

The Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition and Freshwater Future invite you to join us to learn about a new grants program to help local environmental and conservation groups take part in the Obama administration's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

WHAT: Through a new grants program to help develop and implement projects and proposals, the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes (HOW) Coalition is going to help local groups in the Great Lakes region obtain and use funds from the federal Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) as part of the Coalition's new Implementation Program. The effort will ensure local groups are equipped to manage and complete effective projects with GLRI funds and by so doing, will help ensure sustained support from the federal government to clean up, restore and heal the Great Lakes.

The HOW Implementation Program has identified five of the most degraded areas in the Great Lakes to focus our efforts to support available GLRI funding for 2010 (\$475 million) and in the upcoming 2011 fiscal year. These priority areas were selected by a panel of Great Lakes scientists because they were in great need of restoration yet hold significant promise for restoration success. The areas include:

- Lake Superior: St Louis Bay and St. Louis River
- Lake Michigan: Chicagoland
- Lake Huron: Saginaw Bay
- Lake Erie: Western Lake Erie & Maumee Bay
- Lake Ontario: Eastern Lake Ontario

The HOW program will be providing \$200,000 to help jump-start projects.

DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS:

St Louis Bay/St. Louis River and Tributaries Priority Area Meeting

Tuesday, May 11th from 3:30pm – 6:00pm
USEPA's Gitchee Gumee Conference Center
Ontonagon Room
6201 Congdon Boulevard
Duluth, MN

Chicago Land Priority Area Meeting

Wednesday, May 12th from 9:00am – 12:00pm
Alliance for the Great Lakes Office
17 N. State Street, STE 1390
Chicago, IL

If you are interested in attending a meeting in Gary, Indiana to find out more about this grant making opportunity, please contact Cheryl Mendoza at the email or phone number below. One may be scheduled soon!

Eastern Lake Ontario Priority Area Meeting

Monday, May 24th from 2:00pm – 4:30pm
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Monroe County
249 Highland Avenue
Rochester, New York

Saginaw Bay Priority Area Meeting

Wednesday, May 26th from 2:30 – 5:00
Sage Branch Library
100 East Midland Street
Bay City, Michigan 48706

Western Lake Erie & Maumee Bay Priority Area Meeting

Tuesday, June 8th – Time and location to be announced soon!
Bowling Green, Ohio

To RSVP, please email Cheryl Mendoza, Associate Director for Freshwater Future and HOW Grants Coordinator, one week before the meeting date at Cheryl@freshwaterfuture.org or by calling 231-571-5001.