Community Updates

Friends of the St. Clair River's Work in Action

Community Education

We empower the next generation of environmental stewards from K-12 classrooms and beyond.

Land Stewardship

We care for our natural resources by conducting cleanups, removing invasive species, and tracking wildlife.

Environmental Monitoring

We engage volunteers in gathering information that keeps our rivers clean and landscapes healthy.

Responsible Recreation

We inspire families to explore nature to foster a sense of wonder and responsibility.

The St. Clair River Watershed spans 4 counties from Lake Huron to Lake St. Clair - Sanilac, St. Clair, Lapeer and Macomb Counties

Captain Pete Patsalis, Hook One Bait & Tackle

Clean Water Drives Hook One

For neighborhood business owners like Marine City native Captain Pete Patsalis, owner of Hook One Bait & Tackle, water quality is a matter of everyday livelihood. Every day, approximately 240 billion gallons of fresh water flow from Lake Huron through the St. Clair River, sustaining a world-class fishery his business depends on. At his waterfront shop, Pete uses over a decade of personal field experience to supply anglers, boaters, and outdoorsmen with specialized gear tailored precisely to the river's unique depth and heavy current. Partnerships with Friends of the St. Clair River help support these vital local businesses to ensure our waterways remain economically vibrant.

Scan the QR code to read Pete's full story on our blog.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Tour, Port Huron, 2025

Join Us at an Upcoming Event

Throughout the year, we host events across the watershed that bring people closer to the projects, places, and partnerships shaping its future. Join us to learn more about the work underway and connect with others who care about the protecting natural resources.

Friends of the St. Clair River

scriver.org

Clean Water Funding Nurtures Local Talent

Ten years ago, a St. Clair County fifth-grader went on a Huron Lady sturgeon cruise provided by the Friends of the St. Clair River. That single day on the water transformed a childhood curiosity into a clear career path, thanks to federal funding from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI).

Intern Simon Conover inspects a native Black River mussel during a GLRI-funded field survey.

Today, that student is Simon Conover, a recent graduate of St. Clair County Community College and our summer conservation intern. From assisting with pollinator garden projects to tracking aquatic wildlife alongside federal biologists, Simon's fieldwork provides communities with the data needed to safeguard public health and create thriving outdoor public spaces.

Read more.

Note from Our Executive Director

Keeping our waterways clean means protecting the St. Clair River Watersheds drinking water, wildlife habitat, and the outdoor spaces families enjoy every day.

This work requires help from the entire community, including residents, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and community leaders, all working together toward responsible stewardship.

The stories we've featured here are just the beginning of our efforts where we have been invited to help make an investment and a lasting impact. We look forward to continuing our work throughout Michigan's Thumb Coast! -Yours in Service to the Environment, Sheri Faust

Friends of the St. Clair River
SINCE 2007

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301 N. Ninth Street, Suite 15, St. Clair, MI 48079

COMMUNITY IMPACT

"Our students seem to always enjoy these outings, especially with Friends of the St. Clair River. Thank you for continuing to provide us with these opportunities. Your email and pictures from last week were printed and hung up in the classroom, and they all really appreciated the praise and positive feedback. For some of our youth, this is not something they experience regularly or at all.
-Michael Kehoe, Program Manager, St. Clair County Day Treatment Night Watch

The photo is one of my all-time favorite winter stewardship photos. They were so proud of that pile they made! The work they did in one day would have taken my small crew an entire season.
- Lynnea McFadden,
Friends of the St. Clair River, Director of Programs

Upcoming Events

Kayaks in Conservation Paddle Date
Aug 6 1:00 PM–4:00 PM

Native Plant Sale
Aug 30 11:00 AM–2:00 PM

River Bash
Sept 17 5:30 PM

Harsen's Island Habitat Boat Tour
Sept 24 9:30 AM

See all events.

Great Lakes RESTORATION

This Community Update is funded by Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding. The GLRI Act of 2025 would reauthorize the GLRI through 2031. Friends of the St. Clair River supports the GLRI to ensure the Great Lakes remain healthy.