

An annual celebration rooted in stewardship and education to celebrate the Great Lakes largest fish

Friends of the St. Clair River's Sturgeon Festival is a collaborative effort of many partners to highlight the restoration and protection of Michigan's threatened Lake Sturgeon and their habitat throughout Lake Huron, the St. Clair River and Lake St. Clair.

For 125 million years, sturgeon have been swimming the waters of the world. They outlived the dinosaurs, yet in one sturgeon's lifetime, humans have brought this giant fish to the brink of extinction. Because the St. Clair River does not have any dams, the river continues to host the largest population of Lake Sturgeon in the Great Lakes.

Lake Sturgeon in the Blue Water Area are experiencing levels of recovery. In order to better understand their life cycle and movements, biologists are recording the abundance, distribution, and growth of Lake Sturgeon in the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers. While strict regulations have been put in place to limit harvest, pollution controls and habitat restoration are driving factors in their restoration. With sturgeon numbers on the rise, we are assured the health of the St. Clair River is also improving.

Thank you for coming to show your concern and respect for the Blue Water Area's wildlife and environment!



Fish Spawning Reef Projects - These reef construction projects were supported by Great Lakes Restoration Initiative federal funding. The reefs are a result of long-term collaboration among federal, state and private groups interested in restoring fish spawning habitat for lake sturgeon, walleye and other native fish.

www.miseagrant.umich.edu/restoration

Giving 40 miles of love to the St. Clair River and its watersheds since 2007



Saturday, June 1, 2019

10am - 3pm

Fort Gratiot Light Station Park, Port Huron



We are Michigan's ThumbCoast watershed organization providing meaningful experiences to engage our community in protection of the St. Clair River and its watersheds through citizen science, stewardship, and advocacy. Sign up to receive our Weekly Watershed e-news at www.scriver.org.

P.O. Box 611496, Port Huron, MI 48060 | www.scriver.org | info@scriver.org

@Friends of the St. Clair River ~ Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

Schedule of Activities

Blue Water Area Transit is providing free shuttle service to festival locations.

Sturgeon Story Contest

Vote for your favorite student artwork using pocket change! 21 finalists were selected from 7005th graders.
2:00pm Voting closes
2:30pm Winners announced

Sturgeon Birthday Cake

celebrating this time of year when Lake Sturgeon are born in Port Huron
11am - 2pm

Sturgeon School

Drop in for 20-min workshops at the Fog Signal Building.

10:30, 11:30, 12:30 & 1:30
Sturgeon Tagging & Research Video, Produced by Great Lakes Fishery Commission

11:00 Fishing for Sturgeon
Jim Felgenauer, St. Clair-Detroit River Sturgeon For Tomorrow

12:00 & 2:00 Sea Lamprey of the Great Lakes
Jill Wingfield, Great Lakes Fishery Commission

1:00 Restoring the St. Clair River
Patty Troy, St. Clair River Area of Concern Advisory Committee

Huron Lady Cruises

One hour cruises narrated by Gregory A.D. Sturgeon guides with video of Lake Sturgeon swimming in the river. **Ticket purchase required***
10am, 11:30am & 1:00pm - Cruises \$

Touch Tank

A LIVE! sturgeon encounter with DNR and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service fisheries biologists who are leading sturgeon assessments.
All day, Beach

Drum Ceremonies

Walpole Island performs a traditional drum to show the importance sturgeon had for Native Americans.
10:00am Lighthouse
2:30pm Lighthouse

Sturgeon Release

Meet at the touch tank to see the Lake Sturgeon released back into the Huron
3pm, Beach

Kids Activity Area

Fish print painting, games and Seymour
All day, Picnic Pavilion

Our Sponsors and Partners

St. Clair County Health Department
Michigan Sea Grant
Great Lakes Fishery Commission
Anchor Bay Scuba
Tim Brown Sturgeon Art
Taaja Tucker Art
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
St. Clair Detroit River Sturgeon For Tomorrow
Black Lake Sturgeon For Tomorrow

Friends of the St. Clair River
SEA LIFE Michigan Aquarium
USGS Great Lakes Science Center
Andrew Raymo Fly Fishing Ties
Lake St. Clair CISMA
Blueways of St. Clair
C.M. Designs
Gregory A.D.
Friends of Fort Gratiot Light