

# Tammy Newcomb



## Class of 1988

- Tammy Newcomb, Ph.D., attended Jackson Community College in 1986 as a bridge between University of Michigan and Michigan State University. She appreciated Ms. Warner for her interest in Tammy's college success and personal growth. She looked forward to her biology classes probably more than any other class in her college career.
- Tammy's love for the environment began while growing up in the countryside, exploring the fields, wetlands and creeks around her house. In middle school, someone gave her a book on ecology, and she was fascinated. She started her college career studying pre-law and then pre-veterinary, but found a home in Fisheries and Wildlife at MSU. "The first time I stuck my head in the water to snorkel for a research project documenting smallmouth bass habitat use, I was hooked!"
- She completed a Bachelor of Science in Fisheries & Wildlife Management from MSU in 1990, a Master of Science in Wildlife Management from West Virginia University in 1992, and her Ph.D. in Fisheries Management in 1998 from MSU.
- Working for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources since 2002, she is currently the senior water policy advisor, a member of the executive team. She leads statewide issues for the department such as preventing Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes, and coordination of cross-departmental issues related to the Great Lakes.
- She has had many varied positions involving environmental policy, legislation, research and education, all focused on helping fish and wildlife and keeping our waterways safe.
- From 2013-2021, she has served on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers National Environmental Advisory Board. She also serves on the Council of Great Lakes Governor's Association, Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force, Michigan Sea Grant Advisory Board, and the Great Lakes Fishery Trust, Science Advisory Team, to name a few of her many activities.
- In her free time, she trains and competes at Dressage shows with her horse Charlie.
- She lives in Webberville, Michigan with her husband, Dr. Travis Brenden, child, Isabella, on a hobby farm, Mahogany Bay, where we have horses, chickens, turkeys and rabbits.

"Always *be* the type of partner, friend, or colleague that you would want to have as a partner, friend, or colleague."