



Making Waves

October 2nd, 2015

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Final Integrated Water Management Webinar

The Cities Initiative webinar series on Integrated Water Management will conclude on October 14th with a presentation and summary of the findings from the "Greater Lakes: Reconnecting the Great Lakes Water Cycle" project in collaboration with the Great Lakes Commission. Click below to register; the webinar will take place at 10am Central / 11am Eastern.

October 14th	Advancing Integrated Water Management (Register Here)
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Successful Great Lakes Week in Chicago

The Chicago Cities Initiative staff participated in many events of "Great Lakes Week," held in Chicago this year. Executive Director David Ullrich moderated a community engagement panel at the Great Lakes Restoration Conference, where hundreds of Great Lakes stakeholders attended sessions on nutrients, Asian Carp, green infrastructure, communication, and many other issues. Many thanks to the Healing Our Waters Coalition for an enriching week of events. The Great Lakes Commission and Great Lakes Fisheries Commission also held their annual meetings this week and celebrated the 60th anniversary of both commissions. [Visit the Healing Our Waters twitter to view quotes, photos, and thoughts from the week's events.](#)

Cities Initiative at Queen's Park

On Tuesday, October 6th, mayors from Cities Initiative member municipalities in Ontario will gather at Queen's Park in Toronto for a series of meetings with ministers and members of parliament. They will discuss Great Lakes and St. Lawrence issues that especially affect Ontario communities with particular emphasis on nutrients, Asian Carp, microplastics, and Phragmites. A summary of the day's proceedings will be made available following the event.

Great Lakes Regional Events Calendar

The Great Lakes Information Network hosts a calendar of Great Lakes events in the region. [Click here to access the calendar.](#) This is a great resource to find out what may be happening in your region or in association with any other Great Lakes events.

Pope Francis visits United States

Last week, Pope Francis visited the United States, where he gave addresses and presided over masses in Washington D.C., New York City, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was the first Pope to address Congress, and in multiple speeches, he emphasized the importance of addressing climate change, saying, "climate change is a problem that can no longer be left to a future generation." [Read more about the Pope's visit here.](#)

U.S. EPA Modernizes Clean Water Act Reporting

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently announced that facilities

required by the Clean Water Act to apply for permits to discharge wastewater will now be able to apply electronically instead of via paper. The system has been implemented after a two-year public comment process, and will reportedly save over \$22.6 million/year in paper costs.

St. Louis River Estuary Website Wins Great Lakes Sea Grant Network Award

The interactive St. Louis River Estuary website, which integrates personal stories and scientific information, won the Outstanding Programming Award from the Great Lakes Sea Grant Network. The site was developed through partnerships with the Minnesota and Wisconsin Sea Grant about the St. Louis River, which is a tributary to Lake Superior that sits between Duluth, Minnesota and Superior, Wisconsin. [Click here to explore the site.](#)

Park Restoration in Quebec

The Hydro-Québec Foundation for the environment allowed the establishment of restoration projects on a section of the natural park of Pointe-aux-Outardes, near Baie-Comeau in the Côte-Nord region of the St. Lawrence.

The park is well known for its remarkable biodiversity but also for the erosion that affects its banks. The restored sector is one of the most fragile parts of the park because it is situated along the coast and does not have enough vegetation to stabilize the banks. The project consisted of developing 250 meters of walking trails, two beach access points, and three educational signs about the problem of erosion.

Quebec Youth Take Action on Climate Change

The North American Youth Parliament for Water (NAYPW) is a network of young people advocating for youth participation in water management and policies, and they promote concrete and local actions throughout all their members.

As part of the NAYPW, a network of French-speaking young citizens is organizing to send its message to the Paris Convention on Climate Change. "COP 21 - La jeunesse francophone pour l'eau" is currently mobilizing young citizens from French-speaking nations. They are working on a white paper on water and climate change, and they aim to present their recommendations to world leaders when they gather in Paris this December. [Click here to access the "Young Actors for Water" website.](#)

U.S. Grant Opportunities

Marine Debris Prevention through Education Grant	Funder: NOAA Pre-Proposal due October 26th Click here for details
Urban Waters Small Grants Program	Funder: U.S. EPA Click here for details

Conferences

Water Resilient Cities: Climate Change, Infrastructure, Economies, and Governance in the Great Lakes Basin	April 20-23, 2016	Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland, OH Click here for more information
7th Binational Lake St. Clair Conference	October 21, 2015	Chatham, Ontario Click here for more information

Resource Highlight: Interactive Habitat Map

The Great Lakes Commission and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have announced the release of an updated and improved Great Lakes Restoration Database (GLRD). The website showcases habitat restoration projects implemented under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), and provides fact sheets, maps, and visuals to view over 600 habitat restoration projects across the eight Great Lakes states. Visit <http://habitat.glc.org/> to view the new database.

Membership

Please join the 117 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

