



MAKING WAVES

May 17, 2010

Grand Rapids Receives Most Sustainable Midsized Community Award

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center and the Siemens Corporation has recognized the City of Grand Rapids with the most *Sustainable Community Award* for a mid-sized city in the United States. Cities Initiative Chair, Mayor George Heartwell accepted the award in Houston, Texas last week, along with the mayors from Philadelphia, PA and Newton, Iowa for most sustainable large and small communities, respectively. All three communities were praised for their achievements in sustainability in environmental, social and economic means. Grand Rapids will be presented with a variety of trees to be planted throughout the city. Congratulations to Mayor Heartwell and GLSLCI member city, Grand Rapids!

Canada Looks to Strengthen Prohibitions Against Bulk Water Exports with New Bill

On May 13, 2010, the Honourable Lawrence Cannon tabled the *Transboundary Waters Protection Act*, which, if passed, would strengthen existing prohibitions against the bulk exportation of fresh water resources. While protective measures against the bulk exportation of water have existed to protect waters under federal jurisdiction, the Act provides a more comprehensive prohibition and also covers rivers and streams that cross international borders. The legislation may be viewed at: http://www2.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Bills/403/Government/C-26/C-26_1/C-26_1.PDF

GLSLCI is currently working on an analysis of the proposed legislation and implications for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, and will make this available shortly.

Top Speakers expected at Annual Meeting and Conference

The agenda and speakers for the Annual Meeting and Conference are shaping up very well, with Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle, Canadian Ambassador to the U.S. Gary Doer, Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, Chicago Mayor Richard Daley (invited), Wisconsin DNR Secretary Matt Frank, Turku, Finland Deputy Mayor Jarrko Virtanen, and EPA Senior Great Lakes Advisor Cameron Davis all schedule to speak. A range of panels that look at how restoring the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River will help revitalize the economy and create jobs will provide many good ideas for all those attending.

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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



Great Tours Planned for Annual Meeting and Conference in Milwaukee

This year's Annual Meeting and Conference in Milwaukee will be offering a variety of tours and activities for both conference attendees and companions.

Wednesday afternoon June 16th

- Join a Riverboat Brew-pub tour visiting three local breweries on a scenic boat trip along the Milwaukee River.
- For non-members that evening, the Host Committee has organized a cocktail hour at Milwaukee's new Iron Horse Hotel. (*shuttles provided*)

Thursday June 17th Companion events include:

- Tour of the Drinking Water Treatment facility
- Visits to Discovery World, both on Lake Michigan
- Shopping in the 3rd Ward's boutique district
- All completed with plenty of time to get ready for our Gala Reception at the Milwaukee Art Museum

Friday afternoon June 18th

- A special tour of *Growing Power*, a nationally recognized, local sustainable non-profit organization committed to community food systems.
- That evening check out Polishfest on our lakeside Summerfest grounds or
- The Lakefront Art Festival surrounding the Art Museum

Email info@glslci2010milwaukee.org to sign up for the tours. Tours are subject to change based on response.

Register Now – Cities Initiative Annual Member Meeting & Conference!

Register for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative 2010 Annual Member Meeting and Conference to be held June 16-18, 2010 in Milwaukee, WI! Book your accommodations at the [Pfister](#) today! For more details on the conference program and featured speakers, please visit www.glslci2010milwaukee.org.

Membership

Join the 72 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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