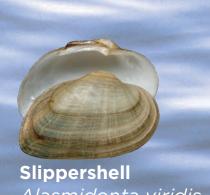
Freshwater Mussels of Michigan



Actinonaias ligamentina



Elktoe Alasmidonta marginata



Alasmidonta viridis



Threeridge Amblema plicata



Cylindrical Papershell Anodontoides ferussacianus



Purple Wartyback Cyclonaias tuberculata



Pimpleback Cyclonaias pustulosa



Eastern Elliptio Elliptio complanata



White Catspaw Epioblasma perobliqua



Northern Riffleshell Epioblasma rangiana



Snuffbox Epioblasma triquetra



Spike Eurynia dilatata



Wabash Pigtoe Fusconaia flava



Plain pocketbook Lampsilis cardium







White Heelsplitter

Ligumia recta



Creek Heelsplitter Lasmigona compressa



Fluted-shell Lasmigona costata



Wavy-rayed Lampmussel

Lampsilis fasciola

Fragile Papershell Leptodea fragilis



Eastern Pondmussel Ligumia nasuta (=Sagittunio nasutus)



Obliquaria reflexa **Black Sandshell**



Three-horned Wartyback



Hickorynut Obovaria olivaria



Round Hickorynut Obovaria subrotunda



Clubshell Pleurobema clava



Male

Round Pigtoe Pleurobema sintoxia



Pink Heelsplitter Potamilus alatus



Pink Papershell



Kidney-shell Ptychobranchus fasciolaris



Giant Floater Pyganodon grandis



Lake Floater Pyganodon lacustris



Mapleleaf Quadrula quadrula





Strange Floater Strophitus undulatus



Purple Lilliput Toxolasma lividum



Toxolasma parvum



Fawnsfoot Truncilla donaciformis



Deertoe Truncilla truncata



Paper Pondshell Utterbackia imbecillis

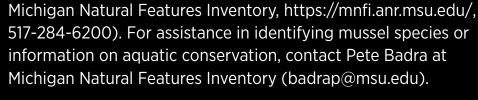


ellipsiformis

Freshwater mussels (Unionidae) occur in nearly all of Michigan's rivers and lakes. They play an important role in aquatic ecosystems, 517-284-6200). For assistance in identifying mussel species or have a unique life history, and are indicators of environmental change and water quality. Unfortunately, freshwater mussels are one of the most endangered groups of animals in North America. Currently two thirds of Michigan's mussel species are at risk.

Freshwater mussels can be identified to species by the characteristics of their shells. These include bumps, ridges, size, shape, green rays, and other characteristics. Shells of the same species are like pieces of art created by the same artist. Each one is different, yet there is a consistent theme of shape, color, and texture that holds true.

For more information about freshwater mussels, refer to the "Freshwater Mussels of Michigan" brochure (available from



Funding was provided by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Shells pictured were provided by the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Mollusk Division, https://lsa.umich.edu/ummz/mollusks. html, except for lake floater, which was provided by Dr. David Zanatta, Central Michigan University. Shells are shown approximately life size.



(=Paetulunio fabalis)



(=Cambarunio iris)









