



Information Contacts:

Patty Birkholz
269.857.2757
patty@michiganlcv.org

John Peters
269.857.2967
jpubrel@aol.com

**BIRKHOLZ TO UPDATE GREAT LAKES ISSUES
IN SEPT. 11 HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM**

AUG. 30, 2013 -- Current status of issues critical to Lake Michigan and other Great Lakes will highlight the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society program on Wednesday, September 11, at 7 pm in the Old School House History Center, 130 Center Street, Douglas. Admission is free, public attendance is invited and refreshments will be served.

Presenter Patty Birkholz, West Michigan Director for The Michigan League of Conservation Voters (MLCV), will discuss immediate threats such as the Asian Carp, add historical perspectives to current concerns and focus on the importance of being good stewards of the Great Lakes/dunes ecosystem.

Previously Director of the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes, Birkholz earlier served five terms in the Michigan Legislature, including three in the House and two in the Senate. During her legislative career, she championed adoption of the historic Great Lakes Water Compact, authored Michigan's nationally recognized water withdrawal laws, reformed wetlands regulations and authored legislation that established Michigan's current Renewable Energy Standard. Recently appointed to the board of the Great Lakes Protection Fund by Governor Rick Snyder, she has been a champion for Michigan's land, air and water throughout her career.

The Michigan League of Conservation Voters is a non-partisan political voice for protecting Michigan's land, air, and water. MLCV strives to elect and hold accountable public officials to ensure their support for policies that help to protect the Great Lakes, maintain the State's agricultural heritage, re-energize its economy, increase its energy efficiency and preserve opportunities for outdoor recreation.

To that end, MLCV provides its *Michigan Environmental Scorecard*, which tracks the voting records of elected representatives for critical legislation that affects our environment, and *Green Gavels*, a new judicial accountability tool designed to help Michigan citizens understand the impact our elected justices have on the protection of our land, air, water and wildlife. To learn more about MLCV, visit MichiganLCV.org

For general information about the Historical Society, its Pump House Museum, Old School House History Center and other activities, visit www.sdhistoricalsociety.org.

###



Patty Birkholz to speak at Historical Society meeting.