will be active for the fall once dues are paid!



Committees: Social (Hunter)

- Trips and events
- Make friends and have fun!
- Have a say in semester trips!
- Meets for 15 minutes after general meeting



Committees: Fundraising (Kassidy)

- Local charities
- The Rock Fundraiser
- Grants, scholarships, and sponsorships
- Advertising for semester charity/animal
- Alumni networking



Committees: Service and Outreach: Annica

- Plan activities for school nights/outreach events
- Volunteer at local shelters or nature centers
- Find local places to provide service





Check out our social media!

- Facebook: MSU Zoological Students Association
- Website: www.msuzsa.weebly.com
- Twitter: @MSUZSA
- Snapchat: @msu_zsa
- Instagram: msu_zsa or MSU ZSA
- Venmo: MSU ZSA
- Please put your email in the chat if you want to be added to our email list!

Summer Experiences!



Christina and Brynne: Red Swamp Crayfish Invasion Project!



What We Did

- Worked with Dr. Brian Roth, Kelley Smith, and MDNR
- Trapped red swamp crayfish around different ponds in Southeast Michigan
 - Livonia, Novi, etc.
- Sampled crayfish for size and sex
- Preserved crayfish samples for genetics research
- Dodged golf balls while fighting hordes of red swamp crayfish
- Educated the public on red swamp crayfish and their harm



Things We Learned

- Crayfish identification
- Crayfish handling
- How to avoid getting hit by golf balls
- How to fight a gang of swans
- Different crayfish collection techniques

**Thank you for
maintaining a safe
distance**



**We are collecting invasive
red swamp crayfish**

Red Swamp Crayfish construct burrows
that damage ponds and drainage systems.



Native Virile Crayfish



INVASIVE
Red Swamp Crayfish

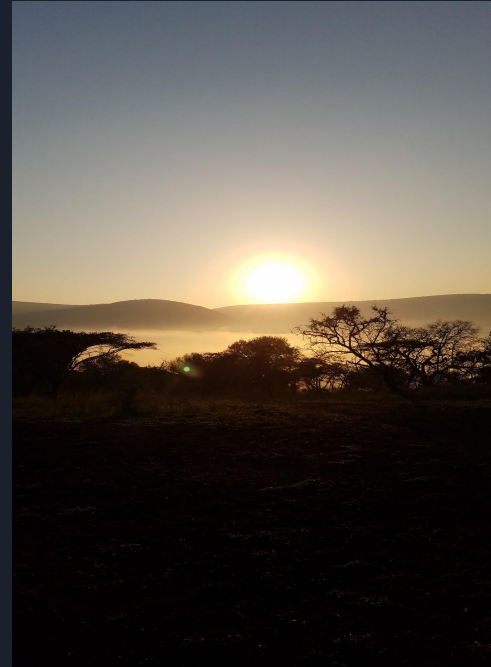




Any Advice?

- Take risks!
- Life is unpredictable, keep working hard to achieve what you want
- Don't pick up crayfish by their claws

Hunter: RO Volunteers South Africa (Summer of 2018)



What I did

- Attempted to track elephants and rhinos using a radio signal
- Removed invasive plants
- Took a walk in the middle of a game park
- What to do if you encounter one of the big five during a walk
- Mock debate on whether selling rhino horns should be legal
- Gained a traveling addiction



What I learned

- How little of Africa has the wildlife we see on documentaries
- Animals are nowhere near as abundant as you'd think in a game park
- Traveling abroad is the most fun thing on the planet
- A little bit of Zulu





Any advice?

- Travel Abroad if you're ever given the chance, it's worth the huge amount of money!
- (As long as it's financially reasonable)
- Don't go into Hippo territory by yourself on foot

