

A CELEBRATION OF CITIZEN ACTIVISM  
GLEN GREAT LAKES PUBLIC FORUM EVENTS  
NIAGARA AREA OF ONTARIO SEPTEMBER 26 -29, 2022

Join the members of the Great Lakes Ecoregion Network (GLEN) as we carve out a space for citizen activists to celebrate accomplishments and bring forward new ideas to deal with threats to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Ecoregion. The GLEN Room (Elizabeth) will be open through the first two days of the Forum exhibiting displays from citizen groups and providing a citizen gathering place. Also visit us at the GLEN display in the Governments' Exhibit Hall. In addition, we are holding the following events:

INDIGENOUS WELCOME

Grounds of Navy Hall, 305 Ricardo St., Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada, Monday, September 26, 1- 4 pm

GLEN, in collaboration with member group Swim Drink Fish and the Royal Canadian Geographic Society, is hosting a series of ceremonial welcomes and speeches by First Nations and Tribal members from around the Great Lakes. Water Walker Linda Manitowabi will lead a water ceremony. All GLEN members are invited to bring a small quantity of water from their Lake or water source (which must be boiled to prevent transfer of invasives from one water system to another) to be combined with other waters to symbolize our coming together as water people. For full details on the program including a map, go to <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/celebrate-the-great-lakes-tickets-412535584037>

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GLEN EVENING CITIZEN ACTIVISM EVENT

GLEN Room (Elizabeth) Crowne Plaza, Niagara Falls, Tuesday, September 27, 6:30 pm

1) Voices Around the Basin

The evening will begin with a 30-minute video of citizen comments from our virtual listening tour around the Basin. Hear what your fellow citizens have to say about issues they are facing right now; hear their ideas for change. This video will be introduced by Lake Erie Waterkeeper and GLEN leader Sandy Bihn.

2) Citizen Report on The State of The Lakes

GLEN leaders Jane Elder and John Jackson will present GLEN's seminal report outlining the actions and failures of the past 50 years. The report also describes challenges ahead and the direction that we must move in to restore and safeguard the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River and all of their inhabitants.

3) The State of the Niagara and Buffalo Rivers

The Niagara and Buffalo Rivers are important environmental icons for Great Lakes activists fighting toxic pollution from industrial discharges and leaking toxic dump sites over the past 50 years. GLEN leader Margaret Wooster, a founder of Friends of the Buffalo River and a board member of the Western New York Environmental Alliance, will address the legacy of pollution from the past, current environmental concerns and needed future actions.

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#### GLEN LUNCHTIME CITIZEN EVENT

GLEN Room (Elizabeth), Crowne Plaza, Niagara Falls, Wednesday, September 28, noon

#### The Erie Situation

Lake Erie Waterkeeper and GLEN leader Sandy Bihn will present a riveting film showing how citizens and livelihoods are affected by toxic algae created by phosphorus runoff from agricultural operations in Ohio. The film explores the confluence of science, public opinion, politics, and the powerful farming lobby as Ohio wrestles with how to confront the drivers of toxic algae in one of the Great Lakes.

To contact us go to <https://greatlakesecoregionnetwork.weebly.com/> or e-mail [GLWQA50@gmail.com](mailto:GLWQA50@gmail.com)