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**LAKE ERIE COMMISSION SPONSORS 2008 "LIFE ON LAKE ERIE"
PHOTO CONTEST**

Contest open only to amateurs; deadline for submitting photos is July 11

TOLEDO, OH – Amateur photographers and camera buffs age 18 and older are encouraged to enter this year's "Life on Lake Erie" photo contest, sponsored by the Ohio Lake Erie Commission.

The 2008 contest is open to amateurs taking snapshots in and around the Lake Erie watershed. As in recent years, the competition has no specific subject categories and may depict a person, plant, wildlife, activity or scene that captures the unique character of the region.

All photo entries must have been taken between July 20, 2007 and July 8, 2008. Black and white, as well as color photographs, will be accepted. Digitally altered photos will not be accepted.

All entries must be the original work of the photographer. No more than five entries will be accepted from one household. Individuals can win up to two times. To enter, send a 5 by 7-inch print and a completed entry form via U.S. Mail to the commission's office at One Maritime Plaza, Fourth Floor, Toledo, Ohio 43604. The deadline for submitting entries is July 11.

Complete rules and entry forms for the 2008 "Life on Lake Erie" photo contest are available at the commission's Web site www.epa.state.oh.us/oleo. All photos become the property of the Ohio Lake Erie Commission. Winning photographs will be exhibited at various points of interest along the lake as part of a traveling exhibit.

The "Life on Lake Erie" photo contest is one of many events planned for Ohio's Coastweeks 2008, which runs September 12-21. Coastweeks is a nationwide celebration of America's coastlines and waters. Ohio's goal is to increase awareness of the value and fragility of Lake Erie and its shoreline as the state's great natural resource.

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The Lake Erie Commission is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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