Historically, water law has been the province primarily of lawyers and policy makers in the arid western United States. In recent years, however, lawmakers in the eastern and midwestern United States have come to recognize the critical role that water management plays in securing a healthy and vibrant society over the long term.

In recognition of this development, The University of Toledo College of Law and its Legal Institute of the Great Lakes (LIGL) are proud to sponsor this 15th annual conference on national water issues.

The conference this year will address multiple issues that greatly impact the Great Lakes region.

Algae
It’s been a little more than a year since nearly half a million persons in the Toledo area were left without drinking water when a toxin produced by harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie was detected at elevated levels in the city’s public water supply. Learn what legal steps have been taken to address the algae problem in Lake Erie and to prevent a recurrence of last year’s water crisis. Speakers also will discuss efforts to develop a regional solution to the algae problem and explore whether the multi-state Chesapeake Bay approach can serve as a model for Lake Erie.

Pipelines
The Great Lakes region has an important network of petroleum pipelines that plays a significant role in North American energy production and distribution. However, many of these pipelines are located near our freshwater resources, with some underlying the Great Lakes. In the aftermath of the pipeline rupture that resulted in the region’s largest oil spill in the Kalamazoo River five years ago, and with decisions about the future of the pipelines in the Straits of Mackinac currently before policymakers, this panel will explore the benefits, risks, and applicable laws for petroleum pipelines.

More Hot Topics
This panel of experts will discuss three important legal developments impacting the Great Lakes and water resources: (1) the controversial new rule defining “waters of the United States” under the federal Clean Water Act, key for determining what waters are and are not protected by the statute; (2) the Ohio Supreme Court’s decision earlier this year holding a TMDL must go through rulemaking, which has significant implications for impaired waters and permit holders in Ohio and beyond; and (3) Waukesha’s diversion request that may be heading for Regional and Council review under the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact.
FRIDAY, NOV. 6, 2015

8:00 A.M. CHECK-IN FOR CLE REGISTRANTS

8:30 A.M. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS
President Sharon Gaber
The University of Toledo

8:45 A.M. KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Representative Marcy Kaptur
United States House of Representatives
Toledo, Ohio

9:15 A.M. PANEL 1: ALGAE
Moderator:
Professor Kenneth Kilbert
The University of Toledo College of Law
Toledo, Ohio

Speakers:
Commissioner Carol Contrada
Lucas County Board of Commissioners
Toledo, Ohio

Jack Tuholske
Director, Water and Justice Program
Vermont Law School
South Royalton, Vermont

10:45 A.M. BREAK

11:00 A.M. PANEL 2: PIPELINES
Moderator:
Professor Noah Hall
Wayne State University Law School
Detroit, Michigan

Speakers:
Liz Kirkwood
Executive Director
FLOW
Traverse City, Michigan

J. Gregory Smith
Senior Counsel
Marathon Petroleum Company
Findlay, Ohio

Carl Weimer
Executive Director
Pipeline Safety Trust
Bellingham, Washington

12:30 P.M. LUNCH

1:30 P.M. PANEL 3: MORE HOT TOPICS
Moderator:
Professor Bradford Mank
University of Cincinnati College of Law
Cincinnati, Ohio

Speakers:
Stephen Haughey
Attorney
Frost Brown Todd LLC
Cincinnati, Ohio

Lyman Welch
Legal Director
Alliance for the Great Lakes
Chicago, Illinois

3:00 P.M. CLOSING

The conference will be held in
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO COLLEGE OF LAW
RICHARD AND JANE McQUADE LAW AUDITORIUM
1825 WEST ROCKET DRIVE

4.5 HOURS OF CLE
Application has been made for Ohio CLE credit from the Ohio Supreme Court Commission on Continuing Legal Education for 4.5 of CLE credit including 0.0 hours of Ethics, Substance Abuse, and Professionalism.

COST:
FREE to the public
$75 for CLE
$10 for box lunch (you must pre-register by Tuesday, Nov. 3 for a box lunch)

To register for CLE or a box lunch, go to: utole.do/lawregistration

Credit card payments can be made online. Checks can be made payable to The University of Toledo and sent to:

Attention: Maureen Dwyer
Mail Stop 507
The University of Toledo College of Law
2801 W. Bancroft St.
Toledo, Ohio 43606-3390

For more information, call 419.530.2851
or visit our website at: utoledo.edu/law/academics/ligl/conferences.html

The Legal Institute of the Great Lakes (LIGL) is a multidisciplinary research center within the College of Law. The institute supports research, maintains publications, and sponsors conferences on legal, economic, and social issues of importance to the Great Lakes region of the United States and Canada.