



## **MAKING WAVES**

**October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011**



### ***City of Marquette Moves to Save Lakes with Red Buckets***

The City of Marquette in cooperation with the Superior Watershed Partnership (SWP) and the Marquette Community Foundation (MCF) launched a new low-cost program that has dramatically reduced cigarette butt litter on Lake Superior public beaches and significantly raised public awareness about storm water runoff. New no-smoking regulations have had the unintended consequence of increasing cigarette butt litter. When people go outside to smoke they often throw their cigarette butts on the sidewalk or into the street. When it rains (or snow melts) it carries these butts down the nearest storm drain and into Lake Superior where they wash up on adjacent public beaches. The Red Bucket Project provides a free red metal bucket filled with beach sand to any Marquette restaurant, bar, business or organization that wants to help reduce litter and keep local beaches clean. The bucket is placed on the sidewalk outside the participating business and includes a maintenance scoop. This simple

but effective program is now being replicated in other Great Lakes communities around the Upper Peninsula.

### ***GLSLCI Featured at Conferences***

Dave Ullrich spoke at two conferences recently about the good work of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and our member cities, and will be doing more in the near future. The presentations were to the Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources and an Australian Parliamentary delegation, both in Chicago, and on October 4 will be speaking at the Green Building Council conference in Toronto.

In addition, the Stormwater Report developed by the Cities Initiative with great involvement from the membership has been featured in many arenas over the past few months:

- 2011 GLSLCI Annual Meeting and Conference- Niagara Falls, Ontario
- Water Environment Association of Ontario Seminar - Milton Ontario
- Eastern chapter of the Ontario Municipal Water Association - Smith Falls, Ontario
- CTC Source Protection Committee meeting - October 25<sup>th</sup>, Toronto, Ontario
- Northwestern Ontario Water & Wastewater Conference – October 27<sup>th</sup>, Thunder Bay Ontario
- Stormwater Solutions Magazine
- UMQ's URBA
- Municipal World Magazine

### ***GLSLCI Mayors Featured at Healing Our Waters Conference***

Mayor George Heartwell of Grand Rapids, Mayor Denis Lapointe of Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, and Mayor Randy Hope of Chatham-Kent will speak on “Green Returns from Blue Investments” at the



annual meeting of the Healing Our Waters conference in Detroit on October 13, 2011. This is the largest and most well attended conference on the Great Lakes each year. They will be highlighting some of the actions they have taken in their cities that have been successful in advancing economic, environmental, and social progress. Dave Ullrich will moderate the session.

### ***Cities Initiative Requests Meeting to Discuss Ballast water***

On September 22, a letter was sent from Cities initiative Chairman Brian McMullan to New York State Lieutenant Governor Robert J. Duffy requesting a meeting to discuss the impact of New York's ballast water standards on ships transiting New York waters, and the ports and cities that serve these maritime vessels. In the letter, Mayor McMullan reiterated the Cities Initiative's position that ballast water standards should be *achievable, protective, and uniform*. This is best achieved through harmonized national standards for ballast water to protect against the threat of invasive species. The Cities Initiative will keep members informed of developments with regard to this request.

### ***Membership***

Join the 82 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.