













Tipping Points and Indicators:

Engaging Great Lakes Communities to Develop Tipping Point Action Plans

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Research Project Team

- Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory Rutherford*, Mason
- University of Illinois (IISG) Miller*
- Purdue University Pijanowski*, Doucette, Pekin, Salazar, Jung, Frederick, Robinson, Kim, Ghadiri
- University of Michigan Wiley, Riseng
- Michigan State University Stevenson, Hyndman, Rose, Kendal, Martin
- University of Minnesota Duluth Johnson
- University of Windsor Ciborowski
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Outreach Project Team

- **Great Lakes Sea Grant Network Specialists**
 - Illinois-Indiana (Salazar, Jaffe, Doucette, TePas)
 - Michigan (Breederland)
 - Minnesota (Schomberg)
 - New York (Penney)
 - Ohio (Lucente)
 - Pennsylvania (Rafferty)
 - Wisconsin (Hart, Noordyk)

















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- Great Lakes Extension program and companion web-based decision support system (DSS)
 - Supports community visioning discussions and action plan development
- Facilitation led by Sea Grant Specialists, Extension Professionals, Partnering Consultants and Agency Staff
- Primary audiences
 - Watershed Planning and Land Use Planning















- User needs assessment for professional planners and Extension Specialists (Kim Robinson, PhD)
 - Survey (302 respondents, all 8 GL states, Multiple scales: Municipal, County/Township, Regional)
- Summary of desired elements users want in a DSS
 - 1. Visioning tools
 - 2. Current conditions of land use and water resources
 - 3. Identify and delineate key natural lands
 - 4. User identified "what if" models for future land use scenarios
 - 5. Impact of land use change on terrestrial and aquatic species
 - 6. Impact of land use change on human health and recreation















Data driven tool and facilitated process to support community visioning discussions and action plan development.

1. Links natural resources management actions to community values











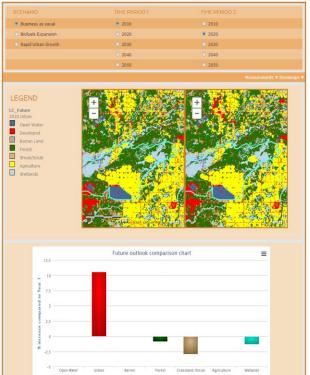






Data driven tool and facilitated process to support community visioning discussions and action plan development

> 2. Gives community the ability to see where they are now and where they will be in the future

















Data driven tool and facilitated process to support community visioning discussions and action plan development

> 3. Helps communities identify assets and determine threats to sustainability

















Data driven tool and facilitated process to support community visioning discussions and action plan development

> 4. Identifies actions of highest priority with data and tipping points models STREAM INVERTEBRATE HEALTH

> > LEGEND -0.34 to -0.12 -0.11 to 0.01 stream health, as many species are known to be sensitive to pollution or habitat modification. ae are the most commonly collected life stage in aquatic habitats, and primarily comprise the m aquatic invertebrates in terms of biomass and species. Most aquatic insects emerge as winged, terrestrial adults in the warmer months, where they may disperse to another stream, mate and lay eggs. Adult aquatic insects and ca



















Data driven tool and facilitated process to support community visioning discussions and action plan development

> 5. Provides a framework for discussing and selecting ordinances, BMPs, and action strategies CHOOSE ACTION STRATEGIES

> > your selected priorities and desired community characteristics to improve future watershed conditions How To: Click the title area of a action strategy to expand the window and view the entire strategy. Click the check box on the right side of a strategy to WATER RESOURCES PLAN PRIME FARMLAND PROTECTION PLAN A type of open space plan that identifies prime agricultural land and productive farms in By protecting prime agricultural soils and farmland on the urban fringe or in rural areas, nunities can guide growth to areas that are already developed and thus promote the food security and the maintenance of their economic base. WEAKNESSES employ efficient and sustainable food, livestock and crop production and harvesting EXAMPLE 2: STATE/GENERAL GUIDANCE OR EXAMPLE STATE















- Data driven tool and facilitated process to support community visioning discussions and action plan development
 - Links natural resources management actions to community values
 - Gives community the ability to see where they are now and where they will be in the future
 - Helps communities identify assets and determine threats to sustainability
 - Identifies actions of highest priority with data and tipping points models
 - Provides a framework for discussing and selecting ordinances, BMPs, and action strategies
- Final action plan includes customized community scenario maps and tailored action strategies











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http://tippingpointplanner.org

1. Visioning

- 1.1 Project Description
- 1.2 Community Characteristics

2. Community Overview

- 2.1 Past Land Use Change
- 2.2 Future Land Use Change
- 2.3 Natural Resource Assets
- 2.3 Areas of Environmental Concern

3. Tipping Points

- 3.1 Prime Farmland Locations
- 3.2 Open Space Locations
- 3.3 Runoff and Water Quality
- 3.4 Stream Invertebrate Health
- 3.5 Nutrients Sources (MI only)
- 3.6 Coastal Wetland Health

4. Action Strategies

5. Action Plan











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Project Timeline

- Beta Version October 2013
- Train the trainer (Sea Grant Specialists)
 - October 2013



- Training and pilots in Great Lakes states Spring 2014
- Final changes based on state pilots May 2014
- Additional program enhancements Spring 2014 and Ongoing













Contact Us

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