



Friends of the Detroit River
2674 W. Jefferson, LL1
Trenton, MI 48183
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February, 2010

Dear friend of the Detroit River,

When we hosted Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s exciting visit in October of 2002, he challenged us with a vision to launch our own Riverkeeper program. Now, over seven years later, the Friends of the Detroit River, through its Detroit Riverkeeper program, is very involved in confronting the water quality issues affecting our river.

As most of you know, we hired the first "Detroit Riverkeeper," Bob Burns, to oversee the Riverkeeper program and to observe and address problems on and relating to the river. Bob has worked and played on the Detroit River his entire life. We are able to pay him, part time, to pursue his personal passion to protect the river. He is doing an outstanding job as Riverkeeper. Many of you have seen him at meetings, on patrol on the river, speaking to local groups, and seen his columns and letters to local newspapers. His river patrols have taken him all over the entire river, seeing the problems first hand. He has also enlisted sportsmen, students, and other citizens to be the eyes and ears of the Riverkeeper.

In 2005, we undertook the task of raising the money needed to purchase and outfit a dedicated Riverkeeper boat for Bob's river patrols. Thanks to the generosity of many individuals like you, along with such organizations as the Norcross Foundation and the Trenton Rotary Club, we were able to purchase our Riverkeeper boat, motor, and trailer, and get it out on the river. The Riverkeeper boat has been an indispensable tool in the work the Riverkeeper program does in observing, reporting, and working on issues that are affecting the water quality of our Detroit River.

This year we are continuing our "Keep the Boat Afloat" fundraising campaign. We are looking to you again for continuing support of the Riverkeeper program. With your help, the Riverkeeper program can continue to have the high visibility impact it has had in the past. The first event of the campaign is a dinner at the Wyandotte Boat Club on March 27th. We hope you can support the Riverkeeper program this year with a generous donation and by purchasing tickets to the Riverkeeper dinner, and enjoy a pleasant dinner and evening with friends, at the Boat Club's banquet room overlooking the Detroit River.

Please consider this request carefully. The Riverkeeper program is vital to the mission of the Friends of the Detroit River. Its successes would not have been possible without your support, and we look to you again to help us achieve future success. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

David Howell, Chairman

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