



MAKING WAVES

April 1st, 2015

Montreal Announces New Plan for St. Lawrence River

This month, the City of Montreal announced its new plan for the St. Lawrence River, entitled the “Métropole au fil de l’eau.” This plan focuses on improvements in recreation and green infrastructure along the St. Lawrence, including renewed beach, swim and rest areas; improvements of wastewater infrastructure; and rehabilitation of streams and creeks. Borough Mayor Chantal Rouleau said in a press release, “There is a global trend in water culture, stewardship and enhancement of the shoreline. Montreal wants to be part of this trend and become an example to follow.” To see the plan (French), [click here](#).

Register for the 2015 Annual Meeting! Early Bird Deadline is April 30th

The conference website is now online and registration is open! Panel topics will include the Cities Initiative’s Nutrient Action Collaborative, Shoreline Restoration and Economic Activity, and Oil Transportation. Cities Initiative pilot projects and student collaborative projects will also be featured. [Please click here to access the conference website and registration page](#). The 2015 Annual Meeting and Conference will take place June 17-19 in Sarnia-Lambton County, ON. Register now to take advantage of our early-bird special, ending on April 30th! We look forward to seeing many of you in June.

Current Webinar Series: Integrated Water Management

Please join us for our newest series, **Integrated Water Management in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin**. This series will serve as a forum for discussion on integrated water management and the barriers cities need to overcome, as well as provide municipalities with practical tools and resources to evaluate and improve water management strategies. This series will be suitable for municipal staff with responsibilities in water, environment, sustainability, engineering, and planning, and will run from March to October 2015. See below for registration links. All webinars take place at 10am Central / 11 am Eastern.

April 15 th	Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments and Green Infrastructure Initiatives to Enhance Stormwater Management and Watershed Planning (register)
September 16 th	Achieving Habitat Benefits and Community Resilience from Buyout Properties (registration to come)
October 14 th	Advancing Integrated Water Management (registration to come)

[Learn more](#) about the Cities Initiative Integrated Water Management Webinar Series.



President Obama Commits Federal Government to Greenhouse Gas Reductions

On March 19th, President Obama signed an Executive Order committing the federal government to a 40% reduction in its greenhouse gas emissions by 2025. This action is expected to save taxpayers \$18 billion in energy costs over the next decade, and it also committed the federal government to increasing the portion of its energy from renewables to 30%. The announcement comes on the heels of the summer 2014 Clean Power Plan, which outlines plans to reduce power plant emissions by 30% by 2025. [For more information, click here.](#)

Membership

Please join the 114 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.