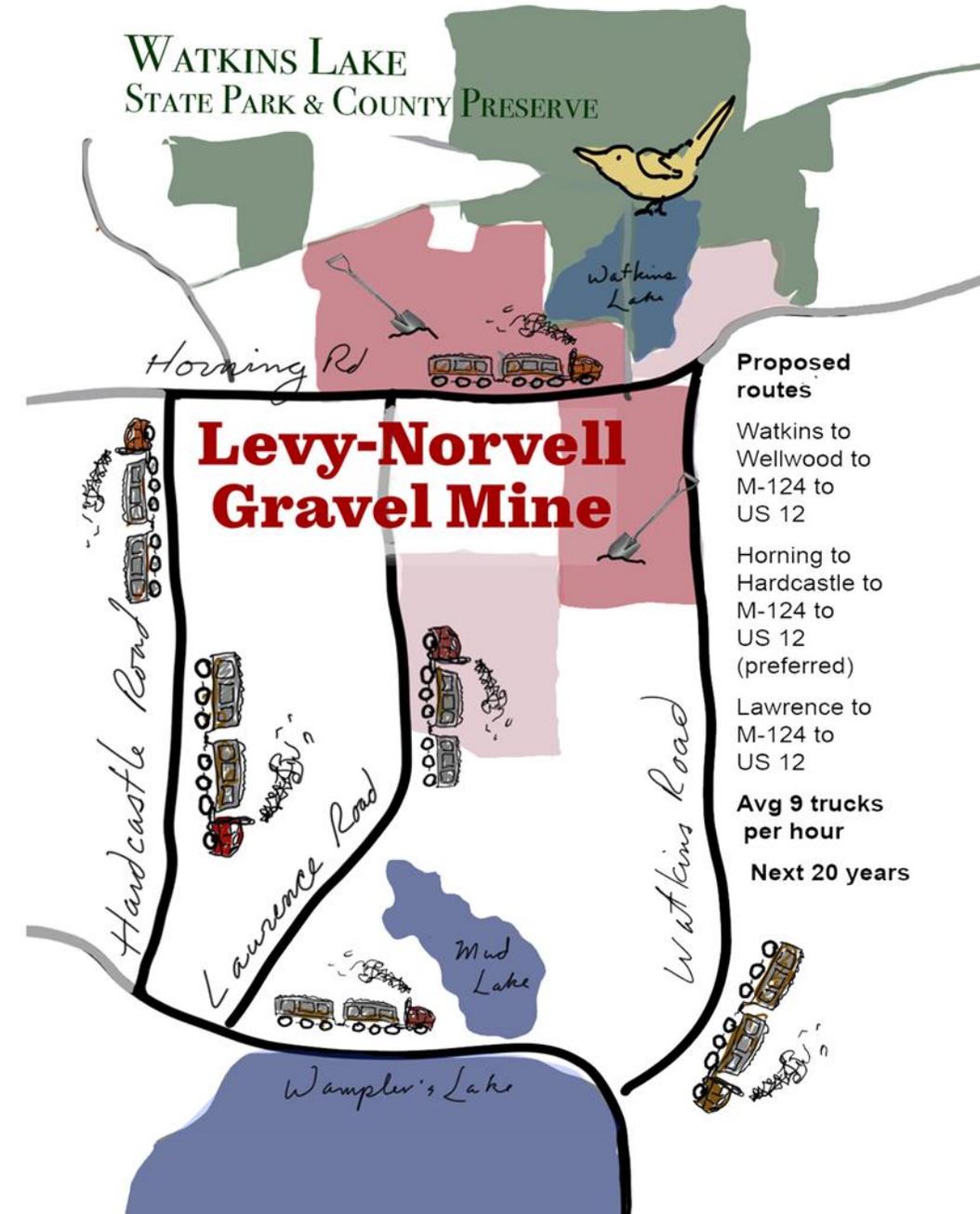


# Community Meeting On Proposed Norvell Township Gravel Mine

February 7, 2026

Irish Hills  
Concerned  
Citizens



# IHCC Board of Directors

Silas Bialecki, *Board member*

Andy Buchsbaum, *Vice President*

Joe Crisante, *Treasurer*

Linda Knox, *Secretary*

Sybil Kolon, *President*

# Agenda

## UPDATES

- Watkins Lake State Park and County Preserve- why it's so special
- Overview of the gravel mining proposal
- The review and decision process
- Potential impacts of the proposed mine
- Funding the work to resist the mine
- What you can do next

## ACTION

Work in a team: outreach, research, fundraising, and more

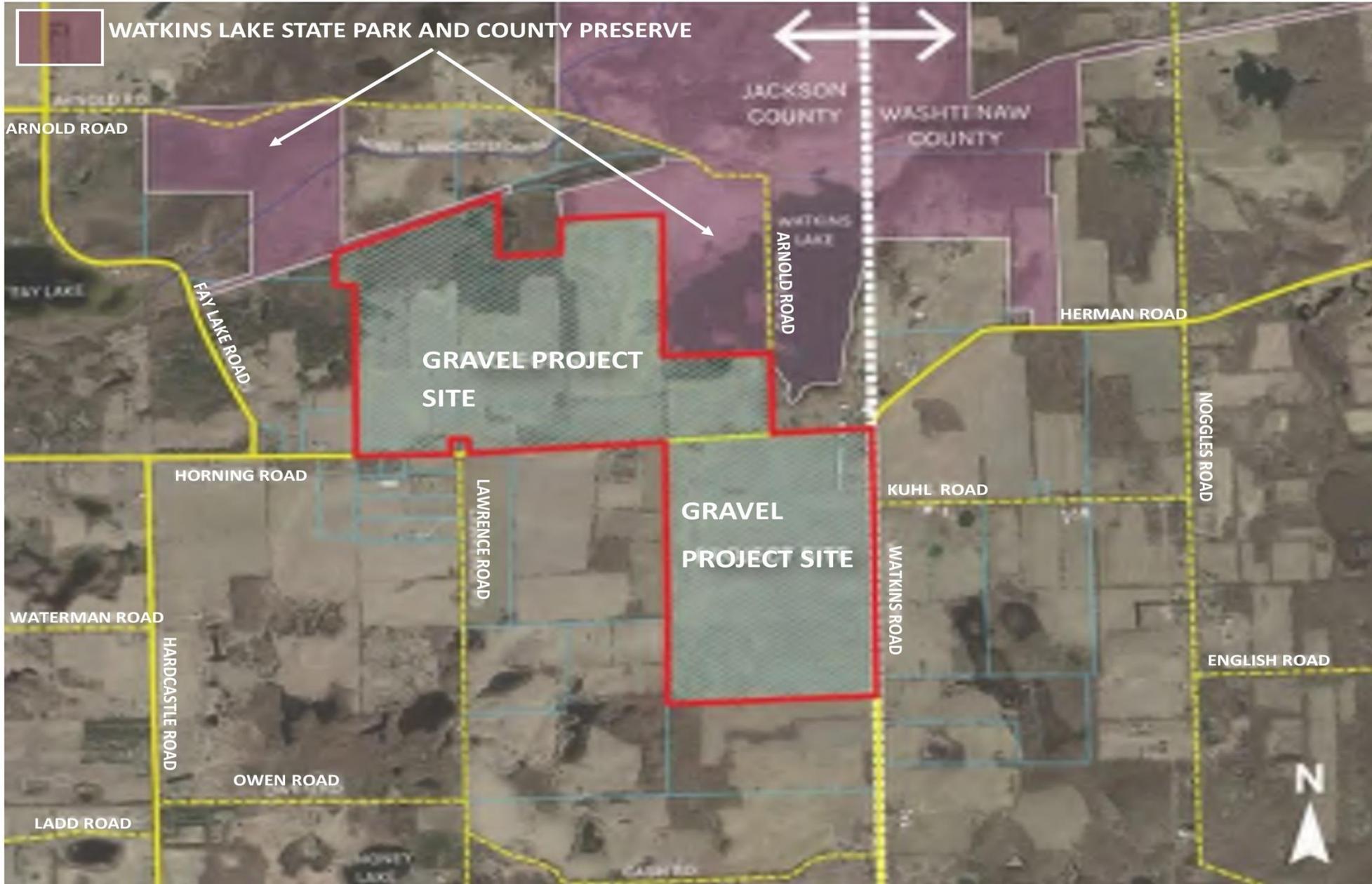




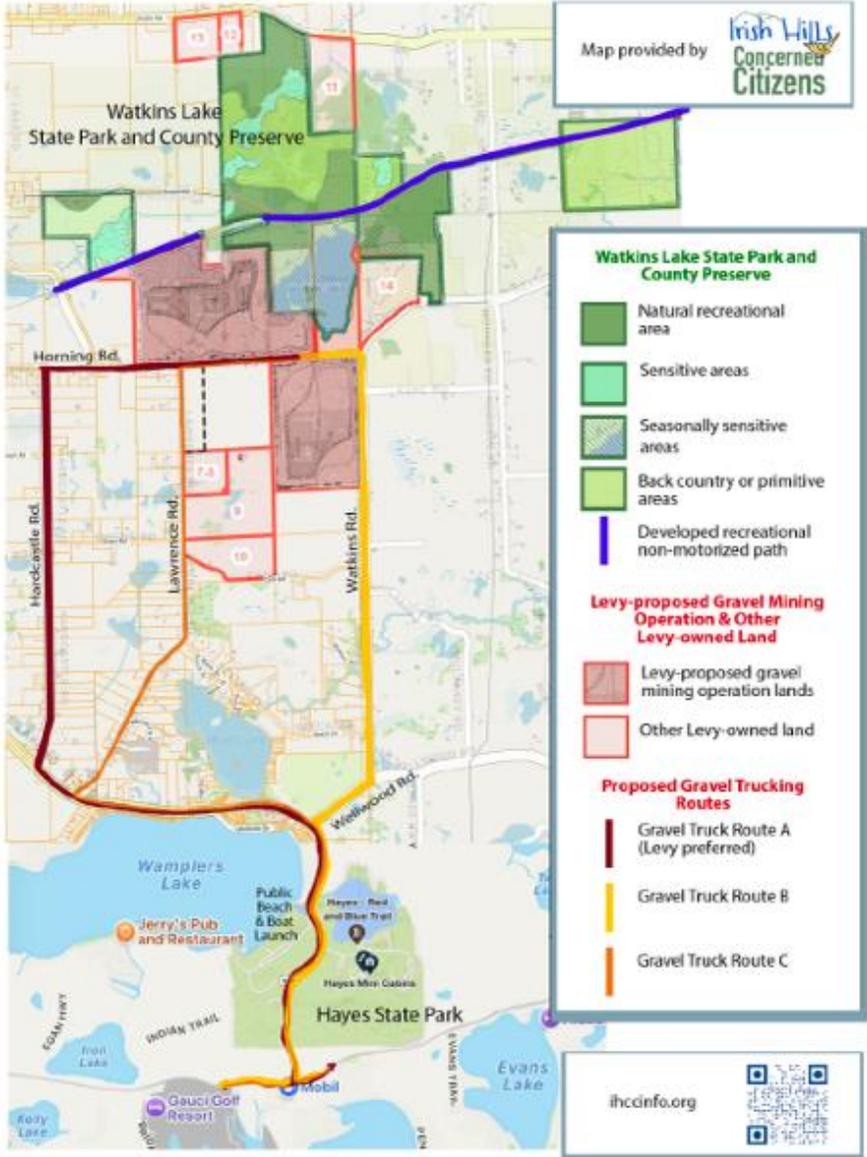




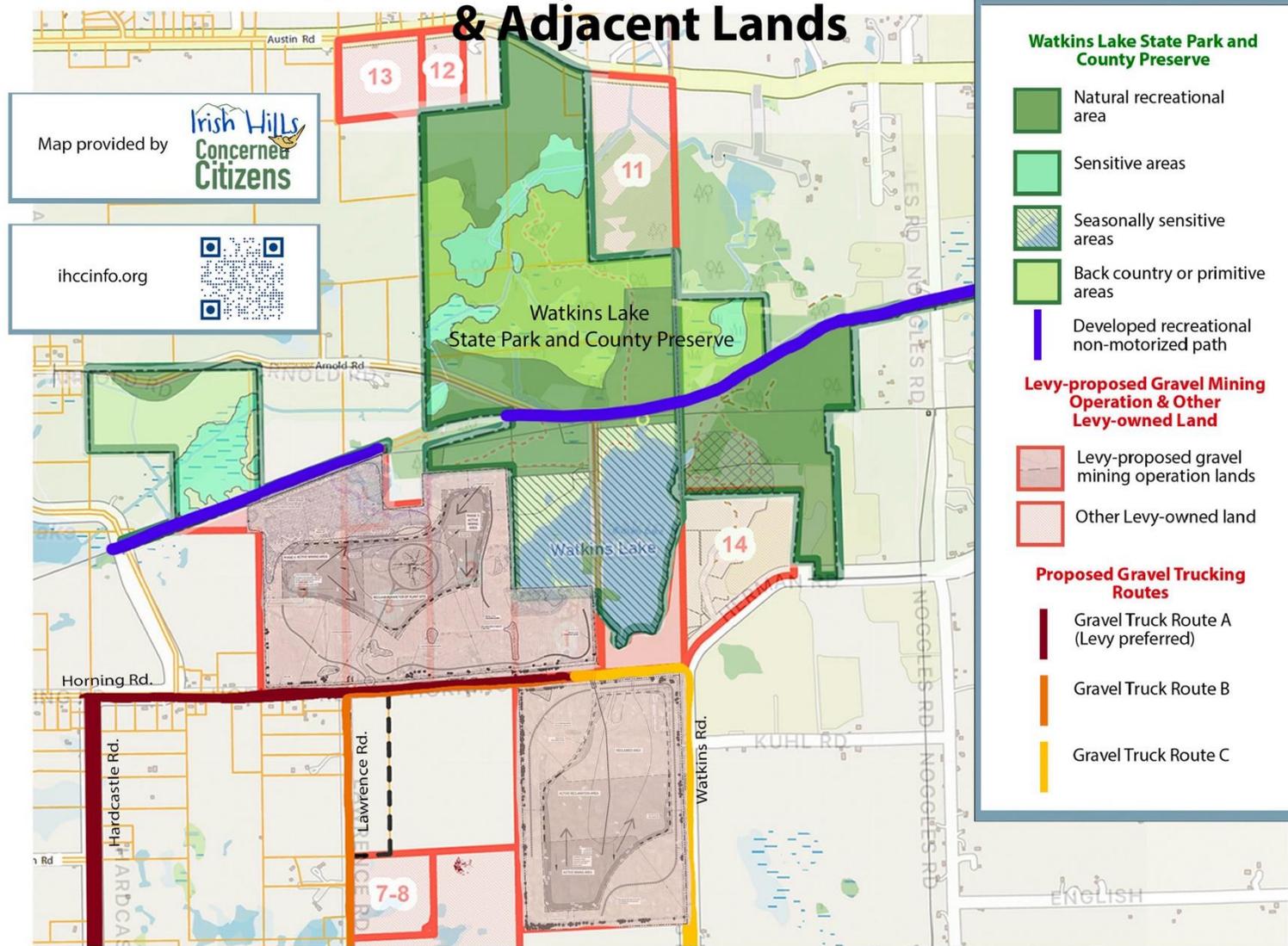
# The American Aggregates/Levy Gravel Mining Proposal



# Proposed Levy-Norvell Gravel Mine & Adjacent Lands



# Proposed Levy-Norvell Gravel Mine & Adjacent Lands



# The Mining Proposal

- 900 acres of land, 625 acres to be mined.
- Adjacent to Watkins Lake State Park and County Preserve
- Includes aggregate processor right next to Watkins Lake
- Will level the hills in the mining area
- 15-20 foot berms surrounding the mining area
- Haul routes: 18 trucks per hour, 5.5 days a week, 10-13 hours a day, for 20 years.

# The Decision Process

- Permit application submitted November 17
- Township consultant, GEI, produced flawed report Jan. 12
- GEI asked for more information from mining company
- Norvell Planning Commission will review the GEI report

# The Decision Process

## Need to confirm:

- PC will take comments and hold at least one public hearing
- PC will make recommendation on whether to approve the permit application to the Township Trustees
- Trustees will take comments and hold at least one public hearing
- Trustees will vote on whether to approve the permit application

# How will the Township decide whether to approve or deny the permit?

## Standards in the Norvell Township Ordinance:

1. “Need for the gravel in the market served by the applicant”
2. “No Very Serious Consequences”

# What is a “Very Serious Consequence?”

- a) The relationship of extraction and associated activities with existing land uses.
- b) The **impact on existing land uses in the vicinity of the property.**
- c) The **impact on property values** in the vicinity of the property and along the proposed hauling route serving the property, based on credible evidence.
- d) The **impact on pedestrian and traffic safety** in the vicinity of the property and along the proposed hauling route serving the property.
- e) The **impact on other identifiable health, safety, and welfare** interests in the local unit of government.
- f) The **overall public interest** in the extraction of the specific natural resources on the property.

**as defined by State Law**



# The Gravel Mine's Potential VSCs

## On Watkins Lake and the State Park

- Dust
- Noise
- Levelling of hills
- Birds
- Wildlife
- Endangered species
- Water pollution
- Traffic
- Wetlands
- Recreation

# The Gravel Mine's Potential VSCs

## General Impacts

- Traffic
- Property values
- Hayes State Park
- Economic loss
- Rural character
- Lake life

# Is there a need for gravel from this mine?

- Customer base identified in the mining application: **Romulus, Ann Arbor, Novi- 50 miles away from mine site**
- Mining application survey of gravel suppliers to those customers: **only 20 miles away, only 5 gravel suppliers**
- EGLE identifies the following gravel suppliers likely to be closer to those customers (thank you, Marty Godin!):
  - **119** in Washtenaw County
  - **101** in Livingston County
  - **26** in Wayne County
  - **232** in Oakland County
  - **37** in Monroe County

# Who's "we"?

IHCC is actively networking, consulting and organizing with

- 5 advocacy organizations
- 2 lake associations
- 2 municipal organizations
- 2 state legislators
- 1 dozen experts (or so)

*and*

**200+**

**individuals**

...so far

# If you'd care to donate

For:

- Legal fees
- Scientific analysis
- Printing & mailing
- Communications technology

Send a check to  
PO BOX 72  
Brooklyn 49230



# **Coming Soon!**

## **IHCC online donation page**

**Sign-up for updates  
@IHCCinfo.org**

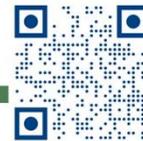


# PRESERVE THE PARKS

IF YOU  
DON'T MINE!

Irish Hills Concerned Citizens

[www.ihccinfo.org](http://www.ihccinfo.org)



Irish Hills  
Concerned  
Citizens

# WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW:

## 1. Contribute to our GoFundMe to print yard signs

- Suggested donation: \$10 per sign
- Donations help cover printing costs so we can get signs out quickly and widely

Details on how to donate and get a sign will be shared shortly.

# WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW:

## 2. Write a letter to the Township and/or the DNR

Everyone on our email list will receive an email this afternoon with step-by-step instructions.

- Norvell Township residents are being asked to write to the Norvell Township Board
- Michigan residents statewide are being asked to write to the Michigan DNR

These letters ask for a full, independent review **by the DNR** of the potential impacts of the mine on Watkins Lake State Park, including environmental, health, traffic, and community impacts.

# WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW:

## 3. Share your questions and ideas

- Use the provided cards to ask questions or leave comments, or email us through our website, [IHCCinfo.org](http://IHCCinfo.org)
- Let us know what concerns you most or where you'd like to help

# WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW:

## 4. Talk to your neighbors

Personal conversations are one of the most effective tools we have.

- Tell at least three neighbors about the proposed mine and its potential impacts
- Share all of the previously mentioned actions
- Remember all Michigan residents are constituents of the DNR

# WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW:

## 5. Join a committee

We are organizing volunteers into working committees to divide up the work and move quickly.

- Choose an area that matches your interests or skills
- No prior experience required

# For today's breakout committee meetings:

1) Community Outreach

2) Media Outreach

3) Fundraising

4) Legal and political outreach

5) Environmental research - habitats, hydrology, flora/fauna

6) Rural character - property values, historical sites, noise/vibration

7) Infrastructure – traffic, safety, haul routes, need for gravel

8) Health – dust/air quality, water pollution, sensory impacts

9) Park impacts – recreational & visitor impacts

10) Administration – coordinate volunteers, manage data, organize



[IHCCinfo.org](http://IHCCinfo.org).

[protectpark@ihccinfo.org](mailto:protectpark@ihccinfo.org)