

LINK

The Newsletter of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable

New Organizational Plan Adopted for 2000

On January 1, 2000, Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable members adopted a revision to the GLRPPR Charter and a new Organizational Plan. The changes became effective January 31 and include membership changes as well as identification of goals. To get more information on the Charter changes and the new plan, keep reading or visit the GLRPPR web page.

GLRPPR Membership Now Formalized

For the past four years, GLRPPR has considered anyone who attended a conference to be a member. However, based on the 1999 membership survey, that classification was not understood by many members and did not promote interest. The new plan formalizes membership criteria. There are now three membership levels: Basic (free), Associate (\$50) and Full (\$150). The fees are not meant to exclude anyone from membership. Rather the fees offset the conference registration rates. Thus, for those interested in attending GLRPPR conferences, membership becomes a practical way to save money. For more information on membership, please see the "Privileges of Membership" special section in this issue.

Redefining the Steering Committee Role

The other structural change for GLRPPR is the formalization of Steering Committee roles. Under the new Charter and Plan, each Steering Committee member will select a focus area of interest to them for their term. Having a specific focus areas allows the committee member to concentrate on developing workgroups and possible meetings and training. By focusing on their interest areas, the experience of being a GLRPPR Steering Committee member becomes even more valuable.

Getting Your Copy of the Charter and Plan

If you would like to read the Organizational Charter and Plan in its entirety, it is available on the GLRPPR web page (www.glrppr.uiuc.edu). Hard copies are available by contacting Lisa Merrifield – merrifld@wmrc.uiuc.edu.

Is This Going to Be Your Final Issue of LINK?

It will be if we don't receive your membership application.

Your LINK subscription will be automatically renewed with your membership at any level within the GLRPPR.

However, if you are not a registered member of the GLRPPR, you will no longer receive the LINK newsletter. Don't miss out. Submit your membership form today.

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Special Insert

In this issue of LINK we've include our special section, "The Privileges of Membership," a pull-out guide to membership in the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable.



Latest Update on the March Meeting in Downtown Chicago

The upcoming GLRPPR conference will be March 1-2 in Chicago. The theme is "Targeting the Issues," and this conference will identify some of the most important pollution prevention issues facing the Great Lakes at this time.

We have a full agenda that begins Wednesday with an overview of what has happened over the last few months for both members and USEPA Region 5. We will be discussing the new Organizational Charter and Plan and the improvements you can expect. Breakout sessions for this conference include a regulatory integration brain storming session, a P2 in local government update and issues discussion, and a session to share industry and other success stories.

On Thursday, March 2 we will begin the day with two breakout sessions including a Community-Based P2 Programs session

and a demonstration of the PBT (persistence, bioaccumulation and toxic) Profiler. The PBT Profiler is a new chemical risk screening tool developed by EPA Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics. The PBT Profiler is a simple, user friendly, computerized web-based tool that predicts the persistence, bioconcentration potential, and fish chronic toxicity of many chemical substances. This session will begin with a brief discussion of the PBT problem followed by a demonstration of the tool.

The final sessions on Thursday will deal with the Environmental Information Network. This Network is a proposal to develop better methods of providing environmental information to small businesses by creating partnerships and networks with other state offices, such as the Small Business Ombudsman, Small

Business Development Centers or National Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Extension Partnerships. Dave Kling, Director of the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics at U.S. EPA Headquarters, will present information on how states can work together to build effective networking mechanisms between agencies to the advantage of small businesses. Mr. Kling's presentation will be followed by a panel discussion or representatives from Great Lakes programs that have successfully begun to integrate services to better serve small business.

If you would like a more detailed agenda or more information on the Chicago Conference, please visit the GLRPPR web site or contact Lisa Merrifield at merrifld@wmrc.uiuc.edu.

Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx) Update

The Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable has been participating in the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx) National Network of regional P2 information providers for the last 2 ½ years. GLRPPR Executive Director, Lisa Merrifield, just returned from a meeting of the group in Chicago, Illinois. Outcomes included a dedication to building web based P2 information tools for technical assistance providers and others interested in learning about pollution prevention opportunities.

One of the tools being developed is a Sector/Topic hub. This tool will provide background information on an industry or topic, national and regional statistics and information about that industry or topic and an annotated list of links to the best resource available for P2 information. A model should be available by the end of February and plans are being made to populate the tool in the coming year. In the Great Lakes Region, topical interest will be in mercury P2, regulatory

integration resources and printing for the coming year. Other regions will be building information for other topics.

The P2Rx group will also be building a program database. This database will allow users to find the correct contact in a given state based on the environmental problem being encountered. The database is still in the design stages, but will incorporate comments from many other information providers including members of the Manufacturing Extension Partners and the Office of Environmental and Compliance Assistance.

If you would like more information about projects being undertaken by P2Rx, visit the P2Rx web site at www.p2rx.org. The web site includes links to the regional centers around the country and to the information service providers who can provide assistance in locating information on various P2 topics. Also available on the web site will be links to the Topic Hub and Programs databases mentioned above.

New GLRPPR Organizational Plan Targets Success Mechanisms

GLRPPR has three primary goals – Information Sharing, Issue Discussion and Regional Program Development. The Organizational Plan identifies concrete mechanisms to better reach each of these goals in the Great Lakes. Following are some examples of how we are moving towards our goals and some of the things you can expect to see in the future.

The Web Page

The GLRPPR web page will continue to be a primary mechanism for providing information about P2 in the Great Lakes Region. Look for our Directory of Resources to find out about other P2 programs in the Great Lakes and what they are doing. Also look for our virtual clearinghouse of P2 materials. We will be making fact sheets and reports from around the region available on our site. Finally, look for new sector specific resources, including sustainable development, mercury and regulatory integration. These resources are being developed to showcase Great Lakes materials available in the region.

Conferences

GLRPPR hosts two conferences. In the past, the focus has been on information sharing. However, issue discussion and program development will now be highlighted on the conference agendas. The Chicago Winter Conference format will be more discussion oriented, including issue identification and workgroup sessions. The Winter Conference will be held the first week in March.

The Summer Conference will become a place for the state hosts

to showcase programs and successes in that state. The conference will be held in August or September.

Broadening Membership

One of the most impressive points made in the 1999 Membership Survey was the need for GLRPPR to broaden its membership. In the past, the group has been largely made up of regulatory and non-regulatory state, provincial and local P2 programs. A few industrial members, trade associations and citizens groups have attended meetings, but did not really make up the core group constituency. With the adoption of this plan, GLRPPR will work to expand membership of some of these less represented groups.

GLRPPR started to broaden its membership in 1999 by electing an industry representative to the Steering Committee. Ted Moss, Eli Lily, joined the Committee and has been helping GLRPPR to identify conference sessions and other information tools that will help attract industry participation. The Steering Committee will continue these efforts to increase the breadth of GLRPPR membership.

Summer Conference Rotational Schedule Now Established

In our efforts to showcase various member-state programs and to enhance our efforts at bringing a truly regional approach to pollution prevention, the GLRPPR summer conferences will be held in a different location each year. At the right is the rotational schedule currently in the works.

Summer Meeting Schedule

2000	Indiana	2004	Ohio
2001	Wisconsin	2005	Minnesota
2002	Illinois	2006	New York
2003	Ontario	2007	Michigan

The Fine Print

LINK is a free quarterly publication of the Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable. This newsletter is printed with soy-based inks on chlorine-free, recycled paper. For information about subscribing, or to comment on content, please contact the editor or see our web site at: www.glrppr.uiuc.edu

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Vote for Your Steering Committee Members

Please take a few minutes to look at and vote on our new panel of steering committee members One vote per person. Votes are for the entire panel, not individual members. Fax completed ballots back to Lisa Merrfield, 217.333.8944, or vote on line at www.glrppr.uiuc.edu.

2000-2002 GLRPPR Steering Committee Ballot

Position	Nominee	Organization
Illinois Representative	Becky Lockhart	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Minnesota Representative	Ray Bissonnette	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
New York Representative	Tom Corbett	New York Department of Environmental Conservation
Canadian Representative	Al Ermacora	Environment Canada
Wisconsin Representative	Lynda Weise	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Local Government Representative	Bruce Suits	City of Cincinnati

Please check one:

- I *approve* this slate of candidates for the GLRPPR Steering Committee 2000-2002 term.
- I *do not approve* this slate of candidates for the GLRPPR Steering Committee 2000-2002 term.

Please provide objections: _____

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