



Making Waves

Membership Edition

April 5, 2016

In this edition of Making Waves:

[*New Cities Initiative Member*](#)

[*Thank you to Mayor MacDonald*](#)

[*Register Now for Annual Meeting!*](#)

[*Mayor Barrett Announces IWA Presence and Milwaukee Water Commitment*](#)

[*New, Clean Water Technologies Supported in Milwaukee*](#)

[*Ontario Technical Report on the Waukesha Diversion Application*](#)

[*Comments Sought On the Consultation Draft of the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy*](#)

[*Great Lakes Coalition Urges Continuation of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative*](#)

[*February 2016 Global Temperatures Sets New Record*](#)

[*Ontario's Great Lakes Strategy 2016 Progress Report*](#)

[*White House Water Summit*](#)

[*Events and Webinars*](#)

New Cities Initiative Member

The Cities Initiative welcomes the City of Oregon, OH and Mayor Mike Sefarian to the membership!

Thank you to Mayor MacDonald

The Cities Initiative would like to thank Mayor Larry MacDonald of Bayfield, WI for his commitment to the Cities Initiative and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River during his tenure in office as mayor of Bayfield. Mayor MacDonald has chosen not to seek reelection in the upcoming municipal election. We wish Mayor MacDonald the best of luck in his next endeavor!

Register Now for Annual Meeting!

[Registration](#) is now open for the Cities Initiative 2016 Annual Meeting in Niagara Falls, NY June 15-17, 2016. Panel topics include climate change adaptation, mitigation and innovation; safe drinking water in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence; algal bloom and nutrient threats; phragmites; and municipal green urbanism and sustainability initiatives. We look forward to seeing everyone in Niagara Falls in June!

Mayor Barrett Announces IWA Presence and Milwaukee Water Commitment

In conjunction with the White House Water Summit on March 22, 2016, Mayor Tom Barrett announced that the International Water Association (IWA) is establishing its North American Regional Office at the [Global Water Center](#) in Milwaukee. The IWA is the leading global network of water professionals working to deliver equitable and sustainable water management worldwide. As part of its commitment to the White House Water Summit, the City of Milwaukee also announced a new formalized partnership with The Water Council, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Marquette University. Together, these institutions will:

- Build and/or attract over 75 water-focused entrepreneurs and small businesses to Milwaukee over the next five years.
- Train up to 400 students annually with water-focused education qualifications through Milwaukee-area universities.
- Implement the Alliance for Water Stewardship International Water Stewardship Standard at 10% of the businesses in the Milwaukee region by working with the local private sector.
- Collaborate on practical water research, using the MetroLab framework, to address municipal and global water challenges

For more information, please

visit <http://thewatercouncil.com/media/blog/milwaukee-commits-to-a-sustainable-water-future-at-white-house-water-summit/>.

New, Clean Water Technologies Supported in Milwaukee

The Water Council, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) and the Fund for Lake Michigan (FFLM) recently announced two winners that best align with The Water Council's Pilot Deployment Program's goal to address

integrated water solutions through innovation, application and demonstration, while maintaining a cost-efficient, scalable and deployable model:

- Veolia Water Milwaukee / OptiRTC, Inc. (Milwaukee, WI / Boston, MA) - Rain:Net powered by Opti will actively control and monitor stormwater discharge from Green Infrastructure based on sensor and satellite data and weather forecast information.
- Solar Water Works (Madison, WI) - Utilizing a solar-powered, catalytic oxidation process for stormwater disinfection, Solar Water Works will measure reaction rate constants for disinfection of two types of bacteria.

In August 2015, The Water Council announced a partnership with MMSD and FFLM that would provide \$600,000 in joint funding over two years to advance new, clean water technologies through the Pilot Program. The Pilot Program catalyzes companies and professionals that are developing new products to be able to bring these new innovations to market quicker.

Ontario Technical Report on the Waukesha Diversion Application

Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry recently presented its Technical Review of the Waukesha water diversion application. The report highlights significant concerns from the Government of Ontario regarding the water supply service area, the assessment of cumulative impacts on the Great Lakes and the lack of evaluation of other alternatives by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The full Ontario Technical Review is available publicly at: <http://www.waukeshadiversion.org/technicalreviews/>.

Comments Sought On the Consultation Draft of the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy

Since 2010, the Canadian government is equipped with a sustainable development strategy, offering Canadians a view of federal environmental priorities as well as the objectives, targets and implementation strategies for some 30 governmental agencies and ministries. This strategy was revised and improved in 2013, paving the way for this year's presentation of the 2016-2019 strategy. Thus, since February 2016, a consultation draft of the Strategy is available to the general public and comments will be received by the federal government until June 24, 2016, at by [clicking here](#).

Great Lakes Coalition Urges Continuation of Great Lakes

Restoration Initiative

The Cities Initiative recently joined the Great Lakes Commission, the Healing Our Waters Coalition, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority, the Council of Great Lakes Industries, and the Great Lakes Metro Chambers Coalition in calling on congressional leaders to support bipartisan legislation that authorizes the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. GLRI efforts have been underway since 2010, funded annually by the program's inclusion in the President's budget and with broad bipartisan support from Congress. The bills approved by House and Senate committees and now awaiting floor consideration will remove the annual uncertainty and help ensure continued support for the program by the next administration.

February 2016 Global Temperatures Sets New Record

NOAA recently announced that the globally averaged temperature over land and ocean surfaces for February 2016 was the highest for the month of February in the NOAA global temperature dataset record, which dates back to 1880. It was the highest departure from average among all 1,646 months in the record. The December-February temperature was also the highest for the season and highest departure from average for any 3-month period on record. This [monthly summary](#), developed by scientists at [NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information](#), is part of the suite of climate services NOAA provides to government, business, academia and the public to support informed decision-making. For more information, please visit <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/global/201602>.

Ontario's Great Lakes Strategy 2016 Progress Report

The Ontario Great Lakes Ministers recently released the Great Lakes Strategy 2016 Progress Report. Under the Great Lakes Protection Act, 2015, Ontario is committed to reporting on progress every three years. The First Progress Report represents the actions across 14 different Great Lakes ministries and numerous partners, including First Nation and Métis communities, municipalities, conservation authorities, environmental organizations, the science community, and the industrial, agricultural, recreational and tourism sectors. To read the report, visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontarios-great-lakes-strategy-2016-progress-report>.

White House Water Summit

On March 22, 2016, in conjunction with United Nations World Water Day, the Administration hosted a White House Water Summit to raise awareness of water issues and potential solutions in the United States, and to catalyze ideas and actions to help build a sustainable and secure water future through innovative science and technology. The event brought together representatives from Federal, State, regional, local and tribal levels, and from other stakeholder groups, to discuss and advance progress in this important area. To read more about the Summit, visit <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/03/22/fact-sheet-working-together-build-sustainable-water-future>.

Events and Webinars

<p>Greater Lakes: Reconnecting the Great Lakes Water Cycle</p> <p>Final webinar to showcase the project's final products that will aid municipalities in restoring the urban water cycle.</p>	<p>Webinar Cancelled To Be Rescheduled</p>
<p>Phragmites Workshops with Georgian Bay Forever</p> <p>Free in-person workshops on Phragmites management and training community Phragmites managers in Collingwood and Toronto</p>	<p>Toronto: Saturday, April 16th. 9:30 - 2:30 Eastern.</p> <p>Collingwood: Thursday, April 21st. 9:30 - 2:30 Eastern.</p> <p>Click here to register</p>
<p>Midwest Resilient Cities Summit: Building Equity in a Changing Climate</p> <p>Dialogue with city and community leaders as well as federal policymakers on strategies to improve social equity and climate change resilience in low-income communities.</p>	<p>Wednesday, April 20, 2016</p> <p>Cleveland State University, Ohio</p> <p>RSVP required by April 8.</p> <p>Click to learn more and register</p>
<p>Water Resilient Cities Conference</p> <p>Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland</p>	<p>April 21-22nd</p> <p>Cleveland State University,</p>

State University

Ohio

Sharing practices from cities adapting to
climate change across all sectors

[Click to learn more and
register](#)

Membership

Please join the 122 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 Melissa Soline at melissa.soline@glslcities.org.

