

To: Local LWV Presidents (with copy to LWVIN Board)
From: Karen Kay Leonard, 830 Fleetwood Dr, Indpls 46228, [317] 253-0403 h
On: 23 January 2012
Re: **Lake Michigan Ecosystem Concurrence**

I realize that a previous update stated that Indiana would not take part in this concurrence effort. **HOWEVER**, because the Lake Michigan LWV (an interleague organization) earnestly desires that all the states surrounding Lake Michigan agree, the Board has allowed me again to approach you with the request. If we can concur, the *group* of state Leagues will have a more powerful voice than would Michigan alone.

Jeanette Neagu, a member of LWV-LaPorte County, of Lake Michigan LWV, and (formerly) of the LWVIN Board, will be calling local presidents to offer and collect ideas. She is our state League's appointed representative to Great Lakes Day in Washington, D.C. For most of her lifetime, Jeanette has worked to protect the environment. She is passionate, as I think we all should be, about the protection of the Great Lakes, and she believes that our concurrence is both necessary and worth the effort it would require.

If your League possibly can, please do the following:

1. **Read** the Michigan LWV position thoughtfully.
2. **Check** your own by-laws for rules pertaining to concurrence. (For example, at the state level, LWVIN cannot adopt a concurrence at Council or Convention. However, if enough of your Leagues communicate their concurrence with Michigan's position, the state can adopt the concurrence position at the March meeting of the Board.)
3. **Share** the Michigan position with all your members.
4. **Establish** a method for determining the sense of your group. You can discuss the concurrence online; you can consider it at one or more face-to-face meetings; you can hold telephone conferences – whatever suits your League's style.
5. **Have** a representative from your group notify me <kkbleonard@sbcglobal.net> by **10 March 2010** that your League does or does not concur with the Michigan position.
6. **Breathe** deeply and celebrate your LWV's new position, or (if not) the effort to establish it.

Thank you for this extra consideration of our effect on the planet. Soon I'll send you an update of last Saturday's LWVIN and LWVIEF Board meetings.