

Kathryn Rousseau

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20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE SPECIALIZING IN DEVELOPING AND EXECUTING PROGRAMS IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

Dedicated, resourceful and organized professional building and fostering relationships with a diverse set of partners to advance science, policy and management in the Great Lakes region.

SKILLS

Internal and external collaboration	Grant and report writing
Leadership	Budget development and management
Strategic planning	Event and meeting planning
Facilitation and conflict management	Virtual communication skills
Listening and relationship building	Microsoft 365
Attention to detail	Google Workspace
Contract oversight and management	Salesforce and Leadership Connect

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Strategic Initiatives Manager, Great Lakes Observing System, Ann Arbor, Michigan. January 2024 – Present.

- Provided internal coordination and communication to draft language for the Great Lakes Mapping Act introduced by Representatives Lisa McClain (MI-9) and Debbie Dingell (MI-6) in January 2024. The bill was reintroduced in April 2025. Supported testimony development that was presented before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries.
- Supported fundraising strategies for individuals through online giving and at events.
- Served as point person for new opportunities, initiatives and projects.
- Developed and managed the communications department's budget.

Smart Great Lakes Liaison, Great Lakes Observing System, Ann Arbor, Michigan. July 2019 – January 2024.

- Coordinated with over seventy binational Great Lakes science, data and policy experts to write the *Common Strategy for Smart Great Lakes*.
- Managed GLOS funding support to develop the Indigenous Great Lakes Network Initiative.
- Communicated to Congress both national and regional observation and data priorities through the Appropriations process as well as ongoing education and advocacy.
- Provided leadership to the Integrated Ocean Observing System's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Committee.
- Managed communications and program related projects.

Director, Clean Water Supply Program, Great Lakes, American Rivers, Waterville, Ohio. January 2014 – June 2019.

- Supervision and management of three remote employees in the Great Lakes region.
- Advanced Integrated Water Management and green stormwater infrastructure initiatives in multiple cities across the Great Lakes region through partnerships, community engagement, policy modifications, and on-the-ground implementation of projects.

- Developed and coordinated the Great Lakes Community Partners community of practice, which also served as a One Water Summit delegation. Provided subgrants to partners to support common mission goals and objectives.
- Served as Healing Our Waters Great Lakes Coalition Co-Chair during the implementation of the Equity, Advisory and Action committee as well as the hiring of the present Coalition Director.
- Coproduced the 2019 report *Protecting Drinking Water in the Great Lakes: A Primer on Existing State Policies and Using the Safe Drinking Water Act* with the Great Lakes Environmental Law Center.
- Led strategic planning efforts in the Great Lakes for American Rivers.
- Built and maintained relationships with Great Lakes funders.
- Spokesperson and representative of American Rivers at conferences, workshops, and meetings.

Associate Director, American Rivers, Toledo, Ohio. July 2010 – December 2013.

- Worked with environmental nonprofit partners in Ohio and Michigan to revise state stormwater policies including State Revolving Loan funds.
- Code and Master Plan review project with Trout Unlimited.
- Hosted and organized several local workshops. Tasks included agenda development, speaker invitations, coordinating materials for handouts, and overall logistics.

Conservation Associate, American Rivers, Toledo, Ohio. September 2007 – June 2010.

- Worked with a Toledo City Councilman to remove policy barriers and write ordinance language to utilize green stormwater infrastructure practices in the City of Toledo.
- Provided leadership to the Rain Garden Initiative of Toledo – Lucas County.

EDUCATION:

Master of Arts in Geography, May 2007. University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio. Research focus: Watershed Management, Land Use Planning, Geographic Information Systems.

Bachelor of Science in Education, June 2002. Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. Secondary Education with an Earth/Space Science Area of Concentration.

CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING:

- 4 Seasons of Indigenous Learning Certificate (2025)
- NOAA's Facilitation Basics for Coastal Managers training (2023)
- Race Forward's Building Racial Equity training
- Institute for Conservation Leadership training – Leading from Within (2013/2014)
- Geographic Information Sciences and Applied Geographics Certification (2007)

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Advisory Board, (2022 – present) University of Toledo's Geography and Planning Department.

Trustee, (2011 – 2019) Black Swamp Conservancy. Executive committee 2013 - 2017.

Board member, (2015 – 2017) Ohio Stormwater Association.

Volunteer, (2004 – 2012) Junior League of Toledo. Various placements including Vice President of Community Projects on the Board of Directors.