



THE ENVIRONMENT

Enhance the Quality of Michigan's Natural Environment

Our state government is committed to intelligent and effective stewardship of the God-given wonder of our natural environment. We will protect the quality of the air we breathe and the quality of our water, from the mightiest of the Great Lakes to the tiniest stream. We will manage our land so that the inevitable growth of our communities will respect the green space that contributes so much to Michigan's quality of life. As a manufacturing state, we will insist that our pursuit of economic growth goes hand in hand with the protection of Michigan's environment.

The State of Michigan is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use, and enjoyment of the state's natural resources for current and future generations. Michigan has 11,000 inland lakes, 36,000 miles of rivers and streams, and 3,000 miles of freshwater shoreline. Numerous park and recreation areas enable Michigan's citizens and visitors to enjoy outdoor recreation in a fun and safe environment on public lands and waters while benefiting the state economy. Michigan lands also yield several agricultural products which rank #1 nationally in the state's second largest industry – agriculture production.

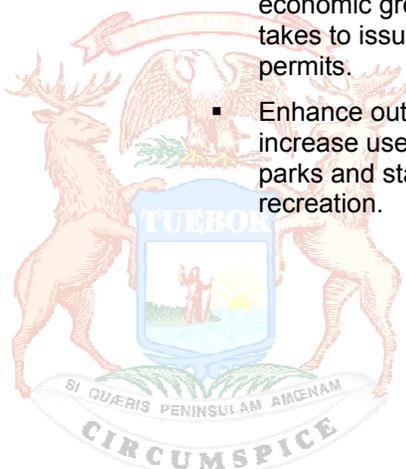
Efforts to enhance the quality of Michigan's natural environment encompass 195 activities in 6 departments. The Governor's proposed budget for fiscal year 2006 recommends total environmental funding of \$680 million, of which \$60.6 million is general fund.

Strategies to Achieve Goal

- Make the Great Lakes and Michigan's natural resources cleaner, safer and healthier.
- Protect and preserve more open space, farmland, forestland, and public land.
- Prevent, control or eradicate plant and animal diseases and pests that threaten our health, environment and economy.
- In order to foster both environmental performance and economic growth, reduce the time it takes to issue environmental permits.
- Enhance outdoor recreation and increase use of state facilities, parks and state sponsored recreation.

Indicators of Success

- Improved trends in fish and wildlife populations
- Increase in acres of farm, forest and public land protected from development
- Reduction in plant and animal diseases
- Increased use of Michigan's state parks and forests
- Improved trends in air and water quality
- Faster issuance of environmental permits without compromising standards



Commitments to Enhance our Environment

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Energy Efficiency and Clean Technology Initiative

This initiative is working to promote energy efficient and clean technology business practices in Michigan businesses to control energy costs, and improve business competitiveness; it is examining how to create incentives to support and attract clean technology companies to Michigan; and how to support research and development of clean technology, and promote commercialization of this technology by Michigan companies

Prevention of Childhood Lead Poisoning

The DEQ is expediting investigation and cleanup of suspected lead smelter sites in the City of Detroit, to determine if releases from those sites pose unacceptable exposure risks in adjacent residential areas, and is also participating in the Department of Community Health's Interagency Task Force for the coordination of childhood lead poisoning, preventions, and control strategy.

Comprehensive Water Strategy

The DEQ and the Office of the Great Lakes are working together to create and implement a comprehensive program to protect and regulate uses of water. The initiative involves multiple elements to develop a comprehensive state water management plan and protect the Great Lakes and Michigan's inland lakes, streams and wetlands from pollution, impairment, or destruction.

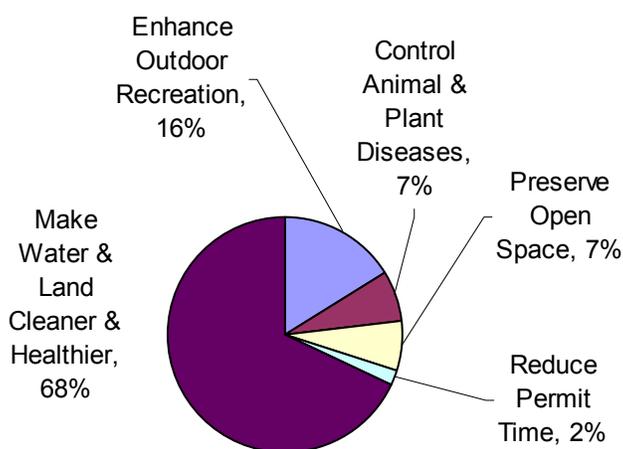
Big Upper Peninsula (UP) Deal

In January of 2005, the State of Michigan joined with the Nature Conservancy the foundation community and The Forestland Group to announce a deal to protect more than 271,000 acres in the Michigan Upper Peninsula. Through this deal, 248,000 acres will be protected through a working forest conservation easement, the largest of its kind in the country, and the acquisition of 23,338 acres that will guarantee public access on these lands forever.

This agreement includes:

1. More than 300 natural lakes
2. 192 miles of Class 1 trout streams
3. More than 52,000 acres of wetland

Environment Spending



Total: \$680 Million

Gasoline Inspections

Michigan is working to ensure that all citizens get what they pay for at the pump. In the coming year, the State of Michigan is working to complete a risk-based quality and quantity inspections at 25 percent of licenses retail outlets.

Solid Waste Strategy

Will ensure adequate and reasonable disposal capacity is available in the state for use by Michigan's residents without creating excess capacity and will lead to a more effective and comprehensive approach to solid waste management. It will do so by reducing waste generation, diverting materials from disposal, ensuring appropriate disposal capacity, and applying safeguards to protect public health and the environment when disposal does occur.

