

Smart Great Lakes 2.0

October 14 & 15, 2026

Detroit, Michigan

[U-M Detroit Center](#)



AGENDA

Wednesday, October 14

- 9:00 a.m. Breakfast and registration
- 10:00 a.m. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement
SGLi Co-Chair Jennifer Boehme and Leadership Team Member Rick Wilson
- 10:15 a.m. Purpose + Vision Refresh for SGLi 2.0
SGLi Co-Chair Jennifer Boehme and Leadership Team Member Rick Wilson
- 10:45 a.m. *Dani Jones, Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research*
A Community-centered Vision for Data-Intensive Great Lakes Research and Management
- 11:25 a.m. *Yongli Wager, Wayne State University*
From Data Variability to Geospatial Insights: A Metadata-Driven GeoAI Tool for Microplastics Analysis
- Noon Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Responsible AI in Environmental Agencies panel

Moderator: Dani Jones, Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research
Tom Hollenhorst, U.S. EPA
Paul Kline, Dow Chemical Company (Ret.)
Brandon Krumwiede, NOAA
- 2:00 p.m. Technology Advances for Informed Decision Making panel

Moderator: Max Herzog, Cleveland Water Alliance
Jay Austin, University of Minnesota, Duluth
Rem Confesor Jr., Heidelberg University
Katelynn Johnson, University of Windsor
Jonathan Wadell, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- 3:00 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. Evolving Great Lakes Data Ecosystems panel

*Moderator: Shelby Brunner, Great Lakes Observing System
Donna Kashian, Wayne State University
Sarah Peterson, IL-IN Sea Grant
Kait Reinl, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rick Wilson, Conservation Ontario*

4:15 p.m. Day 1 Closing

Thursday, October 15

9:00 a.m. Breakfast and registration

9:30 a.m. Brief recap from Day 1
SGLi Co-Chair Jennifer Boehme and Leadership Team Member Rick Wilson

9:45 a.m. Strategy Adjustment Workshop
Katie Rousseau, Great Lakes Observing System

Breakout Groups I:

- *Observations & Data Infrastructure*
- *New Approaches to Data Sharing Challenges*

Report Out From Breakout Groups

11:00 a.m. Break

11:15 a.m. Breakout Groups II

- *Data Science and AI Integration*
- *Data User Communities and Services*

Report Out From Breakout Groups

12:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m. Identification Session: What moves forward into SGLi 2.0?
SGLi Co-Chair Jennifer Boehme and Leadership Team Member Rick Wilson

3:00 p.m. Next Steps
SGLi Co-Chair Jennifer Boehme and Leadership Team Member Rick Wilson

3:30 p.m. Workshop Closing