



**Great Lakes Sediment and
Nutrient Reduction Program**



3RD BIENNIAL
GLSNRP Dialogues 2026

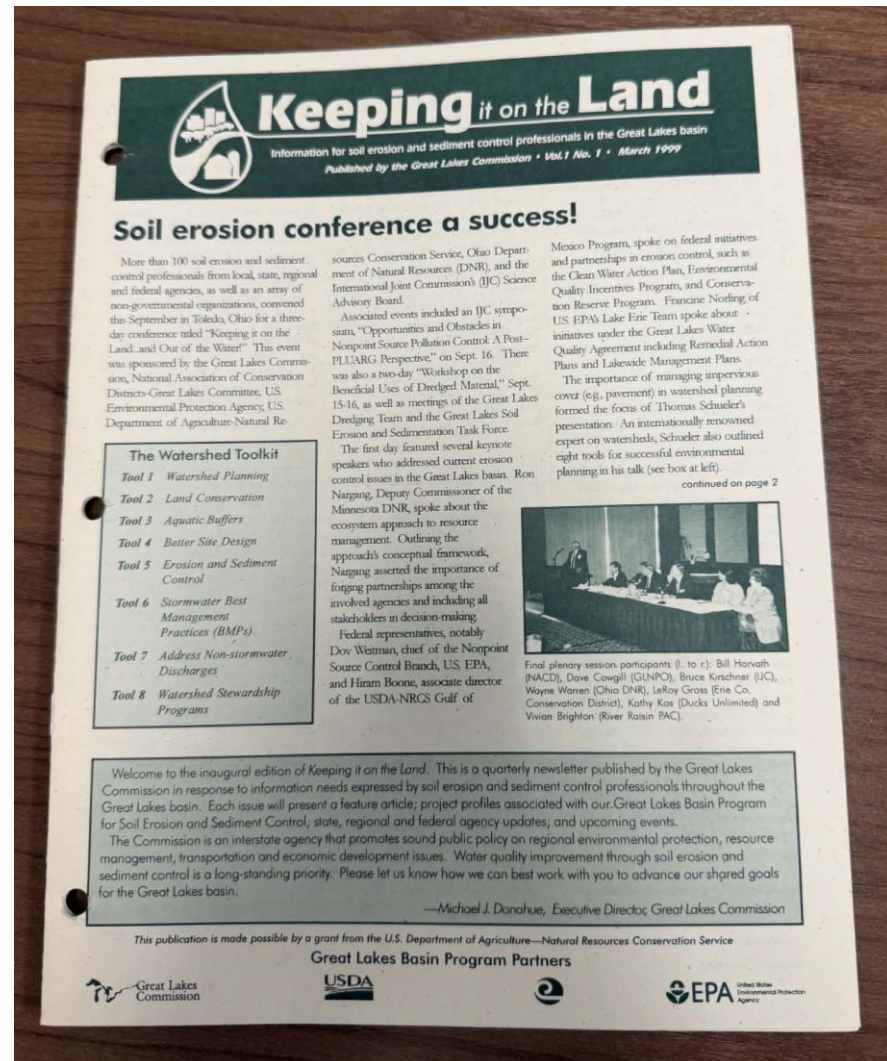
Celebrating 35 Years of Sediment & Nutrient Reduction Grant-Making

August 4-5, 2026 • Lambeau Field Conference Center • Green Bay, Wisconsin



GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

Program Origins and History



GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

- Phosphorus Management Strategies Task Force appointed by the IJC (1978)
 - Investigated alternative strategies for managing phosphorus pollution
 - Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement included total phosphorus loads for each lake



INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION
GREAT LAKES SCIENCE ADVISORY AND WATER QUALITY BOARDS
100 QUELLETTE AVENUE, 8TH FLOOR, WINDSOR, ONTARIO N9A 6T3



GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

PHOSPHORUS MANAGEMENT FOR THE GREAT LAKES

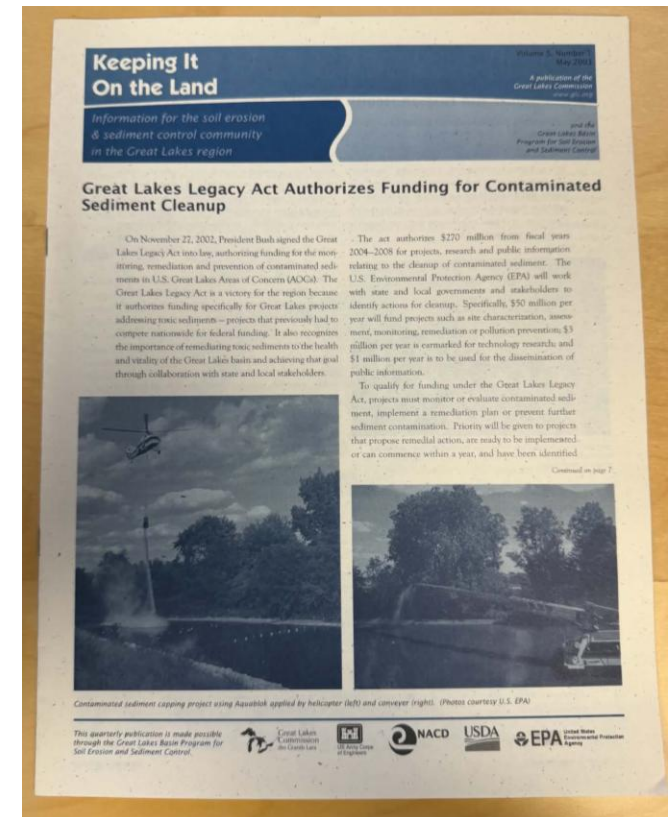
**FINAL REPORT OF THE
PHOSPHORUS MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
TASK FORCE**

TO THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION'S
GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY BOARD AND
GREAT LAKES SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

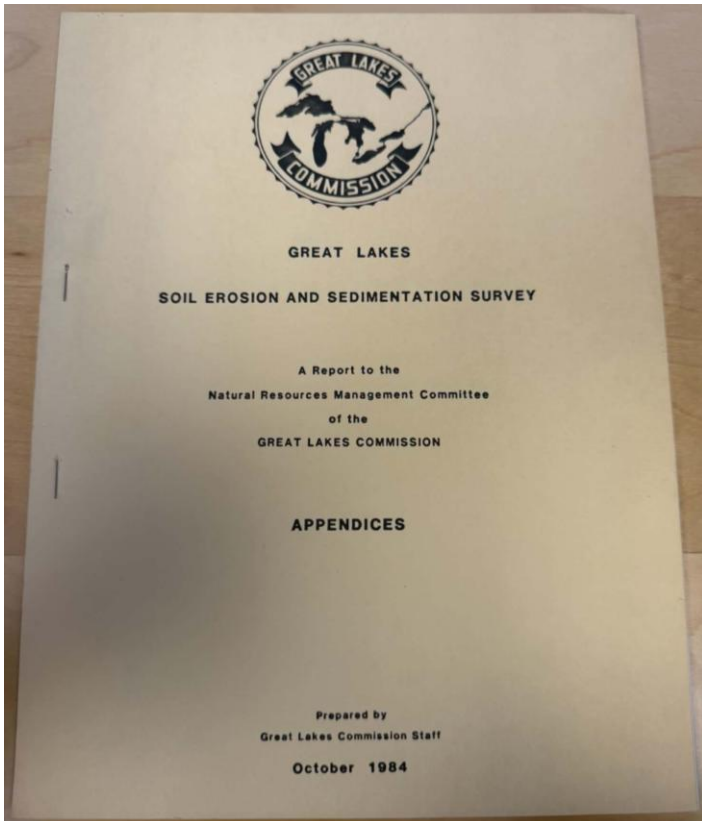
“The greatest uncertainty of obtaining anticipated benefits is associated with the control of particulates from nonpoint agricultural sources”

GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

- Natural Resources Management Committee of GLC survey (1984)
 - Baseline for soil erosion and sediment issues in the basin
 - Assessed state and federal programs and funds to address issue



GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact



“Present programs are properly focused upon soil erosion and sedimentation problems in the Great Lakes basin states. However, enhanced funding levels and concerted efforts to target critical problem areas are needed if substantive gains are to be realized.”

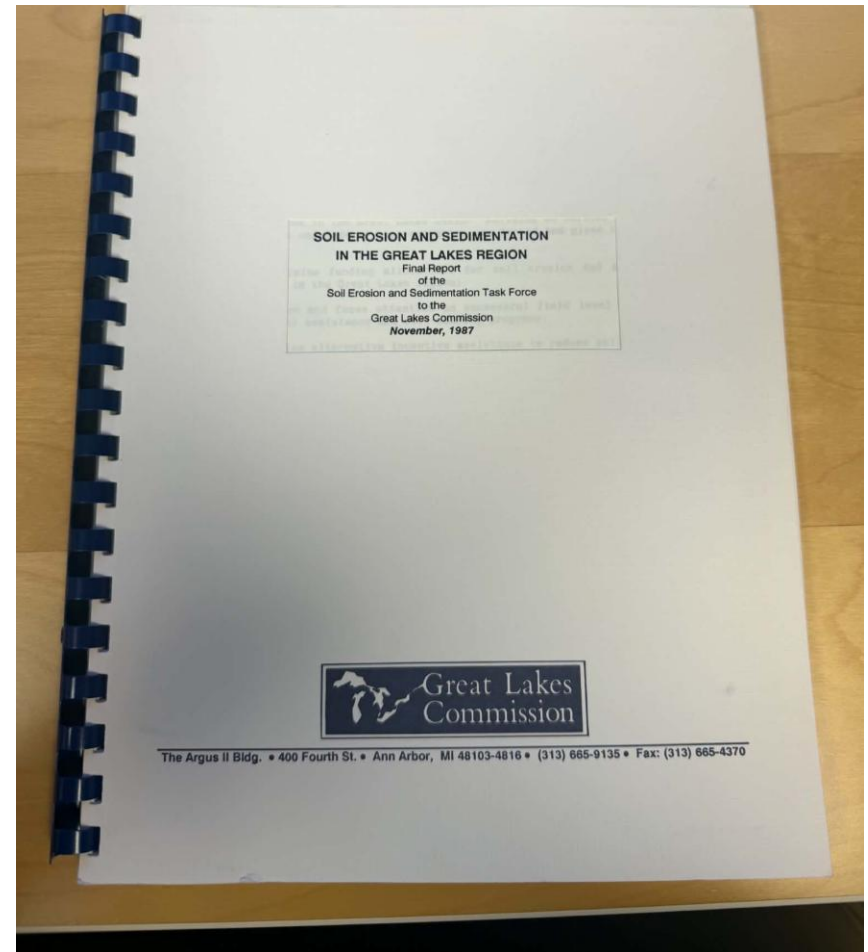
GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact



- Formation of Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Task Force (1986)
 - Investigated funding allocations for soil erosion and sedimentation control
 - Found existing federal, state and local programs did not adequately control soil loss

GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

- Final Report of Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Task Force (1987)
 - Advocated for several regional initiatives including “Great Lakes Basin Program” with associated federal line item for cooperative planning and management activities with education components

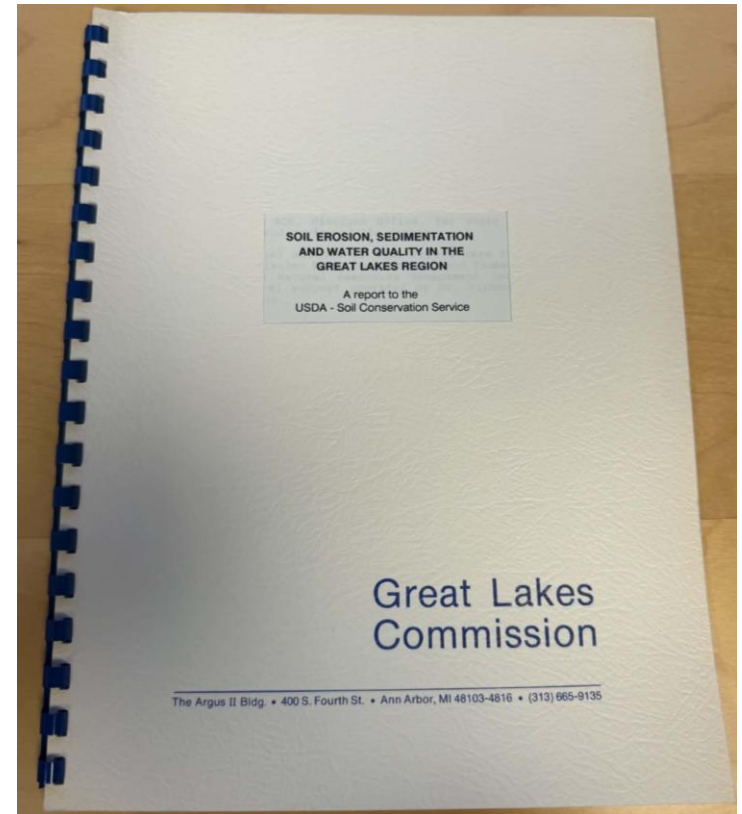


GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

“The Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Task Force finds that, while significant benefits have realized over the past 50 years to protect the land resource base from the effects of soil erosion through cost sharing and various incentive programs, the infusion of dollars alone is not enough to solve the massive problems of soil erosion and sedimentation. The Task Force finds the need for a more aggressive approach to erosion control to protect water quality and reduce the enormous public and private expenditure to mediate the off-site damages and sedimentation.”

GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

- Report to USDA Soil Conservation Service (1988)
 - Develop link between soil erosion and water quality for the region with special attention to quantification of off-site impacts of sedimentation



GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

– Proposed structure for Great Lakes Basin Program



GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

Program Elements:

Program grants and
technical assistance

Evaluation and
monitoring

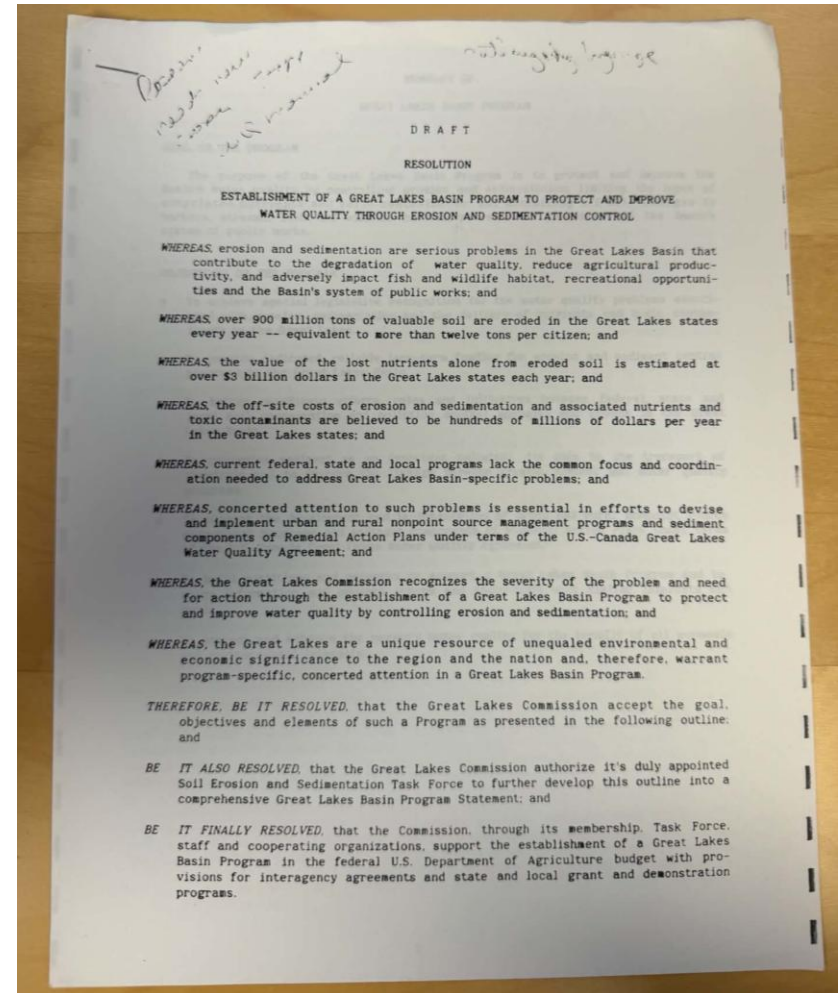
Demonstrations and
special projects

Financial assistance and
demonstration grants

Education and
information

GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

- Establishment of Great Lakes Basin Program (1991)



GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

Goals and Objectives

To achieve special legislative recognition for the water quality problems associated with soil erosion, sedimentation, and the delivery of nutrients and toxic contaminants

To provide dedicated, reliable, long-term funding for erosion and sediment control

To better coordinate efforts, roles and initiatives between federal, state, and local soil conservation and pollution control agencies

To recognize sediment as an important pollutant

To support the development and implementation of urban and rural nonpoint source management programs and sediment components

To build coalitions and networks and to share information

To protect and enhance the region's water quality for the benefit of all economic and environmental interests

GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

- Great Lakes Basin Program
 - Activities including dissemination of project funding and educational activities:

Keeping it on the land...and out of the water! Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Opportunities for the Great Lakes Basin Conference (1998)

Outreach Needs of the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control's Constituents Survey (2008)

Keeping It on the Land! Brochures

Keeping It On the Land

Information for the soil erosion
& sediment control community
in the Great Lakes region

Volume 7, Number 3
September 2003
A publication of the
Great Lakes Commission
www.glc.org

and the
Great Lakes Basin
Program for Soil Erosion
and Sediment Control
www.glc.org/basin

Basin Program Unveils "Stop the Mudness" Campaign

Everyone knows that mud is dirty; few realize it's also one of the main pollutants of the waters within the Great Lakes basin. The Great Lakes Commission and the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control are building an awareness campaign to inform the public of the damages that mud causes as a first step toward obtaining public support for mitigating its damages.

Mud—or sediment, to use the technical term—is swept into our lakes and streams from bare spots in lawns, tilled

crop fields, exposed stream banks and from developing urban areas that are carelessly allowed to erode. Mud suffocates fish by clogging their gills and smothering their nesting areas. It hides the food they seek and turns sparkling clear waters a dirty brown. Mud also bears with it chemicals such as fertilizers and pesticides that have been deposited on the land. It raises the cost of treating drinking water and it fills in the waterways themselves.

Mud costs society—that means all of us—millions of dollars per year to remove from harbors and marinas and drinking water. Sediment is such a pervasive part of the environment that people do not recognize it as a threat to our waterways. To raise awareness of sedimentation's causes and damages, the "Stop the Mudness!" campaign will feature a web site, public service advertisements, press releases, artwork, flyers, and other educational materials focusing on the environmental and economic harm caused by erosion and sedimentation, as well as ways to minimize their impacts. It is anticipated that new artwork and materials featuring the memorable "Stop the Mudness" theme and logo will be released every other month.

If you and your organization are interested in obtaining media material or taking an on-line survey of your media needs, please visit www.stophthemudness.net as it expands with new materials over the coming months.

The Great Lakes Basin Program improves Great Lakes water quality by promoting erosion and sediment control through demonstration grants, technical assistance and information/education projects in the Great Lakes states. Funding is provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

For more information, contact: Gary Overmier, garyo@glc.org or see our two websites at www.glc.org/basin and www.stophthemudness.net



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This quarterly publication is made possible
through the Great Lakes Basin Program for
Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.



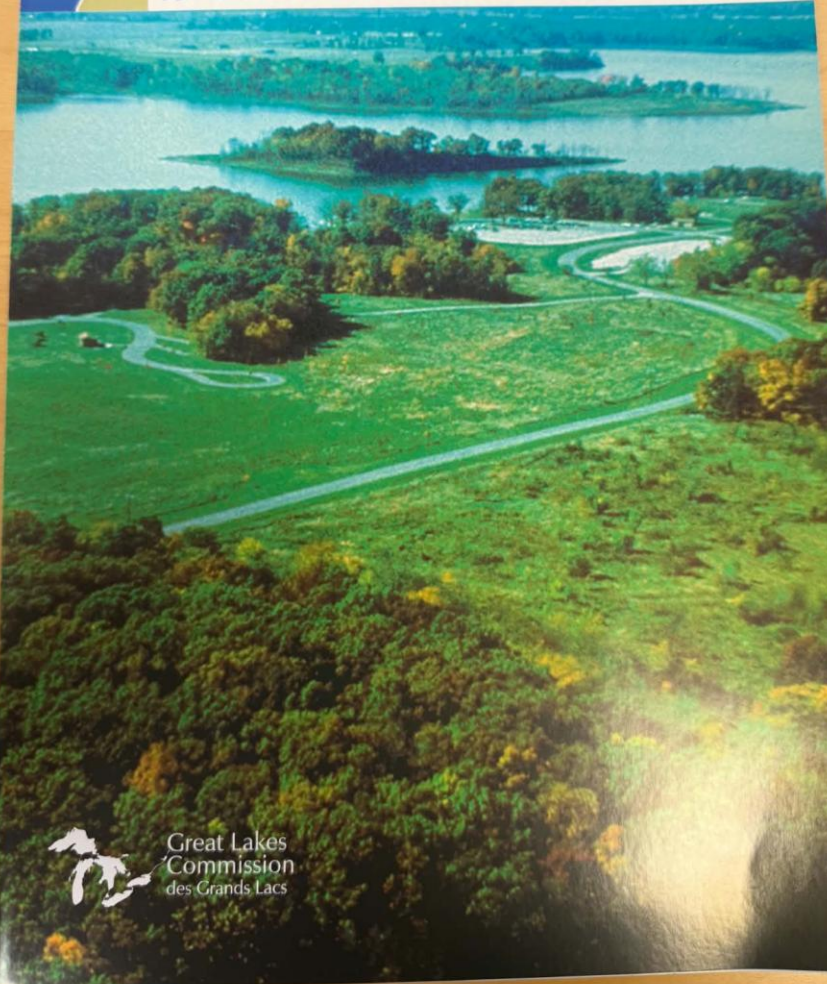
Great Lakes
Commission
des Grands Lacs



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Keeping It
On the Land

Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control



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KEEPING IT ON THE LAND!

Improving Great Lakes
Water Quality
by Controlling Soil Erosion
and Sedimentation



To the Reader

Soil erosion and sedimentation contribute to Great Lakes pollution and compromise the Basin's environmental health, economic productivity and quality of life. These problems originate in both rural and urban areas and their impacts are pervasive. Responsible land-use management is critical to improving and protecting Great Lakes water quality. Every sector of society and every individual must participate in these stewardship efforts.

This brochure highlights soil erosion and sedimentation problems in the Great Lakes Basin; examines the environmental and economic implications; reviews current programs; and identifies agencies and organizations that can provide advice and assistance. It will be of interest to farmers, shoreline property owners, developers, resource managers, local officials and all citizens concerned with protecting the Basin's precious water and land resources.

In offering this information to you, we hope that it will not only inform and educate, but foster and promote action as well. Protecting water quality through proper land-use is everyone's responsibility and your help is needed!

— Great Lakes Commission

Proceedings of
Keeping it on the land . . . and out of the water!
Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Opportunities
for the Great Lakes Basin

Toledo, Ohio
September 16-18, 1998



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GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

Program Milestone	Year
Establishment of Great Lakes Basin Program	1991
Funding changes from US EPA to USDA-NRCS	1994
Funding changes from Farm Bill to Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and celebrates 430 projects	2010
Program rebranding to Great Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Program or GLSNRP	2015
35 th Program Anniversary and celebrates 595 projects	2026

GLSNRP: 35 Years of Impact

Since 2016, GLSNRP projects have protected the Great Lakes from:

- 200,000 pounds of phosphorus
- 400,000 tons of sediment
- Millions of gallons of stormwater