

ST. MARYS RIVER REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN NEWSLETTER

September, 2026

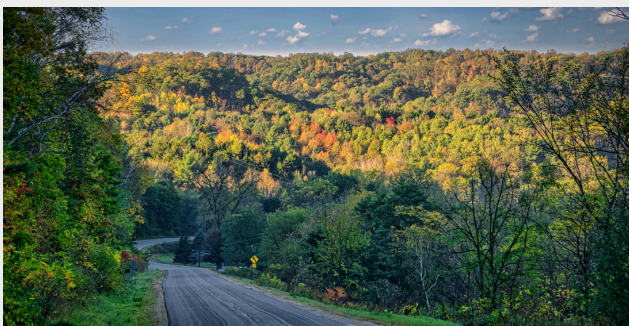


What's happening this month?

WELCOME SEPTEMBER

September brings a gentle shift in the seasons as cooler mornings, changing leaves, and crisp air settle along the St. Marys River. It is a time to slow down, enjoy the transition into fall, and appreciate the beauty of our watershed in a new light. Whether you are walking a familiar trail, watching migrating birds, or simply taking in the colours along the shoreline, every moment spent outdoors deepens our connection to the river we care for.

As we continue working toward a healthier St. Marys River, we remain grateful for everyone who volunteers, attends events, shares their stories, and supports restoration efforts. Your participation strengthens our community and helps guide the work ahead. We look forward to seeing you throughout the fall season.



PUBLIC PERCEPTION CAMPAIGN **EXTENDED**

Earlier this year, we launched our Public Perception Campaign Survey to better understand how the community views the St. Marys River Area of Concern and the Remedial Action Plan. This survey has already provided valuable insight into awareness, river use, restoration understanding, and how cleanup efforts support community well-being.

We are excited to share that the campaign has been extended for another year. This extension will help us gather many more responses and build a clearer picture of how people connect with the river. Your voice is essential as we move into the final stages of restoration and continue strengthening our outreach.

If you have not yet participated, we encourage you to take a few minutes to fill out the survey. You can find the link in our bio. Every response helps us improve communication, identify gaps, and support meaningful community engagement.

Learn more on the next page!



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ST. MARYS RIVER PUBLIC PERCEPTION CAMPAIGN EXTENDED TO AUGUST 31ST 2027

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.



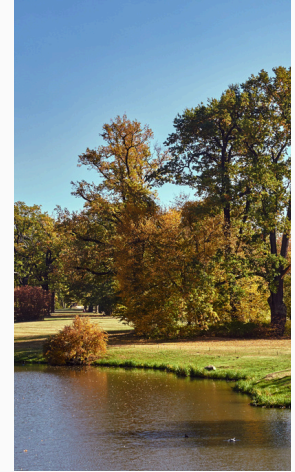
SCAN THE QR
CODE TO
ACCESS THE
SURVEY!

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This month, we invite you to take part in our **September Soundscape Challenge**. As the seasons shift, the river becomes alive with new sounds. Listen for rustling leaves, migrating birds, flowing water, insects, and other natural soundscapes that signal the arrival of fall.

Record a short audio clip or video capturing a moment along the St. Marys River or in your favourite outdoor space. Share it with us and tell us where you were. Use the hashtag *SoundscapeSMR* and tag us. Together, we will celebrate the calming, vibrant, and ever-changing sounds of our watershed.



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 upcoming events, updates, and ways to get involved. You can also join our newsletters to stay extra updated. Message us your email address and we will add you to our mailing list.

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.



-  <https://www.facebook.com/StMarysRiverRAP>
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-  <https://www.youtube.com/@stmarysriverrap>
-  <http://bpac.algomau.ca>

