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PO Box 504, Warren,  
MI  
48090

President Obama rejected the Keystone XL pipeline November 6. Click here for the Press Release. This is a small but important victory. Indigenous groups, 350 org., the Sierra Club and others have met to discuss the significance of this victory. As Greens who actively opposed the XL, we too should think about the implications of this victory. What did we achieve? How did we achieve it? What are the next steps?

The Flint Water Crisis. Several committees are investigating what happened. Residents have filters on their water and are awaiting word when to remove them. Darnell Early, former Emergency Manager of Flint (the Poisoner of Flint), was appointed Emergency Manager of the Detroit Public Schools. There was (and still is) so much pressure on our moribund State Legislature that they actually responded to the Flint Water Crisis. It partly funded the embarrassing reconnection to Detroit. The Minority Leader of the Senate (from Flint) questioned the reappointment of Early to DPS. A group of House representatives proposed some progressive water legislation too. It will likely never take flesh given the Republican domination of both houses and the governorship.

Gamrat and Courser. There is hope for Michigan after all. Former State House representatives Gamrat and Courser, Tea Party darlings whose political careers imploded last month were roundly defeated in the primary election November 3. The victor of the Republican primary in these districts is all but guaranteed victory in the special general election in March. But still it does warm the heart a ...

Full Editor's Note

## Seven Key Takeaways from a Town Hall Meeting on Flint's Water Crisis

FLINT, MI -- More than 4,000 people joined in a Telephone Town Hall to talk about Flint's water emergency Wednesday, Oct. 29, asking questions of U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee, D-Flint, a Hurley Medical Center doctor and a professor from Virginia Tech university.

Here are some of the key takeaways from the discussion:

It's not scientific, but 82 percent of those who voted by phone during...

[Read more...](#)

## Council of Canadians Supports Detroit in Water Accessibility Fight

A fight for accessible water sparked an international rally Saturday. The Council of Canadians, in Windsor for its annual conference, joined forces with a rally in Detroit. The council says shutting off water to some Detroit residents infringes on their basic human rights. Detroit declared bankruptcy two years ago and its price of water has doubled since then.

In May, about 3,000 Detroit residents were threatened with water shut-off notices.

A year before that, tens of thousands in Detroit had their water turned off, prompting Windsor to react.

[Read more...](#)

## Critical Point of Struggle: Water



Detroit to Flint March for Clean Affordable Water. July 3 through July 10. Pictures from July 10 March in Flint.

## Race, Class, and Social Reproduction in the Urban Present: The Case of the Detroit Water and Sewage System

In the last decade, especially after the 2008 financial crisis, the urban centers of the Midwest such as Chicago and Detroit, but also in the Northeast, such as Baltimore and Philadelphia, have developed a new dynamic: the use of the state (in the form of local or regional governments) to transfer infrastructural resources and their control out of or away from marginalized...

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## Thousands Past Due: Detroiters Slapped With Shutoff Notices Line Up To Pay Water Bills

## Michigan Leads Nation in Massive Corporate Tax Breaks

Good Jobs First has published a study examining the country's largest state corporate tax breaks over the past 30 years. Over 300 deals were examined, totaling \$64 billion.

In the report, titled Megadeals: The Largest Economic Developments Subsidy Packages Ever Awarded by State and Local Governments in the United States, the authors find that Michigan leads the country with 29 mega corporate tax breaks, costing the state more than \$7 billion and accounting for 12 percent of the megadeals nationwide.

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## News: Michigan

### Detroit Schools Plan Shows Lack of Faith in Democracy

When did we stop believing in democracy? Not so long ago most Americans would have professed a belief that democracy shielded citizens from the callous excesses of distant power.

Today in Michigan we've become mush-mouthed about democracy. On the one hand, we will still send our children to die thousands of miles away in its name. Yet back at home we scuttle it with barely a murmur — as if it were an ornate relic, no longer adequate for facing down the challenges of perennial budget shortfalls in our schools and municipalities since the financial collapse of 2008.

[Read more...](#)



## Follow Rev. Pinkney's Case

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

## Koch Brothers Lose Big, Seattle Votes Big Money Out of Politics

Much to the detriment of Washington State's biggest corporate donors like Microsoft and Starbucks, and to the chagrin of Seattle's newspaper of record, Seattle voters have elected to have publicly-financed elections, and to severely limit the influence of corporate power on city hall.

The I-122 initiative — also known as “Honest Elections Seattle” — passed with 60 percent of votes cast. The initiative provides \$100 in “Democracy Vouchers” for each of Seattle's 400,000-plus registered voters, meaning that ordinary voters can counter corporate influence on elections by up to \$40 million in a given cycle. The funding for the vouchers comes from an \$8 property tax levied on homes worth \$400,000 or more. but I-122 does more than just provide public campaign financing — I-122 also prohibits corporations that do more than \$250,000 in annual business with...

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## News: *Big Business*

### Iceland Does What the US Won't: 26 Top Bankers Sent to Prison for Role in Financial Crisis

Reykjavík, Iceland – In stark contrast to the record low number of prosecutions of CEO's and high-level financial executives in the U.S., Iceland has just sentenced 26 bankers to a combined 74 years in prison.

The majority of those convicted have been sentenced to prison terms of two to five years. The maximum penalty in Iceland for financial crimes is six years, although hearings are currently underway to consider extending the maximum beyond six years.

The prosecutions are the result of Iceland's bankers manipulating the Icelandic financial markets after Iceland deregulated their finance sector in 2001. Eventually, an accumulation of foreign debt resulted in a meltdown of the entire banking sector in 2008. According to Iceland Magazine:

In two separate rulings last week, the Supreme Court of Iceland and the Reykjavík District Court sentenced three top managers of Landsbankinn and two top managers of Kaupþing, along with one prominent...

[Read more...](#)





These two pages can be printed and used as a flyer.

HOME > PLATFORM

## The Real Difference

### US

### THEM

#### Abortion

Support full access to abortion, with funding, for all women in the U.S. and around the world.

Republicans: Oppose abortion  
Democrats: Support abortion rights. Sometimes.

#### Banking

Bail out the people

Republicans: No Bailouts  
Democrats: Bail out the banks

Jail for Banksters

Republicans: Reject  
Democrats: Will Not Act

#### Campaign Finance

Refuse to accept corporate contributions. Demand an end to special rights for corporations & an end to big money elections

Republicans & Democrats: Accepts donations from corporations, including defense contractors, oil companies, insurance and drug firms, etc. Republican officials indicted or under investigation of bribery, perjury, etc.

#### Corporations

Oppose Corporations as Persons

Republicans: Support  
Democrats: Support

Refuse Corporate Campaign Contributions

Republicans: Support with open hands  
Democrats: Support with open hands

Support labeling of genetically modified organism

Republicans: Oppose  
Democrats: Thinking, Thinking ...

#### Death Penalty

Oppose the death penalty citing racial bias, failure to deter crime, widespread errors, and humanitarian objections.

Republicans: Overwhelmingly support it  
Democrats: Lukewarm support for it

#### Electoral Reform

Support electoral reform including Instant Runoff Voting and public financing of elections. Open debates.

Republicans & Democrats: Works for us, why change anything

### Global Warming

Oppose Keystone XL Pipeline

Republicans: Support  
Democrats: Lukewarm opposition

Reduce emissions NOW

Convert to renewable energy sources such as low-cost wind and solar power

Republicans: Bush withdrew the U.S. from the Kyoto Treaty to reduce greenhouse gases and fossil fuel use (oil, coal). Wants to lower emissions standards to try to reduce gas prices.

Democrats: Willing to weaken emissions standards to lower gas prices. Promotes subsidies to corporate agriculture as a way to reduce petroleum consumption.

### Military

Oppose Drone Warfare & Assassinations

Republicans: Support  
Democrats: Support

Oppose Israeli Takeover of Palestine

Republicans: Support  
Democrats: Support

Reduce the military budget

Republicans: Increase the budget  
Democrats: Increase the budget

### Social Security

Fully support the Social Security system

Republicans: Cut it to the bone  
Democrats: Will accept cuts

### Students

Support a Jubilee for Student Debt

Republicans: Oppose  
Democrats: Oppose

### Unions

Support a living wage and the right to organize

Republicans: Oppose  
Democrats: Weak support

### Universal Health Care

Demand real universal health care: Single-payer national health insurance, with guaranteed treatment and medicine regardless of age, ability to pay, employment, prior medical condition, including choice of doctors and hospitals.

Republicans: Oppose guaranteed universal health care; Support health policy based on corporate profits for insurance, IMO, and drug companies instead of human need.

Democrats: Support health policy based on corporate profits; Deleted plans for universal health care from the Democratic platform.

From the new national website! [Click here to go there!](#)

**2016  
Nominating  
Convention**

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

**Green Party of  
the United States**

Go to [gp.org](http://gp.org) to see who is running for office in 2015. 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*

**Metro Detroit  
Greens**

11/19 & 12/17  
7 PM  
**Phoenix Café,  
24918 John R,  
Hazel Park, MI**

Editor: Fred Vitale

Layout and Design: Jaime 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.