

ST. MARYS RIVER REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN NEWSLETTER

November, 2025



Get Ready To Be Involved

WELCOME NOVEMBER

As fall deepens and the river begins its quiet shift toward winter, November invites reflection and action. The St. Marys River Remedial Action Plan (RAP) continues to embrace restoration efforts, and this month we're celebrating community creativity, seasonal stewardship, and the legacy of progress made possible by our partners.



PHOTO CONTEST VOTING IS OPEN!



It's time to vote! Our Fall Photo Contest is officially open for public voting starting November 1st. From wildlife close-ups to sweeping shoreline views, this year's submissions capture the beauty and resilience of the St. Marys River.

Round 1: November 1-15. All entries are open for public voting. Help us choose the top 6 finalists!

Round 2: November 20-25 Vote for your top 3 favorites from the finalist gallery.

Winners Announced: December 1! We'll reveal the top 3 winners and the award prizes.

How to Vote: Visit our social media for the voting link and instructions. In our bio you'll find a linktree link, and there will be an option to take you to a google form to vote.

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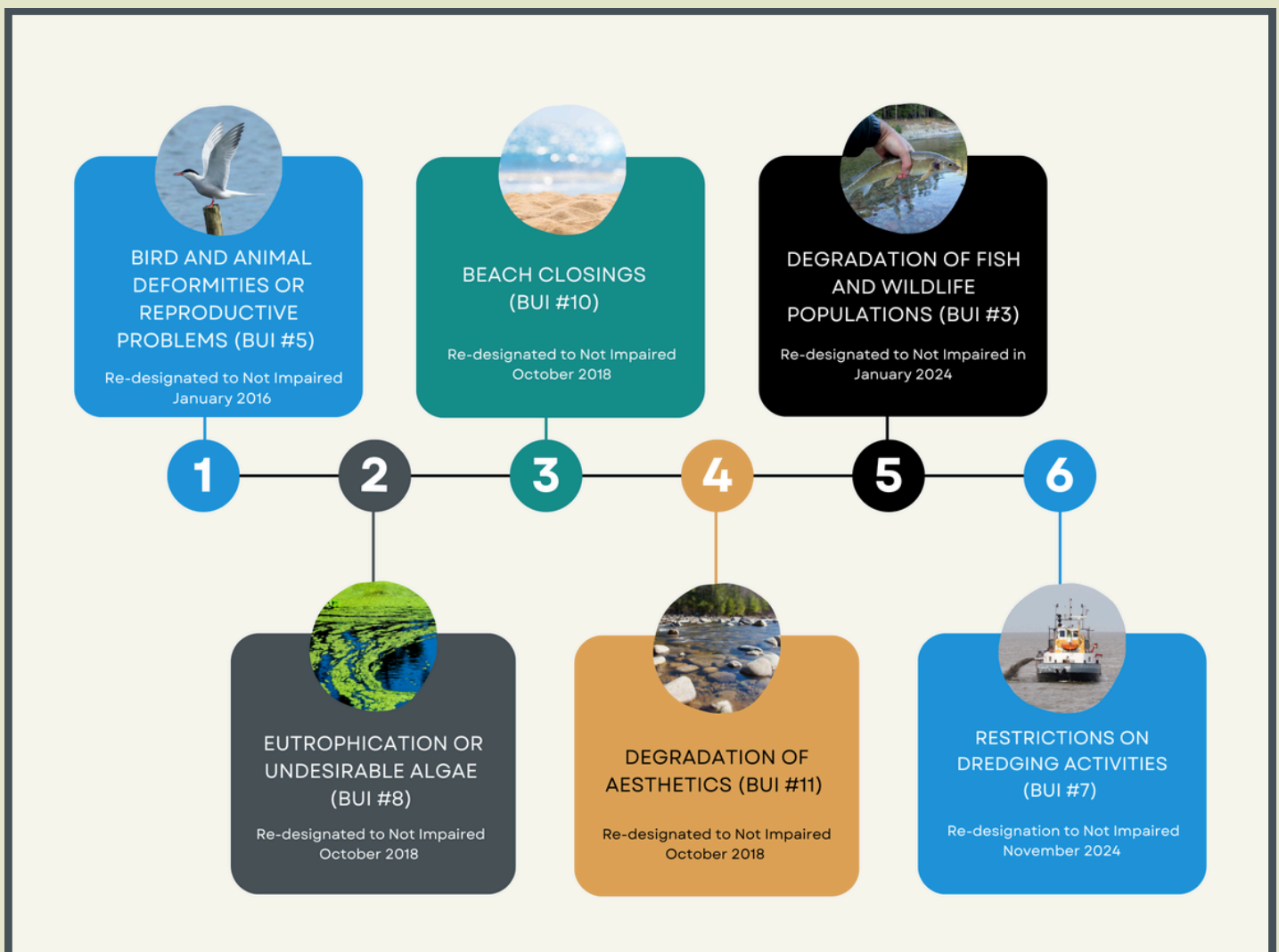
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Beneficial Use Impairments Highlights

Thanks to the dedication of our partners and the strength of long-term collaboration, the St. Marys River continues to show meaningful signs of recovery. Of the 10 Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) identified on the Canadian side of the river, six have now been officially redesignated to “Not Impaired”!

This steady progress reflects years of restoration, monitoring, and shared commitment to improving river health. All redesignations have taken place in recent years, marking a powerful shift toward eventually delisting the river as an Area of Concern.

We’re actively working to address the remaining four BUIs, and we’re excited to keep moving forward with your support. For now, we invite you to celebrate how far we’ve come, and the momentum we’re building together.



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Our next mini challenge is **“Spot the Signs!”** This November, we’re encouraging residents to head outside and notice the subtle shifts that define the season. From red osier dogwood stems glowing against bare ground to flocks of birds moving through the sky, animal tracks in fresh mud, or the quiet hush of a frosty morning.

Snap a photo of a seasonal sign you see and tag us with [#RAPChallenge](#) and [#RiverSigns](#) for a chance to be featured!







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.

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 or message us directly to contribute.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Let’s keep the momentum going this fall!



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