



GREEN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

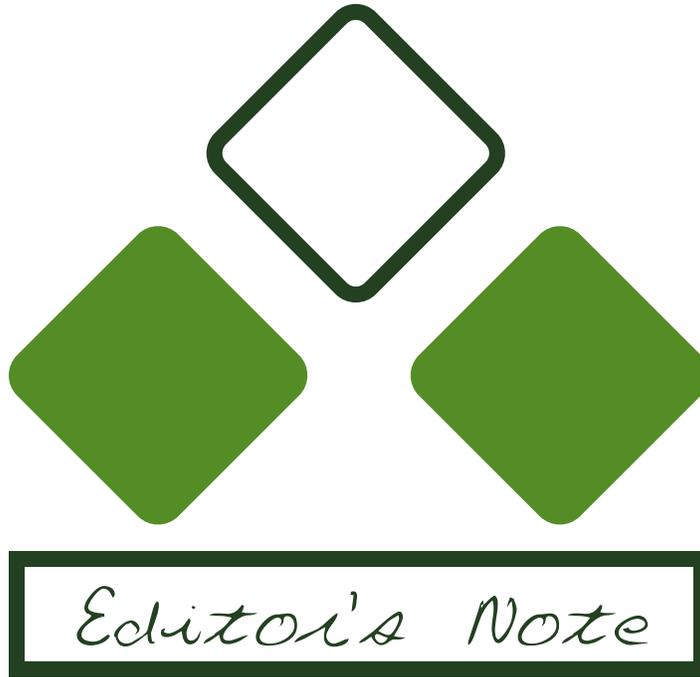


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The Green Party held its national meeting in July in St. Louis, near Ferguson, the suburb where the Black Lives Matter movement against police murders of Black people began. There were important developments for the national Green Party. See [Green Pages](#).

There is also an excellent article by Howie Hawkins, New York candidate for governor, on his campaign and building the Green Party. See [Green Pages](#). Green Pages comes out in print at the time of the national meeting and quarterly online. It is a lot of information about the Green Party successes and political thinking.

The Movement for Black Lives Convening which took place in Cleveland July 24-26 was attended by nearly 2000 people and marks a development in the effort to dismantle structural racism and end police murder of Black people. These are and should be very important to Greens.

Below are the "About" from the [website](#) and some conclusions from the three creators of the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag, Opal Tometi, Alicia Garza, and Patrisse Cullors, interviewed by Essence Magazine. From the "About" of the website:

"Hundreds of Black freedom fighters from around the country will come together for the inaugural Movement for Black Lives Convening in Cleveland, OH, from Friday July 24 to Sunday July 26th, 2015.

"This historic event comes at a pivotal time for the growing movement for Black lives in the United States. Black people are facing unabated police violence, increasing criminalization, a failed economic system, a broken education system and the loss of our communities to gentrification and development. Our trans and queer communities face the increased risk of physical and economic violence. The list of indignities regularly faced by the Black community is long and untenable.

[Link to the remainder of the editor's note](#)



Detroit's Water Assistance Programs Are Drying Up

As the City of Detroit speeds ahead with water shutoffs to residential customers – nearly 6,000 homes lost service in June alone – the situation ahead appears decidedly bleak for poor people throughout southeast Michigan who want continued access to something they can't live without.

City officials frequently tout the fact that, once it's up and running, the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA)—which, as the result of rulings made in Detroit's bankruptcy, is in the process of taking...

[Read more...](#)
[Watch video here](#)



Critical Points of Struggle: *Water*

Detroit Activists Looking to Implement Income-Based Water Rates in the City

Detroit residents are calling for a water affordability plan modeled after Philadelphia's. The Philadelphia City Council recently approved a measure to calculate water rates based on a household's salary. Roger Colton is a consultant for a new Detroit Water and Sewerage Department committee that's studying affordability. He says Philadelphia's plan not only discounts water rates, it forgives past customer debt.

[Listen to the full conversation here...](#)



Important Groups:

People's Water Board Coalition
&
We the People, Detroit

Black Lives Convening: A Pivotal Moment for Liberation

From July 24 to July 26, over 1,500 registered Black activists and organizers from all over the U.S., Canada and even the Caribbean converged in Cleveland for the 2015 Movement for Black Lives National Convening. In addition to police terror and state violence, pertinent issues such as mass incarceration, economic empowerment, education, housing and Black health were all centered at the table of Black consciousness.

[Read more...](#)

We Will Win

Mike Brown should be alive today. He should be home from his first year at college, visiting friends and enjoying summer as he prepares to return to campus.

The movement began one year ago as Brown's body lay in the street of Canfield Drive here in Ferguson, Missouri, for four and a half hours. It began as the people of St Louis came out of their homes to mourn and to question, as the people were greeted by armed and aggressive officers. And the movement was sustained by a spirit of resistance that refused to be silent, that refused to cower, that refused to bow to continued hostility from the state.

We did not know each other's names last August, but we knew each other's hearts. I will always remember that the call to action initiating the movement was organic – that there was no organizing committee, no charismatic leader, no church group or school club that led us to the streets. It is powerful to remember...

[Read more...](#)



The Defeat of Europe

“In 2010 the Greek state lost the capacity to service its debt. Put simply, it became insolvent and thus lost access to capital markets. To prevent a default on fragile French and German banks that had irresponsibly lent billions to irresponsible Greek governments, Europe decided to grant Greece the biggest loan in world history on condition of the largest ever fiscal consolidation (better known as austerity) which, naturally, resulted in a world-record loss of national income — the greatest since the Great Depression. And so began a vicious cycle of austerity-driven debt deflation, spearheading a humanitarian crisis and a complete inability to repay the nation's debts.”

[Full article](#)

News: *Tragedy & Solution*

Europe's Big Banks Are Fueling the Continent's Far-Right Fascists

“The subjugation of the Greeks is the latest victory notched by finance capital since it began its scorched-earth counter-offensive against forces seeking to constrain and regulate it for bringing about the financial crisis that broke in 2008. Yet its victory is likely to be Pyrrhic — an extremely costly affair that's likely to lead to a greater disaster. ...

The combination of deep austerity-induced recession or stagnation that grips much of Europe and the United States with the absence of financial reform is deadly. The prolonged stagnation and the prospects of deflation have discouraged investment in the real economy to expand goods and services. Thus the financial institutions have all the more reason to do what they did prior to 2008: engage in intense speculative operations designed to make super profits before gravity causes the inevitable crash.”

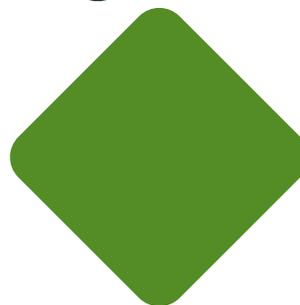
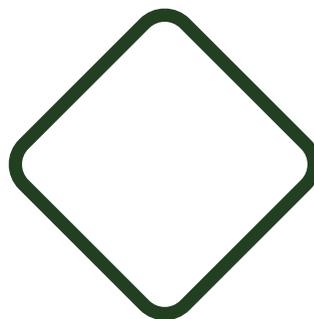
[Full article](#)

Green Party Elects New National Co-Chairs

The Green Party of the United States is pleased to announce new co-chairs of the party. The co-chairs were elected by delegates from state Green Parties and Green caucuses at the party's 2015 Annual National Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, this past weekend. Videos of events at the meeting, which took place at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, are listed with links below.

The Green Party's Steering Committee is comprised of seven co-chairs, one secretary, and one treasurer. The committee is elected to staggered two-year terms by means of Instant Runoff Voting.

[Read more...](#)



News: *Michigan*

Call to Shut Down Aging Great Lakes Pipeline

Protesters formed a human oil drop outside the Capitol in Lansing Thursday, demanding that state officials immediately shut down the aging Line 5 pipeline under the Straits of Mackinac that scientists have warned is a "disaster just waiting to happen."

Food & Water Watch said about 100 people took part in the rally and shouted slogans like 'not one drop' before delivering a letter signed by more than 160 businesses

[Read more...](#)



Push to Ban Fracking in MI Gains Steam

Michiganders could have the chance to decide whether or not hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, should be legal in the state, if activists are able to collect enough signatures in the coming months.

In 2012 and 2013, groups opposed to fracking attempted to gather enough signatures to put a measure to ban the oil and gas drilling practice on a statewide ballot. LuAnne Kozma, the campaign director for the Committee to Ban Fracking, says she believes the third time will be the proverbial charm.

[Read more...](#)

Sierra Club
supports
The Committee to Ban Fracking

Green Party of the United States

Go to gp.org to see who is running for office in 2015. Also, check out the new national logo and t-shirts in the store.

State Membership Meeting

September, 26
Grayling

Information

GPMI Updates: *Events*

Politics 101

October
Detroit

*Stay tuned for
more Information*

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All articles represent the opinions of the authors and not of the Green Party of Michigan. These are expressed in official press releases and statements only.