



MAKING WAVES

October 16, 2009

Town of Goderich Making Great Strides in Water Management

Ontario's *Better Farming* magazine highlighted the City of Goderich, Ontario for its strides in water and sewer treatment over the past few years. The public/private partnership of U.S. Filter and the City of Goderich has allowed for successful management of all water systems. After a 30 year plan for separating sanitary and storms sewers, the project was completed in 2008. In addition to the water and sewer improvements that Goderich has taken on in the past years, the importance of adjusting to climate change has been at the forefront of Mayor Shewfelt's city plan. The city is in the process of installing an ultraviolet system for treating sewage in order to limit the amount of chlorine used during sewage treatment. This is just another step in the direction of limiting possible chemical runoff into Lake Ontario. Goderich hopes to achieve Blue Flag beaches by implementing DNA testing in the coming years after high E. coli levels have been a previous problem. Mayor Shewfelt expresses his pride in the accomplishments of the Town in recent years and hopes to continue along that pathway.

Mayor Heartwell and Commissioner Spatz Speak at GreenTown

Mayor George Heartwell of Grand Rapids and Commissioner John Spatz of the City of Chicago, Department of Water Management, participated in a session on water at GreenTown Chicago on October 15, 2009. GreenTown is a one day conference focused on sharing best practices and encouraging communities to become sustainable. David Ullrich moderated the session, entitled Improving Quality, Reducing Quantity: Protecting the Great Lakes Water Supply. Mayor Heartwell presented on the City's combined sewer system separation work as well as various ongoing water conservation measures, including use of partially treated wastewater for operations and processes at the wastewater treatment plant and planning requirements for native vegetation in landscape design. Commissioner Spatz highlighted water conservation measures that the City of Chicago currently has underway, including the MeterSave program, a voluntary effort to install meters in Chicago homes, and efforts to better manage rainwater, including the McCormick Place roof drainage system that returns rainwater to Lake Michigan. To learn more about GreenTown, please visit www.greentownconference.com.

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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



The Return of Atlantic Salmon to Lake Ontario

The Northumberland News brought to life the work of community volunteers and local students in Cobourg, Ontario working with the Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program. The public/private partnership is striving for the return of Atlantic Salmon to the Cobourg Creek and beyond. The salmon species was wiped out over a century ago due to dam building, farming and over-fishing. With the help of students at the Cobourg District Collegiate Institutes, the establishment of hatching aquariums has successfully raised eggs to the fry stage before releasing them into the Cobourg Creek. Staff members from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, students and technicians give a lift to the salmon in the Cobourg Creek to help them over the 200 year old dam, in hopes of future spawning. The program is looking into creating access around the dam in the future to promote the continuation of spawning of Atlantic Salmon in Lake Ontario and its tributaries. More information on the project can be found at www.bringbackthesalmon.ca.

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! Stay tuned for more information on the 2010 Annual Member Meeting and Conference.

Membership

Please join us in welcoming the City of Marquette, MI to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative! Join the 70 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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