

## Coordination of Efforts to Restore Beneficial Uses

Through the implementation of the NRTMP, considerable progress has been achieved in reducing contaminant loading to the Niagara River. These actions have contributed to meeting goals of the two RAPs and to the restoration of beneficial uses in the AOC. While the agencies involved believe that the NRTMP has been well integrated with the two RAP efforts, the integration is not fully evident. Although improvements in coordination were noted during the Commission's Status Assessment process, it became apparent that many individuals continue to regard the two RAPs and the NRTMP as parallel mechanisms with little relationship to each other. Enhanced information sharing and reporting between the NRTMP and RAP efforts could provide more transparent accounting of the progress that has been achieved toward the goals of the NRTMP and restoration of beneficial uses. Similarly, enhanced information sharing between the Ontario and New York RAPs would provide the public with a more comprehensive overview of remaining actions that are needed to restore beneficial uses. The Implementation Annex for the Ontario portion of the AOC (November 2000) states that, "The RAP will re-establish a formal communication link with the New York State Niagara River RAP." This represents an opportunity to capitalize on the potential synergy between the RAP efforts to fully describe the benefits that have accrued through implementation of the NRTMP and outline future remedial actions.

## Recommendation

### Enhance Coordination of Efforts to Restore Beneficial Uses.



Greater attention should be directed to enhancing the public's knowledge of the integration of RAP efforts and the NRTMP. A suitable initial focus could be the NRTMP's contribution to the current status of beneficial use restoration in the Niagara River AOC.