

AWARENESS

This spring, the Mother Earth Water Walkers will walk from four directions, across Turtle Island, carrying four copper pails of four salt waters to Bad River, Wisconsin on the shores of Lake Superior, the very beginning place of the Walk that started it all.

In 2003, the Water Walkers walked around Lake Superior. For 7 years they walked, 11,525 mi, 18,549 km, around the Great Lakes and up the St. Lawrence seaway. Each of their 24,113,700 steps was a prayer for the water, for mother earth, for the animals, the birds, the insects, the trees and for us, all the two leggeds. Together the walks were one prayer for life.

The walks were inspired by one word -- if. In 2000, Eddie Benton-Benai, Grand Chief of the Three Fires Midewiwin Society prophesied that 30 years from now, if we continue our negligence, an ounce of water will cost the same as an ounce of gold. If... this word inspired the Water Walkers in answer to the question, what will you do?

Grandmothers stood up, encouraging Anishinabe women to pick up their bundles, their work as women, life givers, to carry the water, the life-giving blood of our mother the earth. Then Anishinabe men stood up to take on their role, their responsibility to protect the women, carrying the staff, walking side by side with the women who carry the water.

All the Water Walks are spiritual as well as physical journeys. The walks call our attention to the sacred gift of water, the source of our life, of all life. They also raise awareness of the need to take care of the water, to help our Mother Earth who is struggling to survive and to provide for all her children.

The Mother Earth Water Walk 2011 will bring four healing salt waters to converge with the waters of the Great Lakes, Mother Earth's largest fresh water system. The Water Walkers are encouraging all nations of turtle island, particularly the youth and all of our relations to get involved in and support the Water Walk 2011.

What will you do?

CONTACTS

ELDER

Josephine Mandamin
josephine.mandamin@gmail.com

COORDINATOR, MAILING LIST

Joanne Robertson
waterwalk2011@gmail.com

EAST

Madeleine T. Huntjens
madohuntjens@gmail.com

SOUTH

Sharon Day
651.325.8077
smarieday@aol.com

Tara Chadwick
wabigun@yahoo.com

WEST

Violet Caibaosai
mkwa_quay@yahoo.ca

Josephine Mandamin
josephine.mandamin@gmail.com

NORTH

Debby Danard (Churchill)
416.985.2156
dddanard@hotmail.com

Josephine Mandamin (Churchill)
josephine.mandamin@gmail.com

Sue Chiblow (Churchill)
705.942.3100
sue@coo.org

Mookii Morrison (Winnipeg to Fort Frances)
chyrelmorrison@hotmail.com

Esie Leoso-Corbine (Duluth to Bad River)
715.292.0009
e_leoso@yahoo.com



**Ni guh Izhi chigay Nibi onji
I will do it for the water.**

WEST

- April 10 Aberdeen, Washington
SEND OFF
- April 11 Olympia, Washington
- April 15 Leavenworth, Washington
- April 19 Spokane, Washington
- April 22 St. Regis, Montana
- April 25 Whitefish, Montana
- April 29 Shelby, Montana
- May 2 Havre, Montana
- May 5 Malta, Montana
- H May 9 Cadillac, Saskatchewan
- O May 12 Assiniboia, Saskatchewan
- R May 16 Weyburn, Saskatchewan
- S May 20 Pipestone, Manitoba
- E May 23 Killarney, Manitoba
- S May 27 Emerson, Manitoba
- May 30 Grand Forks, North Dakota
- May 31 Crookston, Minnesota
- June 3 Bemidji, Minnesota
- June 6 Grand Rapids, Minnesota
- June 9 Duluth, Minnesota
- June 12 Bad River, Wisconsin

63 overnights

SOUTH

- April 20 Gulfport, Mississippi SEND OFF
Jackson, Mississippi
Memphis, Tennessee
St. Louis, Illinois
Dubuque, Iowa
- June 12 Bad River, Wisconsin

53 overnights



EAST

- May 7 Machias, Maine SEND OFF
- May 7 Bangor, Maine
- May 8 Skowhegan, Maine
- May 9-10 Armstrong, Quebec
- May 11 Vallee Jonction
- May 12 Levis, Quebec
- May 13 Victoriaville, Quebec
- May 14 Drummondville, Quebec
- May 15 Longueuil, Quebec
- May 16 Montreal, Quebec
- May 17, 18 Cornwall, Ontario
- May 19, 20 Ottawa, Ontario
- May 21 Pembroke, Ontario
- May 22 Deep River, Ontario
- May 23 Stonecliffe, Ontario
- May 24 Mattawa, Ontario
- May 25 North Bay, Ontario
- May 26, 27 Sudbury, Ontario
- May 28 McKerrow, Ontario
- May 29 Serpent River, Ontario
- May 30 Thessalon, Ontario
- May 31, June 1 Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
- June 2, 3 Newberry, Michigan
- June 4, 5 Munising, Michigan
- June 6, 7 Marquette, Michigan
- June 8 Ishpeming, Michigan
- June 9 Ironwood, Michigan
- June 12 Bad River, Wisconsin

36 overnights

NORTH

- May 21 Churchill, Manitoba send off.
- May 23 Winnipeg, Manitoba
- May 24 Richer, Manitoba
- May 25 Hadashville, Manitoba
- May 26 Falcon Lake,
- May 27 Royal Lake
- May 28 Kenora, Ontario (PIPE + SONG)
- May 29 Sioux Narrows
- May 30 Nestor Falls
- June 1 Manitou Rapids, International Falls, MN
- June 7 Duluth, Minnesota
- June 12 Bad River, Wisconsin

20 overnights

Ways you and your community can support Mother Earth Water Walk 2011:

Everyone can support the Water Walk 2011 by:

- Being aware of the significance of water and acting upon that awareness
- Raising awareness about Water Walk 2011
- Involving youth in all your efforts

Communities on the Water Walk 2011 route can support the walk by:

- welcoming the Water Walkers in your territories
- organizing feasts, gatherings, press conferences and/or other events
- identifying a lead contact person to coordinate communications between the Water Walkers and event organizers in your area
- providing food, lodging, laundry facilities, gas for vehicles and/or water to refill drinking containers from your sacred water sources

Other communities, groups and/or individuals can support the Water Walk 2011 by:

- Organizing local fundraising efforts or drives for supplies (updated supply lists are available on our Water Walk 2011 facebook group and through email from waterwalk2011@gmail.com)
- Donating supplies and/or financial resources
- Becoming a Support Walker

One ongoing fundraising effort is the "I Support the Mother Earth Water Walkers One Step at a Time" Campaign. Water Walkers will be taking over 10,400,000 steps to complete Mother Earth Water Walk 2011. The goal is to raise one copper penny for every step the Water Walkers take, providing 104,000 dollars to support the efforts of Water Walk 2011. Anyone can collect copper pennies and say, "I support the Mother Earth Water Walkers, one step at a time!"

Email Money Transfers (Can + US) can be emailed to: waterwalk2011@gmail.com

Cheques can be made to: Mother Earth Water Walk and mailed to:

Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig
Attn: Joanne Robertson, Coordinator
1550 Queen St. E.
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
P6A 2G3

Direct Deposit: Northern Credit Union
14492 828 0161405641