

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative is Producing Results for Communities in New York

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 New York. Federal investments in New York total more than \$212 million, which have led to 550 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 New York 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.

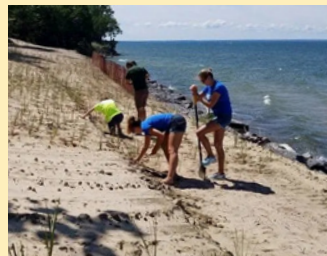
EXAMPLES OF HOW THE GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE HAS BENEFITED NEW YORK COMMUNITIES

Stream Monitoring Helps Ensure Sturgeon Comeback in Lake Ontario



By tracking key data about the health and location of Niagara River lake sturgeon populations, researchers are able to plot the sturgeon's comeback in real time, responding to threats as they occur.

Restoring Dunes Helps Piping Plover Recover



Restoration and protection of 2,400 acres of dune, pond and wetland habitat have resulted in the first nesting pair of piping plovers, an endangered Great Lakes bird, on the

eastern shore of Lake Ontario in over 30 years.

Habitat Restoration Improves Water Quality



More than 416 acres of wetlands and habitat were restored near Greece, N.Y., off the shores of Lake Ontario, improving drinking water quality and community recreational activities.