



## **BRIEFING**

### **April 15, 2007**

#### ***Ontario Takes Action to Protect Great Lakes***

On April 3<sup>rd</sup> the Ontario Government introduced legislation to implement the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement. The Safeguarding and Sustaining Ontario's Water Act will make into law the province's existing ban on diversion of water out of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River, Nelson and Hudson Bay basins and will prohibit new or increased diversions of water from one Great Lakes watershed to another, subject to strictly regulated exceptions. "As the provider of safe drinking water, cities have a great interest in preserving, protecting, and restoring the ecosystem health of the Great Lakes" said City of Toronto Mayor David Miller. "This bi-national agreement is an important first step in ensuring that all governments around the Great Lakes Basin work together to protect this invaluable resource." The Act is currently listed on the Environmental Registry for public comment at [www.ebr.gov.on.ca](http://www.ebr.gov.on.ca).

#### ***Chicago Receives Grants for Wetlands Restoration and Rehabilitation***

Two Chicago-area efforts at habitat restoration are being awarded grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Great Lakes Watershed Restoration Grants Program. The North Park Village Wetlands Restoration and the Bold Chicago Institute's Calumet is My Backyard efforts have both been awarded grant funding for 2007. The Restoration Grants Program addresses ecological restoration needs identified by the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration. To find out more about the program and 2007 grant recipients, please visit [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org).

#### ***Ontario/Great Lakes Regional Meeting in Toronto***

There will be an Ontario/Great Lakes Regional Meeting of GLSLCI on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007 in Toronto, Ontario at Toronto City Hall. Regional meetings provide cities the opportunity to come together to discuss issues pertinent to their region as well as broader Basin topics. Please contact Elizabeth Wood at [ewood@toronto.ca](mailto:ewood@toronto.ca) and 416-392-2903 **by Friday April 20** regarding your attendance and note any staff that will be accompanying you.

#### ***Celebrate Earth Day!***

Cities around the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence will be celebrating Earth Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. For information about Earth Day events and activities around the world, visit [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org).

177 North State Street, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60601 ~ (312) 201-4516 phone ~ (312) 553-4355 fax  
[www.glslicities.org](http://www.glslicities.org)

*David Miller, Mayor of Toronto, Chair*

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



### ***GLSLCI Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids***

The GLSLCI annual meeting will be hosted in Grand Rapids on July 11, 12, and 13, 2007. Formal invitations will be sent out soon. Please visit [www.glslcities.org/annual.htm](http://www.glslcities.org/annual.htm) for more information.

### ***Membership Success***

GLSLCI now has 42 members with the Town of Penetanguishene, Ontario joining the organization. In addition, eight cities have renewed their memberships. Membership continues to be very important, so please get your neighboring communities to join, and be sure to renew your membership when you receive your notice.

### ***Call for Stormwater Ordinances***

GLSLCI is calling for examples of municipal stormwater ordinances to be highlighted in our website's Best Practices section. If you feel your city has a best practice stormwater ordinance, please send an electronic version to [melissa.arjomand@glslcities.org](mailto:melissa.arjomand@glslcities.org). If you don't have an electronic version or web link to the ordinance, please mail a hard copy to Melissa Arjomand at GLSLCI.