

# Friends of the St. Clair River

Michigan's Thumb Coast Watershed Organization



## Program Guide

Land Stewardship • Environmental Education • Watershed Management

### Land Stewardship

#### Habitat Management

We maintain and monitor quality habitats created for native plants and wildlife. We are committed to projects that support storm water management, enhance landscapes and watershed health. Friend's qualified staff can manage a customized habitat for your conservation or restoration project.



#### Environmental Stewardship

Hands-on sessions take place throughout the year to clean up trash and debris and remove invasive species. Join our Stewards for social fun to manage habitats and green infrastructure projects for people, plants and wildlife.

- River Walkers & Trash Talkers
- Field Days
- Watershed Nature Walks
- Family Stewardship



#### Citizen Science

These ecological monitoring programs help us understand the health of habitats by gathering data about plants and wildlife. Businesses, families, schools and youth groups can contribute to valuable research, connect with nature and learn about our watersheds. We provide the training and equipment.

- Stream Leaders
- Butterfly Monitoring
- Storm Drain Marking
- Adopt A Beach
- Invasive and Native Species Tracking



[www.scriver.org](http://www.scriver.org)

Showing love to the St. Clair River and its watersheds since 2007

Friends of the St. Clair River | 480 S. Water Street, Marine City, MI 48039 | Social Media "Friends of the St. Clair River"

# Environmental Education

## Lake Sturgeon Outreach

Our annual outreach celebration showcases the Great Lakes largest fish, the Lake Sturgeon. The event features hands-on activities, workshops, a live sturgeon touch tank, Huron Lady Sturgeon Cruise, and Native American drum ceremony – all used to teach the fascinating story of this ancient mascot, a symbol for the St. Clair River’s recovery. Visit [www.SturgeonFestival.com](http://www.SturgeonFestival.com).



## School Programs

St. Clair County K- 12 classrooms adopt a Lake Sturgeon in conjunction with our curriculum-based presentation. Fifth grade classes can board our free Huron Lady Sturgeon Science Cruise to interact with biologists talking about fisheries-focused and water quality data. The highlight is meeting a fisheries boat with live sturgeon being studied for research.



## Youth Programs & Community Workshops

We offer tours, workshops and presentations, in the classroom and in the field, on various topics such as water quality, rain gardens, wetlands, and fish and wildlife. School and youth programs include: Blue Water River Walk field trips, classroom presentations & nature-themed birthday parties.



# Watershed Management

## Area of Concern Program

We have led this multi-decade, bi-national effort to remediate, restore and revitalize the St. Clair River. The river was designated an Area of Concern citing ten repairable environmental problems caused from a century of pollution. Among the impairments were contaminated sediment, restricted fishing, industrial spills, beach closings and loss of habitat. Since 2012, Friends has managed numerous grants to continue restoration progress.



## Watershed Planning

We use an ecosystem-based approach to work with municipalities, community groups and individuals to implement land use practices that promote healthy rivers and enhance green spaces. We participate in a variety of restoration projects including woody debris management, stream bank stabilization and biological inventories.



## Water and Land Trails

Paddle one of our county’s 17 Blueway water trails, including Michigan’s first National Water Trail, the Island Loop. Biking, hiking and paddling are opportunities to enjoy our natural resources. Visit [BluewaysofStClair.org](http://BluewaysofStClair.org).

