

**Welcome to Ohio,
and to the Great Lakes**

Congratulations to the Ohio legislature and state Rep. Steven Dyer, D-Green, in sending to Gov. Ted Strickland the oft-delayed but recently passed Great Lakes Compact preserving the waters of the Great Lakes, the largest freshwater reserve in the world.

With floods, fires, drought and other natural disasters affecting parts of the country where growth has gone unchecked for too many years, area leaders should make it known the doors are open to families, industries, information technology professionals as well as back-office operations that the welcome mat is out to beautiful, serene, intelligent, healthy and progressive Akron in Summit County, Ohio, where water is guaranteed and plentiful.

Sure, the contrarians will argue it isn't so, but to them I say: Stay in your hole in the ground.

John Villilo

Akron