

# ST. MARYS RIVER REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN NEWSLETTER

June, 2026

Image taken by Daniel Featherstone



*What's happening this month?*

## WELCOME JUNE

June arrives with that unmistakable feeling of momentum along the St. Marys River, longer days, warmer evenings, and a full calendar of ways to connect with the water. This month is all about getting outside, meeting neighbours, and taking part in hands-on activities that support the river's ongoing recovery.

Whether you join us for a cleanup, stop by a coffee social, or simply take a quiet moment by the shoreline, your presence strengthens our community.

We're excited to share what's coming up and hope you'll be part of the season ahead.



## UPCOMING EVENT RIVER CLEANUP

We're kicking off the month with a River Cleanup on June 1st.

**Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 6:00–8:00 PM. Meeting location is at Bellevue Park Marina at the end of Pine St. Sault Ste Marie.**

Stay for as long as you'd like, we're planning for a two-hour cleanup, but even 20 minutes makes a difference.

More details will be shared upon registration.

To sign up, please visit our Linktree, where you'll find an easy-access link to the registration form.



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UP!



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### RAP COMMUNITY DAY

We're excited to share that our annual St. Marys River RAP Community Day is coming up this summer!

**Saturday, July 11th at 5:00–8:00 PM, held at the Waterfront Adventure Centre.**

Join us for an evening of learning, celebration, and hands-on exploration along the river. This free community event will feature:

- Short presentations on restoration progress and river health
- Hands-on education stations led by local partners
- On-the-water activities, including paddling opportunities
- Interactive displays highlighting species, stewardship, and AOC history

Whether you're new to the RAP or have been following the project for years, Community Day is a great chance to connect, ask questions, and experience the river in a new way. More details will be shared in June.

### NEXT COFFEE SOCIAL

We're excited to invite you to our second coffee social of the year.

**Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am-12pm, held at the Waterfront Adventure Centre.**

This free, drop-in event is open to all ages and designed to bring neighbors together in a warm, welcoming space.

Enjoy the beautiful views of the St. Marys River, and feel free to purchase refreshments or food from the facility, explore casual hands-on activities, and chat with members of the St. Marys River RAP team.

It's a great chance to get to know us, learn about the RAP, and connect with others who care about the health of the river.

Come anytime, stay as long as you like, and help us kick off the year with community and conversation.

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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.



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This month, we invite you to join our **River Rituals** mini challenge: a celebration of the small, meaningful ways people spend time by the St. Marys River.

Maybe it's your morning walk, your favourite fishing spot, a paddle route you return to every year, or a quiet moment watching the water.

Share a photo or short reflection of your personal river ritual using [#RiverRituals](#) and tag us. Together, we'll build a community mosaic of the everyday connections that make this river special.



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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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