From Discovery to Application: Science Transferred
Local and Delicious, Plus a Job-Creator

Fresh Atlantic salmon grown in the heart of dairy country is now a reality thanks to Superior Fresh. Investors committed more than $20 million to the Jackson County aquaponics facility that employed dozens in the construction trades. With its 2017 grand opening, up to 50 people will have jobs caring for and harvesting 160,000 pounds of fish and 1.8 million pounds of lettuce annually. This is made possible, in part, thanks to Sea Grant partners and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility.

Wisconsin Sea Grant is a locally focused, federal-state partnership supporting research, education and outreach. For 50 years, it has been fostering the sustainable use of Wisconsin’s Great Lakes.

95% of federal funds are invested in trusted, objective, science-based programming

$2,708,617 in leveraged funds

185% return on federal investment

BY THE NUMBERS
ALL FIGURES 2015–17

Nearly $26.8 million in economic impacts

95 jobs created or sustained

34 businesses created or sustained

176 acres of habitat restored

541 fishermen or aquaculture industry professionals assisted
Home Sweet Home—Protected
Median home values in the Lake Michigan counties of Kenosha, Racine, Milwaukee and Ozaukee range from $115,200 to $271,400. Rapidly rising lake levels have had a major effect on the properties—bluffs are collapsing and beaches are washing away. Sea Grant has: funded research to create a new device that predicts bluff slides; along with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, developed emergency permits to install protective material to stabilize bluffs; and helped secure nearly $1 million to safeguard shoreline homes, beaches and harbors.

Shipping Off a Costly Problem
The Duluth-Superior port is the world’s largest inland facility and represents $12.6 billion in annual activity. Ships rely on port infrastructure for loading and unloading cargo. When the infrastructure is failing, so are profit margins. About 10 years ago, steel in the port was corroding at an accelerated rate. Sea Grant and partners figured out why and how to fix it. The solution saves millions in replacement costs every year—nearly $4.9 million in 2016-17 alone. Sea Grant also advises on the beneficial re-use of dredged material.

Saving Lives
The Great Lakes offer many recreational opportunities. But the lakes can also be dangerous. Sea Grant steps in and helps save lives. It has funded research on dangerous waves and rip currents, and given coastal communities flotation devices for beaches.