

Friends of the St. Clair River February 29, 2016
Happy Leap Day!

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Birders and Community

Blue Water Audubon Society helps us learn about our Feathered Friends

Last weekend, during a very spring-like Winter Bird Blast, several local birders trained 75 people on tips and techniques for spotting and identifying winter birds. More than 20 species were seen over the two hours of scouting along the St. Clair and Black rivers. Friends of the St. Clair River was pleased and proud to co-host this second annual event.

You don't need to wait until next year's event to learn more about birds, however. Blue Water Audubon Society meetings are open to the public and are held at the Cornerstone Church, 4025 North Road, Clyde



News from the Board

Did you know that the St. Clair River is designated as an Area of Concern (AOC)? In 1988, the U.S. and Canada identified 43 waterways in the Great Lakes where projects were needed to cleanup legacy pollution problems. It's a long road to recovery with more than 100 years of abuse of our river, but we have made significant progress since the

Township, MI 48049, at the west end of Krafft Rd. Use the north door entrance. Meeting time is 6:45 p.m. Call Laurie Dennis for more information ([\(810\) 385-3289](tel:810385-3289)). Meetings are held the first Monday of the month, excluding the summer months.

On March 7th the Blue Water Audubon Society meeting speaker will be experienced birder, Dan Miller. Dan will be speaking on a recent birding trip he and his wife Sara made to California. Dan has been a member of Blue Water Audubon for 40 years and has been an active bird bander for 35 years. One of Dan's favorite birding activities takes him to the heights of the Blue Water Bridge to monitor the local Peregrine Falcon population that nests on a platform built by MDOT. Dan has been actively participating in this monitoring site since it's beginning and has even had a Falcon hatchling named after him. During spring migration Dan spends many hours in a local "secret" spot where he records the hawks flying overhead. Dan and Sara have made many trips both domestically and abroad learning about the birds and studying nature wherever they go.

Area of Concern program was established 30 years ago. Friends of the St. Clair River is the lead non-profit organization that oversees the implementation of projects to improve the St. Clair River and eventually remove it from the Area of Concern list. [Learn more about Michigan's 12 Areas of Concern.](#)



POSTPONED: Waste Water Treatment Plant Virtual Tour

We'll reschedule Patty Troy's waste water treatment plant virtual tour, canceled due to last week's icy roads, for later in the year. Stay tuned!



Mark your calendar for March 23 at 6 p.m.! Our next educational speaker will be Ashley Anne Wick of [Michigan Butterfly Network](#).

Upcoming events

- Mon. 2/29 @ 10 a.m. River Walk (Leap?) meet at the arch at north entrance
- Tue. 3/1 @ 7 p.m. [Great Lakes Environmental Alliance hosts Kris Lee, Canadian Co-Chair of BPAC, at SC4](#)
- Wed. & Thu. 3/2-3 [Great Lakes AOC conference in Dearborn](#)
- **Sat. 3/5** Blue Water Outdoor Club visits "The 1940's: Through the War & Beyond" at Lorenzo Cultural Center, Macomb Community College. **NOTE DATE CHANGE!**
- Mon. 3/7 @ 10 a.m. River Walk, meet at the arch at north entrance
- Mon. 3/7 @ 6:45 p.m. Blue Water Audubon Society meeting
- Tue. 3/8 [Annual Great Lakes Conference at MSU in E. Lansing](#)
- Wed. 3/9 @ 11 a.m. Webinar Watch Party at SCC Health Dept. on [fish spawning in the St. Clair-Detroit river system](#)
- Wed. 3/9 @ 7 p.m. Blue Water Sierra Club hosts Lynn Henning, farmer & environmentalist, at SCC Library main branch on the topic of CAFO's, Lake Erie algae, & more

Friends of the St. Clair River is a grassroots environmental non-profit providing fun, educational activities that connect our community to our water resources.



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