

2019-2022 ENVIRONMENTAL ROADMAP

Making Michigan a Leader in Protecting Water,
Human Health and the Environment



SETTING COURSE FOR A SUSTAINABLE, HEALTHY FUTURE

The Michigan League of Conservation Voters (Michigan LCV) and Michigan Environmental Council (MEC) are pleased to present the Environmental Roadmap: Making Michigan a Leader in Protecting Human Health and the Environment, a multi-year plan for addressing Michigan's top environmental and public health challenges and ensuring a greener, safer, more sustainable Michigan for future generations.

Regardless of political party, Michiganders from all corners of our two peninsulas can agree that access to safe, clean, affordable drinking water and maintaining our pristine lakes, rivers and streams is critical to our way of life, health and economy. We also know that recent years have brought forth new challenges that necessitate bold, ambitious thinking by our elected leaders and state officials.

The incoming administration has a tremendous opportunity to reset course in Lansing and restore Michigan's legacy as a national leader in public health and environmental protection. With a presidential administration set on weakening environmental protections designed to safeguard our families and our public health, it's time to put Michigan in the driver's seat and ensure our elected leaders push forward comprehensive solutions that will address our state's drinking water crises, protect our Great Lakes and stunning public lands, combat climate change and position our state to be a leader in clean energy.

MEC and Michigan LCV joined efforts to develop the Environmental Roadmap, working collaboratively with over twenty organizations across the state to provide the incoming administration a clear set of priorities to address the myriad environmental challenges facing Michigan. The contributions of experts in the fields of policy, advocacy, public administration and science helped frame the top issues most important to the health and prosperity of Michigan families and businesses. The Environmental Policy Roadmap is the result of their expertise and input, and we are grateful for their contributions to this important effort. This roadmap offers policy recommendations for the administration's first 100 days in office and outlines important priorities for the new term.

As Michiganders, we're surrounded by 84% of North America's surface freshwater; with innumerable rolling sand dunes, which shelter wildlife unique to Michigan; with acres upon acres of public land we're proud to call our own. Ten million people call our state home; to de-prioritize the protection of public health and conservation of our land, air and water is to fail our residents and damage the very essence of Michigan's identity. It's not Michigan if it's not Pure Michigan.

We look forward to working with the new administration and state legislature to tackle the issues outlined in the Environmental Roadmap. Together, with our partners, members and the public, we will ensure that Michigan makes up the ground lost in recent years. While the powers that be in Washington, D.C. may continue their attempts to weaken landmark environmental protections, we intend to stand tall in the protection of our drinking water, our Great Lakes, the air we breathe and the land we love. It is time to make Michigan an environmental and conservation leader once again.

Sincerely,

Lisa Wozniak
Executive Director
Michigan League of Conservation Voters

James Clift
Policy Director
Michigan Environmental Council

REFOCUSING STATE GOVERNMENT ON SERVING THE RESIDENTS OF MICHIGAN

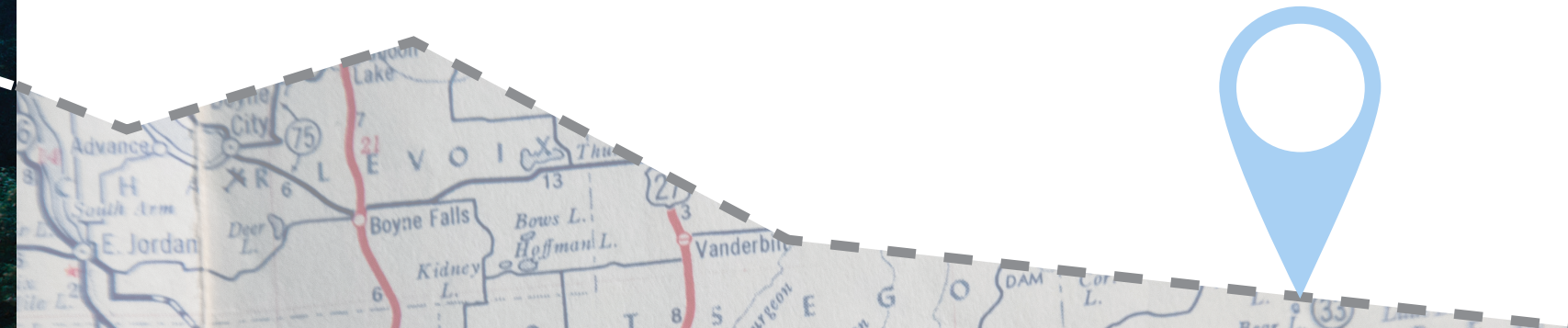
In the wake of public crises—Flint and inaction on PFAS contamination despite early warnings—it's clear that the State of Michigan has a transparency problem. Michigan currently ranks 49th out of 50 states in transparency, relies on an outdated election system that disadvantages voters, and has created roadblocks to holding lawmakers accountable. It is time our state government was refocused to serve, inform and partner with residents and involve them in crafting solutions. Every Michigander deserves to not only have a voice, but also a valued role in state discussions.

FIRST 100 DAYS

- ▶ Immediately begin self-implementing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for the Governor's office.
- ▶ Reorient the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to its core functions by revamping the mission statement to focus on protecting human health and the environment and remove the current mission's reference to promoting a "vibrant economy."
- ▶ Eliminate the environmental rules commission and permit appeals panel that transferred final authority on environmental permits, administrative rules and cleanup plans from state government to unaccountable, unelected boards and panels.
- ▶ Create citizens oversight commissions or citizen ombudsman positions within all state departments to allow residents to have their voices heard and concerns addressed; appoint representatives of environmental justice communities.

FIRST TERM

- ▶ **REQUIRE ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENTS FOR MAJOR STATE AGENCY ACTIONS AND PROJECTS.**
- ▶ Support legislation to expand the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to include the Governor's Office and the State Legislature.
- ▶ Repeal Michigan's emergency management law.





PROTECTING OUR WATER FROM SOURCE TO TAP

Water is a basic need. With many of our cities and towns living with unsafe drinking water, we need more—not less—protection for clean water. Every Michigander should have access to clean, safe and affordable drinking water.

Unfortunately, residents across the state are faced with as many as 11,300 sites polluted with PFAS, aging lead pipes servicing hundreds of thousands of people, lakes contaminated with harmful algae and crumbling water infrastructure that can allow contaminated runoff and wastewater to make its way into our drinking water supplies. As the Great Lake State, we should be national leaders of water stewardship and a state in which residents can trust that from source to tap, their drinking water is safe. Michigan should aspire to have the number one drinking water program in the nation.



FIRST 100 DAYS

- ▶ Adopt budgets that adequately fund the DEQ to robustly execute its restored mission.
- ▶ Ensure the DEQ increases scrutiny of Inland Lake Management Plans, encouraging the surveying of aquatic vegetation and adding requirements to help prevent the spread and introduction of aquatic nuisance species, giving preference to prevention and alternatives over chemical treatments.
- ▶ File legal action to immediately begin the process of decommissioning the 65-year-old pipeline under the Straits of Mackinac.
- ▶ Identify viable sources of water-based infrastructure funding.

FIRST TERM

- ▶ **IDENTIFY AND SECURE SIGNIFICANT NEW FUNDING TO PROTECT, MAINTAIN AND UPGRADE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE STATEWIDE, INCLUDING FUNDING TO REPLACE ALL LEAD SERVICE LINES AS REQUIRED UNDER THE STATE'S NEW LEAD AND COPPER RULE.**
- ▶ **PREVENT NUTRIENT LOADING FROM FAILING SEPTIC SYSTEMS BY ADOPTING A STATEWIDE SEPTIC CODE REQUIRING REGULAR SEPTIC SYSTEM INSPECTIONS, COUPLED WITH THE CREATION OF NEW FUNDING THAT HELPS LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND LOW-INCOME FAMILIES FIX FAILING SEPTIC SYSTEMS.**
- ▶ Utilize and fully fund integrative asset management and watershed planning at the state and local level so all Michigan communities can modernize their water infrastructure in an efficient, sustainable, resilient and cost-effective manner. Include planning and actions that anticipate the impacts of extreme weather and climate change.
- ▶ Provide the authority, financial and technical resources to local units of government and water utilities to help them design and implement water affordability plans with sliding-scale (flexible) rates that consider a customer's income and ability to pay, with the goal of ending water shutoffs.
- ▶ Ensure access to clean and affordable water through the support and passage of "Human Right to Water" legislation such as SB 466 of 2017.
- ▶ Take concurrent authority and utilize consensus Pipeline Safety Advisory Board subcommittee recommendations to improve the regulation and siting of all pipelines in the state to ensure that all Michigan water bodies are safe from oil spills.
- ▶ Promote responsible aquaculture by allowing only flow-through, recirculating, land-based systems that treat their waste.
- ▶ Help local governments address combined sewer overflows and stormwater management by increasing the adoption of nature-based infrastructure, land-use planning, and low-impact development; adopt enabling legislation for local stormwater utilities and other innovative local funding mechanisms.
- ▶ Prohibit the use of coal tar sealcoats containing PAH (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons).
- ▶ Bring Michigan's wetlands protection program (Clean Water Act Section 404 program) in line with federal minimum standards.
- ▶ Use the recently reinstated Water Use Advisory Council to recommend changes to ensure our groundwater is withdrawn and used sustainably when conducting water withdrawals; develop and implement improved water conservation strategies for large users.
- ▶ Require financial assurance for all drain projects to protect from potential ecological damage.
- ▶ Review and implement improved strategies and interpretation of the Great Lakes Compact by the States to achieve more uniformity in approving consumptive uses or straddling community or county exceptions to the diversion ban.
- ▶ Ensure that waters of the state are held in public trust and that mechanisms are designed to establish a trust fund dedicated for public community uses, water infrastructure and health.

ADDRESSING HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES, CONTAMINATED SITES AND PFAS CONTAMINATION

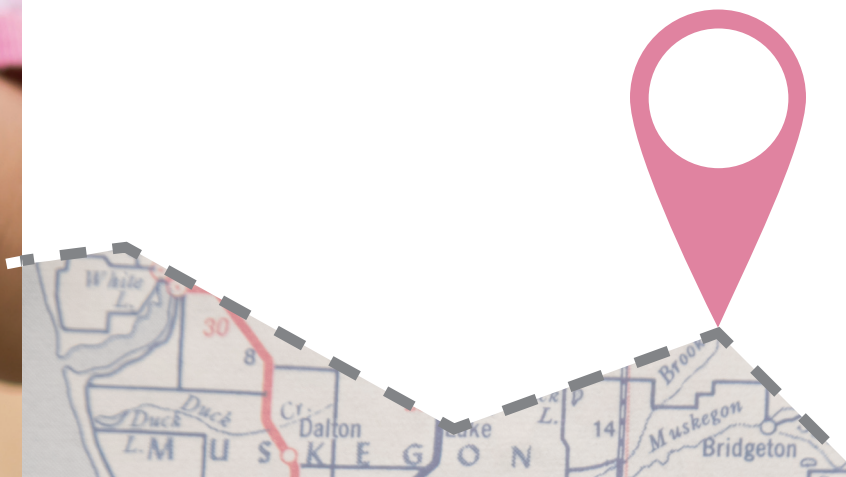
PFAS contamination has plagued communities all over the state, but the government has been slow to establish critical protections for drinking water and public health in response.

FIRST 100 DAYS

- ▶ Elevate the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) by adding expertise and capacity and increasing overall transparency.
- ▶ Stop using PFAS where they are non-essential or when safer alternatives exist, including PFAS foam; improve methods for testing the safety of alternatives. If they must be used, require containment measures and reporting.

FIRST TERM

- ▶ **ESTABLISH A DRINKING WATER STANDARD FOR PFAS USING A HEALTH-BASED STANDARD (MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL) WITH CONSIDERATION OF LOW-DOSE TOXICITY AND ENSURING ADEQUATE PROTECTION FOR POPULATIONS MOST VULNERABLE TO PFAS EFFECTS.**
- ▶ **PROVIDE FUNDING FOR CLEANING UP CONTAMINATED SITES, MONITORING WATER QUALITY AND RECYCLING BY REPLACING THE CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE BOND FUNDING THROUGH THE INCREASE OF STATE FEES, INCLUDING TIPPING FEES ON LANDFILL AND OTHER WASTE MATERIALS, OR BY REISSUING THE 1998 BOND.**
- ▶ Create a publicly available database and web mapping platform of all known sites of contamination (PFOS/PFOA) and all other contaminants (dioxin, PCB, TCE, etc.) and test results.
- ▶ Update cleanup criteria standards to ensure they represent the best available science and create an expedited regulatory pathway that allows for further updates when needed to protect public health.
- ▶ Restore and strengthen laws to require polluters to publicly disclose the location of all known contaminated sites, diligently pursue and pay for cleanup activities on timelines established by the DEQ, and otherwise be held accountable for contamination.
- ▶ Identify existing PFAS sources, foreign and domestic, in production, storage, and transit, and establish infrastructure to safely transport, dispose of and destroy existing PFAS and PFAS-containing products.
- ▶ Create a commission or workgroup to make recommendations for how to address unregulated chemicals of concern.
- ▶ Review state policies to ensure that the disposal and elimination of PFAS protects public health and does not unjustly burden communities housing waste disposal facilities.
- ▶ Create a state program that ensures communities who have had long-term exposure to the compound are medically monitored and identify and study populations exposed to PFAS at work (e.g. industrial workers, automotive workers).



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Children are our future. It's Michigan's responsibility to protect our children's health through ensuring access to clean air, clean water, healthy food, and opportunities for physical activity.



FIRST 100 DAYS

- ▶ Direct state agencies to implement a "health-in-all-policies" approach to agency decision-making, including conducting health impact assessments for permits and rulemaking.
- ▶ Create a task force to review, update, and elevate the state environmental education curriculum to help students understand and address environmental challenges, and advance environmental and environmental health education.
- ▶ Advocate against federal rollback of the Mercury Air Toxics Rule, and maintain and enforce strong state standards in the event of a rollback.

FIRST TERM

- ▶ **ELEVATE AND RESOURCE THE CHILD LEAD EXPOSURE ELIMINATION COMMISSION, DRINKING WATER ADVISORY BOARDS AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL.**
- ▶ **REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO REVISE ITS LOCAL WELLNESS POLICY TO INCLUDE A PLAN FOR TESTING WATER AND AIR QUALITY IN SCHOOLS AND DAYCARE FACILITIES, SPECIFICALLY LEAD IN DRINKING WATER AND PAINT; REQUIRE AND RESOURCE SCHOOLS TO REMEDIATE INCLUDING THE INSTALLATION OF AIR AND/OR WATER FILTERS WHEN POLLUTION IS DETECTED; PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOLS TO CONDUCT TESTS AND TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL FILTERS.**
- ▶ Make lead testing and monitoring universally accessible and affordable for all children under six in Michigan.
- ▶ Require a lead inspection at sale or transfer of residential property.
- ▶ Prohibit siting of schools near industrial facilities and extreme traffic areas; require environmental assessments for any proposed school construction site or addition to an already acquired site.
- ▶ Secure additional funds to expand the pilot "10 Cents a Meal" program, which helps schools buy more local, fresh foods for their cafeterias.
- ▶ Enact state standards governing best practices for demolition of homes with lead-based paint.
- ▶ Establish a robust statewide green schools policy and program which integrates nature-based learning with STEM requirements.
- ▶ Establish a statewide program to ensure that all children have access to outdoor, natural areas to play, partnering with health organizations and foundations.





CONTINUING MICHIGAN'S TRANSITION TO CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY

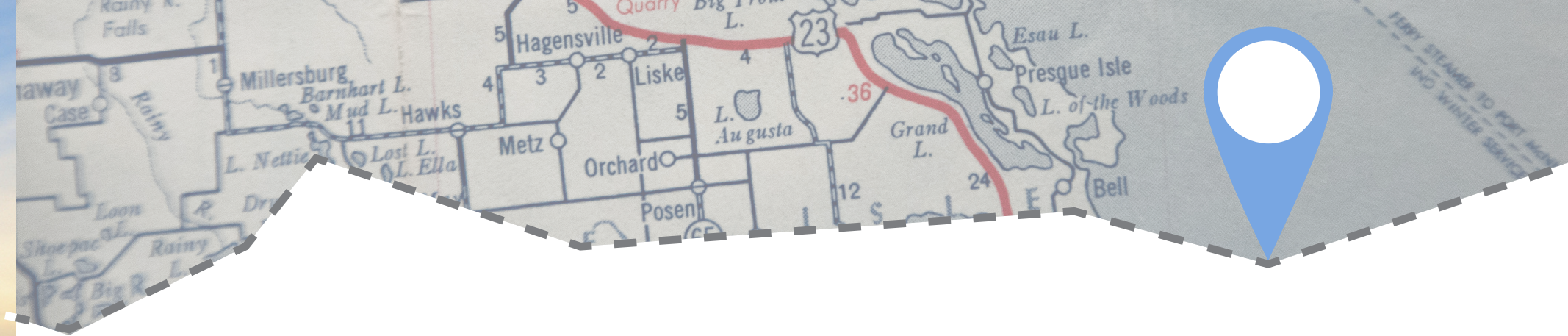
With new laws in place to achieve 15 percent renewable energy in Michigan by 2021, bold commitments by one of our major utilities to generate wind and solar energy, plus continued efforts to reduce energy waste, Michigan has made progress toward a clean energy future. Now, we must sharpen our focus, transition away from coal and gas more rapidly, remove barriers to renewable energy and energy waste reduction and ease high energy costs that plague businesses and families across the state.

FIRST 100 DAYS

- ▶ Establish a diverse stakeholder process to have a broad discussion and create recommendations around reforms to revenue sharing and local property taxation, including renewable energy and energy infrastructure property taxes.
- ▶ Implement all cost-effective energy efficiency measures in state-controlled buildings.

FIRST TERM

- ▶ **SUPPORT ACCESS TO SOLAR AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AT THE RESIDENTIAL AND COMMUNITY LEVEL BY PASSING LEGISLATION THAT REMOVES BARRIERS AND ENCOURAGES BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS TO INSTALL OR ACCESS RENEWABLE ENERGY AND THAT COMPENSATES THEM FAIRLY FOR PRODUCING THEIR OWN CLEAN POWER. THOSE MEASURES SHOULD INCLUDE LEGISLATION LIFTING THE CAP ON NET METERING, ESTABLISHING A FAIR VALUE TARIFF FOR SMALL-SCALE RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION, CREATING A COMMUNITY SOLAR PROGRAM AND ENCOURAGING THE GROWTH OF MICROGRIDS.**
- ▶ **IN PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (PSC), INCLUDING INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANNING, SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF PROGRAMS THAT LOWER UTILITY BILLS BY ELIMINATING ENERGY WASTE, DECREASE PEAK DEMAND IN THE SUMMER, DETAIL ENERGY COST SAVINGS FOR RETAIL CUSTOMERS AND ADVANCE CLEAN ENERGY DEPLOYMENT AND INTEGRATION.**
- ▶ Require the PSC to fully implement the current requirement that energy providers in Michigan "eliminate energy waste."
- ▶ Support incentives and financing mechanisms, like on-bill financing, that allow low-income customers to better access energy waste reduction and renewable energy programs; increase funding for weatherization programs in low-income home and multifamily buildings.
- ▶ Support financial incentives for renewable energy development on brownfields; direct the DEQ to create and issue a guidance document to help renewable developers navigate brownfield development and liability issues.
- ▶ Support a "renewable-ready communities" legislative package (model local ordinances, zoning best practices, tax incentive zones, etc.) and ensure that local governments have the authority and tools they need to grow renewable energy development in their communities.
- ▶ Invest in workforce development for the transition to clean energy and focus these initiatives at workers who are displaced during the transition to renewable energy.
- ▶ Require the PSC to strengthen and fully enforce its Code of Conduct to prohibit regulated utility companies from profiting from both the transport of natural gas and the construction and operation of gas-fired power plants, and protect the energy services marketplace from anti-competitive practices by unregulated affiliates of utility companies.
- ▶ Phase out waste incineration and prohibit new hydroelectric power as qualifying renewable energy sources under Michigan's renewable energy standard.
- ▶ Remove state-based restrictions on communities implementing energy efficiency measures through stronger building codes.



MITIGATING RISKS FROM CLIMATE CHANGE AND INCREASING RESILIENCY

There is no doubt: climate change is the largest threat facing humankind today. Climate change is the rapid rise in temperature of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans. This increase in temperature is happening faster than plants, animals, and humans can adapt, causing problems around the world and here in Michigan. Michigan should play a key role in addressing this global crisis before it is too late.

FIRST 100 DAYS

- ▶ Establish an Office of Climate Change and an Interagency Climate Adaptation Task Force to gather, develop and analyze the risks and vulnerabilities to Michigan, advance the state's civic and cultural discourse around resiliency and listen and respond to residents, businesses, and local governments.
- ▶ Pledge Michigan to meet the Paris Agreement climate goals, establish a diverse stakeholder planning process and outline a plan for how to get there, including steps that will ensure all sectors of Michigan's economy can transition away from fossil fuels entirely by 2050 (achieved potentially through a 100% by 2050 renewable portfolio standard).
- ▶ Direct state agencies, and introduce legislation encouraging local governments, to develop and implement climate action and resiliency plans that include specific goals, metrics and timelines; ensure resources needed to meet the goals of the plans are included in budget asks; and examine all parts of the budget through a climate change lens.
- ▶ Direct state agencies to review permitting applications and processes to consider climate resiliency.

FIRST TERM

- ▶ **SUPPORT THE RAPID RETIREMENT OF AGING, EXPENSIVE COAL PLANTS; PAIR EFFORTS WITH EFFECTIVE RETIREMENT PLANS THAT SUPPORT LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, FULLY REMEDIATE THE SITES AND SEEK TO REPLACE THE LOSS OF LOCAL TAX REVENUE; AND EXPLORE PROVIDING TRANSITION FUNDING FOR WORKERS AND COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY COAL RETIREMENTS.**
- ▶ Work with Michigan's congressional delegation to advocate in Washington for tough automobile fuel and carbon emission standards.
- ▶ Engage Great Lakes governors, Canadian provinces, federal governments, and other key regional stakeholders such as cities and townships, businesses, research universities and the U.S. military to strengthen the economy, increase resilience, and reduce emissions by developing ambitious energy efficiency, transportation, clean energy and resiliency goals and work plans.



ADVANCING TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

Michigan has a rich history of innovation in transportation, but for decades, our state has prioritized the expansion of roads over bus, rail and non-motorized lanes, while being slow to incentivize electric and autonomous vehicles. As we work to green the grid, we must also position Michigan as a leader of the advanced mobility revolution. State leaders must push forward policies that support electric vehicle adoption, boost the availability of statewide vehicle charging infrastructure and ensure that clean transportation options are accessible and affordable for every Michigander.

FIRST 100 DAYS

- ▶ Broaden the charge of the Council on Future Mobility to incorporate electric vehicles and expand and diversify the stakeholders on that council.
- ▶ Set an ambitious goal for the number of electric vehicles to have on the road in Michigan by 2030.

FIRST TERM

- ▶ **EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT THE MICHIGAN INFRASTRUCTURE COUNCIL'S ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANNING TO ENSURE THAT WHEN FUNDS ARE DIRECTED TOWARDS ROADS, THAT WATER AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS (GAS, FIBER, ETC.) ARE ALSO UPGRADED TO MAKE THE MOST EFFICIENT USE OF FUNDS.**
- ▶ **SUPPORT AN EV-READY COMMUNITY LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE THAT PROVIDES MODEL ORDINANCES AND GUIDANCE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ON HOW TO CONVERT MUNICIPAL FLEETS TO ELECTRIC, ADAPT TO AND ENCOURAGE THE GROWTH OF PRIVATE ELECTRIC VEHICLE ADOPTION IN THEIR COMMUNITIES AND ENCOURAGE OR REQUIRE NEW BUILDINGS TO INCLUDE WIRING FOR EV CHARGING.**
- ▶ Create a Memorandum of Understanding with other Midwest states to establish a regional electric vehicle corridor initiative similar to the one established by Western states.
- ▶ Incentivize the purchase of electric vehicles through tax credits (sales, income, corporate research and development) or rebates.
- ▶ Support a policy that provides the public and stakeholders with access to aggregate data on electric vehicle registration.
- ▶ Ensure that the DEQ implements the VW settlement plan in a way that appropriately encourages EV replacement projects.
- ▶ Create and implement a green fleets program for state vehicles and begin the process to transition state fleets to electric.
- ▶ Require the Department of Transportation to develop plans to mitigate traffic-related air pollution in high traffic areas; those plans should include the installation of vegetative buffers along highways and other major roadways in urban and suburban areas.
- ▶ Collaborate with biking and mobility advocates across the state to advance legislation protecting pedestrians and cyclists, developing Complete and Vital Streets with protected bike lanes and planning next steps for electric bikes and scooters.
- ▶ Increase the share of PA 51 funding that goes towards non-motorized uses.
- ▶ Better connect our state by rail through continued work on the Coast-to-Coast passenger rail system and support for the Ann Arbor–Traverse City and Washtenaw–Livingston lines.
- ▶ Continue funding in MDOT budget for Regional Transit Authority operations.

MOVING TOWARD SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

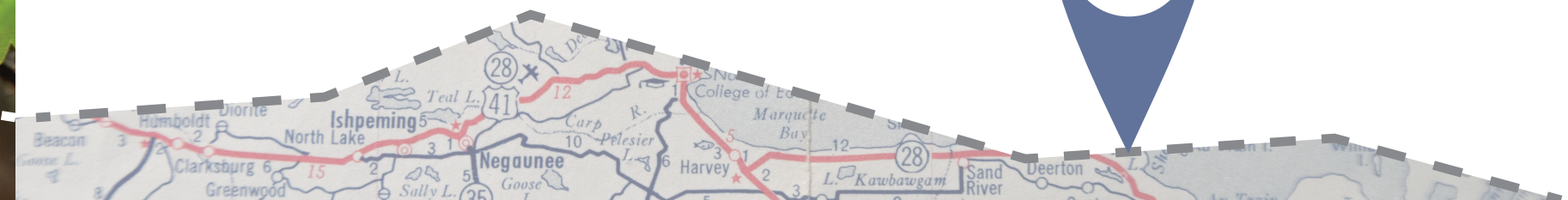
Hazardous algae blooms in Lake Erie, Saginaw Bay and inland lakes across the state are threatening drinking water and impairing opportunities for Michigan's families to enjoy our amazing freshwater resources. Pollinators are in steep decline across Michigan and the country due to habitat loss and chemical exposure.

FIRST 100 DAYS

- ▶ Implement Michigan's comprehensive plan to address the loss of pollinators; mitigate threats to both managed and wild pollinators by increasing pollinator habitat throughout Michigan and limiting pesticide exposure from industry.
- ▶ Direct the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to issue guidelines allowing solar installations on PA 116 land if it is paired with pollinator habitat, native grasses or some other agricultural use.

FIRST TERM

- ▶ **EXPAND ADOPTION OF NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS AND AGRICULTURAL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES THAT COST-EFFICIENTLY REDUCE NUTRIENT LOADING INTO SURFACE WATER; INCREASE PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENSURE ADOPTERS ARE ACTUALLY IMPLEMENTING THEIR PLANS.**
- ▶ **WORK WITH OHIO, INDIANA, AND THE U.S. EPA TO ESTABLISH A TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) WITH ENFORCEABLE REDUCTIONS IN AGRICULTURAL POLLUTION RUNOFF INTO MICHIGAN'S RIVERS, LAKES, STREAMS AND ULTIMATELY LAKE ERIE. COLLABORATE WITH ONTARIO THROUGHOUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TMDL.**
- ▶ Invest in robust water quality monitoring to help further state and regional initiatives.
- ▶ Institute an enforceable ban on spreading manure on frozen and/or saturated ground.
- ▶ Address gaps in the regulation of large confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs), specifically reforming manure management standards and loopholes.
- ▶ Prioritize agriculture conservation incentives and initiatives to areas of high nutrient loss potential, or areas that will achieve the most cost-efficient nutrient reductions with the goal of achieving more cost efficient nutrient reductions (current program is first-come, first-served).
- ▶ Invest in infrastructure that allows Michigan farmers to diversify crop selection; encourage food hubs and local growers to provide healthy, fresh food to communities; and reduce the need for heavy transport.
- ▶ Require drain commissioners to assess and report the density of drain tiling within their jurisdictions.
- ▶ Address waste manifesting loopholes in the CAFO general permit.





PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Historically, minority and low-income communities have suffered disproportionately from environmental burdens but lawmakers in Lansing have not used an environmental justice (EJ) lens when developing public policy.

FIRST 100 DAYS

- ▶ Retain the new EJ ombudsman position and the interagency workgroup and ensure that the Environmental Justice Advisory Council is established; recruit members of impacted communities to serve on state boards and commissions.
- ▶ Issue an executive order requiring the DEQ to identify EJ communities and to outline additional agency actions that will be taken in permit and agency decisions to better protect these communities from pollution; those actions should include conducting EJ analyses and measuring and mitigating cumulative health impacts from air and water toxins.
- ▶ Ensure that EJ principles are engrained in all applicable agency decision-making processes including through tax credit and MEDC incentive processes.

FIRST TERM

- ▶ **REVIEW AND IMPLEMENT THE 33 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE 2017 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE WORKGROUP, INCLUDING:**
 - Implement health in all policies by conducting health impact assessments and developing health impact assessment criteria
 - Require the creation of an annual environmental justice report
 - Establish measurable targets for eliminating childhood lead poisoning
 - Implement lead poisoning and other chemical contaminants dashboards
 - Implement enhanced community environmental quality monitoring
- ▶ Direct local governments to perform EJ and health impact analyses as part of their master planning process.
- ▶ Direct the DEQ to conduct a statewide study of air and water cumulative health impacts from permitted facilities and mobile sources.





PROTECTING AND CELEBRATING MICHIGAN'S OUTDOOR HERITAGE

Our public lands play a rich role in the lives of Michiganders and power our state's robust recreation and tourism economies. That said, our public lands and waterways continue to fall prey to attacks and harmful exploitation for short-term gain. Our public lands and waterways are a key driver of the Great Lakes region's \$6 billion outdoor recreation industry. It is critical that we protect these lands so they can be celebrated for years to come.

FIRST 100 DAYS

- ▶ Establish a state Office of Outdoor Recreation within the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to improve the quality of recreation experiences for all users.
- ▶ Ensure Michigan continues to play its leadership role among Great Lakes states in efforts to keep Asian carp out of the Great Lakes; support funding and construction of protections against Asian carp at Brandon Road Lock and Dam near Joliet, IL, providing direct financial support from the state to advance the project and working to secure funding commitments from neighboring states for constructing an effective solution.
- ▶ Maximize stakeholder input and ecosystem management by independently and dually certifying forestland through the Forest Stewardship Council and Sustainable Forestry Initiative processes.
- ▶ Roll back the expansion of timberland into state game areas, state parks and wilderness areas.
- ▶ Revitalize planning efforts around high value natural areas and improve the conservation, protection and preservation of source and groundwater protection areas as green infrastructure, including in the scoring of Trust Fund Projects.

FIRST TERM

- ▶ **PROTECT ACCESS TO MICHIGAN'S PUBLIC LANDS BY SEPARATING THE AMOUNT OF LAND THE STATE CAN OWN FROM THE LEGISLATIVELY CONTROLLED PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES AND REMOVE THE ABILITY OF A SINGLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO BLOCK LAND ACQUISITIONS FOR STATEWIDE PURPOSES.**
- ▶ **SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION OF MORE PUBLIC LAND TO ACHIEVE BOTH ECOLOGICAL AND RECREATION OBJECTIVES. FOCUS ON ACQUIRING LANDS IN SOUTHERN MICHIGAN AND INVEST IN URBAN PARKS, WATERFRONTS AND CONNECTED GREENWAYS THAT PROVIDE UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES IN AND AROUND OUR MAJOR CITIES WITH SAFE, CONVENIENT ACCESS TO OPEN SPACE AND NATURAL RESOURCES.**
- ▶ Ensure the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) scientifically manages public lands in order to conserve, promote and enhance the state's fish, wildlife and biological diversity.
- ▶ Prevent efforts to drill and mine under Michigan state parks and ecologically valuable public lands.
- ▶ Ensure that oil, gas and mineral revenues permanently fund acquisition and permanent protection of public lands through the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and the Michigan State Parks Endowment Fund, and protect these funds against legislative interference. Fund and address the backlog of capital projects at Michigan state parks.
- ▶ Adequately fund DNR conservation activities by exploring sources of revenue that are not tied to game species.
- ▶ Restore protections for critical sand dunes.
- ▶ Secure funding in the state budget for abandoned mine reclamation work.
- ▶ Do an assessment of abandoned mines. The state has never assessed how many abandoned mines we have, where they are and what dangers they pose.
- ▶ Ensure people who live above state-owned mineral tracts are given the first right to buy, as opposed to the state brokering a deal with a mining company.
- ▶ Convene a working group to revisit the state sulfide mining law; since its passage it has been changed and interpreted in a way that puts Michigan's natural resources at risk.
- ▶ Continue Michigan's focus on combating diseases, pests and invasive species that threaten the state's fish and wildlife, forests and waters.
- ▶ Implement the congressionally mandated Wildlife Action Plan.
- ▶ Utilize the tax code (credits, deductions, and exclusions) to support land conservation and wildlife (including non-game) management funding sources.
- ▶ Update Michigan's Climate Change Vulnerability Index which identifies the vulnerabilities and adaptation abilities of critical state game and non-game species important to hunters, anglers, bird watchers and the state's natural heritage.



ADDRESSING MICHIGAN'S SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING LAWS

Michigan ranks as one of the lowest recycling states in the Great Lakes region and in the nation. By reducing the waste that goes to landfills and incinerators, a robust recycling program could lower harmful air emissions, drive economic investment and keep our waterways clean.

FIRST 100 DAYS

- ▶ Maintain Governor Snyder's executive directives on ensuring recycling access at all state facilities and developing markets for recycling.

FIRST TERM

- ▶ **PASS A COMPREHENSIVE REWRITE OF OUR STATE SOLID WASTE LAWS TO INCREASE THE STATE'S RECYCLING RATE; REVAMP COUNTY PLANNING AND BRING EXPERTISE BACK TO LOCALS; AND WORK TOWARDS SHIFTING FOCUS AWAY FROM LANDFILL DISPOSAL TO RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING.**
- ▶ **SEEK A SOLUTION TO EVER-INCREASING AMOUNTS OF PLASTIC WASTE GOING INTO OUR WATERWAYS; THIS INCLUDES DEFENDING THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL DEPOSIT LAW, SUPPORTING POLICIES THAT PRESENT STATE AND LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO REDUCING SINGLE-USE PLASTICS, AND REPEALING THE PLASTIC BAG BAN PREEMPTION (PA 389 OF 2016).**
- ▶ Implement policies that optimize discarded materials management according to the highest material use hierarchy that gives first priority to source reduction, reuse, recycling and composting.
- ▶ Defend the state yard waste ban and ensure that yard waste and other compostable wastes are properly composted and the compost is utilized by state agencies and farms.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Michigan Environmental Council and Michigan League of Conservation Voters would like to thank these partner organizations for contributing to the creation of the 2019–2022 Environmental Roadmap.

- ▶ 5 LAKES ENERGY
- ▶ ALLIANCE FOR THE GREAT LAKES
- ▶ CHIPPEWA OTTAWA RESOURCE AUTHORITY
- ▶ CLEAN WATER ACTION
- ▶ DETROITERS WORKING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
- ▶ ECOLOGY CENTER
- ▶ ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY CENTER
- ▶ ENVIRONMENTALLY CONCERNED CITIZENS OF SOUTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN (ECCSCM)
- ▶ FOR LOVE OF WATER (FLOW)
- ▶ GREAT LAKES ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER
- ▶ GROUNDWORK CENTER FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES
- ▶ HURON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
- ▶ LEAGUE OF MICHIGAN BICYCLISTS
- ▶ LINC UP
- ▶ MI AIR MI HEALTH
- ▶ MICHIGAN ENERGY OPTIONS
- ▶ MICHIGAN NATURE ASSOCIATION
- ▶ MICHIGAN RECYCLING COALITION
- ▶ MICHIGAN TROUT UNLIMITED
- ▶ MINING ACTION GROUP
- ▶ NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION, GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CENTER
- ▶ SIERRA CLUB, MICHIGAN CHAPTER
- ▶ TIP OF THE MITT WATERSHED COUNCIL
- ▶ UPPER PENINSULA ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION
- ▶ VOTE SOLAR
- ▶ WEST MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COUNCIL



The 2019–2022 Environmental Roadmap was produced by the Michigan Environmental Council and the Michigan League of Conservation Voters.

Michigan Environmental Council is a coalition of organizations protecting the health of Michigan's people and environment. We are a 501(c)(3) charitable organization formed in 1980 to lead Michigan's environmental movement in achieving positive change through public policy solutions.

environmentalcouncil.org

Michigan League of Conservation Voters endorses pro-conservation candidates for the state legislature and governor's office, works to pass strong laws protecting the environment, and educates voters about legislators' conservation records.

michiganlcv.org

MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL MEMBER GROUPS

ACCESS
AFFEW
ADRIAN DOMINICAN SISTERS
ALLIANCE FOR THE GREAT LAKES
ALLIANCE TO HALT FERMI 3
ANGLERS OF THE AU SABLE
AU SABLE RIVER WATERSHED COMMITTEE
CITIZENS FOR ALTERNATIVES TO CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION
CITIZENS' CLIMATE LOBBY, MICHIGAN
CLEAN WATER FUND
CLEARCORPS / DETROIT
CLINTON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
DETROIT AUDUBON
DETROIT RIVERFRONT CONSERVANCY
DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER—IZAACK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA
EAST MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COUNCIL
ECOLOGY CENTER
ENVIRONMENT MICHIGAN
ENVIRONMENTALLY CONCERNED CITIZENS OF SOUTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN
FRIENDS OF THE DETROIT RIVER
FRIENDS OF THE JORDAN RIVER WATERSHED
FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE
GRAND TRAVERSE BAND OF OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA INDIANS
GREAT LAKES MEDIATION
GROUNDWORK CENTER FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

HURON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
KALAMAZOO ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL
KALAMAZOO RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
LEAGUE OF MICHIGAN BICYCLISTS
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MICHIGAN
LEGACY LAND CONSERVANCY
LIAISON FOR INTER-NEIGHBORHOOD COOPERATION
LONE TREE COUNCIL
MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS
MICHIGAN AUDUBON
MICHIGAN BOTANICAL CLUB
MICHIGAN CITIZENS AGAINST TOXIC SUBSTANCES
MICHIGAN ENERGY OPTIONS
MICHIGAN INTERFAITH POWER AND LIGHT
MICHIGAN LAND TRUSTEES
MICHIGAN LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS EDUCATION FUND
MICHIGAN NURSES ASSOCIATION
MICHIGAN ORGANIC FOOD AND FARM ALLIANCE
MICHIGAN RECYCLING COALITION
MICHIGAN TRAILS AND GREENWAYS ALLIANCE
MICHIGAN TROUT UNLIMITED
MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE
MID-MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COUNCIL
MIDWEST ENERGY EFFICIENCY ALLIANCE
MUSKEGON SAVE OUR SHORELINE
NAACP—MICHIGAN STATE CONFERENCE
NORTHERN MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COUNCIL

PRESERVE THE DUNES
SCENIC MICHIGAN
SISTERS, SERVANTS OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
SIX RIVERS REGIONAL LAND CONSERVANCY
SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY
STEWARDSHIP NETWORK
TIP OF THE MITT WATERSHED COUNCIL
TRANSPORTATION RIDERS UNITED
UPPER PENINSULA ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION
VOICES FOR EARTH JUSTICE
WEST MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COUNCIL

Please note that the views expressed in this document on a particular issue are not necessarily shared by all Michigan Environmental Council member groups or other participating organizations.

2019-
2022

ENVIRONMENTAL ROADMAP

