

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

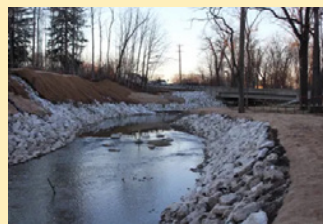
For over a decade, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has been producing results for communities. Cleaning up toxic pollution has rid harbors and rivers of cancer-causing pollutants and led to new waterfront development. Restoring wetlands have provided habitat for fish and wildlife and have led 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 Wisconsin. Federal investments in Wisconsin total more than \$200 million, which have led to 844 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 Wisconsin 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 WISCONSIN COMMUNITIES

Streambank Restoration at Petrifying Springs Park Improves Water Quality, Restores Native Species



Over 3,145 linear feet of riverbed was restored in Kenosha County, Wis., significantly improving erosion issues and reducing the amount of polluted runoff

that ends up in drinking water sources, including Lake Michigan.

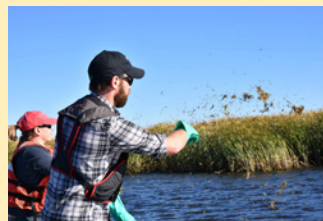
Retention Basin Reduces Urban Flooding, Runoff into Lake Superior



Construction of a retention basin near Superior, Wis., is absorbing storm water during heavy rain events, virtually eliminating the problem of basement

flooding and greatly easing the strain on community water treatment systems.

Habitat Restoration Brings Back Waterfowl



Seeding native vegetation and a variety of other restoration techniques have brought back a variety of waterfowl to Green Bay, providing recreation

opportunities and improving water quality.