

GREEN MARINA

Education and Outreach Project Summary



The Green Marina Education and Outreach Project will help reduce or eliminate pollution from entering the Great Lakes through boating and marina activities.

Pollution prevention strategies are at the heart of the Green Marina effort. They include implementing best practices, such as using oil-absorbent pads when fueling to prevent fuel from entering the water; and selecting native plants to capture and slowly release storm water. Other best practices include properly disposing hazardous materials, reducing waste and recycling. Support through the Green Marina Education and Outreach project will assist more marinas with training and completing certification.

OVERVIEW

There are two phases to this project. The first phase is a strategic collaboration between Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin Sea Grant programs to support education and outreach efforts for a 3-year period, that began in November 2010. New educational materials will highlight the sources and impacts of marine-related pollution to Great Lakes waters and how to implement best practices

to address critical issues. The second phase will continue to foster regional clean marina networks, focus on the distribution of pollution prevention and recycling kits to marinas; and provide tools to prevent point and nonpoint source pollutants from entering the Great Lakes.

Project activities will support and improve existing Clean Marina programs, and will help increase participation in education efforts that lead toward certification. Education methods will include in-person workshops, as well as online training and webinars for marinas. Marina experts from the Great Lakes region will assist in enhancing and expanding the web-based Clean Marina Classroom developed by Michigan Sea Grant. This educational tool has nine units focusing on best practices, such as boat maintenance and repair, sewage handling and petroleum control.

PROJECT INVESTIGATORS AND CONTACTS

MICHIGAN SEA GRANT:

(UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN & MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY)

- James Diana
jimd@umich.edu
(734) 763-5834
- Elizabeth LaPorte
elzblap@umich.edu
(734) 647-0767
- Chuck Pistis
pistis@msu.edu
(616) 458-6805
- Amy Samples
asamples@umich.edu
(734) 647-0766

OHIO SEA GRANT:

- Jill Jentes Banicki
jentes.1@osu.edu
(614) 292-8949
- Sarah Orlando
Sarah.Norman@dnr.state.oh.us
(419) 609-4120

WISCONSIN SEA GRANT:

- Vicky Harris
harris@uwgb.edu
(920) 465-2795
- Gene Clark
GCLARK1@uwsuper.edu
(715) 394-8472

GREEN MARINA



CERTIFICATION

In order to become certified, marina operators must complete a training course, perform a self-evaluation, and address both mandatory and recommended best practices. Approximately 100 marinas in the Great Lakes region have voluntarily implemented best practices.

Clean Marina certification checklists include approximately 70 items that must be addressed and vetted by marina consultants who perform site visits. However, best practices in the Great Lakes region currently vary from state-to-state. Therefore, the Green Marina Education and Outreach project leaders and partners are working to develop uniform certification standards for marinas, boatyards and harbors that can be consistently applied throughout the Great Lakes region.

Team members will work with technical experts and outreach professionals to develop common best practices and certification criteria for fresh water marinas. Engaging local, regional and national organizations to help sustain training certification and boater education efforts is also a priority.

PARTNERS

Project collaborators include universities, state agencies and marina industries, such as the Michigan Boating Industry Association, the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth, the Indiana and Wisconsin Coastal Management programs, the Wisconsin Marina Association, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Lake Erie Marine Trades Association, the Midwest Marina Association, and the National Association of Marina Industries.

- Total Project Funding: \$691,852

US EPA, Great Lakes National Program Office

Project Officer:

- Judy Beck
beck.judy@epa.gov

Lead Organization:

- Michigan Sea Grant College Program

Additional collaborators include the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Lake Michigan Lakewide Management Plan Forum, Coastal Zone Management Programs, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Coast Guard, Power Squadrons, and non-government organizations.

The project is supported by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and is part of the federal \$475 million effort to restore the Great Lakes.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Great Lakes National Program Office is overseeing this project, see:

www.greatlakesrestoration.us

www.miseagrant.umich.edu/greenmarina

