

# A Workshop for Shoreline Communities: Living Beside the "Big" Lake

5:30 pm-8:30 pm, Thursday, September 13 for Cities of Houghton & Hancock

Michigan Tech's Center for Water & Society and the Western Upper Peninsula Center for Science, Mathematics and Environmental Education will conduct a **workshop for the Cities of Houghton and Hancock from 5:30-8:30 pm on Thursday evening, September 13 at the UPPCO conference room in downtown Houghton**. This educational workshop will focus on the current ecological status of Lake Superior and the Portage Waterway. City/village councils, planning commissions, civic organizations, and local downtown development associations are invited to attend the workshop for their community. The workshops will provide local decision-makers with an overview of the *Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC) Strategy to Restore and Protect the Great Lakes* ([www.glrc.us](http://www.glrc.us)) which identifies the following priorities for restoring and protecting the Great Lakes:

Aquatic Invasive Species  
Toxic Pollutants  
Stormwater Management

Coastal Wetlands  
Non-Point Source Pollution

Areas of Concern/Contaminated Sediments  
Sustainable Land Use & Shoreline Development

The economies of shoreline communities are inextricably linked to the Great Lakes, yet many local decision-makers find that they have little scientific understanding of the current health of the Great Lakes, or how their community has the potential to negatively impact or help to restore the Great Lakes.



The workshop will begin with a 20-minute introductory overview presentation on the top threats to the Great Lakes, followed by a 90-minute scientific excursion on the research vessel *Agassiz* where research scientists from Michigan Technological University and the International Association for Great Lakes Research (IAGLR) will demonstrate how the Great Lakes are studied using benthic, sediment, water chemistry, and plankton sampling devices, and what this sampling can tell us about the Great Lakes fishery and water quality. During the demonstration, the scientists will discuss how typical activities can or have already altered the health of the Great Lakes. Displays and samples of organisms living in the lake will be available for viewing. Following dinner, the final session of the evening will be a discussion of what is

needed to prevent degradation and/or restore Lake Superior and the Portage Waterway. Participants will be provided with a packet of the best educational materials available on the priorities listed above.

Each workshop will accommodate a maximum of 17 participants. If there are 30 interested community members, a second excursion on the *Agassiz* could be provided on the same evening. The cost is \$15 per person to reserve a space. The checks will not be cashed if the person attends.

For more information, or to reserve a space for September 13, contact Joan Chadde at 487-3341 or [jchadde@mtu.edu](mailto:jchadde@mtu.edu). This program is funded by the Wege Foundation through the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes initiative.

