

Coastal Resilience Resources for Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Communities

February 2022

Regional partners in Wisconsin are working together to align a variety of coastal resilience resources available to Wisconsin's Lake Michigan communities. These resources provide technical support including resiliency planning, project planning, and funding alignment.

RESOURCE PARTNERS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:



AS A COLLABORATIVE, THE SUPPORT WE OFFER AIMS TO ACCOMPLISH THE FOLLOWING:

- Expand technical resources and community capacity to respond to coastal resilience challenges
- Boost planning, design, and implementation of coastal resilience projects
- Improve local and regional collaboration on coastal resilience issues
- Address issues related to fluctuating lake levels, increased intensity of rain events, and other impacts of climate change

CURRENT SUPPORT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES:

Coastal Resilience Community Impact Project

LNRP and Water365 launched the Coastal Resiliency Community Impact Project in 2021 with support from the Fund for Lake Michigan to assist Lake Michigan coastal communities respond to the impacts of climate change and the resulting lake level changes. Through climate resilience planning training workshops and individualized meetings with staff from the participant communities, we helped guide those communities through a resilience planning needs assessment process. In 2022 we'll continue to help those communities develop prioritized lists of projects to move forward through funding, planning, design, and construction stages, and we'll also assist them with identifying and applying for project funding.

Contact: Linda Reid, Water365 | linda@water365.us | (414) 412-3997

Project Webpage: <https://www.lnrp.org/crcip>

Regional Coastal Resilience Work Groups

Similar to the Coastal Resilience Community Impact Project, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is working closely with mayors and city staff from Wisconsin's Lake Michigan communities, to identify coastal resilience solutions and develop implementation frameworks for municipal projects aimed at strengthening coastal resilience and protecting assets in shoreline areas. The goal is to identify high-impact coastal resilience projects in each of the 14 participating communities and outline detailed steps for implementation and securing funding for these projects. This work is supported by the Fund for Lake Michigan and our team continues to collaborate with LNRP to align our resources and make sure communities are maximizing available opportunities to advance coastal resilience projects.

Contact: Tori Graves, U.S. Policy Advisor | victoria.graves@glslcities.org | (248) 303-1679

Lake Michigan Coastal Resilience Initiative

This initiative is a two-year, joint project between the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office for Coastal Management. The initiative will provide training and technical assistance to municipalities around Lake Michigan to support the development of nature-based solutions to impacts being experienced in coastal areas, including erosion, flooding and severe storm events. The initiative is specifically focused on supporting the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), including the habitat and species goals in the GLRI Action Plan III.

Contact: Heather Stirratt, Great Lakes Regional Lead | Heather.Stirratt@noaa.gov

Initiative Webpage: <https://glslcities.org/initiatives/lake-michigan-coastal-resilience-initiative/>

Northeast Wisconsin Coastal Resiliency Study

The Northeast Wisconsin Coastal Resiliency Portal was created by the Bay Lake Regional Planning Commission and Wisconsin Sea Grant, in partnership with Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, as a way to communicate information out to coastal communities within northeast Wisconsin, particularly those in Sheboygan, Manitowoc, and Kewaunee counties. Resources and tools have been put together to assist in coastal resiliency along the lakeshore of Lake Michigan.

Contact: Adam Christensen, Environmental Planner | achristensen@baylakerpc.org | (920) 448-2820 ex. 106

Project Webpage: <https://ne-coastal-resiliency-study-baylakerpc.hub.arcgis.com/>

American Rivers / Stormwater Currency

American Rivers is a national advocacy organization focused on protecting and restoring the nation's rivers and the communities that depend upon them. We have a long history of partnering with Great Lakes municipalities and local organizations to advance policies and programs that incentivize green infrastructure and other stormwater management innovations. Our Stormwater Currency initiative links American Rivers and a core set of external partners in a national project to increase the role of private capital and property in providing public benefit solutions to water pollution and associated issues. We are leveraging years of expertise in this area to provide policy analyses, trainings, and other related resources to municipal staff and local partners in coastal Wisconsin communities. Our areas of focus are: economic and other analyses to support public funded incentive program for private property green infrastructure; identification of relevant public and private finance options for green infrastructure investments; and integration of best practices to ensure inclusive, equitable participation in green infrastructure project planning and implementation.

Contact: Shanyn Viars, Associate Director, Clean Water Supply Program | sviars@americanrivers.org | (616) 451-3051 x126

Program Webpage: <https://www.americanrivers.org/> <https://www.stormwatercurrency.com>

Wisconsin Coastal Management Program

Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office for Coastal Management, provides technical, financial and coordination assistance to the state's coastal zone – all counties adjacent to Lake Superior and Lake Michigan. WCMP is dedicated to preserving and improving access to the natural and historic resources of Wisconsin's Great Lakes coasts. Since 1978, the program has worked cooperatively with state, local and tribal governments, universities, and non-profit organizations to balance the management of the ecological, economic, and aesthetic assets of the state's coastal areas, and maintain and enhance the resiliency and quality of life of Wisconsin's coastal communities.

Contact: Mike Friis, Leader, Resource Policy Team | michael.friis@wisconsin.gov | (608) 267-7982

Program Webpage: www.coastal.wisconsin.gov

Collaborative Action for Lake Michigan (CALM) Coastal Resilience

Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, Wisconsin Sea Grant, and the Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office launched CALM in 2021 with the support of a NOAA Projects of Special Merit grant. CALM works with communities along Wisconsin's entire Lake Michigan shoreline to sustain, strengthen and connect existing regional coastal resilience networks to expand collaboration across the shore. Through regular meetings and workshops, CALM will increase collaboration along the coast, support development of local policies and plans, and coordinate the regional prioritization of hazard needs.

Contact: Lydia Salus | lydia.salus@wisconsin.gov | (608) 266-3687

Project Webpage: Coming soon

Coastal Actions for Resilience and Economic Security (CARES) of Southeastern Wisconsin

CARES works with coastal communities in Kenosha, Racine, Milwaukee and Ozaukee counties to identify vulnerabilities, prioritize resilience opportunities and fund local projects to implement top priorities. CARES increases capacity to build coastal resilience through the development of the Southeastern Wisconsin Coastal Resilience Community of Practice, implementation of a Coastal Resilience Self-Assessment, and distribution of educational resources. This project is supported by a NOAA Coastal Resilience grant and implemented by Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, Wisconsin Sea Grant, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, and University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Engineering.

Contact: Adam Bechle | bechle@aquawisc.edu | (608) 263-5133

Project Webpage: <https://sewicoastalresilience.org/>