

# ST. MARYS RIVER REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN NEWSLETTER

April, 2026



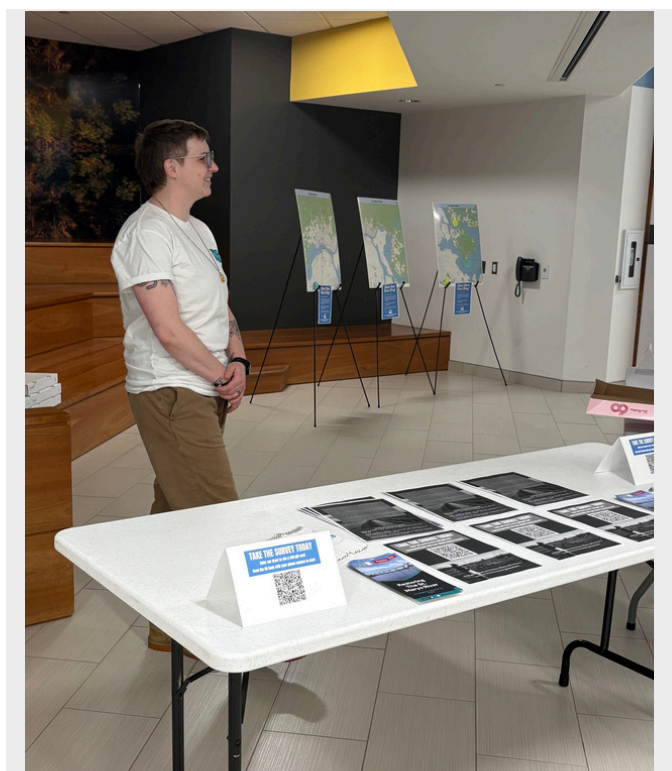
*What's happening this month?*

## WELCOME APRIL



## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

As April begins, our team is feeling inspired by the growing energy across the watershed and the renewed sense of possibility that comes with spring in full swing. With longer days and the river coming alive, we're excited for the opportunities ahead to learn, connect, and celebrate the St. Marys River together.



On March 26th, we hosted our first survey launch event of the year at Sault College, gathering in the J-Wing from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to introduce our new Public Perception Campaign Survey.

Students from the School of Natural Environment joined us for this soft launch, taking time between classes to interact with the RAP team, learn about the project, and share their perspectives. Their enthusiasm set a strong foundation for the campaign, with 59 thoughtful survey entries helping us kick things off.

The afternoon was filled with great conversations, curiosity, and plenty of good energy, helped along by free pizza, treats, and a chance for survey participants to enter a draw for a \$50 gift card.

A big thank-you to the students and faculty who stopped by and supported this early step in our outreach. Your participation helps shape the future of our work along the St. Marys River.



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## ST. MARYS RIVER PUBLIC PERCEPTION CAMPIAGN

On March 26th, we officially launched our new Public Perception Campaign Survey! This is an important tool for understanding how the community views the St. Marys River Area of Concern (AOC) and the Remedial Action Plan (RAP). Establishing this baseline helps us see where our messaging is landing and where gaps remain, guiding our communication as we move into the final stages of restoration.

The survey covers awareness of AOC and RAP terminology, how people use the river, recognition of the organizations involved in restoration, and perceptions of how cleanup efforts support community well-being and the local economy. Hosted through Google Forms, it will help us identify blind spots, strengthen outreach, and build a clearer shared understanding of the river's recovery.

One of the most helpful ways you can support this project is by helping us spread the word. Please share the survey link with your contacts, friends, colleagues, and community groups who care about the St. Marys River. We'll also be releasing social media posts over the coming months to promote the survey, so feel free to share those as they come out. Every share helps us reach a wider audience and strengthens the accuracy of our community snapshot.



SCAN THE QR  
CODE TO  
ACCESS THE  
SURVEY!

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For April, we invite you to join our “**Spring Sights**” mini challenge, celebrating the colours, textures, and small wonders emerging along the St. Marys River as the season comes to life.

Just as March encouraged us to tune in to the river’s unique sounds, this month is all about noticing the visual moments that make spring special. Whether it’s the first burst of green, sunlight on the water, a returning bird, or a tiny plant pushing through the soil, capture a photo or describe the spring sight that inspires you most.

Share your image or reflection using [#SpringSights](#) and help us build a collective gallery of the river’s seasonal renewal.



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Thank you for being part of the St. Marys River RAP community. Your interest, participation, and passion help drive this work forward. We’re excited for the months ahead and the many opportunities to learn, share, and celebrate the progress being made. Stay tuned for more events, updates, and ways to get involved as we continue working together for a healthier St. Marys River.

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We acknowledge that we are gathering on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Peoples, including the Ojibwe of the Garden River and Batchewana First Nations. This land is part of the Robinson-Huron Treaty and has been home to Indigenous Peoples since time immemorial. We honour their enduring connection to the land, water, and all living things.





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Follow us on Instagram and Facebook for weekly updates, Wild Wednesday species spotlights, and behind-the-scenes looks at restoration work.

Do you have a river memory or old photo? We’re collecting historical images to help tell the story of the St. Marys, especially those showing environmental changes over time. Email us at [stmarysriverrap@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysriverrap@gmail.com) or message us directly to contribute.

Thank you for being part of this journey.



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