

East Michigan Environmental Action Activities during the US Social Forum 2010!

Tuesday 11 – 1pm – Detroit Highlighted presents East Michigan Environmental Action Council Cobo Hall: W2-67

Join us as we discuss our work: The mission of East Michigan Environmental Action Council is to empower the citizens of Southeast Michigan to protect the land, air, water and diversity of life through informed action. To achieve its mission, EMEAC works primarily with Detroit-area students to build their leadership skills to become environmental justice advocates and activists in their own communities. EMEAC also provides environmental science resources for teachers. While our current programs focus primarily on youth, the goal of EMEAC is to raise awareness, engage and mobilize entire communities affected by environmental hazards in order to improve the quality of life and build healthy, sustainable communities.

Wednesday - Diesel Pollution and its Connection to the Food Justice Movement

Cobo Hall: W2-65

Participants will make the connection between Detroit's heavy diesel pollution and the food justice movement. Detroit is home to 4 major freeways, heavy industrial traffic, and the largest border crossing in the country where many consumer goods, food among them, are transported by diesel vehicles. The amount of diesel pollution that our community inhales on a daily basis is outrageous. There are many ways to reduce diesel pollution and particulate matter. Solutions include putting filters on Detroit's diesel vehicles reducing pollution by over 85%, and eating locally to reduce pollution during transport of our food. Detroit has a thriving local agricultural network, and taking advantage of it will reduce our diesel pollution. It's time we take action to improve our air quality and take back our food!

Thursday 4 - 8 – Open Lens at the RIVERVIEW BALLROOM in Cobo Hall!

The Environmental Justice block of films is called 'Open-Lens'. In the tradition of 'open-mic' poetry, grassroots media makers share a look from the environmental lens. Be witness powerful stories on community food justice and self-determination; to climate change; to indigenous and local knowledge and perspectives; to media justice and direct action. Anything that promotes safeguarding our air, soil and water – supporting human and plant life for many generations to come!

Please support the work associated with EMEAC and their youth ReMedia program and the community driven Issue and Asset Environmental Justice media team.

Thursday evening, June 24th – doors open at 9 pm. Dance & party till 2 am. at the Magic Stick club at 2120 Woodward Avenue

Join the East Michigan Environmental Action Council and the Indigenous Environmental Network for one of the best FUN-draiser parties of the United States Social Forum! Celebrate the 20th year anniversary of IEN. Featuring LIVE performances: John Trudell; Detroit's own Blair, Cold Men Young, Jessica Care Moore, Joe Reilly, DJ's Pirana Head from Wasdat Music and Mr. Fuss from Sacred Earth Recordings; Annie Humphrey and many others. (Flyers attached)

Children's Social Forum: Friday, June 25 THEME: Environmental Day

Led by the East Michigan Environmental Action Council, this day is primarily a field trip to a local park a few miles from COBO Hall called Belle Isle. Activities will take place in and around the Belle Isle Nature Zoo. Children will be outside for most of the day, please dress them accordingly and supply sunscreen, hats, allergy medication, asthma inhalers or other individual supplies as

needed. Activities coordinated and led by EMEAC Environmental Community Fellow Sanaa NiaJoy. To prepare children to connect with nature yoga and visualization in the morning and environmental activities through experiential learning, children will reenact the 'web of life.'

Field Trip to Belle Isle Nature Zoo

Activities will be led by experienced environmental educators. They are designed to increase awareness of environmental issues, as well as, ignite sensory awareness of nature.

Children will rotate through experiential activities that will include:

- * Bird Watching
- * Cloud Watching
- * Sensory nature walk – Unnatural Trail
- * Bike riding to the lighthouse on the isle
- * Team building – Toxic Waste
- * Field Games such as kick ball and relay races

Volunteers welcome!

Friday 1:00pm - 5:30pm – ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE PMA Cobo Hall: D3-28

Sharing frontline stories and strategies of people resisting polluting industries, creating zero waste communities, and helping each other win “Clean Air, Good Jobs & Justice”

Friday 6:30 – 9:00 Riverview Ballroom Plenary: Solutions, Alternatives and Visions

Lottie Spady, Associate Director of EMEAC will speak to crossing boundaries to make our visions a reality – from media justice to food security.

Saturday – Rally & March: SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 9AM. Start in front of Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward Avenue and end at the Detroit Incinerator.

Help us make history this summer!

Join us on Saturday, June 26 as we march for "Clean Air, Good Jobs, and Justice for All". We will march in support of Detroit and all other communities across the U.S. suffering environmental injustice.

Detroit is home to some of Michigan’s worst polluting facilities and vehicles. These include the Detroit Incinerator, Marathon Oil Refinery, DTE Energy, U.S. Steel Corp., heavy diesel traffic and much more. In addition Detroit’s children suffer at asthma rates 3x the rest in Michigan, and asthma-related deaths 5 times the state average. This is inexcusable and something must be done to clean up the city’s air.

We call for a mass demonstration at the Detroit Incinerator to push the Mayor to expand curbside recycling throughout Detroit – bringing new jobs and economic development to the city – and end incineration of Detroit’s trash! The demonstration will also address the many other air polluters in Detroit. You can help Mayor Bing decide to improve community health and economic resiliency—both major benefits to City residents. Join us in making history this summer. Contact Ahmina Maxey ahmina@emeac.org
Our actions will be nonviolent - respecting the safety, well-being and long-term resilience of local activists, their families, and communities

Work projects:

EMEAC organized over 25 work projects across the city of Detroit. An USSF participant that want to ensure their participation in the 2010 USSF respects and contributes to the local hosting effort can participate in a Work Project as part of their USSF experience. Registered participants of the US Social Forum will join Detroit community organizations in hands on projects that will

build local organizations and help further their on-the-ground work in Detroit. The work projects will take place during the middle three days of the USSF, June 23-25, 2010 at various locations throughout the city. Join one now! abc.ussf2010.org/brigades

Collaborating events:

Tar Sands workshop: Sierra Club, IEN, EMEAC Detroit, MI is home to the only oil refinery in Michigan and that refinery is preparing to accept tar sands oil from Canada. We will discuss: how the host communities of dirty energy producers are affected by global warming pollution and climate change; the connections between toxic emissions and health of residents living around heavy industry; how residents mobilize and get involved; and how to get state and federal regulators to take action and make change.

Wednesday – Permaculture workshop: Detroit Black Community Food Security Network, EMEAC Wed, and 06/23/2010 - 10:00am - 12:00pm

Wednesday Leadership in Environmental Justice Community Cobo Hall: DO-5B

Presentation of a short film, panel discussion and short Q&A. Video depicts the stories of two women in an EJ community that went through a SALTA program and acquired skills to transform their communities. A discussion about the role of leadership in attaining justice and about the skills that leaders must cultivate in order to achieve it.