



Advancing technology applications that improve our understanding, management, and use of the Great Lakes

● ● ● The Problem

For the past several decades, scientists, citizens, and policy makers have worked creatively to address Great Lakes challenges including the spread of invasive species, aging water infrastructure, and a changing economy and climate. Today, the Great Lakes region continues to work towards greater collaboration and a better understanding of the lakes. It is now understood that **a connected information ecosystem** could help address a broad variety of challenges currently facing the region.

The traditional approach to problem solving has been limited by single use, disposable data, the high cost of technology, and barriers to data sharing. Fortunately, there has been a shift in the technology landscape making it easier and faster than ever before **to access valuable, accurate information in a timely manner**. Dramatic advances in smart technologies, communication pathways, processing workflows, and information dissemination further enable “smart,” information-driven solutions.

● ● ● A Solution

The Smart Great Lakes Initiative (SGLi) is working to build an information ecosystem based on smart technologies that improve the understanding, use, and management of the lakes. This ecosystem will **connect the region** with advanced data management and analysis, leveraging technology innovations that get people more high-value information, on demand.

Making the Great Lakes smart requires coupling the development of a new technology platform with the creation of common policy goals to enable technology innovation, data gathering, improved monitoring, and greater binational collaboration. Far from being a single-sector solution, the SGLi has the ability to help address information needs **basin-wide**.

● ● ● Join In

Ways to support SGLi:

- Bring fresh ideas
- Deploy smart sensors
- Become a collaborator

Visit **smartgreatlakes.org** to learn more and get connected. ●

