



MAKING WAVES September 1st, 2015

Integrated Water Management Webinar Series Resumes Sept. 16th

The Cities Initiative webinar series on Integrated Water Management will resume on September 16th for the final two webinars in the series. Click on the links below to register. These webinars are part of the "Greater Lakes: Reconnecting the Great Lakes Water Cycle" project in collaboration with the Great Lakes Commission. All webinars take place at 10am Central / 11am Eastern.

September 16th	Achieving Habitat Benefits and Community Resilience from Buyout Properties (Register Here)
October 14th	Advancing Integrated Water Management (Register Here)

Frozen Pipes Survey and Results

Despite the still-summery temperatures, the Cities Initiative staff are still thinking about winter - particularly about frozen pipes! Many municipalities experienced intense service disruptions due to deep freezing that penetrated soil down to water mains, and the Cities Initiative responded by conducting a survey on the scope of service disruptions in various municipalities as well as by holding a teleconference for municipal staff to discuss their knowledge and challenges on the issue of frozen pipes.

[Click here to view the results of the frozen pipes survey, and and to access the teleconference recording, both under "Frozen Pipes."](#)

Webinar: Regulation of outflows and water levels in the Lake Ontario/St. Lawrence River System

The International St. Lawrence River Board of Control of the International Joint Commission invites you to participate in a teleconference-webinar on the evening of September 15, 2015, 7:00-8:30 pm EDT to discuss the regulation of outflows and water levels in the Lake Ontario/St. Lawrence River System. The Board presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. Following the presentation, the Board will ask to hear comments and questions over the three telephone lines. You may download the presentation from the Board's website. Any updates will be posted by September 10, 2015 on the Web site. [Click here for registration information.](#)

Cities Initiative on Twitter, Facebook

The Cities Initiative now has a [Facebook page!](#) Find photos from the Annual Meeting, news updates, and information about upcoming events by clicking "Like" on the page. The Cities Initiative is also on Twitter ([@GLSLcities](#)) for Great Lakes - St. Lawrence news and for updates about Cities Initiative projects.

Annual Meeting Summary, Photos, and Recordings now available

For those who were not able to join us for the Annual Meeting (as well as for those who attended), a [summary document](#) is now available with brief summaries of the Annual Meeting proceedings. [Audio recordings are also available](#) of panels and presentations, and [photos](#) are now available on the Cities Initiative's new Facebook page.



Ontario Great Lakes Guardian Grants Available

The government of Ontario encourages not-for-profit organizations, school groups, community groups, First Nations and Métis communities to apply for grants for programs with direct environmental benefits. These programs could involve habitat restoration, rain garden plantings, beach or shoreline cleanups, or other actions. Applications are due October 23rd, 2015, and small projects are welcome. Read more at www.ontario.ca/greatlakesfund.

Lake-Specific Webinars from the Great Lakes Executive Committee

The Great Lakes Executive Committee, via the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Environment Canada, will hold webinars in the coming weeks to address lake-specific management in the Great Lakes Region. All webinars will take place from 1-3pm Central / 2-4pm Eastern.

Lake Huron	September 1st (Meeting # 550 314 884)
Lake Superior	September 2nd
Lake Michigan	September 9th
Lake Ontario	September 11th (Meeting # 553 628 066)
Lake Erie	September 15th

How to connect communities with Invasive Species? Write a play!

Joseph Zettelmaier became interested in invasive species after reading about the great snakehead, a massive invasive fish that consumes nearly anything and everything. He processed and bantered a bit about the experiences of a hypothetical fisherman who encountered one of these massive creatures, and his thoughts eventually took to the stage. "Invasive Species" played at the Tipping Point Theater in Northville, Michigan from July 23rd - August 23rd and received excellent reviews. [Read more about the production here.](#)



David Lewinsky Photography



Issue Highlight: Phragmites

Phragmites eradication season is upon us, and the Cities Initiative has created two new Fact Sheets on Phragmites management and identification strategies.

[Read the new Cities Initiative fact sheets on Phragmites control practices here.](#) The Town of Collingwood is working with other Georgian Bay-area organizations to establish community-based eradication strategies. [Read more about the program here](#)



Photo: Great Lakes Phragmites Collaborative

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 Brethem at laura.brethem@glslcities.org