

# VOTE FOR THE PEOPLE 2024 UPDATE REPORT

CELDF

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## VOTE FOR THE PEOPLE

The reality TV-like atmosphere of politics, rising costs for everything, the continuation of unjust wars, the fury of the planet responding to human inflicted pain, can drive one to bury one's head in the sand. Another option is to embrace the chaos and try to make something positive out of it. At CELDF we are heavily invested in the potential of changing course towards something better rather than descending into escapism or despair.

CELDF's 2024 "Vote for the People!" Update Report is about CELDF, but also about the fact that all potential for deep change comes from us - not the system, not the politicians, and definitely not the corporate powerbrokers. It comes from We the People! We are constantly working to assist communities in becoming more resistant to the threats and more resilient in their capabilities to support themselves and protect the natural environment where they live.

In "Vote for the People!" you'll find short highlights, teasers of CELDF happenings to come, and an ask for support.

**CAST A VOTE FOR YOURSELF,  
NATURE AND CELDF!**

## RECKONING WITH THE TRUTH

Hear more voices/ideas from CELDF's Truth, Reckoning, and Right Relationship (TRRR) gatherings on [CELDF's YouTube Channel](#).



*In killing our relatives in the natural world we are killing ourselves.*

**Will Falk**



*Which story inspires us and moves us to act?*

**Carol De Angelo**



*The confrontation with power is actually where the change happens.*

**Max Wilbert**



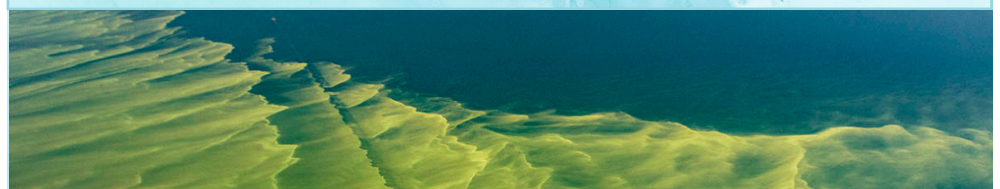
*You are always in relationship to the water inside you. Are you talking to that water?*

**Summer Garcia**

CELDF is working on a guidebook (coming early 2025) for hosting your own TRRR gathering and ways to use the TRRR framework to ground and then propel effective community resistance + resilience.

## TEN YEARS AND COUNTING IN THE FIGHT FOR LAKE ERIE

Most of us wake up to a cup of coffee and a shower, but in the summer of 2014 the people of Toledo, Ohio woke up to a "don't drink, don't use" the water warning. Last month CELDF highlighted the saga of the algae bloom that sparked a global surge in rights of nature in, "[The Killing of Lake Erie and Discovering Right Relationship Ten Years Later.](#)" The ongoing reality of Lake Erie and the story of the Lake Erie Bill of Rights is a great example of how CELDF and the communities it partners with embrace the chaos and keep building to push forward.

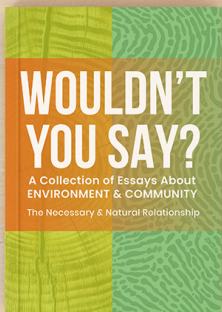


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## CELDF'S WOULDN'T YOU SAY? BOOK - COMING FALL 2024!



Over the last two years CELDF has been challenging readers with its "Wouldn't You Say?" series to think about everything from the power of

property to rights of nature to free speech to community action. We've received lots of positive comments on these blogs so we decided to compile them into a book. If you aren't on our email list or following CELDF on social media, get connected so you'll be notified when the book becomes available later this fall. Could be a great gift for someone you want to share ideas with?

## STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

### Indian tribes and Municipalities as Natural Allies

"The entire American real property system is built on land stolen from Native peoples and would collapse if that land was returned to Native peoples. Empowering municipalities to reject harmful corporate projects would upend the legal mandate to maximize shareholder wealth. Judges and politicians are fully aware of this. And, they're not going to be persuaded to change the dominant power arrangement. The good news is persuasion is only one way to create change." - Excerpt from the CELDF article "[Tribal Sovereignty, White Man's Reservations, and the Need for Tribal-Municipal Solidarity To Protect Our Collective Future](#)"

At CELDF we don't shy away from difficult or uncomfortable conversations. With this piece we dig into the systemic reality of tribes and local governments including why they have more in common than may be realized.



## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025

The planet is said to be in the midst of its sixth mass extinction. To state it more crudely, the shit is real and for the sake of humans and all we are connected to, we best adapt and dramatically change course. Look for a new critique by CELDF of what is and what needs to be, based on 30 years of experiences - in writing and through videos - the need to grow community resistance + resilience at the community level outside of the contours of the system.

The systems we have are killing us and the planet. Isn't it past time to kill off the bad systems and usher in right relationship with nature and each other?



## SUPPORT CELDF

At CELDF we recognize that it's been a brutal summer with all the realities we highlighted in this update. And who knows what challenges will be coming post election day in November. We understand facing difficulties in the moment, but we've also always been

about looking ahead and undertaking the hard work of changing the underpinnings that have gotten us in this mess.

[A donation to CELDF](#) is not only a vote of confidence for us, but it's a vote for yourself in acknowledging that together we can make good things happen

just like we have for the past 30 years.

Our community members and supporters are who motivate us to keep questioning and evolving. We'll make your dollars go a long way.

**Thanks for the support!**