

# GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

## PROTECTING OUR WATER, ENVIRONMENT, AND CLIMATE



Governor Whitmer is committed to defending our Great Lakes, mitigating the impacts of climate change on our communities, and creating tens of thousands of good-paying jobs in industries of the future. She understands that the health of our economy is inextricably linked to the health of our people and our planet. Since taking office, she has invested more resources into water infrastructure than the previous 5 years combined. These investments support good-paying jobs and ensure every parent can give their kid a glass of drinking water and know that it's safe. She also launched the MI Healthy Climate Plan to move all sectors of our economy to carbon neutral by 2050 and ensure marginalized communities impacted by climate change will benefit from our energy transition. The Governor has made critical investments in our parks, trails, and public lands to create jobs, boost surrounding economies, and ensure that all families can enjoy "Pure Michigan."

### PROTECTING OUR DRINKING WATER

- Enforced the strongest Lead and Copper Rule for drinking water supplies in the country.
- Established health-based drinking water standards for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) chemicals in our drinking water supplies.
- Signed an Executive Directive to improve Michigan's drinking water protections.
- Partnered with Attorney General Nessel to hold PFAS polluters accountable for their contamination.
- Limited the purchasing of products containing PFAS from state procurement.
- Created the Office of the Clean Water Public Advocate and the Office of the Environmental Justice Public Advocate to elevate the concerns of residents and investigate complaints related to drinking water and environmental justice.



*"In Michigan, our waters literally define us. We're surrounded by the extraordinary Great Lakes, home to 21% of the world's fresh surface water, support millions of jobs, and provide drinking water and recreation opportunities to tens of millions of families. I will always protect our waters—source to tap—for generations to come."*

- Governor Gretchen Whitmer

### INVESTING MILLIONS IN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

- Launched MI Clean Water, a \$500 million drinking and wastewater infrastructure plan to address high water rates, lead-laden water service lines, toxic contaminants like PFAS, sewers that can't meet demand, and failing septic systems. Proposed a \$500 million expansion to MI Clean Water to ensure communities have the resources they need to address water infrastructure concerns and remove lead service lines. Taken together, these investments would support 15,000 jobs.
- In addition to MI Clean Water, invested over \$2 billion to upgrade drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater facilities across the state, supporting 30,000 jobs.
- Proposed Filter First, a \$55 million investment in K-12 schools to ensure that students and staff have access to safe drinking water and \$40 million to address in-home water challenges.
- Signed an Executive Directive to ensure that water infrastructure funding from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is spent and deployed effectively.

### WORKING TOWARDS JUSTICE FOR FLINT

- Worked with Attorney General Nessel to achieve the largest settlement in Michigan's history for Flint's children and families, totaling \$600M in response to the Flint water crisis.

## ENSURING ACCESS TO CLEAN DRINKING WATER DURING COVID-19

- Took strong steps to ensure thousands of working families in Michigan had access to clean water for hand washing and sanitation by signing executive orders and the Water Shut Off Protection Act that required the reconnection of water service where it had been previously shut off due to inability to pay.
- Launched the Water Utility Assistance Program, the largest investment in water assistance in Michigan history.

## PUTTING MICHIGAN ON A PATH TO A CLEAN ECONOMY

- Launched the MI Healthy Climate Plan, a plan to move all sectors of our economy to carbon neutral by 2050 and ensures marginalized communities impacted by climate change will benefit from our energy transition.
- Committed Michigan to the Paris Climate Agreement, joined the U.S. Climate Alliance.
- Deployed solar panels on state-owned lands and buildings and committed to powering state government with 100% renewable energy by 2025.
- Signed a bipartisan budget that invested millions in climate resilient infrastructure and clean energy upgrades for state facilities, families, and small businesses.
- Invested \$17.5 million towards transitioning buses and heavy-duty vehicles to clean fuels and electrification.
- Invested more than \$45 million to build up Michigan's electric vehicle charging infrastructure network and proposed investing millions more for the development and deployment of EVs and EV infrastructure.
- Announced innovative EV charging projects like REV Midwest, a 5 state compact on deploying regional charging, the Lake Michigan Circuit, an electric vehicle route with reliable charging options along Lake Michigan, and the Inductive Vehicle Charging pilot, the Midwest's first deployment of technology to charge vehicles while in-motion.

## DEFENDING THE GREAT LAKES

- Revoked and terminated the easement that allowed Enbridge Energy to run their dual oil pipelines through the Straits of Mackinac, while securing the state's energy needs.
- Deployed funds for a critical pinch point to keep dangerous, invasive carp out of the Great Lakes.
- Reduced agricultural pollution in the Great Lakes through the largest investment in state history, and increased funding to local conservation districts and farmers to implement conservation practices.
- Made the largest investments in state history to protect the Great Lakes from agricultural pollution and increase conservation practices.

## INVESTING IN PURE MICHIGAN AND TOURISM

- Invested over \$100 million in parks and public lands and proposed investing an additional \$400 million to revitalize state and community parks, trails, and recreation facilities to make public lands more accessible, support local economies, and help Michigan become a more attractive destination for tourism.