

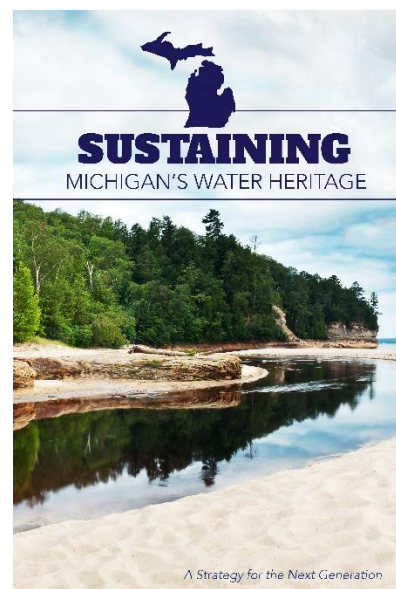
# Michigan's Water Strategy

## Sustaining Michigan's Water Heritage: A Strategy for the Next Generation

Michigan's Water Strategy is a 30-year plan to protect, enhance and sustainably manage Michigan's globally unique water resources. It incorporates an ecosystems approach, recognizing that the core values identified with water are ecological, social, economic, and cultural. Water Strategy development was led by the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes, Department of Environmental Quality in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

The Strategy was developed based on a collaborative process to obtain broad, diverse input and highlights key actions for government, tribal governments, nongovernmental organizations, industry, academia, local communities and individuals to protect and enhance one of Michigan's most precious assets.

The Strategy features key recommendations in 9 action areas focused on the wise management of Michigan's waters to ensure healthy citizens, vibrant communities, sustainable economies and stewardship of the state's water heritage.



Inspire  
Stewardship for  
Clean Water

Protect and  
Restore Aquatic  
Ecosystems

Create Vibrant  
Waterfronts

Support Water-  
Based  
Recreation

Promote Water-  
Based  
Economies

Ensure Clean  
and Safe Waters

Invest in Water  
Infrastructure

Monitor Water  
Systems

Build  
Governance  
Tools

## Sustaining Michigan's Water Heritage: A Strategy for the Next Generation

Governor Snyder charged the Office of the Great Lakes with leading the creation of a comprehensive water resource strategy for the state in his Special Message on Energy and the Environment. He directed his administration to focus on five key priorities from the final Strategy:

**Ensure** safe drinking water

**Achieve** a 40% phosphorus reduction in the western Lake Erie basin

**Prevent** introduction and control established aquatic invasive species

**Support** investments in commercial and recreational harbors

**Develop** and implement a water trails system

The Water Strategy is not a specific action plan only for government, rather, it is a strategy for all people of Michigan. Implementation of the strategy will require leadership and ownership at all levels including governments, organizations, industries, academia, philanthropic groups and individuals to achieve its vision. An interdepartmental Water Team led by the Office of the Great Lakes will support outreach, collaboration and implementation of priority action frameworks at the agency level as well as tribal and stakeholder engagement. Efforts to protect and enhance water resources, invest in water infrastructure, create vibrant waterfronts and increase water literacy and stewardship with involvement of local partners will be fundamental steps in the process.

Explore Michigan's Water Strategy online and get involved at [www.michigan.gov/waterstrategy](http://www.michigan.gov/waterstrategy). Follow updates on Twitter with @michigandeq using the #MiWaterStrategy hashtag. Learn how the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes works to sustain Michigan's water resources at [www.michigan.gov/deqogl](http://www.michigan.gov/deqogl).

*"Protecting and enhancing our water resources – our lakes, rivers, wetlands and groundwater – is vital to a healthy, vibrant Michigan."*

- Jon W. Allan

OGL Water Strategy Contacts:

Jon W. Allan, Director - 517-284-5035

Emily Finnell, Chief Strategist - 517-599-1330

