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WEBSITES FOR MORE INFORMATION

Canadian Water Resources Association: www.cwra.org

Canadian Wildlife Service: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/cwshom_e.html

Center for Watershed Protection: www.cwp.org

City of Toronto: www.city.toronto.on.ca

Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada: www.ncr.dfo.ca/home-accueil_e.htm

Environment Canada: www.ec.gc.ca/envhome.html

Ontario Ministry of the Environment: www.ene.gov.on.ca

Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs: www.mah.gov.on.ca

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources: www.mnr.gov.on.ca

Peel Region: www.region.peel.on.ca

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority: www.trca.on.ca

Toronto Bay Initiative: www.torontobay.net

Toronto Environmental Alliance: www.torontoenvironment.org

US Environmental Protection Agency site about RAPs: www.epa.gov/glnpo/aoc

Water Information Network (WIN): www.h2info.org

Waterfront Regeneration Trust: www.waterfronttrust.com

York Region Municipality: www.region.york.on.ca

GLOSSARY



Barry Linetsky

- ALG** **Aquatic Life Guideline:** The International Joint Commission's water quality guidelines or objectives, established for the protection of aquatic life.
- AoC** **Area of Concern:** In 1985, the International Joint Commission (IJC)'s Great Lakes Water Quality Board identified 43 Areas of Concern (AoCs) around the Great Lakes where ecosystem degradation was particularly pronounced.
- BU** **Beneficial Use:** Those human and non-human activities which are dependent on the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the waters of the Great Lakes system; the impairment of which is described under Annex 2 of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA).
- CSO** **Combined Sewer Overflow:** In sewage systems which carry both sanitary sewage and storm water runoff, the portion of the flow which goes untreated to receiving streams or lakes because of sewage treatment plant overloading during storms.
- Delisting** When beneficial uses have been restored in an Area of Concern, or all local sources of impairment have been eliminated in the AoC, the IJC, and the US and Canadian governments can agree to remove the AoC from the list of areas not meeting the objectives of the GLWQA. To date, one AoC has been delisted – Collingwood Harbour in Ontario.
- GLWQA** **Great Lakes Waters Quality Agreement:** an agreement between Canada and the United States expressing the commitment of each country to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem. The GLWQA was first signed in 1972, and amended in 1978 and 1987.
- IJC** **International Joint Commission:** the IJC was established under the Boundary Waters Treaty between Canada and the United States, in 1909. There are six Commissioners, three from the USA and three from Canada. The Commissioners act impartially, reviewing problems and deciding on issues regarding shared waters.
- Impaired** A designation for a degraded Beneficial Use.
- Listing/delisting guidelines** A set of guidelines based on the 14 use impairments identified in the GLWQA, developed by the IJC to provide guidance to the US and Canadian governments and AoCs for listing and delisting.
- PWQO** **Provincial Water Quality Objective:** set by the Province of Ontario's Ministry of the Environment.

- RAP** **Remedial Action Plan:** A plan to be developed with citizen involvement to restore and protect environmental quality at each of the Areas of Concern in the Great Lakes Basin. The RAP will identify impaired uses, sources of contaminants, desired use goals, target cleanup levels, specify remedial options, schedules for implementation, resource commitments by state, provincial and the federal governments, municipalities and industries, and develop monitoring requirements to assess the effectiveness of the remedial actions implemented.
- RFA** **Requires Further Assessment:** A designation for a Beneficial Use when more information and/or analysis is needed to assess whether it is impaired.
- WPCP** **Water Pollution Control Plant:** sewage treatment plant
- WWFMP** **Wet Weather Flow Management Master Plan:** a plan under development by the City of Toronto to control and manage storm-water and combined sewer flows and snow melt across the City.



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About the Waterfront Regeneration Trust

The Waterfront Regeneration Trust Corporation is a not for profit charitable organization that brings people, ideas and resources together for the revitalization of waterfronts and watersheds. Working with communities around Lake Ontario, the Niagara River, the US and abroad, the Trust links environmental, social and economic actions to create solutions that have multiple and long term benefits.

Under a Memorandum of Understanding with Environment Canada, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, the Trust has been a coordinator for the Toronto and Region Remedial Action Plan since 1997.



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Waterfront Regeneration Trust

- Why were Toronto's waterfront and watersheds put on a "black list" of Areas of Concern around the Great Lakes in 1987?
- What causes the beaches to be posted?
- Why are fish too contaminated to eat?
- What progress has been made since 1987?
- What are the priority actions to fully restore health to our waterfront and watersheds?

Clean Waters, Healthy Habitats provides an in-depth evaluation of these issues and the progress made since 1987 to develop and implement the Toronto and Region Remedial Action Plan. Some conditions have improved but there is still a long way to go to complete the clean-up and remove Toronto from the list of Areas of Concern.

A practical workplan of priority actions is recommended to restore environmental health and improve quality of life. The result – a clean, green, healthy environment – will be an important contribution to thriving communities that attract economic investment and meet the needs of residents and tourists alike.

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