



Making Waves

Membership Edition

February 16th, 2016

In this edition of Making Waves:

- [Board passes resolution on Waukesha Diversion Application](#)
- [Flint, Michigan update](#)
- [Reminder: Submit Resolutions by March 16th](#)
- [2016 Annual Meeting: Save the Date!](#)
- [Welcome, Mayor Bliss!](#)
- [Membership News: Kincardine fights Phragmites](#)
- [Lakewide Action and Management Plans now available](#)
- [Events and Webinars](#)
- [Funding Opportunities](#)

Board of Directors passes resolution on Waukesha Diversion Application

On Thursday, February 11th, the Cities Initiative Board of Directors passed a resolution calling on the governors of the eight Great Lakes states to reject the City of Waukesha, Wisconsin's application for a diversion of water from Lake Michigan. [A public hearing will take place in the City of Waukesha this Thursday, February 18th.](#) The Cities Initiative has also called for public hearings in all eight Great Lakes states and in both Ontario and Quebec. [Click here to read the full resolution.](#)

[Click here to learn more about what's going on in Waukesha.](#)

Flint, Michigan Update

The Cities Initiative is working to identify areas in which it can best support the

City of Flint and Mayor Karen Weaver during this ongoing time of crisis. We have reached out to Mayor Weaver and are looking into ways that we can assist both Flint and other Great Lakes - St. Lawrence cities so that a crisis of this kind does not happen again.

Reminder: Submit Resolutions by March 16th

Each year, the Cities Initiative membership passes resolutions on key issues in the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence region. These resolutions carry significant weight with other orders of government and with the public, and they guide the Cities Initiative's decisions throughout the year. [Click here to access the resolutions template, view guidelines about the process, and see examples of past resolutions.](#) Please submit resolutions to Simon Belisle (simon.belisle@glslcities.org) by March 16, 2016.

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!

Welcome, Mayor Bliss!

The Cities Initiative is pleased to announce that Mayor Rosalynn Bliss of Grand Rapids, Michigan will join the Board of Directors. We are very glad to continue to have the valuable input and expertise of the City of Grand Rapids as part of the Cities Initiative's work.

Membership News: Kincardine Fights Phragmites

The municipality of Kincardine, Ontario has continued to fight invasive Phragmites and has treated 60% of a 68-hectare test site on its shoreline. They have permission from the Ministry of Natural Resources to spray Phragmites until 2018. Read more [here](#) and [here](#).

Lakewide Action and Management Plans Now Available

The 2015 Lakewide Action and Management Plan Annual Reports are now

available for all five Great Lakes. These reports are developed through binational work via the Annex 2 subcommittee of the Great Lakes Executive Committee. Click here to access the reports for [Superior](#), [Michigan](#), [Huron](#), [Erie](#), and [Ontario](#).

Events and Webinars

<p>Webinar: Clean Equipment Protocol - Inspecting and Cleaning Equipment for the Purposes of Invasive Species Prevention</p> <p>Presented by the Ontario Invasive Plant Council</p> <p>Panelist: Joe Halloran, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry</p>	<p>Wednesday, February 17th. 11 am Central / 12pm Eastern. Click here to register.</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>"Grassy 2 Rock"</p> <p>Chatham-Kent, Ontario to host community events on Mitchell's Bay on Lake St. Clair.</p>	<p>Saturday, July 2nd Saturday, September 3rd</p> <p>Click here to learn more</p>

Funding Opportunities: U.S. and Canada

<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>
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<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>
<p>Ontario Community Environment Fund (Canada): Past grants have funded habitat restoration work, Great Lakes invasive species prevention programs, air quality improvements, and municipal climate change programs.</p>	<p>Proposals due March 31, 2016</p> <p>Visit https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-community-environment-fund for more information.</p>
<p>Great Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Program (U.S.): Grants focusing on reducing phosphorus to the Great Lakes.</p>	<p>Proposals due March 31, 2016</p> <p>Visit http://keepingitontheland.net/apply-for-funding/ for more information.</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

