

News From:
Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie



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**TOLEDO MAYOR JOINS ENVIRONMENTALISTS DEMANDING U.S. EPA RUN LAKE ERIE
CLEANUP**

TOLEDO – Reacting to a story in today’s edition of the Toledo City Paper, Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie (ACLE) announced it is pleased to see that Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson has written President-elect Trump, urging him to direct the U.S. EPA to coordinate a long-awaited cleanup of Lake Erie.

In her letter, the Mayor cited the large sums Toledo has spent reducing sewage pollution into Lake Erie and purifying drinking water, and asked Mr. Trump to issue an executive order similar to the one that [President Obama issued](#) for the Chesapeake Bay.

The mayor’s letter said excessive Phosphorus loads coming from non-point agricultural sources are causing toxic algal blooms and concluded, “In my judgment, this problem is not being properly addressed by existing policies, agreements and regulatory tools.”

ACLE coordinator, Mike Ferner, noted that, "Industrial feedlots in the Ohio, Michigan and Indiana portions of western Lake Erie’s watershed flood farm fields with a torrent of untreated [feces and urine](#) equal to the combined sewage output of Chicago and Los Angeles. With three states involved, the U.S. EPA simply must step in. We're pleased our mayor is now calling for that and we hope she will continue supporting clean drinking water by getting other local governments to support U.S. EPA action."

For several months, ACLE has pressed Toledo officials to follow the lead of Lucas County Commissioners and the City of Oregon and support an EPA “impaired” designation for the Lake’s western basin. Recently the group also urged President Obama [to issue an executive order](#) for Lake Erie as he did for Chesapeake Bay.

Ferner concluded, “Until Lake Erie is made healthy again, ACLE will continue to mobilize public support to hold accountable those who are poisoning it.”