



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

EGLE End of Year Report
Fiscal Year 2025



Contents

Letter from Director Phil Roos	3
Ensure Safe Drinking Water	4
Clean Up Contamination	5
Maintain Clean Air	6
Respond to Emergencies	7
Build Clean and Affordable Energy	8
Protect Our Waterways	9
Build a Sustainable Future	10
Be the Best Place to Work	11

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Letter from Director Phil Roos

Dear Michiganders:

It is my honor to present the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE) 2025 End of Year Report. This year's report highlights the incredible work our team has accomplished in partnership with communities, businesses, and other government agencies to protect our natural resources and promote public health, resilience, and economic opportunity.



In 2025, we celebrated a historic milestone: the delisting of Muskegon Lake as a Great Lakes Area of Concern. This achievement reflects decades of collaboration, investment, and community engagement to restore one of Michigan's most treasured waterways. It is a powerful reminder of what we can accomplish when we work together to protect our environment.

Throughout the year, EGLE continued to make progress on our core priorities:

- **Ensuring Safe Drinking Water**, with more lead service lines removed and increased inspections of public water systems.
- **Cleaning Up Contamination**, with record-breaking progress on leaking underground storage tanks and orphan wells.
- **Maintaining Clean Air**, with Southeast Michigan achieving and maintaining ozone attainment levels and expanded resources for household radon.
- **Building Clean and Affordable Energy**, with expanded electric vehicle infrastructure, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and the launch of the MI Home Energy Rebates Program.
- **Protecting Waterways** through the state's first Maritime Strategy, wetland protection, and continued reductions to contaminants like PFAS.
- **Supporting Economic Development**, including support for recycling entrepreneurs and redeveloping brownfield sites into housing and businesses.

These accomplishments are not just statistics. They represent safer communities, healthier families, and a more sustainable future for all Michiganders. I am proud of the dedication and expertise of EGLE's staff, and grateful for the continued support of our partners and the public.

As we look ahead, EGLE remains committed to innovation, transparency, and equity in all we do. Together, we will continue to protect Michigan's environment and ensure that every resident—no matter where they live—can enjoy clean air, safe water, and a thriving natural world.

Phillip D. Roos

Director, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy



Ensure Safe Drinking Water

Michigan has invested \$6.4 billion in water infrastructure since 2019, steadily working to repair the state's aging pipes and ensure clean and affordable water for every Michigander and supporting 96,000 jobs.

- **We are accelerating lead service line removal.** 69,921 lead service lines have been replaced since 2019, with 30% more lines removed in 2024 compared to 2023.
- **Communities completed a lead inventory.** A [statewide lead service line inventory](#) was launched detailing how many lines remain in each community.
- **We are completing more drinking water inspections.** EGLE completed sanitary surveys at 33% of community water supplies in 2025, compared to 24.5% in 2024.



Investing in Infrastructure

The State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) continues to help local communities keep water affordable with low-cost loans and grants. The program rolled out a new [tool to estimate savings](#), showing how much communities can save in interest payments with an SRF loan. 55 projects received \$925.9 million in fiscal year (FY) 2025, including:

- Kalamazoo (\$89.2 million): Replacing 1,300 lead service lines and installing PFAS treatment
- Detroit Water and Sewerage District (\$35.4 million): Supporting lead line replacement and upgrading water mains
- Sault Ste. Marie (\$16.8 million): Replacing 14,600 linear feet of water main and 137 lead service lines and improving the sewer system



A lead service line is replaced in Ferndale

Clean Up Contamination

EGLE continues to prioritize cleanups at Michigan's more than 27,000 contaminated sites. 2025 brought new milestones in overcoming more than a century of pollution from Michigan's industrial legacy, protecting public health and making land safe for redevelopment.

- **We are addressing more leaking underground storage tank sites.** We closed 561 sites in FY 2025, up from 409 closures the previous year, bringing the program below 8,000 open sites for the first time since 1992.
- **More contaminated sites are being addressed.** EGLE worked on 940 contaminated sites in FY 2025, up from 870 the year before. The [RIDE interactive map](#) shows the status of sites across the state.
- **Over half of Michigan's orphan wells have been plugged.** EGLE has addressed 292 former oil and gas wells out of 570 total.

Get the full background on contaminated sites in your area using the [RIDE Mapper](#).

Housing on Brownfields

EGLE is helping deliver safe, affordable housing across the state. The Brownfield Redevelopment Program supports cleanup of formerly contaminated sites, putting them back into use as homes, businesses, and community assets such as parks and recreation centers. 76 projects received \$23 million in FY 2025, including 11 housing developments totaling 593 new housing units. The new developments supported 609 jobs and spurred \$675.7 million in private investment. Since 2019, EGLE Brownfield Redevelopment Grants have leveraged \$45 in private investment for every state dollar spent. See details on redevelopment projects with the [RenewMI Project Viewer](#).



Maintain Clean Air

EGLE continues to make strides toward clean, healthy air for all Michiganders, offering statewide [real time air quality monitoring](#) and innovative programs to empower residents to address air quality inside their homes, schools, and workplaces.

- **Ozone levels continue to improve.** Southeast Michigan met the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) health-based standard for ozone in 2021. Concentrations are now the lowest in decades, with positive trends continuing. Berrien County and Muskegon are also experiencing ongoing improvement in ozone levels.
- **We are protecting homes from radon.** Residents visited EGLE’s new radon resource website more than 60,000 times in 2025 to get free radon test kits, find mitigation contractors, and explore levels around the state with an [interactive map](#).
- **Indoor air quality projects are helping Michiganders breathe easier.** The nonprofit, Bridging Communities, Inc., is providing Detroit seniors with indoor air filters, and public schools in Covert and Detroit are upgrading their heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) so students have cleaner air, with the support of Environmental Justice Impact Grants.



Streamlining Air Quality Permitting

Air Quality permit processes got a tech upgrade in December 2024, joining water programs as part of the MiEnviro Portal online tool. The tool allows companies to make air quality permit requests, submit reports, and pay fees online, making it easy for them to see their status and interactions with EGLE. Transparency has improved, giving all Michiganders easy access to public notices and air quality violations for industry in their communities. All of this results in better service for people, businesses, and other organizations across our state.



Respond to Emergencies

We work hard to prevent emergencies before they happen, but when they arise, EGLE is there. From water main breaks to hazardous spills, our team addresses environmental and health risks through rapid response, technical expertise, and coordination with local first responders.

- **We provide rapid response to hazardous spills.** 2,913 potential environmental emergencies were reported to the Pollution Emergency Alerting System (PEAS) 24/7 hotline. An additional 32,287 people contacted EGLE's Environmental Assistance Center with non-emergency questions.
- **We oversee major cleanup projects.** One complaint led to the discovery of over 100 drums filled with flammable paints and polyurethane in an abandoned warehouse in Detroit, several of which were leaking and mingling with rain from the damaged roof. EGLE is working to complete the cleanup, along with the EPA, and is holding the owner responsible.
- **19 high hazard dams are being repaired or removed**, thanks to \$14.9 million from the [Dam Risk Reduction Grant Program](#). These grants enable critical action to prevent dam failure, which can cause massive property damage and even loss of life.

Northern Michigan Storm Response

In response to 2025's severe winter storms, EGLE staff responded across northern Michigan. Our teams worked with local governments and businesses to safely handle debris, ensured drinking water and wastewater plants remained in proper operation despite power outages, and traversed the state to monitor high-risk dams and respond to flooding.



Build Clean and Affordable Energy

EGLE continues to work toward the ambitious goals laid out in the MI Healthy Climate Plan, while also prioritizing projects like renewable energy and home energy efficiency that make people's lives healthier and more affordable.

- **Statewide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions are down.** EGLE's Office of Climate and Energy developed a Greenhouse Gas Inventory in 2025, showing overall emissions as of 2021 are down 20% compared to a 2005 baseline.
- **Electric vehicle charging infrastructure is expanding.** The state had 3,352 publicly available charging ports in 2023. Today, there are 5,119.
- **More than 11,000 households have applied to save money on energy bills** through [Michigan Home Energy Rebates \(MiHER\)](#). The program supports home improvements like insulation and efficient appliances and creates good-paying jobs in construction, HVAC, energy efficiency, and appliance installation.



Community Benefits for Siting Renewables

[43 communities](#)—most of them rural—have been awarded more than \$26 million in community benefits that come along with choosing to site a wind, solar, or battery storage facility through the Renewables Ready Communities Grant. In addition to construction jobs at these facilities, local governments receive direct funding that has been used for everything from putting a new roof on the county courthouse (Belknap Township, Presque Isle County), building basketball and pickleball courts (Baldwin Township, Delta County), and improving local parks (Bedford Township, Calhoun County).



A new barn for fire trucks and equipment in Day Township, Montcalm County.

Protect Our Waterways

EGLE is at the heart of protecting the Great Lakes, as well as Michigan's 76,000 miles of rivers, 60,000 inland lakes, and more than 6 million acres of wetlands. These waterways are critical to our economy, health, and quality of life.

- **We have reduced PFAS discharges.** Wastewater treatment plants have adopted new strategies to dramatically reduce PFAS in effluent, showing an average PFOS reduction of 59%, and in some places as much as 99%, compared to 2019.
- **We have achieved no net loss of wetlands.** EGLE continues to meet our goal of protecting 1.5 acres of wetland for every acre impacted by development and has worked with permittees on dozens of projects to restore habitat and improve wetland function.
- **New *E. coli* map launched.** An [interactive map](#) shows swimmers and boaters which of Michigan's waterways meet body contact standards for *E. coli* and locates potential sources of contamination, including septic tanks, wastewater, and animal manure. There is more work to be done: more than half of rivers do not have enough data and, of those that do, only 35% meet all *E. coli* standards.

Delisting the Muskegon Lake Area of Concern

After decades of coordinated cleanup and community engagement, [Muskegon Lake](#) was officially removed from a list of the Great Lakes' most polluted places in 2025. The lake was first designated as a Great Lakes Area of Concern (AOC) in 1985 under the U.S.-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement to tackle the worst pollution hot spots. Since then, \$84 million has been invested in cleanup efforts. Federal, State, and local partners remediated more than 190,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment and restored 134 acres of habitat and 6,000 feet of shoreline, creating habitat for fish and native plants. The restoration is projected to increase local home values by nearly \$8 million and boost the local recreation economy by \$28 million annually.



Build a Sustainable Future

EGLE continues to offer forward-looking grant programs to build a greener economy. From promoting entrepreneurship to making statewide investments, we are helping drive future economic growth and make local communities healthier places to live, work, and play.

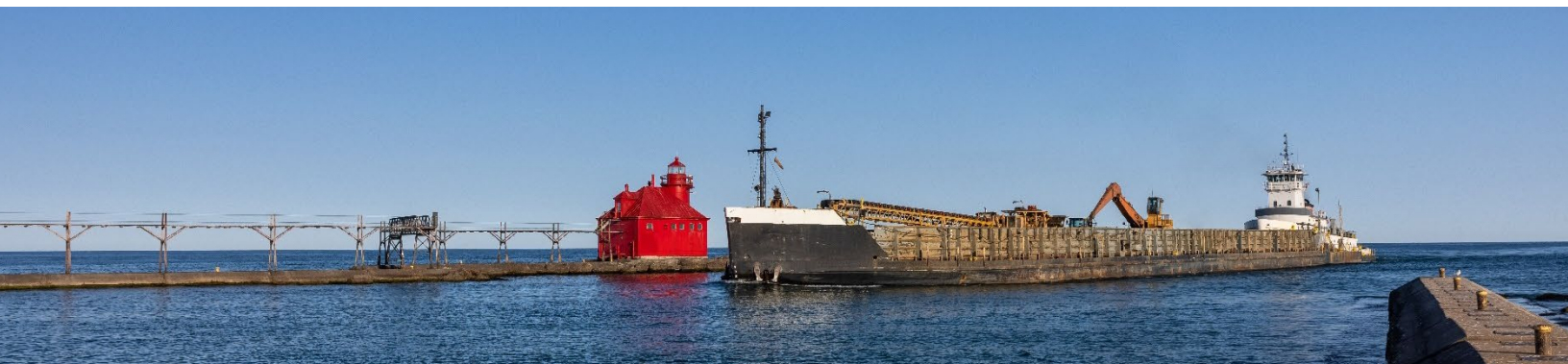
- **We are building entrepreneurs in advanced recycling and waste diversion.** 17 entrepreneur teams joined the [NextCycle Michigan](#) 2025 summer cohort, a 6-month technical assistance program culminating in a pitch competition. Projects included recovering rare earth minerals from electric vehicle batteries, piloting wood pulp-based PFAS filtration, and expanding compost services for local restaurants.
- **Communities are putting \$20 million into local environmental projects.** Faith-based nonprofit, People Helping People of Pullman, turned a remediated site into a playground, the city of Grand Rapids invested in urban agriculture programs, and Marquette County is enhancing its Silver Lead Creek Greenway using EGLE Environmental Justice Impact Grants.



A playground opens on a remediated site in Pullman, Allegan County.

Michigan Maritime Strategy

Michigan's first Maritime Strategy is underway. EGLE worked with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), and the University of Michigan to develop a forward-looking 10-year plan to capitalize on the state's extensive maritime assets. The plan addresses modernizing maritime infrastructure, conducting research, and enhancing workforce development while exploring opportunities for emissions reductions, resilience, and sustainable practices at ports and harbors. The draft Maritime Strategy will be released in January 2026.



Be the Best Place to Work

From permits to public meetings, engineering to enforcement, our work cannot happen without talented people who choose to make a career in State government. EGLE has placed a strong emphasis on attracting and retaining a great team, with impressive results.

- **We launched a highly successful paid internship program.** 19 student interns joined the team for the summer, selected from 470 applicants! 9 of these interns stayed on as student assistants to continue their projects.
- **EGLE staff are proud to work here.** Engagement scores were up significantly in the fall 2024 statewide staff engagement survey compared to 2022. 92% of the team agreed they are proud to work for the State of Michigan, and 93% agree our work makes a difference in the lives of the people in Michigan.
- **We are committed to continuous improvement.** 10 programs underwent Lean Process Improvement in 2025. The process empowers staff to identify and fix barriers, leading to better service.
- **We are developing leaders.** 36 staff members from EGLE, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) were selected for the 2025 cohort of the Quality of Life Leadership Academy, which had been on hold since COVID. With 20 years of history, this 10-month program develops leadership skills for staff at all levels.



EGLE staff and Interns interacting at the 2025 EGLE Intern Showcase

Filling vacant roles

EGLE has nearly met our goal of maintaining a 5% annual vacancy rate. This was a department-wide effort: the team attended 51 recruiting events, held pre-application meetings and workshops, launched a new “time to hire” dashboard to track hiring processes, and hiring managers worked actively to post positions and recruit and train new talent as new FTEs were added with each fiscal year. As of October 2025, the vacancy rate is 5.2%.



Join the mission. Join EGLE.