

**News From:**  
**Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie**



**For Immediate Release August 22, 2017**

**10 MILES OF DEAD FISH IN WILLIAMS COUNTY FROM MANURE OVERLOAD**  
**Lake Advocates to EPA: “Investigate Now. Use DNA Testing. Find the Polluters.”**

**TOLEDO** – Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie (ACLE) tonight demanded the Ohio EPA do an immediate, emergency investigation into a massive fish kill in Williams County, reported [today in the Brian Times](#).

ACLE coordinator, Mike Ferner, called the OEPA emergency hotline number, 800-282-9378 tonight after reading the Times article describing a “nine to ten mile stretch” of dead sunfish, bullhead, minnows and northern pike, requesting the agency investigate and use DNA tests to determine the source of the manure.

According to the Times, Ohio DNR Wildlife Officer, [Anthony Lemle](#), said, “We suspect it was caused by manure,” adding, “That’s fairly common this time of year for this part of the state.”

“This is absolutely, 100%, a discharge into the waters of the U.S. and is a violation of the Clean Water Act,” Ferner said, “and we demand an immediate investigation using DNA tests. We need to know where this came from and hold the polluters strictly accountable. Not only has this polluter killed untold numbers of fish, but its toxic plume is on the way to Lake Erie where our drinking water comes from.”

ACLE has argued strenuously to have the U.S. EPA declare western Lake Erie “impaired” to require a complete inventory of sources and amounts of pollution and a mandatory cleanup as is being done in Chesapeake Bay.

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