

A Workshop for Shoreline Communities: Living Beside the "Big" Lake

5:30 pm-8:30 pm, Thursday, September 13 for Cities of Houghton & Hancock

Michigan Tech's Center for Water & Society and the Western Upper Peninsula Center for Science, Mathematics and Environmental Education will conduct a **workshop for the Cities of Houghton and Hancock from 5:30-8:30 pm on Thursday evening, September 13 at the UPPCO conference room in downtown Houghton.** This educational workshop will focus on the current ecological status of Lake Superior and the Portage Waterway. City/village councils, planning commissions, civic organizations, and local downtown development associations are invited to attend the workshop for their community. The workshops will provide local decision-makers with an overview of the *Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC) Strategy to Restore and Protect the Great Lakes* (www.glrc.us) which identifies the following priorities for restoring and protecting the Great Lakes:

Aquatic Invasive Species
Toxic Pollutants
Stormwater Management

Coastal Wetlands
Non-Point Source Pollution

Areas of Concern/Contaminated Sediments
Sustainable Land Use & Shoreline Development

The economies of shoreline communities are inextricably linked to the Great Lakes, yet many local decision-makers find that they have little scientific understanding of the current health of the Great Lakes, or how their community has the potential to negatively impact or help to restore the Great Lakes.

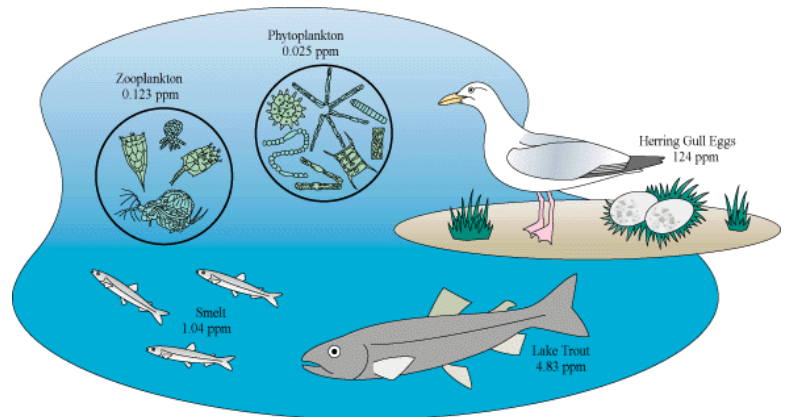


The workshop will begin with a 20-minute introductory overview presentation on the top threats to the Great Lakes, followed by a 90-minute scientific excursion on the research vessel *Agassiz* where research scientists from Michigan Technological University and the International Association for Great Lakes Research (IAGLR) will demonstrate how the Great Lakes are studied using benthic, sediment, water chemistry, and plankton sampling devices, and what this sampling can tell us about the Great Lakes fishery and water quality. During the demonstration, the scientists will discuss how typical activities can or have already altered the health of the Great Lakes. Displays and samples of organisms living in the lake will be available for viewing. Following dinner, the final session of the evening will be a discussion of what is

needed to prevent degradation and/or restore Lake Superior and the Portage Waterway. Participants will be provided with a packet of the best educational materials available on the priorities listed above.

Each workshop will accommodate a maximum of 17 participants. If there are 30 interested community members, a second excursion on the *Agassiz* could be provided on the same evening. The cost is \$15 per person to reserve a space. The checks will not be cashed if the person attends.

For more information, or to reserve a space for September 13, contact Joan Chadde at 487-3341 or jchadde@mtu.edu. This program is funded by the Wege Foundation through the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes initiative.



The Great Lakes & Shoreline Communities – 5:30-8:30 pm, Thursday, Sept. 13

Meet at the UPPCO Conference Room in Houghton

Workshop Agenda

- 5:15 pm Registration & refreshments (UPPCO conference room)
- 5:30 pm ***Welcome & Program Overview***
- 5:40 pm ***Top Threats to the Great Lakes & What We Can Do***
- Joan Chadde, water resource specialist
- Recent assessments of Great Lake health & economic value
 - Great Lakes Cities Initiative
- 6:00 pm Board Agassiz research vessel (at dock west of Portage District Library)
- 6:10 pm Safety (Captain Stephen Roblee)
- 6:15 pm Depart (Portage Waterway)

Groups alternate:

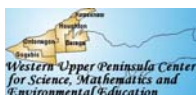
Group 1

- 30 minutes ***Evaluating the Health of the Great Lakes*** (at mouth of Coles Creek)
- Dr. Noel Urban, Dept. of Civil & Environmental Engineering
- (i) What's in the Bottom Sediments?
 - (ii) Water Quality (oxygen, pH, temp, nutrients, toxins) & Aquatic Food Web
 - (iii) Plankton & the Aquatic Food Web
 - (iv) Water Clarity – secchi disk

Group 2

- 30 minutes (a) ***What Does Water Quality Tell Us About Land Management?***
- Dr. Alex Mayer, Dept. of Geological Sciences & Engineering
- (b) ***Plankton, Benthic Organisms, and Non-point Source Pollution***
- Joan Chadde, water resource specialist

- 7:20 pm Disembark
- 7:30 pm Buffet Dinner (UPPCO conference room)
- 7:45 pm ***What Can Cities Do to Protect the Great Lakes?***
- Dr. Alex Mayer, Dept. of Geological Sciences & Environmental Engineering
- Watershed Management Planning
 - Storm water management
 - Riparian buffers
 - Low impact shoreline development
- 8:30 pm Thanks for coming!



Co-Sponsors and Funders

Western Upper Peninsula Center for Science, Mathematics and Environmental Education
Michigan Tech Center for Water and Society
Wege Foundation and the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Initiative