



The future of the Earth is in our Hands.

CACC NEWS

SPRING 2021
www.caccmi.org

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CACC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

CACC General Membership Meeting features speakers on Nuclear Issues Affecting the Great Lakes. For our General Membership Meeting (GMM) on June 5, CACC is privileged to feature four outstanding leaders in the effort to protect Great Lakes communities and ecosystems from the dangerous expansion of the now openly-linked nuclear power and weapons industries. Our three speakers, Kevin Kamps, Michael Keegan, and Jesse James Deer in Water, will speak by Zoom. Victor McManemy will open and close this event with his powerful music. All have definite ties to Michigan and the Great Lakes.

Kevin Kamps was born and raised in Kalamazoo and still considers it home. He is the Radioactive Waste Watchdog for Beyond Nuclear (www.beyondnuclear.org) in Takoma Park, MD. He is a long-time member of Don't Waste Michigan (<https://dwmi.homestead.com>) and serves on CACC's Advisory Board. Kevin is well known to the Great Lakes region and he's worked tirelessly alongside other concerned citizens, both locally and worldwide, to expose the dangers of the nuclear fuel cycle and shutter dangerous nukes.

Michael Keegan hails from Monroe and is a founder of the Coalition for a Nuclear-Free Great Lakes. He is a long-time board member of Don't Waste Michigan. His leadership and research expertise on nuclear issues in the Great Lakes region span decades and, like Kevin, has presented at many of CACC's past meetings and conferences.

Jesse James Deer in Water lives in southeast Michigan and is a community organizer for CRAFT (Citizens Resistance at Fermi Two (<https://shutdownfermi.org>)). CRAFT is an Indigenous-led grassroots organization deeply rooted in concern for environmental justice and the well-being of the Earth. Jesse was one of the main organizers for CRAFT's "March 11th Live Rally and Concert – Protecting our Earth." To check out this amazing event, see <https://www.shutdownfermi.org/updates>.

Victor McManemy lives in northern Michigan and is a Great Lakes songwriter, troubadour, and CACC board member whose music now inspires a new generation.

Together these citizen activists will bring us up to date on critical nuclear issues we face in Michigan and the Great Lakes region, how what happens here impacts many other people – including Original Peoples on Turtle Island and worldwide – and how we can act today to protect all future generations.

100 YEAR REACTOR LICENSE?

Recently the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission held a meeting to discuss licensing reactors for a period of 100 years. This flies in the face of decades of documented critical safety issues that occur with aging reactor components. Learn more from Karl Grossman, professor of journalism at the State University of New York/College at Old Westbury: "This Reckless Path"

<http://13147359.sites.myregisteredsite.com/blog/this-reckless-path/>

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HEALING THE SOIL, HEALING OURSELVES

By Murry DeSanto

In basic terms, we have the land, the water, the air or atmosphere. There are cycles within these. Just like the water cycle, there is a carbon cycle. Climate change can be seen in terms of fossil fuel emissions, but also from all of the carbon that's been released from the soil via industrial agriculture and a number of other practices. Now there's so much carbon that it's spilling over into the oceans which are actually becoming oversaturated (acidification) as well.

The reason we're having so much observable change right now is because that's how far the cycle has gone out of whack. To reset the cycle, you have to look at where the big broken piece is. Right now, the big broken piece is really the earth part, the soil part.

The soil is alive with microscopic life. Life that is necessary, along with the worms and everything else that makes the teeming ecosystem within the soil. If we kill that ecosystem in any way – with the use of pesticides, with tilling, with leaving the soil bare – then we actually release the carbon from the soil into the atmosphere. The good news is that we can take steps to regenerating the cycle.

Yes, by all means plant trees, but all plants basically bring carbon down into the soil. They suck it in. We used to talk about carbon sequestration, that's really the natural thing that plants already do. It goes down through the roots and then into the soil. There, this microscopic life likes the carbon. The soil will hold a tremendous amount of carbon. Carbon-rich soil holds more clean water. It helps aerate the soil, and it's better for the plants, and it's better for the nutrients. It's how nature actually works – just think of the forest floor. Composting can be a huge part of the conversation. Why are we throwing away organic matter? That's just madness if you look at the carbon cycle, and what's going on, and what needs to happen. Food production is an energy intensive process; let's not waste all the energy. If you don't already have one, start using a compost pail and a compost bin or pile. Composting makes beautiful rich soil and takes food "waste" out of the municipal waste system and into the earth for soil enrichment.

Excerpts from "Healing our Soil, Healing Ourselves," a Sounds True Podcast by Dr. Yu-Juin McMorrow, author of [Grounded: A Fierce, Feminine Guide to Connecting with the Soil and Healing from the Ground Up.](#)

CACC ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA AND BOARD ELECTION

In accordance with CACC By-laws, our annual meeting of members and other interested persons will be held at the CACC office, 8735 Maple Grove Road, Lake Station, in southwestern Clare County on June 5th. Last year's meeting was cancelled due to Covid-19, but this year's meeting will be held out of doors and social distancing will be practiced.

Participants are encouraged to bring a lawn chair and a dish to pass for the potluck. Due to limited kitchen availability, crock pots are encouraged for hot dishes.

The schedule is as follows:

11 – 11:30 am	CACC General Membership Meeting and Election of Board Members
11:30 – 11:45 am	Presentation to Wales Family
11:45 – 12:00 pm	Break
12:00 – 12:35 pm	Potluck lunch
12:35 – 1:55 pm	Music, speakers
1:55 pm	Wrap up

Candidates for the CACC Board of Directors for the term July 2021 – June 2022 will be posted on CACC's webpage at www.caccmi.org. Nominations will also be accepted from those present at the meeting. Written votes are accepted for the annual general membership meeting.

We look forward to meeting you!

CACC OFFICE NAMED FOR BENEFACTORS

At their March meeting, the CACC Board named the office *The John and Carrie Wales Center for Environmental and Social Justice*.

John and Carrie Wales, long time Lake Station residents and CACC members, donated their former rental house and the surrounding acre in 1991. In the ensuing thirty years, the building has been transformed into CACC's headquarters.

John and Carrie have since passed, but their daughters and their families continue to vacation in the area. Though CACC doesn't currently have staff working from the office, it houses archives, files, and materials. A formal naming will be part of the CACC annual meeting on June 5.

WHEATLAND 2021

As of publication time, the Wheatland Music Organization (WMO) Board of Directors has not made a decision whether or not the fall festival will take place this year. As many readers are aware, the Wheatland Festival was cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19. This year, the WMO Board has cancelled both the May Traditional Arts Festival and the summer Wheatland Music Camp, focusing their energies and resources on the September festival. In discussion with a board member, the main issues are the safety of festival attendees and whether enough people would attend to make it financially viable.

For those who regularly volunteer in the CACC Kitchen at the Wheatland Festival, check on CACC's web page – www.caccmi.org – where we'll post their decision as soon as it is conveyed to us.



Just One Mistake...We Could Lose the Lake!

Just one mistake...we could lose the lake!
First Nations North, East, South and West want no
more yellowcake!
How many more warnings will it take?
Make 'em clean up the mess left at Big Rock Point
And try to save the Lake.

Savin' it up for the kids ain't fair!
They'll have to deal with it forever –
someplace...somewhere.
Time to do something now - people, if you care.
Pull the plug on the problem...Palisades
And save the dunes and air.

Some people still standing up for their land.
Co-opted commission pushing plutonium - hey, to
beat the band.
Look who gets arrested – I don't understand!

Send corporate state plutonium back to hell
And just maybe save the land.

They ain't givin' up trying to get something for free.
They keep patching up the old clunker called
Davis-Besse.
Up 'round the west end of the Lake,
They could face bankruptcy.
Wise up to the nuke hype, don't build that Fermi 3.

One mistake...we could lose the Lakes.
How many more warnings will it take?
Time to do something, we know what's at stake.
Catch the sun and wind...save the waters.
Keep the kids, air, land and lakes.

Catch the sun and wind...save the waters.
Keep the kids, air, land and lakes.

© Emerging Turtle Music and Art

Victor McManemy is a Great Lakes songwriter and troubadour and longtime CACC Director.

WATER WATCH - Spring, 2021



- Nestle sale a missed opportunity – News in February that Nestle Waters North America was being sold to One Rock Capital Partners and Metropoulos & Co. gave water protectors hope that the State of Michigan would seize the opportunity to pull the plug on the “deal” that allowed Nestle to pump, bottle and sell state water resources for millions in exchange for a \$200.00 fee to process paperwork. But such hopes were in vain. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy stated that the Nestle permit was transferrable to the new owners, with no changes. Water protectors had challenged the Nestle permit, but the challenge was dismissed in November on a technicality, stating that the water withdrawals are “reasonable.” From: Allison Batdorff, Feb. 24, 2021, *Traverse City Record Eagle* <https://tinyurl.com/y48hvyx2>
- PFAS contamination continues to be uncovered – As scientists continue to study the long-term effects of a group of persistent chemical contaminants known as PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances), they uncover more and more issues of concern. In humans, PFAS exposure is linked to developmental problems, fertility issues, and cancer. Effects on plants and animals are far less well-understood, leaving us with an unclear picture of how they affect the species that humans depend on for food, clean water, crop pollination, and other benefits. Hunters in the Clark’s Marsh area of Oscoda County, near one of the state’s major sites of PFAS contamination, have been warned not to eat deer, fish or other game animals taken in the area. Wisconsin officials warned against eating Lake Superior smelt because of high PFOS levels. And just recently the US Coast Guard alerted regulators of PFAS contamination near Air Station Traverse City that exceed both state and federal safety thresholds. Homes in the Pine Grove neighborhood of East Bay Township were found to have positive PFAS test results, one of which was about 1,300 parts per trillion, or 80 times the state-adopted safety standards. Kelly House, *Michigan Environment Watch*, 02/15/2021 <https://tinyurl.com/thm4tj5e> and Sheri Mcwhirter, *Traverse City Record Eagle*, 04/14/2021 <https://tinyurl.com/e4epz5vk>
- Line 5 continues to make news -- In the past couple of months, Line 5 continues to dominate the news. Enbridge, facing a state deadline to shut down the pipeline linking Michigan’s two peninsulas, has launched a media campaign claiming that both Michigan and Canada need the oil, that thousands of jobs are in jeopardy, and that Sarnia and other Ontario refineries already plan to transport crude oil by rail or ship it up the St. Lawrence seaway and on to Sarnia. At the same time, Enbridge is claiming that Michigan lacks the legal authority to revoke the easement and shut down Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac. “Why the Line 5 issue should concern everyone,” (downtownpublications.com); “From Canada Comes the Truth about Enbridge’s Line 5: It’s not about Michigan’s Energy Needs,” *Oil & Water Don’t Mix* (oilandwaterdontmix.org) <https://tinyurl.com/25vzjrh8> ; and “Canada’s Pressure Campaign to Keep Running the Dangerous 'Line 5' Pipelines in the Great Lakes Calls for a “Reality Check” - FLOW (forloveofwater.org)

ECO CALENDAR

May 18-20 – Virtual Michigan Environmental Justice Conference. For registration information and agenda, please check EGLE-EnvironmentalJustice@Michigan.gov

June 5 – CACC Annual Meeting, Lake Station, MI. Join in person or virtually via ZOOM. Details will be available on CACC's website www.caccmi.org



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