

Top Ten Needs of the Great Lakes

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The Great Lakes are....

more than 30,000 islands

8 states, 2 provinces

6,000,000,000,000,000 gallons

95% of the fresh surface water in US

\$55 million shipping industry

18% of fresh surface water on Earth

our home

our responsibility

\$4 billion annual sport fishery

drinking water for 42 million people

unique ecosystems

10,900 miles of shoreline

40% of Canadian and 15% of US GDP

Top Ten Needs of the Great Lakes*

- control existing and eliminate introduction of new invasive species
 - reduce nonpoint (stormwater, etc.) pollution & point source pollution
 - minimize impact of shoreline development, especially on wetlands
 - restore native species
 - restore beneficial uses in pollution hot spots
 - reduce impacts of air pollution deposition
 - prevent beach pollution
 - policies for minimizing diversions and consumptive use
 - sustainable use of natural resources
 - mitigate impacts from climate change
 - increase public awareness and translate public desires into policy
 - preserve the Great Lakes “sense of place”
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*who came up with this list anyway?

how do these needs relate to



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How do these needs relate to

- you?
- your school?
- your community?
- your students?
- your students' families?



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