



The Phosphorous Reduction Collaborative, where scientific research, sustainable agriculture and land management meet

CITIES INITIATIVE NEWS AND UPDATES

Welcome aboard! We are proud to bring on two new members here at the Cities Initiative!

Meet Suzanne Malec-McKenna (left) and Laila Khalil (right). Suzanne is our interim CEO, brought on in June and Laila is our first ever Communications and Policy Fellow. Looking forward to getting to work!



Thames River PRC site tours

Last week, we traded our keyboards for boots and headed to Chatham-Kent to visit the Phosphorous Reduction Collaborative (PRC) sites. On our tour, we saw different technologies that farmers can use to reduce and capture phosphorous off of their farms. The PRC is an excellent example of where scientific research, sustainable agriculture and land management meet. We are a proud partner in the Collaborative. If you have any follow up questions about the PRC or the projects and technologies implemented, please contact our Deputy Director Sarah Rang at sarah.rang@glslcities.org

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[NEWS](#)

Roundtable Summaries from the Annual Conference available on our conference webpage!

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Parry Sound testing potential solution against microplastics

Our member cities are at the forefront of water protection and Parry Sound, Ontario, is one of them. Next month, 100 households in this municipality on the shores of Lake Huron's Georgian Bay, will install special filters on their washing machines.

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GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE NEWS

Canadian legislative update

Following recent modifications to the MARPOL and BWM international conventions, the Canadian government is in the process to modernize its rules regarding environmental impacts of shipping. The Cities Initiative was recently briefed on measures that will pose strict restrictions to sulfur (SOx) and particulates in fuel.

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2019-2023 Draft Lake Erie lakewide action and management plan available for public review

In accordance with the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, a draft 2019-2023 Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) has been prepared for Lake Erie and the connecting St. Clair – Detroit River System. The draft LAMP was developed by the Lake Erie Partnership, a collaborative team of natural resource managers led by the governments of the United States and Canada, in cooperation and consultation with state and provincial governments, Tribal governments, First Nations, municipal governments, and watershed management agencies.

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Town of The Blue Mountains wins water taste test at Ontario waterworks conference

The Town of The Blue Mountains won first place in the North American Drinking Water Challenge at the American Water Works Association annual conference! After winning the delegate's choice for the best tasting water of Ontario in early May, the Town of The Blue Mountains went on to be crowned the best tasting water by expert panelists in the North American Challenge. There was a field of 28 competitors who had won their local events.

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Faster beach water warnings in Great Lakes cities

Day-of-testing protocol for testing beach water is the new method that releases test results to beaches by noon. Lab members leave at 5 am and return at 8 am. Under the usual method, labs grow bacteria from water samples, a process that takes about 24 hours to show results. Racine, Wisconsin, was the first city in the U.S. to earn EPA approval for same-day analysis in 2012. For the sake of public health, other local jurisdictions and states across the country have considered switching-but it's easier said than done. Chicago is the only major U.S. city to use a new method to test for bacteria at most of its beaches—and then issue same-day swimming advisories. This summer will be the first time that Michigan health departments can post notices from same-day results.

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Scientists need your help!

Scientists need your help hunting for Great Lakes invaders! In Deep Lake Explorer, you will learn to identify these species in underwater videos. Your observations will help scientists understand where invasive species are and how they impact the Great Lakes. Results will be shared with users and will help inform protection of the Great Lakes.

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Inauguration of Verdun's urban beach

Verdun's urban beach will be open to the public starting on June 22, offering Montrealers privileged access to the St. Lawrence River and its shores. Public access to water are very scarce on the St. Lawrence and this project was considered a priority following consultations with residents.

FCM and Global Covenant of Mayors announce climate action pilot project, helpdesk for municipalities

The project features two initiatives:

- 1) Global Covenant of Mayors Helpdesk – a communications resource for GCoM Canada signatories to access information and assistance in implementing the CRF, using the expertise of existing mitigation and adaptation programs.
- 2) GCoM Canada Showcase Cities – a group of 20-40 municipalities committed to ambitious climate action, recruited to share lessons learned through the duration of the project. The call for participants will be announced summer 2019.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

July 24, 2019

Step In and Speak Out for the Great Lakes:
Lake Michigan
Traverse City, MI

[REGISTER](#)

August 6, 2019

Step In and Speak Out for the Great Lakes:
Lake Huron
Collingwood, ON

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August 7, 2019

Step In and Speak Out for the Great Lakes:
Lake Huron
Goderich, ON

[REGISTER](#)



BECOME A MEMBER

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