

Thank you, Sponsors and Partners!

Since we hatched Sturgeon Fest, the event has become our largest fundraiser providing significant support for our year-round operations and programs. Some of our sponsors are here today, so please thank them! We're incredibly grateful to have two important partners here today: the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Without them, this event would not be possible! Thank you for supporting conservation of the St. Clair River!

N'ME STURGEON Presenting Sponsors



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An event 136 million years in the making



Blue Water Sturgeon Fest

Saturday, June 6, 2026

One Festival, Two Experiences!

By Shore: 10am – 3pm

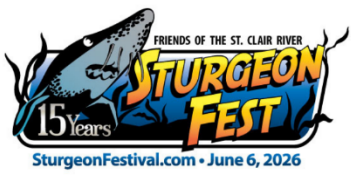
Fort Gratiot Lighthouse, 2802 Omar St

By Ship: 11am & 1pm

Huron Lady II Cruises, 102 Huron Ave



Since 2007, Friends of the St. Clair River has been protecting and restoring the St. Clair River and its watersheds through community education, environmental monitoring, hands-on stewardship, and advocacy. Thank you for stopping by to show your respect for Michigan's Thumb Coast wildlife and environment!



STAGE SCHEDULE

10:00 AM	BAND: CLOSING TIME
11:00 AM	NATURE DISCOVERY ANIMAL SHOW
11:30 AM	BAND: CLOSING TIME
12:30 PM	NATURE DISCOVERY ANIMAL SHOW
1:00 PM	BAND: CLOSING TIME
2:15 PM	STUDENT POSTER WINNERS AWARD PRESENTATION
2:30 PM	DISMISS FOR THE STURGEON RELEASE CEREMONY @ THE BEACH

ENTERTAINMENT

Sturgeon Story Contest

Cast your vote for your favorite 5th grade artwork using pocket change! Ten finalists were selected from 550 poster submissions.

1:15 pm – Voting closes

2:15pm – Winners announced

(Poster Finalists, please check-in at booth)

Kids Activity Areas

Stop by for crafts, bass fishing games, cookie decorating (\$\$), and meet our sturgeon mascot, Seymour!

All day, Vendor area

Nature Discovery Shows

Meet up to 40 Michigan local legends, like turtles, frogs, amphibians & snakes.

Shows @ 11am & 12:30pm, Stage

Lighthouse Climb - \$5

Purchase tickets in the museum shop.

Library Bookmobile – 12:30

Sturgeon Cruises - \$40

Ride the Huron Lady to learn about sturgeon research. Cruises narrated by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

11 am & 1 pm, Huron Lady dock

Live Sturgeon Encounter

Get up close with sturgeon and the biologists studying them.

All day, Beach

Sponsors: MI DNR-Fisheries Division & U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Sturgeon Selfie Station

Snap a picture holding a sturgeon at our selfie-station!

All day, Museum shop

Sturgeon Release Ceremony

This sturgeon hand-release ceremony features an Anishinaabe Traditional Knowledge Keeper and Presenter.

2:30 pm, Beach

RIVER CELEBRATION

Friends of the St. Clair River is proud to be hosting its 15th annual Sturgeon Fest!

This setting allows us to do what we do best: tell the story of this gentle giant, a mascot for the Great Lakes' recovery. Lake sturgeon migrate to the Blue Water Area each spring to spawn, so for 15 years visitors gather on shore to celebrate their return.

Lake sturgeon have been swimming the Great Lakes for millions of years. They outlived the dinosaurs, yet in one sturgeon's lifetime humans brought them to the brink of extinction. Lake sturgeon are now protected and acres of new spawning grounds have been created in the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers.

We take pride in our watershed's wildlife and commit ourselves to highlighting opportunities that protect our water for all generations. Thank you for stopping by!

EXHIBITORS

SEA LIFE Michigan Aquarium

Lake St. Clair CISMA

Great Lakes Fishery Commission

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit

Trev's Mobile Bike Shed

South Channel Environmental Consulting

Great Lakes Commission

MI Dept of Health & Human Services

St. Clair County Health Department

St. Clair-Detroit River Sturgeon For Tomorrow

St. Clair County Parks & Recreation Commission

Ashinique Soney-Wesaw - Indigenous Artist

The Toadstool Treasury

Cheryl Morgan – Author

Tim Brown - Artist

MI DNR-Wildlife Division

Pheasants Forever Chapter #74

Michigan Sea Grant

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

U.S. Coast Guard

Huron-Clinton Metroparks

Alliance for the Great Lakes

Lynne Heasley - Author

EGLE Michigan Green Schools