As residential areas are extended to meet housing and economic development needs, there is more frequent interaction between people, the natural environment, and non-domestic animals. For example, roaming deer as well as garbage invaders like raccoons, once an anomaly when sighted in suburban communities, are common occurrences. Consequential to increased animal-human interaction is an uptick in discussion of related diseases, such as Lyme disease, Rabies, and more recently, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (Three E). Wildlife management strategies and options for keeping both humans and animals healthy as they continue to interact will inform the audience.

Melinda Wilkins, PhD, is an Associate Professor for One Health, Public Health, and Global Health Education and Interim Chair for Large Animal Clinical Sciences at Michigan State University. An alumna of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Epidemic Intelligence Service, Dr. Wilkins earned a DVM at MSU, an MPH from the University of Illinois, and returned to earn her PhD from MSU in Large Animal Clinical Sciences with an epidemiology focus. Her expertise includes disease surveillance, surveillance system evaluation, zoonotic disease, epidemiology, and outbreak investigation. At MSU, she was named Director of the Online Master of Science in Food Safety Program in 2014 and continues to serve in the realms of One Health, Public Health and Global Health Education.

Rebecca Malouin, PhD, is the Director of Research for the Institute for Global Health in the College of Osteopathic Medicine at Michigan State University. After graduating from the University of Michigan, Dr. Malouin served as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in Niger, West Africa. She then completed her PhD and MPH, both in International Health, from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and an MS in epidemiology from MSU. Dr. Malouin has worked for globally engaged agencies such as Helen Keller International and the University Research Corporation, as well as state health departments in Michigan and Maryland. Currently, in addition to leading research efforts at the MSU Institute for Global Health, she is developing an online Master of Science in Global Health launching in January 2020.

Adenike Shoyinka, MD, is the Medical Director at the Ingham County Health Department. Before being appointed Medical Director, Dr. Shoyinka completed medical school at University of Ibadan in Nigeria and her residency and internship at Harlem Hospital Center in New York. She moved to Detroit for a fellowship at Henry Ford Hospital. Dr. Shoyinka has board certifications from the American Board of Internal Medicine in Infectious Disease and Internal Medicine. At the Ingham County Health Department, Dr. Shoyinka is committed to promoting healthy practices between animals and people in the community, especially with the recent surge of EEE cases.
Chad Stewart is the Deer, Elk, and Moose Management Specialist and a Certified Wildlife Biologist for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Stewart has received degrees in Wildlife Sciences and Natural Resources Sciences from the Pennsylvania State University and the University of Illinois, respectively. Previously, he worked for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources as their state deer biologist, as well as the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute as a wildlife biologist on deer-related research projects and international wildlife projects in China and Malaysia.

Kelly Straka, DVM, is the State Wildlife Veterinarian and Wildlife Health Section Supervisor for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Dr. Straka is interested in the ecology of infectious agents and the interfaces between wildlife, livestock, domestic animals and public health. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Fisheries and Wildlife Management, a Master’s in Veterinary Public Health and a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine in Interdisciplinary Medicine from the University of Minnesota.

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Matt Grossmann, Director, Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR), Associate Professor of Political Science
A nationally known political scientist, Dr. Grossman is an expert on American politics and government whose research spans national and state policymaking, election campaigns, interest groups, and political parties. Dr. Grossmann has authored numerous journal articles on policy change, political party networks, the legislative process and public opinion. His latest book, Red State Blues was recently made available through Cambridge University Press. He is also editor of the volume New Directions in Interest Group Politics, from Routledge.

AnnMarie Schneider, Director for Program Planning & Policy Education, IPPSR and Director of the Canadian Studies Center
AnnMarie’s lead responsibilities are the Michigan Applied Public Policy Research (MAPPR) Grant Program and Policy Briefs, in addition to coordinating and facilitating a policy forum series featuring research expertise on current legislative issues. AnnMarie also advises marketing and communication of IPPSR programs in order to advance linkages between campus and the Capitol. She bridges state and international policy as director of MSU’s Canadian Studies Center where focus lies on U.S. and Canada relations, and Canada’s cultural and economic profile.

Spring 2020 Forum Series Dates:
January 15, February 12, March 11, April 15, May 6

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