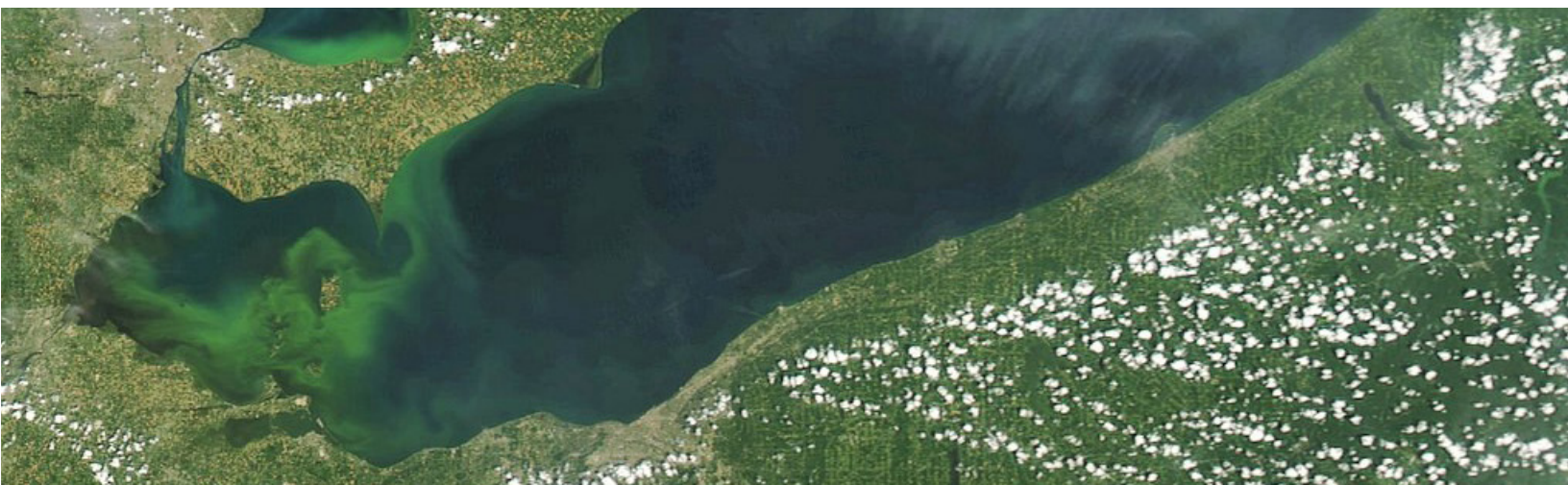


MAKING WAVES

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative



Thames River PRC received C\$600K for new technologies to clean up Lake Erie

CITIES INITIATIVE NEWS AND UPDATES

St. Catharines takes Action on Plastic

Cities Initiative member city, St. Catharines, has decided not to sell plastic water bottles at city arenas, community centers, and other city facilities. The City plans to install water filling stations at municipal locations.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Mayor Barrett Speaks on GLRI at EPA Session

Mayor Tom Barrett of Milwaukee attended the July 18 USEPA public engagement session on the development of Action Plan III for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). Action Plan III will provide the roadmap for federal agencies on priority areas for investment of GLRI funding. At the event, Mayor Barrett spoke to the importance of Action Plan III to ensure we are investing critical funds in the right areas and to the significance of GLRI funding to Great Lakes communities. The public engagement session was one of six planned around the Great Lakes this summer.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Thames River PRC gets federal funds

The Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative (PRC), administered by the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, was recently awarded 600,000\$ under the Canadian Great Lakes Protection Initiative (GLPI). The funding will go towards the PRC's efforts to develop and test technologies that intercept and remove phosphorus from agricultural runoff. The Cities Initiative and PRC partners issued a press release announcing the funding and progress of the PRC. The funding is part of an \$8.9 million investment in 36 projects made by the Canadian government to advance protection and restoration of the Great Lakes.

[LEARN MORE](#)

GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE NEWS

Protecting Belugas in the St. Lawrence

Belugas in the St. Lawrence River are a barometer for the health of the waterway. The Government of Quebec announced a commitment of \$2.1 million for a program that will use simulation technology to help track how boats and the endangered whales move and interact within the river. The program will help the government manage marine traffic in order to reduce impacts on the whales. The number of belugas is dwindling due to threats from pollution, habitat degradation, marine traffic and a lack of food sources.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Lake Erie Wind Farm Gets Initial Green Light

The Ohio Power Siting Board has recommended to the State of Ohio that the Icebreaker project, a six turbine in-lake wind farm, move forward with construction. It is recommended that night operations be restricted until monitoring studies on birds and bat collisions are completed.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Text a Buoy!

The Great Lakes Observing System, one of 11 regional associations of the Integrated Ocean Observing System, works to make Great Lakes real-time and historical data available to the public. The Text a Buoy program allows boaters to text various buoys in the five Great Lakes to get real-time weather and water information. Of note, the Cities Initiative was part of the GLOS advisory board for a number of years.

[LEARN MORE](#)

GLRI Funding Garners Congressional Support

The Senate approved a minibus spending bill that funds several agencies including the Interior Department and the US EPA. The bill funds the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative at \$300 Million (\$270 M more than the President's budget request), the Clean Water State Revolving Fund at \$1.694 Billion (\$301 M more than the President's request), and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund at \$1.164 Billion (\$301 M more than the President's budget request). Since the House and Senate spending bills differ, they must now be reconciled before being signed into law.

Michigan PFAS Contamination

Additional sites contaminated by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) continue to be identified in Michigan. In fact, it was recently announced that there may be as many as 11,000 sites statewide that are contaminated.

Furthermore, a state of emergency was declared in two Michigan Townships, Parchment and Cooper. Residents within those communities have been advised to stop drinking or cooking with municipal water following testing that found PFAS levels more than 20 times the federal health advisory limit. PFAS, previously used in fire-fighting foam, non-stick surfaces, and stain guards among other commercial and industrial uses, are persistent in the environment for long periods of and can be harmful to human health.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[INVESTIGATION](#)

UPCOMING WEBINARS & EVENTS

THE PREMIER P3 TRAINING COURSE



SEPT. 18

The National Council for Public-Private Partnerships presents
P3 Boot Camp

K&L Gates
Chicago, IL

OCT. 17-18

14th Annual
Healing Our Waters
Great Lakes Restoration
Initiative Conference

Westin Cadillac Hotel
Detroit, Michigan

OCT. 24-25

2018 Great Lakes Beach
Association and Great Lakes
Water Safety Consortium
Joint Conference

DoubleTree Hilton
Independence, OH

AUG. 28 at 2 - 3pm EST

2017 Annual Climate Trends and Impacts
Summary for the Great Lakes Basin Webinar

Screen sharing: <https://bit.ly/2vltEzM>
Call-in number: +1-888-240-2560
Meeting ID: 190594461

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

RBC Environmental Donations | Binational Opportunity Deadline Sept. 1

RBC has ended its Blue Water Project, a multi-year investment in protecting urban water quality. The bank is still offering environmental donations to entities that have projects aimed at helping achieve Sustainable Development Goals 6 (access to clean water) and 13 (taking action against climate change) of the 17 global goals set by the UN.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[BECOME A MEMBER](#)

[ABOUT US](#)

admin@glslcities.org | 20 N. Wacker Dr. Suite 2700 Chicago, IL 60606 | (312) 201-4518

