

## Natural Resources Report 2015-2016

The Benzie Unit of the LWVGTA has sponsored two forums this past year:

In March Liz Kirkwood, Executive Director of **FLOW (For the Love of Water)**, gave a convincing program on “REASONS TO SHUT DOWN ENBRIDGE’S “LINE 5” PIPELINE IN THE STRAITS. Her handout provided listeners with specific threats to water in Lakes Huron and Michigan caused by the aging pipeline that daily carries 22 million gallons of oil and gas through an area designated by a U of M study as “the worst possible place for an oil spill.” We are responding to a request from LWVMI to persuade our County and Township boards to pass a resolution requesting Attorney General Schuette and Governor Snyder to shut the pipeline down now to allow for necessary repair. To date, 37 Michigan government bodies—including Traverse City and Frankfort-- have passed resolutions.

In May we are sponsoring a forum on the Solar Energy Initiative Program offered by Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities, formerly The Michigan Land Use Institute.

Mary Lee Orr