

# *Societal Indicators*

## *ASSESSING THE PEOPLE "FACTOR"*

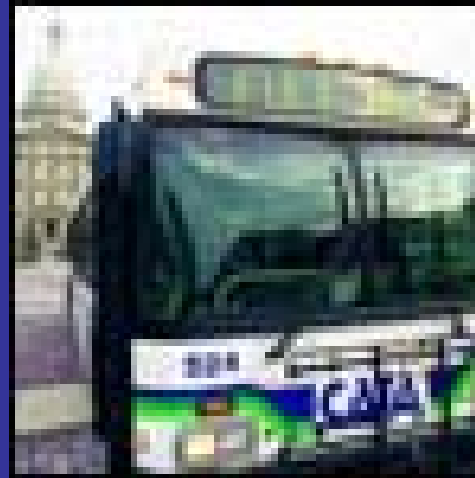
### *IN ECOSYSTEM HEALTH*



*Laurie Payne*

# Outline

- ✓ Indicator development
- ✓ Proposed indicators
- ✓ Indicator reports
- ✓ Next steps



# Societal Indicators

- Measure human activities and their impact on ecosystem health
- Measure human response to ecosystem pressures

# Societal Indicators Reported in 2002

- Solid Waste Generation
- Water Use
- Urban Density
- Energy Consumption



# Societal Indicators Reported in 2002

- Place Based Stewardship Activities
- Green Planning Processes
- Brownfield Redevelopment
- Mass Transit



Photo: Rob Hutchinson



Photo: Morris Richardson II/Detroit News

# Societal Response

- Assess voluntary activities within society that invoke positive change in ecosystem health
- Represent society's commitment to ecosystem health
- 'Shared governance & responsible management'

# Past Societal Response Work

- Started with 5 indicators in 1998
- Expanded to 53 Indicators
- Got feedback from:
  - Expert Panel
  - IJC Conference Workshop
  - First Nations
  - Online Survey
- Used feedback to develop current indicator suite

# Indicator Selection Results

- 11 indicators proposed
- 4 categories:
  - Institutional
  - Community / Household
  - Industrial / Commercial
  - Cross-cutting



# Household /Community

- Community Engagement in Great Lakes Protection and Decision Making
- Household Solid Waste Minimization
- Household stormwater recycling



# Industrial / Commercial

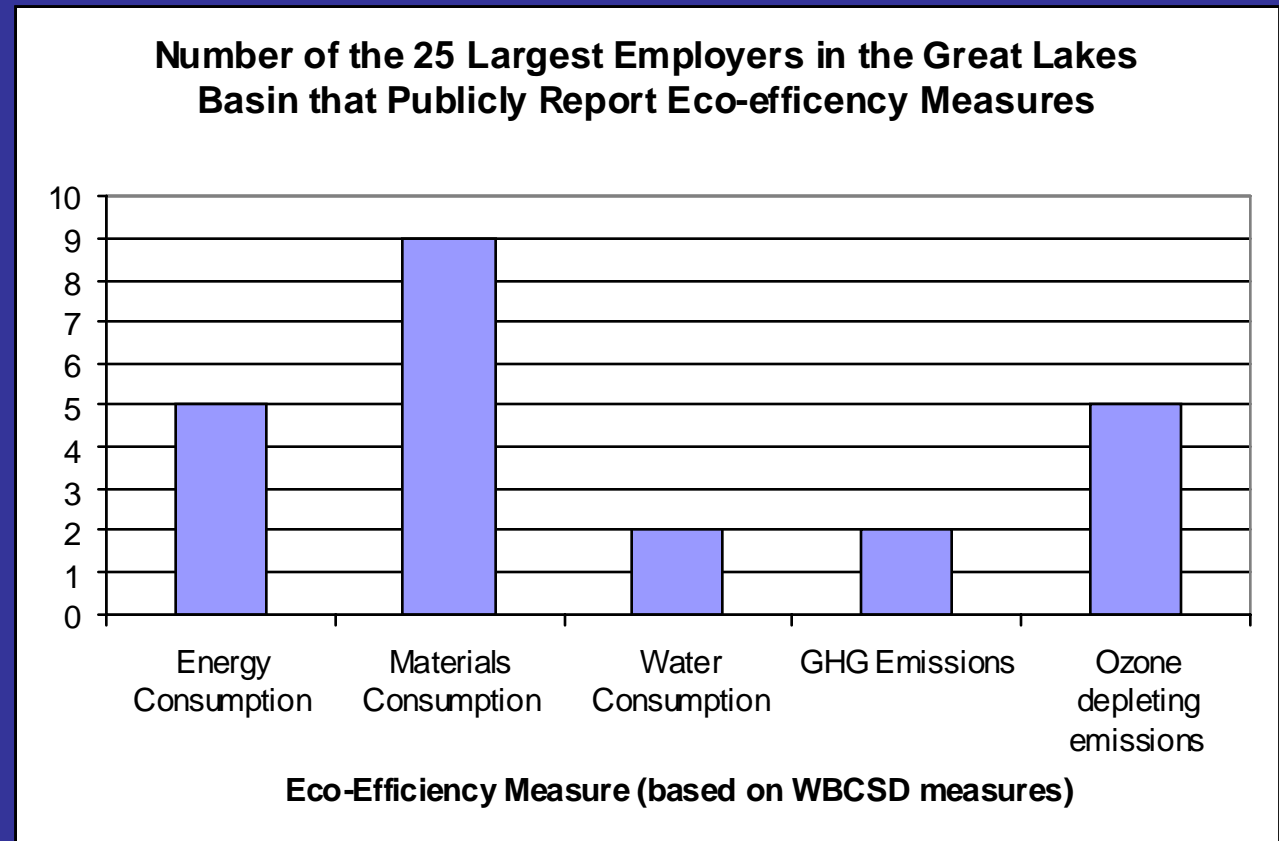
- Commercial / Industrial Environmental Management Systems (EMS)
- Commercial / Industrial Eco Efficiency



# Pilot Report #1 –

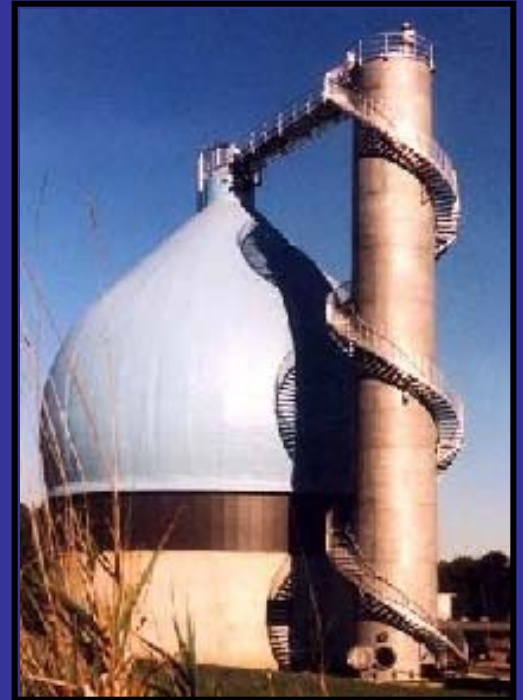
## Industrial / Commercial Eco-efficiency

- 10/25 firms report on eco efficiency measures



# Institutional

- Wastewater treatment
- Taxes on energy/ $\text{CO}_2$
- Environmental education



# Institutional

- Cosmetic pesticide control
- Financial resources allocated to Great Lakes Programs



# Pilot Report #2 –

## Cosmetic Pesticide Controls

- 46 municipalities have recently adopted pesticide control by laws/ordinances (Ontario & Quebec)
- Another 28 in the process of implementing by laws
- Quebec implementing province wide controls

# Cross-cutting

- Vehicle use



# Results

- Many indicators are needed to make an assessment of societal ecosystem pressures & responses
- Preliminary reports show that assessments can be done
- TUNE IN AT SOLEC 2004



# Next Steps

- Evaluate proposed indicator suite (breakout session) and adopt an indicators set
- Continue researching and reporting on indicators
- Integrate results with other societal core group indicators
- Integrate results with geographic zone and cross-cutting indicators

# Thank You

Please attend Societal Indicator  
Workshops

Time: 12:45 & 3:15 pm

Room: 204, Cleveland  
Convention Center

# Acknowledgements

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