

Student Big Questions Handout

Your goal is to take on the responsibility of educating the public about what you have found out about the effects of pollution in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. You can choose any way you wish to communicate your message to the public (ie. news report, news cast, brochure, billboard, website, article, etc). The answers to the following questions should be included in your communications with the public.

Questions:

1. How does the pollution affect you personally?
2. Your ideas about:
 - i. the impacts and significance of each pollutant.
 - ii. removing any of the pollutants to clean up the water. Which pollutants are possible to remove? Why/why not? Who is responsible for cleaning up?
 - iii. the possibility of preventing pollutants in the story. Can any of the pollutants be prevented? How?
 - iv. those problems that could potentially cause water pollution in our area.
 - v. ways that people in the local area can improve the water quality.
3. How can each of us prevent pollution and improve the health of the Great Lakes and St Lawrence River basin?
4. Is there a relationship between the number of people and pollution? Why?
5. Investigate current strategies and action groups at the local, regional and national (Canada and America) levels that help manage and prevent pollution of the Great Lakes and St Lawrence River basin.
6. Investigate who uses the water and how pollution may affect the use.
7. What other challenges is the basin facing, now and in the future? For example, discuss the impact that invasive species have on the ecosystem.