



## **WATER QUALITY** Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

- The Great Lakes hold 20% of the world’s fresh water and provide drinking water for more than 48 million
- Excess nutrients can cause HABs to threaten Great Lakes and surface waters globally
- The Maumee River is the primary source of nutrients causing HABs in the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB)
- Agricultural production dominates the watershed
- Lake Erie is the shallowest, most biologically diverse of all the Great Lakes



## **GREAT LAKES** Source Water Protection

- The Great Lakes Region (8 States and 2 Provinces) is equal to the 3rd largest economy in the world\*
- Land use planning is critical to protection of healthy watersheds
- Development of replicable and scalable pilot projects to improve water quality
- Demonstration of future-friendly farming to promote sustainable and regenerative agriculture
- “COLLABORATION: From Partnership Flows Prosperity and Sustainability”



## **MAUMEE RIVER** Watershed Planning

- The Maumee River Watershed is the largest drainage basin in the Great Lakes Region
- 85% of Maumee River nutrient loading passes through Defiance, Ohio
- The Upper Maumee River is the sole source of drinking water for Defiance
- The City is continually working to improve the quality of our drinking water
- Defiance is taking an active leadership role in watershed planning and other regional collaborative efforts



## **SMART SOLUTIONS** For Water Quality

- Collaborative planning and decision-making for a regional knowledge and action network
- Sustainable development efforts for the Great Lakes Region
- Smart Solutions Require Collaboration and Participation - Contact Us for More Information

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**SDGs**—The Sustainable Development Goals are a collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015 for the year 2030. The SDGs are part of Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly, the 2030 Agenda.



\* Based on GDP 2015, if the Great Lakes Region were its own country, it would have a GDP of US\$6 trillion – making it the third largest economy in the world.  
[councilgreatlakesregion.org](http://councilgreatlakesregion.org)