



Did you know...

**Did you know the Great Lakes are one of the most easily identifiable features on the face of the earth from outer space?** These treasured fresh water seas contain 80 percent of North America's and 20 percent of the world's most precious resource, fresh water. That's right, they are the biggest fresh water reservoir in the world.

**Did you know in an increasingly parched, drought-stricken, climate change threatened world, it is nearly impossible to put a dollar value on the water resources of the Great Lakes?**

**Did you know that hard, sulfide bearing rock and water don't mix?** Due to their unique and complex geology, these rock formations contain rich metallic ore bodies of copper, nickel and other heavy metals while others contain uranium. When mining activities expose the sulfide bearing rock to air and water it decomposes releasing among other chemicals, sulfuric acid which causes acid mine drainage and heavy metal acid rain.

**Did you know that there is a wide band of such sulfide and mineral bearing rock that covers a wide swath of the Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Region?** This ore body runs from Northern Minnesota, to Wisconsin to Michigan's Upper Peninsula and down into the tip of Michigan's mitten.

**Did you know this type of mining differs greatly from the oxide rock mining that has historically been done in Michigan's Upper Peninsula?**

**Did you know there is active uranium and sulfide mining exploration going on today throughout the Upper Great Lakes?**

**Did you know that mining companies have been buying up the mineral rights for thousands of acres of land in Michigan and the Upper Great Lakes?** Mining engineers say dozens of mine sites could be opened, exploited and closed all within the next decade.

**Did you know these mines almost always pollute both acid mine drainage and heavy metal acid rain that is devastating to fresh water, fish, aquatic life and surrounding plant and wildlife?**

**Did you know that sulfide mining kills rivers, lakes, streams and ponds -- virtually any water into which it seeps?**

**Did you know that this type of mining is a time bomb?** Acid mine drainage percolates through the groundwater and can cause irreparable damage decades after the mines have played out and closed and the nearby towns have become ghost towns. It also causes heavy metal acid rain that can spread the environmental damage hundreds of miles from the mining and processing sites.

**Did you know that sulfide mines dating back to Roman times are still leaking acid drainage some 2000 years later?**

**Did you know water knows no boundaries and that pollution to one Great Lake invariably affects them all?**

**Did you know that these mines support few jobs overall and fewer still will go to local workers?** Most of the jobs created by the mines are temporary at best and will go to specialized workers imported from South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. Also it is clear mining giants like Rio Tinto are fast moving away from using human miners at all and moving toward automated, robotic mining techniques.

**Did you know one of the fastest growing jobs sectors in Michigan is in alternative and sustainable energy and that it relies on clean, fresh water sources?**

**Did you know that recreation and tourism is Michigan's second largest economic sector?** The potential devastation by this type of mining could have a severe adverse economic impact on this important and growing sector.

**Did you know you have a choice?**



**This or This?**

**Did you know you can protect the Great Lakes Region and our water from sulfide mining? Your donation today can help us get a ballot measure on the November 2010 ballot that protects our water by making it much more difficult to operate sulfide or uranium mines in Michigan. Since Michigan is the heart of the Great Lakes, this will have a reverberating effect throughout the region and send a loud and clear message that we will do everything possible to protect our water.**

Give today online via PayPal at [www.miwater.org](http://www.miwater.org) or make your check payable to:  
Michigan Save Our Water  
P.O. Box #7288  
Detroit, MI 48207

Contact Duncan Campbell at [Duncan@miwater.org](mailto:Duncan@miwater.org) or Maura Campbell at [Maura@miwater.org](mailto:Maura@miwater.org) or call 313 432 0247.

**Did you know there is no Pure Michigan without Pure Water?**

**Michigan Save Our Water Committee** • A Michigan Ballot Initiative Committee  
Duncan Campbell, Treasurer • PO Box #7288 • Detroit, MI 48207  
[info@miwater.org](mailto:info@miwater.org) • 313-432-0247 Voice • <http://www.miwater.org>