

# Lake Erie Areas of Concern Summit

July 11, 2006

Tom Ridge Environmental Center  
Erie, Pennsylvania

## Notes from Day One Discussions

- Advocacy at all levels
- Water quality monitoring
- Public education
- Save wetlands
- Discussion on global trade
- Yearly summit
- Work with industries
- Share materials/information/experience
- Talk about binational AOCs
- More focus on coastal zone
- Seek more funding
- Demonstrate economic advantage of land use change and other environmental restoration
- Establish self-funding watershed management organizations
- Communication planning
- Habitat enhancement
- Increase public participation
- Link LaMPs with RAPs to assist watershed plans
- Build government/non-profit partnerships
- Find reference non-AOCs
- Ongoing communication/networking forum
- Linking research to BUIs
- More definition to some BUIs
- Facilitator for each RAP
- Engaging/connecting with local officials – local-state government communication
- Stable, long-term dependable funding for both state and local RAP reps.
- Looking into alternative funding sources (e.g., using penalties and fines to fund environmental restoration)
- Monitoring data and expert analysis/assessment of data; linking data to indicators used in RAPs
- Linking land to water in the public consciousness (the river is the memory of the land through which it has flowed)
- Good leadership at the state and local level
- Expand public forum to include AOCs (e.g., watershed federation or council of Lake Erie watersheds)
- Creativity in exploring options with feds, states, and locals
- Local focus on outcomes, especially related to BUIs
- How to address/fund BUIs other than sediment (e.g., Legacy Act doesn't apply)
- Educating children – next generation of stewards
- Learning from each other what doesn't work (put your "oops" on the table)
- Ingredients of successful Legacy Act projects; nuts and bolts to process
- Lessons learned through RAPs should be applied to watersheds and vice-versa
- Opportunities to address BUIs through programs like CZM
- Advocacy network via RAPs (to get increased resources)
- How do we connect people with something they can't see (e.g., BUIs they can't connect with)
- Change attitude to value the environment; public awareness of individuals' role in environmental problems
- Local coordinator key / good implementation framework
- Build synergy/coordinate/collaboration between groups with similar interests
- Federal interest in prioritizing RAPs
- Impact of NPS on AOCs and watersheds
- Master list of research projects (research clearinghouse/expert directory organized by BUIs)