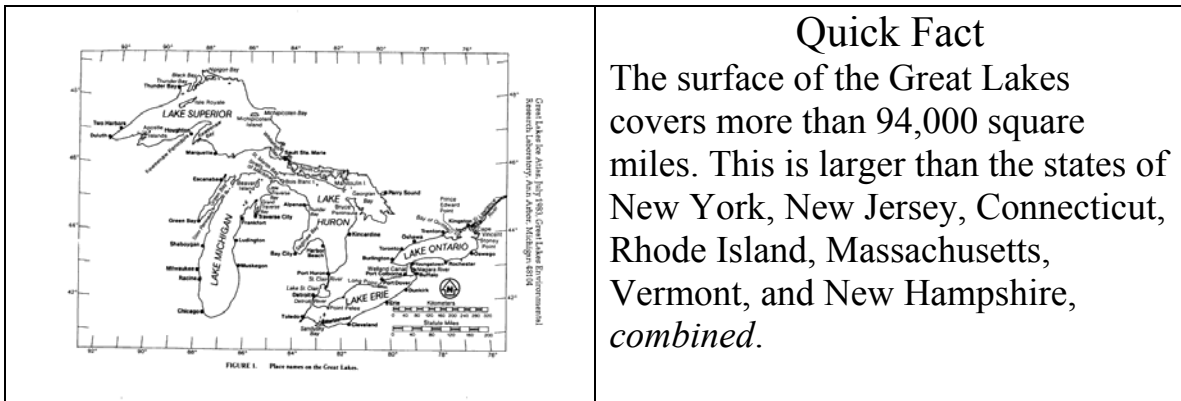


Cleaning Up the Great Lakes



Quick Fact

The surface of the Great Lakes covers more than 94,000 square miles. This is larger than the states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire, *combined*.

Attached are two recent newspaper articles discussing efforts to clean up the Great Lakes (Flesher 2004; Paulson 2004). Read each of these articles and then *write* your answers to the following questions.

1. What problems do Flesher and Paulson claim the Great Lakes are facing?
2. What are the probable consequences of leaving these problems unchecked?
3. Is cleaning up the Great Lakes “important”? If so, why? In what sense?
4. At the end of (Paulson 2004) the claim is made that \$4-\$5 billion *federal* dollars are needed to clean up the Great Lakes. How much will that cost you as an individual? Is this amount reasonable? Suppose the actual cost is twice as high? Ten times as high?

Flesher, J. (2004). Despite improvements, Great Lakes plagued by pollution, international panel says. The Associated Press State & Local Wire.

Paulson, A. (2004). A new push to clean up the Great Lakes. The Christian Science Monitor.