



MCWC

Michigan Citizens for
Water Conservation

MEET THE BOARD MEMBERS

Monica Evans: President

I was born and raised in Leelanau County and moved to Benzie County after getting married to my husband, Chad, in 1979. We have three sons, three cats, a dog, and live happily and simply on 20 acres of land. I have been a licensed day care provider for 30 years and love sharing my home and heart with children. I also love to camp, hike, read and cook. I have been a life-long environmental activist and have volunteered for many organizations and causes, and was the Chairperson, and Conservation Committee Chairperson, of the Traverse Group of the Sierra Club from 2000-2008. In 2010 I co-founded Michigan Citizens for Energy, Economy and the Environment to halt the proposed Biomass Plant in Traverse City. I have also been a long-time supporter of, and believer in, MCWC. I am honored and excited to be the President of MCWC, and will work hard to carry on the good word, and good work, of this organization.

Peggy Case: Vice President

I retired from teaching elementary school five years ago and now reside on a 35 acre homestead in Benzie County, where I raise chickens, grow vegetables, and recently have become a beekeeper. I have been an activist all my life, working on environmental issues, social justice, and community building projects. I currently work with the Great Lakes Bioneers, manage the Benzie Area Symphony Orchestra and provide some leadership to the Singing Sisters of Northern Michigan. I am a founding member of the Benzie County Water Council and have served on the board for MCWC for two years. I am hoping to contribute to the goals of MCWC by building partnerships with other grassroots organizations working to save our precious water, by

expanding our educational outreach, and also by assisting in retiring the debt MCWC still has from past good work. I am pleased to be asked to serve as Vice President of MCWC.

Glenna Maneke: Treasurer

My husband and I grew up in and have returned to the area near the Ice Mt. wells and know the detrimental impact the pumping has had, and continues to have, on our aquifer, our family, and our neighbors. We have three children and six grandchildren. I am a retired math and science teacher, greatly concerned with overconsumption and the sustainability of our environment.

Don Roy: Secretary

(MCWC board member since 2002) I teach political science at Ferris State University and live in Grand Rapids. I am also an adjunct instructor at Aquinas College. Originally a Connecticutupian (as is Ralph Nader), I now only see and enjoy the magnificent natural wonders of Michigan.

Peg Fry: Member

I was born and raised in Detroit and moved to Traverse City 16 years ago. I currently work out of my home, where I own and manage a substance abuse education program. I became involved in the environmental movement in this area when I met up with the Sierra Club during a hike that took us to the proposed Bridge over the Boardman River. I then decided to attend a Sierra Club meeting where I met Monica and Priscilla and joined the Sierra Club. I am now proud to become a board member of MCWC to work for the protection of our Great Lakes.

Jeanne Peters: Member

I moved to Benzie County in 2008 from Clarkston. I had been retired from the Social Security administration and started volunteering as a reading teacher in Pontiac. My first involvement with MCWC was in 1999 protesting at the Mecosta water bottling facility. I have been on the board since July 2009.

Terry Swier: Member

I am one of the founders and was President of Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation (MCWC) for almost eleven years. I retired as a university reference librarian and moved back to the Mecosta area with my husband to build a home on 3rd generation lakefront property.

I have helped educate state legislators and members of Congress on the Nestle issue, and raised the public's awareness of the importance of water diversion and export. I continue to represent Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation as one of the voices for protection of water, water conservation, and preservation for future generations.

Priscilla Wamsley: Member

A relative newcomer to Michigan, I moved to Traverse City twelve years to be with my partner Doug, after meeting him on vacation in Colorado. I grew up in Princeton, New Jersey, and then lived for ten years in the Washington, DC area before making Northern Michigan my home. I work long hours as a computer software consultant, and try to spend as much time as possible in the outdoors, but I also find time to lend my technical skills to worthy environmental causes.

I first got involved in local environmentalism through the Traverse Group of the Sierra Club, where I met and became good friends and collaborators with Monica Evans and Peggy Fry. I have also volunteered time and Web development expertise to Michigan Citizens for Energy, the Economy and Environment (MCE3) and the Leelanau Conservancy. I look forward to participating on the board of MCWC and helping with the redesign of the MCWC Web site.

MCWC NEWS FLASH!

Jim Olson and Terry Swier were panel members at Oakland University, College of Arts and Sciences on Wednesday, October 19 at the showing of Sam Bozo's film BLUE GOLD. Terry and Jim introduced their work, Jim with MCWC and FLOW and Terry with MCWC, and talked of the connection of what they do with the subject of the film. A question and answer was held after the film with the students and faculty in attendance.

MCWC at BIONEERS CONFERENCE

The tenth annual Great Lakes Bioneers Conference held October 14-16 in Traverse City, focused on the theme of Reclaiming the Commons. Naturally we wanted the water commons right up front. Peggy Case, from MCWC, conducted a workshop on the water commons, joining up with Anne Zukowski of Don't Frack Michigan. Following Anne's very useful presentation of all the reasons why horizontal fracking is a really bad idea, we moved into a discussion with participants of how important it is that we keep water within the commons, available for all members (human and other species) of the ecosystem in an equitable way, and protected through public trust legislation. The fracking disaster brings this need home with great urgency. Not only must we declare that water cannot be owned by anyone, we must declare that as part of the commons, it cannot be misused, destroyed or appropriated for private gain by anyone.

JOIN US

Our MCWC Meetings are held the 4th Saturday of every month. Starting January, we will meet in Mecosta then alternating between Mecosta and Traverse City. However the next meeting will be January 21st – it is best to call ahead of time to make sure of the date and location.

Call Monica @ 231-325-6812 for more information

Why Not Bottled Water?

By Monica Evans

Evocative names and labels depicting pastoral scenes have convinced people that bottled water is the purest drink around. “But no one should think that bottled water is better regulated, better protected or safer than tap,” says Eric Goldstein, co-director of the urban program at the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), a nonprofit organization devoted to protecting health and the environment. In a test conducted by NRDC over a 4-year period involving 1,000 bottles of water, approximately 22% of the brands they tested contained at least one sample which contained chemical contaminants at levels dangerously above the state health limits.

Bottled water is an increasingly growing business, and with that comes a whole lot of environmental impact that can be avoided by a turn of the faucet at home, or away. While we struggle to cut down on our consumption of fossil fuels, bottled water increases them. Virgin petroleum is used to make polyethylene terephthalate (PET) and the more bottles we use, the more virgin petroleum will be needed to create new bottles. Fossil fuels are burned to fill the bottles and also to distribute them.

Along with that, the energy used each year making the bottles needed to meet the demand for bottled water in the United States is equivalent to more than 17 million barrels of oil. That’s enough to fuel over 1 million cars for a year.

Then there’s the waste of water itself, says Todd Jarvis, PhD, associate director of the Institute for Water and Watersheds at Oregon State University. According to his calculations, it takes about 72 billion gallons of water a year, worldwide, just to make the empty bottles. And treating and filtering tap water for bottling creates even more waste. By some estimates, it takes about two liters of water to make every liter you see on store shelves.

About 30 billion bottles are sold each year and about 86% of them end up in trash instead of being recycled. That is a lot of waste which can outlive twenty generations, since each bottle takes at least 400 to 1,000 years to degrade. That bottle that takes just three

minutes to drink can take up to a thousand years to biodegrade. Bottled water has a significant environmental burden. Next time you find yourself thirsty, reach for a glass or a refillable thermos. You’ll save water, energy and money.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

By Peg Fry

A rupture in the Keystone XL pipeline could cause a BP style oil spill in America’s heartland, over the source of fresh drinking water for 2 million people.

The amount of energy used to extract tar sands oil is far more than what they get out of it, thus proving that the whole thing isn’t about energy security, it’s about profits all along the way for the corporations playing the game.

The proposed Keystone Tar Sands pipeline will affect so much of our country that we cannot afford to ignore it in Michigan.

The pipeline will cross through America’s agricultural heartland, the Missouri and Niobrara Rivers, the Ogallala aquifer, sage grouse habitat, walleye fisheries and more.

12,000 Activists gathered in our nation’s capital November 6th to encircle the White House to protest the proposed pipeline.

Big News: We Won – We Won – But not Really – Not Yet!!!

President Obama sent the pipeline back to the State Department for a thorough re-review and said he will not make a decision until after the 2012 election. The president explicitly noted climate change, along with the pipeline route, as one of the factors that a new review would need to assess.

For more info: www.tarsandsaction.org

DID YOU KNOW? Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation is **on FACEBOOK!** Please find us and click on "Like". Also, feel free to post articles, photos, comments and other information you'd like to share regarding water protection and conservation.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Michigan-Citizens-for-Water-Conservation>

WEBSITE: www.saveMIwater.org

Priscilla Wamsley, one of the new MCWC Board Members will be working on upgrades to the website. Change is in the Air!!!

WHAT THE FRACK!!!

- ❖ Water contamination: 2 – 9 Million gallons of fresh ground water mixed with chemicals are pumped at high pressure underground to “frack” a well. Each well can be fracked several times. Such rapid massive water withdrawal depletes ground water affecting lakes, streams and aquatic life and homeowner wells.
- ❖ 40 – 70 % returns to the surface as “flowback fluid”. This water now mixed with toxic chemicals cannot be returned to the watershed and will be disposed of in injection wells.
- ❖ Gas companies are exempt from Michigan water withdrawal regulations.
- ❖ Halliburton Loophole: Horizontal fracking is profitable because of industry exemptions from environmental laws. An amendment to the 2005 energy bill stripped the EPA’s authority to regulate hydrofracking through the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Friends of the Jordan River and Don’t Frack Michigan have joined MCWC in calling for a statewide ban on Fracking.

www.friendsofthejordan.org
www.don'tfrackmichigan.org

“From a Million to 40!”

When MCWC first organized in the year 2000 and began fighting Nestlé’s water withdrawal in Mecosta, litigation costs left us with close to \$1,000,000 in debt.

Through the hard work and dedication of our board and members – all volunteers, we are now looking at a debt under \$40,000.

AWESOME!

DONATE TODAY!: Support our Work to Protect the Great Lakes! Donations are tax deductible. You may mail in your end of the Year Tax-Deductions donation to MCWC, P.O. Box 1, Mecosta, MI 49332 or by going to our website www.saveMIwater.org.

Pasties for Sale (Stock up for Winter!) Pasties sales are still going strong. We have beef and vegetarian pasties available.

Our Pasties continue to get outstanding reviews. Made by our own pasties-chefs extraordinaire, Glenna Maneke and Aunt Rosie, they are fully baked, frozen immediately and ready for you to warm up in your oven. Guaranteed to warm your stomach and soul on a cold winter’s night.

For Mecosta and Big Rapids area orders, call Glenna Maneke at (231)972-0500, or email manekegl@hotmail.com. For the Traverse City area, call Monica Evans at (231)325-6812 or email leelanaunative@gmail.com. All Proceeds from the sale of these pasties help reduce our outstanding litigation debt in fighting Nestle.

**World Bank partners with Nestlé to
'transform water sector'**

Reprinted from: www.stopcorporateabuse.org

The World Bank launched a new partnership with global corporations including Nestlé, Coca-Cola and Veolia. Housed at the World Bank's International Finance Corporation (IFC), the new venture aspires to "transform the water sector" by inserting the corporate sector into what has historically been a public service.

The venture — called the 2030 Water Resources Group Phase 2 Entity — aligns global corporations that have major financial stakes in water governance with the World Bank, one of the world's leading development institutions. Nestlé Chairman Peter Brabeck-Letmathe has been appointed to chair the Water Resources Group, which has already received \$1.5 million in IFC funding. Nestlé is the world's largest water bottling corporation. **Advocates for people's access to water point to this as the latest example of water corporations' efforts to interfere in legitimate, democratic water governance.**

"This is an unmistakably activist campaign by the private water industry to gain funding and credibility for a radical power grab, with the help of the World Bank," said Corporate Accountability International's Senior Organizer Shayda Edwards Naficy. "According to the World Bank, 34% of private water contracts are in distress or terminated before maturity. Last April, the IFC's Compliance Advisor Ombudsman reported that an astounding 40 percent of complaints received from all regions and sectors were water-related. This is evidence that water privatization has been fraught with a range of problems, including broken promises for expanded service, wasted public funds and threats to human rights, especially for the lowest income families.

Currently, 90 percent of the world's water-users access water through public delivery. Turning these systems over to private corporations would result in rate hikes, cutoffs and significant layoffs of water sector employees.

**COMMITTEES ARE FORMING
WE NEED YOU!!!**

WATER COMMONS/PUBLIC TRUST: Working to protect the Great Lakes as a Water Commons
Contact: Terry Swier: 231-972-8856
tswier@centurytel.net

FRACKING ISSUES: Educate and Agitate for a Total Ban on Fracking
Contact: Peggy Case: 231-275-2244,
hildaheron@aol.com

FUNDRAISING: Plan events to support our Mission
Contact: Monica Evans: 231-325-6812,
leelanaunative@gmail.com

MEDIA/SPEAKER BUREAU: Need an article – Need a speaker – Call Don for public outreach.
Contact: Don Roy: 231-591-2764,
donaldroy@ferris.edu

SKI PARTY AND SOUP DINNER

Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation's Annual Full Moon Ski/Soup Dinner is Saturday February 11, 2012 – Just East of Honor

Join us for three kinds of delicious homemade soup; salad, bread and desert. Bring your skis or snowshoes for a full-moon trek after dinner on a groomed trail over meadows, hills and forest. Or stay inside and meet old friends and new for board games or conversation. This is one of our most popular fundraisers!

\$15.00 per person or \$25.00 per couple. All proceeds benefit MCWC.

BYOB.

Call Monica at 231-325-6812 to RSVP and for directions.

TO CONTINUE THE FIGHT

Donations and memberships can be made online at: www.saveMlwater.org. Or mail your check along with the form below to:

**MCWC
P.O. Box 1
Mecosta, MI 49332**

We'd love to get you signed up as a sustaining member. We can't promise you fancy address labels, coffee cups or trinkets as a reward. We only promise to apply your money to the work of saving our waters into the seventh generation. You can have your pledge sent or transferred directly to the MCWC account. Contact Glenna Maneke at (231)972-0500 or manekegl@hotmail.com to arrange this

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!

**Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation
P.O. Box 1
Mecosta, MI 49332**

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