



Lake Erie Millennium Network

Binational Research and Monitoring for the Millennium

<http://www.LEMN.org>

**UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR,
NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH INSTITUTE
OHIO SEA GRANT – F.T. STONE LABORATORY OF OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY,
LARGE LAKES RESEARCH STATION, US EPA AT GROSSE ILE**

are pleased to host

**THE EIGHTH BINATIONAL MEETING OF THE LAKE ERIE
MILLENNIUM NETWORK**

21-23 February 2017

at

The University of Windsor
Windsor, Ontario, Canada

Status of Lake Erie – Understanding the Nearshore and its Connections

The Lake Erie Millennium Network was formed to focus management needs and coordinate research that will provide key information leading to answers and improved understanding of the Lake Erie ecosystem through collaborative efforts.

The 2017 meeting summarizes the most current knowledge of recent changes occurring in Lake Erie and its tributaries. Presentations, including summary findings from the 2014 *Lake Erie Intensive Monitoring Year*, will review our understanding of the factors influencing and threatening Lake Erie's ecosystem. Platform sessions will highlight recent biological, environmental and policy trends relating to trophic status, nutrient loadings, ecological forecasting, integrated habitat assessment, restoration strategies, and new pressures on the ecosystem. Opportunities for collaborative research to understand Lake Erie and its watersheds will be discussed. These topics will form the focus for open discussion of ways to better integrate binational research with management and public needs on the major issues affecting Lake Erie. Participants are encouraged to submit poster presentations and displays.

Meeting goals are to a) exchange information; b) generate plans for studying/implementing solutions; and, c) build on our initiative to foster binational strategies for co-ordinated collection and dissemination of data to address the continuing research and management needs. Researchers who are new to the basin are especially encouraged to participate and become part of the Lake Erie community.

To receive additional information on **The 8th Lake Erie Millennium Network Meeting**, visit the website, or send e-mail and contact information to:

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Information on participation and online early registration is available at <http://www.LEMN.org>



Status of Lake Erie – Understanding the Nearshore & Its Connections
The 8th Binational Meeting of the Lake Erie Millennium Network
February 21 – 23, 2017

Preliminary Program Summary

Tuesday, February 21st

- 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Theme #1: Nutrients & Responses – Assessing Nutrient/Eutrophication Dynamics in Western Lake Erie.** Sources & loads of nutrient delivery from landscape to nearshore; importance of internal loading; progress in phosphorus reduction strategies; modeling loadings and distribution; predicting climate change effects; eutrophication and the status of the central basin.
Theme #2: Microcystins and toxicity of HABS: Predicting Blooms and Identifying Risks.
- 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Social and contributed poster & exhibit viewing.

Wednesday, February 22nd

- 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Theme #3: Status of Lake Erie - Delineating and understanding the nearshore.** Biogenomics; HABS & microbial source tracking; remote sensing to assess HABS & nuisance algae; ecological modeling; coastal mapping and dynamics initiatives, data & collaborative opportunities; quality & extent of wetland & nearshore fish habitat; benthic algae & submerged aquatic vegetation in eastern & western basins; dynamics of longshore currents & shoreline maintenance; the landward side of the nearshore; cumulative effects of human activity on ecosystem services.
- 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch (provided)**
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. **Theme #4: Connecting Channels - St. Clair Detroit River System & Niagara River.** Upstream/downstream monitoring - Canadian & US programs; trends in suspended & benthic sediment quality; the St. Clair Detroit River System – research overview, priority objectives, research gaps & collaborative opportunities; Areas of Concern, Beneficial Use Impairments & research needs.
- 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **Theme #5: Status of the Lake Erie Food Web.** Phytoplankton & zooplankton; role of winter/spring blooms; documenting fish movement using acoustic telemetry; status of the Lake Erie fishery; spatial variation in food web dynamics
Theme #6 – Status of Lake Erie - Threats Status of trends of legacy contaminants in the food web (mercury, PCBs); status of aquatic invasive species; trends & risks associated with pharmaceuticals & personal care products; microplastics;
- 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Social and contributed poster & exhibit viewing.

Thursday, February 23rd

- 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Theme #7: Status of Lake Erie – Threats.** Integration of findings, research needs, new management needs and plans; new tools; charge to researchers and collaborators.
- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Understanding the nearshore & its linkages - Lake Erie Research Synthesis and Needs.** (breakout discussion)
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Reporting out; summary comments. (Lunch provided)
- 1:00 p.m. Conference ends.

Online conference early registration will be available in January 2017