

# POLLUTERS CASTING SPELLS ON MICHIGAN WATERS: 13 SCARY WATER FACTS

1. Over 23,000 miles of Michigan streams are at risk to pollution due to a court which put a halt on the Clean Water Rule
2. Polluters discharged 8.39 million pounds of toxic chemicals into the Great Lakes Watershed in 2012<sup>1</sup>
3. Pollutant levels in the Great Lakes Basin have increased by 12% from 2010-2011<sup>2</sup>
4. Over 34 billion gallons of raw sewage have been dumped into Lake Michigan<sup>3</sup>
5. Michigan faced possibly the second worst algal bloom in Lake Erie in the last century<sup>4</sup>
6. Michigan has one of the worst arsenic problems in well water<sup>5</sup>
7. A public health emergency was declared in Flint, Mi, in 2015 due to high levels of lead found in Flint's water<sup>6</sup>
8. 7 billion gallons of untreated sewage was dumped into the Detroit and Rouge rivers in 2011<sup>7</sup>
9. There are 31 areas in the Great Lakes that were designated "areas of concern" because of too much pollution<sup>8</sup>
10. Oil and Gas companies use 21 million gallons of water to fracture a single well in Kalkaska MI<sup>9</sup>
11. Michigan is home to one of the biggest inland oil spills in U.S. history<sup>10</sup>
12. 139 facilities in Michigan dumped 89 pounds of Mercury into Michigan's waterways in 2012<sup>11</sup>
13. As recently as 2013, Indiana allowed BP to dump nearly 20 times more toxic mercury into Lake Michigan than federal standards permit<sup>12</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Inglis, Jeff, Tony Dutzik, and John Rumpfer. *Wasting Our Waterways: Toxic Industrial Pollution and Restoring the Promise of the Clean Water Act*. Publication. N.p.: Environment America, 2014. Print. 7.

<sup>2</sup>US Environmental Protection Agency, "EPA's 2011 Toxics Release Inventory Shows Increase in Great lakes Basin Pollution," January 16, 2013, [yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/f6427a6b7538955c585257359003f0230/da29d0429ffa5d9385257af5007c9172?OpenDocument](http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/f6427a6b7538955c585257359003f0230/da29d0429ffa5d9385257af5007c9172?OpenDocument).

<sup>3</sup>[http://www.nrdc.org/water/oceans/tw/2014/tw2014\\_Great\\_Lakes.pdf](http://www.nrdc.org/water/oceans/tw/2014/tw2014_Great_Lakes.pdf)

<sup>4</sup><http://www.noaa.gov/newsroom/stories/2015/20150709-noaa-partners-predict-severe-harmful-algal-bloom-for-lake-erie.html>

<sup>5</sup>Haack, S.K. and S. L. Treccani, 2000. Arsenic concentration and selected geochemical characteristics for ground water and aquifer materials in southeastern Michigan. U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources

[http://www.gc4me.com/docs/public\\_health\\_emergency\\_announcement\\_10\\_1\\_15.pdf](http://www.gc4me.com/docs/public_health_emergency_announcement_10_1_15.pdf)ces Investigations Report 00-4171, 39 pages. <http://mi.water.usgs.gov/splan2/sp07800/dwiarsenic.php>.

<sup>6</sup>[http://www.gc4me.com/docs/public\\_health\\_emergency\\_announcement\\_10\\_1\\_15.pdf](http://www.gc4me.com/docs/public_health_emergency_announcement_10_1_15.pdf)

<sup>7</sup>[http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3311\\_4231-9207--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3311_4231-9207--,00.html)

<sup>8</sup><http://www2.epa.gov/great-lakes-aocs/list-aocs>

<sup>9</sup>[http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3311\\_4231-9207--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3311_4231-9207--,00.html)

