



## **MAKING WAVES**

**February 17, 2010**

### ***Illinois Governor Pat Quinn appoints Dave Ullrich to Great Lakes Task Force***

The Governor of Illinois recently appointed Dave Ullrich to the “Task Force on the Conservation and Quality of the Great Lakes.” The purpose of the Task Force is to help provide greater protection for the Lakes and to help educate the General Assembly and the public about the conditions of the Lakes. In addition to Dave, Mayor Richard M. Daley of Chicago serves as an ex officio member of the Task Force and will be represented by a member of his staff. Dave and Mayor Daley’s representative will work to bring a local government perspective to this key policy making body for the State of Illinois.

### ***Great Lakes Seaway Ballast Water Report***

The Great Lakes Seaway Ballast Water Working Group, compiled of the U.S. Coast Guard, Transport Canada, St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation and the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation has issued their full 2009 summary of ballast water management. 100% of ships that entered the Great Lakes via the Seaway last year incurred a ballast water exam. Of the 295 ships that passed through the Seaway, 97.9% were compliant with regulations. Those that did not meet the standards were asked to retain their ballast water onboard, treat the water in an environmentally friendly manner or return to sea to exchange their non-compliant ballast water. For the full report from the Working Group, please visit the link on our website [Ballast Water Report](#).

### ***President Obama’s 2011 Budget for the Great Lakes***

President Obama’s budget for 2011 was released on February 1, 2010, and although there is continued funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, it is at \$300 million rather than the \$475 million for 2010. Congress is likely to experience pressure to get the level back up to \$475 million. For the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, the 2011 figure is \$2.0 billion nationally, with the eight Great Lakes states and their cities usually getting about 35% of that total. For the Drinking Water SRF, the amount nationally is \$1.3 billion. Although both amounts are lower than 2010, they are considerably higher than previous years.

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[www.glslcities.org](http://www.glslcities.org)

*George K. Heartwell, Mayor of Grand Rapids, Chair*

*Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago, Founding United States Chair*

*David Miller, Mayor of Toronto, Founding Canadian Chair*



### ***Asian Carp Week***

Asian Carp were in the news almost every day during the week of February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The White House Council on Environmental Quality held a summit with the Governors of Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan on February 8<sup>th</sup>, at which time the Administration released the draft Asian Carp Control Strategy Framework. The strategy includes 32 short and long term actions to deal with the threat presented. Although there is support for many of the actions, some are pushing for stronger, more immediate action. On February 9<sup>th</sup>, a group of eight witnesses testified before a Congressional committee in Washington on the current and planned actions to deal with the carp, and about what is and is not understood about them. Well over 300 people attended a public meeting on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> held by the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee in Chicago to ask questions about the Framework and make comments. GLSLCI member Mayor Larry MacDonald of Bayfield, WI, provided comments on the Framework and emphasized the importance of keeping the Carp out of the Great Lakes. Mayor George Heartwell, GLSLCI Chairman, is also presenting comments at a similar hearing in Ypsilanti, MI on February 17. For the full Framework please visit

<http://www.asiancarp.org/RegionalCoordination/documents/AsianCarpControlStrategyFramework.pdf>.

### ***Save the Date – Cities Initiative Annual Member Meeting & Conference!***

Mark your calendars - the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative 2010 Annual Member Meeting and Conference will be held June 16-18, 2010 in Milwaukee, WI! Visit the Conference website at [www.glslici2010milwaukee.org](http://www.glslici2010milwaukee.org) for the latest news and updates on the Annual Meeting and Conference. Confirmed speakers so far for the annual meeting include Cameron Davis, Special Advisor on the Great Lakes to the US EPA Administrator and the Deputy Mayor of Turku, Finland from the Union of Baltic Cities.

### ***Membership***

Join the 71 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.

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