

Copper Country Voter



Published by the
Copper Country League of Women Voters
Houghton County, Michigan



<http://www.lwvccmi.org/>
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LWVCC Calendar

October 9	Last Day to Register to Vote for November General	November 3	Last Day for Absentee Ballot Requests by 2pm
October 19 Friday, 6pm–8:30pm	State and local Candidate forum Hancock Middle School Auditorium	November 6 7am – 8pm	GENERAL ELECTION
October 22 Monday, 6:30pm	Ballot Proposals Presentation by Leah Bectel Portage Lake District Library	November 13 Tuesday, 6:00pm	Constitutional Convention Movement Poses Threat by Liz Hakola Portage Lake District Library

Candidate Forum, October 19th

The League of Women Voters of the Copper Country (LWVCC) and the Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce is convening a Candidate Forum to be held for State Senate 38th District, State Representative 110th District, Houghton County Commissioners District 2, District 3, District 4 and District 5 who are on the official ballot and are in contested races, and Keweenaw County Probate Court Judge. The Forum will be held on **Friday, October 19 at Hancock Middle School Auditorium, 501 Campus Drive**. The State Senate 38th District and State Representative 110 District will be held at 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. There will be a 15 minute break, and then from 7:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m. the forum for contested races for Houghton County Commissioners and Keweenaw County Probate Court Judge will be conducted.

Copper Country League Presenting on Michigan's Three Ballot Proposals, October 22nd

Join the League of Women Voters for a presentation regarding the three ballot proposals on **October 22nd at 6:30 PM at the Portage Lake District Library**. This educational presentation will contain information on the three proposals that will appear on Michigan's ballot in November. The purpose of this presentation is to educate about what the proposals are, the specific ballot language, and positions from supporting and opposing sides.

Line 5 Pipeline: An Avoidable Environmental Risk

The League of Women Voters of Michigan is one of 21 members of the Oil and Water Don't Mix Coalition that sent a letter to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality ("MDEQ") and the US Army Corps of Engineers ("Corps") on June 29, 2017 regarding Enbridge Oil Company's joint application to the MDEQ and the Corps (No. 2RD-DFDK-Y35G) to install 22 anchor supports on the Line 5 pipelines in the Mackinac Straits. The Coalition members are Michigan organizations dedicated to the protection of Michigan's water, natural resources, public trust in those resources, the environment, communities, and the health, safety and general welfare of citizens.

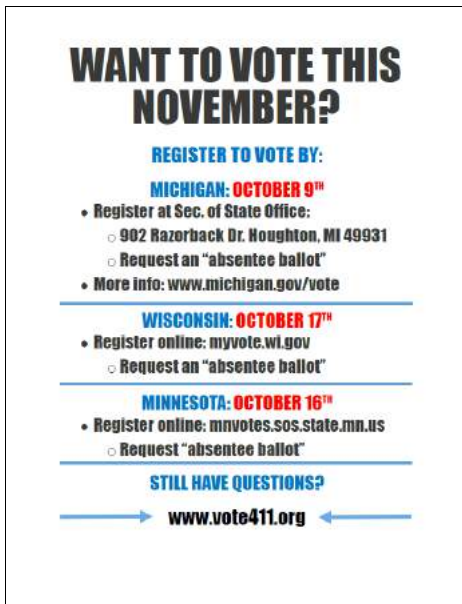
The Coalition organizations are requesting that MDEQ and the Corps take the following actions with regard to Enbridge's joint application:

1. Reject as incomplete due to its overly narrow scope of review;
2. Require a comprehensive review of Line 5 in the Straits that includes an assessment of adverse environmental impacts, risks, and feasible and prudent alternatives;
3. Temporarily terminate the transport of crude oil in the Line 5 pipelines during this review; and
4. Hold a formal public hearing given that Enbridge Line 5 occupies publicly owned waters and bottomlands and the threat of a catastrophic oil pipeline rupture to the Great Lakes are of tremendous controversy and have generated an extraordinary level of public engagement.

To learn more, go to <http://www.lwvmi.org/>.

Voter Registration Poster Campaign on MTU Campus

The league was able to create a poster stating basic steps for registering to vote for Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota residents. Information about www.vote411.org was also included.



Voter Registration on MTU

Campus Voter Registration on the MTU campus attracted many students! The SOS mobile office reported 191 new voter registrations for Michigan today. They also estimated about 250 forms were completed for an absentee ballot for the fall election. A decent number of out-of-state voter registration forms (about 30 were counted at one of the tables) were also distributed at our volunteer stations. Thank you to Leah Bectel, Mary Marchaterre, Barry Fink and Nanno Rose for helping woman the table with MTU.



National Popular Vote Interstate Compact Re-Introduced in Michigan

LWVCC has reported in past Voters about the National Popular Vote (NPV) and presented a public meeting in 2016 on this topic. The LWVUS supports the NPV and has had a position calling for abolition of the Electoral College since the 1970s.

The goal of National Popular Vote is on the surface, simple; get enough states, who's electoral votes total 270, the number needed to win the presidency, to come together in agreement to award their electoral votes to the winner of the nationwide popular vote. In Michigan, the house passed a bill to join the compact back in 2008 but the senate never took it up. Now, bills have been introduced in the MI House and Senate and ([SB1117](#)) and ([HB6323](#)). The Senate bill has bi-partisan sponsorship of 25 of the 38 Michigan senators, including 15 Republicans and 10 Democrats.

On September 6, 2018, the Senate Committee on Elections and Government Reform held a hearing on the National Popular Vote bill ([SB1117](#)). The National Popular Vote bill will take effect when enacted into law by states possessing 270 electoral votes (a majority of the 538 electoral votes). It has been enacted into law in 12 states possessing 172 electoral votes (CA, CT, DC, HI, IL, MA, MD, NJ, NY, RI, VT, WA). In addition The National Popular Vote bill has now passed a total of 36 state legislative chambers in 23 states. The bill has passed both legislative chambers (but in different years) in 2 states with 14 electoral votes (CO, NM), and it has also passed one legislative chamber in 9 states possessing 75 electoral votes (AR, AZ, DE, ME, MI, NC, NV, OK, OR). It has been unanimously approved at the committee level in 2 states possessing 27 electoral votes (GA, MO). The National Popular Vote bill has been introduced in various years in all 50 states. The Compact will go into effect when enacted by states possessing an additional 98 electoral votes.

A full explanation, detailed answers to numerous questions, including myths and an easy link to write your legislators can be found at the website www.nationalpopularvote.com.

New or Renewing Members:

Jill Burkland	William Lytle	Karen Oppliger
Angie Carter	Josh Marshall	Emily Shaw
Michael Dabish	Pushpa Murthy	Richelle Winkler
Nancy Herck		

Election News

1. www.VOTE411.org is available throughout the state with State election information for the November election.
2. Printed **voter guides will be available October 16** from the Daily Mining Gazette.
3. Absentee ballots were made available on September 22. Registered voters may obtain an absentee voter ballot if they are:
 - a) age 60 years old or older
 - b) unable to vote without assistance at the polls
 - c) expecting to be out of town on election day
 - d) in jail awaiting arraignment or trial
 - e) unable to attend the polls due to religious reasons
 - f) appointed to work as an election inspector in a precinct outside of your precinct of residence.
4. The last day for registering to vote is Tuesday, October 9.
5. Election day is Tuesday, November 6, and polls are open from 7AM to 8PM.
6. On the November 2018 ballot, the **straight-ticket voting option is not available** for the first time in 127 years. Consider the following:
 - a) Be prepared by using our voter guide clip and take section or www.vote411.org to learn candidates' views before you go to vote.
 - b) **Vote absentee if you are eligible. Remember local clerks are required to hold office hours till 2 pm on Saturday, Nov. 3, to accommodate absentee ballots on the weekend prior to the election.**

Lansing Area Clerks Support Proposal Three on Michigan's Ballot



On October 4th, the Michigan League of Voters hosted a press conference for the Lansing Clerks of the city of Lansing, Delhi Township, and Delta Township. This association of clerks announced

their support for proposal three, which would change certain voting laws in the State of Michigan. League President Judy Karandjeff was able to be a part of the press release, discussing the clerks' many years of experience and why they support Proposal three.

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Let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers of our democracy are not a President and senators and congressmen and government officials, but the voters of this country.

– Franklin D. Roosevelt



League of Women Voters
of the Copper Country
PO Box 815
Houghton, MI 49931

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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Suggested Donation of \$10

Kay LaRue Scholarship (\$____)

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Contributions to the annual finance drive and Kay LaRue Scholarship are NOT tax deductible. Checks should be made out to: LWVCC.

Contributions to the Educational Fund are tax deductible. Checks should be made out to: LWV Educational Fund