

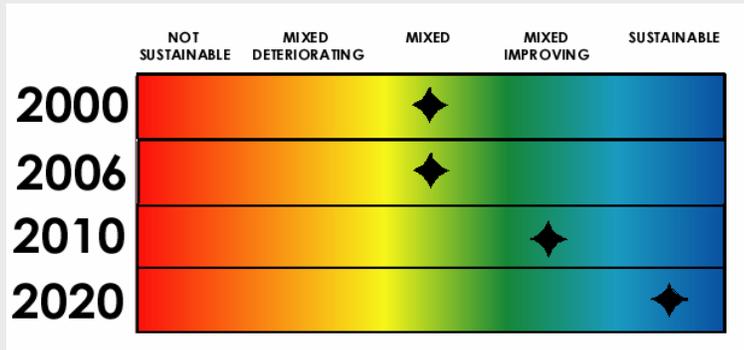
## Subgoal 9

# Are ecosystem stewardship activities common and undertaken by public and private organizations in communities around the basin?

### Status

Each government, institution, organization, and individual within the Lake Michigan basin has a potential role in ecosystem stewardship; however, no single government, institution, organization, or individual has the ability to implement stewardship activities and achieve sustainability in the basin unilaterally. The watershed fact sheets in Chapter 12 are tools created to encourage the recognition of the linkage between local watersheds and Lake Michigan. The current status of stewardship is mixed but will improve as more Lake Michigan watershed partnerships are formed.

### Lake Michigan Target Dates for Sustainability



### Indicators (State of the Lakes Ecosystem Indicators by Number)

- 3514 - Commercial/Industrial Eco-efficiency
- 3516 - Household Stormwater Recycling
- 4863 - Land Use Adjacent to Wetlands (Coastal Wetlands)
- 7000 - Urban Density
- 7002 - Land Cover - Land Conversion
- 7006 - Brownfield Redevelopment
- 7043 - Economic Prosperity
- 7028 - Sustainable Agriculture Practices
- 7053 - Green Planning Process
- 7056 - Water Withdrawal
- 7057 - Energy Consumption
- 7060 - Solid Waste Generation
- 7061 - Nutrient Management Plans
- 7062 - Integrated Pest Management
- 7064 - Vehicle Use
- 7063 - Municipal Wastewater Treatment
- 7101 - Groundwater and Land: Use and Intensity
- 8132 - Nearshore Land Use
- 8136 - Extent and Quality of Nearshore Natural Land Cover
- 8500 - Forest Lands - Conservation and Maintenance of Soil and Water Resources
- 8501 - Maintenance and Productive Capacity of Forest Ecosystems
- 8502 - Maintenance and Forest Ecosystem Health and Vitality
- 8114 - Habitat Fragmentation
- 8163 - Status and Protection of Special Places and Species

### Challenge

- To create a framework of goals and activities tailored to the watershed and community level while promoting Lake Michigan basin-wide interaction and partnerships.

### Next Steps

- Develop projects utilizing the Lake Michigan LaMP watershed fact sheets, land use management tool box and exploration of other tools and Provide additional education and outreach materials on water conservation and source water protection
- Continue the Lake Michigan Watershed Academy and support GIS and models workshops and small implementation grants to local communities
- On-line habitat atlas continues to build layers
- Hold FY 2007 State of Lake Michigan Conference
- Continue the research vessel boat tour – Making Lake Michigan Great

## The Importance of Partnerships

The past decade of ecosystem management in the basin has seen a profound shift from a top-down, command and control, government-dominated approach to a bottom-up, partnership-based, inclusive approach. This evolution is the manifestation of a number of developments, including changes in federal, state, tribal and local relationships; local community empowerment; increased focus on local partners; and watershed-based institution building. If a sustainable Lake Michigan ecosystem is to be achieved, it falls to us to rearrange ourselves, our interest groups, and our governments into a new institutional framework—a framework that consists of existing organizations and governments “rafted” together as full partners in the pursuit of the LaMP goals.

Effective place-based partnerships are the result of the rafting of “full partners.” Full partnership implies moving beyond the stakeholder model, wherein citizen committees (stakeholder groups) are briefed about agency plans and projects, to a model based on full collaboration in the definition of basin-wide goals and the sharing of resources to achieve these goals.

## Lake Michigan’s Watershed Academy

The challenge of translating Lake Michigan scale watershed data and planning to local governments divided by political boundaries is being undertaken through the development of the Lake Michigan Watershed Academy. In 2000 and 2002, the Lake Michigan Lakewide Management Plan highlighted the need to promote a series of dialogues with local decision makers about the status of their watersheds and their impact on Lake Michigan. Monitoring data and Geographic Information System presentations clearly show the interconnected aspects of the basin and the need to plan and cooperate across political boundaries in order to conserve habitat and sustain biodiversity.

The Lake Michigan Watershed Academy was launched in March 2003 when the Academy hosted a three-day event for staff, commissioners, and local officials from six regional planning commissions that operate on the shores of Lake Michigan. The purpose of the sessions was to introduce many of them to the



### Lake Michigan Toolbox

#### Watershed Management On-line Tools

The Midwest Partnership for Watershed Management was launched in 2002 by the Wisconsin DNR and USEPA Region 5 Water Division to provide access to free, coherently organized, scientifically-based watershed-based information for local officials and planners, natural resource managers, and the general public. The partnership aims to provide the maximum information and analytic tools to those levels of government closest to the actual problems. It offers both direct access to its own free web-based decision support tools and road maps to other sites where additional tools can be found. The effort has been working closely with the Lake Michigan Watershed Academy.

Many communities cannot afford even the most basic approach to, or initial screening of, their environmental problem and need cost effective, user friendly tools to assist them. Existing information and analytic tools, properly presented and freely accessible, can help meet this challenge. Watershed management data and decision support tools can allow informed screening and preliminary selection of alternatives, eliminating large amounts of preliminary “leg work”.

More information is available at [www.epa.gov/waterspace](http://www.epa.gov/waterspace).

watershed planning concept and provide an overview on how the approach can be implemented on the local level. The meeting was co-sponsored by Western Michigan University’s Institute for Water Sciences. The participating regional planning commissions from the four Lake Michigan states include the Bay Lakes Regional Planning Commission, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, the Northeastern Illinois Regional Planning Commission, the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission, West Michigan Regional Shoreline Development Commission, and the Northwest Michigan Regional Planning Commission.

The Academy meeting provided an opportunity to present perspectives from USEPA Region 5, USEPA headquarters, other federal agencies, tribal, state, and environmental perspectives on clean water

issues and their relationship to watershed planning. The regional planning commissions then followed up with conferences in their respective areas tailored for their communities. In addition to two pilot conferences in South Bend, Indiana, and Kalamazoo, Michigan, conferences were held in Green Bay, Wisconsin, Traverse City, Michigan, Muskegon, Michigan, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Additional conferences in northwest Indiana and northeastern Illinois were held since 2004.

The concept of a Lake Michigan Watershed Academy is to provide a "packaging and delivery system" that brings together the tools, data, and expertise of many federal, state, local, and tribal agencies as well as NGOs and environmental organizations to explore opportunities for new partnerships, thereby impacting the quality of the land use plans and partners in the Lake Michigan watershed.

The Lake Michigan Watershed Academy Phase II began in Spring 2004 and will provide start up funding for efforts to implement projects resulting from the regional conference discussions. See page 10-4 for a summary of Phase II activities. For more information contact Kerry Leigh at the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission at [kleigh@nipc.org](mailto:kleigh@nipc.org).

## USEPA Utilizes Watersheds for Regulatory Focus

In December 2002 USEPA's Assistant Administrator for Water issued a policy memorandum entitled: "Committing EPA's Water Program to Advancing the Watershed Approach." The memorandum not only reaffirmed USEPA's commitment to the watershed approach, but also reenergized efforts to ensure that USEPA as a whole fully integrates the watershed approach into program implementation. The memorandum established an USEPA Watershed Management Council (WMC) to accelerate efforts to develop and issue National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits on a watershed basis. The USEPA issued final guidance on watershed permitting in December 2003 (EPA 833-B-03-004).

Watershed-based NPDES permitting is an approach to developing NPDES permits for multiple point sources within a defined geographic area. The primary difference between this approach and the



### Lake Michigan Toolbox USEPA Watershed Academy On-Line

Training materials and tools have been developed including USEPA's Watershed Academy Web-Based Training, Drinking Water Academy, American Water Works Association Source Water Training, Land Trust Alliance training materials, other existing videos and state and local training materials such as Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality's "Developing a Watershed Management Plan for Water Quality."

These and others are available at: Many can be accessed at

[www.epa.gov/OWOW/watershed/wacademy](http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/watershed/wacademy)



### The Lake Michigan Toolbox Draft Handbook for Developing Watershed Plans

This draft handbook is intended to help communities, watershed organizations, and state, local, tribal and federal environmental agencies develop and implement watershed plans to meet water quality standards and protect water resources. It was designed to help any organization undertaking a watershed planning effort, and it should be particularly useful to persons working with impaired or threatened waters. USEPA intends for this handbook to supplement existing watershed planning guides that have already been developed by agencies, universities, and other nonprofit organizations. The handbook is generally more specific than other guides with respect to guidance on quantifying existing pollutant loads, developing estimates of the load reductions required to meet water quality standards, developing effective management measures, and tracking progress once the plan is implemented.

USEPA is making this draft document widely available with the purpose of having it used and tested by a variety of watershed partnerships. USEPA will be seeking advice from such organizations in developing the final version. A mailbox for emailed comments, suggestions, and corrections has been created. Please address them to [watershedhandbook@epa.gov](mailto:watershedhandbook@epa.gov). Submissions should be received by June 30, 2006

## Making Lake Michigan Great 2005 Update

The *Making Lake Michigan Great 2005* Tour of the W.G. Jackson research and education vessel reached three ports in southern Lake Michigan in 2005. Over 340 people participated in events. The tour was funded by the Great Lakes National Program Office. On its way to Indiana, the vessel docked at the South Haven Municipal Marina and almost 100 people attended a dockside open house.

Activities in the Port of Indiana – Burns Harbor included an educator workshop and two cruises for the general public. A three-day educator workshop, *Great Lakes Institute*, was planned around the *Jackson* visit. Partners for this stop included the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center, and the Alliance for the Great Lakes. Kim Swift of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore took the lead in organizing the workshop. Mark Gleason from Michigan Tech brought an ROV onboard the *Jackson* to view underwater life. Originally one public cruise was planned, but another was added since there was a waiting list. Over 80 people were on the *Jackson* at Burns Harbor.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Indiana Department of Environmental Management gave presentations during the two-day stop in Hammond, Indiana. Illinois DNR arranged a day-long workshop at the Hammond Marina that included Illinois and Indiana educators. IDEM was responsible for managing the public tours. About 162 people were able to get out into Lake Michigan on the *Jackson*.

Grand Valley State University also sponsored a trip to the White Lake Area of Concern for Celebrate White Lake. More information is available from Dr. Janet Vail at Grand Valley State University at [vailj@gvsu.edu](mailto:vailj@gvsu.edu).



The *Making Lake Michigan Great* Tour. Photos Courtesy of Janet Vail, Grand Valley State University

current approach to permitting is the consideration of watershed goals and the impact of multiple pollutant sources and stressors, including nonpoint source contributions. Watershed-based permitting may encompass a variety of activities ranging from synchronizing permits within a basin to developing water-quality based effluent limits using a multiple discharger modeling analysis. The type of permitting activity will vary from watershed to watershed, depending on the unique circumstances in the watershed and the sources affecting watershed conditions. The ultimate goal of watershed-based NPDES permitting, however, is to develop and issue NPDES permits that consider the entire watershed, not just an individual point source discharger.

Although significant water quality improvements have been made during the past three decades, water quality problems remain. Many of the remaining problems involve complex mixtures of sources and impacts that require integrated, holistic solutions. Over the past decade, the number of sources subject to the NPDES program has increased almost tenfold. There is a pressing need for innovative and efficient solutions to permitting these point sources that will result in further water quality gains. As a mechanism to help integrate other water program activities and to target the most pressing environmental issues within a watershed, a watershed-based approach to NPDES permitting can serve as one innovative tool for achieving new efficiencies and environmental progress.

## The Lake Michigan Forum

The Lake Michigan Forum provides input on the LaMP to USEPA from representative stakeholders of the Lake Michigan basin. In recognition of the LaMP statement that every basin resident is a "Lake Michigan Manager," the forum seeks opportunities to foster ecosystem stewardship through multi-organizational initiatives and partnerships, looking for LaMP implementation opportunities beyond what can be achieved by government efforts.

As the nongovernmental component of the Lake Michigan LaMP, the Forum has a number of responsibilities, including:

- Representing the diverse interests and geography of the Lake Michigan basin and creating a communication link between the forum members' constituents and the LaMP process

- Providing input to and review of LaMP updates and assisting in their completion and implementation
- Identifying targets of opportunities for demonstration projects relating to LaMP goals and recommendations
- Promoting the LaMP to the public and building a constituency for its implementation
- Serving as a forum for regional and watershed approaches to accomplish LaMP goals;
- Serving as a forum for identifying, discussing, and conveying critical/priority issues
- Serving as a conduit for public concerns and input to the LaMP process

The forum's membership consists of representatives of local governments, industry, environmental groups, sport fishing interests, academia, agriculture, Native American tribes, sewerage districts, and AOCs. Interested parties should go to [www.lkmichiganforum.org](http://www.lkmichiganforum.org).

The forum holds public meetings quarterly at different locations around the Lake Michigan basin and, in partnership with USEPA and Grand Valley State University, sponsors an education and outreach tour. Each summer since 1998, the ship *W.G. Jackson* has made its way around Lake Michigan on the Making Lake Michigan Great Tour, spreading the word about the Lake Michigan LaMP. The tour provides hands-on experience in water issues for the public aboard a research vessel operated by the Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute of Grand Valley State University in Muskegon, Michigan. The event includes cruises for students and the public, open houses, and community activities. Since it began, thousands of people have participated in the tour at 26 ports of call around Lake Michigan. For more information, visit the forum web site at [www.lkmichiganforum.org](http://www.lkmichiganforum.org).

## Baird Creek Watershed Assessment

As part of a broader effort to conduct similar assessments as a model for analysis, planning, and design in other watersheds around the Lake Michigan Basin, the Forum performed a stewardship assessment process in Baird Creek, a tributary to the lower Fox River AOC through the East River. Though this sub-watershed is rapidly urbanizing eastward from the city of Green Bay toward agricultural areas in the east, it nevertheless contains in its eastern portion an ecologically significant 350-acre wooded riparian greenway corridor within the city. The corridor

provides bike and foot access from diversely populated urban concentrations to high quality natural resources and open space areas, and could serve as the basis for development of a model integrated shoreline pedestrian system in Green Bay. This greenway corridor and other opportunities in the Baird Creek watershed serve as a focal point for local discussion among public officials, non-government organizations, business interests, and the general public. The stewardship assessment completed a report in November 2004. The Forum recommended that officials, citizens, and interested groups cooperate to:

- Develop plans and ordinances to protect environmentally sensitive areas, map more flood plains, protect wetlands, increase riparian buffers, and increase inspections and enforcement of home septic systems, increase conservation easements, consider local guidelines for impervious surfaces, implement local ordinances that encourage low-impact conservation development, and increase intergovernmental communication.
- Create partnerships among agencies, universities, local government, landowners and watershed organizations to protect critical wetlands in the upper reaches of the Baird Creek watershed, increase regional educational and assistance programs to promote best management practices in the Baird Creek headwaters, promote demonstration projects, and conduct monitoring of buffer effectiveness
- Designate the Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium (NEWSC) as the central organizational body to address the Phase II compliance and more effectively address stormwater issues.
- Ensure that Build-out Scenario efforts include sustainable redevelopment in urbanized areas of the watershed, as well as low-impact and new development in less urbanized areas.
- Follow comprehensive plans closely for local governments in the watershed, and review and update them periodically, encourage adoption of Conservation Subdivision ordinance, pursue sustainable redevelopment of urban areas, encourage public participation in subdivision

planning and design, require local government staff to visit the site with the developer to review possible environmental issues or agricultural conflicts. Involve WDNR or Land Conservation staff if possible, and conduct outreach to developers, policy makers, and the public about the benefits of Conservation Design and smart growth.

- Expand watershed monitoring initiatives in the Baird Creek to include broader participation from schools, residents, and other stakeholders.

## State of Lake Michigan Conference

In November 2005, USEPA, the Lake Michigan Forum, the Sea Grant Program, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, and the Great Lakes Beach Association hosted the biennial State of Lake Michigan conference in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The Conference brought together over 300 attendees and presenters to discuss the status of the lake. Presentations from the conference inform and are often incorporated into the next LaMP publication. For a CD of the presentations, contact, Laura Evans at [evans.laura@epa.gov](mailto:evans.laura@epa.gov).

The next conference is planned for October 2007 in Traverse City, Michigan.

## Next Steps

- Develop projects utilizing the Lake Michigan LaMP watershed fact sheets and exploration of other needed tools (see Appendix D)
- Continue the Lake Michigan Watershed Academy and support GIS and models workshops and small implementation grants to local communities
- Provide additional education and outreach materials on water conservation and source water protection
- Promote the habitat and land use management tool box
- On-line habitat atlas continues to build layers
- Hold FY 2007 State of Lake Michigan Conference
- Continue the research vessel boat tour – Making Lake Michigan Great



# **LAKE MICHIGAN PARTNERSHIP DIRECTORY**

***United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Great Lakes National Program Office  
Lake Michigan Lakewide Management Plan  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604***

## **Overview**

The desire to protect and restore the Great Lakes has created a number of governmental programs at the international, national, state, tribal and local levels. The intent of this directory is to present some of the international, federal, state, and tribal government partners involved in Lake Michigan issues, provide brief descriptions of their roles, and list contacts for further information. Partners at the local level are key to any successful effort. Unfortunately, all of the possible partners are too numerous to list. Links to local watershed groups are listed in the watershed fact sheets found in the 2004 Lake Michigan Lakewide Management Plan update report.

There has been renewed efforts in fostering greater coordination to better protect, conserve, and restore the Great Lakes. A 2004 Presidential Executive Order calls for collaboration among regional, state, local, tribal, and other interests to develop an overall strategy for protecting the Great Lakes. This work was conducted between December 2004 and December 2005, providing both short and long term recommendations. The final strategy will be found at [www.epa.gov/glnpo](http://www.epa.gov/glnpo). In addition, the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) of 1978 is up for review triggered by the International Joint Commission's 12th Biennial Report on the GLWQA. To participate, visit the IJC's website bulletin board at [www.ijc.org](http://www.ijc.org).

## **Lake Michigan-Lakewide Management Program: Meetings and Reports**

- Lakewide Management Plans are updated every two years. The next update will be completed in April 2006.
- The State of Lake Michigan conference is held every two years. The next meeting will be held in Fall 2007.
- The Lake Michigan Forum, an EPA sponsored stakeholder group holds quarterly meetings around the basin.
- The Lake Michigan Monitoring Council meets twice per year around the basin.
- The International Joint Commission ([www.ijc.org](http://www.ijc.org)) holds a Great Lakes public conference every two years. The next meeting will be held in 2007.
- The State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference (SOLEC) ([www.epa.gov/glnpo/solec](http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/solec)) is held every two years. The next conference will be held in 2006 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

## **More Information on Federal Resources and Grants**

There are many federal resources listed in this document. A new website, [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov), contains information for finding and applying for all federal grant programs. It creates a centralized process to find and apply for over 900 federal grant programs. This site provides information in a standardized format across agencies and includes:

- A "Find Grant Opportunities" feature to help applicants find potential funding opportunities.
- An "Apply for Grants" feature that allows applicants to download, complete, and submit applications for specific grant opportunities from any federal grant-making agency.
- A "Receive Grants Opportunity Notification" feature that allows you to subscribe to receive announcements of both new grants and modifications of existing grant announcements.



# International and Regional Partners

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## International Joint Commission — [www.ijc.org](http://www.ijc.org)



The International Joint Commission (IJC) prevents and resolves disputes between the United States of America and Canada under the *1909 Boundary Waters Treaty*. It rules upon applications for approval of projects affecting boundary or transboundary waters and may regulate the operation of these projects; assists the two countries in the protection of the transboundary environment, including the implementation of the *Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement* and the improvement of transboundary air quality; and alerts the governments to emerging issues along the boundary that may give rise to bilateral disputes. The IJC operates a Great Lakes Office in Windsor, Ontario.

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## Great Lakes Commission — [www.glc.org](http://www.glc.org)



The Great Lakes Commission is an interstate Compact Commission that promotes the orderly, integrated, and comprehensive development, use, and conservation of the water and related natural resources of the Great Lakes basin and St. Lawrence River. Its members include the eight Great Lakes states and associate members from the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Québec.

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## Great Lakes Fishery Commission — [www.glfc.org](http://www.glfc.org)



The Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC) was established in 1955 by the Canadian/U.S. Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries. The GLFC coordinates fisheries research, control measures for the invasive sea lamprey, and facilitates cooperative fishery management among the state, provincial, tribal, and federal management agencies. On the basis of its research findings, the commission recommends measures that will permit the maximum sustained productivity of stocks of fish of common concern.

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## Council of Great Lakes Governors — [www.cglg.org](http://www.cglg.org)



The Council of Great Lakes Governors is a private, non-profit corporation established in 1982 and charged by its member governors and associate member premiers to encourage and facilitate environmentally responsible economic growth in the Great Lakes region. This is done through public-private efforts among the ten jurisdictions to address common environmental and economic challenges.

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## Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative — [www.nemw.org/glci](http://www.nemw.org/glci)



The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (GLSLCI) is a binational coalition of mayors and other local officials that works actively with federal, state, and provincial governments to advance protection and restoration of the Great Lakes. The GLSLCI helps mayors and other local officials develop and advocate programs to improve the resource.

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## Great Lakes Protection Fund — [www.glpf.org](http://www.glpf.org)



The Great Lakes Protection Fund is a private, nonprofit corporation formed in 1989 by the Governors of the Great Lakes States as a permanent environmental endowment that supports actions to improve the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem. The Fund seeks projects that lead to tangible improvements in the Great Lakes ecosystem; promote the interdependence of healthy ecological and economic systems, and are innovative, creative, and venturesome.

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## Great Lakes Fishery Trust — [www.glft.org](http://www.glft.org)



The Great Lakes Fishery Trust (GLFT) provides funding to enhance, protect and rehabilitate Great Lakes fishery resources. The GLFT manages its resources to compensate for lost use and enjoyment of the Lake Michigan fishery resulting from the operation of the Ludington Pumped Storage Plant.

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## Lake Michigan Forum — [www.lkmichiganforum.org](http://www.lkmichiganforum.org)



The Lake Michigan Forum provides public input to U.S. EPA on the Lake Michigan Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP) and is a medium for direct involvement in the LaMP process from representative stakeholders of the Lake Michigan basin. The Forum also identifies and implements non-governmental activities that can help meet the LaMP goals.

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## Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordination Council — <http://wi.water.usgs.gov/lmmcc>



The Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordination Council fosters cooperation and coordination among groups involved in all types of Lake Michigan Lakewide Management Plan monitoring activities. It works toward developing a systematic and comparable approach to the collection, management, interpretation, and dissemination of environmental data related to environmental monitoring in the Lake Michigan Drainage Basin.

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## Great Lakes Beach Association — [www.great-lakes.net/glba](http://www.great-lakes.net/glba)



The Great Lakes Beach Association's (GLBA) mission is to pursue healthy beach water conditions in the Great Lakes through communication and coordination of Great Lakes beach managers and researchers. It is made up of members from state and local governments in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin, Environment Canada as well as several mid-west universities, non-government, regulatory and coordinating agencies, and environmental groups. It oversees BEACHNET, a communication network/listserv, and holds an annual beach conference.

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# United States Federal Partners

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United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) — [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)



EPA administers educational and regulatory programs designed to protect the environment. EPA works mainly with state, federal, regional, tribal, and local agencies on pollution control and prevention efforts. EPA oversees the revolving loan fund program and brownfield grants. It conducts environmental assessments, water quality monitoring, regulations and regulatory oversight, education, planning, technical assistance, and grants. The agency may provide staff, information, and data; laboratories and research facilities; grants and loans for pollution control; educational materials; and monitoring equipment.

Office of Research and Development - [www.epa.gov/ord/](http://www.epa.gov/ord/)

The Office of Research and Development (ORD) is the scientific research arm of EPA. ORD's leading-edge research helps provide the solid underpinning of science and technology for the Agency. ORD conducts research on ways to prevent pollution, protect human health, and reduce risk. The work at ORD laboratories, research centers, and offices across the country helps improve the quality of air, water, soil, and the way resources are used.

Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO) — [www.epa.gov/glnpo](http://www.epa.gov/glnpo)



GLNPO brings together federal, state, tribal, local, and industry partners in an integrated, ecosystem approach to protect, maintain, and restore the chemical, biological, and physical integrity of the Great Lakes. The program monitors Lake ecosystem indicators; manages and provides public access to Great Lakes data; helps communities address contaminated sediments in their harbors; supports local protection and restoration of important habitats; promotes pollution prevention through such activities as the Canada-U.S. Binational Toxics Strategy; and provides assistance for community-based Remedial Action Plans for Areas of Concern and for Lakewide Management Plans. GLNPO uses its funding to assist Great Lakes partners through grants, interagency agreements, and contracts.

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United States Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) — [www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov)

Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL) — [www.glerl.noaa.gov](http://www.glerl.noaa.gov)

Lake Michigan Field Station — [www.glerl.noaa.gov/lmfs](http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/lmfs)

Great Lakes Bathymetric Data — [www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/greatlakes/greatlakes.html](http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/greatlakes/greatlakes.html)



NOAA administers programs in cooperation with states to inventory and manage coastal resources. It funds and performs basic research and assessment relating to coastal eutrophication, and maintains data bases for agricultural pesticides and nutrient loadings. NOAA provides funds to state coastal programs; staff for technical assistance; data, reports, and educational materials; and special demonstration projects.

NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management — [www.ocrm.nos.noaa.gov/czm](http://www.ocrm.nos.noaa.gov/czm)

Illinois Lake Michigan Coastal Management Program — [www.dnr.state.il.us](http://www.dnr.state.il.us)

Indiana Lake Michigan Coastal Program — [www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich](http://www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich)

Michigan Coastal Management Program — [www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313\\_3677\\_3696---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313_3677_3696---,00.html)

Wisconsin Coastal Management Program — [www.doa.state.wi.us/section\\_detail.asp?linkcatid=108](http://www.doa.state.wi.us/section_detail.asp?linkcatid=108)



The Coastal Zone Management Program (CZM) is housed under the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management. CZM administers a quasi-regulatory coastal protection program (in cooperation with EPA) that sets performance-based management measures for control and prevention of nonpoint source pollution in coastal areas for land-use activities. CZM provides technical assistance and grant funds for plan development.

NOAA Sea Grant — [www.nsgo.seagrant.org](http://www.nsgo.seagrant.org)

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant (IISG) — [www.iisgcp.org](http://www.iisgcp.org)

Michigan Sea Grant — [www.miseagrant.umich.edu](http://www.miseagrant.umich.edu)

Wisconsin Sea Grant — [www.seagrant.wisc.edu](http://www.seagrant.wisc.edu)



University-based program designed to support greater knowledge and wise use of Great Lakes resources. The Sea Grant program provides a staff network of advisory agents, researchers, and educators, and offers grant funds for research and workshops.

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United States Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard — [www.uscg.mil/USCG.shtm](http://www.uscg.mil/USCG.shtm)

Hazardous Waste National Spill Response Center — [www.nrc.uscg.mil/nrcrptxt.htm](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/nrcrptxt.htm)



The U.S. Coast Guard is responsible for spill response and ballast water sampling and water intake protections. It has implemented ballast water sampling in Lake Michigan under the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Species Prevention and Control Act of 1990 and the National Invasive Species Act of 1996.

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U.S. Department of Defense, [www.defenselink.mil](http://www.defenselink.mil)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District [www.lre.usace.army.mil/](http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, [www.lrd.usace.army.mil/](http://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/)



The Army Corps of Engineers (COE) oversees construction and operation of flood control and public water supply reservoirs, conducts water-quality monitoring on lakes, regulates in-lake activities and shoreline development, administers the wetlands dredge and fill permit program with EPA and FWS. COE enforces permit requirements for wetland BMPs or other mitigation measures. The Water Resources Development Acts authorize environmental restoration by the COE at certain Great Lakes sites. Offices are located in Washington D.C., the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, and Detroit District offices.

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# United States Federal Partners (continued)

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United States Department of the Interior (DOI) — [www.doi.gov](http://www.doi.gov)



The DOI conducts oversight, management, and monitoring of national natural and cultural resources, including land, water, and wildlife. Offices located in Washington D.C. and regional centers with field offices in each management area. The DOI provides staff, maps, reports, demonstration sites, educational materials, and monitoring equipment.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) — [www.doi.gov/bureau-indian-affairs.html](http://www.doi.gov/bureau-indian-affairs.html)



The BIA provides technical assistance to tribes on tribal lands mainly for social services and assistance for assistance for conservation work and educational programs, natural resource inventories and monitoring of ground and surface water. The BIA offers funds for special projects, staff for technical assistance to tribes, and maps and natural resource inventories of tribal lands.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) — [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Great Lakes-Big Rivers Region — [www.fws.gov/midwest](http://www.fws.gov/midwest)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program — [www.fws.gov/coastal/CoastalProgram](http://www.fws.gov/coastal/CoastalProgram)



FWS oversees and regulates the nation's wildlife resources, manages national wildlife refuges, enforces federal game and fish laws, administrates the national wetlands program with the Corps of Engineers and EPA, and participates in cooperative projects to enhance wildlife habitat and special studies including fisheries investigations. FWS provides staff for enforcement of the Endangered Species Act and other laws on public and private land; reports and data on habitat, populations, and management of wildlife; and funds for cooperative projects, educational materials, teacher training, curricula, and maps.

National Park Service (NPS) — [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)



The National Park Service (NPS) administers and manages national parks for preservation of natural and cultural resources and recreation. NPS provides staff for oversight and administration, and funds for special studies and occasionally cooperative projects on land adjoining park boundaries.

Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network — [www1.nature.nps.gov/im/units/glkn](http://www1.nature.nps.gov/im/units/glkn)



The Great Lakes Inventory & Monitoring Network is an office of the National Park Service that helps the nine Great Lakes national park units inventory and monitor significant natural resources. The units extend from the boreal forests of northern Minnesota to the sand dunes of southern Lake Michigan and represent the major freshwater ecosystems of the Upper Midwest.

United States Geological Survey (USGS) — [www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov)

Great Lakes Science Center Research Programs — [www.glsc.usgs.gov](http://www.glsc.usgs.gov)

Water Resources of Illinois — <http://il.water.usgs.gov>

Water Resources of Indiana — <http://in.water.usgs.gov>

Water Resources of Michigan — <http://mi.water.usgs.gov>

Water Resources of Wisconsin — <http://wi.water.usgs.gov>



USGS conducts long-term baseline monitoring of water resources, hydrologic and geologic investigations and data, and special intensive short-term studies. USGS provides maps, data, and information on hydrology and water-quality status and trends, and staff for technical assistance in designing a monitoring plan.

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services — [www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov)

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry — [www.atsdr.cdc.gov](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov)



The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) provides health information to prevent harmful exposures and disease related to toxic substances. ATSDR performs specific functions concerning the effect on public health of hazardous substances in the environment. These include public health assessments of waste sites, health consultations concerning hazardous substances, health surveillance and registries, response to emergency releases of hazardous substances, research in support of public health assessments, information development and dissemination, and education and training concerning hazardous substances.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration — [www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)



The FDA works with EPA to develop national fish advisories that provide important food health safety information for consumers of fish. FDA assists in identifying the information regarding how much of specific fish species can be consumed safely by different groups at risk to toxins that accumulate in fish tissues.

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# United States Federal Partners (continued)

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United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) — [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)  
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) — [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov)  
Farmers Services Agency (FSA) — [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)  
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) — [www.csrees.usda.gov](http://www.csrees.usda.gov)  
Cooperative Extension Service (CES) — [www.csrees.usda.gov/Extension/USA-text.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/Extension/USA-text.html)



USDA is the steward of our nation's 192 million acres of national forests and rangelands. It is the country's largest conservation agency, encouraging voluntary efforts to protect soil, water, and wildlife on the 70% of America's lands that are in private hands. Responsibilities and resources within the following programs are divided among USDA departments:

USDA Forest Service — [www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)



Established in 1905, the Forest Service manages public lands in national forests and grasslands, which encompass 193 million acres of land — an area equivalent to the size of Texas. The Forest Service provides technical and financial assistance to state and private forestry agencies, and manages national forests for additional multiple uses and benefits and for the sustained yield of renewable resources such as water, forage, wildlife, wood, and recreation.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) — [www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/crp](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/crp)



CRP is a program to conserve and protect highly erodible or other environmentally sensitive land from production by putting it in vegetative cover through easements and annual rental payments. CRP provides technical and financial assistance to eligible farmers and ranchers to address soil, water, and related natural resource concerns on their lands in an environmentally beneficial and cost-effective manner. The program provides assistance to farmers and ranchers in complying with Federal, State, and tribal environmental laws, and encourages environmental enhancement.

Wetlands Reserve Program — [www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/wrp](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/wrp)



The Wetlands Reserve Program is a voluntary program offering landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property. The program's goal is to achieve the greatest wetland functions and values, along with optimum wildlife habitat, on every acre enrolled in the program. NRCS provides technical and financial support to help landowners with their wetland restoration efforts. This program offers landowners an opportunity to establish long-term conservation and wildlife practices and protection.

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National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) — [www.nacdnet.org](http://www.nacdnet.org)



The NACD is the nonprofit organization that represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts. Conservation districts are local units of government established under state law to carry out natural resource management programs at the local level. Districts work with more than 2.5 million cooperating landowners and operators to help them manage and protect land and water resources on nearly 98% of the private lands in the U.S. NACD supports voluntary, incentive-driven natural resource conservation programs that benefit all citizens.

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Sustainable Agricultural Research and Education Program (SARE) — [www.sare.org](http://www.sare.org)



SARE is a practical research, education, and grant program to promote lower input methods of farming. The program has helped advance farming systems that are profitable, environmentally sound and good for communities through a nationwide research and education grants program. The program funds projects and conducts outreach designed to improve agricultural systems.

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U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration — [www.fhwa.dot.gov](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov)



The National Scenic Byways Program is a grass-roots collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve, and enhance selected roads throughout the United States. Since 1992, the program has provided funding for almost 1500 state and nationally designated byway projects in 48 states. The U.S. Secretary of Transportation recognizes certain roads as All-American Roads or National Scenic Byways based on one or more archeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational, and scenic qualities.

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Great Lakes Maritime Research Institute (GLMRI) — [www.glmri.org/glmri/main.htm](http://www.glmri.org/glmri/main.htm)



GLMRI was established in 2004 as a consortium of the University of Wisconsin-Superior Transportation & Logistics Research Center and the University of Minnesota Duluth College of Science & Engineering and Labovitz School of Business & Economics to oversee and coordinate research on Great Lakes maritime issues.

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# State and Local Partners

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## State Water Quality Agencies

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency — [www.epa.state.il.us](http://www.epa.state.il.us)

Indiana Department of Environmental Management — [www.state.in.us/idem](http://www.state.in.us/idem)

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality — [www.michigan.gov/deq](http://www.michigan.gov/deq)

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources — [www.dnr.state.wi.us](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us)



State water quality agencies administer many programs for protection of water quality in ground and surface waters, including the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program, water-quality standards regulations, the nonpoint source program, and ambient statewide monitoring programs. Agencies provide staff for technical assistance to local governments and individuals implementing BMPs; water-quality monitoring, data, and reports; and funds for pollution control projects, educational materials, and programs.

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National Association of Regional Councils — [www.narc.org](http://www.narc.org)

Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (Chicago) — [www.nipc.org](http://www.nipc.org)

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (Gary) — [www.nirpc.org](http://www.nirpc.org)

Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG) — [www.macog.com](http://www.macog.com)

St. Joseph River Basin Commission (housed within MACOG) — [www.sjrbc.com](http://www.sjrbc.com)

West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission — [www.wmsrdc.org](http://www.wmsrdc.org)

Northwest Michigan Council of Governments — [www.nwm.org](http://www.nwm.org)

Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Council (Milwaukee) — [www.sewrpc.org](http://www.sewrpc.org)

Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission — [www.baylakerpc.org](http://www.baylakerpc.org)



Planning commissions work with local governments and organizations to promote sensible growth, and conduct regional planning related to transportation, the environment, and economic and community development. Commissions provide geographic and demographic information such as forecasts of population, employment, and other socio-economic indicators. These commissions listed above participate in the Lake Michigan Watershed Academy overseen by USEPA's Lake Michigan program.

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## Tribal Partners

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United Indian Nations of the Great Lakes (UINGL) — [www.anishinabek.ca/uo/greatlakes.htm](http://www.anishinabek.ca/uo/greatlakes.htm)



Several First Nations from Ontario and Quebec and tribes from New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota joined to create the UINGL. They came together to sign the Great Lakes Water Accord in which a number of united principles, values, concerns, and demands are identified. They have been active in the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration.

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Chippewa-Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) — [www.1836cora.org](http://www.1836cora.org)



CORA regulates most Indian fishing in portions of Lake Michigan 1836 Treaty waters. A 1985 Consent Agreement allocated the fishery resource among user groups, such as the tribes, sports fishers, the state, and the federal government. Disputes are settled by an Executive Council comprised of CORA chairmen and state and federal representatives.

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Individual Tribes in the Lake Michigan Basin — [www.epa.gov/Region5/tribes/r5tribes.htm](http://www.epa.gov/Region5/tribes/r5tribes.htm)



### Michigan

Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa — [www.gtb.nsn.us](http://www.gtb.nsn.us)

Hannahville Indian Community — (No web site)

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians — [www.lrboi.com](http://www.lrboi.com)

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians — [www.ltbbodawa-nsn.gov](http://www.ltbbodawa-nsn.gov)

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi — [www.pokagon.com](http://www.pokagon.com)

### Wisconsin

Forest County Potawatomi Community — [www.fcpotawatomi.com](http://www.fcpotawatomi.com)

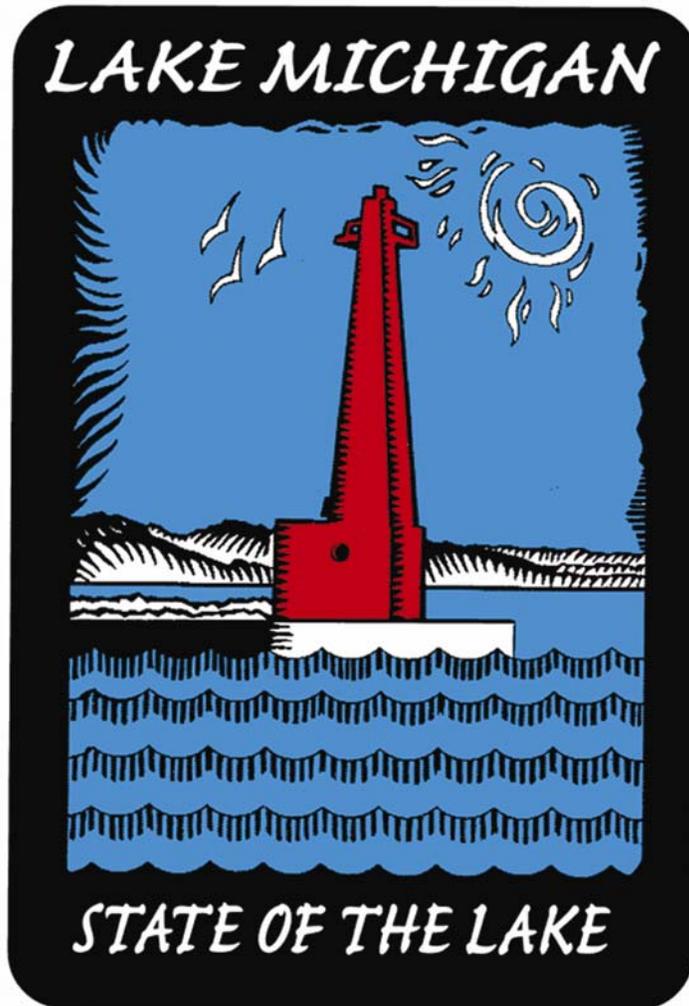
Menominee Indian Tribe — [www.menominee-nsn.gov](http://www.menominee-nsn.gov)

Oneida Nation of Wisconsin — [www.oneidanation.org](http://www.oneidanation.org)

Sokaogon Chippewa Community — [www.sokaogonchippewa.com](http://www.sokaogonchippewa.com)

Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohicans — <http://unr.edu/homepage/shubinsk/mohican.html>

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The next State of Lake Michigan Conference is planned for October 2007 in Traverse City, Michigan.