

# TUWaterWays

Water News and More from the Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy  
August 12, 2014

## Dayton Ohio—Come for the Water, Stay for the Prosperity.

Once home to the Wright Brothers and part of America's industrial heart, Dayton, Ohio has lost a fair amount of its economic luster. But Dayton has dreams of better days and a plan for making them come true. Here's the plan: Water—or more to the point, "[Blue Gold](#)". There are some wrinkles to work out, like ensuring water quality, but at least one city that has lost its share of jobs to sunnier—and drier—places is planning to market its water abundance to businesses and investors. It's a development worth following.

## Learning From Lake Erie—Editorial Urges Source Water Protection in Louisiana

The [green slime](#) that too often passes for water in Lake Erie is still there, but the drinking water in Toledo, Ohio is apparently, and thankfully, safe to drink again. So the news cycle has moved on to new stories (including the annual recurrence of "[dead zone](#)" in the Gulf of Mexico, this year some 5,000 square miles), but at least one place has not moved on. That place is Shreveport, LA. Shreveport and its environs depend on two reservoirs for drinking water. The region's aquifers have been the subject of an emergency order to reduce demand and facilitate their recovery. While the aquifers are showing [improvement](#), the vulnerability of those reservoirs to nutrient pollution has occurred to the [Shreveport Times](#) as deserving attention. Since the time to deal with pollution is before it becomes a problem, the paper's call for action smacks of a lesson in the process of being learned.

## Thanks for Conserving, Now About that Water Bill

The importance of conserving water is more and more apparent as communities strive to stretch their water supplies. But reducing the demand for water does not reduce the burdens of maintaining water infrastructure, at least for the most part in the short run. This can lead to the surprising result of utilities needing to raise water rates. A case in point: [Montgomery County, MD](#), where the delicate dance between hard costs, water rates, and water conservation is playing out. In the long run, these benefits and burdens may even out, but this case demonstrates that getting to the long term depends on getting through the short term.

## Hold That Thought—and Let the MRC Hear It

It is that time of year again when the kids are packed

The **Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy** is a program of the Tulane University Law School.

The Institute is dedicated to fostering a greater appreciation and understanding of the vital role that water plays in our society and of the importance of the legal and policy framework that shapes the uses and stewardship of water.

## Coming up:

### [A Coastal Conservation Conversation](#)

August 20, 2014

Loyola University's Miller Hall

### [WEFTEC 2014](#)

September 27-October 1, 2014

Morial Convention Center

New Orleans, LA

### [Restore America's Estuaries and Coastal Society Summit on Coastal and Estuarine Restoration](#)

November 1-6, 2014

Washington, DC

## Water jobs:

### [Water Resources Manager](#)

National Wildlife Federation

Water Protection Network & MS River Network

Washington, DC

### [Communications Director](#)

Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana

Baton Rouge, LA

# Tulane Institute

## on Water Resources Law & Policy

6325 Freret Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

New Orleans, LA 70118

504-865-5982

<http://www.law.tulane.edu/tlscenters/waterlaw/>

TWITTER: [@TulaneWaterLaw](https://twitter.com/TulaneWaterLaw)

off to school and folks' thoughts turn to the management of the Mississippi River system. The Mississippi River Commission will be holding its annual "low water" inspection tour of the lower Mississippi River. The Commission and the Army Corps of Engineers will be holding public meetings aboard the MV (Motor Vessel) *Mississippi* on August 15 on Rosedale, MS at the Port of Rosedale and on August 22 in Houma, LA at the Enterprise Marine Dock. Both meetings start at 9 a.m. On the agenda is a summary report on national and regional issues affecting the projects and programs of the Corps and the Commission in the Mississippi system; an overview of projects in the Corps' Memphis and New Orleans Districts; and anything you or anybody else wants to bring up.

For more information contact Mr. Timothy S. Gambrell at 601-634-5766 or go to <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-07-18/pdf/2014-16848.pdf>.

### **Access to Coastal Water Getting Dickey for Fishers**

When the urge to do some world class fishing strikes, few places offer more than the coastal waters of Louisiana, the Sportsman's Paradise. There have always been risks that come with that such as sunburn, boat trouble, and getting hooked by the guy in the front of the boat, but getting cited for trespassing has not been high on that list. Until now, apparently. According to the New Orleans [\*Times-Picayune\*](#), sportsmen are increasingly being cited or warned about fishing in places claimed to be private property. While the facts and circumstances of each case can make a big difference, it is probably safe to say that in a place where land can turn to water (and sometimes visa versa) in very short order, the lines between what is private and public are not easy to pin down. When that line not only marks where you may fish but who owns the minerals beneath the waters and whether the land is on or off the local tax rolls, it becomes easier to see why this is an issue. And with the hopes for massive coastal restoration work and the prospects for increased sea level rise, it seems clear that things are going to get murkier before they get clearer.