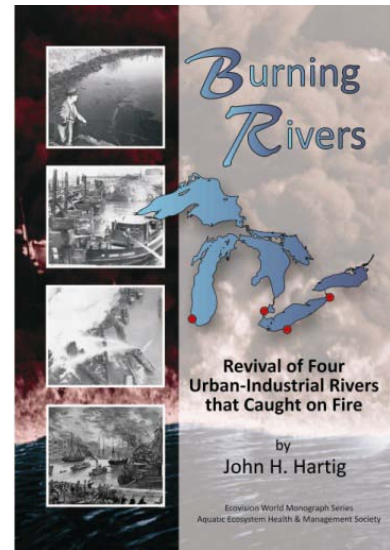


BOOK WRITTEN BY IAGLR MEMBER WINS 2011 GREEN BOOK FESTIVAL AWARD

For immediate release: May 23, 2011

Grosse Ile, MI – On May 21st in San Francisco, the Green Book Festival named Dr. John Hartig’s book titled *Burning Rivers: Revival of Four Urban-Industrial Rivers that Caught on Fire* as the winner in the “scientific” category. This annual competition honors books that contribute to greater understanding, respect for, and positive action on the changing worldwide environment. More information on the Green Book Festival can be found at: www.greenbookfestival.com/.

Burning Rivers was also named a finalist in the “science/nature/environment” category of the 2011 Next Generation Indie Book Awards. Next Generation Indie Book Awards recognize and honor the most exceptional independently published books in 60 different categories, for a given year, and are presented by Independent Book Publishing Professionals Group (www.IBPPG.com) in cooperation with Marilyn Allen of Allen O'Shea Literary Agency. More information on the 2011 Next Generation Indie Book Awards can be found at: http://www.indiebookawards.com/2011_winners_and_finalists.php.



Burning Rivers explores how four rivers in the Great Lakes Basin caught on fire because of oil pollution, including the infamous Cuyahoga River in Cleveland, Ohio, the Buffalo River in New York, the Rouge River in southeast Michigan, and the Chicago River in Illinois. These four rivers caught on fire because of gross oil pollution caused by society’s indiscriminate use and abuse of these aquatic ecosystems. Today, however, each of these rivers is experiencing substantial environmental improvement and some surprising ecological revival.

Burning Rivers was written to help teach the lessons of the past, celebrate the environmental progress, and to help convince people of the urgent need to address the remaining environmental challenges in order to avoid another tipping point. The book was written for a lay audience. *Burning Rivers* tells these most unique environmental stories, translates the science, provides practical lessons learned in river restoration, and will inspire people to be good stewards of rivers. This story of burning rivers/river revival also gives hope. If these four river systems can be revived and made into community assets, there is hope for all rivers and all people and organizations working to restore their river ecosystems. Everyone interested in the environment, quality of life, conservation, and sustainability will learn something from this book.

“This book ably covers what one must learn from the past tragedies, the successes we must celebrate, and the importance of the plans we must make for the future of all our waterways so that our children and grandchildren may love and enjoy them as we do,” notes Congressman John D. Dingell. “The lessons highlighted in this book are important reading for anyone wishing to protect and preserve rivers for future generations.”

The book was written under the Ecovision World Monograph Series of the Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Management Society and published by Multi-Science Publishing Company, Ltd. in Essex, UK. Book proceeds go to the Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Management Society for dissemination of science. Books are available from:

- www.miseagrant.com/product_p/michu-11-500.htm
- www.multi-science.co.uk/burning-rivers.htm
- www.amazon.com/burning-rivers-john-hartig/dp/1907132163

About the Author:

Dr. John H. Hartig is trained as a limnologist with 30 years of experience in environmental science and natural resource management. He currently serves as Refuge Manager for the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. Incidentally, the lower Rouge River, one of the burning rivers' stories in the book, is located within the Refuge's acquisition boundary. From 1999 to 2004 Dr. Hartig served as River Navigator for the Greater Detroit American Heritage River Initiative established by Presidential Executive Order. Prior to becoming River Navigator, he spent 12 years working for the International Joint Commission on the Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. Dr. Hartig has been an Adjunct Professor at Wayne State University where he taught Environmental Management and Sustainable Development, and has served as President of the International Association for Great Lakes Research. He has authored or co-authored over 100 publications on the Great Lakes, including writing *Burning Rivers* and co-editing *Honoring Our Detroit River, Caring for Our Home* and *Under RAPs: Toward Grassroots Ecological Democracy in the Great Lakes Basin*. Dr. Hartig has received a number of awards for his work, including a 2010 Green Leaders Award from the Detroit Free Press, a 2005 White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation Award for Outstanding Leadership and Collaboration in the Great Lakes, the 2003 Anderson-Everett Award from the International Association for Great Lakes Research, and the 1993 Sustainable Development Award for Civic Leadership from Global Tomorrow Coalition.

For more information, contact John Hartig at 734.692.7608 or john_hartig@fws.gov.

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