

## **Benzie County Water Festival**

Dear Friend of the Water,

You are cordially invited to join forces with the 2011 Benzie County Water Festival team. We'd like to offer you the opportunity to support our unique event designed to engage the public in the stewardship of the Great Lakes, the response to the global freshwater crisis, and the cultivation of a vibrant and sustainable local culture.



### **ABOUT THE FESTIVAL**

The Benzie County Water Festival seeks to attract, entertain, educate and activate individuals and groups within the community. The first Benzie County Water Festival will take place (in and around the Frankfort area) on Saturday, March 19th. The festivities will proudly feature world-class Michigan musicians, speeches from water luminaries, interactive multimedia projects and presentations, artisan foods and beverages, workshops, visual art, theater and dance, children's activities, an ice fishing contest and connections to campaigns and projects to protect our water locally and address global challenges. The event is co-sponsored by the Benzie Conservation District.

This is a family-oriented, community-centered event that has been met with great excitement all over the state and has fostered education, engagement, and networking in a rare and valuable way. Through our fundraising efforts, we will work hard to ensure that the Benzie County Water Festival is affordable and open to the public, however donations are encouraged and greatly appreciated.

### **HISTORY**

The first Michigan Water Festival was held on the Straits in Mackinaw City in August of 2006 and drew in approximately 500 people from all over the state. Festival goers enjoyed delicious foods from local farms, kayaking excursions, tables representing a dozen non-profits, a youth art booth, speeches about the threats of pollution, diversion and privatization, workshops on rain gardens and constructed wetlands, and a full bill of Michigan's favorite folk, blues, country, and jazz musicians. The following year, they experienced an overwhelming response to the first Grand Rapids Water Festival, with some 1,500 attendees enjoying performances by 10 bands and being inspired by as many speakers.

### **SPONSORSHIP / HOW YOU CAN HELP**

Would you like to invest in Benzie County with a contribution to the Benzie County Water Festival? The event is organized and staffed by volunteers, but your contribution will help pay for facilities, musicians, food, promotions, and all of the necessary ingredients that make a festival successful.

We wish to recognize our sponsors in a multitude of ways. We focus attention to our sponsors with banners and posters, by verbally acknowledging their commitment and contributions on stage, and on the Internet, via music, environmental and business-oriented websites.

We wish to affiliate ourselves with organizations that share a common vision in protecting Benzie County's water resources.

**ACTION**

To become a sponsor, please fill out the attached form and mail us a check, or make a donation online at our website: [www.water-festival.org](http://www.water-festival.org).

We very much hope to work with you to present and promote Benzie County and the first Benzie County Water Festival. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Benzie County Water Festival

## Benzie County Water Festival Sponsorship Levels



**Please make checks out to: *Benzie Community Water Council***

Business / Name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contribution Level:**

STREAM (amount): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

RIVER (amount): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

LAKE (amount): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check Payable to: Benzie Community Water Council

Mail to: Benzie Community Water Council

670 Crystal Ave.

Frankfort, Michigan

49635

[www.Water-Festival.org](http://www.Water-Festival.org) | (231) 715-1899