

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative is Producing Results for Communities in Minnesota

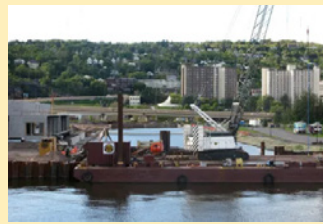
For over a decade, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has been producing results for communities. Cleaning up toxic pollution has rid harbors and rivers of cancer-causing pollutants and led to new waterfront development. Restoring wetlands have provided habitat for fish and wildlife and have led to cleaner sources of drinking water and increased outdoor recreation opportunities. Removing old and dangerous dams have opened up fish habitat and increased safety for river recreation. Building rain gardens, green spaces, and urban habitat has reduced neighborhood flooding and provided new spaces to play and congregate. These restoration investments have also led to economic benefits. A 2018 report found that every \$1 invested in Great Lakes restoration produced at least \$3 in increased economic activity. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has benefited the environment and the economy.

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has been producing results in local communities in Minnesota. Federal investments in Minnesota total more than \$105 million, which have led to 309 local projects that are working to protect our drinking water, safeguard public health, spur economic growth, and support thriving and vibrant communities.

While these projects have had a tremendous impact on Minnesota communities, serious threats remain, underscoring the need for sustained and ongoing federal investment in Great Lakes restoration and local clean water priorities. We need to tackle these problems now, before they become more difficult and expensive to solve. We look forward to working with members of Congress to support continued federal investments in the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to support our drinking water, public health, and economy.

EXAMPLES OF HOW THE GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE HAS BENEFITED MINNESOTA COMMUNITIES

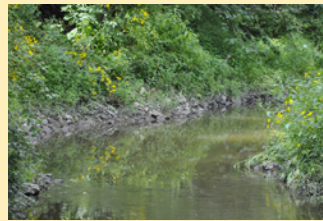
Riverbed Capping Seals Off Decades of Contaminated Riverbed



Over 150,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment were capped near the mouth of the St. Louis River at Duluth, Minn., preventing toxic pollution to spread and impact the

health of fish, wildlife, and people.

Creek Stabilization Improves Resiliency



Stabilizing and restoring 6,500 feet of coldwater stream habitat and 18 acres of riparian floodplain at Knowlton Creek has reduced erosion and sediment pollution,

improved brook trout habitat, and enhanced outdoor recreation.

Nature-based Infrastructure Reduces Runoff



Installing nature-based infrastructure, including parks, wetlands and rain gardens at Park Point's public beach, is reducing the amount of untreated stormwater flowing into

Lake Superior by more than 89,000 gallons per year, reducing erosion, and improving public safety and beach health.