

# Great Lakes Regional Collaboration - *PBT subgroup* *Education and Outreach White Paper*

Beth Murphy & Jackie Fisher  
Great Lakes National Program Office  
2/22/05

## Ongoing Efforts

- Variety of Organizations
  - Federal Agencies
  - State and Local and Tribal Governments
  - Public Groups (i.e. Forums, etc.)
- Variety of endpoints
  - Public
  - Industry
- Variety of delivery mechanisms
  - Websites
  - Printed material

## Great Lakes Workgroup and Forum Activities

- Many groups have communication/public involvement committees.
- Great Lake Forums
  - Lake Superior
  - Lake Michigan
  - Lake Erie

## Fish Consumption Advisories

- State and Tribal Advice
  - Based on human health
  - Advice ranges from limiting consumption to unlimited consumption from various locations
  - Mainly based on PCBs, Hg, Chlordane, Dioxin, and Toxaphene.

## Educational Tools for Educators

- Online resources for educators
  - T.E.A.C.H program
  - Enviro Tools

## NOAA National Sea Grant Program

- Nationwide network
- 30 University partners
  - 7 Great Lakes Sea Grant Programs
  - Wide variety of education and outreach programs

## Federal Programs

- SOLEC
  - Great Lakes indicators and State of the Lake reports
- Great Lakes Information Network
  - Clearing house for Great Lakes information
- ATSDR's ToxFAQs
  - Public friendly fact sheets

## Great Lakes Mid-Atlantic Center for Hazardous Substance Research

- Emphasis on technology transfer through two community out reach programs.
  - Technical Outreach Services to Communities (TOSC)
  - Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities (TAB)
- Provide information and education to communities faced with environmental challenges.

## National Pollution Prevention Roundtable

- Provides forums for the direct exchange of ideas and expertise as well as through a number of programs designed to disseminate the most current data on pollution prevention policy developments, practices and resources.
  - Workgroups
  - National Meetings
  - Publication Program
  - Topic Specific Electronic Listserves.

## Great Lakes Tribes

- Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission
  - GIS-based color coded maps to identify lower mercury inland lakes.
  - Articles published in quarterly newspaper on how to enjoy fish safely.
  - Developing education tools to address culturally sensitive populations on fish consumption
- Many tribes involved in member education on hazardous associated with burn barrels.

## Canadian Center for Pollution Prevention – Burn barrel sub-group

- Collaborative effort among organizations
  - Regulatory
  - Environmental
  - Industrial
  - Educational
- Mission - achieve a significant reduction in the release of dioxins/furans into the environment by reducing the practice of residential burning of garbage within the Great Lakes Basin.

## Other Outreach Efforts

- As seen, Education and Outreach comes from multiple sources. Please provide a list of the ones we missed to [murphy.elizabeth@epa.gov](mailto:murphy.elizabeth@epa.gov) or [fisher.jacqueline@epa.gov](mailto:fisher.jacqueline@epa.gov) .