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Sea Grant Conference Set For Madison

MADISON--The University of Wisconsin Sea Grant College Program will sponsor a conference on the Great Lakes, Sept. 18 and 19 at the Wisconsin Center in Madison.

The conference, "The Great Lakes, 1975: The Great Lakes, 2001," is designed to bring the university community, related government agencies and the public up to date on the program's research findings over the past two years.

Sessions will cover: the dynamics and productivity of Great Lakes fish populations, with emphasis on Lake Michigan; the occurrence and effects of microcontaminants like PCBs on aquatic organisms and man; the effects of electric power generation in Lake Michigan; water quality conditions of Lake Michigan's Green Bay; and Great Lakes shoreline erosion.

The second morning of the conference will be devoted to a glimpse of the Great Lakes of the future--around the turn of the century. This session will cover predicted trends in Great Lakes food production, aquaculture, population distribution in the Great Lakes region, use of lake water for municipal water supplies, transportation on the lakes and related energy issues.

The university's Sea Grant College Program has been carrying on research in these and other areas related to the Great Lakes and marine resources since 1968, when the program began in Wisconsin. Presently involved in Sea Grant projects are about 250 university professors and students from several U.W. campuses, including Madison, Milwaukee, Extension, Green Bay, Parkside, Stevens Point and Superior. Also involved are the Medical College of Wisconsin and Northland College in Ashland.

The U.W. Sea Grant College Program is supported through a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce and through funding from the state of Wisconsin.

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