

Tour Dates

June 4 - 7	Buffalo, NY
June 11 - 14	Erie, PA
June 18 - 21	Toledo, OH
June 23 - 28	Detroit, MI
June 30 - July 11	Port Huron, MI
July 1	Sarnia, Ontario
July 12 - 14	Bayview Port Huron to Mackinac Race
July 17 - 18	Chicago, IL
July 19 - 20	100th Chicago to Mackinac Race
July 24 - 27	Traverse City, MI
August 6 - 9	Grand Haven, MI
August 13 - 16	Milwaukee, WI
August 20 - 23	Bay City, MI
August 27 - 30	Cleveland, OH
September 3 - 6	Rochester, NY

Visit www.healthylakes.org for details on events at each location!

About the Healing Our Waters®— Great Lakes Coalition

More than 100 organizations representing millions of residents in the Great Lakes region have joined a new coalition whose goal is to restore and protect the Great Lakes.

Formed in 2005 with support from the Wege Foundation, Joyce Foundation, and others, the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition reflects a growing public awareness about the urgent need to protect the Great Lakes. The Coalition seeks to secure a sustainable restoration plan and the billions of dollars of state and federal funding needed to implement it.

Led by the National Wildlife Federation and the National Parks Conservation Association, the coalition seeks to clean up sewage and toxic sediments, to restore damaged habitat, to protect high quality habitat, and to control and prevent the introduction of invasive species, each of which is an essential component of restoring the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem. For more information and a list of coalition members, visit us online at www.healthylakes.org.

Healthy Lakes, Healthy Lives

Boat Tour

June 5—September 3, 2008



About the Tour

This summer thousands of families in more than a dozen port cities across the Midwest will be a part of the solution for the Great Lakes by participating in the Healthy Lakes, Healthy Lives Tour. Drawn to the waterfront to see one of the fastest sailing ships on the Great Lakes, people from all walks of life will take action to protect the lakes, and form a collective voice to our elected officials demanding real action and funding for the Great Lakes.

The events in these port cities will celebrate local examples of successful restoration and rehabilitation of Great Lakes resources, reinforce community efforts regarding local water quality initiatives, and at the same time underscore the connection between the health of the Great Lakes and the health of the community, its people and its economy.

Visit www.healthylakes.org/tour to learn how you can support the tour!

Many thanks to our Buffalo sponsors:



Government of Canada
Consulate General of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada
Consulat général du Canada

The State of the Lakes

The Great Lakes are essential to the economic and cultural identity of our region. Forty-two million people depend on the Great Lakes for their drinking water. Today, the health of our Lakes is seriously threatened by problems such as untreated sewage and invasive species.

The good news is we have manageable solutions to these problems. The Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy is a comprehensive plan to modernize sewage treatment, clean-up polluted harbors, restore wetlands, and prevent unwanted, new species from invading the lakes. Each of these steps is essential if we are to restore the lakes and safeguard our Great Lakes way of life.

It is time we use these solutions. Every day we wait, the problems get worse and the solutions get more costly. We must act now to restore the health of the Great Lakes.

Congress and the next President must implement and fund the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy – to protect our drinking water, our economy, our health, our way of life.

How You Can Help

You and your family can be a part of the solution for the Great Lakes. Here are some ways you can help.

In And Around Your Home:

- Avoid using phosphorus containing fertilizer to prevent algae blooms in the lakes;
- Wash your car on the lawn instead of the driveway so runoff can filter into the ground instead of becoming polluted runoff;
- Conserve water by turning off the tap while brushing and using water conserving appliances.

In Your Community:

- Setup an in-district meeting with your Member of Congress;
- Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper about the need to protect and restore the Great Lakes;
- Sign and send the postcards to the presidential candidates circulating at the Healthy Lakes, Healthy Lives Boat Tour events.

On Your Boat:

- Inspect your boat, trailer, and boating equipment and remove any plants and animals that are visible before leaving any waterbody.
- Drain water from the motor, livewell, bilge, and transom wells while on land before leaving any waterbody.
- Wash then dry your boat, tackle, downriggers, trailer, and other boating equipment to kill harmful species that were not visible at the boat launch.