



Waukegan Harbor Citizens' Advisory Group

P.O. Box 297
Waukegan, Illinois 60079

<http://waukeganharborcag.com>

Minutes of the April 17, 2014, CAG meeting held at Lilac Cottage, Waukegan Park District, Waukegan respectfully submitted by Natalie Dutack, acting as Recording Secretary of the Waukegan Harbor Citizens' Advisory Group.

The April 17, 2014, meeting of the Waukegan Harbor Citizens Advisory Group was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chair, Susie Schreiber.

The Chair welcomed those in attendance and asked everyone to identify themselves and any group they represent.

Attendance at the April 17, 2014 CAG Meeting:

John Bairstow	Concerned Citizen
Larry Brewer	Concerned Citizen
Penny Bouchard	Concerned Citizen
Tom Chefalo	Lake County Planning, Building & Development
Ross del Rosario	USEPA
Tim Drexler	USEPA
Natalie Dutack	Concerned Citizen
Claudia Freeman	Waukegan Park District
Lori Grabarski	Larsen Marine Service
Paul Geiselhart	Lake County Audubon
Paul Kakuris	Concerned Citizen
Bill Lebensorger	Concerned Citizen
John Legge	IDNR
Heriberto Leon	USEPA
Doug Ower	Sierra Club
Scot Prindiville	City of Waukegan
Steve Robillard	IDNR
Susie Schreiber	Illinois Audubon
Kathy Larsen Sivia	Larsen Marine Service
Randy Syme	WYC Youth Foundation
Diane Tecic	IDNR
Fred Veenbaas	Midwest Generation
Jake Warsaw	Congressman Brad Schneider
Don Wilson	Concerned Citizen

GUESTS:

Todd Degner	Davey Resource Group
Michael Edgar	Greater Waukegan Development Coalition
Susana Figueroa	Faith In Place
Christine Nannicelli	Sierra Club
Joan Sabonjian	League of Women Voters
Edward Warden	U of Chicago

AGENDA

No additions.

MINUTES

The February and March meeting minutes will be reviewed during the May 2014 monthly meeting. Completed minutes were delayed due to multiple computer issues from assorted different computers.

UPDATES

USEPA

OMC Superfund Site – Tim Drexler

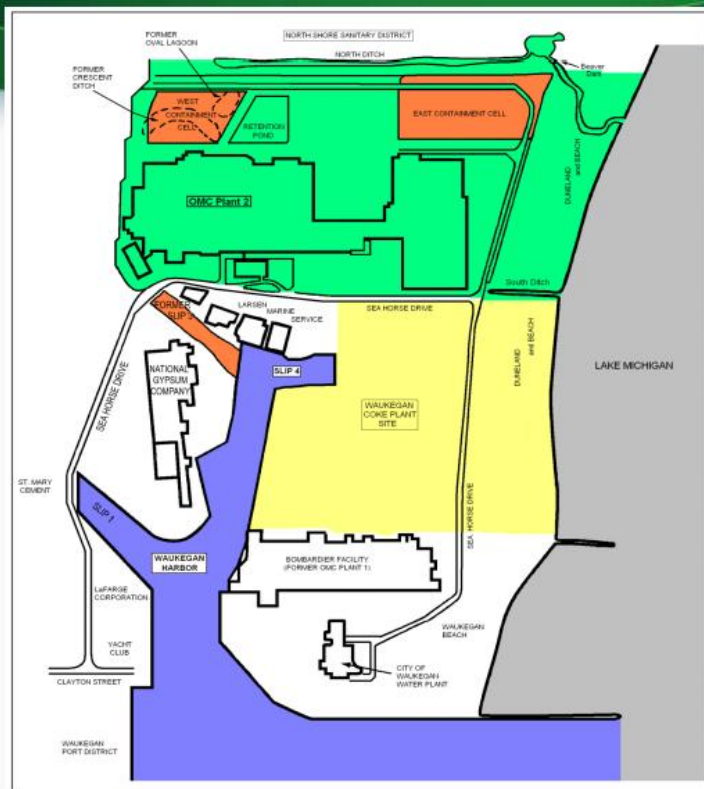
The USEPA is continuing to dismantle the water treatment plant located on the OMC Plant 2 site (Op Unit 4). Most of the equipment will be gone by May 1, 2014. We are cleaning up the concrete pad next to the Triax building upon which the exterior portion of the water treatment plant was built. A crew will then remove the pad and excavate the last remaining contaminated soil in OP Unit 4. Work will begin May 5, 2014, and will last through July 2014.

The old Waukegan Coke Plant Site on Sea Horse Drive (Op Unit 2) will be used as a staging area for the Outer Harbor sediment dredging. Sediment will be placed on this site for dewatering, and will then be used to fill the large bermed area to an ultimate depth of 3 feet. At that point, the site will then be considered approved for mixed use or residential property.

The consolidation facility (Op Unit 4) will have cover material placed on it in May. An in-situ chemical oxidation process will be used (sodium permanganate) to break down the TCE plumes on the Plant 2 site (Op Unit 4). Through a monitoring well network established to south, west, and east, USEPA will monitor how those plumes degrade and see if anything needs to be done in the future. USEPA hopes to complete sampling of the network of monitoring wells in July.

The site of the *old* Die Cast Building was one of the most contaminated areas on the OMC Plant 2 site, and requires a lot of remediation. Some of the contamination goes so deep that it cannot be removed. USEPA will isolate this area by creating a cell around it. This project will be conducted later in the summer with a September 2014 completion target. Extraction wells are to be installed, and they will drain the consolidation facility. A single water treatment plant will be built for all three sites: the new cell, consolidation facility, and die cast building site. USEPA is working to have all activities completed by the end of the summer 2014.

OMC Site Operable Units



- OU 4 (Plant 2)
- OU 3 (Cells)
- OU 2 (WCP)
- OU 1 (Harbor)

Questions

What are the dates for the Outer Harbor dredging? We are assuming June 2014.

How many cubic yards are being dredged in the Approach Channel? 75,000 cubic yards

How many for the other area? 80,000 cubic yards

What variance are they trying to get? The variance is just to increase the amount they are dredging.

How does the treatment plant work?

Filtration with granulated activated carbon – we will periodically sample it to see how it’s doing. If TCE or PCB levels increase, the filter will be changed.

Where will water be discharged? It will be discharged to the north ditch, and then to the lake.

Will we need a permit?

USEPA will need to meet requirements of permit, without actually having one. It won’t be on the USEPA website as a permitted project because it isn’t.

Who is responsible?

This will be joint responsibility under a consent decree with the City of Waukegan and State of Illinois.

What is sand mountain?

There is a deposition of sand south of the mouth of the Waukegan River and before Naval Station Great Lake's harbor & known as "Sand Mountain". This is where the USACE places clean dredging material from the lake. In theory, the sand from Sand Mountain was supposed to move south with the littoral drift, helping sand starved areas south of Waukegan. What we are worried about is that it is moving up to the mouth of the river and harbor based on bathymetric studies.

Is the rebar sticking out of the north Entrance Channel Seawall into the Swimming Area been taken care of for public safety? Yes.

Where is the sand from the Approach Channel going?

Some sand may go to Illinois Beach State Park. IDNR is working with the USACE to identify the funding and to cost share the project with them.

What is meant by some sand? How much sand goes depends on money/funding.

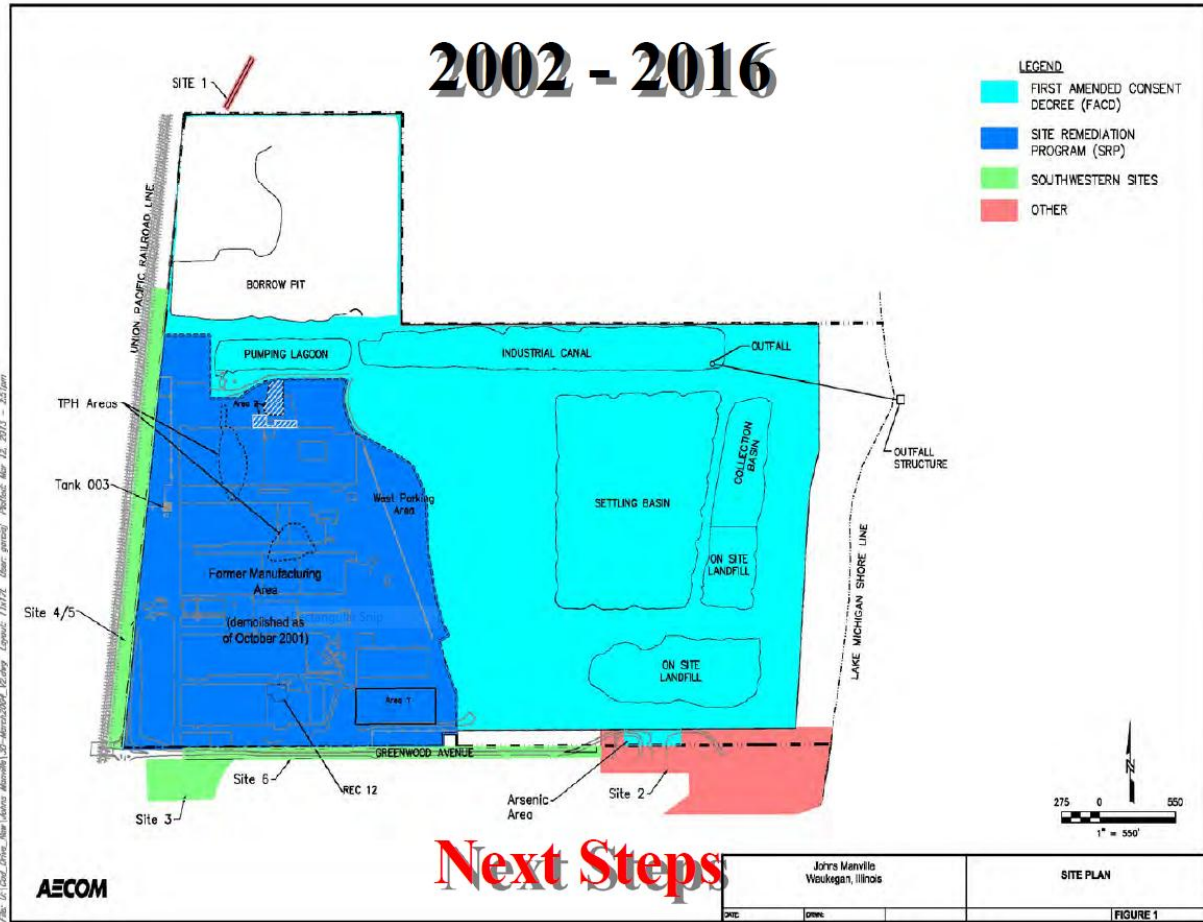
Johns Manville

Site activities include sewing geotextile panels together for covering the Industrial Canal and Pumping Lagoon, installing an access road for the work, and clearing vegetation around the Industrial Canal area. In late April, 2014, Johns Manville expects to begin pulling the geotextile panels across the Industrial Canal/Pumping Lagoon and start the filling process. Com Ed expects to continue to clean crane mats at Site 3 through the end of April, 2014. The USEPA is reviewing the revised work plans and designs submitted by Johns Manville.

Questions

Where is site 3? This needs to be defined. I will ask for a map*.

**Follow up* – Slide 20 of the January 2014 presentation shows the location of Site 3 and follows.



Heriberto Leon, USEPA Community Involvement Coordinator – Superfund Division, is putting a request in to Matt Ohl, USEPA JM Project Manager, requesting a poster sized map for our upcoming meetings. He also hopes to have a pdf for the CAG website.

See: (<http://www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/jmanville/pdfs/jmanville-pres20140116.pdf>)

USACE

The Approach Channel and the Outer Harbor dredging will be part of a single contract by the end of this month. USEPA is working on the project with City of Waukegan, and hope to have it ready for the April board meeting. USACE can dredge up to 150,000 cubic yards of sediment if IEPA approves the variance. We will be pursuing options to do additional dredging in 2015. The FY 15 Presidential Budget doesn't have money for Waukegan Harbor at this time. There is little to no funding for full rehabilitation of the breakwater at this time. Safety ladders will be installed on the north side of the Entrance Channel sea wall.

IDNR

IDNR put together the request for the removal of the Dredging BUI. The Waukegan Harbor CAG provided a letter of support. The Governor will make an announcement at the harbor-officially signing off removal of the Dredging BUI impairment.

This event is tentatively scheduled for April 25, 2014, at 9:30. The IDNR will verify the date with the Gov.'s office as more information becomes available. We will provide information as it becomes available.

Earlier this year the IDNR shared a presentation on the *Waukegan Harbor Extended AOC Management Plan*-which was then posted on the CAG website. Good feedback was received, and the document has been changed from being a management plan, to recommendations. The IDNR has re-framed the document with that in mind, and included more information on the B2 wetlands. Revised maps are still in development. The revised document is currently in the internal review process with the INDR - Illinois Natural Heritage Division, and others.

The B2 Wetlands are partially owned by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). IDNR has approached IDOT and, in concept, found they would be willing to transfer the IDOT portion of the B2 wetlands over to IDNR after the IDOT Greenwood Ave. bridge work is completed. In the interim, we are going to inquire about a management agreement.

Questions

How forward looking is it?

The suggested timeline extends to 2021. But in reality it could be used and updated beyond that.

Where can we get it? On the Waukegan Harbor CAG website, or we can email it to you.

Will the Illinois Coastal Management Program be a funding agent?

It certainly could be. The IDNR-has put some money towards habitat management. Funding through NOAA is limited to public lands.

City of Waukegan

No report.

CAG BUSINESSS

Sea Wall

The USACE will be putting safety ladders in along the sea wall on the north side of the Entrance Channel this year. Now people will be able to navigate to a ladder if they fall into the water. We are exploring a public/private-partnership for possible funding of the heavily deteriorating eastern portion of the sea wall on the north side of the Entrance Channel.

Bowen Neighbors

The Bowen Neighbors consist of 18 property owners. The Waukegan Park District^s submitted a 3 page pre-proposal for a 2014 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant, which has been accepted. The full proposal is due April 28, 2014. This project seeks to complete work started in Bowen Park, and address storm damage and debris issues on the Bowen Neighbors property.

Red Headed Woodpecker

There is a lot of work on being done on the Red- Headed wood pecker in Lake and Cook counties. Due to time running out at this evening's meeting, we ask that those interested to look at the hand out.

Citizen Scientists

The CAG presented opportunities for Citizens Science activities for the Chicago Wilderness – Leave No Child Inside – North Chicago/Waukegan Group. We will be working with their members. At a recent Waukegan Park District focus group meeting, the Citizen Science local opportunities were presented, and was very well received - people want to get involved. Scientists throughout the country in many different fields of research are making much more progress with the aid of North American Citizen Scientists.

Waukegan Park District - LIVE GREEN EVENT

The CAG will be participating in the Waukegan Park District's Live Green event at the end of April. – presenting interactive water testing and frog identification information. This was a huge event last year. Please join us Sunday April 27, 2014! The Park District will also be doing work with Academy of Our Lady planting trees at Powell Park this month.

ComEd

We have been in contact with ComEd, and have discussed and provided the IDNR – Chicago Botanic Garden approved seed list for restoration projects on AOC and Extended AOC properties. ComEd agreed to use our seeding list.–We are hoping to have them do a presentation at a future meeting on their Pershing Road – Greenwood Avenue project.

North Shore Gas South Plant

Remedial Investigation results

This presentation will be looking at the results of the investigation at the North Shore Gas South Plant. The former property was 2 acres, however contaminants were found in an extended 20 acre area. The plant was constructed in 1897, and operated from 1898 to 1946. It was demolished in 1953, and is owned by North Shore Gas/Integrus. Site investigations were conducted in the 1990's – 2000's. In 2007 there was USEPA order to perform a Remedial Investigation Feasibility Study (RI/FS)

Excavations have been conducted on all the soil down to 3.5 feet. The focus has been on digging to just above water table in some areas. Additional deep excavations were also required. The RI started in 2009, and was completed in late 2012. Some modifications of the report were made in January 2014. The RI/FS looked for contaminants: PAHs (naphthalene, benxopyrene), PVOCs (benzenes/ toluene), Cyanides/Phenols, and Metals (lead, arsenic). The USEPA asked Integrus to extend sampling. An additional 13 rounds of sampling were done in 2013 (beyond the 2009-2012 limit).

The results were as follows:

- **WATER:** They found a very wide plume of contaminants in the ground water. PVOCs and PAHs are stretching from the site to the lake. They also found NAPL (non-aqueous phase liquid) – this is considered-the principle threat to address.
- **SOIL:** Contaminants extend from the site to Waukegan Port District and Akzo Nobel properties. Exceedance of SLs for PVOCs, PAHs, and metals were found.
- **SOIL VAPOR:** SLs were exceeded at Akzo Nobel, City of Waukegan, and Waukegan Port District properties. The highest concentration is closest to the lake.

Two risks are being evaluated: (1) Human Health impacts and (2) Ecological Impacts. Contamination is divided into Carcinogenic or Non-carcinogenic. For Human Health impacts they calculate the risk range, using 1 in 1 million to 1 in ten thousand to determine risk of cancer. In assessing Human Health receptors they looked at construction/industrial workers, recreational visitors, and residents in a future

use scenario. It had to be determined if they could ingest surface water and sediment, or have dermal contact with water and sediment. They also use a hazard index. For Ecological impacts they focus on aquatic habitat/beach, the marina, and sediments. The chemical concentration is compared to Ecological benchmarks.

Conclusions reached: It is suggested that ground water is exceeding the acceptable risk management rate. Soil and Soil Vapor have some exceedances. NAPL in subsurface soil and ground water is a priority. For the ecological risk assessment, the concern was for surface water and sediment. They looked at beach/open water, aquatic mammals etc. The conclusion was that aquatic receptors are not at risk. The site does not support habitat for ecological receptors as it is mostly paved. Harbor sediments support a healthy benthic community.

What's next: North Shore Gas Company will present us with the second portion of the feasibility study with Remedial Action Objectives (RAOs) defined. Following approval of the RI/FS the USEPA will put together a proposed plan with preferred alternative clean-up plan measured against an EPA 9 criteria evaluation.

There will be a public meeting. USEPA is working on reaching residents that don't have a background on the subject and finding the best way for them to engage them. During the meeting USEPA will have a lawyer, toxicologist, USEPA staff to better answer the questions. The public has the ability to comment on the preferred plan. They can submit comments and questions during a 30 day comment period. The 30 day period could be extended if there is a request. After a 30 day public comment period, the USEPA will issue a Record of Decision.

Questions

There was an underground diesel leak from the rail road onsite. Did your testing distinguish between routine gas and diesel?

Probably, but I don't know at this point. We are pretty sure the company was aware of this.

How fast were plumes moving towards lake? USEPA will have to get you the answer.

Is it moving eastward? Generally, yes.

How much gets into lake?

There is not much evidence that it's getting there. There is a steel bulkhead providing a barrier. The PRP did tests. The levels were rather low. Remember, this is a marina so there are other sources of contamination.

What metals were found? Some lead was found; unsure about arsenic.

Did the study address the sheet pile wall (i.e. the age and permeability)?

There have been some indirect studies. They suggest there was a little bit of a diversion, and water was moving towards the sides. That suggests that the barrier is working.

Once water goes to the side, does it eventually go around?

Yes. Levels in surface water suggest that contaminant levels are extremely low. The risk levels in the marina are too low to clean up.

So, there is nothing?

I don't think that was the intent of the investigation. The RI was to find the extent of contamination out there.

The polluter did the study?

Yes, but the USEPA oversaw the process. The USEPA also made them do additional surveys. USEPA had some concerns, and it took additional time until the right information was obtained.

What was the contaminant concentration after 13 rounds of study? Did it decrease/ increase?

We ended up with a narrow plume, and it doesn't look like it has changed over the course of the study.

Was the investigation funded by the company or tax payers?

The company based, on administrative order of consent. A work plan is part of settlement.

Will the meeting be "sit down with questions" or "a bunch of easels"?

We will make sure that people understand and welcome questions. We are doing whatever it takes, open houses, activities etc. We do have the 30-day period comment, beyond that we are open to additional outreach activities.

Do you have to wait a year for the study to do work? There are no immediate plans for interim action.

Are the property owners aware of the situation? Yes, the report has been made available.

Have you told the Waukegan Port Authority? USEPA will confirm that the Port Authority has been made aware.

Can we see the document? It's available on the USEPA website (USEPA)

Is the Lake County Health Department copied on this? Yes.

Do you take into consideration the possibility of a "toxic cocktail" when there are multiple contaminants?
Yes. They do add conservative factors to cancer and non-cancer risks.

Bowen Park

Conservation Land Stewardship conducted a successful burn last week. Davey Resource Group will be starting re-vegetation work on site in the coming weeks.

Greenwood School

Greenwood School is located two blocks to the west of Bowen Park, and their students use Bowen Park for a lot of activities. An art teacher at Greenwood school assisted by the science teacher, are researching birds from the Waukegan area with the students. They are using Cornell University Ornithological data, and are making 3D models of the local bird species.

Midwest Generation/NRG, Inc.

Some sad news from Midwest Generation – Fran, the peregrine falcon passed away. The Greenwood School students were writing a book about her. However, another female arrived and took her place. She is named Patsy, and has already laid eggs! Please note that the falcon has Facebook page now

Asphalt Sealants

There are two kinds of sealants that can be used on pavements. One, coal tar sealcoating, is a significant source of PAH pollutants in streams and lakes adjacent to its applications. There is currently legislation in Illinois to ban use of coal tar sealants. Asphalt sealcoats are preferred. Permeable pavement is also a good alternative. For more details read:

Freshwater Future bulletin – March 31, 2014 - Cheryl Kallio: phone – 231-571-5001.

OLD BUSINESS

Great Lakes AOC Meeting – USEPA Region 5 - Chicago

The meetings were well run and well attended. Informative reports from all 32 AOCs were presented. The status of Beneficial Use targets for BUI removal and habitat restoration plans in the AOCs were discussed in depth. These presentations are available free, online. As noted briefly last month, energy issues were also a major topic. USGS presented the results of their swallow egg testing. Several more sites in Waukegan have been selected for future nest boxes.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

NOTES:

The following comments were made at the close of meeting:

- The Sierra club, League of Women Voters, and Faith in Place had a meeting this past week discussing brown field solar development.
- An update on Yeoman Creek was requested for next month's meeting.
- Dr. Julie Kinzelman's Waukegan Beach Health Survey report will be put on the website.
- NSSD is celebrating their 100th anniversary – tours of Gurnee plant will be available before and after the celebration. Call the District if you are interested.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Claudia Freeman and seconded by Penny Bouchard. The motion passed. The meeting ended at 8:05 p.m.

CAG Members

*Abbott Laboratories
Akzo Nobel
Alliance for the Great Lakes
Bombardier Recreational Products
Carol Dorge, Attorney
City of North Chicago
City of Waukegan
College of Lake County
Commonwealth Edison
EJ & E Railway
Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council
Illinois Audubon Society
Johns Manville
LaFarge Corporation
Lake County Audubon
Lake County Chamber of Commerce
Lake County Planning, Building and Development Dept.
Lake County Health Department
Lake County Stormwater Management Agency
Larsen Marine, Inc.
LFR Levine •Fricke
Liberty Prairie Conservancy
Midwest Generation
National Gypsum
North Shore Gas
North Shore Sanitary District
Outboard Marine Corporation
Salmon Unlimited*

CAG Members (continued)

*Waukegan Charter Boat Association
Waukegan Main Street
Waukegan Lakefront Development Corporation
Waukegan Park District
Waukegan Port District
Waukegan Yacht Club
Concerned Citizens*

CAG Associates

*Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Delta Institute
Illinois Citizen Action
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
Illinois Lake Management Association
Illinois Pollution Control Board
International Joint Commission
Maritime Administration
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U. S. Fish and Wildlife
University of Illinois- Marine Extension
Waukegan Public Library
Concerned Citizens*

WEB SITES

<http://www.waukeganharborcag.org>

The Waukegan CAG website.

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/environmental-justice>

Illinois EPA – Environmental Justice website.

<http://www.ilenviro.org>

Good listing of all environmental bills in the IL House & Senate.

<http://www.glc.org>

Great Lakes Commission.

<http://www.binational.net>

Great Lakes Binational Toxics Strategy – Annual Progress Report

<http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/pubs/brochures/wlevels/wlevels.html>

Great Lakes Water Levels

<http://www.cciw.solec>

State of the Great Lakes – SOLEC full report

<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/solec>

<http://www.lkmichiganforum.org/>

The Lake Michigan Forum

<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/lakemich>

Lake Michigan Lake Wide Management Plan (LaMP 2000)

<http://wi.water.usgs.gov/lmmcc/index.html>

Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordinating Council

<http://www.epa.gov/lakemich>

Lake Michigan Sensitive Areas

<http://www.sph.umich.edu/ehs/umaql/mass.html>

Lake Michigan Mass Balance Study

<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/lmmb>

Lake Michigan Mass Balance

<http://biology.usgs.gov/S+t/noframe/x186.html>

Zebra Mussels in Southwestern Lake Michigan

<http://www.gvsu.edu/wri>

Annis Water Resources Institute

<http://www.epa.gov/OST/GLI/glimixqa.html>

A document on Bioaccumulative Chemicals of Concern (BCCs)

USEPA WEB SITE

Go the EPA Home site at *epa.gov*

Select *Illinois* from the map. It will go to an Illinois page.

Then select *Outboard Marine Corp Superfund Site* in the *EPA in Illinois* section.

Addition information may be reached by the top right hand box labeled *Site Information*.

Select *NPL Fact Sheet*. At the bottom you can click on *Site Profile Info* and it will take you to Superfund.

The Superfund Site Progress Profile contains the following additional information on the Superfund sites:

The site, contamination, cleanup progress summary, cleanup impact summary, land re-use, post-construction, five year review and community involvement.

For Area of Concern Information:

Go the EPA Home site at *epa.gov*

Select *Illinois* from the map. It will go to an Illinois page.

Select *Great Lakes Area of Concern* in the *EPA in Illinois* section.

Choose *Waukegan Harbor* for AOC information.