

Green Party of Michigan – 2026 Platform

These are the Four Pillars of the Green Party of Michigan.

Ecological Wisdom: The land does not belong to us; we belong to the land. Everything is interconnected and interdependent. All of nature, including humanity, is worthy of respect and freedom from exploitation.

Social Justice: We want to replace the worldwide system of poverty and injustice with a world free of all oppression – whether based on class, wealth, gender, sexual orientation, religion, race, age, citizenship, or ethnicity.

Grassroots Democracy: We believe in direct participation by all people – at the most local level practical – in the environmental, political, and economic decisions that affect their lives. In practice, we make decisions by voluntary consensus whenever possible.

Non-Violence: We oppose the culture of violence. We promote non-violent resolution of international and domestic conflicts, and work toward lasting community and world peace.

Add these six principles, and you have GPMI's Ten Key Values.

Decentralization: We support rebuilding social, political, and economic institutions away from a system which is controlled by (and mostly benefits) the powerful few to a democratic, less bureaucratic system.

Community-Based Economics: We seek an economics, based on Earth's natural limits, which meets the basic needs of everyone on the planet. We value people over profits when the two conflict.

Feminism: We know the efforts, talents, and participations of both sexes and all genders are critical to creating a healthy, sustainable society. We actively promote cooperation and participation to further our goals.

Respect for Diversity: We believe it is important to value cultural, ethnic, racial, sexual, religious, and spiritual diversity – and to promote the development of respectful relationships across these lines.

Personal and Global Responsibility: We live our commitment to global sustainability and international justice through political solidarity and personal lifestyles of self-sufficiency. We believe in the saying "Think globally, act locally."

Future Focus/Sustainability: We see a need to counter the drive for short-term profits by keeping development, technology, and social and fiscal policies responsible to future generations.

Social Justice

The link between economic growth and prosperity for the people is broken. Business and politics as usual are failing us. The economy is worse for the 99% now than in 2008: no security in our jobs, pensions, health, homes, or communities. Real wages have been flat or falling for years. Unwinnable wars take ever more of our dwindling resources. Democrats, Republicans, and the Federal Reserve bail out banks and stockholders but cut programs that help people: schools, social services, environmental protection, the Post Office. The purpose of government is not economic growth, as corporate-funded politicians say; it is promoting the general welfare. Let's stimulate our economy from the bottom up – say, as the WPA hired people to do public works.

Protect the rights of all workers:

- * All workers have the right to strike, and unionize for mutual benefit; the right to fair, livable pay and benefits; safe workplaces; fair rules fairly enforced; and more.
- * We support all workers – hourly, salaried, piece, gig, and contract – and corporations should know that abusing workers' rights is the root of the "Great Resignation".
- * These rights also belong to workers in jobs drawing extra risk of abuse (trafficked child

sex workers, for example) – so it is that much more essential to protect them.

- * As we fight the global climate crisis and shift to a sustainable energy economy, we will free the 99% who do the truly dirty work of fossil-fuel jobs, and the communities they want to protect, from the profiteering 1%.
- * Guaranteed income will help our families stay in their homes and lives; tuition-free education and training will give workers new skills for new jobs.

Make health care a right provided for all:

- * Health care affects everyone at this point, even more than food and housing: it's involved in 1/3 of all personal bankruptcies.
- * Cover everyone, in a job or not, with single-payer universal health care ("Improved Medicare for All"). This will save hundreds of billions a year – out of the profiteering of insurers administrators, and middlemen.
- * Make sure public health stays accountable to the public, patient/worker rights are valued over corporate profits, and Workers' Comp and the VA keep providing care and holding responsibility for health and safety.

End the War on the Poor:

- * Fix tattered social safety nets. All work must pay at least a living wage; unemployment benefits shall last as long as unemployment.
- * Fund public education fairly and free for all, at least up to a bachelor's degree or equal trade training. Forgive all student loans.
- * Guarantee Universal Basic Income for all, and "life support" for those who work or stay home for the public good in emergencies.
- * Establish a Michigan Reparations Commission to investigate historical injustices of genocidal chattel slavery practices and Jim Crow laws that have systematically affected Foundational Black Americans, and to recommend redress for these crimes against their humanity.

Strengthen Social Security and Medicare:

- * We must not let Wall Street profit off our retirement by privatizing Social Security.
- * End the cap on income taxed for Social Security, to fully fund the system with no benefit cuts or increases in retirement age.
- * Build on Medicare, and improve its service quality as well as its services, to achieve universal single-payer health care.

Simple, progressive, fair tax code:

- * Tax capital gains and dividends, corporate stock buybacks, and stock-option bonuses for top managers at rates no lower than taxes on wages, salaries, and gig-work pay.

- * Provide fair exemptions, few loopholes if any, a higher Earned Income Credit, no tax on income below poverty level, and an 80% top-bracket tax rate for millionaires.

Add consumer/citizen protections:

- * Make Michigan a "no-recourse" state, so that foreclosing on a family home would settle the whole mortgage debt.
- * Require proof in court before foreclosure, and block home foreclosures and utility shut-offs when unemployment is high.
- * Protect citizens from corporations colluding to force up grocery prices, rents, etc.
- * Inform citizens about all legitimate rights to control overreach by government (such as jury nullification) and by corporations.

Make the financial system put people first:

- * Have Congress reclaim its sole Constitutional authority to create money, and spend it into the economy for public goods: health care, education, energy, transportation, local food production, infrastructure, climate needs.
- * Send 25% of all new money to states and municipalities, to use as they decide. The balance can pay off the national debt.

Protect public education and institutions:

- * Acknowledge the public benefits of public education to the whole community – and defend universal public funding, for public schools that are open to all, from all property owners in a school district.
- * Increasing the \$10,000 per-pupil school allowance, and investing more in skilled-trades training at \$18,801 annually, will lead to fewer people in prison at \$52,256 a year.
- * **Defend public libraries** from budget cuts and other pressure to ban books and censor speech even if it's unpopular with authority.
- * Protect the rights of local citizens to have control over developments that threaten public resources in their communities. Strengthen referendum and initiative rights against interference by elected officials and unelected administrators.

If you support these fair, common-sense measures to promote the general welfare and restore the social and economic dignity of jobs for all . . . you're thinking Green.

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Grassroots Democracy

The Declaration of Independence says all people have unalienable rights including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. But especially since the PATRIOT Act, the government has disrespected our rights. Both "major" parties show their sameness by ignoring the spirit of the Declaration and the letter of the Constitution. People who commit no crime are arrested, jailed, even killed. Powerful people and institutions commit fraud, perjury, and worse with no penalty.

Greens will give voters something to vote **for**. If you're turned off by politics as usual, you don't have to sit on the sideline or waste your vote on candidates of the 1%. We the people have a right to alter or abolish government that doesn't work for us, to reclaim "liberty and justice for all." If enough of us register our protest at the ballot box by voting Green, we'll see change start.

Rights are for people, not corporations:

- * We will overrule corporate "personhood".
- * We will enforce the truths that money is not speech – and that corporations don't have the rights of natural people.

Rights belong to all people fairly:

- * No human should be denied rights based on race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other category.
- * We will defend the full US Bill of Rights and the UN International Bill of Human Rights – rights for all humans, including immigrants here and refugees worldwide.
- * We support the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People; the world indigenous movement to protect the Earth from plunder and profiteering; and First Nations' struggles for tribal sovereignty, land reform, and treaty rights.
- * Women have the right to choose abortion. But they must be able to make that choice and others, and to get the health care they need to make choices real: pre-/post-natal services, midwife/doula care, and more.

Votes belong to voters – not parties:

- * Guard overall voter power by guarding each voter's right to cast informed votes, free from long lines or other pressures.
- * Help all votes count – and be counted: paper ballots (countable by human beings), election audits, voting holidays, and more.
- * Restore voter protections lost when courts struck down Voting Rights Act provisions.
- * Guarantee citizen taxpayers representation: require states to mail a Taxpayer Voter ID card, which can only be used to prove your identity at the polls, to any voting-eligible citizen who files an income-tax return.

- * Pass Ranked Choice Voting, which lets us support any candidates we like – not just one "lesser evil". We will also extend the past state preferential-voting law for cities to townships and villages.
- * Adopt party Proportional Representation to enable voters to elect legislators, county commissioners, township trustees, and (when permitted by Federal law) members of Congress in proportion to party support across the state, county, or township.

End the influence of money in politics:

- * We support the very meaning of democracy: rule by the people – all the people, not just the rich and powerful – in an open and verifiable "one person, one vote" system.
- * We take no donations from corporations or PACs – only from people.
- * Fix the recently-installed state "transparency portal", and boost full and free access to campaign-finance records for all citizens.
- * Shine lights on dark money – including late, unreported, or indirect donations. Enable cross-tracking between/among donors.
- * To give candidates of any party (or none) fair chances to compete for votes, we support public financing for all state offices; equal access to public forums and media for all ballot-qualified candidates; and true non-partisan redistricting.
- * We also support reforms to ban corporate donations to politicians, parties, PACs, or lobbyists – and to pause political ads in a set buffer period before elections.
- * We particularly call for bans on contributions by corporations regulated by state agencies to stop them using their money to influence regulators, legislators, or staff.

People-centered election reforms:

- * Avoid the potential bias of taxpayer-funded primaries for the "Big Two" political parties, which marginalize the alternative ideas voters want.
- * Fair funding and coverage of all candidates in all nominating processes – to let voters judge which people are worth supporting.
- * Require legislators to spend more time in-district listening directly to constituents and less schmoozing with donors and lobbyists.

No more Fs for Michigan public integrity:

- * The people were promised transparency in 2013; instead we got more influence for secret money in elections and doubled fat-cat contribution limits (redoubled by a law also limiting public talk on ballot issues).
- * Repeal laws that hurt the transparency their backers claimed to help: the Emergency Manager law, referendum-proofing, and the law stripping local governments and voters of control or even bargaining power over Locally Unwanted Land Uses.
- * Reinforce and re-enforce Open Meetings law: close notice loopholes, and limit the easy out of holding a "do-over" meeting.
- * Make FOIA cover all state elected officials (including the Governor and legislators). Require response in a reasonable time, and waive costs whenever a record-viewing system/process is not working.
- * Pull the veils off Big Money backing crony candidates as well as earmarks, pork-barrel spending, and special-interest tax breaks.
- * Ban elected and administrative officials from signing Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) involving public business in any way.

Put community services in people's hands:

- * We will not let essential utilities be privatized for corporate profit.
- * Time banks, community gardens, transition towns, and similar non-profit efforts to help local communities build themselves.
- * Promote/enable community involvement in schools, literacy programs, and shelters for battered women, men, and children.

If you believe that democracy should mean decisions affecting the lives ***of*** the people are made ***by*** the people and ***for*** the people – at all levels . . . you're thinking Green.

- * Training in non-violent conflict resolution should be a regular school program, available to both students and parents.
- * Local control of each community's public trust of water, air, and land resources to protect the people from privatizing and profiteering.
- * Support Net neutrality so no person, party, ISP, or agency can limit how others use the Internet by restricting access, transmission speed, content, platforms, or equipment.
- * Fair rules and consistent enforcement (by the FCC and courts) to guarantee people fair, full, equal access to online information – and to each other, to share it.
- * Encourage public oversight and even public management of Internet service provision.

High-quality education for all to benefit:

- * We will work for fair and full public funding of schools which are fully open to the public, and which "profit" us by helping students become solid citizens, lifelong learners, and critical thinkers for our communities.
- * We must pay teachers, librarians, counselors, and school nurses attention, respect, and good salaries and benefits.
- * Early education with child care and literacy must be available to all. So must arts, music, sports, and after-school programs.
- * Wraparound services are needed to support attendance and attention.
- * "Discipline" must be positive, and not discriminatory.
- * Full public oversight for any private operation of education seeking public support.
- * Raising the \$10,000/pupil school allowance, and investing more in skilled-trades training at \$18,801 annually will lead to fewer people in prison at \$52,256 a year.

Promote workplace democracy:

- * Help workers in all fields and trades defend their rights and roles in their working lives.
- * Train both adults and students with the tools of democracy and justice: voting systems, due process, debates, critical reading and thinking, and non-violent conflict resolution such as mediation and arbitration.

Ecological Wisdom

Some politicians talk of “balancing” economic and environmental goals. Others want to end all environmental protection. Both are wrong. Wasting the environment in the name of jobs and growth is short-sighted. It threatens our long-term survival. We need an ecologically sustainable economy with jobs that truly protect our environment. We must create a wiser relationship with the natural world, end the fossil-fuel economy, de-acidify the oceans, and reverse climate change.

Water is a human right and a public trust:

- * Stop violations of that right and that trust, such as lead poisoning in Flint and Benton Harbor and mass shutoffs in Detroit instead of an affordable water plan.
- * Ban hydraulic fracturing, which pollutes the state’s surface water and aquifers as well as the Great Lakes.
- * Revoke the sulfide-mining permit for the Eagle mine, which will drain acid into the Yellow Dog Watershed and Lake Superior.
- * Oppose the new scheme to hide Line 5 until horizontal drilling springs new leaks.
- * Block hyper-data centers and other massive developments from being railroaded in over local objections. Charge them as much per unit for water, energy, etc. as residents pay, plus more – enough to cover major capital and maintenance costs for the big projects.
- * We welcome support from groups like the ***US Pirate Party*** for protection of clean water.

We must develop renewable energy:

- * Clean power generation can and must create local jobs and local benefits, and go beyond even efficiency to cut energy use generally.
- * Oppose new nuclear plants and call for phasing out old reactors, not re-opening them as is proposed for Palisades. Nuclear power poses long-term risks to all life.
- * Guard against fossil-fuel disasters too, such as the Enbridge pipeline spill in Marshall.
- * Oppose coal, tar-sands oil, offshore drilling, and the Line 5 threat to the Great Lakes.
- * Require more of the power used in our state be not only “made in Michigan” but from truly renewable sources; we can generate solar and wind power efficiently here.
- * Boost use of sunlight for direct and hot-water heating of well-designed buildings.

Building a sustainable society to help the environment, not harm it, will take lots of work. That work will provide plenty of jobs for Michigan's people, for years to come – and we can make sure to build in peace, democracy, and social justice. If you agree . . . you're thinking Green.

- * De-centralize power generation when we can. Package clean-fuel cars with home recharging systems. And give local voters more power, not less, to be able to accept or reject large energy projects in their areas.

Fund road repair/maintenance sustainably:

- * Build a good and efficient public transportation network while using less of road salts that destroy roads and vehicles.
- * Stop pumping of greenhouse gases into the air, whether they come from internal-combustion engines or electric plants that use the same fuels to drive EVs.
- * Stop using low Energy Return on Energy Investment fuels on wasteful trips.

Fight corporation-dependent agriculture:

- * Stop concentrated animal feed operations, factory farms, GMOs, and suburban sprawl.
- * Refuse to count CAFO-produced biogas as “clean” energy. Our rich legacy of forests and lakes has a value beyond timber or tourist dollars.
- * Back revitalized rural communities and small-scale, organic agriculture as remedies for petrochemical-driven agribusiness.
- * Halt over-logging on state forests, provide more non-motorized lakes and camp-grounds, outlaw wolf-hunting, set aside more wilderness areas, and protect more of our Great Lakes shores from development.

Protect the environment more effectively:

- * To fight big business's capture of regulatory agencies, we will empower citizens to defend themselves and their communities against pollution and other health risks.
- * We will also protect the rights of ecosystems, and prosecute ecocide as the crime it is.

Non-Violence

Wars are about power: controlling fossil fuels, rare earths, farmland, other resources. (Think NordStream, the Straits of Hormuz, Venezuela – the list goes on.) But wars can't restore depleted resources; they only use them up faster. The US armed forces are now our biggest single energy consumer, and they emit more greenhouse gases than many countries. Today, our machines depend on fossil fuels for 85% of their energy. As fuels run out, the machines must stop. Energy per capita has been falling for 30+ years. We must understand these facts, and adapt to them.

Oppose wars for oil, resources, or power:

- * A Green Party President will end warmaking as US policy, not praise it as anti-terrorism.
- * Stop attacking legitimate, non-violent protest of foreign policy as support for "enemies".
- * Stop US military, diplomatic, and economic warmaking on Gaza, Yemen, Iran, Syria, Venezuela, Somalia, Nigeria, and more.
- * End domestic state/corporate LEO terrorism like Cop Cities or the 1033 military-surplus-to-police program. Curb qualified immunity.

End the national security secrecy culture:

- * Stop using force and violence as policy: US bomb/drone strikes; Israel's genocide on Palestinians; police killing citizens with impunity; journalists imprisoned or killed.
- * Recognize the right of self-defense against state/corporate terror. Repeal the PATRIOT Act, so often abused by spying agencies who claim excessive surveillance powers.
- * Abolish ICE. Require all agencies responsible for national security to obey human- and civil-rights laws, and protect those rights.
- * Demand government transparency: no more secret budgets, prisons, or data searches. Expose the rich and powerful hiding unaccountable, in the money but out of the light.
- * Stop all aid supporting state terrorism. It props up a US Empire which threatens our security and ideals, and should not exist.
- * Support a boycott, divestment, and sanctions on the Israeli government until Palestine has peace. And stop arming the Ukrainian coup government we put in power in 2014.
- * Bring troops home from US bases in 80+ countries and home from active/surrogate combat, air/drone strikes, war games, etc.

Greatly reduce use of imported energy:

- * Stop extracting extreme energy from tar sands, methane, shale, etc.
- * Create millions of jobs rebuilding cities with walkable neighborhoods, public transporta-

tion, and community gardens. Build rural areas too, with efficient rural services and low-energy close-to-customer farming.

Reduce domestic fossil-fuel consumption:

- * Create a fossil-fuel carbon fee-&-dividend system, with all fees returned in equal shares to the people. This will cut energy use and prices as well as CO₂ emissions.
- * Develop and expand truly renewable energy: wind, geothermal, solar – but not biofuels.
- * Encourage energy-efficiency standards for new buildings; retrofit existing ones; and make annual energy audits part of all government facility/program budgeting.

Work to end prison-system injustices:

- * Block the "new Jim Crow" and the financial incentives imposed by prison privatization and the "War on Drugs".
- * Reduce our world-highest prison population percentage. Ease sentences for non-violent drug offenses; eliminate racial profiling that imprisons an unfair share of people of color.
- * "Ban the box" to ease hiring discrimination against those with records.
- * Expunge marijuana convictions for all actions now legal in Michigan, democratize growing and sale of cannabis, regulate uses proven hazardous, and reap the benefits of hemp.
- * Reform bail; adopt restorative justice; punish more crimes with tickets. not prison time.

Let people control all LEOs and agencies:

- * Institute elected Citizen Control Boards with power to prosecute/fire LEOs, end abuses, and limit special "LEO Bills of Rights".
- * Apply this control to all enforcers of laws . . . to make sure justice works for the people – and Black Lives, all "civilian" lives, matter.
- * Put proceeds of judicial forfeitures and LEO seizures into a fund for victims of excessive force, and keep LEOs under budget control.

If you believe with Martin Luther King, Jr. that "the giant triplets of racism, materialism, and militarism" make us and our world poorer . . . you're thinking Green.

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