



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

Dick Kubiak, 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

Vicki Thomas & 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

Dick Kubiak, Chair, Presque Isle Bay Public Advisory Committee

Lori Boughton, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection