



Making Waves

Membership Edition

February 2nd, 2016

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In a time of crisis, Mayors helping Mayors

Residents of Flint, Michigan continue to face high levels of lead in their drinking water, and Great Lakes mayors are stepping up to help during this time of crisis. The Cities of Sarnia, Windsor, and Hamilton, Ontario, as well as Evanston, Illinois, have donated bottled water or monetary funds to help with relief efforts. The three Ontarian cities have close ties to Flint - Hamilton is Flint's Canadian sister city, and both Sarnia and Windsor's junior hockey league teams frequently compete against Flint's junior league team. Said Mayor Mike Bradley of Sarnia, "This isn't just being a good neighbour. We've always reached out in times of turmoil and tragedy to other communities, so this is just part of that." The Cities Initiative has offered its assistance to Mayor Karen Weaver of Flint, and we continue to look for ways that the organization can best assist cities facing similar issues, both in the short-term and in the long-term.

Read more about how [Sarnia](#), [Windsor](#), [Hamilton](#), and [Evanston](#) are working to assist Flint residents.

The [United Way of Genessee County](#) accepts monetary donations to provide bottled water to Flint residents.

2016 Annual Meeting: Save the Date!

The 2016 Annual Meeting will take place June 15-17 in Niagara Falls, NY. Registration details will be announced soon. Come and enjoy the natural wonders of the area and hear about best practices and solutions to make our region better. We look forward to seeing many of you in June!

Events and Webinars

<p>Invasive Phragmites: Best Management Practices Presented by the Ontario Invasive Plant Council Panelist: Janice Gilbert</p>	<p>Wednesday, February 3rd. 11 am Central / 12pm Eastern. Click here to register.</p>
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Funding Opportunities: U.S. and Canada

<p>Five Star Urban Water Restoration Program (U.S.): Funding to improve water quality, watersheds, and associated species and habitats through diverse community partnerships.</p>	<p>Proposals due February 3rd, 2016.</p> <p>Visit www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/2016RFP.aspx for more information.</p>
<p>Sustain Our Great Lakes (U.S. and Canada): Funding for projects that restore and protect stream and riparian habitat and coastal wetlands.</p>	<p>Pre-proposals due February 17th, 2016.</p> <p>Visit www.sustainourgreatlakes.org for more information.</p>
<p>Great Lakes Fishery Trust (U.S.): Funding for programs under its Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Fish Populations: Habitat Protection and Restoration grant areas</p>	<p>Submissions under current RFP due March 8, 2016</p> <p>Visit www.glft.org.</p>

Membership

Please join the 121 Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative members in protecting and restoring the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River by clicking [here](#) for a membership application. If you are already a member, please encourage your neighboring communities to join, and be sure to renew your membership when you receive your notice.

If your municipality would like to share news with the Cities Initiative, please email information to Laura Bretheim at laura.bretheim@glslcities.org

