TOP 10 WAYS

to Protect the Great Lakes at Home!



- 1. Take shorter showers instead of baths
- 2. Install a low volume toilet using less water to flush
- 3. Put up a clothes line and avoid using the dryer
- 4. Make sure you have full loads of laundry before starting the machine
- 5. Fill the dishwasher before you start it

- 6. Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth or washing your hands
- 7. Replace energy draining appliances
- 8. Don't leave the lights or computers on when not in use
- 9. Avoid using cleaning products with harmful chemicals
- 10. Don't use fertilizer or pesticides everything washes down the storm drains

Keep our **Great Lakes** Clean!

The Great Lakes Program

- FREE & Bilingual
- Based on the Ontario Science and Technology Curriculum
- Offered to students across Ontario

Includes PowerPoint presentation, educational artefacts and question/ answer session with a biologist in the classroom.

> **Questions and bookings? Contact us** greatlakes@torontozoo.ca

Check out our website www.torontozoo.com/tz/greatlakes

We've gone digital!

The GLP is now offered virtually. E-mail us for more details.

Follow us!







VISIT Great Lakes fishes at the



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



Fisheries and Oceans Pêches et Océans

Great Lakes **Program**



NOAA, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory

American Eel Pugnose Shiner Silver Shiner Lake Sturgeon **Redside Dace Hickorynut Mussel Pugnose Minnow Atlantic Salmon**





REDSIDE DACE

FNDANGERED

- Habitat: cool, clean rivers and streams of L. Ontario and L. Huron
 - Leaps out of the water to feed on insects



SILVER SHINER THREATENED

- Distinguished by two black crescents between nostrils
- Threats: habitat loss, poor water quality



LAKE STURGEON

ENDANGERED (ON)

- Diet: small fishes, molluscs, crayfishes, insect larvae
- One of the largest freshwater fishes in North America



ATLANTIC SALMON FXTINCT

- Land-locked (remain in L. Ontario watershed, do not go out to sea)
 - Restocking program to increase population in L. Ontario



Great Lakes Program Species At Risk



AMERICAN EEL ENDANGERED (ON)

- Long migration (over 6,000km) to Sargasso Sea to spawn
 - Threats: fishing, pollution, dams, large predators



PUGNOSE MINNOW

THREATENE

- Named for its small, upturned mouth
- Males will guard the nest and eggs



HICKORYNUT MUSSEL

ENDANGERED

- Uses Lake Sturgeon as fish host for larvae
- Threats include pollution and competition from zebra mussels



PUGNOSE SHINER THREATENED

- Scatter their eggs among plants in the water, instead of making a nest
 - Sensitive to changes in their ecosystem



Download the Clam Counter app to learn more about freshwater mussels and how to identify them! When you submit a finding, scientists at the Toronto Zoo and Fisheries and Oceans Canada can use your data to help keep mussels and their habitat safe!

Mussels are endangered!

- Ontario has 41 freshwater mussel species
- These invertebrates filter 9 L of water/hr to feed
- Mussels are considered an indicator species for healthy waters

INVADERS!



Asian Carps

To prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species such as Asian carps and zebra mussels, don't transport bait, clean, drain and dry boats and equipment and report sightings on EDDMaps.

www.eddmaps.org/ontario