Ginibiiminaan (Our Water)

GLIFWC’s 2012 poster, GINIBIIMINAAN, features nibi (water), emphasizing the sacredness of nibi and our responsibility to keep it pure. Ojibwe artist, Wesley Ballinger, used the central image of a woman for the poster because within Ojibwe teachings, women are the “keepers of the water.” Like water, women are lifegivers. Our children are carried in water prior to birth. The female image also reminds us of the contemporary Water Walkers, founded by women who journeyed around the Great Lakes, carrying water in their copper bucket and calling attention to the need to protect our waters.

The circles flowing down the river represent pollution from human activities, such as mining and industrialization, those that threaten the purity of nibi, our source of life and the lives of all plants and animals that share this earth.

Water is the lifeblood of Mother Earth, coursing through her streams and rivers like blood through giant vessels. For earth to be strong and healthy, capable of sustaining life for generations, we must keep that water clean.

For a copy of the Ginibiiminaan poster, or additional copies of this calendar contact the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, PO Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861; phone 715.685.2150; or email lynn@glifwc.org. You can also place your order at www.glifwc.org.