



# Lake Erie Areas of Concern Summit

July 11-12, 2006 ~ Tom Ridge Environmental Center ~ Erie, PA

## AGENDA

### Tuesday, July 11

#### **10:00 a.m. Welcoming Remarks and Review of Agenda**

Anne Danielski, Interim Chair, Presque Isle Bay Public Advisory Committee  
Dan O'Riordan, Lake Erie LaMP Manager, U.S. EPA, Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO)  
Lori Boughton, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

#### **10:15 a.m. Setting the Stage: An Overview of Lake Erie Restoration and Protection Efforts**

*This session will provide a brief overview of Area of Concern and lakewide management efforts on Lake Erie. The purpose is to provide participants with a common understanding of the current status of these programs and the key challenges they are facing.*

Developments in the U.S. Areas of Concern Program, Vicki Thomas, U.S. EPA-GLNPO  
Developments in Canada's Areas of Concern Program, Sandra George, Environment Canada  
Ohio's Areas of Concern, Julie Letterhos, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
Michigan's Areas of Concern, Michelle Selzer, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
New York's Areas of Concern, Robert Townsend, New York Department of Environmental Conservation  
Pennsylvania's Presque Isle Bay AOC, Lori Boughton, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

#### **11:30 a.m. Discussion**

- *What are the common challenges facing the states and the Province of Ontario as they administer the AOC program and how can the Lake Erie community address them?*
- *What are the implications of recent developments in the U.S. and Canadian AOC programs and how can state, provincial and local AOC efforts benefit from them?*

#### **12:00 p.m. Lunch and Keynote Speaker**

Murray N. Charlton, Project Chief, Lake Management Research, Aquatic Ecosystem Management Research Division, National Water Research Institute, Environment Canada

#### **1:15 p.m. Voices from the Local Level: Challenges and Opportunities Facing Lake Erie's Areas of Concern and the Lake Erie Lakewide Management Plan**

*This session will review the efforts of local Remedial Action Plan Committees in the Areas of Concern and the Lake Erie Public Forum, with a focus on the following questions:*

- *What are you doing to make progress toward delisting?*
- *What are you doing in addition to working on your beneficial use impairments?*
- *What are the key obstacles that you face and how could you benefit from the experiences of the other Lake Erie AOCs and the Lake Erie Lakewide Management Plan?*

*A representative from each RAP committee and the Lake Erie Public Forum will be invited to use approximately 10 minutes to address these questions.*

#### **3:45 p.m. Break**

#### **4:00 p.m. Open Discussion and Identification of Common Priorities for Further Action**

*Issues and ideas generated in the previous session will be discussed, refined and narrowed down to a suite of common priorities for followup action at the lakewide, state/provincial and AOC level.*

#### **5:00 p.m. Adjourn to Reception and Tour of the Tom Ridge Environmental Center**

*Reception sponsored by the Pennsylvania Lake Erie Watershed Association.*

#### **7:00 p.m. Optional Dinner Cruise on Presque Isle Bay**

**Wednesday, July 12**

**8:00 a.m. Reconvene and Review Agenda for Day Two**

Lori Boughton, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

**8:15 a.m. Building Bridges and Facilitating Collaboration to Advance AOC Restoration Efforts**

*This session will review opportunities for Lake Erie's AOCs to collaborate with and benefit from programs and resources available at the federal, state/provincial and local levels. The goal of the session is to illustrate both successful examples and future opportunities.*

**Optimizing the Potential of the new Federal-State AOC Coordinating Committee**

Mark Elster, U.S. EPA-GLNPO

**Coordinating Federal, Provincial, and Local RAP Actions Through the Canada-Ontario Agreement**

Mary Ellen Scanlon and Ted Briggs, Ontario Ministry of the Environment

**Leveraging Lake Erie's Science Community Through the Lake Erie Millennium Network**

Jan Ciborowski, University of Windsor

**Advancing Great Lakes Research and Information Exchange Through the Great Lakes Regional Research and Information Network**

Frank Lichtkoppler, Professor, Ohio State University Extension and Extension Specialist, Ohio Sea Grant

**Coordinating Technical Expertise to Delist the Fish Tumor Impairment in the Presque Isle Bay AOC**

Eric C. Obert, Coastal Environmental Specialist, Pennsylvania Sea Grant

*Suggestions from the audience and open discussion.*

**9:45 a.m. Break**

**10:00 a.m. Building Core Capacity Among AOC Participants**

*What are the "core capacities" needed to implement Remedial Action Plans in the AOCs? Where does this capacity exist and how can we build on and strengthen it? A series of case studies will highlight how RAP participants have developed or secured the capacity needed to advance AOC restoration efforts.*

**Rouge River Area of Concern, Michigan**

Kurt Heise, Director, Wayne County Department of Environment

**Cuyahoga River Area of Concern, Ohio**

Jim White, Director, Cuyahoga River RAP and River Navigator, Cuyahoga American Heritage River

**Detroit River Area of Concern, Ontario**

Melanie Coulter, Coordinator, Detroit River Canadian Cleanup

**Buffalo River Area of Concern, New York**

Jill Spisiak Jedlicka, Buffalo River RAP Coordinator, Buffalo Niagara RIVERKEEPER

*Moderator: Jim White*

**11:45 p.m. Lunch and Keynote Speaker**

David A. Ullrich, Director, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

**1:00 p.m. Breakout Discussion Sessions to Identify Key Implementation Activities to Advance the Lake Erie Areas of Concern and the Lake Erie Lakewide Management Plan**

*Working in small groups, participants will generate a suite of key implementation activities that will build bridges between the Lake Erie LaMP and the AOCs and strengthen partnerships to advance AOC restoration efforts. For each followup activity the groups will identify what is needed; who can contribute; and how and when it should occur.*

**2:15 p.m. Reconvene and Report Out from Breakout Sessions**

*Each group will report out on the key followup activities that it identified. Open discussion will follow during which the full group will identify common priorities and next steps for implementing them.*

**3:00 p.m. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment**

Anne Danielski, Interim Chair, Presque Isle Bay Public Advisory Committee

Lori Boughton, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection