



West Michigan Environmental Action Council

WELCOME TO OUR

2024
ANNUAL
MEETING

MEET THE TEAM: STAFF



BILL WOOD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**ELAINE STERRETT
ISELY**
DEPUTY DIRECTOR



TANYA CABALA
LAKESHORE OUTREACH
ORGANIZER



CARLOS CALDERON
DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



**DEIRDRE
COURTNEY NIEVES**
DIRECTOR OF CLIMATE
SOLUTIONS AND JUSTICE



KYLE FAULDS
OPERATIONS
ADMINISTRATOR



KALINA FOSTER
COMMUNICATIONS
COORDINATOR



KYLE HART
EDUCATION PROGRAMS
MANAGER



MARSHALL KILGORE
DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT



SHARLENE KIPFER
DIRECTOR OF
DEVELOPMENT

MEET THE TEAM: 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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RETIRED, GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

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POLICY DIRECTOR, GR NAACP

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATION FOR
A MORE JUST SOCIETY

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FOUNDER, COLLECTIVE IDEA

ARA SEO

CPA, AMWAY

BOBBY SPRINGER

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR VETERANS UPWARD
BOUND, GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

FRANCISCO VEGA

ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATOR, CONSUMERS
ENERGY

BOB ZYLSTRA

RETIRED, FEYEN ZYLSTRA UE

REMEMBERING FRIENDS

GWEN HIBBARD

*FORMER WMEAC
BOARD MEMBER*



REMEMBERING FRIENDS

DR. KAREL ROGERS

*FORMER WMEAC
BOARD MEMBER*



REMEMBERING FRIENDS

KURT THOMPSON

*RESEARCH
ASSOCIATE*

*ANNIS WATER
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE*



REMEMBERING FRIENDS

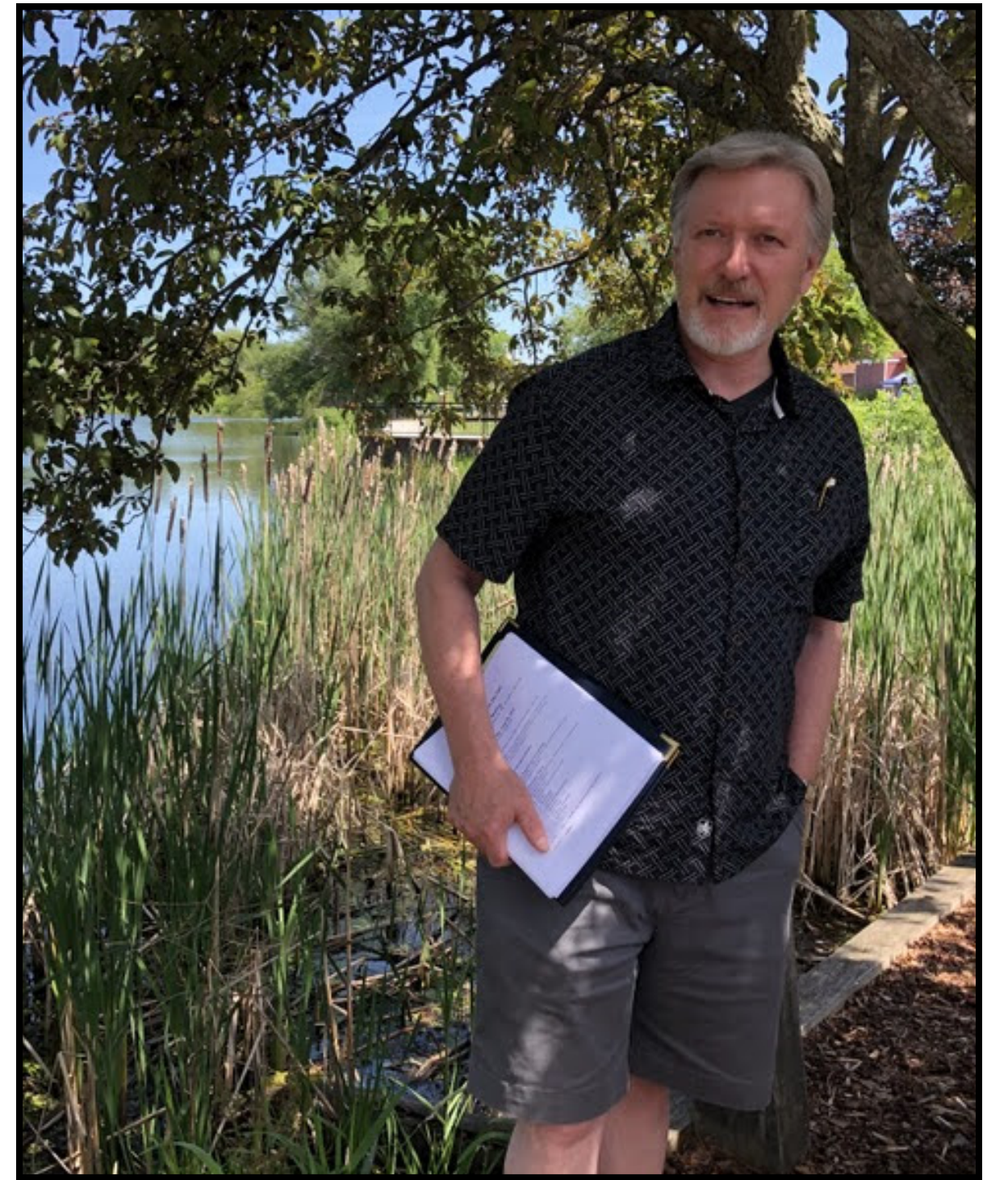
**BARBARA
ROBINSON**

WMEAC STEWARD



REMEMBERING FRIENDS

A.J. BIRKBECK
LEGAL ADVOCATE



ELECTING BOARD MEMBERS

MEGHAN BUNCHMAN

*NEWS ANCHOR, WOOD TV &
ADJUNCT PROFESSOR AT GVSU*



ELECTING BOARD MEMBERS

MIKE LORR

*IDEAL COMMITTEE MEMBER &
PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY AT
AQUINAS COLLEGE*



ELECTING BOARD MEMBERS

KRISTOPHER REINHARDT

*FINANCIAL ADVISOR,
EDWARD JONES*



ELECTING BOARD MEMBERS

ARA SEO

*SENIOR FORECAST ANALYST AT AMWAY,
CPA*



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- HOSTED **2 COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS** & **3 CLIMATE CAFES** IN KENT COUNTY ON CLIMATE ANXIETY & TOOLS FOR RESILIENCY
- HOSTED **9 GREEN DRINKS** & **12 MEETINGS** OF THE WMEAC ENVIRONMENTAL BOOK CLUB



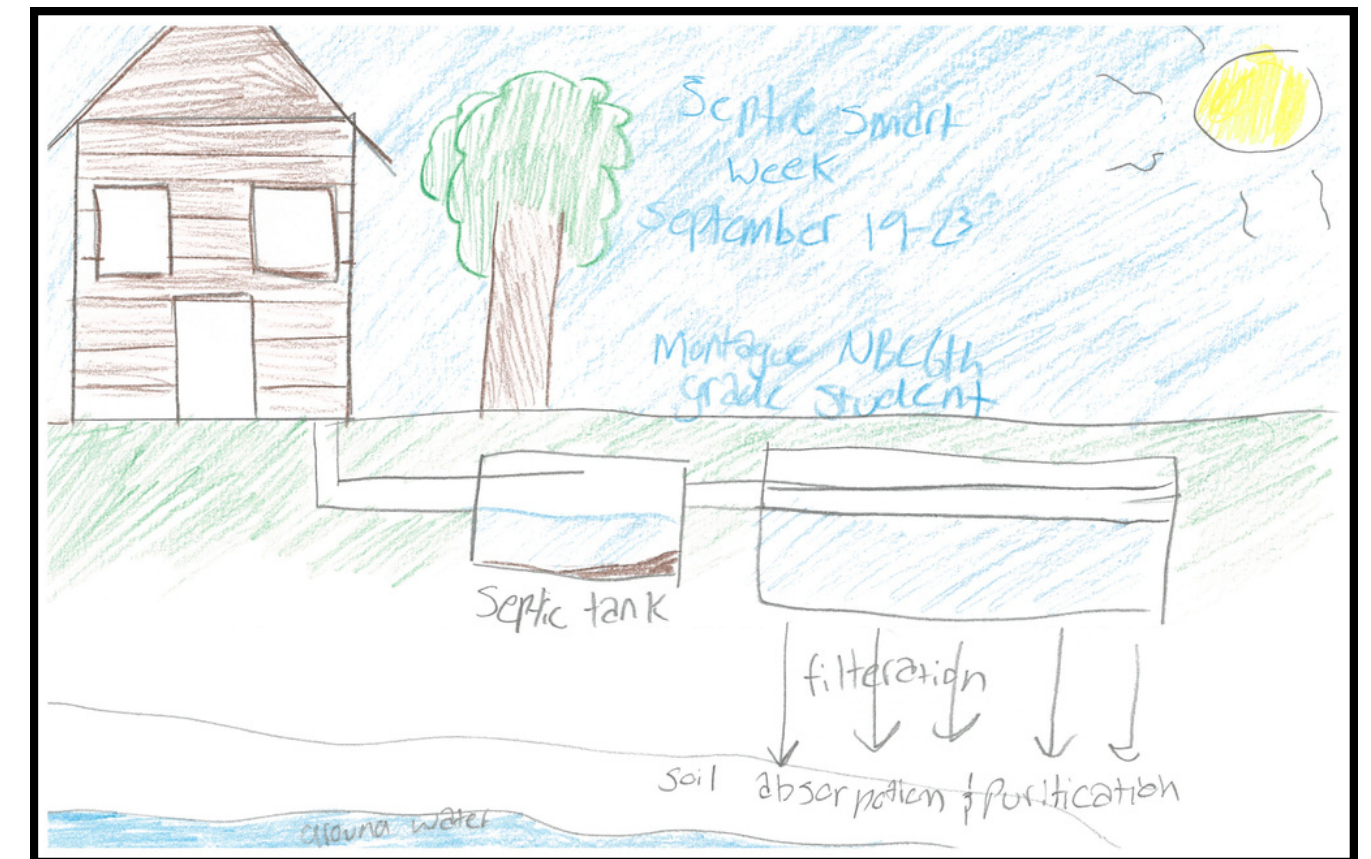
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- HOSTED **5 WORKSHOPS** IN MUSKEGON COUNTY ON SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE TO REDUCE FRESHWATER ALGAE BLOOMS
- ATTENDED OVER **30 COMMUNITY MEETINGS** ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN KENT, KALAMAZOO, & MUSKEGON COUNTIES.



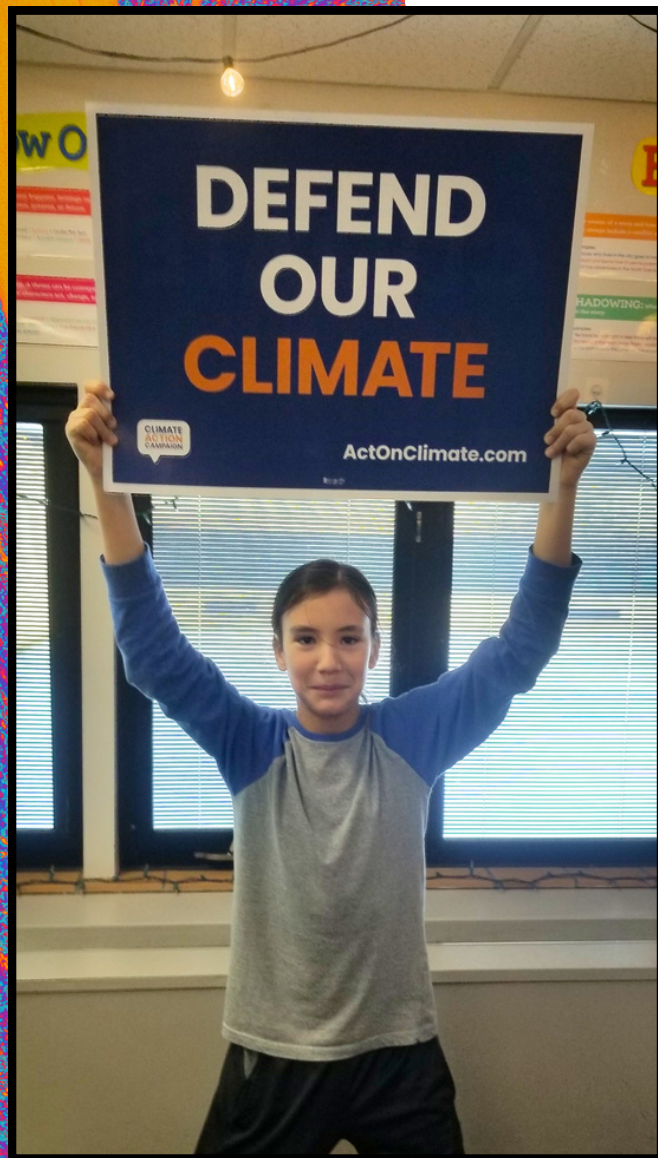
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- ESTABLISHED & HOSTED MEETINGS OF THE LAKESHORE CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK & MUSKEGON CO. CLIMATE ACTION TASK FORCE
- **OVER 20** SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS, INTERVIEWS, & PRESS EVENTS
- GATHERED COMMUNITY FEEDBACK & ESTABLISHED MUSKEGON COUNTY RECYCLING NETWORK TO IMPROVE RECYCLING ACCESS, AS PART OF A LARGER STATE-WIDE EFFORT



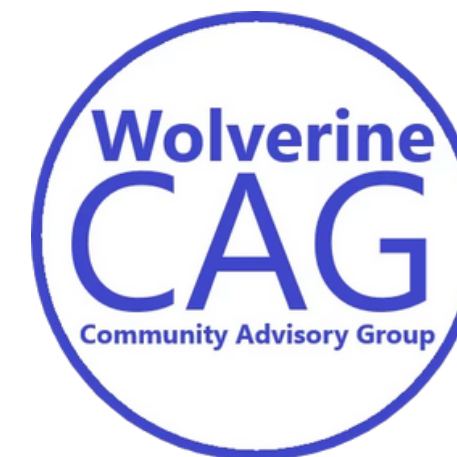
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

- CLIMATE AND GREAT LAKES ADVOCACY IN WEST MICHIGAN, LANSING AND WASHINGTON, D.C.
- PARTNERSHIP & WINS AS PART OF THE/ CLIMATE ACTION CAMPAIGN
 - NEW METHANE STANDARD ADOPTED AT COP 28
 - HELPED GENERATE OVER 1 MILION PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SOOT POLLUTION AS EPA MAKES NEW RULES



ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

- SERVED ON **OVER 14** ADVISORY COMMITTEES & LEADERSHIP TEAMS
 - CLIMATE ACTION CAMPAIGN MICHIGAN STATE TABLE
 - COMMUNITY COLLABORATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (C4)
 - PIGEON RIVER COUNTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL (DNR-APPOINTED)
 - MICHIGAN STATE WATERWAYS COMMISSION
 - MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL
 - WOLVERINE COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

- **580** 4TH - 8TH GRADE STUDENTS SAMPLED STREAMS TO LEARN ABOUT NON-POINT SOURCE POLLUTION - **TEACH FOR THE WATERSHED (T4W)**
- **518 ZERO WASTE IN LANDFILL** PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



- **859** STUDENTS ENAGED IN CLIMATE CHANGE & FRESHWATER BIOLOGY PROGRAMS
- **412** *BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF MUSKEGON* LAKESHORE MEMBERS LEARNED ABOUT MUSKEGON LAKE RESTORATION, HISTORY, & NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION - **SUMMER SCIENCE EXPLORERS**



WATERSHED PROTECTION

- 30 MICORPS *ADOPT-A-STREAM* VOLUNTEERS SAMPLED & ASSESSED PLASTER CREEK AND BUCK CREEK WATERSHEDS (KENT CO.), RESULTS SHARED WITH MI EGLE
- OVER 40 RAIN BARRELS - COLLECTING 500,000+ GALLONS OF RAINWATER - DISTRIBUTED IN GRAND RAPIDS, ROCKFORD, ADA VIA WMEAC'S *RAIN BARREL WORKSHOPS*





- 1 WEEK
- **500+** VOLUNTEERS
- **6** PARTICIPATING CITIES
- **7,200+** LBS OF TRASH REMOVED
- **35 SITES** AND **12+ MILES** OF RIVER CLEANED
- ... **1 LIME SCOOTER**

21ST ANNUAL SAVE-THE-DATE: **SEPT 7-14, 2024**

Thank you for your support!

Our Mission:

Working collaboratively alongside our diverse community to educate, engage, and advocate for environmental values, environmental and climate justice, and a healthy and resilient community for all.

