

## 2022 Lake Erie Monitoring – Quality Assurance Project Plan

In 2022, Ohio EPA’s Division of Surface Water will be conducting Lake Erie monitoring in the four shoreline assessment units (Western, Islands, Sandusky, and Central) as well as the three open water assessment units (Western, Sandusky, and Central). The shoreline assessment units cover the portion of the lake that extends along each basin out to and including a depth of three meters from the shore; the open water assessment units are delineated as the area beyond three meters of depth. Recreation and water supply uses will be evaluated. Aquatic life use (ALU) of the shoreline assessment units will not be conducted in 2022 while Ohio EPA works with other academic and government experts to refine the assessment for this beneficial use.

### Stakeholder Input

Ohio EPA has compiled a proposed list of sampling locations for the 2022 Lake Erie monitoring based upon the objectives below. Figures 3 through 5 in the report provide maps of the proposed sampling locations. The comment period for the proposed list of sampling locations ended on April 15, 2022. The detailed study plan, or Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), is available on our webpage.

### Study Objectives

Survey sites are selected to provide adequate coverage for evaluating whether water quality standards are currently being met for each beneficial use within each of the assessment units in the basin and to establish long-term trends in water quality. For 2022, the Lake Erie monitoring objectives include:

- Provide credible water quality data.
- Support Integrated Report beneficial use assessments.
- Support AOC beneficial use assessment and de-listing.
- Track nutrient concentrations against interim substance objectives.
- Evaluate minimum dissolved oxygen in the hypolimnion of the Central Basin.
- Monitor burrowing Mayfly populations as an indicator of eutrophication.
- Collect algal community composition and biomass information.
- Support Cyanotoxin advisory database.

#### Additional Information

For additional information on Lake Erie monitoring and programs, including previous sampling results, please visit [Ohio EPA’s Water Quality Programs webpage](#).

#### Stay Involved

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#### Contact Information

For more information, contact Joshua Griffin  
[Joshua.Griffin@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:Joshua.Griffin@epa.ohio.gov)