



Lake Erie Data for Water-Quality Insights: New Tools for Utilities

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Agenda:

- About CWA
- About the Smart Lake Erie Watershed
- CWA's Data-as-a-Service
- Filling in the Gaps
- Cleveland Water Case Study
- Demo
- Wrap Up



About CWA



**CLEVELAND
WATER
ALLIANCE**

- **Smart Lake Erie Watershed**
- **Data-as-a-Service**
- **Water Technology Testbeds**
- **Open Innovation Challenges**
- **Seed Fund**

**CWA centrally connects
100+ Water Industry Partners,
30+ Utility Partners and
23 Research Institutions**



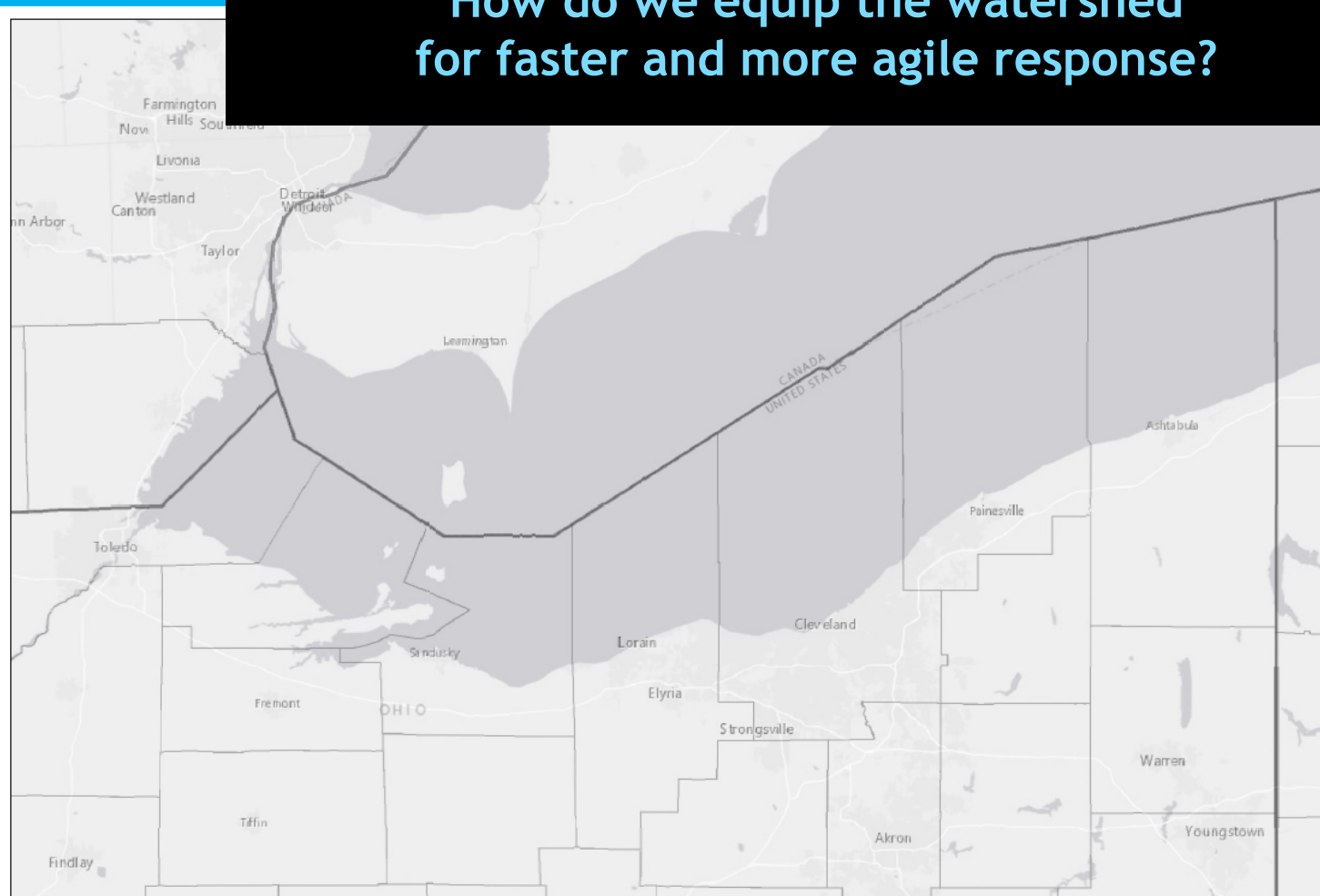


About SLEW

The Smart Lake Erie Watershed



How do we equip the watershed
for faster and more agile response?



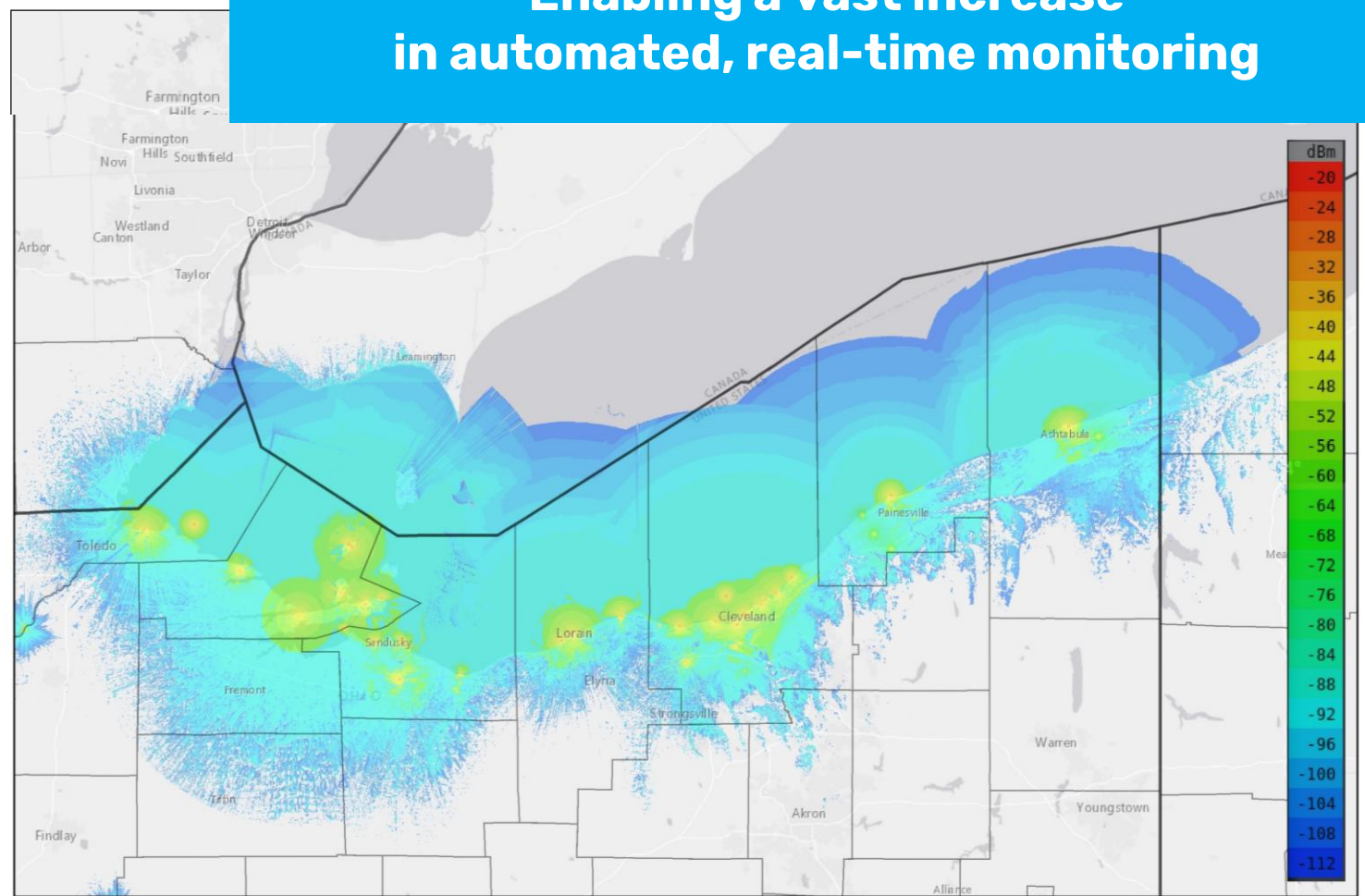
40 20 0 40 Miles

FREEBOARD
TECHNOLOGY



cwa
CLEVELAND WATER ALLIANCE

Enabling a vast increase in automated, real-time monitoring



Over 7700 miles² of Telecommunications Coverage



**CWA deploys 200+
IOT devices
annually**

Nearshore Buoy (4)	Offshore Buoy (1)	Value Water Quality Buoy (4)
Temperature/Conductivity	Temperature/Conductivity	Turbidity
Turbidity	Turbidity	Chlorophyll
Chlorophyll	Dissolved Oxygen	
	Temperature profile	

LoRaWAN Sensor Kit (20)	Stormwater Kit (15)	Water Quality 3 Parameter Kit (15)
GPS	Rainfall	Dissolved oxygen
Water level	Soil moisture	Turbidity
Temperature	Soil temperature	Conductivity
Relative humidity	Air temperature	
	Relative humidity	
	Solar radiation	
	Water temperature	
	Conductivity	
	Water level	

LoRaWAN Outdoor Kit (20)	LoRaWAN Indoor Kit (20)	LoRaWAN Outdoor Soil Kit (10)
Water Level	Door Sensor	Soil moisture
Temperature	Temperature	Soil pH
Humidity		
Motion detection (PIR)		

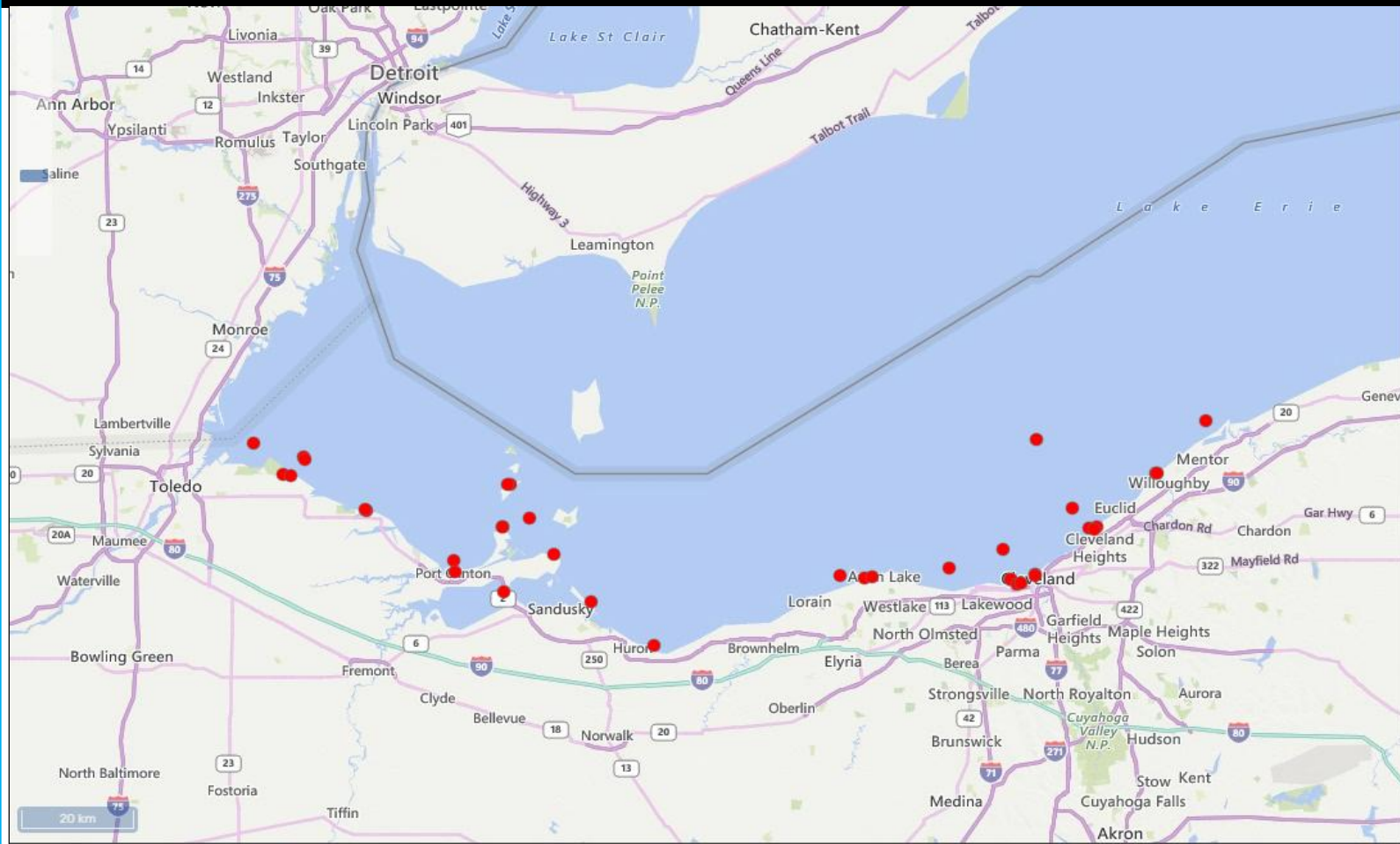
LoRaWAN Sensors (20)

Sensor (motion detection (PIR), on/off magnet switch, accelerometer, g-force, light detection, temperature, humidity)

ture

perature

"Smart Lake Erie Watershed"



Monitoring Stations



45200

Little Cedar Point, OH

Last Update: 11:00 PM EDT, September 21, 2023 (>1 week ago)



45202

Port Clinton Buoy

Last Update: 11:40 PM EDT, September 21, 2023 (>1 week ago)



45201

Erie Islands Buoy

Last Update: 11:40 PM EDT, September 21, 2023 (>1 week ago)



45203

Huron Buoy

Last Update: 11:40 PM EDT, September 21, 2023 (>1 week ago)



45204

Sheffield Buoy

Last Update: 11:40 PM EDT, September 21, 2023 (>1 week ago)



45196

Rocky River Buoy

Last Update: 11:30 PM EDT, September 21, 2023 (>1 week ago)



45205

Edgewater Beach Buoy

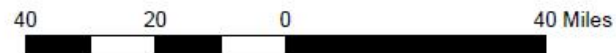
Last Update: 11:40 PM EDT, September 21, 2023 (>1 week ago)



45176

Cleveland Crib Buoy

Last Update: 11:40 PM EDT, September 21, 2023 (>1 week ago)



FREEBOARD
TECHNOLOGY



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CLEVELAND WATER ALLIANCE

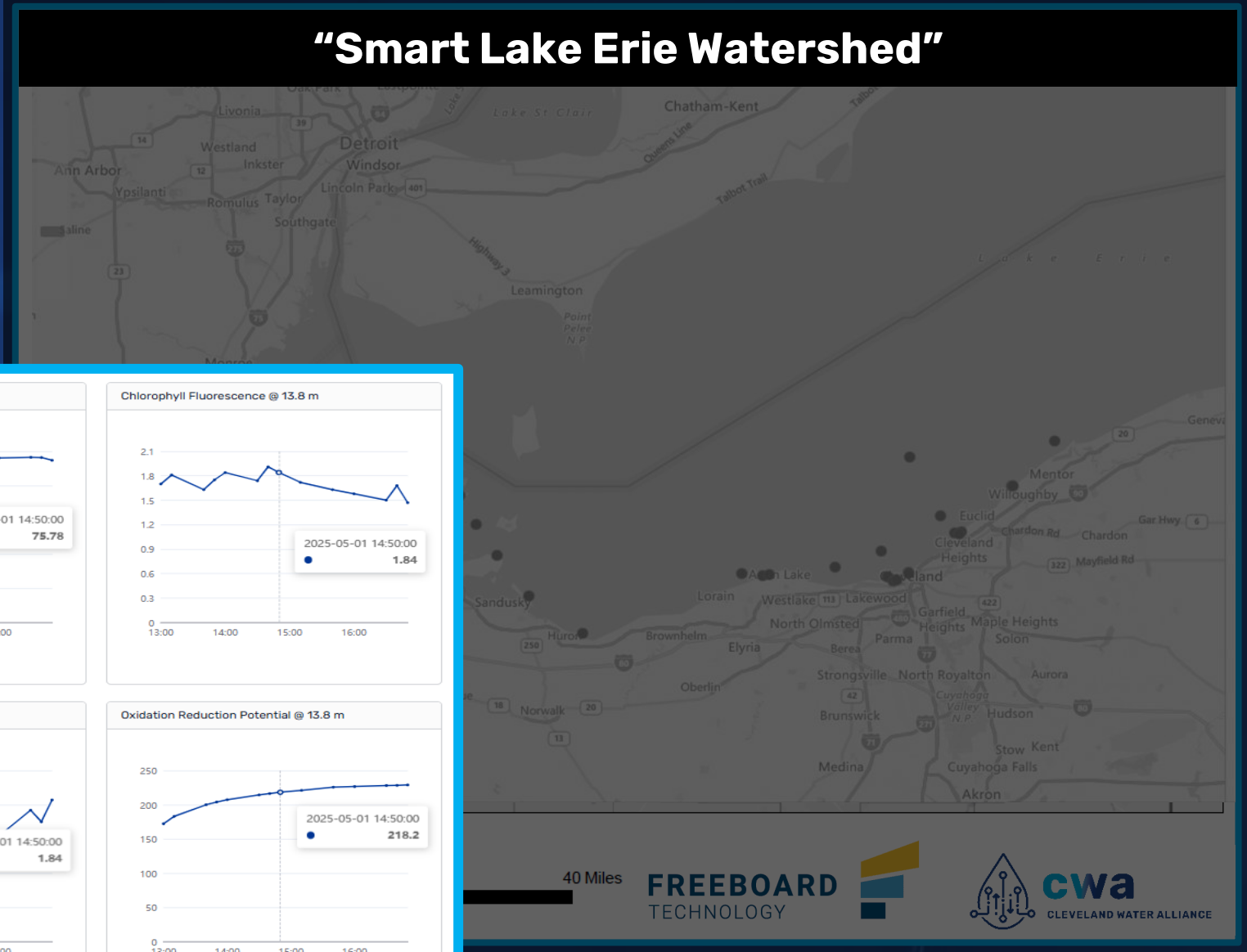


CWA DaaS

Data-as-a-Service

The Smart Lake Erie Watershed infrastructure is the backbone of the CWA DaaS program

“Smart Lake Erie Watershed”



"Smart Lake Erie Watershed"

- ✓ 1 Million+ baseline data points / year
- ✓ 4th year / DaaS: ~4 Million data records to date

Insights relevant to treatment, management & response, such as:

- ❖ weather conditions
- ❖ wave levels and currents
- ❖ atmospheric conditions
- ❖ water quality parameters



40 Miles

FREEBOARD
TECHNOLOGY



TIER 1 Parameters:

- Wind Speed
- Wind Direction
- Wave Height
- Wave Period
- Air Temperature
- Dew Point Temperature
- Relative Humidity
- Sea Level Pressure
- Surface Temperature
- Specific Conductivity
- Turbidity
- pH (as available; all stations in 2026)
- Chlorophyll (as available; all stations in 2026)
- Blue-Green Algae (as available; all stations in 2026)

Plus additional parameters as available, such as:

- Solar Radiation
- Dissolved Oxygen
- Water Depth
- Fluorescent Dissolved Organic Matter
- Oxidation Reduction Potential
- Refined Oil in Water

TIER 2 Parameters (beginning in 2026):

- Wind Speed
- Wind Direction
- Surface pH
- Surface Chlorophyll
- Surface Blue-Green Algae



Filling in the Gaps... Evolving for Utility Needs

Scouting & Innovator Pilots

Other Parameters & Specialty Sensors:

- **Hydrocarbons**
- **Magnesium**
- **Nitrous Oxide**
- **Methane**
- **E. coli**
- **Metals**
- **Hydrocarbons**
- **Chemicals**
- **Homeland Security Toxin Priorities**
- **:**
- **:**

Reinvesting to Evolve Support

- **Alerts**
- **Diversity of parameters**
- **Location, depth and density of devices**
- **Analytical Tools**
- **Forecasting**





Cleveland Water

How We Use DaaS



CWD Hypoxia Buoy Data

Managing water quality events relies on models for prediction, buoys for actual lake conditions, and lab analysis of water in the treatment plant

- **Once we pick things up in the plant, it can be too late**

Potassium permanganate is most efficient in treating manganese when feed rates match changes in Mn concentration

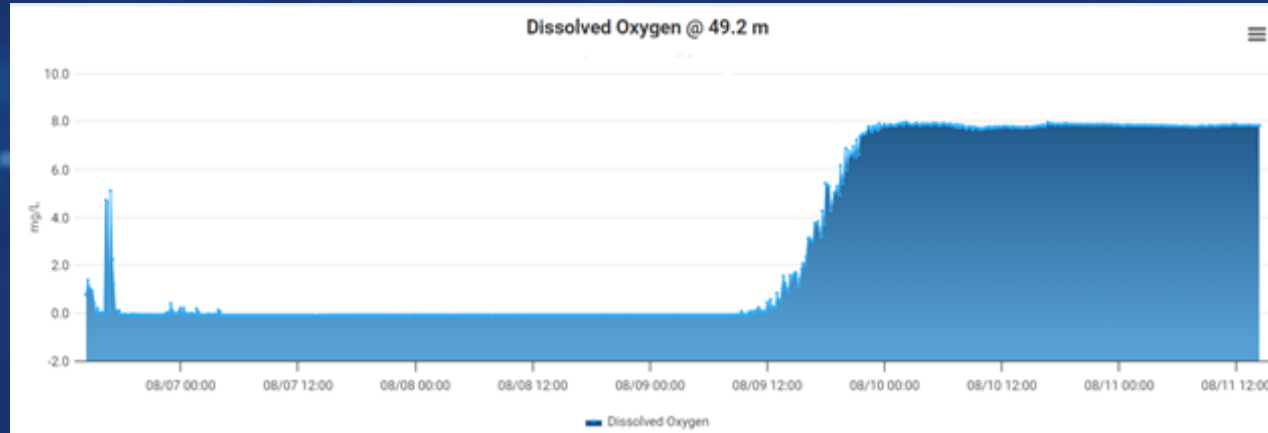


CWD Hypoxia Buoy Data

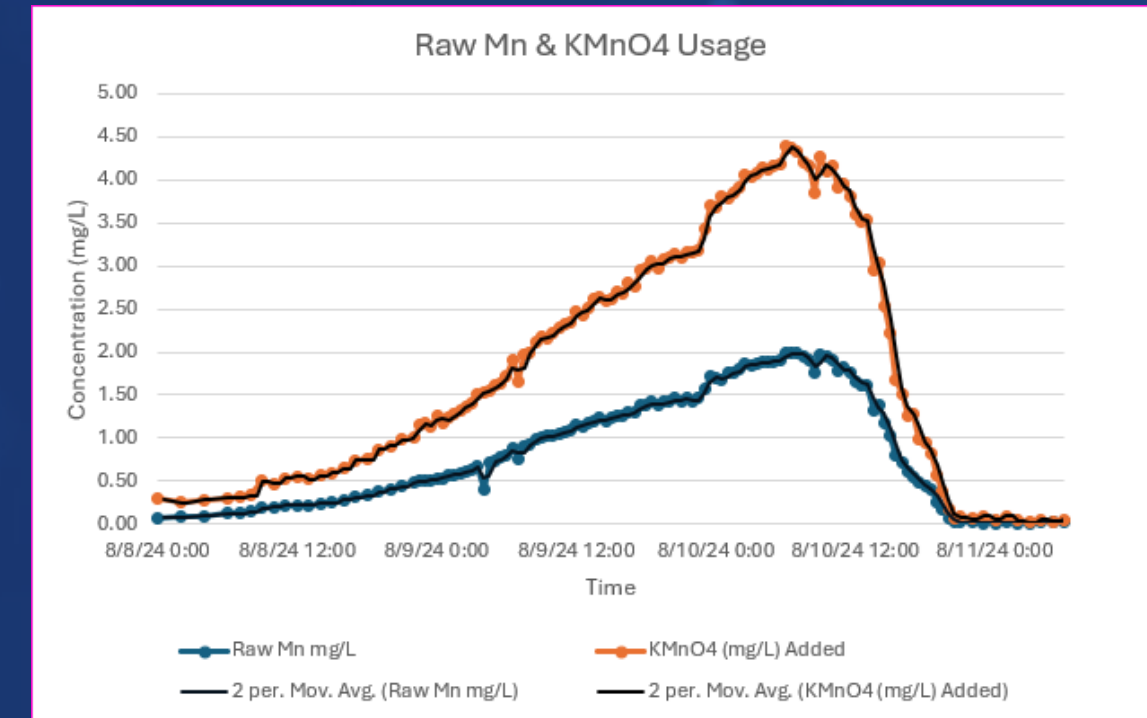
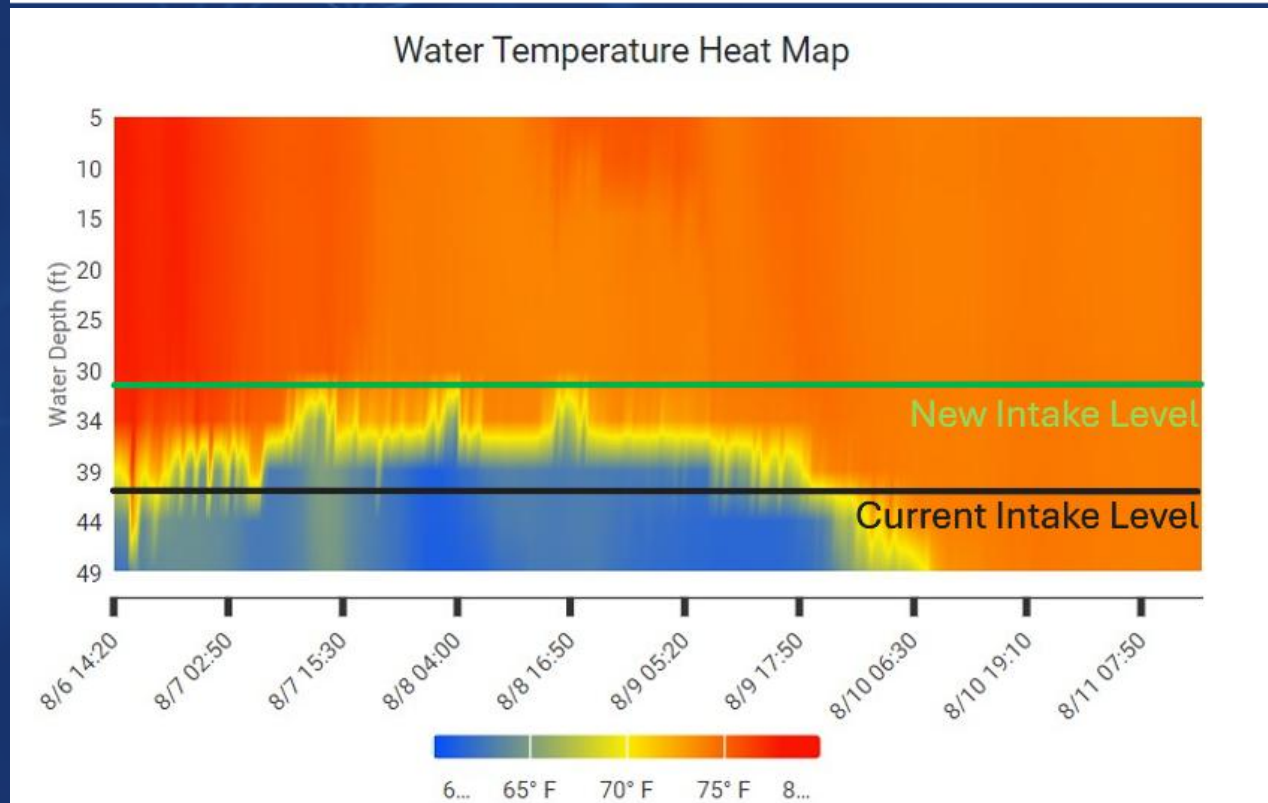
- Models can be nice for trends and predictions, but they can be incorrect **so *in situ* monitoring is essential**
- **Buoys give us real-time data before water enters the intake giving us additional reaction time to adjust treatment (~4-7 hours between intake and initial treatment depending on pumpage)**



- August 2024 “traditional” hypoxia event where hypoxic water comes from deeper and is associated with a true thermocline
- NE wind direction moved hypoxic water to intake and WNW winds moved it away



Record Mn levels (~2.0 mg/L) but no negative impacts in tap water quality due to proper potassium permanganate treatment

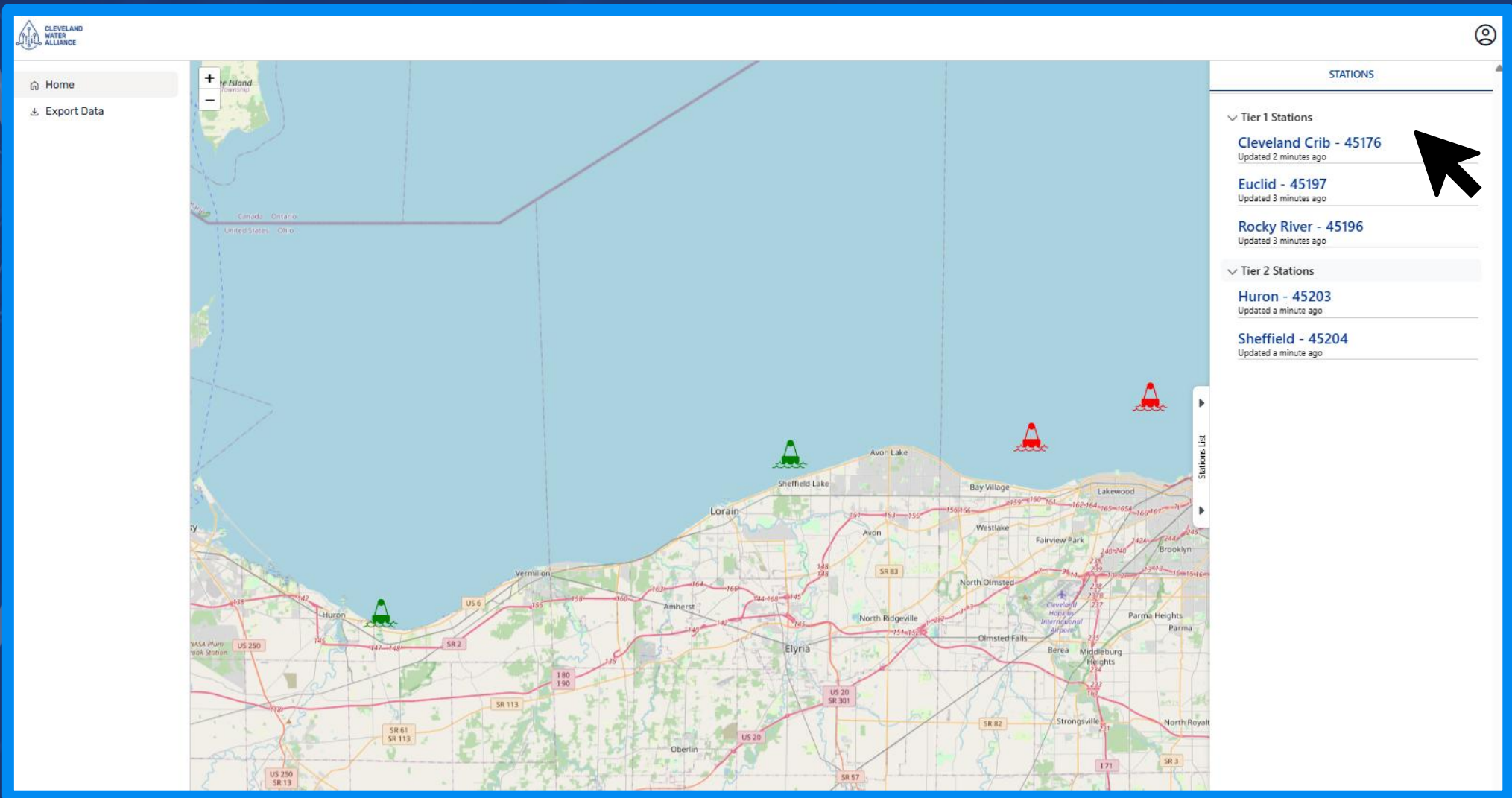




Take a Look...



Homepage



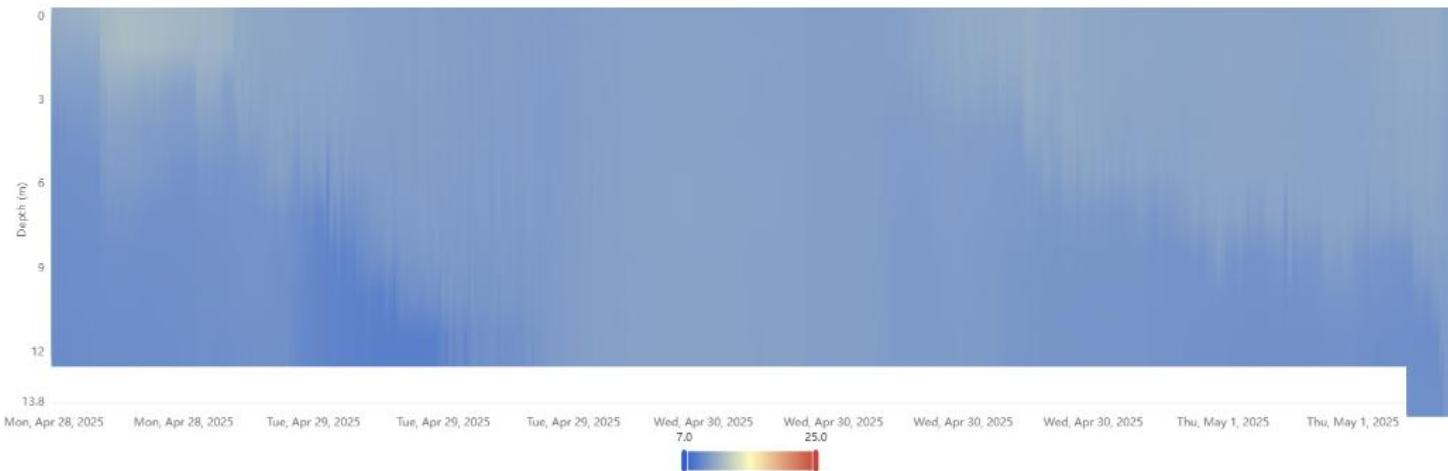
Tier 1 Data

Rocky River - 45196

Dashboard Data Explorer

Water Temperature

1 Week Heatmap



Water Quality

Dissolved Oxygen @ 13.8 m

13.87 mg/L

Blue-green Algae Fluorescence @ 13.8 m

0.24 RFU

Chlorophyll Fluorescence @ 13.8 m

1.50 RFU

Dissolved Oxygen at Saturation @ 13.8 m

123.73 %

Oxidation Reduction Potential @ 13.8 m

228.12 mV

pH @ 13.8 m

8.01 pH

Specific Conductance @ 13.8 m

192.31 uS/cm

Turbidity @ 13.8 m

1.92 NTU

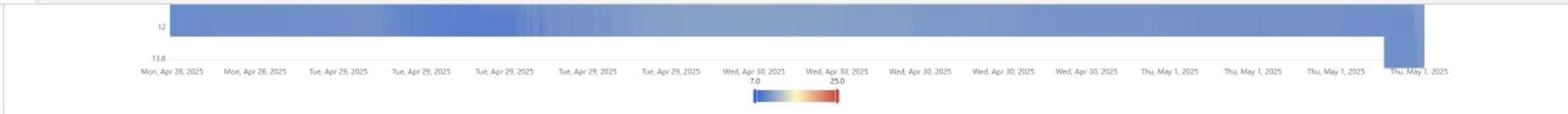
Water Depth

Tier 1 Data

Rocky River - 45196

Dashboard

Data Explorer



Water Quality

Dissolved Oxygen @ 13.8 m	Blue-green Algae Fluorescence @ 13.8 m	Chlorophyll Fluorescence @ 13.8 m	Dissolved Oxygen at Saturation @ 13.8 m
13.87 mg/L	0.24 RFU	1.50 RFU	123.73 %
Oxidation Reduction Potential @ 13.8 m	pH @ 13.8 m	Specific Conductance @ 13.8 m	Turbidity @ 13.8 m
228.12 mV	8.01 pH	192.31 uS/cm	1.92 NTU
Water Depth			
13.82 m			

Weather

Air Temperature	Dew Point Temperature	Photosynthetic Active Radiation	Relative Humidity
14.37 °C	13.84 °C	136.18 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$	96.53 %
Sea Level Pressure			
1,007.12 mbar			

Wave

10th Percentile of Wave Height	Maximum Wave Height	Maximum Wave Period	Wave Direction
0.81 m	1.02 m	4.93 s	248.80 deg
Wave Height	Wave Period		
0.64 m	3.71 s		



- Home
- Export Data

Rocky River - 45196

Dashboard Data Explorer

Attributes

All

At least one is required.

- ☐ Air Temperature (°C)
- ☐ Dew Point Temperature (°C)
- ☐ Relative Humidity (%)
- ☐ Sea Level Pressure (mibar)
- ☐ Wave Height (m)
- ☐ Maximum Wave Height (m)
- ☐ 10th Percentile of Wave Height (m)
- ☐ Wave Period (s)
- ☐ Maximum Wave Period (s)
- ☐ Wave Direction (deg)
- ☐ Water Temperature (°C)
- ☐ Water Depth (m)

Start

04/30/2025 04:53:00 PM

End

05/01/2025 04:53:00 PM

Aggregation

LAST

Resolution

60 minutes

Submit

Select one ...

FIRST

LAST

COUNT

MAX

MIN

MEDIAN

MEAN

SUM

STD_DEV

NONE

LAST

Select one ...

1 second

10 seconds

30 seconds

1 minute

5 minutes

20 minutes

60 minutes

3 hours

6 hours

12 hours

24 hours

3 days

7 days

60 minutes

Rocky River - 45196

Dashboard

Data Explorer

Attributes

☐ All

At least one is required.

- ☒ Air Temperature (°C)
- ☐ Dew Point Temperature (°C)
- ☒ Relative Humidity (%)
- ☐ Sea Level Pressure (mbar)
- ☐ Wave Height (m)
- ☐ Maximum Wave Height (m)
- ☐ 10th Percentile of Wave Height (m)
- ☐ Wave Period (s)
- ☐ Maximum Wave Period (s)
- ☒ Wave Direction (deg)
- ☐ Water Temperature (°C)
- ☐ Water Depth (m)

Start

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End

05/01/2025 04:53:00 PM

Aggregation

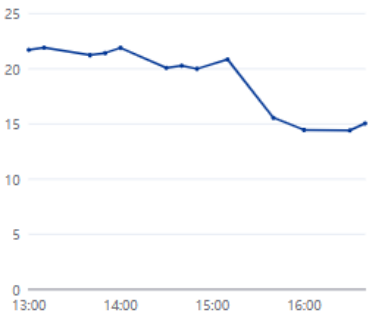
LAST

Resolution

1 second

Submit

Air Temperature



Relative Humidity



Wave Direction



Export to CSV

Time	Air Temperature	Relative Humidity	Wave Direction
Thu, May 1, 2025, 1:00:00 PM	21.67333	69.50333	44.28
Thu, May 1, 2025, 1:10:00 PM	21.85833	69.31499	44.01
Thu, May 1, 2025, 1:40:00 PM	21.185	71.92166	188.3
Thu, May 1, 2025, 1:50:00 PM	21.38	72.29834	192.5
Thu, May 1, 2025, 2:00:00 PM	21.85	69.29	186.7
Thu, May 1, 2025, 2:30:00 PM	20.035	76.825	193.1
Thu, May 1, 2025, 2:40:00 PM	20.24	75.74833	193.1

Rocky River - 45196

Dashboard Data Explorer

Attributes

☐ All

At least one is required.

- ☒ Air Temperature (°C)
- ☐ Dew Point Temperature (°C)
- ☒ Relative Humidity (%)
- ☐ Sea Level Pressure (mbar)
- ☐ Wave Height (m)
- ☐ Maximum Wave Height (m)
- ☐ 10th Percentile of Wave Height (m)
- ☐ Wave Period (s)
- ☐ Maximum Wave Period (s)
- ☐ Wave Direction (deg)
- ☐ Water Temperature (°C)
- ☐ Water Depth (m)

Start

04/30/2025 04:53:00 PM

End

05/01/2025 04:53:00 PM

Aggregation

LAST

Resolution

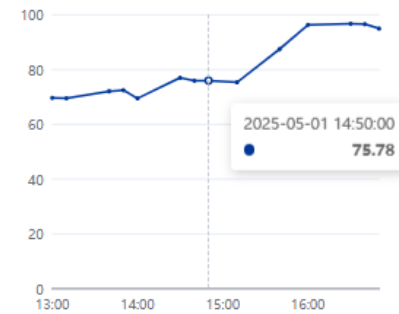
1 second

Submit

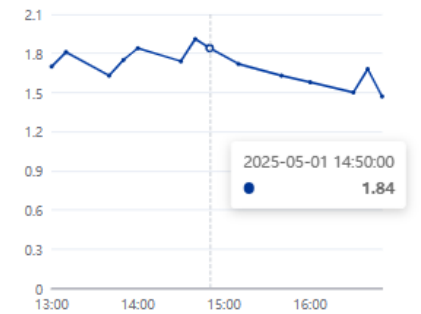
Air Temperature



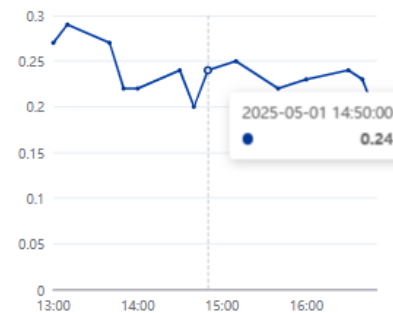
Relative Humidity



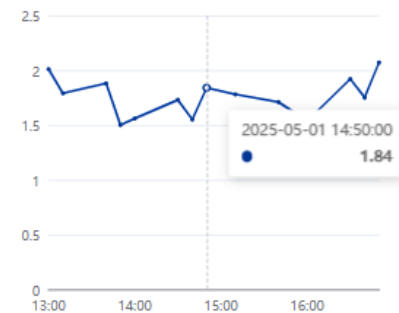
Chlorophyll Fluorescence @ 13.8 m



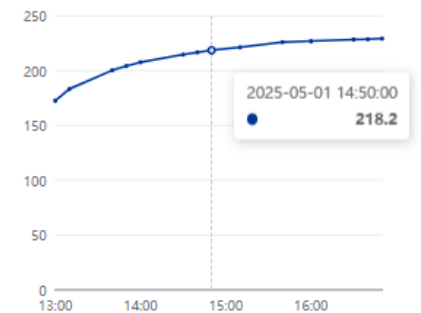
Blue-green Algae Fluorescence @ 13.8 m



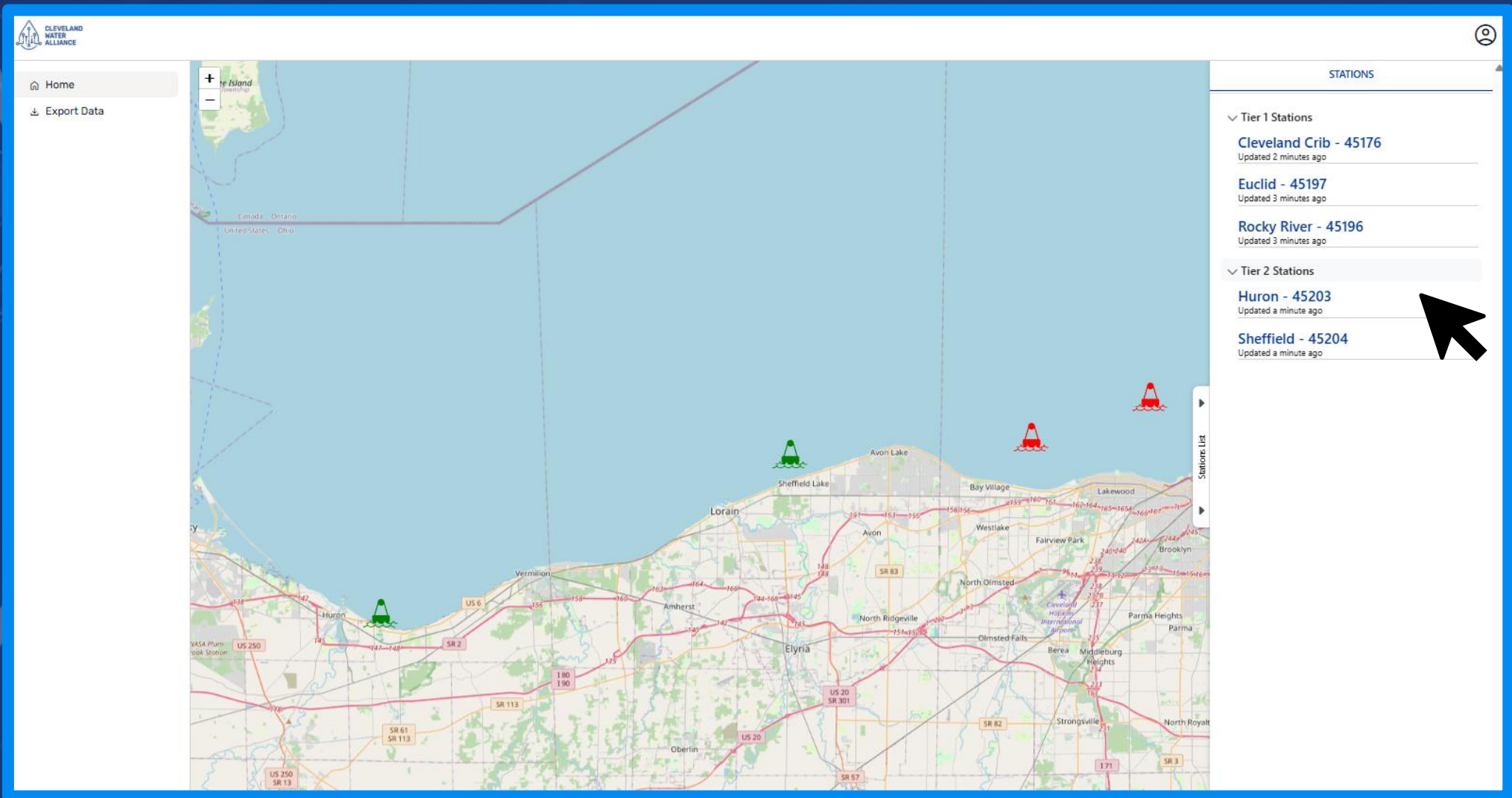
Turbidity @ 13.8 m



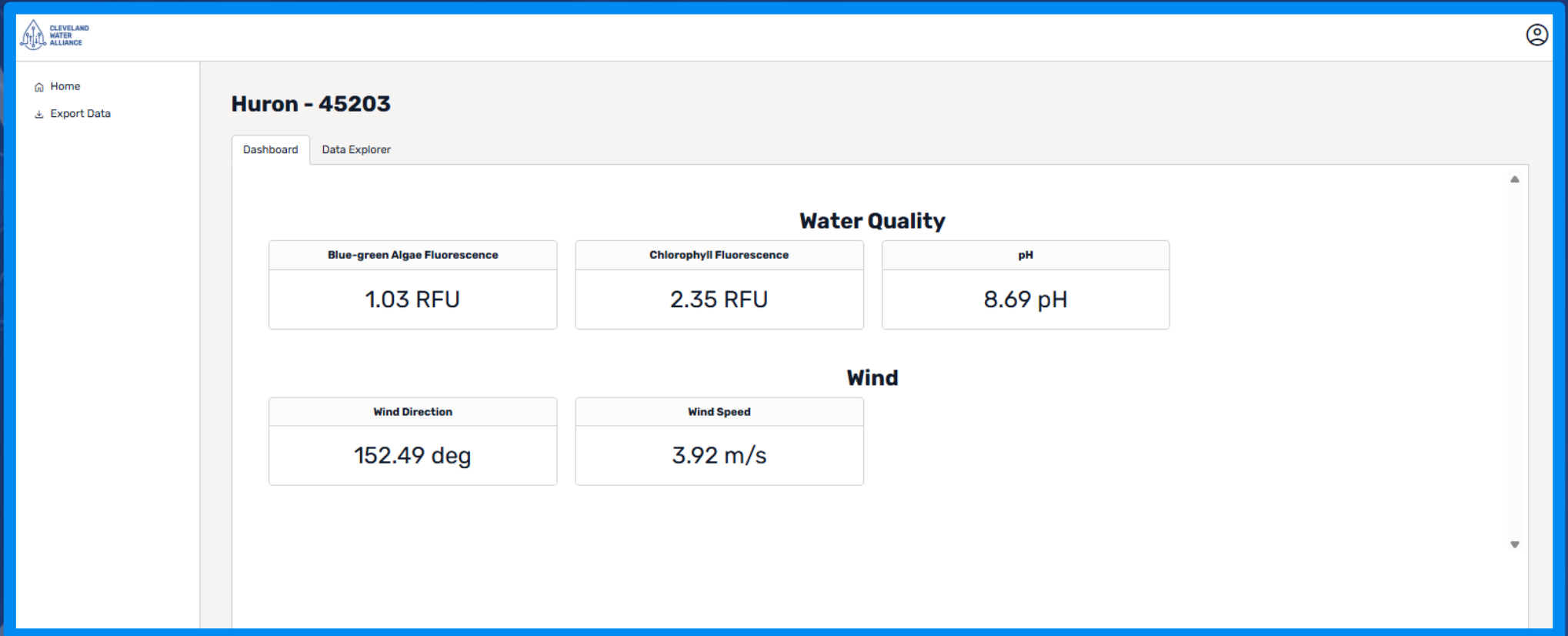
Oxidation Reduction Potential @ 13.8 m




Homepage




Tier 2 Data



Tier 2

CLEVELAND
WATER
ALLIANCE



[Home](#)
[Export Data](#)

Huron - 45203

DashboardData Explorer

Attributes

☐ All

At least one is required.

☐ Wind Speed (m/s)
☐ Wind Direction (deg)
☐ Chlorophyll Fluorescence (RFU)
☐ Blue-green Algae Fluorescence (RFU)
☐ pH (pH)

Start

05/05/2025 03:34:00 PM

End

05/06/2025 03:34:00 PM

Aggregation

LAST

Resolution

60 minutes

Submit

Select one or more attributes, a time range, and aggregation / resolution options to view station data.





Why DaaS?



Hypoxia

HABs

Frazzle ice

Fish kills

Other adverse events...

One day of mishaps can translate to...



Extra testing and treatment adjustments



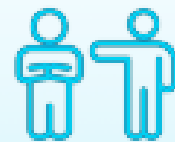
Notifying superiors, elected officials, and regulators



Deploying crews and equipment to flush hydrants



Paying fines and/or distributing bottled water under EPA direction



Navigating an influx of customer complaints and media sensationalism

Adverse events pose a material risk with the potential for far-reaching consequences and unplanned expenses.



Significant service disruptions



Response & remediation costs



Potential fines



Customer trust and reputational damage



DAAS SUPPORTING LAKE ERIE UTILITIES

- ✓ **Providing data 24/7**
- ✓ **Dependable data in uncertain times**
- ✓ **Protecting budget, time and reputation**
- ✓ **Streamlining the data you need and trust**
- ✓ **Empowering you to be proactive, not reactive**
- ✓ **Promoting regional collaboration and resilience**



Lake Erie Data for Water-Quality Insights:

New Tools for Utilities

The CWA DAAS PARTNERSHIP

[LEARN MORE](#)

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