



MAKING WAVES

January 5, 2010

Happy New Year!

The Cities Initiative would like to wish you a very Happy New Year on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence – a year filled with protection and restoration of our wonderful freshwater resources!

Ottawa River Clean-Up

The EPA, Ottawa River Group, State of Ohio and City of Toledo have partnered for the first phase of a \$49 million clean-up of the Ottawa River and the Sibley Creek around Toledo, Ohio. The project, funded through the Great Lakes Legacy Act and the Ottawa River Group, a consortium of private businesses in partnership with the city of Toledo, will remove 260,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment from the river and creek. The goal of the ongoing project is to reduce the impacts on human health and the environment in the area. More information on the project can be found at <http://epa.gov/glla/ottawa/index.html>

Renegotiation of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Webinar

The U.S. EPA and Environment Canada will host a public webinar on January 14, 2010 to inform stakeholders, interested parties and the public on the process of renegotiating the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. The webinar will take place between 1:00-3:00pm (central)/ 2:00-4:00pm (eastern). There will be an opportunity for participants to ask questions during the webinar. Cities Initiative staff will participate in the webinar to ensure we have the most up to date information on the renegotiations. EPA suggests registering early as space is limited. To register, please visit <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/824328713>.

EPA Makes \$2 Million Available For Reducing Toxics

U.S. EPA's Community Action for Renewed Environment (CARE) program has \$2 million available for community action programs that reduce toxic pollution in local environments. The first level of funding will go towards establishing community based partnerships to reduce pollution. The second level of funding will be for communities that have already established partnerships but wish to measure results, implement reduction activities, and establish self sustaining efforts to improve human and environmental health. The CARE program has previously awarded grant funding to projects reducing air, water, and stormwater pollutants as well as hazardous materials. Applications for the CARE grants are due by March 9, 2010. More information on the program, including three information webinars that will be held in February, can be found at www.epa.gov/care.

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



EPA Holding Public Listening Session on Stormwater Rule

The U.S. EPA will hold five public listening sessions on a potential stormwater rule. The rule will move to strengthen current regulations and establish a program to reduce stormwater in new and redevelopments. The EPA will accept written comments until February 26, 2010. More information on the public listening sessions can be found at

<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/rulemaking>

Fish Habitat Project Funding Available Through GLRI

Through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is offering two separate grant opportunities. The Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership (Partnership) has \$1 million available to protect, restore and enhance fish habitats. The Partnership urges local level involvement and on the ground fish habitat projects. Proposals for the Partnership program are due by February 12, 2010 and more information can be found at

<http://greatlakesrestoration.us/?p=230>.

The second of the grant opportunities is part of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (Restoration Act). The Restoration Act opportunity offers \$8 million for the remediation of fish and wildlife threats in streams, channels and coastal wetlands. The Restoration Act pre-proposals are due by January 22, 2010 and require a 25% match.. Application materials and more details on the Restoration Act can be found at <http://greatlakesrestoration.us/?p=188>

These programs are just two of many great funding opportunities through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. We encourage our member municipalities to apply for direct funding for restoration projects through the GLRI. All grant proposals are due by January 29, 2010. More information on the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the Request for Proposals can be found on the EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/fund/2010rfp01/index.html>.

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 Montmagny, Québec to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative! 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.

177 North State Street, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60601 ~ (312) 201-4516 phone ~ (312) 553-4355 fax
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