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Editor's Note

I support all efforts to end the water poisoning crisis in Flint.

I think that all levels of government should immediately implement all the necessary changes to immediately supply the people of Flint with safe water in quantities enough for drinking, cooking and bathing.

The failure of all levels of government to actually mobilize all the resources necessary so that the people can have water is criminal. There still no plan to end the crisis. The government has the ability to quickly supply all the people of Flint with all the water they need, if only the will was there. The Armed Forces can quickly establish bases in hostile environments which include safe water. Huge mobilizations of resources occur during disasters. The inability of Michigan and the federal government to act quickly and thoroughly even now is a condemnation of both political parties, and a sign of how little respect there is for poor and working people in the United States.

The Flint organizations – Water You Fighting For (founded by Melissa Mays) and the Democracy Defense League have been leading the efforts to bring the injustices to light. The Green Party of Michigan, and in coalitions like the **Detroit People's Water Board Coalition** and **Detroiters Resisting Emergency Management** has helped expose the lies, protest the horrific policies and provide immediate relief to the people of Flint. These coalitions which include traditional environmental organizations like the Sierra Club and Food and Water Watch as well as grassroots organizations like We the People and Michigan Welfare Rights Organization, enjoy broad support in the population. All these efforts have been able to turn the story around from citizens unheard and neglected, to a major political story of failed Republican policies of austerity, privatization and institutional racism.

Full Editor's Note

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Fix Flint's Water System, Now

The conditions on the ground in Flint still do not seem to have sunk in at the Michigan state-house. Thousands of residents are still relying on trucked-in water, as if they were in a war-zone refugee camp, while worrying that their children may suffer developmental and other health problems from a water system poisoned by lead. Gov. Rick Snyder has been busy apologizing, but the tiny steps he is taking to repair the damage shrink beside the urgency of the problem.

The challenge now is to replace the corroded pipes or perhaps the...

[Read more...](#)

Income-Based Water Rate Plan Nixed for Detroit

A key water affordability report to be delivered to the Detroit City Council in the coming days recommends adjusting Detroit's water rate structure with a tiered pricing model rather than an income-based affordability plan preferred by many water rights activists.

Implementing any new water rate plan will take at least two years, according to a preliminary version of the report obtained by the Free Press.

The tiered pricing model would block rates based on the amount of water used. The first tier of usage, for example, would be priced at the most affordable level.

The tiered pricing model would block rates based on the amount of water used. The first tier of usage, for example, would be priced at the most affordable level. Once the first tier of minimal usage is surpassed, the next tier of usage — along with the next price — would be triggered.

[Read more...](#)

Critical Point of Struggle: Water

SHENEMAN



MICHIGAN GOVERNOR RICK SNYDER OFFERS THE ONLY POSSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR HIS CONDUCT IN FLINT.

Gov. Rick Snyder's Men Originally Rejected Using Flint's Toxic River

The emergency manager for Flint, Michigan, appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder in 2012, rejected using the city's river as drinking water after consulting with the state's environmental protection agency.

Snyder appointed Ed Kurtz to be Flint's second emergency manager and Kurtz selected Jerry Ambrose to be the city's chief financial officer.

[Read more...](#)

7 Toxic Assaults on Communities of Color Besides Flint: The Dirty Racial Politics of Pollution

Don't try to tell Dr. Robert D. Bullard that the noxious water disaster in Flint, Mich., is anything but business as usual in the United States.

"My first take was that this is déjà vu all over again," Bullard says. "When will this madness stop?"

For 30 years, Bullard, dean of the school of public affairs at Texas Southern University in Houston, has been writing books and journal articles about environmental racism, the fact that sewage treatment plants, municipal landfills and illegal dumps, garbage transfer stations, incinerators, smelters and other hazardous waste sites inevitably are sited in the backyard of the...

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Critical Point of Struggle: Water



By Fred Vitale

Flint water warriors travel to Detroit to support Homrich 9 on trial for stopping trucks turning off water to Detroiters.

The Switch to Flint River Water was Not about Saving Money

The national spotlight has focused on Flint in recent weeks (finally!) and one big question that keeps getting asked is why did the city of Flint, which was under Emergency Management at the time, elect to switch its water source from Lake Huron (vis-à-vis the Detroit Water and Sewer Department) to the notoriously vile Flint River?

The answer getting the most airtime has to do with austerity. "In an attempt to save the cash-strapped city ... " so many article on Flint begin.

[Read more...](#)

Flint's Water Crisis to be Subject of Free Course at U of M Flint

Critical Point of Struggle: Water

Black Lives Matter: Solidarity Statement with Flint, Michigan

The Black Lives Matter National Network stands in solidarity with the people of Flint, Michigan and demands that the Obama Administration and Michigan Governor, Rick Snyder designate Flint a federal disaster zone indefinitely or as long as it takes to remedy the man-made water crisis.

For nearly a year, Governor Snyder and other state and city officials sat idly by as the people of Flint were poisoned. A man-made disaster, the water crisis is an explicit and egregious form of state violence, one that impacts low-income Black people hardest. Flint is more than 50 percent black. More than 40 percent of the residents in the Vehicle City are living below the poverty line – making it the second most impoverished city of its size in the nation.

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News: Michigan

Michigan Youth Working Against Bill that Lowers Minimum Wage for Young Adults

Sen. Margaret O'Brien found support in the Senate Commerce Committee for a bill to let employers pay people under 20 less than minimum wage, but she isn't getting support from high school students if Byron Center High School Senior Logan Arkema can help it.

"I just want to make sure that people know that this is very much an issue for young people," said Arkema, 17, a former chair of the Michigan High School Democrats who now serves as development director for High School Democrats of America.

[Read more...](#)



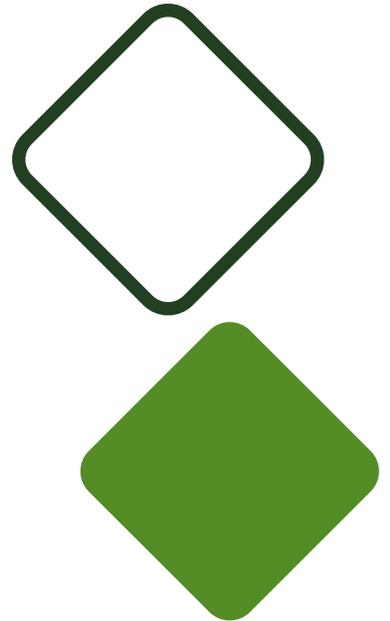
Follow Rev. Pinkney's Case

*New Court Date
for Rev. Pinkney:*
Tuesday Feb. 24. 1 p.m
Berrien County Court

Drinking Tea, Shopping at a Gardening Store is Probable Cause for a SWAT Raid on your Home

In April 2012, a Kansas SWAT team raided the home of Robert and Addie Harte, their 7-year-old daughter and their 13-year-old son. The couple, both former CIA analysts, awoke to pounding at the door. When Robert Harte answered, SWAT agents flooded the home. He was told to lie on the floor. When Addie Harte came out to see what was going on, she saw her husband on his stomach as SWAT cop stood over him with a gun. The family was then held at gunpoint for more than two hours while the police searched their home. Though they claimed to be looking for evidence of a major marijuana growing operation, they later stated that they knew within about 20 minutes that they wouldn't find any such operation.

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Green Party's Howie Hawkins Arrested for Civil Disobedience at #WeAreSenecaLake Veterans Action

Green Party of New York 2014 candidate for governor Howie Hawkins has been arrested for his participation in the We Are Seneca Lake blockade against the Crestwood gas storage facility.

Hawkins, who received over 180,000 votes for governor, joined a US armed forces veterans contingent in a human chain across the entrance to Crestwood Midstream on Route 14. Hawkins enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1972, during which time he remained active in the anti-war and anti-nuclear movements.

[Read more...](#)

News: *National*

Dr. Margaret Flowers Calls for Congressional Action to Clean up Abandoned Mines, Compensate Victims

Dr. Margaret Flowers calls for Congressional action to address the impacts of the more than 15,000 abandoned and exposed hazardous uranium mines throughout the United States.

Flowers is seeking the Green Party's nomination for U.S. Senate in Maryland. She works independently with the groups Clean Up the Mines! and Popular Resistance, which are meeting this week in Washington, DC to raise awareness of the continuing radioactive contamination affecting millions of people.

Approximately three-fourths of the nation's abandoned uranium mines are located on federal or Tribal...

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Rest Easy: Hundreds of DHS Badges, Guns, Phones Go Missing

If you were up to no good and looking to cause a bit of mayhem – particularly at the border – think of some of the tools you might like to get hold of. Explosives and weapons are a given, natch. But what if you could get your hands on some honest to goodness credentials making it look like you were a federal law enforcement official? Well start checking on E-bay because there may be some out there. A new report indicates that the Department of Homeland Security has somehow “lost track” of many of their badges, guns and government cell phones.

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Green Party of
the United States

Go to gp.org to see who is running for office in 2016. Also, check out the new national logo and t-shirts in the store.

GPMI Updates: *Events*

State
Membership
Meeting

March 19
Lapeer
*Stay tuned for
more Information*

2016
Nominating
Convention

July 30 - 31
Lansing
*Stay tuned for
more Information*

Detroit Metro
Greens Monthly
Meeting

Thursday
Feb. 18th
7pm
Phoenix Cafe
*24918 John R,
Hazel Park, Mi*

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Rowland

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.