



## How Gravel Mining Impacts Our Community – and Yours: *A Community Information Event*

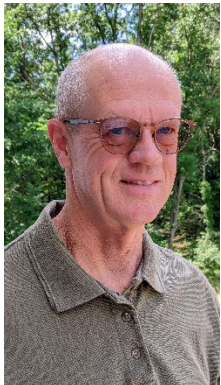
### About our Panelists

**MODERATOR: Lester Graham, Host and Reporter, “The Environment Report,” Michigan Radio**



Lester Graham reports for *The Environment Report* on Michigan Radio and his stories are often published by other media outlets. Between 1998 and 2010, he reported on the environment for a consortium of dozens of Great Lakes public radio stations and later for 160 stations across the nation. He then covered the Detroit bankruptcy, Michigan government policy issues, and race and gender inequity and hosted Michigan Radio’s *Stateside* talk show. In 2018, Lester returned to *The Environment Report*, covering a wide spectrum of environmental issues in Michigan and the Great Lakes region. He has been the recipient of 15 first place national awards for journalism excellence and more than 100 additional awards at the national, state, and regional levels.

**Larry Heslinga, Chair, Committee for Gravel Mining Concerns, Healthy Waters Alliance**



Larry Heslinga owns lakefront property on a small chain of lakes in Delton, MI where for the last two years a gravel mine has been seeking approval to mine 153 acres with 800 ft. of frontage on the largest lake in the chain. The committee views its primary role as providing the Township Planning Commission with detailed, verifiable information about the potential impacts of gravel mining. Through networking with other community organizations and by conducting its own research, the committee has provided the Township with solid information about the hazards of silica dust, the impact on property values, the potential threats to groundwater, and other Very Serious Consequences as defined by the MZEA.

**Donna Lasinski, State Representative, 52<sup>nd</sup> District, Michigan House Democratic Leader**



House Democratic Leader Donna Lasinski is currently serving her third term in the House of Representatives. She represents the 52<sup>nd</sup> District which encompasses northern and western Washtenaw County including Chelsea, Dexter, Manchester, Saline and Whitmore Lake. During her first term she took action to address water quality issues in her district, by winning stricter clean-up standards for 1,4-dioxane and co-sponsored legislation to set safe PFAS standards for drinking water. Rep. Lasinski served as the Minority Vice Chair of the House Energy Committee, as well as a member of the House Communications and Technology and Insurance Committees last term.



**Peter Psarouthakis, Supervisor, Sharon Township**



Peter Psarouthakis is a 20-year resident of Sharon Township, where he owns property and raised two children. Sharon Township is currently reviewing an application from a large multi-national corporation for a large aggregate mine. Peter was elected as Township Supervisor four times since 2011. As Supervisor, his goals include, among others, the protection of the township's farming heritage and natural resources; maintenance of a balanced budget and fiscally responsible government, and; accessibility to residents. He is a licensed professional investigator and is active in his profession as a consultant, public speaker and related legislative affairs.

**Megan Tinsley, Water Policy Director, Michigan Environmental Council**



Megan Tinsley helps defend Michigan's environment and human health by shaping water policy decisions in the state Capitol. She does so by researching, developing and analyzing policy proposals; by educating elected and state officials; by developing and executing strategy campaigns; and by advocating to protect Michigan's wetlands and waters. She also guides Michigan's government on water use and withdrawal policies as an appointee of the Water Use Advisory Council. Her background includes over twelve years of experience working on environmental issues for nonprofit organizations.

**Mike Wilczynski, Certified Professional Geologist, Pangea Environmental LLC**



Mike Wilczynski is a Certified Professional Geologist with over 40 years of experience throughout the US, Canada, and Colombia, SA, including a position as Senior Geologist with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. He has taught geology as an adjunct instructor at several colleges, including Macomb Community College, Wayne State University, and University of Michigan-Dearborn, and served on numerous professional association boards. Mike received the Virginia Prentice Award from the Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club for his work protecting Michigan's wilderness and public lands.

