



# 2021–2022 POLICY PRIORITIES



## Invest in Clean Energy

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**Decarbonize buildings.** Improve energy efficiency and create opportunities for electrification in both new and existing buildings: updating Michigan’s building codes, and funding a pre-weatherization program to address health and safety walk away issues.

**Make renewables more accessible.** Lift the arbitrary cap on distributed generation and create a community solar program.

**Electrify our transportation sector.** Correct the unfair registration fees for electric vehicles and create incentives to encourage purchase of electric vehicles.

**Effective statewide carbon neutrality plan.** Ensure the Climate Solutions Council develops an effective plan to decarbonize Michigan and includes diverse representation from environmental and environmental justice groups and communities.

## Protect Human Health

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**Lead testing for all.** Create policy mandating universal lead testing for children, along with systems and education to increase lead testing rates in Michigan, and ensure all children are protected from lead.

**Healthy housing for homeowners and renters.** Ensure lead safe certification for all rental units prior to occupancy along with supporting a loan loss reserve fund to help finance any repairs needed to provide healthy lead safe homes for families.

**Farm fresh food for kids.** Increase funding for 10 cents a meal program to help make local fresh food choices affordable and available in schools and daycare centers statewide.

## Protect Water Sources

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**Reduce toxins and nutrient pollution in our surface water.** This broad goal encompasses doing more to hold farmers accountable for nutrient runoff, creating better management for stormwater and combined sewers, and creating a statewide septic code.

**Holistic surface water management.** Make changes to state law to better manage water on the watershed scale, instead of county by county. Additionally, create processes and setbacks for addressing lake level fluctuations in Great Lakes and inland lakes.

**Address structural issues in groundwater protection.** Improve our scientific understanding of groundwater by implementing findings of the Water Use Advisory Council to ensure sustainable groundwater withdrawals.

## Ensure Clean Drinking Water

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**Protect our children from lead in drinking water** by implementing a filter first policy in our schools and daycares. Continue to monitor best practices to address contaminants of emerging concern like PFAS.

**Ensure transparency and equity in water rates.** Create programs to ensure data transparency and accountability in water rates and create affordability programs and more equitable water rates.

**Fund our crumbling infrastructure.** Work to implement statewide funding to help repair our water infrastructure across the state, watchdog the asset management planning process, and update our state revolving loan fund program.

## Transit, Recycling & Public Lands

**Ensure mobility for all.** Work to create best practices to build mobility-ready communities, where everyone can move around no matter the choice of mode. Additionally, improve transit access by working toward approval of the Regional Transit Authority in 2022.

**Revamp recycling.** Follow up the momentum from the changes to Part 115 to modernize the bottle bill, as well as build programs for the state to lead by example on using recycled material in our roads and buildings.

**Equitable access to public lands.** Following the success of Proposal 1, ensure that the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and State Park Endowment Fund grants are distributed throughout the state so that our urban communities have much needed access to world class public lands.

## CONTACT

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**MICHIGAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
COUNCIL**

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## MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

### 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  
Coalition to Save the Menominee River  
Detroit Audubon  
Detroit RiverFront Conservancy  
East Michigan Environmental Action Council  
Ecology Center  
Environment Michigan  
Research & Policy Center  
Environmental Transformation  
Movement of Flint  
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 Council of Fly Fishers International

Great Lakes Mediation  
Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities  
Healthy Pine River  
Huron River Watershed Council  
Izaak Walton League – Michigan IKES  
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 Clinicians for Climate Action  
Michigan Energy Options  
Michigan Interfaith Power and Light  
Michigan Lakes & Streams Association  
Michigan Land Trustees  
Michigan League of Conservation Voters Education Fund  
Michigan Nurses Association  
Michigan Organic Food and Farm Alliance

### Michigan Recycling Coalition

Michigan Resource Stewards  
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  
National Parks Conservation Association  
Northern Michigan Environmental Action Council  
PFAS Alliance  
Rogue River Watershed Partners  
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 Carbon Neutrality  
Voices for Earth Justice  
West Michigan Environmental Action Council