

RECEIVED FEB - 2 1990

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GREAT LAKES UNITED

January 24, 1990

Dear Friends and Rappers:

We hope you're getting excited about the RAP workshop because we certainly are! Things are really hopping at the GLU office. We think that we'll have at least one representative from almost every Area of Concern in the Basin. Yahoo!

Please read this letter and the enclosed materials as they will provide you with important information such as how to get to Stella Niagara.

The Agenda

The focus of this workshop will be on solutions to problems. It's easy for all of us to dwell on the problems with remedial action plans. However, over the next few weeks what we'd really like you to think about are the strategies and tactics you've used to overcome problems. As community leaders you have acquired a variety of problem solving skills. These skills we want you to share with other participants at the workshop.

Friday night will be an informal session in which we will outline our expectations and plans for the weekend. It will also be an opportunity for people to get to know each other and talk about their Area of Concern.

Workshop sessions will focus on three areas: the planning process, technical contents of a RAP, and implementation. The planning process sessions will identify methods for controlling and participating in the RAP process. The technical content sessions will develop answers for questions such as: What should be in a RAP? and How do you achieve cleanup? Implementation sessions will cover such issues as funding for RAPs, contaminated sediments, and integrating RAPs into existing regulatory programs.

Please take some time to think about the agenda items, identify problems in each area, and most importantly, delineate strategies you've employed to address those problems.

"An international organization dedicated to conserving and protecting the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River"

State University College at Buffalo, Cassety Hall • 1300 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14222
(716) 886-0142

Canadian Address: P.O. Box 548 Station A • Windsor, Ontario N9A 6M6



Tasks For Participants

Please bring newsletters, brochures, displays, informational materials, etc. from your RAP. We will also have a slide projector and a video machine available. Bring materials about your local area, community group, and any other materials or resources that you feel will be valuable for people. We plan to have somewhere between 75 and 90 people attending this workshop - so bring enough copies for everyone (people from the same AOC could share).

For participants just getting involved in RAPs, please contact your state agency and find out what exactly is happening with the RAP in your AOC. For guidance you can use some of the survey questions (a copy of the survey is enclosed).

Accommodations

The workshop will be held at the Center of Renewal in Stella Niagara. The Center is located on the 130 acre site of the Sisters of Francis education/residential facility. It is approximately 7 miles from Niagara Falls and lies just above the Niagara River.

Most of the rooms are single rooms. If you have a preference for a double room, please indicate that on the registration form and we will accommodate this as is possible. The total cost for the accommodations (2 nights) and meals (5 meals -breakfast, lunch and dinner Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday) is \$60.00 per person. As stated in the letter which we sent previously GLU has scholarship money available to pay for travel and accommodations for 1 person from each Area of Concern. We have roughly allocated a certain amount of money to each area. We've asked everyone to travel as cheaply as possible - this will enable us to fund scholarships for more people and to develop informational materials to be distributed at the workshop. **Participants do not need to worry about arranging for accommodations - we have taken care of that.**

Travel Arrangements

Driving:

For those of you driving, a map and directions to the facility are enclosed. We are assuming that people who are driving will be arriving sometime Friday evening. However, it would be helpful if you could call the office and let us know the approximate time of your arrival to Niagara Falls.

Flying:

Enclosed you will find a registration form. Please specify on the form the time that you will be arriving on Friday and departing on Sunday. We will also need to know the airport you will be arriving at and leaving from and the flight numbers. At this time we are planning on arranging travel to and from the airport. We need to know your flight information soon in order to make these arrangements. Please call and let us know as soon as possible about your travel arrangements. You can leave a message on the answering machine after hours, or you can FAX the information to us at (716) 886-0303.

Proof of Citizenship

For Canadians and Americans crossing the borders, be sure to bring proof of citizenship.

Reimbursement

In order to streamline our bookkeeping, we have enclosed a reimbursement form for you to sign and return to us with the original receipt or a copy of the receipt for your airline ticket. For those of you who are driving, we will reimburse your total mileage at the workshop. GLU will reimburse at our standard rate which is .20 per mile (this reimbursement includes gas). If you need to be reimbursed sooner than that, please let us know and we can work something out. Participants will be reimbursed at the workshop.

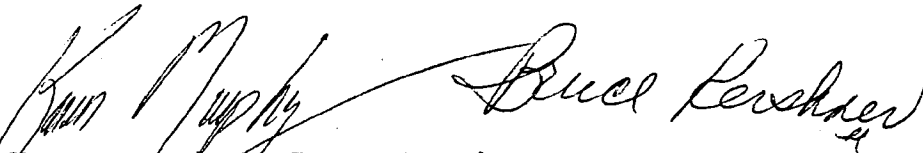
We want to thank everyone in advance for absorbing these costs initially. It really makes things much less hectic for us.

Musical Instruments, Juggling, etc.

When we spoke of skills, we forgot to include music, juggling, storytelling, and so on. So bring your instruments and we'll have some fun.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at the GLU office at (716) 886-0142.

Sincerely,


Karen Murphy & Bruce Kershner
Field Coordinators

GREAT LAKES UNITED

CITIZEN REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN WORKSHOP

REGISTRATION FORM

We are representing the _____

Area of Concern: _____

Delegate Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Postal Code _____ Phone _____

(check one below)

I will be _____ driving _____ flying

Friday, February 9

Sunday, February 11

Flight arrival time _____ Flight departure time _____

Flight number _____ Flight number _____

Airport _____ Airport _____

Room requirements: _____ (most are single rooms)

Meal requirements: _____

Delegate Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Postal Code _____ Phone _____

(check one below)

I will be _____ driving _____ flying

Friday, February 9

Sunday, February 11

Flight arrival time _____ Flight departure time _____

Flight number _____ Flight number _____

Airport _____ Airport _____

Room requirements: _____ (most are single rooms)

Meal requirements: _____

Please return your registration form by February 2 (preferably sooner if possible). If you cannot return it by that date, please call the office at (716) 886-0142. We do have an answering machine that will be on after office hours, so you may call at anytime with the information. Or you can FAX the information to us by calling (716) 886-0303.

GREAT LAKES UNITED
SUNY College at Buffalo, Cassety Hall
1300 Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222

SURVEY OF REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN PROGRESS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____

Country _____ Mail Code _____

Phone _____

Dear Friends:

Please take some time to answer these questions. Our purpose in distributing this survey is twofold. First, it will give us ideas in planning this workshop, and second, we hope it will focus your thoughts and ideas for the workshop. If you would like other citizens involved in your Remedial Action Plan to also fill out the survey please feel free to copy and distribute it. We would like to have the surveys returned to our office by January 15. If you cannot make this deadline, bring the survey with you to the workshop. Thank you.

1. What is your Area of Concern?

2. Does your Area of Concern have a Remedial Action Plan process in place?

a. If no, What is the agency timeline for beginning work on the RAP?

b. If yes, What stage of the process is your RAP in (check the following categories as appropriate)?

Introductory public meetings only.

The Public Advisory Committee or RAP Council is established.

RAP goals and objectives have been formalized.

Impaired beneficial uses have been identified.

Stage I RAP ("Definition of Problem") is in progress.

Stage I RAP completed and submitted to the IJC.

Stage II RAP ("Remedial Measures and Plan for Implementation") is in progress.

Stage II RAP completed and submitted to the IJC.

Implementation of the RAP's clean-up measures have begun.

3. How was your RAP started (e.g. in some areas citizens pressured the agency to begin the process)?

4. RAP Public Participation Process:

- a. How is the public brought into the process?

- b. How would you portray the quality of public participation in the RAP?

- c. How have local governments (and agencies) participated in the RAP?

5. Public/Citizen Committee Structure:

- a. What is the makeup of the advisory committee (i.e. proportion of local and state government, industry, citizens and public interest groups)?

- b. Do committee members fully represent the community (i.e. minority representation, First/Native Nations, ratio of men and women, etc.)

- c. How were committee members chosen?

- d. Who runs the meetings? If chairpersons or co-chairs run meetings, how has this worked? Who does your chairperson (co-chairs) represent?

- e. How is decisionmaking conducted? Do members make decisions by consensus or majority rule? Are decisions made?

6. RAP Control and Development:

- a. How is development of the RAP financed? Has the financing been adequate?

- b. Who controls the allocation of monies budgeted for the RAP?

c. What is the relationship between the Advisory Committee and the agency people writing the RAP document? Is it adequate? Do citizens participate on the team writing the RAP document? Does the writing team regularly report to the full advisory committee?

d. Is the Advisory Committee able to influence agendas, content, process and scheduling of RAP meetings and reports?

e. Who coordinates the RAP? How was this person chosen? (e.g. Was the job description developed, and the coordinator selected, by the committee or the agency?)

f. How did the Advisory Committee identify impaired uses?

g. What are the Advisory Committee goals and objectives?

i. Have priorities identified by the Advisory Committee been changed in the implementation of remedial strategies? Was the Advisory Committee consulted about, and did it support, these changes?

7. RAP Consistency with Principles of Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement:

a. Has the RAP established goals, principles, and programs that will achieve zero discharge of toxic chemicals?

b. Has the RAP established timelines for achieving zero discharge? Are these timelines being met? If not, identify why.

c. Does the RAP employ an ecosystem approach (e.g. effect to and from the open lake waters, other Areas of Concern, air, upstream from the watershed, and also food chain, fish and wildlife migration?)

d. Does the RAP focus only on discharges to water or does it address other sources of pollution (such as air pollution and contaminated sediments) and land uses?

8. RAP Relationship to Other Environmental Laws and Regulations:

a. How does the RAP fit in with existing environmental programs such as the Clean Water Act in the U.S. and the Municipal Industrial Strategy for Abatement (MISA) in Canada?

b. Do citizens in your community use the RAP to push your agenda on other environmental programs?

c. Do you feel that you understand the other programs and are able to integrate the RAP process into these programs?

9. RAP Implementation:

a. Are remedial actions being taken while the RAP is developed?

b. Are there significant barriers to the implementation of remedial actions? Please describe.

c. If barriers are encountered have any actions been taken to overcome these obstacles?

d. What financial resources are available for implementation?

**PLEASE RETURN SURVEY BY JANUARY 15 TO GREAT LAKES UNITED, SUNY BUFFALO, 1300
ELMWOOD AVENUE, CASSETY HALL, BUFFALO N.Y. 14222.**

RAP REVIVAL

How Far Have We Come and What Do We Need to Do to Develop and Implement RAPs

A Citizens Workshop on Remedial Action Plans

Friday, Saturday and Sunday
February 9 - 11, 1990
Center of Renewal
4421 Lower River Road
Stella Niagara, NY 14144

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Friday, February 9

6:00 - Registration
Informal discussions amongst participants

Saturday, February 10

8:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast

9:30 - 9:45 Introductions and Welcome

9:45 - 10:30 Summary of the Barriers and Problems with
Remedial Action Plans - John Jackson

10:30 - 11:00 Open Discussion of Problems

11:00 - 12:30 pm Workgroup Session: Restructuring the Process
for Developing and Implementing RAPs.
Four workgroups will identify solutions to
different problems encountered within the RAP
process.

12:30 - 1:30 Lunch

1:30 - 3:30 Workgroup Session: What is a good RAP?
Workgroups will identify criteria for a good
RAP including zero discharge, the ecosystem
approach, etc.

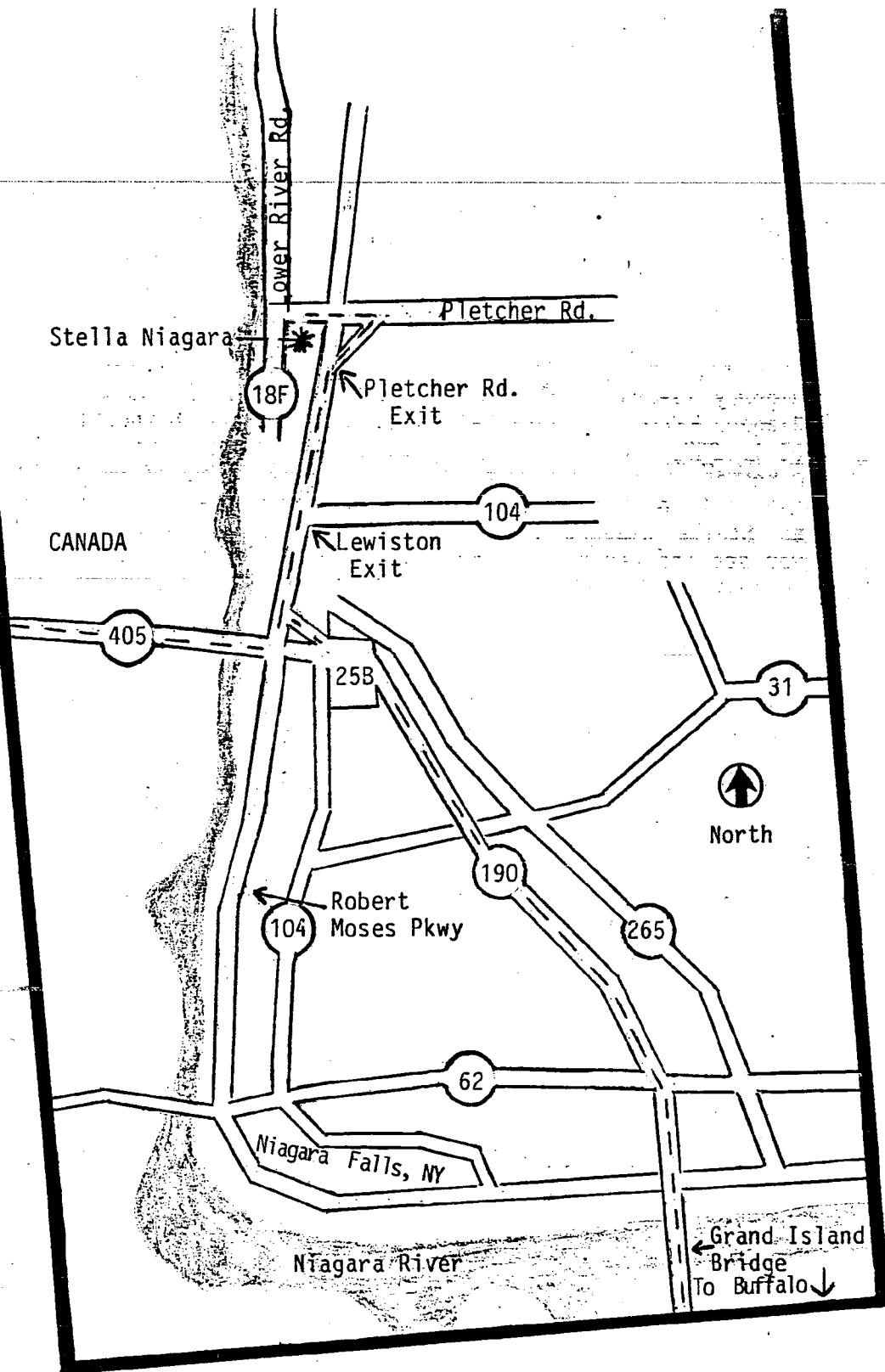
3:30 - 3:45 Break

3:45 - 5:30 Workgroup Session: Implementing RAPs Over the
Long-Term. Workgroups will identify
strategies for incorporating RAPs into
existing regulatory programs, as well as
identify mechanisms for obtaining funding,
review remediation technologies, etc.

5:30 - 6:30 Dinner
6:30 - 8:00 Reports from the Workgroup Sessions

Sunday, February 11

8:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast
9:30 - 11:00 Building Stronger Coalitions
Strategy sessions focussing on Lakewide,
connecting channel, and states/provinces
coalition-building.
11:00 - 12:30 pm Full Group Strategy Session: Taking our
Message to the Governments
12:30 - 1:30 Lunch



SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR WRITTEN DIRECTIONS

TRAVEL INFORMATION

The Center of Renewal at Stella Niagara, NY is situated along the Niagara River approximately ten miles north of Niagara Falls.

AUTOMOBILE From Interstate 90:

Take New York Thruway, I-90, to Exit 50, which leads to Youngman Highway (I-290). Follow the Youngman to I-190 North (Exit marked Niagara Falls). Follow I-190 North (14 miles) to the "last US exit", (Exit 25B). From Exit 25B take Robert Moses Parkway FORT NIAGARA direction. Exit at Pletcher Road (first exit after Lewiston) and turn left on Pletcher. Continue for about 3/4 of a mile to entrance to Stella Niagara Education Park; continue straight ahead until you see the Center of Renewal building. (Driving time from Buffalo, approximately 35-40 minutes; from Niagara Falls, 15 minutes.)

From Canada:

Take QEW to 405 to the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge. Take first exit past customs (comes up suddenly--marked Lewiston, Niagara Falls). Continue until you see Robert Moses Parkway, FORT NIAGARA. Proceed to Pletcher Road exit (first exit after Lewiston) and turn left on Pletcher. Continue for about 3/4 of a mile to entrance to Stella Niagara Education Park; continue straight ahead until you see the Center of Renewal building.

BUS

Bus service from Buffalo Greyhound Terminal is handled by NFTA-Metro and terminates at the Niagara Falls Transportation Center. Buses run from early morning until late at night.* The current bus fare is \$1.40.

From Canada some buses from Toronto come through to Niagara Falls, New York; many more buses come to Niagara Falls, Ontario. From there Niagara Scenic Bus Lines offers service to Niagara Falls, New York.*

AIR TRAVEL

Several major airlines fly into Buffalo International Airport, which is about 30 miles from Stella Niagara.

From Buffalo airport Niagara Scenic Bus Lines offers airporter service to Niagara Falls Transportation Center (April thru October approximately every hour and 15 minutes from 7:00am to 5:30pm and from November thru March approximately 8:45am, 11:15am, and 1:45pm). The current charge is \$8.00; round trip \$15.

*You may take a taxi the last 10 miles from the Transportation Center to Stella Niagara unless you have made previous arrangements with us. Taxi fare approx.\$10-\$15.

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR MAP DIRECTIONS

FIGURE 1. AREAS OF CONCERN IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN

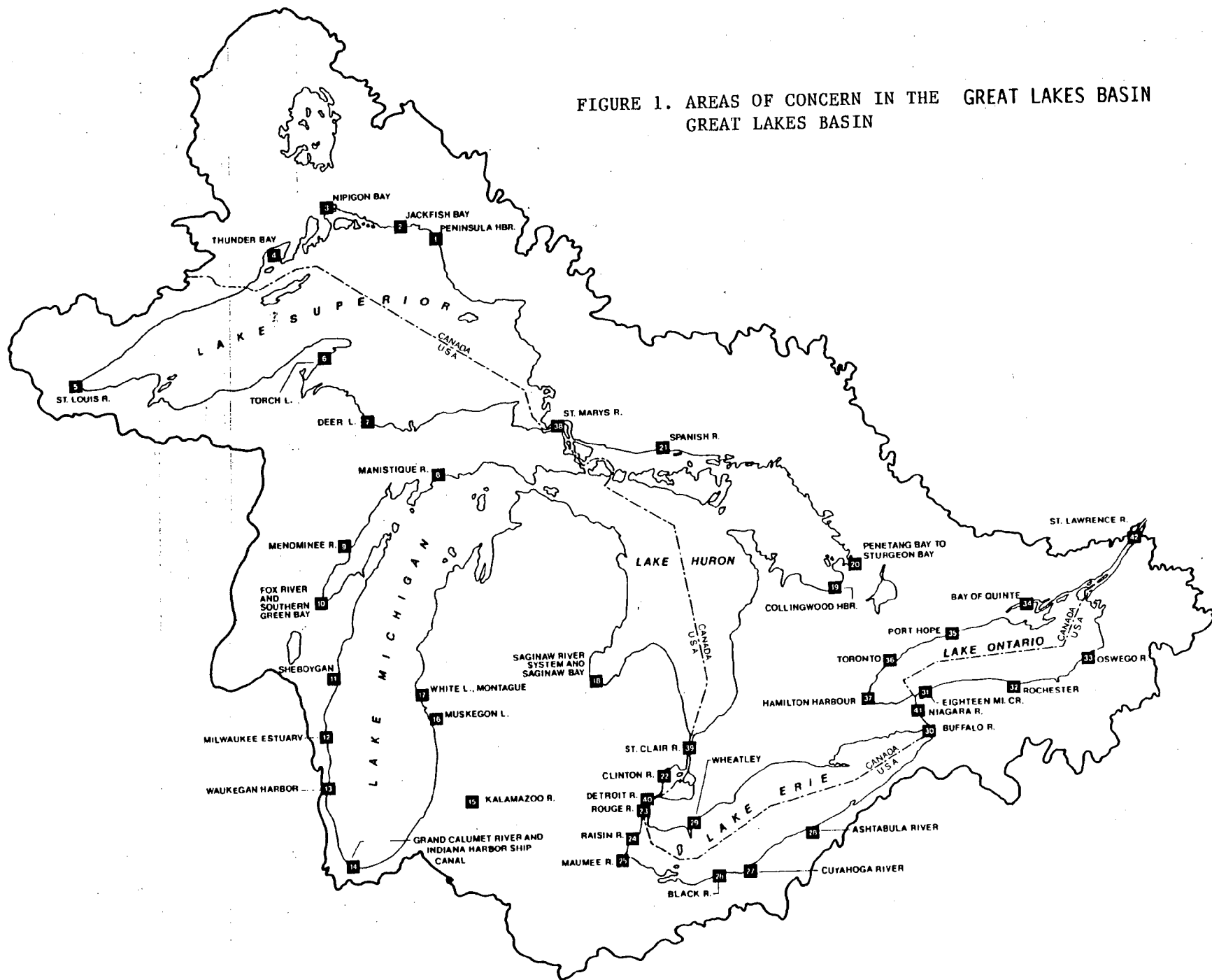


TABLE 1

JURISDICTIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING REMEDIAL ACTION PLANS
FOR THE 42 AREAS OF CONCERN IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN

RESPONSIBLE JURISDICTION	AREAS OF CONCERN BY LAKE BASIN	MAP REF. NO. ^a
	<u>Lake Superior</u>	
Ontario	Peninsula Harbour	1
Ontario	Jackfish Bay	2
Ontario	Nipigon Bay	3
Ontario	Thunder Bay	4
Minnesota/Wisconsin	St. Louis River	5
Michigan	Torch Lake	6
Michigan	Deer Lake-Carp Creek-Carp River	7
	<u>Lake Michigan</u>	
Michigan	Manistique River	8
Wisconsin/Michigan	Menominee River	9
Wisconsin	Fox River/Southern Green Bay	10
Wisconsin	Sheboygan	11
Wisconsin	Milwaukee Harbor	12
Illinois	Waukegan Harbor	13
Indiana	Grand Calumet River/Indiana Harbor Canal	14
Michigan	Kalamazoo River	15
Michigan	Muskegon Lake	16
Michigan	White Lake	17
	<u>Lake Huron</u>	
Michigan	Saginaw River/Saginaw Bay	18
Ontario	Collingwood Harbour	19
Ontario	Penetang Bay to Sturgeon Bay	20
Ontario	Spanish River Mouth	21
	<u>Lake Erie</u>	
Michigan	Clinton River	22
Michigan	Rouge River	23
Michigan	River Raisin	24
Ohio	Maumee River	25
Ohio	Black River	26
Ohio	Cuyahoga River	27
Ohio	Ashtabula River	28
Ontario	Wheatley Harbour	29
	<u>Lake Ontario</u>	
New York	Buffalo River	30
New York	Eighteen Mile Creek	31
New York	Rochester Embayment	32
New York	Oswego River	33
Ontario	Bay of Quinte	34
Ontario	Port Hope	35
Ontario	Toronto Waterfront	36
Ontario	Hamilton Harbour	37
	<u>Connecting Channels</u>	
Ontario/Michigan	St. Marys River	38
Ontario/Michigan	St. Clair River	39
Michigan/Ontario	Detroit River	40
Ontario/New York	Niagara River	41
Ontario/New York	St. Lawrence River	42

^aSee Figure 1.

Lessons From Green Bay: How to Make a RAP Work

By Rebecca Leighton, Lake Michigan Federation & Brown Co.(WI) Supervisor

It would be nice to think that a well-written RAP could take care of itself after printing. So many of us in Great Lakes United have devoted years to meetings, hearings and information-gathering, in hopes of finally writing the "clean-up plan to end all plans" a plan so clear and compelling that industries, agencies and government officials would rush to comply with the plan recommendations, while thanking environmentalists for their leadership and vision. It would be nice.

Unfortunately, a RAP simply sets the ground rules for future meetings, hearings and information-gathering in the ongoing effort to put the RAP into actual practice. We have to be realistic and plan to maintain continual pressure during RAP implementation, ready to jump into the process, when necessary, to keep the plan on track.

Most of the 42 Areas of Concern on the Great Lakes have not finished their RAPs yet. Therefore, many of you still have an opportunity to push for specific recommendations in the RAP to make the implementation move more smoothly. Valuable lessons can be learned from other Areas of Concern where implementation is already underway.

In Green Bay, Wisconsin, our RAP was approved and signed over a year ago, after a difficult two years of monthly Citizen Advisory and Technical Com-

mittee meetings. We were reasonably pleased with the result, though it wasn't perfect, and we were hopeful about the new Implementation Committee.

But, we've had some problems. In hindsight, we should have given more attention to the implementation structure outlined in the RAP, to anticipate possible conflicts and inefficiencies. If we had it to do over again, we would try to change the following factors and would urge you to do the same:

1) *Choose the Implementation Committee Carefully.* While it is important to have representation from community and industry interests, we can't forget that the majority of the committee must be supporters of the RAP.

Insist on having input on committee selection. At least three outspoken, hard-headed environmental advocates should be appointed and should plan to work closely together; otherwise, a strong potential exists for isolating and discrediting single environmental representatives. The industry, business and agency reps will "gang up" on them. Other interest groups should also be represented by strong RAP supporters, such as sportsmen and recreationists. But look out for hostile business leaders who also belong to the local duck or yacht club. They might be appointed to represent otherwise supportive groups but team up with industry representatives against RAP implementation. If this sounds like struggle, it's because it is. Sometimes it feels like guerilla war-

fare.

It also helps to get appointees who have actually read the RAP and understand the issues. This may seem obvious, but it's not automatic.

2) *Clearly Define the Role of the Implementation Committee.* The purpose of the Implementation Committee should be to implement the RAP, not redefine or rewrite the RAP in a multitude of ways. If the original document is written in the proper format, the committee's work should be clear; however, it doesn't hurt to ensure this clear understanding by describing it in detail in the RAP.

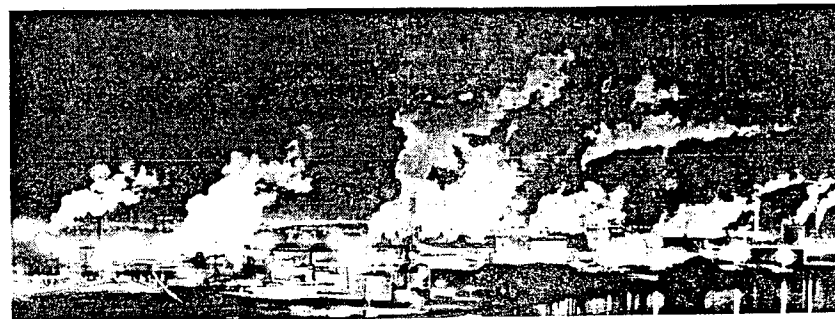
In Green Bay, we've gotten into lengthy debates over the purpose of the committee. Do we simply discuss broad policies and advise the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on long-range programs? Or do we get into specifics, and have input on how the RAP will be applied to real circumstances, right now? (We've been

repeatedly discouraged from commenting on current DNR actions and policies on controversial issues which are critically important to the RAP.)

The committee should get definite instructions on its role at the very first meeting. Don't allow for a muddy start, with members confused about the work they're expected to do this could drag on for months and years. Try to anticipate and design against potential conflicts by putting guidelines in the final RAP itself. You'll be grateful later that you did this.

3) *Educate the Implementation Committee.* A concerted educational program, consisting of intensive, specific explanations of the RAP recommendations, should be required with enough time to allow thorough coverage of the issues. Those organizing the committee must strive to make this as informative and entertaining as possible. The invest

continued on page 5





A Primer on Making a RAP Work

continued from page 1
ment in time and money at this point will pay later.

Once the Committee has been fully informed, individual members should be asked again if they intend to support implementation. If not, they should be asked to resign.

4) *Write the RAP in Workplan Format.* In Green Bay, our current RAP document is organized by subject matter, which is logical when trying to define our goals as a community. However, for the purpose of implementation, it creates an awkward document for defining the responsibilities of the various levels of government. Our plan has over 135 different recommendations cutting across many issues and levels of government. It becomes too easy for an agency or department to miss important recommendations, or to assume their responsibilities are actually someone else's. Some agencies might actually hope their responsibilities would be overlooked by others trying to implement the RAP, simply because they disagree with or don't want those responsibilities. It's unrealistic to expect every department head to read the entire plan and assume new responsibilities without encouragement. The process needs to be simplified for them.

Implementation Committees need documents which establish direct accountability, where it becomes a simple matter to pinpoint problems which need more intensive work.

If the RAP was written as a series of *Guidebooks*, each designed for a specific agency or level of government, it would streamline the education effort of the Implementation Committee. If these *Guidebooks* were further divided into fact sheets designed for individual departments in agencies, they would be even more effective. Each fact sheet could begin with a general explanation of the RAP's purpose, then quickly move to the items pertinent to that depart-

ment. It could explain why the recommendations were made, how they might be implemented, the timetable for completion, who to turn to for assistance if problems are encountered, requesting their advice for improving the plan, and requesting an annual progress report.

This re-organization would simplify the task of manager, since they wouldn't need to read the entire RAP. It would also simplify the task of the Implementation Committee and watchful citizens, because the responsibilities would be much clearer.

5) *Productive Activities for the Implementation Committee.* Generally, it's important to have high-powered, influential community leaders on the committee. They have the clout and contacts to make the plan work. However, these are busy people with little time for unproductive debates and pointless meetings. Their time needs to be structured to make best use of their talents. They will also be more enthusiastic about a well-organized project with clear goals.

Therefore, special care should be taken at the outset to define the role and workplan for the committee, and assign each member specific responsibilities. This should be charted even before the committee first meets.

One effective activity would be to form teams, made up of committee members, technical experts and/or knowledgeable volunteers, to deliver and personally explain the RAP recommendations to responsible agencies and government leaders. Personal contacts are more effective than letters. Ideally, each committee member should participate on any team visiting his or her own constituency, for example: county executives would be most effective in carrying the recommendations to their own department heads.

When visiting government officials:

a) Ask them to implement the recommendations as soon as possible, aiming to meet the deadlines in the RAP.

b) Ask them to report their progress at the end of the year, prior to the development of the RAP annual report, for inclusion in the report.

c) Problems are bound to arise. If they feel there are immediate obstacles or difficulties with the recommendations, they should report these in detail immediately to the Implementation and Technical Committees for their remediation. The parties should be asked their professional advice and to research means of solving these problems.

d) If they find difficulties which develop later in the implementation, they should report these as well.

e) They should attempt to refine the recommendations and provide more detailed information, as it becomes available. This feedback would be valuable in producing a more complete RAP in the future.

In addition, each committee member should regularly check back with their contacts and constituency to check on their progress and problems. This added watchfulness would aid in focusing the committee's trouble-shooting efforts. It would also maintain the pressure and momentum for implementation.

6) *Streamline Committee Meetings.* Any Implementation Committee will have a lot of issues to cover, with little staff time and money invested. Therefore, the decision-making processes should be streamlined. In Green Bay, we have a cumbersome process with a large Implementation Committee, a smaller Steering Committee and seven separate Technical Advisory Committees, each working on different categories of problems. After a slow start, it has become clear that issues have been shunted from one committee level to another, resulting in a lack of final decision-making, especially when the issues are controversial. The natural outcome of this process has been a lack of timely decisions and missed opportunities for promoting the plan.

Therefore, a committee procedure must be developed to move decisions smoothly from one committee to another on major issues, while allowing some autonomy for the Technical Committees to take minor actions without the Implementation Committee's expressed approval. Each Advisory Committee wishing a major decision or approval of reports should submit a written, detailed description prior to meetings, so that entire reports can be approved as a block with little discussion. Only disputed items should be discussed. This presumes that regular meetings, or even emergency meetings, of all groups will be held to allow timely action.

The Implementation Committee's main focus should be to promote the plan and solve problems which require the talents and influence of its members, not to waste time overseeing every recommendation and action of the Technical Committee.

7) *Public Accountability is Important.* Every RAP should require annual progress reports and public hearings, to allow public input on the implementation process. High visibility is crucial to RAP success, and public accountability helps to maintain pressure for the Implementation Committee to make progress each year.

In addition to the official reports, it's the responsibility of environmental advocates to develop publicity for *separate* analysis of the implementation, if the official version is inaccurate.

Summary

Even if all the above factors are written into your RAP, there will still be conflicts and setbacks to work around. This is discouraging. Nevertheless, it's important to keep participating and building awareness of the RAP plan, because the issues of public and ecosystem health are too important to give up on. It helps to remember that old-fashioned persistence often wins...eventually. □

Innovative Funding: A Model For Other RAPs?

"But we have no money in the budget!"

How many times have you heard this refrain from government officials who are explaining why they can't implement a clean-up program or can't provide funding for a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) process?

Fortunately, some RAP committees have progressed to the point where they are trying to come up with innovative methods of funding to carry out public participation or implementation of their RAPs. These could serve as models for the rest of the Great Lakes' 42 RAPs.

Two Michigan RAPs, Rouge River and Saginaw Bay, have proposed novel approaches that may be worth considering elsewhere.

The Saginaw Basin Natural Resources Steering Committee serves as the RAP council for that Area of Concern. It recently conceived the idea of forming a private, non-profit corporation that could tap into private funds for public information, education and research.

"We would generate funding from private organizations which have not previously been used for remedial programs," explains Richard Moore, coordinator of the Steering Committee and Planning Program Manager of the East Central Michigan Planning & Development Region.

The officers of the Steering Committee are acting as incorporators of a new, complimentary organization, the Saginaw Basin Alliance. The Alliance is a group of citizens, industry and local and state governments that would be the vehicle for the funding.

"But first, we must get the tax exempt status," Moore comments. "I expect no

problems with that."

After that status is obtained, they would approach area corporations and foundations to carry out three projects:

- A citizen guide to provide a non-technical summary of the Saginaw Bay RAP, which may total more than 600 pages;
- Scientific research, including sampling, water quality monitoring and socio-economic studies for implementation of alternative agricultural practices; and
- Education, in the form of conferences, workshops and brochures, so that the public can assimilate all the information.

A totally different approach has been taken at the Rouge River Area of Concern, located at a Michigan tributary of the Detroit River, on the south side of Detroit, including Dearborn.

The Rouge River Basin Committee has proposed the concept of forming a Drainage District to set up a mechanism for obtaining cooperative funding for RAP implementation of cleanup. This is in contrast to Saginaw Bay's mechanism to fund RAP planning.

A Drainage District is formed by the towns and municipalities of a river's watershed, who agree to assess -- charge a fee to -- all residents. The assessment would be a cooperative, broad-based financial mechanism to form sewer projects and initiate clean-up remedies for the river.

Drainage Districts are created under Michigan's Drain Code. Its original purpose was to provide proper drainage for agricultural land (including wetland drainage in early years!), but it has recently expanded to include pollution

control and sewage systems. To set up a District, a petition is submitted to a Board of Determination. If approved, a Drainage Board is formed and decides to undertake projects and oversee contracts.

Since Michigan is the only state to have a Drain Code, this may appear to limit the concept's applicability among the rest of the Great Lakes Areas of Concern. However, Michigan has 14 Areas of Concern, one-third of the Basin's total! Furthermore, six of those Areas of Concern are international or interstate connecting channels or are tributaries to them.

Specifically, the concept could provide funding for remedying combined sewer overflows, contaminated storm water discharges, stream channel improvement and access, and log-clearing. Participating communities could charge at-large assessments based on watershed area and population.

So far, there has been a mixed reaction from watershed communities, and some are taking a "go slow" approach. After all, an estimated \$900 million may be needed over coming decades. If the concept is turned down, then water and sewer rates will have to rise instead.

"While they are uncertain on how to clean it up, there is certainly strong support for the need to clean up the Rouge," states Jim Rogers of the Michigan DNR. "There is a commitment that legal clean-up requirements must go ahead."

Great Lakes United wants to hear about other innovative funding mechanisms for RAPs. If you know of any, please contact us at (716) 886-0142. □



Photo: Bruce Clark/Albany



"The success of Great Lakes United lies in our ability to support the activities and actions of local groups and to help mobilize and present a Basin-wide perspective on Great Lakes concerns."

John Jackson, President
Great Lakes United

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Philip E. Weller, Executive Director
Great Lakes United

SUNY College at Buffalo, Cassedy Hall
Buffalo, New York 14222

(716) 886-0142

GREAT LAKES FACTS

- As much as 90 percent of some toxic substances entering the Lakes comes from air pollutants. For example, 90 percent of the PCBs in Lake Superior come from air pollutants.
- A 1988 study of cormorant embryos from Lake Michigan's Green Bay found they had twice as many severe birth defects as embryos collected in other areas. Toxic chemicals are the suspected cause.
- The estimated economic value of the Great Lakes sport fishery is \$4 billion. More than four million people fished the Great Lakes in 1985.
- Twenty-five percent of Canadian agricultural production takes place in the Great Lakes Basin.
- Over 50 percent of Great Lakes region wetlands have been lost since European settlement.
- More than 150 million tons of hazardous commodities are transported on the Great Lakes each year.
- Water withdrawals from the Great Lakes Basin (not including hydroelectric use) totalled 37 billion gallons per day in 1987. Consumptive use (that which is not returned) was 1.2 billion gallons per day in 1987.
- All but one of the 42 Areas of Concern in the Great Lakes have contaminated sediments. Sediments in some sections of Waukegan Harbor, Illinois contain as much as 500,000 parts per million of PCB.
- There are over 160 inactive landfill sites, many of which contain toxic chemicals, within three miles of the Niagara River.

GREAT LAKES UNITED



*An international organization
dedicated to conserving and
protecting the Great Lakes -
St. Lawrence River ecosystem.*



GREAT LAKES UNITED

Since 1982, Great Lakes United has been a catalyst for citizens to have a stronger voice in policies and programs that affect the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin.

An international coalition of sportsmen, environmental, conservation, labor, business, community organizations and individuals from the eight Great Lakes states and two Canadian provinces – Great Lakes United works to protect the Great Lakes Basin.

The Great Lakes: A Treasured and Fragile Ecosystem

The Great Lakes Basin contains the watersheds of Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. Together the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River form the largest surface expanse of fresh water in the world.

Forty-five million people – both Canadian and American – live within the Basin. The future of all of us who call the Great Lakes our home depends upon our ability to protect this fragile and beautiful ecosystem.

An Ecosystem Imperiled

The health and beauty of the Great Lakes ecosystem cannot be taken for granted. The loss of wetlands, the threat of diversions and poisoning of the lakes by toxic chemicals are just a few of the dangers to the Great Lakes ecosystem.

"The Great Lakes represent 18 percent of the world's surface freshwater. The Great Lakes are the basis of recreation, industry, food and drinking water for tens of millions of Canadians and Americans who inhabit their shores. We must act now to restore Great Lakes water quality if we are to continue to prosper, or indeed, survive."

Honourable Jim Bradley
Ontario Minister of the Environment

Toxic chemicals are deposited in the Great Lakes from sources such as leaking dumps, direct discharges from pipes, and even rain contaminated with air pollutants. These chemicals, such as PCBs, dioxins, mercury and lead accumulate in the bodies of fish, birds and other wildlife and impede their ability to reproduce. These chemicals also make some wildlife unsafe to eat.

The contamination and degradation of the Great Lakes calls for international cooperation and coordinated citizen action.



One of 19 Citizen Water Quality Hearings sponsored by Great Lakes United in 1986 to review the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

Great Lakes United: Making the Difference

Great Lakes United has organized hearings, testified before the U.S. Congress, participated in international forums and published findings on toxic contaminants, the hazards of winter navigation, water diversion and airborne toxics in the Great Lakes Basin.

"Great Lakes United is the broad-based, basin-wide, grassroots movement for Great Lakes water quality that many of us have long hoped for. Great Lakes United is informed, effective and influential!"

Governor James J. Blanchard
State of Michigan

For the first time, the public – through the leadership of Great Lakes United – was a major player in shaping the terms of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. This agreement strengthened the protection of the lakes from pollution and other threats and provides a framework for cleaning up and rehabilitating degraded areas.

Great Lakes United has led the fight for stronger U.S. and Canadian cooperation on key environmental issues facing the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin. We will continue to fight until our goals for a cleaner Great Lakes region are met.

"Great Lakes United has been exemplary in demonstrating the need and effectiveness of citizen participation in environmental policy formulation and implementation. A leader in local, national, and international environmental issues, it has proposed innovative, action-oriented solutions to reclaim the Great Lakes from pollution."

Honorable Henry Nowak
U.S. House of Representatives

You Can Make the Difference

Public pressure for a cleaner environment can, and does, make a difference. If we are to protect the Great Lakes Basin, we must address the region as an entire ecosystem and push for responsible environmental regulation.

Through our quarterly newsletter, *The Great Lakes United*, and our action alerts, members are connected to a diverse, international network of concerned citizens.

PLEASE JOIN the growing number of concerned environmentalists, conservationists, sportsmen, union members, businesses and individuals who are helping Great Lakes United make a difference.

JOIN US!

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code _____

Phone(____) _____

Individual Membership (\$20.00)

Organizational Membership (\$100.00)

Send more information on Great Lakes United, please.

I/we would like to volunteer for Great Lakes United.

I/we would like to join a Task Force. Please return this form with check payable to:

GREAT LAKES UNITED

Cassety Hall

State University College at Buffalo

1300 Elmwood Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14222

In Canada:

P. O. Box 548

Windsor, Ontario N9A 6M6

For further information call Phillip E. Weller, Executive Director at (716) 886-0142.

To walk with you a part of your journey... some special people

The Center of Renewal staff draws from a wide range of spiritual backgrounds and experiences: contemplative prayer, holistic living, marketplace spirituality—each with a concern for social as well as personal transformation.

Those who come to the Center are special people too, and they often remark how much they have gained from one another—from those whose paths have crossed here.



l to r: Joseph Power, OSFS, Karen Allen, OSF, Catherine Gale, OSF, Fr. John Mergenhausen, of the Buffalo Diocese.

The Center of Renewal is part of the Stella Niagara Education Park, located on the 130 acre site where the Sisters of St. Francis established their Motherhouse in 1908. The campus also includes the Sisters' administrative offices, retirement residence and health center, as well as a private school, which makes available to the Center the use of an auditorium, gymnasium and outdoor athletic fields.

So close...

- 10 miles north of Niagara Falls, NY
- 25 miles north of Buffalo, NY
- 85 miles from Toronto, Ontario

and yet so far...

from the bustle and noise of the city!



Directions will be sent to you upon request, or when confirming your reservation.



Center of Renewal

4421 Lower River Road
Stella Niagara, NY 14144

716-754-7376

From Buffalo 892-8365 Ext. 26



"You
will show
me
the path
of life."

Ps. 16:11

Along your journey... a place to pause

The Center of Renewal at Stella Niagara is situated along the banks of the Niagara River, near the village of Lewiston, NY. It is an ideal setting for someone looking for a reflective atmosphere in which to pray and grow. It also answers the needs of large or small groups requiring a convenient place to pray, plan, study or dialogue. Accommodations are available for day, evening, weekend or weeklong programs, workshops or meetings.

Some of the reasons why people come to the Center and why they return:

- large, modern chapel with a newly designed prayer alcove;
- small out-of-the-way prayer room;
- the tower hermitage, secluded prayer space overlooking the river;
- a well stocked spiritual library as well as large collection of records and tapes;

More reasons why people come and why GROUPS find the Center attractive:

- conference/meeting rooms for groups as small as 10 and as large as 100, plus several small group discussion rooms;

- a large dining area where meals are served buffet style and where coffee and tea are always on;
- simple, comfortable bedrooms, single and double, accommodating up to 100;
- availability of audio-visual equipment, including a VCR;
- gift shop, book store, pottery and art gallery located on campus and made available during scheduled programs;
- elevators and ramps provide total accessibility.

The beautiful semi-rural setting of the Center lends itself naturally to outdoor activities according to the changing seasons: walking, biking, cross-country skiing.

Our indoor pool makes swimming available all year round during scheduled programs or by arrangement for groups.

An additional feature of the Center is its proximity to the natural, historical and cultural attractions of the Niagara Frontier: Niagara Falls, Fort Niagara, several additional state parks including Artpark, the renowned center for performing arts.

Wherever you are on your journey...a program to enrich you

Our holistic focus of programming...to touch spirit, body, mind and emotions...is encompassed in a year-round calendar including retreats, programs and workshops.

- we sponsor guest speakers, some nationally known, who are experts in their fields, for week-long or weekend programs on topics ranging from scripture and prayer to personal growth and development;
- scheduled and unscheduled directed and guided retreats offering silence, solitude and individual direction;
- private retreats, providing the opportunity to be by yourself for reflection, prayer, or study;
- day-long events including Sunday programs and monthly retreat days;
- Center Specials, combining several regularly scheduled retreats and workshops at a special price.

