

## Overview of the GLRPPR's Services

[www.glrppr.org](http://www.glrppr.org)

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Established in 1992, the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR), a professional organization dedicated to promoting information exchange and networking to P2 professionals and other interested parties in the Great Lakes regions of the U.S. and Canada, is hosted within the Illinois Waste Management & Research Center (WMRC) since 1995. WMRC is a division of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and affiliated with the University of Illinois. GLRPPR is one of eight regional pollution prevention information centers in the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx) funded by the U.S. EPA.

The website ([www.glrppr.org](http://www.glrppr.org)) serves as the primary gateway to the majority of our services, however GLRPPR is far more than a web page. Deb Jacobson is the project manager and GLRPPR executive director. Joy Scrogum develops and maintains content for the GLRPPR web site, including content for the Sector Resources and Topic Hubs; the news, calendar and funding opportunities pages; Contacts Database; and the Web Site of the Month. Laura Barnes is WMRC's Librarian. She runs the GLRPPR Help Desk Librarian service and manages the organization's listservs. Consider her your personal librarian. Tyler Rubach develops the GLRPPR webpage and participates in the P2Rx web group. Carol Knepp helps develop and maintain the education resources. She is the primary author of the education Topic Hubs. She also helps maintain the on-line news, calendar and funding opportunities. Wayne Duke is the editor of the GLRPPR newsletter LINK, is responsible for the design and printing of any materials promoting GLRPPR, and helps to facilitate GLRPPR meetings. He also helps maintain the calendar, funding opportunities as well as Contacts and Organizations Database for the GLRPPR Web site.

All of the project staff is continuously available and ready to respond to our Regional and national partner's needs. In addition to contributing to GLRPPR's web site and products, some of the services and products that GLRPPR offers include:

### **Conferences**

Traditionally, GLRPPR hosts two events per year. While both events serve to share information, discuss issues and allow program development, the two meetings have different focuses. The winter meeting occurs at the USEPA Region 5 offices in Chicago, Illinois and focuses on Issue Discussion and Focus Area Activities (a.k.a. workgroup). The summer meeting is held in one of our member states. The format is conference oriented and is used to showcase state P2 activities and provide an opportunity for local and state participants to meet.

The summer meeting rotates through the member states:

2006 -- Minnesota

2007 -- Michigan

2008 -- Indiana

2009 -- Wisconsin

2010 -- Ontario

2011 -- Pennsylvania

2012 -- Ohio

2013 -- New York

### **Membership**

Membership is open to individuals that promote pollution prevention in the Region. Historically three levels of membership have been in place. The three membership levels are Basic, Associate, and Full. No organization rate memberships are available at this time. There was a fee for Associate and Full membership, however due to rising costs of programs and the existing discount structure for paid memberships GLRPPR staff have not promoted these membership levels. Instead, based on Steering Committee direction, we have only offered basic membership for the past three years, however the various membership categories remain on our charter at this time.

Currently membership organizational affiliations include state and local environmental and business development agencies, industry and associations, labor unions, environmental advocacy groups, nonprofit research centers, academia, technical assistance providers and federal agency programs with a Great Lakes pollution prevention focus.

Our website features an electronic member application form and a member information update form. These forms are reviewed and approved by GLRPPR staff before appearing in the database that is displayed on the GLRPPR web page. A complete list of members and their contact information is also provided on the web page.

### **Steering Committee**

The GLRPPR is guided by a 12-member steering committee designed to reflect the membership. Members serve two year terms, beginning at the winter meeting, with six of the members being chosen in each year. Selection is typically based on the recommendation of a departing Steering Committee Member, Volunteer, or committee member volunteering to continue for another term. Many members serve on the Committee in order to provide justification and get authorization from their employing agency to participate/attend GLRPPR programs.

According to the GLRPPR Organizational Plan, Steering Committee Member responsibilities include:

- § Participate regularly in GLRPPR conference calls and attend GLRPPR conferences and Steering Committee meetings;
- § Select and implement a Focus Area. Focus Areas can either be programmatic or topical as identified below. Multiple members can share the same Focus Area. Not all Focus Areas need to be represented at all times.

*Programmatic Focus Areas:*

- < Summer Conference Planning -- The Steering Committee representative(s) from the host state will take the lead on planning the summer conferences. This will be a short term position, usually occupying 6 months to 1 year prior to the conference. It may be done in conjunction with another Focus Area.
- < Regional priorities and progress B This position will be responsible for tracking issues of importance to the region.
  - § Facilitate discussions at the Chicago Winter conference about issues of regional importance;
  - § Meet with US EPA Headquarters and Region 5 to determine their priorities and to share GLRPPR membership priorities;
  - § Facilitate conference calls and email discussions;
  - § Help GLRPPR Executive Director draft a white paper identifying priorities for the next year and progress from the previous year.
- < National Pollution Prevention Roundtable Board Representative B The Region 5 representative to the NPPR Board will be chosen from those who have been GLRPPR Steering Committee members and those familiar with GLRPPR activities. During the NPPR representative=s term, this member will also serve on the GLRPPR steering committee by reporting on NPPR activities of interest to the region during the monthly conference calls. As the NPPR Board terms span three years, this member will serve a three year term on the GLRPPR steering committee as well. This may be in addition to or in conjunction with the two year GLRPPR Steering Committee term.

*Topical Focus Areas - Steering Committee members who choose topical focus areas will:*

- Lead a work group dealing with topic specific issues;
- Plan sessions and topics for Chicago and the summer conference;
- Organize interim conference calls and conferences;
- Facilitate list servers if desired;
- Draft position papers for vote;
- Maintain a work group membership roster;
- Develop articles for LINK and web content with the help of the work group;
- Report to the Steering Committee about activities.

Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Regulatory Integration B P2 in regulatory settings;
- Local Government B P2 in local government;
- Information/Outreach B Information and outreach issues including training, web technology, libraries and other information access points;
- Technical Assistance Dissemination B methods and implementation strategies of P2 programs in industry from a government perspective;
- P2 Tools and Techniques B P2 tools and techniques, focusing on case studies, implementation processes, success stories and other areas of interest;
- Topic Specific Programs based on Regional Priorities
  - Mercury - pollution prevention options and strategies for mercury and PBTs in the Great Lakes;
  - Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
  - Other topics of interest to Steering Committee and GLRPPR members.

**LINK Newsletter**

GLRPPR publishes a quarterly electronic newsletter that provides updates on the regional roundtable and on member states. The newsletter is posted on the web page and distributed through the member listserv. If members request a hard copy there is a \$25 annual production and mailing fee.

## **Support and Assistance to Regional Partners**

Conference registration – GLRPPR provides members on-line registration for their events. We have also provided a mechanism for Regional Partners to collect registration fees for expenses of their programs.

Promotion of events – GLRPPR distributes brochures, places announcements on the member listserv and the newsletter, etc. to help market Regional Partner's events.

Content sharing to add up-to-date resources to partner's websites - While GLRPPR keeps the information current and functioning on the web, we make tools and resources (Topic Hubs and P2Rx news, and GLRPPR headlines) available free of charge to Regional Partners. Our website manager works with their technical staff to set up this electronic exchange.

### **GLRPPR Website Features ([www.glrppr.org](http://www.glrppr.org)):**

- **Topic Hubs and Sector Resources**

**Sector Resources** are collections of records for both online and hard copy material related to a particular industrial sector (e.g. "Agriculture") or a topic of interest across a wide variety of sectors (e.g. "Energy Efficiency"). A list of expert contacts that may be consulted for further information on the subject at hand is also included within each Sector Resource, as well as relevant events, funding opportunities and archived questions and answers from the GLRPPR Help Desk. Each item listed within a Sector Resource has a "full record," containing the item's title, a brief abstract, a link to the item (if it is available online), date of publication, source and resource type. Price and ordering information are listed for hard copy items where available. See the extensive list of Sector Resources available at [http://www.glrppr.org/hubs/#sector\\_resources](http://www.glrppr.org/hubs/#sector_resources). Look for revisions to this portion of the site in the coming months.

**Topic Hubs** are detailed collections of resources and contact information for specific topics or industrial sectors. Topic Hubs include narrative sections providing background information, operations involved (if the hub is about an industrial sector), reasons for change (including regulatory and non-regulatory considerations), pollution prevention opportunities, etc., which allow you to learn about the topic in depth. Reading through a Topic Hub is like reading an online primer on pollution prevention as it relates to a particular topic. The Topic Hubs are developed and maintained as part of GLRPPR's participation in P2Rx. Each regional center is responsible for developing and maintaining certain Topic Hubs.

GLRPPR has developed eight Topic Hubs, which are currently available at <http://www.glrppr.org/hubs/>. Links to hubs developed by other regional centers are available on that page as well. **Carol is developing two new education-related Topic Hubs: "Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for Schools" and "Pollution Prevention for Arts Education."** The IPM hub is written and is currently undergoing the P2Rx QA/QC review process. Both of these hubs are scheduled to be completed and available on the GLRPPR site by January 2006. Contact Carol ([cknepp@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:cknepp@wmrc.uiuc.edu)) for questions specific to these Topic Hubs. Contact Joy ([jscrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:jscrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu)) for questions related to Topic Hubs and Sector Resources in general.

- **Contacts Database**

GLRPPR maintains an extensive, searchable online database of individuals and organizations from throughout the region with expertise in the wide range of pollution prevention topics covered on the GLRPPR web site. Members use the database to quickly find contacts for further information of a subject. As of 1/6/06 there were 491 organizations and 565 individuals in the database. The database is continually maintained and expanded. See <http://www.glrppr.org/contacts/>. Suggestions for additions or changes to the database may be submitted using online forms, or by contacting Joy ([jscrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:jscrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu)).

- **LINK Newsletter**

LINK is published quarterly and distributed electronically via our member listserv. Each issue now has a theme for feature stories, as well as a section for other items of interest from throughout the region. All back issues and a production schedule are available online at <http://www.glrppr.org/newsletter/>. For questions, the theme for the current issue, or to submit articles, contact Wayne ([wduke@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:wduke@wmrc.uiuc.edu)).

- **Environmental News**

Environmental news from throughout the region and beyond is updated daily on the GLRPPR web site. See <http://www.glrppr.org/news/>. The news is also syndicated in RSS format and can be added to news aggregators such as My Yahoo, My MSN, Newsgator, Bloglines, etc. GLRPPR news feeds into the national P2Rx news, available at <http://www.p2rx.org/>. For questions or suggestions, contact Joy ([jscrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:jscrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu)).

Tyler is working on developing a GLRPPR “headlines” box which could be added to web sites, allowing organizations without their own news service to benefit from GLRPPR content. There are also plans to develop an automated e-mail message that would contain links to stories that have been featured on the GLRPPR news page during the week (for those who use e-mail more than RSS feeds). Contact Tyler for more information ([trubach@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:trubach@wmrc.uiuc.edu)).

- **Calendar and Funding Opportunities**

See <http://www.glrppr.org/calendar/> and <http://www.glrppr.org/calendar/> respectively. Calendar items and funding opportunities are also integrated into relevant Sector Resources, as mentioned above. To suggest items for these lists, contact Joy ([jsrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:jsrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu)) or Wayne ([wduke@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:wduke@wmrc.uiuc.edu)).

- **GLRPPR Help Desk**

The GLRPPR Help Desk is a pollution prevention librarian service available to anyone throughout the region (or worldwide, really, since it’s available online). Go to <http://www.glrppr.org/helpdesk/> to submit a pollution prevention-related question. You’ll receive one hour of free Internet or literature searching related to your question. You will receive a response within a week of submitting a question; typically, responses are received within 1-2 business days. Help Desk questions and answers are being archived on the web site, and questions and answers are integrated into relevant Sector Resources. Laura is the GLRPPR Help Desk Librarian, and Deb also assists with answers to technical questions. Contact Laura ([lbarnes@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:lbarnes@wmrc.uiuc.edu)) for more information.

- **Listserves**

GLRPPR maintains a variety of state, regional, national and international listservs that cover topics ranging from mercury reduction to regulatory integration to general p2 technical assistance, including the popular P2Tech. Many of the lists are moderated, which means in order to become a member, you must demonstrate your connection to the list. The Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) provides technical support for the listservs.

For a complete list of the listservs GLRPPR maintains, see <http://www.glrppr.org/listservs/>. A guide to other pollution prevention and environmental listservs is also provided. If you are interested in joining any of the lists, e-mail your subscription request to Laura Barnes at [listman@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:listman@wmrc.uiuc.edu) with full name, organization affiliation, e-mail address to be subscribed, and your connection to the specific list.

- **Web Site of the Month**

Each month, a web site from within the Great Lakes region, or a national site of particular interest to the region, is highlighted on the GLRPPR homepage. A list of previous Sites of the Month is available back to December 2004. Send suggestions to Joy ([jsrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:jsrogum@wmrc.uiuc.edu)).

### **Coming soon...**

#### **P2 Projects Database**

GLRPPR is developing a directory of regional state pollution prevention projects, to provide a forum for states to share project information and avoid duplication. Summaries of projects will be solicited from GLRPPR members. Success measures and updates will be requested at least once per year. For more information, or to submit projects and reports for inclusion in the database, contact Deb ([djacobso@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:djacobso@wmrc.uiuc.edu)).

#### **Regional Measurement Database**

GLRPPR is leading a regional measurement taskforce (see [http://www.glrppr.org/aboutus/regional\\_measurements.cfm](http://www.glrppr.org/aboutus/regional_measurements.cfm)), the purpose of which will be to evaluate and improve upon measurement techniques, and compile P2 progress measurements from states in the region. This regional data will be shared with P2Rx as part of a national P2 measurement effort to define and collect P2 activity and outcome measures nationwide. The information will eventually be reported to EPA and the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NPPR), for potential inclusion in a results-oriented publication along the lines of the NPPR report released in 2003 (*An Ounce of Prevention is Worth 167 Billion Pounds of Cure—A Decade of Pollution Prevention Results: 1990-2000*, [http://www.p2.org/p2results/2418\\_historyfinal.pdf](http://www.p2.org/p2results/2418_historyfinal.pdf)). For more information, contact Deb ([djacobso@wmrc.uiuc.edu](mailto:djacobso@wmrc.uiuc.edu)).