

LINK



The Newsletter of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR)

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A Note from the Executive Director

GLRPPR Summer Conference

The 2005 Summer Conference in New York City is fast approaching! The conference will be held

at the New York Academy of Sciences on August 25 and 26. Many of you will have received a conference brochure in the mail. Please feel free to share it with all interested parties. Updated information on the conference appears on the GLRPPR Web site at <http://www.glrppr.org/meetings/NewYork2005/>. The agenda includes sessions on sustainable recreation, P2 in urban and suburban settings (including sustainable transportation and an update on the New York Harbor Project), industrial programs and activities, and highlights of local and regional collaborations and programs.

There is also an exciting opportunity to

attend a free pre-conference tour on August 24 at the world-renowned Solaire, America's first environmentally advanced residential tower. For more information on the tour, see <http://www.glrppr.org/meetings/NewYork2005/conferencereg/solaire.cfm>.

We also have more exciting tours and adventures in the planning stages so check back frequently or watch your e-mail for updates, but make your travel plans now!

Great Lakes Regional Collaboration

On July 7, 2005 the draft Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Plan was introduced in Duluth, Minnesota. The draft plan is a result of the work of over 1,500 people representing federal, state, local, and tribal governments; nongovernmental entities. Many of these people serving on the eight issue-specific Strategy Teams and writing teams are GLRPPR members, including several GLRPPR Steering Committee members and the Executive Director.

Strategy Teams

Beginning in January 2005 the eight strategy teams have worked to develop this draft strategy document. Each strategy team corresponds to one of the governors' priorities for restoration and protection. The teams include:

- Area of Concern (AOC) Restoration/Sediments
- Coastal Health
- Habitat/Species
- Indicators and Information
- Invasive Species
- Nonpoint Source
- Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxics (PBT) Reduction
- Sustainable Development

Public Comment Period

The draft plan was released for public comment on July 7, 2005. A 60-day



public comment period is taking place from July 7-September 9, 2005. You are encouraged to submit written comments. To view the draft plan and submit comments electronically see <http://www.glrp.org/>.

Debra Jacobson, Executive Director

Featured Articles

GLRPPR Offers Sustainable Recreation Resources, Seeks Info on Tip-Ups

by Joy Scrogum, Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC)

Summer is here, and as thoughts turn to vacations and fun in the great outdoors, the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR) Web site can help make your recreational activities more environmentally friendly.

The Sector Resources section of the GLRPPR site includes information on pollution prevention as it relates to [landscaping](#), [outdoor recreation](#), and [tourism/leisure](#). The [Hotels and Hospitality](#) Sector Resource may also be useful in making environmentally informed choices for travel plans. In addition to links and expert contacts, Sector Resources provide information on relevant events and funding opportunities.

If you like to fish, Consumer Information & Resources includes a section on “[Mercury and Other Fish Advisories](#)”. The “Alternative Fishing Tackle” subcategory of the Outdoor Recreation Sector Resource includes a list of [suppliers of non-lead fishing tackle](#) compiled by GLRPPR. On a related topic, it was recently brought to the attention of GLRPPR staff members that mercury may be a concern in ice fishing equipment. Tip-ups are devices used to monitor ice-fishing holes that operate by raising a flag when a fish is on a hook. Tip-ups may be equipped with a light for ease of use at night, and these lights may use mercury switches. GLRPPR staff members are in the process of compiling a list of manufacturers of mercury-free tip-up lights to post on the GLRPPR Web site. If you are aware of manufacturers of such products, please send contact information or relevant Web addresses to Joy Scrogum at jscrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu.

In addition to Sector Resources, the GLRPPR Web site provides several Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx) Topic Hubs related to sustainable recreation. Topic Hubs are more in depth than Sector Resources, including narrative sections providing background information, operations involved, reasons for change (including regulatory and non-regulatory considerations), pollution prevention opportunities, etc. Check out the [Clean Snowmobiles](#), [Ski Areas](#), and [Public Lands](#) Topic Hubs created by the Peaks to Prairies Pollution Prevention Information Center. The Western Regional Pollution Prevention Network maintains the [Hospitality](#) Topic Hub

while the Southwest Network for Zero Waste provides a Topic Hub on [Landscaping](#). Finally, the Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA) maintains a Topic Hub on [Marinas and Small Boat Harbors](#).

If you seek information on other aspects of sustainable recreation not currently covered on the GLRPPR Web site, remember that you may submit pollution prevention related questions to the [GLRPPR Help Desk](#) for a free hour of literature or Internet searching. The question and its answer will be included in the GLRPPR Help Desk Archive for the benefit of all GLRPPR members.

Improving the Environmental Performance of Ontario Ski Resorts

Every year, millions of people visit ski resorts across North America to enjoy snow sports, recreational activities, and experience the natural beauty of the outdoors. These visitors place a high priority on environmental concerns. They are drawn—and come back—to ski resorts where quality recreational experience is enhanced by natural and aesthetic qualities, and complemented by sound environmental management. Ski resort operators have a significant role to play in meeting visitor's expectations.

In the fall of 2003, the Environmental Best Practices Task Force, a cooperative partnership between the Canadian Centre for Pollution Prevention (C2P2), Environment Canada and the Ontario Snow Resorts Association (OSRA), was formed with interested members of OSRA to determine the most effective way to address environmental concerns at ski resorts throughout Ontario. This task force serves as a forum to discuss issues and highlight pollution prevention opportunities, where ski resort operators can exchange information on best practices and work collaboratively with one another and with other partners to prevent pollution locally and regionally. Over the past 18 months, the task force has developed a ski resort resource Web page and has published environmental best practices templates to address common issues regarding water use, energy use, and waste reduction. The templates are now included as part of the larger OSRA Best Practices Manual.

This spring, *Be Cool, Be Green* was the theme of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Ontario Snow Resorts Association. AGM attendees were challenged to take action on climate change and cleaner air by keynote address speaker Karen Stemmler—a former member of the Canadian Olympic Alpine Ski Team. Karen spoke on the links between skiing, health, and climate change and highlighted the One Tonne Challenge Actions (www.climatechange.gc.ca/onetonne) that can make a positive impact on our environment and the future of skiing in Ontario.

At the same event, Tania Del Matto, chair of the OSRA Environmental Best Practices Task Force spoke on

the inspiring accomplishments demonstrated by members of the task force. Case studies profiling initiatives from various Ontario ski resorts were celebrated, such as:

- Mount St. Louis Moonstone: Installation of a wind tower for wind power feasibility study
- Osler Bluff Ski Club: Switched from varsol parts washer to an aqueous parts washer
- Snow Valley Resort: Converted to four-stroke engine snowmobiles



OSRA Environmental Best Practices Task Force Chair, Tania Del Matto

Tania also highlighted future initiatives of the task force such as the *Green Purchasing Workshop* offered this fall to OSRA members and the expansion of the *Keep Winter Cool Campaign* (www.keepwintercool.org)—a campaign with the dual purpose of encouraging skiers and snowboarders to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions while also giving ski resorts the opportunity to take a leadership role in adopting their own energy-saving initiatives.

For more information on this project visit the Pollution Prevention for Ski Resorts Web page at www.c2p2online.com/ski or contact Tania Del Matto at the Canadian Centre for Pollution Prevention (Tania@c2p2online.com or 1-800-667-9790).

CONGRATULATIONS!

Diane Gobin from Sora Enso North America in Duluth MN won the gift basket that was raffled off at the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable held in Chicago in April.

There were products from each of the Great Lakes states included in the basket, such as organic blackberry shiraz preserves from Michigan, popcorn from Indiana, a University of Illinois polo shirt, and a GLRPPR clock. Thanks to GLRPPR Steering Committee members Karen Teliha from Indiana, Laura Rauwerda from Michigan, and Jack Annis from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point for contributing to the gift basket.

Reducing Waste When Traveling

Adapted from "Reducing Waste When Traveling" by reduce.org, a project of the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance Office (MOEA)

Travelers can generate a lot of waste and pollution, even with the best intentions. The U.S. Travel Data Center estimates that 43 million U.S. travelers are "ecologically concerned." There are several ways that travelers can reduce waste while traveling. Here are a few ideas to get started.

- Businesses are responsive to their guests,

- customers, and clients who voice concerns, so speak up. If you have compliments or comments regarding a company's environmental performance, write a note or speak directly to the general manager of the hotel, the operator of a resort or campground, the captain of the airplane, or the manager of your tour company.
- Book your guestrooms, campsites, or meeting rooms in places that are clearly interested in protecting our environment, and let management know that's why you've chosen their establishment. Encourage the places you visit to reduce waste and to implement water- and energy-saving measures.
- Use reusable bags, storage containers, and towels. Rent equipment, avoid disposables, and pack waste-free picnics by bringing reusables and recyclables home with you. Buy fruits and vegetables without packaging.
- Purchase electronic tickets for air travel whenever possible.
- Going on a fishing trip? Use non-lead sinkers. This will protect wildlife from lead poisoning.
- Gas boats on land instead of in the water to reduce pollution in lakes and rivers.
- Upgrade to the most efficient boat motor. A 4-stroke engine is quieter, 40 times cleaner, and 2 to 4 times more fuel-efficient than a 2-stroke engine. (*Focus 10,000: Minnesota's Lakeside Magazine*, July 1999)
- Keep campfire ash far from lakeshores to protect water quality.
- Reduce fast food waste and excess packaging in carryout food. "No thanks, I don't need a bag," may draw a curious look, but sometimes you have to speak up for what you don't want.
- Carry your own reusable mug to avoid disposable cups. Most gas stations or convenience stores will let you refill your own cup, and sometimes there's a small discount!
- Avoid room service to reduce the use of disposable items.
- Choose to walk, bike, or cross-country ski instead using motorized forms of recreation.
- Enjoy walking tours. Walk where sensible and safe.
- Use public transportation when possible or rent an alternative fueled vehicle.
- Carpool with friends or family to reduce miles traveled in your vehicle. Share taxis when possible.
- If you are driving, turn your motor off when idling. Encourage tour bus drivers to do the same when your group stops for a while.
- Let your hotel know that it's not necessary to change your sheets and towels every day.
- Leave the little bottles of bathroom amenities in the room if unopened. Share any complimentary newspapers with others. Leave it in the lobby for reuse or see that it's recycled.

- If available, use the hotel's electronic checkout program on the TV. You can view your bill, approve it, and help reduce paperwork.
- Take only the brochures or maps that you need.
- Avoid disposable cameras that are expensive and wasteful. Buy rolls of film with 36 shots rather than 12 or 24.
- Leave only footprints. Take out everything that you brought with you (including your trash!) so others can enjoy an outdoor area in the same way that you did.



*Toronto Islands and skyline
photograph by TRCA - R. Hasner*

TourGreen Map: A Passport to the Total Toronto Experience



*TourGreen Map of Toronto;
source: Green Tourism Association*

The Green Tourism Association celebrated Earth Day with the launch of the new *TourGreen Map of Toronto* at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel on April 22, 2005. The map is a comprehensive information guide that links visitors and residents to the many green tourism options and activities across the Toronto region. Each map is imprinted with a unique Green Tourist ID number that enables users to register for ongoing green getaways, give-aways, and promotions—the initial prize is a Toronto/Niagara Weekend Getaway valued at over \$1,500.

“The *TourGreen Map* is like a passport to the total Toronto experience,” says Brian Jamieson, President of the Green Tourism Association. “People can use it to delve into Toronto’s diverse neighborhoods, cultures, and communities.” The map also highlights conservation areas, recreational trails, unique natural environments, and green getaways in the surrounding region. “There’s a greater Toronto just waiting to be explored,” adds Jamieson.

The *TourGreen Map* of Toronto is part of the international Green Map® System, a globally connected, locally adaptable eco-cultural program for community sustainability. In 2004, Toronto’s Green Map was selected for inclusion in the international Green Map Atlas (www.greenatlas.org), a honor that brought Toronto worldwide recognition as a green tourism destination.

In celebration of the Earth Day launch, volunteers handed out maps to commuters and passengers in Toronto’s Union Station. During launch week, VIA Rail Canada distributed maps to passengers on Toronto-bound trains from Ottawa, Montreal, Kingston, London, and Windsor. The Fairmont Royal York distributed maps to their hotel guests, GO

Transit had maps available at the Union Station customer service booth, and Toronto retailer Mountain Equipment Co-op distributed maps at their retail location.

The map is free to the public and available at over 100 distribution outlets including civic centers, visitor information booths, hotels, museums, heritage sites, major tourist destinations, Toronto and Region Conservation locations, and participating Green Tourism Association member businesses.

The *TourGreen Map of Toronto* was made possible with the support of the City of Toronto, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Toronto and Region Conservation, Cascades Fine Papers Group Inc., Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Tourism Toronto, York Region, GO Transit, Macdonald Sager Manis LLP, Mountain Equipment Co-op, VIA Rail Canada, redToronto.com, NOW Magazine, WholeNote Media Inc., and Association members, partners, and supporters.

The Green Tourism Association is a unique non-profit organization that works with businesses, community, and environmental groups, government agencies, heritage and cultural organizations, and individuals. Its mission is to lead tourism in Toronto towards a sustainable future, evolving an industry that is ecologically sound, promotes and supports local economies, and fosters an appreciation of and respect for a diverse cultural and natural heritage.

For more information on green tourism in the Toronto region visit www.tourgreen.ca or contact Justin Lafontaine, Director, Green Tourism Association (416-338-5085 or jlafont@toronto.ca).

Coming Soon...Fall 2005 Edition

The fall 2005 edition of the LINK newsletter will focus on 'P2 for schools and universities'. The LINK fall 2005 article solicitation will be sent to GLRPPR members via e-mail on or about September 1, 2005; articles will be due September 30. Send article ideas, pics, and/or questions to Wayne Duke at wduke@wmrc.uiuc.edu.

Items of Interest

FRP Closed-Mold Technology

"In a (fiberglass) shop, walk past open-mold, the guy's got two inches of resin on his shoes. He's wearing a Tyvek suit and a hood. Go over past the closed mold area, and the guy's wearing his Bermudas," commented Barney Rieck, owner of Sunrise Fiberglass. "There's a difference." Rieck was a case study panelist at the FRP Closed Mold Technology Demo Day.

As part of a joint project with the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC) and the Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center (KPPC) to pilot technology diffusion for various technologies, the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) sponsored a technology event on fiber reinforced plastics (FRP) closed-mold technology.

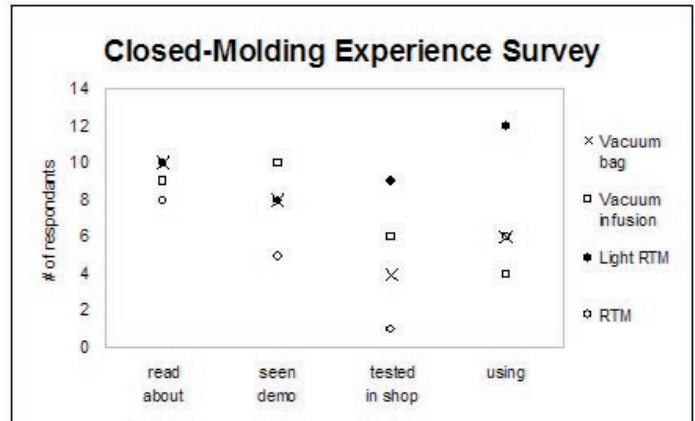
Closed-mold processes reduce emissions and optimize the glass-resin ratio, producing a higher quality laminate. Vacuum bagging, vacuum infusion, and resin transfer molding (RTM) are all closed-mold techniques.

Closed-molding has advantages over traditional open-molding, including:

- Less concern about Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations related to worker exposure to chemicals, especially styrene.
- Less concern about regulation of air pollutants as a result of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) and the Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standards.
- Reduced disposal cost of spent solvents as hazardous waste.
- Reduced risk of fires caused by high concentrations of chemicals in the workplace.
- A cleaner work place can attract a higher quality workforce.

The event, co-sponsored by Composites One, had demonstrations and presentations for FRP closed-mold technologies, along with demonstrations of low hazardous

air pollutant (HAP) gel coats. A panel of manufacturers from the region discussed their experiences with closed-molding. Generally, set up time is longer and initial costs are higher with closed-mold. These are not barriers when producing a high volume of parts. If operators are skilled at open-mold spraying, companies may not see savings in raw materials when switching to closed-mold, but air emissions will drop dramatically. The panelists all agreed that the technology is appropriate for some parts, like those requiring a smooth surface inside and out. They encouraged all shops to use closed-mold when appropriate in order to advance improvements in the technologies.



The 63 attendees from 24 companies represented manufacturers of boats, cargo bodies, enclosures, and other parts. Attendees were surveyed about their previous knowledge of closed-mold (see table). The 23 responses represent 15 companies. Half of the companies responding indicated that they were interested in a pilot test of closed-mold technology in their facilities.

Kyle Bartholomew, MnTAP FRP specialist, is following up with the attendees and others, encouraging them to pilot test closed-molding in order to promote the adoption of this technology.

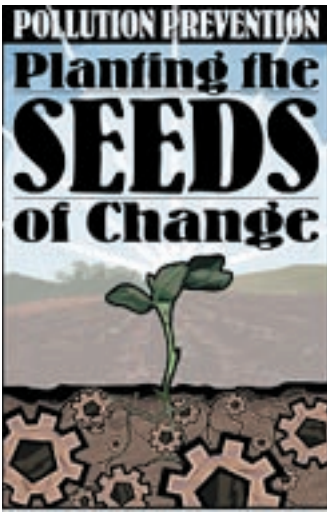
Closed-molding was identified by a focus group as a leading, pollution preventing technology for the FRP industry. MnTAP will promote the various forms of this technology over the next two years.

For more information on closed-molding, visit <http://mntap.umn.edu/fiber/closedmold.htm>.

Indiana P4P2 to Host Conference & Trade Show

The 8th Annual Indiana Pollution Prevention Conference and Trade Show will be held at the Fountains Banquet and Conference Center in Carmel, Indiana. Registration for the conference starts at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 22, 2005.

The conference is sponsored by the Indiana Partners for



Pollution Prevention (P4P2). The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) established the P4P2 in 1996 to assist industry in sharing pollution prevention successes and to advise IDEM on pollution prevention policy and programs. P4P2 instills the passion for pollution prevention in businesses and organizations by promoting successful approaches to achieve a measurable reduction in pollution. Membership consists of approximately

40 businesses, organizations, and individuals that meet quarterly to network, exchange ideas, and help others achieve the state's pollution prevention goals. The Partners realize that pollution prevention is the arena where environment and economics can meet on common ground.

At this year's conference learn how award-winning facilities have embraced change within their organization to implement effective P2. Hear directly from companies such as: Eli Lilly & Company, Cinergy Corporation, and Madison Chemical Co., Inc.

You will also learn about:

- Practical pollution prevention you can implement
- Options for successful and profitable product substitutions
- New pollution prevention technologies
- Energy efficiency and renewable energy sources
- Updates on IDEM regulations and initiatives

This year's conference is unique and exciting because the Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence will be presented during the conference. The keynote speaker is comedian/motivational speaker Dr. Will Miller who will speak on a new perspective on promoting change from within. There will also be a special EPA afternoon session: *Waste Minimization for the 21st Century*.

For more information contact Cara Cyrus at 812-273-6000 or by email at cara.cyrus@madchem.com. For registration and more information log onto www.in.gov/idem/oppta/p2/partners/conference/.

Are You Being 'Serv'ed?

Did you know that the P2Tech Listserv is now over ten years old?! Did you also know that GLRPPR has been operating the listserv since 1997?!

That's right—over ten years of tremendous information exchanges, relationship building, and staying in touch with the P2 community. In fact, those messages (dating

back to 1997) are still archived, searchable, and available at www.great-lakes.net/lists/p2tech/search.html.

For those of you who are not familiar with P2Tech, you are encouraged to join the listserv! It is an international information-sharing forum for pollution prevention technical assistance providers. There are currently over 400 people subscribed. Discussions focus on pollution solutions to technical and engineering problems.

“While the concept of pollution prevention (P2) is simple and straight forward, its reach goes well beyond the knowledge and expertise of any one individual. To overcome the inevitable challenges in pursuing P2, P2tech is a quick and simple tool for tapping into the collective knowledge of the P2 community. In short, P2tech is an indispensable resource for generating ideas, developing valuable contacts, and locating in-depth guidance materials, whether you're just beginning or facing a most difficult barrier,” says Marcia Horan of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality.

The average number of e-mails exchanged is two to three per week—far from the extremely high level of traffic it once had. Increased participation is encouraged! There are many P2 and compliance assistance professionals out there that are new to this great quest of pollution prevention. If you or someone you know would be interested in joining this free listserv, pass on the link to register. See <http://glrppr.org/listservs/> for instructions. It is a great way to stay in touch with friends and colleagues!

Fine Print

LINK is a free quarterly publication of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable. For subscription information, please contact the editor or see our Web site at www.glrppr.org.

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