Water for Life

The Detroit Series

Exploring water issues from the perspective of social justice and human rights.

May 9, 2006
6:00-8:30PM
Water: A Human Right or Corporate Commodity?
What: Screening of the movie “Thirst” at the Southfield Public Library
Speaker/Moderator: Jack Lessenberry, Michigan Public Radio Policy Analyst
More info: East Michigan Environmental Action Council, (248) 258-5188

June 13, 2006
7:00-9:00PM
Looking into Detroit’s Past to Find Justice in the Future
What: Panel/public forum of experts on the Detroit water system
   Speakers include: Russ Bellant, IUOE Local 1547; Dave Dempsey, author and environmentalist; Kurt Metzer, United Way; Sylvia Orduno, Michigan Welfare Rights Org.;
Where: Barth Hall, in the Cathedral of St. Paul
4800 Woodward Ave., Detroit
More info: ACCESS, (313) 216-2225

July 11, 2006
7:00-9:00PM
Town Hall Meeting
What: Bringing the community together to discuss the future of our water and action-oriented solutions
Where: Barth Hall, in the Cathedral of St. Paul
4800 Woodward Ave., Detroit
More info: http://www.dwej.org/csaej.htm

All events are free and open to the public. Donations are welcome!
Many communities across the state have long been struggling around water issues - for example, thousands of Detroit and Highland Park residents have been facing water shut-offs, and 2000 Monroe County families had their water wells fail due to large water withdrawals by quarry operations. Pollution in the Detroit River endangers water quality for recreation and makes fishing unsafe, especially threatening low-income urban and native populations who rely on fishing for subsistence. The trend of water being treated less as a valuable natural resource, and more as a marketable commodity is alarming, and it threatens everyone’s access to clean water.

How will the pollution and privatization of water further exacerbate social inequities, especially in Detroit?

How do we ensure that access to clean water is a human right for all, regardless of where you live or your ability to pay?

Discover what residents, community organizations, and local governments are doing to address these problems, and ensure clean and accessible water for all.

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