



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

PROTECTING OUR LAND, AIR, AND WATER



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 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 it's safe. She 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."

"In Michigan, our waters literally define us. We are surrounded by the extraordinary Great Lakes, which are 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

Protect our drinking water

- Enforced the strongest [Lead and Copper Rule](#) for drinking water in the country.
- Established [health-based standards for PFAS](#) in our drinking water supplies.
- Signed an executive directive to [improve Michigan's drinking water protections](#) and proposed funding to help deliver water infrastructure loans and grants to communities, improve oversight and enforcement, and support local health departments with water sampling and testing.
- Partnered with Attorney General Nessel to [hold polluters accountable](#) for 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 citizen concerns and investigate complaints

Investing billions in water infrastructure

- Invested over \$2 billion to upgrade drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater facilities across the state, supporting 30,000 jobs.
- Launched [MI Clean Water](#), a \$1 billion plan to [remove lead-laden service lines](#), reduce toxic contaminants like PFAS, rebuild wastewater infrastructure, replace failing septic systems, and ensure communities have [the resources they need](#) to address water concerns. This investment supports 30,000 jobs.
- Proposed a [FY 2023 budget](#) that included \$249 million to rebuild water infrastructure, reduce flooding, as well as funding to protect safe drinking water in schools, and address home plumbing problems.

Working towards justice for Flint

- Worked with Attorney General Nessel to achieve the largest [settlement](#) in Michigan history for Flint's children and families, totaling \$600 million.

Ensuring access to drinking water through COVID-19.

- Launched the [Water Utility Assistance Program](#), the largest investment in water assistance in Michigan history to help families keep their water on.
- Signed [executive orders](#) and the [Water Shut Off Protection Act](#) to ensure thousands of families in Michigan had access to clean water during COVID-19.

Defending the Great Lakes and our waters

- [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](#) to keep dangerous, invasive carp out of the Great Lakes ecosystem.
- Made the [largest investments in state history](#) to protect the Great Lakes from agricultural pollution and [increase local conservation practices.](#)

Putting Michigan on a path to a cleaner, more equitable economy

- Launched the [MI Healthy Climate Plan](#), a plan to make Michigan 100% carbon neutral by 2050 and ensure communities impacted by climate change will benefit from the transition to a more sustainable and equitable future.
- Joined the U.S. Climate Alliance and committed Michigan to the [Paris Climate Agreement](#).
- Deployed solar panels on state-owned properties 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. [Proposed additional funding](#) in the FY 2023 budget for these items.
- Invested more than \$45 million to build up Michigan's electric vehicle charging infrastructure network. Proposed investing millions more for the development and deployment of EVs, EV infrastructure, EV purchase incentives, and to transition the state's fleet.
- Announced innovative EV charging projects like [REV Midwest](#), a 5 state compact on deploying regional charging and the [Lake Michigan Circuit](#), an electric vehicle route with reliable charging options along Lake Michigan.
- Invested \$17.5 million to transition [buses and heavy-duty vehicles to clean fuels](#) and electrification.

Investing in Pure Michigan

- Invested over \$100 million in parks and public lands.
- 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 make Michigan more attractive destination for tourism.