

**CMS LAND COMPANY ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT
OF LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY PROTECTION FUND**

PETOSKEY, Mich., Oct. 29, 2010 – CMS Land Company today announced that it is making an initial commitment of \$250,000 to establish the Little Traverse Bay Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund.

CMS Land Company President and Petoskey native David Mengebier made the announcement in a ceremony this morning at the Little Traverse Regional Historical Museum in Petoskey.

“As we near the end of our environmental efforts at Bay Harbor and East Park, CMS Land desires to remain a part of the community and a steward for the care of Little Traverse Bay,” said Mengebier. “The establishment of this fund is a way to build on our environmental efforts and create a lasting legacy that will protect and enhance the bay.”

Mengebier noted that the gift is an invitation for the communities surrounding Little Traverse Bay to support the project and help protect the bay and its watershed for generations to come. CMS Land will make another \$250,000 grant next year if the original grant is matched by others. Formal fund raising efforts will commence in the spring of 2011.

The Little Traverse Bay Watershed covers approximately 174 square miles and includes Walloon and Bay Harbor lakes, the Bear River, and several tributaries, including Tannery and Five Mile creeks.

The Little Traverse Bay Watershed Protection Plan will serve as a guiding document for the fund. The plan was developed by an advisory committee comprising numerous local agencies and organizations. The full plan is available by visiting the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council’s website at www.watershedcouncil.org.

Some of the main goals of the plan and fund are to improve both warm and cold water fishing by reducing inputs of contaminants; protect and restore wetlands and vegetation along rivers and streams to provide shade and wildlife cover; and to ensure safe recreation by protecting water quality.

Cleaning our shore. Protecting our bay.

LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT

The fund will be established at the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation. It will be overseen and decisions will be made at the local level, not by CMS Land or environmental regulators.

CMS Land has worked for the past five years on the Little Traverse Bay Environmental Project and achieved significant environmental progress.

The company has installed a variety of remedies to stop groundwater with high alkalinity from reaching the Little Traverse Bay. Those remedies, which have been tested and proven effective at other similar sites, have produced excellent environmental results.

East Park and Bay Harbor were reclaimed from the site of an abandoned limestone quarry and cement factory covering 1,200 acres and five miles of Lake Michigan shoreline. The brownfield site was redeveloped in 1994 and was the largest reclamation project in North America.

Although no longer a partner in the project that redeveloped the abandoned site, CMS Land agreed to address certain environmental issues associated with the cement dust left behind by the former cement plant.

CMS Land is a subsidiary of CMS Energy. CMS Energy is a Michigan-based company that has an electric and natural gas utility, Consumers Energy, as its primary business and also owns and operates independent power generation businesses.

CMS Land is separate from Consumers Energy and no utility funds are used to pay for the Little Traverse Bay Environmental Project.

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For more information about the work done at the Little Traverse Bay Environmental Project, please visit: www.protectingourbay.com

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