

GCBA Submittal

March 2012

The information below was provided by our GCBA friends:

A second website (<http://www.saugatuck.com/harborsite/harbors/index.html>) provided by the Convention and Visitors Bureau of Saugatuck/Douglas, Michigan is now available and will provide more real time news and updates. The www.greatlakessmallharbors.org/ site will continue to contain historical materials.

Now posted on this new website are the following updates:

- Yesterday press release by Senator Levin providing more details regarding the Resolution passed by the Senate expressing their support for using the Harbor Maintenance Tax for its intended purpose--maintaining the nation's harbors. While the result is not as strong as the mandates contained in the Ramp Act Bills (H.R.104 and S.412), the Senate's action is welcome good news and a step forward particularly given the roadblocks we have been experiencing in both the Senate and House.
- Powerpoints used in a presentation in D.C. on February 28 to the Great Lakes Commission's semi-annual meeting. The Commissioners are appointed by the Governors of the 8 Great Lakes states and this presentation was to ensure they know the crisis facing their harbor communities and the need for Governors to engage in this mission.
- Letter of December 19, 2011 to members of the Great Lakes Congressional delegation urging their unified support for the harbor maintenance bills.
- A letter of testimony to the Energy and Water Resources Sub-Committee on July 8, 2011. This testimony was invited by some members of the Sub-Committee--good to have increasing recognition in D.C.
- Recent article in the Grand Rapids Press highlighting our dredging crisis, the GLSHC, and its mission.
- GLSHC Fact Sheet updated March 7, 2012.

The next scheduled meeting with harbor communities is scheduled for April 24 in Cornucopia, Wisconsin and will include the 10 harbors along the Wisconsin and Minnesota Lake Superior shoreline.