15 Things Everyone Can Do to Fight Climate Change and Protect Our Environment

- 1. Contact your local, state and national legislators to voice your concerns about reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- 2. Tell your State Legislators to support:
 - Community Solar Bills: Senate Bill 153 and 152 http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2023-SB-0152
 - Other bills implementing the Governor's MI Healthy Climate Plan https://www.michigan.gov/egle/about/organization/climate-and-energy/mi-healthy-climate-plan
- 3. Go solar (put up your own panels or buy shares in community solar.)
- 4. Plant a Tree; Support the Federal FOREST ACT: https://citizensclimatelobby.org/get-loud-take-action/forest-act/
- 5. Participate in "No Mow May;" plant a rain garden—learn how through Wild Ones https://wildones.org/chapters/michigan/
- 6. RECYCLE and COMPOST. Tell your local government to start recycling and composting programs to save our land and reduce energy consumption.
- 7. Support local farmers by buying local as much as you can. Reduce your consumption of meat.
- 8. Invest your money in **Green Banks and Green Investment Funds**.
- 9. Drive less—walk, bike, use mass transportation; if you must drive, use a budget electric vehicle. According to the *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks 1990–2020...* transportation accounted for the largest portion (27%) of total U.S. GHG emissions in 2020. Also, fly less.
- 10. Say no to bottled water. It uses lots of oil and costs you \$\$. That bottle of water is up to 2,000 times more energy intensive than just turning on the tap.
- 11. **Change your Toilet paper.** The estimate is that about 2 million trees are cut down a year for toilet paper. Here's the link https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/issue-with-tissue-2022-scorecard.pdf
- 12. Follow EGLE's 13 ways to contribute to Clean Water https://www.michigan.gov/egle/newsroom/mi-environment/2023/04/20/thisearth-day-celebrate-the-year-of-clean-water
- 13. Lower your thermostat 1 to 3 degrees in winter and stop using air conditioning in the summer; install a heat pump to warm and cool your home.
- 14. Join and donate to organizations that fight for a clean future.
- 15. Talk about climate change and environmental solutions with friends and family.

IT IS LATE, BUT NOT TOO LATE!
THERE ARE GOOD OPTIONS AND GREAT URGENCY TO EMBRACE THEM!