



# Lake St. Clair:

## Restoring the Heart of the Great Lakes

Tuesday-Wednesday, June 17-18, 2003

Thomas Edison Inn

Port Huron, Michigan

### Conference Overview

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Come join us on June 17-18 in Port Huron to learn about and discuss the current and future state of Lake St. Clair! The conference will convene stakeholders from the Lake St. Clair community to review, assess and advance restoration and protection efforts for the lake and its watershed. Conference outcomes will inform development of a comprehensive management plan being prepared by a team of public agencies and stakeholders. The conference is intended for resource managers, local officials, elected representatives, citizens' organizations, business/industry representatives, local residents and the media with an interest in the Lake St. Clair watershed.

### Preliminary Conference Agenda

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#### Day 1: Tuesday, June 17

**8:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:30 a.m. Welcoming Remarks and Review of Agenda**

Michael J. Donahue, President/CEO, Great Lakes Commission

**8:40 a.m. Shaping the Future of the Lake St. Clair Watershed: Federal Perspectives**

Gary Gulezian, Director, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-Great Lakes National Program Office  
Susan Humphrey, Manager, Restoration Programs Division, Environment Canada

**9:15 a.m. Restoration and Protection Initiatives for Lake St. Clair: Congressional Perspectives**

*Video statements will be provided from the following federal legislators:*

Congresswoman Candice Miller  
Congressman Sander Levin  
Senator Carl Levin

**9:30 a.m. The State of Lake St. Clair 2003**

*Presentations will address the status and trends of major issues related to the environmental health of Lake St. Clair and its watershed.*

*Results from Macomb County's Lake St. Clair Assessment Project*  
Jim Buzonik, Macomb County Health Department

*Trends in the Lake St. Clair Fishery*  
Jeff Schaeffer, U.S. Geological Survey, Great Lakes Science Center

*Trends in Land Use in the U.S. Lake St. Clair Watershed*  
Chuck Hersey, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments

*Trends in Land Use in the Canadian Watershed*  
Orrie Wigle, St. Clair River Conservation Authority

**10:45 a.m. Break**

**11:00 a.m. The State of Lake St. Clair 2003 (continued)**

*Trends in Recreational Boating on Lake St. Clair*  
Van Snider, Michigan Boating Industries Association

*Advancing Homeland Security and Protecting the Environment: The Role of the U.S. Coast Guard*  
Lt. JG Brandon Sullivan, U.S. Coast Guard

**12:00 Noon Lunch and Keynote Speaker**

Ken DeBeaussiaert, Director, Michigan Office of the Great Lakes

**1:15 p.m. Managing Lake St. Clair: Current Programs and Future Opportunities**

*The afternoon breakout sessions will feature presentations on management activities for key issues affecting Lake St. Clair. Speakers will address the status of these programs and identify opportunities to refine or enhance their effectiveness in protecting and restoring Lake St. Clair. Input from the sessions will be reported and discussed in plenary session on the second day of the conference and will be considered in developing recommendations in the Lake St. Clair/St. Clair River comprehensive management plan.*

## 1) Human Health

### *Drinking Water Protection*

Brad Brogren, Public Health Institute, Michigan State University

### *Fish Consumption Advisories*

### *Beach Closures*

Gary White, Macomb County Health Department

Moderator: Roy Schrameck, Environmental Consulting and Technology, Inc.

## 2) Habitat and Biodiversity

### *Protecting and Restoring Habitat*

David Brakhage, Ducks Unlimited

### *Preserving Habitat and Biodiversity in the St. Clair Delta*

Dean Jacobs, Walpole Island Heritage Centre

### *Data and Decisionmaking Tools for Protecting Sensitive Species and Habitat*

Ed Schools, Michigan Natural Features Inventory, MSU Extension

Moderator: Victoria Pebbles, Great Lakes Commission

## 3) Land Use

### *Land Use Planning*

Amy Mangus, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments

### *Urban Runoff and Stormwater*

Kristen O'Reilly, St. Clair County Health Department

Lynne Yustick, Macomb County Public Works Office

### *Combined and Sanitary Sewer Overflows*

Vyto Kaunelis, Orchard, Hiltz, and McCliment, Inc.

Moderator: Jim Ridgway, Environmental Consulting and Technology, Inc.

**3:00 p.m. Break**

**3:15 p.m. Repeat of Breakout Sessions**

**5:00 p.m. Reception for Conference Participants**

*The reception will include presentation of the first "Heart of the Great Lakes Award" to John C. Hertel, former Chair of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners.*

## Day 2: Wednesday, June 18

**8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast**

**8:30 a.m. Reconvene and Review Agenda**

**8:35 a.m. Keynote Address**

### *Restoring the Heart of the Great Lakes: The Role of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Magness, Commander, Detroit District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**9:00 a.m. Policy and Management Options for Lake St. Clair: Reporting Out from the Breakout Sessions**

*Reporters from the previous day's breakout sessions will summarize outcomes. Open discussion will follow for all attendees.*

Moderator: Jim Ridgway, Environmental Consulting and Technology, Inc.

**10:30 a.m. Break**

**10:45 a.m. Building a Framework for Managing the Future of Lake St. Clair**

*A panel of government officials will review roles and responsibilities for Lake St. Clair, including opportunities for coordination and communication among management agencies.*

Rose Ellison, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Rick Hobrla, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Bill Smith, Macomb County Water Quality Board

John Jones, St. Clair County Water Quality Board

John McCulloch, Oakland County Water Quality Board

Dean Jacobs, Walpole Island Heritage Centre

Moderator: Michael J. Donahue, Great Lakes Commission

**12:00 Noon Wrap Up and Closing Remarks**

## 4) Fisheries, Recreational Boating and Commercial Navigation

### *Fisheries Management*

Jim Francis, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

### *Ballast Water Management*

Lt. Matthew R. Colmer, U.S. Coast Guard

### *Dredging and Lake Levels*

Roger Gauthier, Great Lakes Commission

Moderator: Tom Rayburn, Great Lakes Commission

## 5) Monitoring

### *Monitoring Needs and Recommendations for Lake St. Clair*

Ric Lawson, Great Lakes Commission

### *U.S. Geological Survey Monitoring for the Lake St. Clair Watershed*

Jim Nicholas, District Chief, U.S. Geological Survey

### *Monitoring Programs of the State of Michigan*

Joe Rathbun, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Moderator: Ric Lawson, Great Lakes Commission