

IN THIS ISSUE:

Director's Notes	2
Regional Policy Updates	2
Freshwater Future Consulting	3
Grant Recipients Receive Mentoring	4
Grassroots Efforts Make A Difference Lake Ontario	4
A Place That Matters Lake Michigan	5
Working Together To Reduce Impact Lake Huron	6
Who's Watching the Shore Lake Erie	7
Working to Protect Michigan's Upper Peninsula Lake Superior	8
Updates From Around The Great Lakes	9
Help Freshwater Future Grow	9
2008 Citizens Advocate Awards ...	10
Restoration Toolkit	10
Great Lakes Water Walk	10
Welcome Lauren	10
Thank You's	11
Freshwater Future Grant Opportunity	12

SAVE A TREE

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Don't Let This Be Your Last Issue!



Freshwater Future Staff and Board Members at Annual Retreat

Freshwater Future has gone through considerable change recently, from creating a stand-alone 501(c) (3) organization in late 2006 to changing its name in late 2007. In that time we've also launched an exciting new membership program. This program helps us better connect with individual needs, provide you with information in the format you like and supports our efforts to assist local communities in protecting their water resources.

After this issue of *Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat News*, we will be sending the newsletter only to paid members of Freshwater Future. We are so glad you have indicated interest in our Great Lakes and truly want you to continue to stay informed about freshwater issues and happenings. Please join Freshwater Future today to help support the protection of our Great Lakes and to continue to receive member benefits such as this newsletter.

We know that you won't want to miss out on what is happening around your Great Lake or the entire basin. Our newsletter contains up-to-date information about policy happenings in the US and Canada. You can find other kindred spirits, working on similar issues, and learn from each other.

Besides receiving the newsletter, becoming a member of Freshwater Future has many other benefits including:

- Satisfaction of knowing you are helping to preserve and protect a global treasure
- Opportunities to participate in Great Lakes advocacy
- Receive special member "Action Alerts" on policy issues, with tips on how to get involved
- Receive one-hour of consulting time from Freshwater Future staff members
- Access to Members Only section (coming soon) of freshwaterfuture.org, containing an array of tools, updates, issue materials, and more

Your local efforts to protect our rivers, lakes and wetland have impacts far beyond your community. By protecting and restoring communities all across the Great Lakes we raise our collective voice and protect our Great Lakes as a whole. We thank you for all you do and ask you to join Freshwater Future today so we can continue to protect our Great Lakes home together. Please take the time to join today, a membership form is provided on page 9. Thanks in advance for your support.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

COLLECTIVE WISDOM



JILL RYAN

This issue highlights grant projects recently funded by Freshwater Future as well as a gathering of grant recipients and their new mentors at our recent Grassroots Symposium. I am continually amazed by the wisdom of the individuals and groups working to protect our rivers, lakes and wetlands across the Great Lakes. I am even more astounded when a group of these outstanding activists comes together and shares their wisdom.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone that participated in the symposium for taking the time to learn, network and share your wisdom. While none of us know everything that is needed to protect and restore our Great Lakes resources, when we come together and share what we know individually an amazing thing happens: we have the knowledge, wisdom, experience and energy we need to move forward.

I am always renewed by such opportunities to share in the collective wisdom of citizens and I hope you will find opportunities to share your wisdom and experience and be renewed and engaged by the wisdom of others.

There is no knowledge, no light, no wisdom that you are in possession of, but what you have received it from some source

– Brigham Young

Jill M. Ryan



Regional Policy Updates

GREAT LAKES COMPACT MAY BE HEADED TO CONGRESS SOON!

In May the Michigan and Wisconsin legislatures passed the Compact out of both legislative chambers. While the Wisconsin environmental community is largely satisfied with the Compact's accompanying legislation, Michigan's environmental community is still fighting for accompanying legislation that would strongly protect Michigan's water resources. "We are really rallying folks to contact our state lawmakers in a massive way –now more than ever" stated Cyndi Roper, Michigan Director of Clean Water Action. "Thousands of people have been calling their lawmakers asking them for their support of the House package – the one the Michigan environmental community supports. We need to keep those calls and emails flooding in."

On the east side of the Great Lakes basin, after much debate, the Ohio Senate and, again, House are expected to pass the Compact within the next few weeks. Lastly, Pennsylvania is expected to pass the Compact out of both chambers by late summer.

With Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania expected to ratify the Compact in the coming months in addition to Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana and New York's ratification, the Council of Great Lakes Governors held a briefing with Congressional staff to warm them up for a smooth introduction of the Compact before Congress.

OUR VOICES ARE BEING HEARD ON INVASIVE SPECIES IN D.C. – KEEP IT UP!

The path most invasive species take to get into the Great Lakes, the ballast waters of ships, may be close to being shut down – and it is thanks to many of you! The House passed the Ballast Water Management Act, which is a part of the Coast Guard Authorization measure (HR 2830). This bill is an example of how, when we continually speak out, our voices make a difference. According to lead Great Lakes lobbyist in D.C., Chad Lord with National Parks Conservation Association, the bill made "incredible progress" from its original version due to the Great Lakes environmental community's continual input. It creates a ballast water management program that is superior to the current Coast Guard program, establishes for the first time strong ballast water treatment standards in statute, sets a national goal that ballast water discharged into U.S. waters contain no living organisms by the year 2015, and includes other important provisions.

But this isn't a done deal. Now is the time to keep up the pressure to make sure this gets done this year by passing the Senate and getting it to the president's desk for his signature. Stay tuned for key opportunities to finish this deal.

Freshwater Future Consulting



FRESHWATER FUTURE'S HELP IS ONLY A PHONE CALL OR EMAIL AWAY



Lake Michigan beach, Petoskey, MI.
Photo Courtesy of Michigan Travel Bureau

Is your grassroots group struggling with your project or issue? Do you feel overwhelmed or unsure of the best next step? Are your communications falling flat?

“If we could have had Freshwater Future staff help us with campaign organizing in the beginning we would have saved much time and better anticipated future hurdles.”

Mary Jo Cullen formerly with Citizens Concerned for Michipicoten Bay shared.

Sometimes all it takes is an outside ear and objective help. Freshwater Future staff can provide that outside assistance with the added benefit of an understanding of what it takes to make a project successful. Our staff is available for a very reasonable cost to help your group get organized, clear up your message, and find ways to reenergize and work together.

After working with grassroots groups for over 12 years, we have learned some of the key ingredients that are shared by successful efforts. One of the biggest keys to success is asking for help and assistance.

Freshwater Future staff can help with organizational development needs such as:

- Forming a new organization
- Planning for the future
- Building a budget
- Building a sustainable fundraising plan
- Deciding when an organization is no longer needed and how to dissolve
- Developing a volunteer program

We also can offer a special workshop for your organization's leader to address programmatic needs such as campaign/project planning, restoration planning, keeping the work positive, and grassroots the entrepreneurial way.

In an effort to reduce our carbon footprint, Freshwater Future uses the latest technology such as web and teleconferences, but good old fashioned face to face visits would work too. Visit our website for more detail on specific programs we offer. Or please just give us a call we can talk with you to determine if our services are the best fit for your organization at this time or direct to others to keep your effort moving forward.

GLAHNEWS:

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Staff:

Jill Ryan, *Executive Director*
jill@freshwaterfuture.org

Ann Baughman, *Outreach Specialist*
ann@freshwaterfuture.org

Kate Duggan, *AmeriCorps Member*
kate@freshwaterfuture.org

Lauren Hinchman, *Office Manager*
lauren@freshwaterfuture.org

P.O. Box 2479
Petoskey, MI 49770
(231) 348-8200

Cheryl Mendoza, *Regional Policy and Network Advisor*
cheryl@freshwaterfuture.org
700 Fulton St., Suite A
Grand Haven, MI 49417
(231) 571-5001

Board of Directors:

Paul Bubelis, *Sustainability Network*
Wendy Cooper, *Georgian Bay Land Trust*
Mary Jo Cullen,
Gravel Watch Ontario

Bonnie Danni, *Great Lakes United*

Molly Flanagan,
National Wildlife Federation

Dorothy Lagerroos, *Grassroots, Wisconsin*

Mike Layton, *Environmental Defence*

Damien Lee, *Grassroots - Canada*

Annette Marshall,
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Cheryl Mell, *John G. Shedd Aquarium*

Disclaimer:

The Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat News is intended to provide a forum for the free exchange of ideas among citizens and organizations working to protect aquatic habitats in the Great Lakes Basin. The interpretations and conclusions presented in this newsletter represent the opinions of the individual authors. They in no way represent the views of Freshwater Future, the C.S. Mott Foundation, subscribers, donors, or any organization mentioned in this publication.



Grant Recipients Will Receive Mentoring Assistance

Freshwater Future is excited to announce the projects funded for the Spring 2008 Grant Cycle. 10 great projects were funded, totaling \$25,500.

The 10 organizations are Niagara River Area Property Owners Group, Ohio Coastal Resource Management Project, Friends of Oliphant Coastal Environments, Saugatuck Dunes Coastal Alliance, Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council, Watershed Watchers, Friends of Jean Klock Park, Finger Lake Future Alliance, Residents for Responsible Government, and Northwoods Wilderness Recovery. The following Lake Updates in this newsletter feature five of the organizations and their projects. If you would like more information about our Spring 2008 Grant Award winners, please see www.freshwaterfuture.org.

As part of the grants program, we have matched each of our new grantees with an experienced grassroots advocate who will serve as a mentor.

All the hard work and dedication by these and all grassroots groups around the Great Lakes continue to amaze us. We are constantly reminded that we are not alone in our struggle to protect and restore the Great Lakes. And sometimes that is just the inspiration we all need! Congratulations to all the Spring 2008 Grant Recipients and best of luck with your projects.

Lake Ontario Basin Update



GRASSROOTS EFFORTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN LAKE ONTARIO

By Bobbi Clifford, Finger Lakes Future Alliance

Finger Lakes Future Alliance (FLFA) was founded in spring of 2007 as a result of a presentation by the Seneca White Deer group (www.senecawhitedeer.org). At this meeting, it was learned that a large ethanol and biomass facility was planned on land formerly known as the Seneca Army Depot. This environmentally sensitive, undeveloped land parcel of 10,000 acres in the Finger Lakes region of New York State is home to a variety of rare, threatened and unique wildlife species, including the largest population in the world of white deer. Individuals attending became concerned beyond the impact to the white deer, and began to question the total environmental impacts a plant of this proportion would have.

Little information was shared to the general public, so meetings of the concerned residents were arranged, and from there FLFA was established.

Through a variety of FLFA's initiatives, including 'letters to the editors'; a petition campaign collecting 1,000 signatures; meetings with the state senator, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, as well as with surrounding municipalities around Seneca Lake, we succeeded in delaying the plans to proceed with the plant. In fact, just recently we have learned the main investors may have pulled out of the project! Without their financial backing, the project will not reach fruition.

Our next goal is to establish a regulatory watershed association around Seneca Lake so our drinking water and environment can be protected. FLFA's impact on this project truly shows that grassroots efforts can make a difference!

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For more information, please contact:
Bobbi Clifford, Finger Lakes Future Alliance
Box 827, Geneva, NY 14456 • (315) 521-3626
fingerlakesfuture@gmail.com
www.fingerlakesfuture.blogspot.com



The Finger Lakes Region is home to the largest population of white deer in the world

Lake Michigan Update



A PLACE THAT MATTERS

By Carol Drake, Friends of Jean Klock Park

The Lake Michigan shoreline and its adjacent coastal resources are a global wonder and an irreplaceable natural resource to those who revere these amazing habitats. Unfortunately the majority of the Michigan shoreline has been lost to commercial, industrial and residential development. But scattered between these privately owned developments are extremely special public lands. They are "Places that Matter." And because the public has so little of the shoreline left to enjoy, these remaining places are in dire need of protection. Jean Klock Park in Benton Harbor, Michigan is one of these increasingly rare and very special places.



Carol Drake at Jean Klock Park, Michigan

In 1917 John and Carrie Klock deeded 90 acres of Lake Michigan frontage to the City in memory of their daughter Jean. The park's land has been a public haven for 91 years and has served nearly five generations. The park consists of three globally rare communities; Great Lakes Open Dunes, a Great Lakes Marsh and interdunal wetlands. The park also hosts the largest and most viable population of the endangered plant species rose pink in the State of Michigan, along with other native plant species of special concern.

Through the years the park has been threatened with development proposals and survived but in 2003 came the beginning of a new, and at the time, unseen threat. The City announced an interest in selling a portion of the park's property for a lakefront residential development. A lawsuit, settled out of court, allowed the

development in exchange for permanent protections of the remaining 73 acres of the park. Within a matter of months a far bigger development idea was uncovered, a plan for a Jack Nicklaus Signature golf course in the dunes and wetlands of Jean Klock Park.

Over the past twenty years the City of Benton Harbor applied for and received more than 1.74 million dollars in State and Federal Grants including a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant, approved by the National Park Service for park improvements and a 1989 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant for the "preservation of fragile dunes and wetland wildlife habitat"; valuable habitat that the City

now promotes for the purpose of a golf course development.

Now, nearly four years later, the Friends of Jean Klock Park and collaborating nonprofit environmental organizations have been successful in protecting the special area within the park. However, the park is still at risk of approval of the project.

We ask that you join us in the quest to preserve this irreplaceable public land, a "Place that Matters", because once it's gone, it will be lost from us forever.

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For more information, please contact:
Carol Drake, Friends of Jean Klock Park
5891 River Road, Sodus, MI 49126
(269) 925-4880
cappysong@aol.com
www.savejeanklockpark.org

Lake Huron Update



WORKING TOGETHER TO REDUCE IMPACT

By Donna Stewart, Friends of Oliphant Coastal Environments

The Ontario Lake Huron community of Oliphant on the shores of the Bruce Peninsula is the summer playground of permanent residents, summer cottagers, islanders and day visitors. The shoreline is enjoyed by swimmers, boaters, kayakers, kiteboarders, windsurfers, walkers, naturalists and all terrain vehicle users.

Decreasing lake levels are creating wider, more accessible beaches. Patterns of shoreline use that have remained relatively static for decades are changing dramatically. The number of vehicles, routes of access and range of recreational activities enjoyed here are increasing and changing. Increased damage to the environment is a concern.

Friends of Oliphant Coastal Environments was founded as a result of conversations between user groups. Rather than sitting by and watching the damage take place, we decided to be part of the solution. One thing that we all have in common is our love for this incredible place. We want to see that the very unique and beautiful shoreline that draws us here, remains so for many years to come.

A focus group embarked on a process of collaborative problem solving. We included the voice of permanent residents, summer cottagers, islanders and individuals who use the shoreline for a variety of purposes. We further informed ourselves and created an important link with the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation. We quickly found common ground in our mutual love for the unique, sensitive and rare Oliphant coastline ecosystems and their features. The fen, alvar, and beach/grassland environments are what connect so many of us to this magical place.

Our vision is the preservation of Oliphant's natural coastal environments. We value crystal clean water, protection of the environment, the use of collaborative planning, and blending the needs of people for recreational purposes or access to property along the coast with sensitive area protection. We intend to realize our vision through understanding and education, controlled access for recreational purposes, maintaining the natural state, and stewardship of the area.

We are working to develop partnerships with organizations that share similar goals and related concerns and have invited the involvement of groups who will contribute to our success. This has included the town of South Bruce Peninsula,

the Owen Sound Field Naturalists, the Oliphant Camper's Association, the Ontario Kiteboarding Association and First Nations. It is only through collaboration that we can come up with the best possible solutions.



Low levels on the shores of Bruce Peninsula

We are delighted with the support of Freshwater Future to develop our organization's capacity over the next year. The grant we have been awarded and the support of the mentorship program will allow us to further develop our membership, communicate more effectively through a website, provide literature, hold public meetings and work strategically towards our goal of having a management plan or stewardship guide developed for our community by The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation in 2009.

Friends of Oliphant Coastal Environment are attempting to adapt to the changes in the environment, human activity and transportation technology that are impacting our shoreline. We are striving to respond to that threat by working together to find common sense solutions that respect the rights of all to access, but more carefully and intentionally balance recreational use with sensitive area protection.

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For more information, please contact:

Donna Stewart

Friends of Oliphant Coastal Environments

297 Shoreline Ave., Box 12, RR#3,

Warton, ON NoH 2To Canada

(519) 534-0312

donnastewart@amtelecom.net

Lake Erie Update



WHO'S WATCHING THE SHORE?

By Joan Sturtevant and Edith Chase, Ohio Coastal Resource Management Project

The Ohio Coastal Resource Management Project (OCRMP) was established in 1982 to promote shoreline conservation and state participation in the federal coastal program. OCRMP continues to promote the implementation of Ohio's coastal management program, meet with the Ohio Coastal Resources Advisory Council, serve as advisor to the Lake Erie Commission, research current issues, network with like-minded groups, and publish four newsletters each year to keep Ohio citizens informed of problems and successes.

OCRMP works with other nonprofit partners to support Great Lakes efforts such as the Great Lakes Compact. The Compact focuses on diversions of water and large consumptive uses in the Great Lakes region. Ohio Governor Taft originally led the effort to develop the Great Lakes Compact, which was signed in December 2005 by the Council of Great Lakes Governors. The Ohio House of Representatives then approved the Compact legislation in 2006, 87-5, and again in 2008, 90-3, however it is once again stalled in the Senate. The majority of the Senate feels that the Compact might diminish private water and property rights even though the Compact clearly protects both.

On May 7, 2008, State Senator Tim Grendell introduced a Constitutional Amendment, Senate Joint Resolution 8, to reaffirm Ohioans private water and property rights. OCRMP and other nonprofits were concerned about some of the language in the amendment and quite frankly felt that the amendment was not needed. Again, the Great Lakes Compact clearly and expressly protects both private water and property rights. The political reality though was that the majority of the Senators felt that without the amendment the Compact would leave private water and property rights at risk. In order to feel comfortable with the Great Lakes Compact the Senate made their vote on the Great Lakes Compact contingent on the passage of the constitutional amendment out of the Ohio House of Representatives so that the Constitutional Amendment could be placed before voters in November.

On May 21, 2008, the Compact legislation seemed to have a breakthrough. Jack Shaner, with the Ohio Environmental Council, met with Senator Grendell and pointed out that some provisions would prevent Ohio EPA from protecting wetlands and other critical natural resources. Shaner agreed with Senator Grendell on the purpose of codifying water rights language. With OEC's legal advisor, the language was modified and a substitute bill was prepared for a Constitutional Amendment to be on the November ballot. The proposed Constitutional Amendment was then approved by the Senate Committee and by the Ohio Senate, 33-0, and was voted down by the Ohio House on May 29th. There is still time for the Ohio House to reconsider the constitutional amendment. They will be reconvening on June 10th and 11th at which time they could pass the Constitutional Amendment clearing the way for the passage of the Great Lakes Compact, Ohio House Bill 416, out of the Senate.



Waterfall at Cascade Park, Elyra Ohio. Photo courtesy of Ohio Lake Erie Office

At this time, shoreline property interests are working hard to take over Public Trust lands and weaken Ohio's coastal program. Shoreline property interests had filed a lawsuit against the Ohio Department of Natural Resources in 2004, claiming a taking of their property. Interveners included the Ohio Environmental Council and the National Wildlife Federation. The Lake County judge issued his decision in December 2007, holding that the shoreline owners' boundary went to the water's edge. That decision has now been appealed by the Ohio Environmental Council, the National Wildlife Federation, and the Ohio Attorney General.

As Ohio struggles to approve the Great Lakes Compact on diversions and large consumptive uses of water resources in the Great Lakes Basin, the Ohio Coastal Resource Management Project (OCRMP) is working to upgrade our website and outreach.

The project funded by Freshwater Future will help to improve OCRMP's ability to keep citizens informed about key Lake Erie issues, and timely actions needed. It will encourage those who read the Newsletter and Web site to visit the areas of concern with increased knowledge of cause/effect regarding aquatic habitats. This will help them understand why it is important to be aware of concerns and to become involved in watching the shore, thus becoming advocates for Lake Erie. Citizens may then be able to more readily relate their life styles and choices with the lake shore concerns. The project will also help build OCRMP's capacity through enhanced electronic communication and thus increased membership, attracting more young people and new people who communicate mainly using this kind of media. An improved, more user-friendly website should increase the number of informed citizens who take timely actions to protect coastal resources, including wetlands, aquatic habitat, and pollution prevention.

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For more information contact:
Ohio Coastal Resource Management Project
5731 Caranor, Kent, OH 44240
Edith Chase: (330) 673-1193 • Joan Sturtevant (330) 626-3953

Lake Superior Update



WORKING TO PROTECT MICHIGAN'S UPPER PENINSULA

By Doug Cornett, Northwoods Wilderness Recovery

For the past 16 years, Northwoods Wilderness Recovery (NWR) has worked on many projects to protect lands and waters of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Freshwater Future (and its predecessor GLAHNF) has helped tremendously by funding efforts to publish newsletters and our web site (northwoodswild.org). A recent Freshwater Future grant will allow us to continue reporting conservation news from the North Woods in 2008.

Over the past year, NWR has worked primarily on opposing metallic sulfide mining and uranium prospecting, and looking for solutions to keep undeveloped waterfront from being subdivided and sold for second-home development.

NWR continues to participate in the proposed Kennecott Eagle mine permit applications with Michigan's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Department of Environmental Quality. The proposed mine site lies in a remote area of northern Marquette County at the headwaters of two rivers, the Salmon Trout and Yellow Dog. These rivers flow to Lake Superior, and the aquifer feeding them has some of the purest water in the US. The Salmon Trout River is also the last spawning grounds on the south shore of Lake Superior for the rare Coaster Brook Trout.

In December 2007 – January 2008, we partnered with Marquette business Up Front & Co. to produce an ad campaign which generated over 3000 letters to the DNR director and Natural Resource Commission, asking they deny a land use permit for the Eagle Mine. The permit was eventually granted, but our efforts gained a lot of media attention. Also, DNR director Rebecca Humphries specifically directed the agency to not allow any ground-breaking until all permits are in order, and all pending legal actions are settled.

NWR has also been challenging mineral exploration permits for uranium prospecting in the Ottawa National Forest. The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management require little assessment for mineral well drilling. When we first began nearly 2 years ago, the Ottawa wanted to issue decisions without adequate public review and participation. Now they are conducting a longer process, but assessments are still far from thorough.



*Lake Superior Beach, Keweenaw Peninsula, MI.
Photo courtesy of Michigan Sea Grant Extension*

NWR has been instrumental in forming an ad hoc group (NWR, Northwood Alliance, Friends of the Land of Keweenaw (FOLK), Lac Vieux Desert tribe, Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Lands and others) to look at options to protect river front property recently put on the market by Upper Peninsula Power Co. and We Energies. The project is now looking at the Sturgeon River watershed, where 2 recent purchases added a 2000 acre inholding to the Ottawa National Forest Sturgeon River Gorge Wilderness, and nearly 700 acres to the Copper Country State Forest. Still, over 3700 acres of critical waterfront is for sale. Work continues to secure a conservation purchase. A GIS map of the watershed can be viewed at www.northwoodalliance.org

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*For more information, please contact:
Doug Cornett, Northwoods Wilderness Recovery
PO Box 122, Marquette, MI 49855-0122
(906) 226-6649
doug@northwoods.org
www.northwoodswild.org*

Update from Around the Great Lakes



FRESHWATER FUTURE'S 5TH ANNUAL GRASSROOTS SYMPOSIUM

On May 2, Great Lakes advocates gathered at Sawmill Creek Resort in Huron, Ohio for the 5th Annual Grassroots Symposium, which was held in conjunction with River Network's National River Rally. It was an inspirational and educational experience for everyone that attended. Participants were updated on legislation concerning the Great Lakes.



The 5th Annual Grassroots Symposium also marked the launch of Freshwater Future's Advocate Mentor Program. The Symposium provided an opportunity for mentors and mentees to meet face-to-face and begin the mentoring process. They were able to learn about each other's projects and start strategizing how best to accomplish their goals.



The day concluded with the presentation of the Grassroots Citizen Advocate of the Year Awards, which went to April Fideli of Residents for Responsible Government and Janet May of Pesticide Free Ontario.

HELP FRESHWATER FUTURE GROW!

Make a difference! Join Freshwater Future today. We all share responsibility for the future of our Great Lakes community. By becoming a member of Freshwater Future, you are directly supporting community efforts to protect and preserve Great Lakes waterways and wetlands. Freshwater Future depends on individual financial support to build effective community-based citizen action for protecting and restoring the water quality of the Great Lakes basin. Your contribution will help us help you. Together we can achieve the ultimate goal of a healthy, sustainable Great Lakes community! Please call or visit our website for details on membership benefits.

Membership Levels:

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Member \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Organization \$100
<i>(budget under \$200,000)</i> |
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Check enclosed (Please make checks payable to Freshwater Future)

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Updates from Freshwater Future

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2008 CITIZEN ADVOCATE AWARD WINNERS

In appreciation of the critical role citizen advocates play in preserving aquatic habitat in the Great Lakes Basin, we recognize the outstanding service to the community of April Fideli and Janet May with the 2008 Citizen Advocate of the Year Award.



Janet May of Pesticide Free Ontario (L) and April Fideli of Residents for Responsible Citizens (R), our 2008 Citizens Advocates of the Year."

April Fideli is a young mother of two who has devoted incredible time and energy into her position as president of Residents for Responsible Government. Through her work, she has gained command of a great reservoir of knowledge about the toxic waste industry and her community. "We in the environmental community in western New York are so proud of April Fideli, and agree that she deserves the award. She is an inspiration to us because of her dedication and effective work to protect Lake Ontario from toxic contamination" said Charles Lamb, Executive Committee of the Niagara Group of the Sierra Club.

Janet May of Pesticide Free Ontario has been the driving force behind the move to ban lawn pesticides in Canada. She and a group of housewives in Hudson, Quebec began as a concerned grassroots group that took their issue all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada, and won! As a result, municipalities across Ontario have the right to pass a by-law banning pesticides in their community. The Premier of Ontario, Dalton McGuinty has promised to introduce a province-wide ban this spring. A promise that Janet May's group will no doubt refuse to let him forget. Janet is a model for all grassroots environmentalists – enthusiastic, smart, dynamic, articulate, thorough, creative, and doesn't give up! She is an inspiration that those of us fighting for our beautiful and threatened places so badly need.

GREAT LAKES RESTORATION: ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME TOOLKIT AVAILABLE NOW



Area residents taking part in the Sugarloaf Cove Restoration Project.

Freshwater Future is thrilled to announce the release of our latest toolkit focused on Great Lakes Restoration. Restoring the Great Lakes happens – One Community at a Time. Every community that undertakes a project to restore the health of the lakes, rivers, wetlands, and shorelines brings great benefits.

This resource packet is designed to provide resources to help those working on or interested in working on such restorations in their communities.

Freshwater Future's website has the toolkit available in both pdf and html format. Extra copies of the toolkit are available for \$10 each to cover postage and handling.

GREAT LAKES WATER WALK

Freshwater Future is sponsoring the First Annual Great Lakes Water Walk to raise funds for programs that support our Great Lakes. This summer Freshwater Future is aiming to raise \$1 per mile of shoreline to raise funds for our programs to protect and restore the lakes, rivers, and wetlands in the Great Lakes region.

Our goal is to raise \$10,000--a dollar per mile, to assist local community water protection efforts. There are two easy ways to participate – through per mile pledge or a fixed-amount donation. All pledges of \$50 or more will receive a one-year membership to Freshwater Future. Walking will be done during June and July. To make a pledge, go to www.freshwaterfuture.org and click on Water Walk.



Welcome Lauren to the Freshwater Staff

Lauren Hinchman has joined Freshwater Future's staff as our new Office Manager. Lauren earned a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from Principia College in Illinois and then a Masters of Arts in Teaching Science from Webster

University in St. Louis and a Masters of Science in Science Education from Montana State University. She's been an adjunct Biology instructor at North Central Michigan College since 2001 and continues to enjoy teaching there during the evenings. Before moving to Michigan she spent 7 summers working at an outdoor education residential summer camp where she met her husband Geoff. They have two little ones, Annabel and Bridger.

Thank You



Thank You to All of Our 1st Quarter 2008 Donors:

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Lake Michigan Beach, Leland, Michigan
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Freshwater Future's Project and Technical Assistance grants offer assistance for grassroots river, lake, and wetland protection efforts throughout the Great Lakes. Grants range from \$500 to \$3,500 US dollars for specific project expenses and/or technical expertise to build your group and improve the success of your efforts. Visit our website, www.freshwaterfuture.org, to learn about eligibility requirements, the types of activities we fund, and past projects, and how to apply!

***The Fall Grant Deadline is
September 29, 2008.***



Top Photo: Naturalists in field at a corporate site for Dupont, Inc., Indiana, US Environmental Protection Agency, Karen Holland

Bottom Photo: Girls on beach looking east towards boat, Mackinac Island, Michigan Michigan Sea Grant Extension, Carole Y. Swinehart



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