



# Communications and Internet Technology

*Goal: To promote awareness and active participation in public policy decisionmaking through the application of communications techniques and technologies*

## What we did in 2002 to *restore the greatness:*

- Developed BeachCast portal that, starting in summer 2003, will offer an online source for Great Lakes beach advisories and monitoring information
- Redesigned Commission web site to enhance usability and provide online registration for Commission meetings and related events ([www.glc.org](http://www.glc.org))
- Created online database of active monitoring programs in the Lake Michigan basin
- Awarded the fifth Carol Ratza Memorial Scholarship to Amber Miller at the University of Dayton (Ohio)
- Promoted GLIN as model for “The Water Portal of the Americas,” an international initiative to map the water resources of the American continents
- Designed materials for and promoted the Commission’s endowment campaign ([www.friendsofthegreatlakes.org](http://www.friendsofthegreatlakes.org))
- Developed searchable, online Great Lakes Water Use Database that documents annual withdrawal, diversion and consumptive use

# Featured Projects

[www.glc.org/about/programs/cit.html](http://www.glc.org/about/programs/cit.html)

## What we do

*The Communications and Internet Technology Program facilitates the collection and distribution of information related to the protection and sustainable use of the region's natural resources through such means as the Internet, publications, press releases and professional exchanges. Contact: Christine Manninen, program manager, at [manninen@glc.org](mailto:manninen@glc.org)*

## BeachCast

[www.great-lakes.net/beachcast](http://www.great-lakes.net/beachcast)

BeachCast offers a regional, public gateway to information on Great Lakes beach health advisories, current lake conditions, weather, monitoring techniques and human health risks.

The project is supported by the U.S. EPA-Great Lakes National Program Office, in collaboration with beach managers working through the Great Lakes Recreational Water Quality Association.

## Daily News and Regional Press Room

[www.great-lakes.net/news](http://www.great-lakes.net/news)

Daily News is the most popular "point of entry" section on the Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) web site. To keep informed on Great Lakes issues, subscribers receive a free daily digest of news articles via e-mail.

Other new features include the Regional Press Room, which offers a single gateway to research and policy highlights from agencies and organizations serving the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region.

Through a collaborative partnership, the suite of Daily News services is jointly produced and marketed by GLIN and the Great Lakes Radio Consortium.

## Lake Michigan Monitoring Inventory

[www.great-lakes.net/gis/lkmich](http://www.great-lakes.net/gis/lkmich)

A searchable, online inventory of monitoring programs in the Lake Michigan drainage basin has been developed to complement the Lake Michigan Tributary Monitoring Inventory report, published in August 2000.

Through this mapping tool, users can discover and visualize the region's monitoring programs and data collected by various agencies.

This effort is supported by the Lake Michigan Team at U.S. EPA Region 5.



**Great Lakes Information Network**  
[www.great-lakes.net](http://www.great-lakes.net)

*Photo: Grand Haven pier, Lake Michigan – Dave Brenner, Michigan Sea Grant*