

MISSY'S KAYAK CONNECTION



Access

Protection

Love

Stewardship

Responsibility





About

Routes

Your Interests

Plan Your Trip

Share

9



Welcome to the Blueways!



The **St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC)** and the **St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC)** present the Blueways of St. Clair, a website to help you visit and enjoy the land and water trails along the St. Clair River corridor, from Anchor Bay to the northern border of the county along Lake Huron.

Click on the **'Routes'** tab, above, to access 16 different paddling routes in 9 different water bodies. Use the **'Plan Your Trip'** tab to search the database for places to camp, shop, eat or learn about our maritime history. Use the **'Itinerary'** button to add your favorite spots, then create driving directions between each point of interest!

Click on the **'Memories Along the Blueway'** graphic to post a description about your day on the water, then add a picture for the rest of us to enjoy!

Great News!



The Blueways route, The Island Loop Route, has been selected as a **National Water Trail** by the Department of the Interior! It is the first National Water Trail in Michigan, and one of only 14 in the nation. Check it out [HERE](#).

Trip Weather Check



Coastal Zone Information

Click here to learn about Customs and Pleasure Boating Requirements

Be Safe



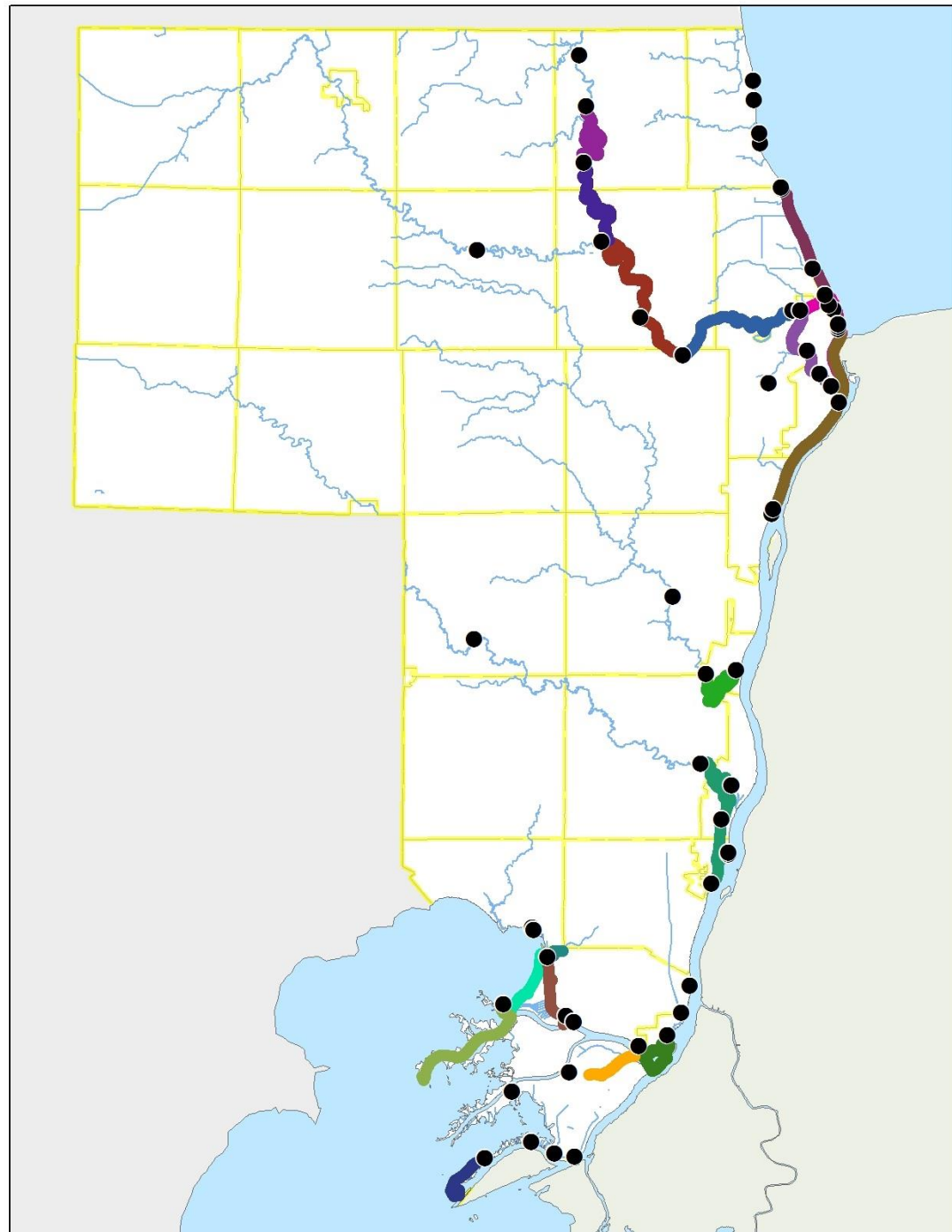
Economic Development





THE BLUEWAYS OF ST. CLAIR

- There are 17 Blueways in 9 water bodies.
- 50 public water access points
- We developed the water trails by interviewing paddlers
- We added the public access points by looking at community Master Recreation Plans and road right of ways in the GIS.





Places on the Map

- Water Access

What's Your Story?
Tell us about your experience or share a memory about your time on the Blueways of St. Clair.

Memories Along the Blueways
Discover what others experienced on the Blueways of St. Clair, then share your own story.

Download All Our Locations for Google Earth



Home > Plan Your Trip
Plan Your Trip
[Try Another Search](#) | [Jump to Places](#)
 We searched for water access.



Trip Weather Check

The Weather Channel

Coastal Zone Information

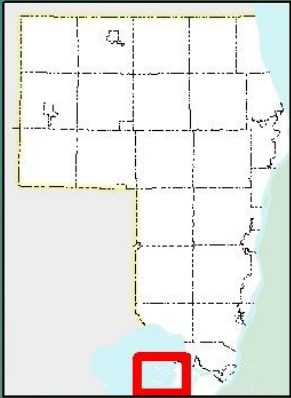
Click here to learn about Customs and Pleasure Boating Requirements

Be Safe

Report Suspicious Activity to River Watch
 800.537.3220
 VHF channel 16

Economic Development

The Sny Loop (Chenal A Bout Rond)



Legend

- ★ Access
- Kayak Route
- 11 Miles Round Trip

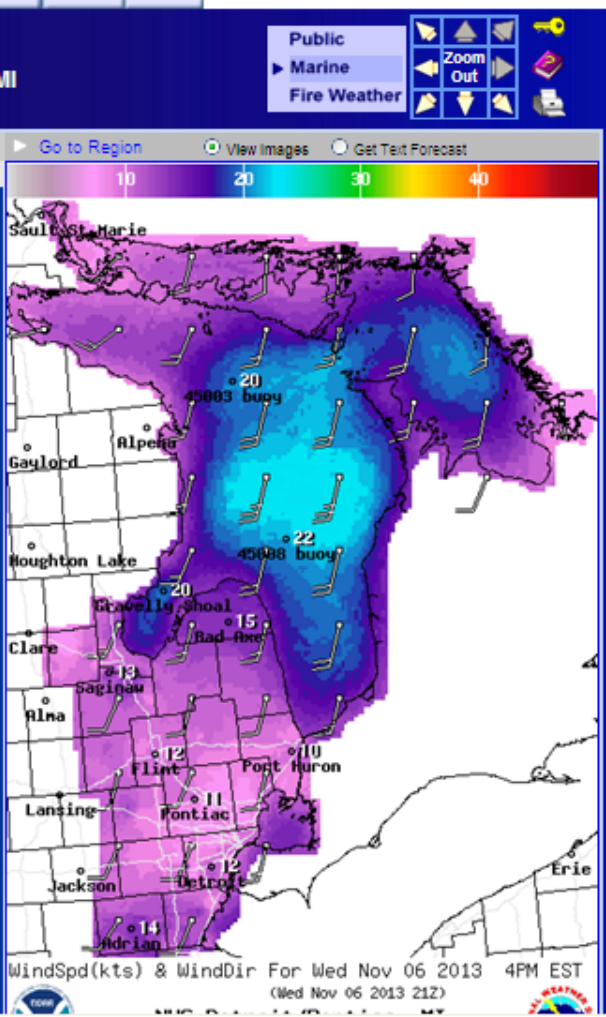


Graphical Forecasts - Detroit, MI

Daily View Weekly View Loops

Image List Page Help Metric Units Key

Element Period	Wave Height	Probability of Precip.	Weather	Temperature	Wind Speed & Direction	Sky Cover
Today	7am		7am	7am	7am	7am
	10am	PoP12	10am	10am	10am	10am
	1pm		1pm	1pm	1pm	1pm
	4pm		4pm	4pm	4pm	4pm
Tonight	7pm		7pm	7pm	7pm	7pm
	10pm	PoP12	10pm	10pm	10pm	10pm
	1am		1am	1am	1am	1am
	4am		4am	4am	4am	4am
Wednesday	7am		7am	7am	7am	7am
	10am	PoP12	10am	10am	10am	10am
	1pm		1pm	1pm	1pm	1pm
	4pm		4pm	4pm	4pm	4pm
Wednesday Night	7pm		7pm	7pm	7pm	7pm
	10pm	PoP12	10pm	10pm	10pm	10pm
	1am		1am	1am	1am	1am
	4am		4am	4am	4am	4am
Thursday	7am		7am	7am	7am	7am
	10am	PoP12	10am	10am	10am	10am
	1pm		1pm	1pm	1pm	1pm
	4pm		4pm	4pm	4pm	4pm
Thursday Night	7pm		7pm	7pm	7pm	7pm
	10pm	PoP12	10pm	10pm	10pm	10pm
	1am		1am	1am	1am	1am
	4am		4am	4am	4am	4am
Friday	7am		7am	7am	7am	7am
	10am	PoP12	10am	10am	10am	10am
	1pm		1pm	1pm	1pm	1pm
	4pm		4pm	4pm	4pm	4pm
Friday Night	7pm		7pm	7pm	7pm	7pm
	10pm	PoP12	10pm	10pm	10pm	10pm
	1am		1am	1am	1am	1am
	4am		4am	4am	4am	4am
Saturday	7am		7am	7am	7am	7am
	10am	PoP12	10am	10am	10am	10am
	1pm		1pm	1pm	1pm	1pm
	4pm		4pm	4pm	4pm	4pm
Saturday Night	7pm		7pm	7pm	7pm	7pm
	10pm	PoP12	10pm	10pm	10pm	10pm
	1am		1am	1am	1am	1am
	4am		4am	4am	4am	4am
Sunday	7am		7am	7am	7am	7am
	10am	PoP12	10am	10am	10am	10am
	1pm		1pm	1pm	1pm	1pm
	4pm		4pm	4pm	4pm	4pm
Sunday	7am		7am	7am	7am	7am
	10am	PoP12	10am	10am	10am	10am
	1pm		1pm	1pm	1pm	1pm
	4pm		4pm	4pm	4pm	4pm



javascript:getnewimg("WindSpd",12,0)

The Island Loop Route National Water Trail



Legend

- Water Access
- Paddle Route
10.2 Miles
- Warning Zone
Expert Only
- ADA Kayak Launch

- The Island Loop Route became a National Water Trail in November 2013.
- It is comprised of four different bodies of water over 10 miles between Michigan and Ontario, Canada.

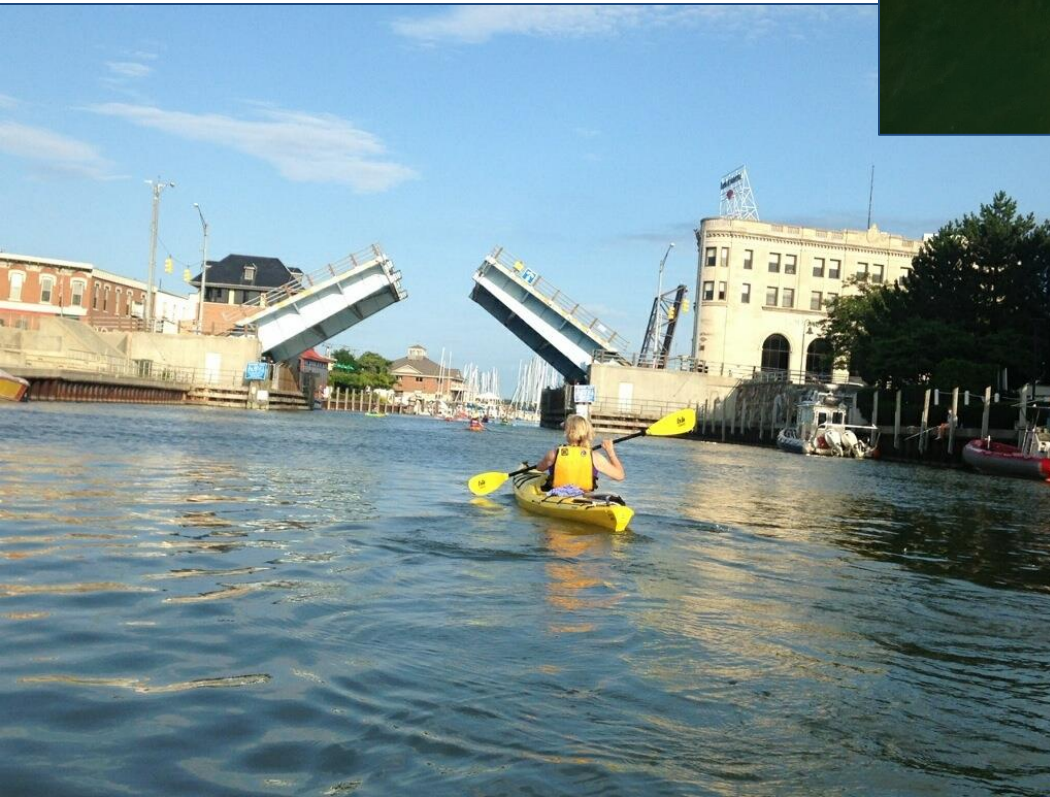


Landmarks along the way...



Upper left: Thomas Edison Museum
Upper right: Fort Gratiot Light Station
Left: Huron Lightship Museum

The Black River Canal, man-made over 100 years ago!



The Black River in
Downtown Port Huron



Lake Huron, one of the five Great Lakes, dumps into the St. Clair River at the Blue Water Bridges.

THE BLUEWAYS OF ST. CLAIR

Access

ADA access in St. Clair County:

- Seven ADA Launches, thanks to St. Clair County PARC.

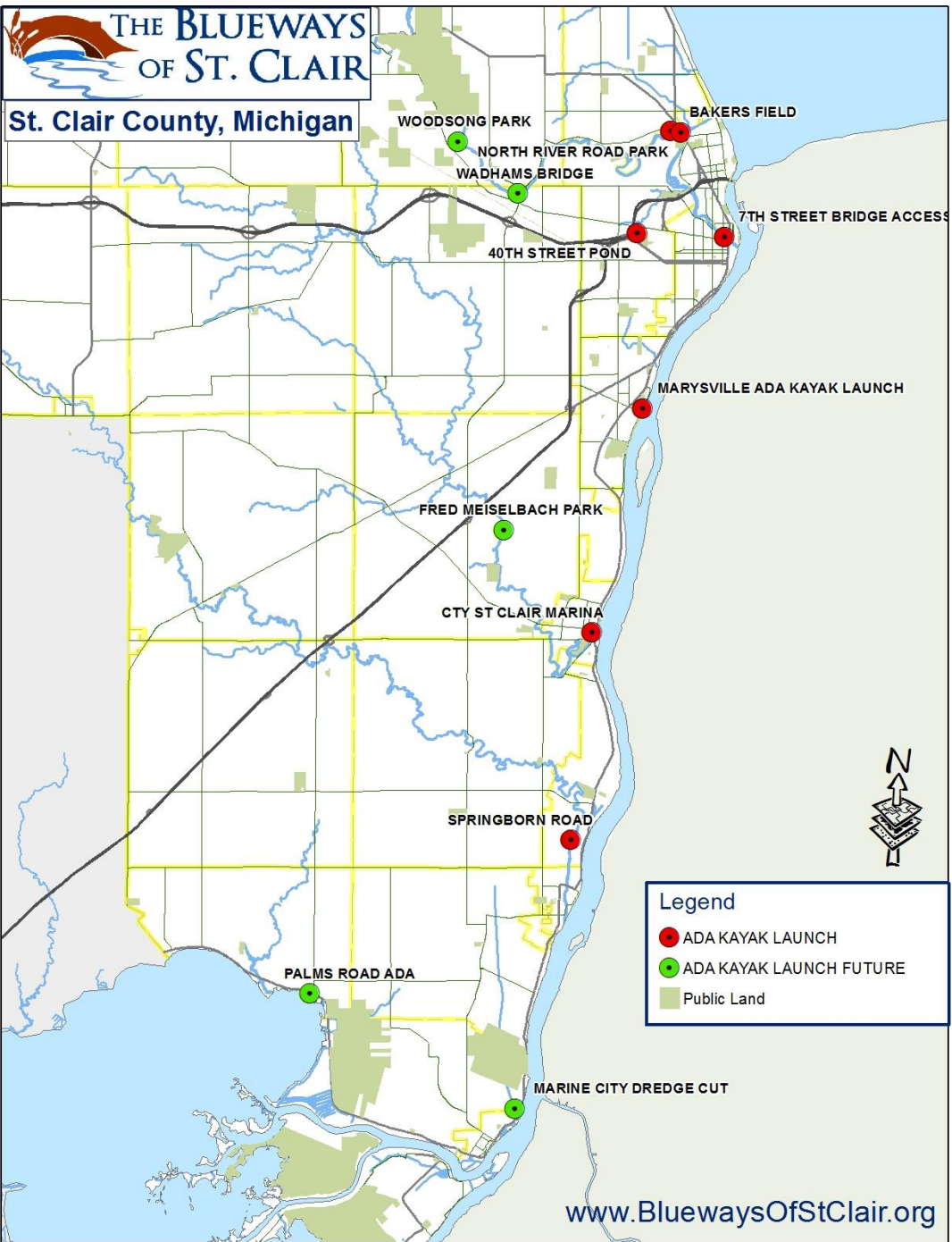
Along the National Water Trail:

- 7th Street Bridge – City of Port Huron
- Bakers Field- Port Huron Twp.
- North River Road Park- Ft. Gratiot

Other existing launches:

- Chrysler Beach – Marysville
- St. Clair Boat Harbor – St. Clair
- Springborn/Belle River Road- East China Township
- 40th Street Pond, Port Huron Twp.





Access

Future launches are planned at...

- Woodsong Park, Clyde Twp
- Marine City Dredge Cut, Algonac
- Wadhams Bridge, Kimball Twp
- Mieselbach Park, St. Clair Twp
- Bouvier Bay, Clay Twp

Millage Distribution

This year marks the 21st year that the St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) will distribute 25% of the County Parks and Recreation millage funds collected back to the local units of government.

The 2015 Local Millage Distribution table (located to the right) includes the 2010 census figures used to calculate each community's share; the amount of millage funds distributed to each community over the past twenty years; and the amount of funds that will be distributed to each local unit of government this year.

In order for the 33 local units of government to receive their annual share of the County Parks and Recreation millage funds, each community's governing board must approve the submission of an annual Local Millage Distribution request form that outlines how the community has spent their share of the millage funds during the past year.

2015 Millage Revenues Level Out

This year, revenues from the St. Clair County Parks and Recreation millage have finally stopped falling. Millage revenues increased by \$20,000 over last year. It is the first increase in millage revenues since 2010. This year's millage income (\$2,706,240) is about the same as what was collected in 2005. Millage revenues are expected to increase modestly in the coming years as real estate values recover from the economic downturn.



Special thanks to the Port Huron Garden Club for maintaining the flower bed at the Fort Gratiot Light Station.

Community	2010 Population	Total Distribution 1995 - 2015	2015 Distribution
Algonac	4,110	\$357,559.25	\$17,058.56
Capac	1,890	\$139,597.26	\$7,844.45
Emmett	269	\$21,168.81	\$1,116.48
Marine City	4,248	\$361,872.51	\$17,631.32
Marysville	9,959	\$753,312.87	\$41,334.83
Memphis	360	\$27,680.35	\$1,494.18
Port Huron	30,184	\$2,564,080.98	\$125,278.69
Richmond	2	\$77.44	\$8.30
St. Clair	5,485	\$443,440.86	\$22,765.49
Yale	1,955	\$160,774.34	\$8,114.23
Berlin Township	3,285	\$239,391.81	\$13,634.39
Brockway Township	2,022	\$147,775.11	\$8,392.31
Burtchville Township	4,008	\$308,253.47	\$16,635.20
Casco Township	4,105	\$363,327.35	\$17,037.80
China Township	3,551	\$256,184.91	\$14,738.43
Clay Township	9,066	\$750,817.54	\$37,628.43
Clyde Township	5,579	\$408,656.06	\$23,155.64
Columbus Township	4,070	\$312,567.23	\$16,892.54
Cottrellville Township	3,559	\$289,522.26	\$14,771.63
East China Township	3,788	\$283,769.19	\$15,722.09
Emmett Township	2,385	\$167,661.22	\$9,898.94
Fort Gratiot Township	11,108	\$824,296.20	\$46,103.75
Grant Township	1,891	\$127,777.53	\$7,848.60
Greenwood Township	1,538	\$105,684.83	\$6,383.47
Ira Township	5,178	\$497,918.51	\$21,491.29
Kenockee Township	2,470	\$182,825.07	\$10,251.74
Kimball Township	9,358	\$672,875.43	\$38,840.38
Lynn Township	1,229	\$91,128.94	\$5,100.96
Mussey Township	2,316	\$154,077.00	\$9,612.56
Port Huron Township	10,654	\$701,457.63	\$44,219.43
Riley Township	3,353	\$230,655.10	\$13,916.63
St. Clair Township	6,817	\$483,456.18	\$28,293.96
Wales Township	3,248	\$218,937.64	\$13,480.82
Grand Total	163,040	\$12,648,580.88	\$676,697.52



By providing access to our waterways our community now has a greater love for our lakes and rivers.

Love



Responsibility

In an environment surrounded by water, offering classes on water safety and paddling are key in our community.



Stewardship

With the increase of popularity in paddling, hundreds of pounds of trash are collected from our waterways each season.





Love

Created five years ago to bring paddlers together and celebrate our paddling community, Paddle & Pour has grown into a two day festival. This event invites people to paddle the 10.2 miles around the **Island Loop National Water Trail** here in Port Huron.



Paddle & Pour Festival Guide 2016

Bakers Field Park



Collaboration!

The layout of the venue is determined by using GIS and Aerial imagery.

This is one way the County is assisting in the planning and development of the event. The County also printed posters that were purchased as advertising at the event.

Missy is bringing paddlers to our Blueways!



The Paddle & Pour Festival in 2016 included a Poker Paddle. Each participant received a playing card at each of six stops along the way. Paddlers that were not comfortable paddling under the Blue Water Bridges and the St. Clair River could stay in the calmer Black River and participate in the Poker Paddle.



Paddle & Pour statistics:

Love

2012- 28 people launched from the dock in Black River in downtown Port Huron, followed by a pot luck, beer and bands at the Roach Bar.

2013- 128 people launched from the dock in downtown Port Huron, followed by a pot luck, beer and bands at the Roach Bar.

2014- Over 400 people launched from the new 7th Street Bridge ADA kayak Launch. The food was by Fuel Woodfire Grill, beer from ThumbCoast Brewery, and several bands for enjoyment.

2015- 151 people launch from the ADA Kayak Launch at Bakers Field and other locations. The first year for the two day Festival and camping at Bakers Field Park. Bad weather!

2016 – Over 207 people at Bakers Field Park for paddling and camping. Bands played from 5-11 on Friday, and on Saturday from 1-11. The all-day bands were welcomed by visitors that were not paddling, but wanted to be a part of Paddle & Pour. Vendors were set up throughout the day.





An Economic Benefit to **Collaboration**:

In 2014 the Thumb Coast Brewery brewed a special beer for the Paddle & Pour; The 'Paddle & Pour Coconut Porter'!

Raffle tickets were sold for the chance to win a kayak and gear.

Two pigs were roasted and served by Fuel Woodfire Grill after the paddle on event day.



Brew Bold. ★ Pour Proud.

Port Huron, Michigan



Stewardship

The donation from Paddle & Pour in 2014 allowed the Blueways of St. Clair to print 15,000 brochures!



THE BLUEWAYS OF ST. CLAIR

Discover the Blueways of St. Clair!

With over 138 miles of mapped paddling routes, you can glide across a peaceful, natural river through the quiet woods or meander along St. Clair County's picturesque urban waterways. Maybe you will choose the mighty St. Clair River, which is part of the Great Lakes system stretching along an international border, or perhaps you will enjoy a relaxing paddle along the Lake Huron shoreline, stopping every so often to enjoy a welcoming sandy beach. You can explore the largest freshwater delta in North America or paddle in a creek amidst the freshwater marsh to take advantage of the excellent fishing.

Visit www.BluewaysOfStClair.org to download printable route maps, explore the area's shopping and cultural amenities, and create a custom itinerary for your trip. **Begin your adventure today!**

St. Clair County, your recreation destination in Southeast Michigan

15 Featured Routes:

- 1. Lake Huron Paddle:** Paddle the western shore of Lake Huron from the Point St Ignace Marina to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 2. The Westmore Bridge Run:** Paddle from the Westmore Bridge to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 3. The Norman Bridge Paddle:** Paddle from the Norman Bridge to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 4. The East Clinton River:** Paddle from the East Clinton River to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 5. Black River Experience:** Paddle from the Black River to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 6. The Island Loop:** Paddle from the Island Loop to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 7. Black River Urban Paddle:** Paddle from the Black River to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 8. Blue Water City Excursion:** Paddle from the Blue Water City to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 9. The Island Loop:** Paddle from the Island Loop to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 10. The Island Loop:** Paddle from the Island Loop to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 11. The Island Loop:** Paddle from the Island Loop to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 12. The Island Loop:** Paddle from the Island Loop to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 13. The Island Loop:** Paddle from the Island Loop to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 14. The Island Loop:** Paddle from the Island Loop to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.
- 15. The Island Loop:** Paddle from the Island Loop to the Point St Ignace Pier. Length: 1.5 miles, easy.

BluewaysOfStClair.org



Featured Routes

- Seasonally Accessible ADA Approved Routes
- Public Access
- Community
- Blue
- St. Clair County
- St. Clair County
- St. Clair County
- St. Clair County



2015 National Water Trail Forum. Water Trail managers from across the nation gathered in Ann Arbor to learn from each other. We had a field trip to Port Huron to see our water trail and newest ADA Kayak launch.

I was surprised that many of these managers had never seen an ADA launch! Again, Missy demonstrated how to use the launch.

Collaboration:



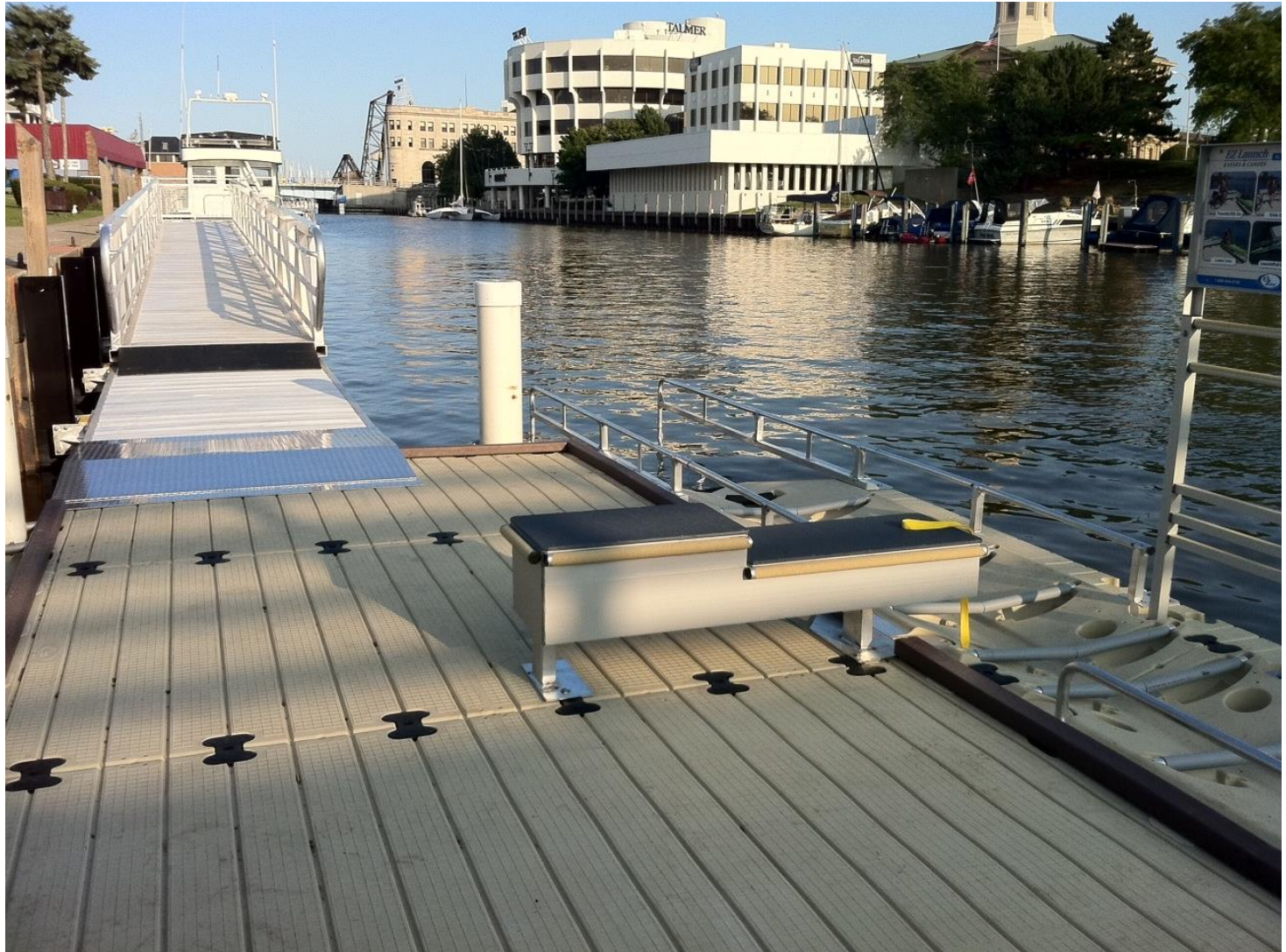
In 2016 the DNR Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund board toured St. Clair County. They were visiting all the projects that they have funded over the years. This Demonstration is at the 7th Street Bridge launch.



The Kayak Launch at the 7th Street Bridge in Port Huron is an example in **Collaboration**. It took seven partners to fund the structure; St. Clair County, City of Port Huron, the Community Foundation of SCC, Domtar, Cargill Salt, SEMCO Energy and Enbridge Energy.

Don't be afraid to ask for money! A project with many partners is hard to say 'no' to...

The last \$10,000...



Getting Noticed!

Our combined efforts were recognized in Southwest Airline Magazine's May in-flight issue. The article noted the Island Loop National Water Trail, ThumbCoast Brewing Company and Missy's Kayak Connection as places to go in Michigan!

Collaboration pays off!



Water Quality Improvements in St. Clair River AOC

Responsibility

Name	MDEQ NPDES Permit Number	Receiving Water	Township	1991 CSOs	2015 CSOs	Year CSO Separation Complete
Marine City WWTP	MI0020893	St. Clair River	Cottrellville	13	0	1993
City of Marysville WWTP	MI0020656	St. Clair River	Port Huron	3	0	1996
Port Huron WWTP	MI0023833	St. Clair River	Port Huron	21	1	December 31, 2019
St. Clair County – Algonac WWTP	MI0020389	St. Clair River	Clay	0	0	n/a
St. Clair WWTP	MI0020591	St. Clair River	St. Clair	12	0	1996
Total				49	1	

Table 2: St. Clair River CSOs in 1991 and 2015

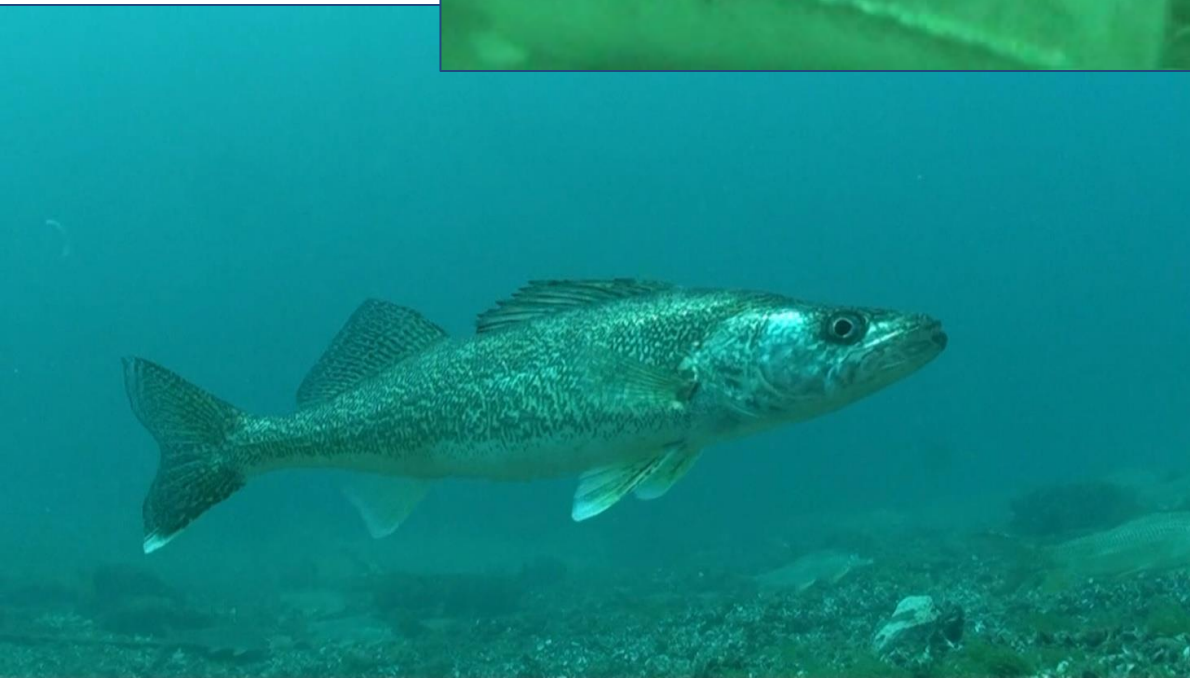
(CSO = Combined Sewer Overflow)

Responsibility

Shoreline habitat restoration projects in St. Clair River AOC

Canada Project	Metric	U.S. Standard	United States Project	Metric	U.S. Standard
Point Edward Erosion Control Project	265 meter	870 feet	Port Huron North	98 meter 0.04 hectare	322 feet shoreline 0.11 acre substrate restoration
LAWSS Erosion Control Project	110 meter	361 feet	Port Huron South	151 meter	496 feet shoreline
Point Edward Waterfront Shore Protection Project	410 meter	1,345 feet	Blue River Walk	1,280 meter	4,200 feet shoreline
Mission Park Erosion Control Project	115 meter	377 feet	Blue River Walk Wetland	1.11 hectare	2.75 acre wetland
Guthrie Park Shore Protection Rehabilitation Project	700 meter	2,297 feet	Marysville Living Shoreline	575 meter	1,885 feet shoreline
Cathcart Park Shore Protection Project	370 meter	1,214 feet	Cuttle Creek	914 meter	3,000 feet tributary restoration
Healy	40 meter	131 feet	Cottrellville Shoreline	130 meter	425 feet shoreline
Huybers/Mills	64 meter	210 feet	Marine City Drain	19 meter 0.13 hectare	63 feet shoreline 0.33 acre restoration
Maynahan	23 meter	75 feet	Krispin Drain	4,816 meter	15,800 feet stream restoration
			Harts Light Spawning Reef	1.5 hectare	3.8 acre
			Pointe aux Chenes Spawning Reef	0.61 hectare	1.5 acre
			Middle Channel Spawning Reef	0.40 hectare	1.0 acre
TOTALS	2,097 meter	6,880 feet		7,983 meters 3.79 hectares	26,191 feet 9.49 acre

What lurks
below?



Above: The Lake
Sturgeon is an
endangered species!
Left: the Walleye

Stewardship

Tagging the Lake Sturgeon with the DNR to manage the species



Friends of the St. Clair River, www.scriver.org

Saturday, June 4, 2016

10:00 am

Great Lakes Maritime Center

At Vantage Point





TRAIL TOWN

ALGONAC
THE BLUEWAYS OF ST. CLAIR



TRAIL TOWN

CLAY TWP.
THE BLUEWAYS OF ST. CLAIR



TRAIL TOWN

MARYSVILLE
THE BLUEWAYS OF ST. CLAIR



TRAIL TOWN

MARINE CITY
THE BLUEWAYS OF ST. CLAIR




TRAIL TOWN

PORT HURON
THE BLUEWAYS OF ST. CLAIR





TRAIL TOWN

ST. CLAIR
THE BLUEWAYS OF ST. CLAIR



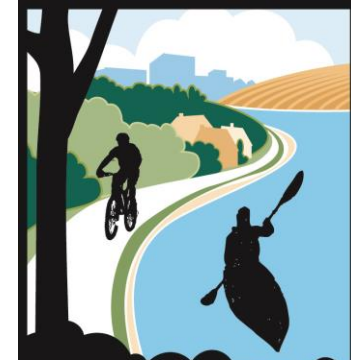

**TRAIL
TOWN**

HARBOR BEACH





**TRAIL
TOWN**

PORT SANILAC





**TRAIL
TOWN**

PORT AUSTIN




**TRAIL
TOWN**

MILLINGTON



**TRAIL
TOWN**

LEXINGTON



Blue Water Trail Towns Master Plan

Capturing Trail-Based Tourism
Along Michigan's Thumb Coast



**PORT AUSTIN
HARBOR BEACH
PORT SANILAC**

MILLINGTON LEXINGTON

**PORT HURON
ST. CLAIR
MARINE CITY**

ALGONAC/CLAY TWP.



The 2015 Blueways of St. Clair Sign Project, Sponsored by the Community Foundation of St. Clair County and Wayne and Donna Brusate.



The Island Loop Route; The First National Water Trail in Michigan!



The Island Loop Route is part of the National Park Service and was designated as Michigan's first National Water Trail in November of 2013. The water trail is 10.2 miles long and traverses four separate water bodies; the Black River, the Black River Canal, Lake Huron and the St. Clair River. The trail passes the oldest lighthouse in Michigan, the Thomas Edison Museum, the Huron Lightship Museum, and the Great Lakes Maritime Center. Paddlers navigate under the historic Blue Water Bridges and float over rare Lake Sturgeon habitat. The trail also follows the international border between the United States and Canada for 2.5 miles and meanders through Fort Gratiot Township, Port Huron Township, and the City of Port Huron.



Paddle & Pour 2014, Times Herald

There are three handicap accessible kayak launches along the water trail. The placement of the launches allows a paddler to tailor their own trip. The Black River, Lake Huron and the Canal can be navigated with or against the current. However, due to its strong current, the St. Clair River can only be paddled downstream and should only be attempted by experienced paddlers. Paddlers in the St. Clair River should stay on the American side and avoid the center of the river, as this is the shipping channel and the international border. The waters underneath the Blue Water Bridges can become very hazardous on summer weekends with increased power boat activity, and should only be attempted early in the morning.



The Blueways of St. Clair is a system of water trails throughout the rivers of St. Clair County, Michigan. Scan the QR code for a map of all the water trails in the Blueways collection, and much more!



Giants of the Great Lakes

Called “Nme” in Ottawa language, Lake Sturgeon are the largest fish native to the Great Lakes. They can grow up to seven feet (2.1 meters) in length and weigh up to 250 pounds (113 kilograms). Sturgeon evolved very slowly over the last 200 million years earning them the nickname “living fossils.” Today the once abundant Lake Sturgeon are a state- and provincially-threatened species. Overfishing, habitat loss, and increasing pollution levels have contributed to their decline. In Michigan waters, it is estimated that the current population is less than 1% of their former abundance.

Scientists, government agencies, and other organizations are working to reverse the causes of the Lake Sturgeon decline by constructing spawning reefs throughout the St. Clair-Detroit River Corridor.

Image: US Fish & Wildlife Service-Midwest

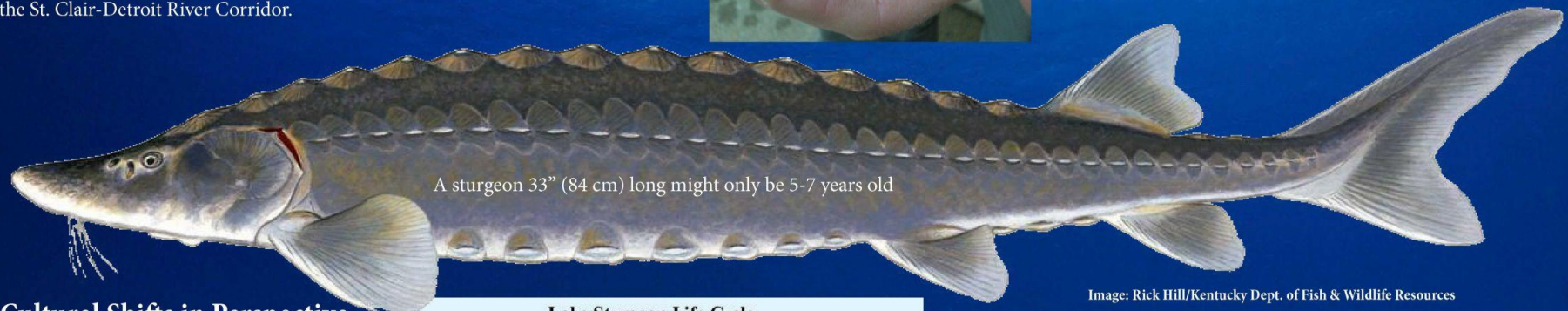


For more information about the St. Clair River Sturgeon, scan this QR code with your smart phone or tablet or visit www.scriver.org.



Lake Sturgeon Biology

Native Americans revered the sturgeon as an important part of their culture, depending on them for food and other staples. In contrast, commercial fishing in the mid-1800s viewed the species as a nuisance and over-harvested Lake Sturgeon almost to extinction. Lake Sturgeon are now protected in most waters of the Great Lakes with commercial fishing prohibited in Michigan and the sport fishing season closely regulated.

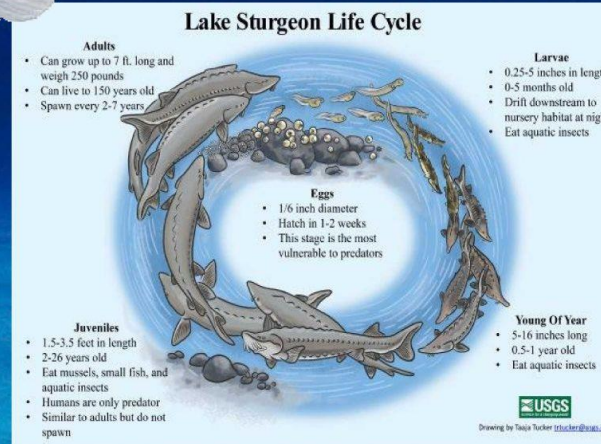


A sturgeon 33” (84 cm) long might only be 5-7 years old

Image: Rick Hill/Kentucky Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources

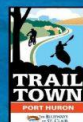
Cultural Shifts in Perspective

Lake Sturgeon have no teeth and use their barbels to find crustaceans, fish and insects along the bottom of lakes and rivers. Male Lake Sturgeon live an average of 55 years and begin mating at about 10 years. Females typically live up to 100 years and reach sexual maturity at around 25 years and mate about every four to six years. A female can release 50,000-700,000 eggs per spawn. Spawning is dependent on water temperature and flow, making the St. Clair River some of the most suitable spawning habitat in the entire Great Lakes for Lake Sturgeon.



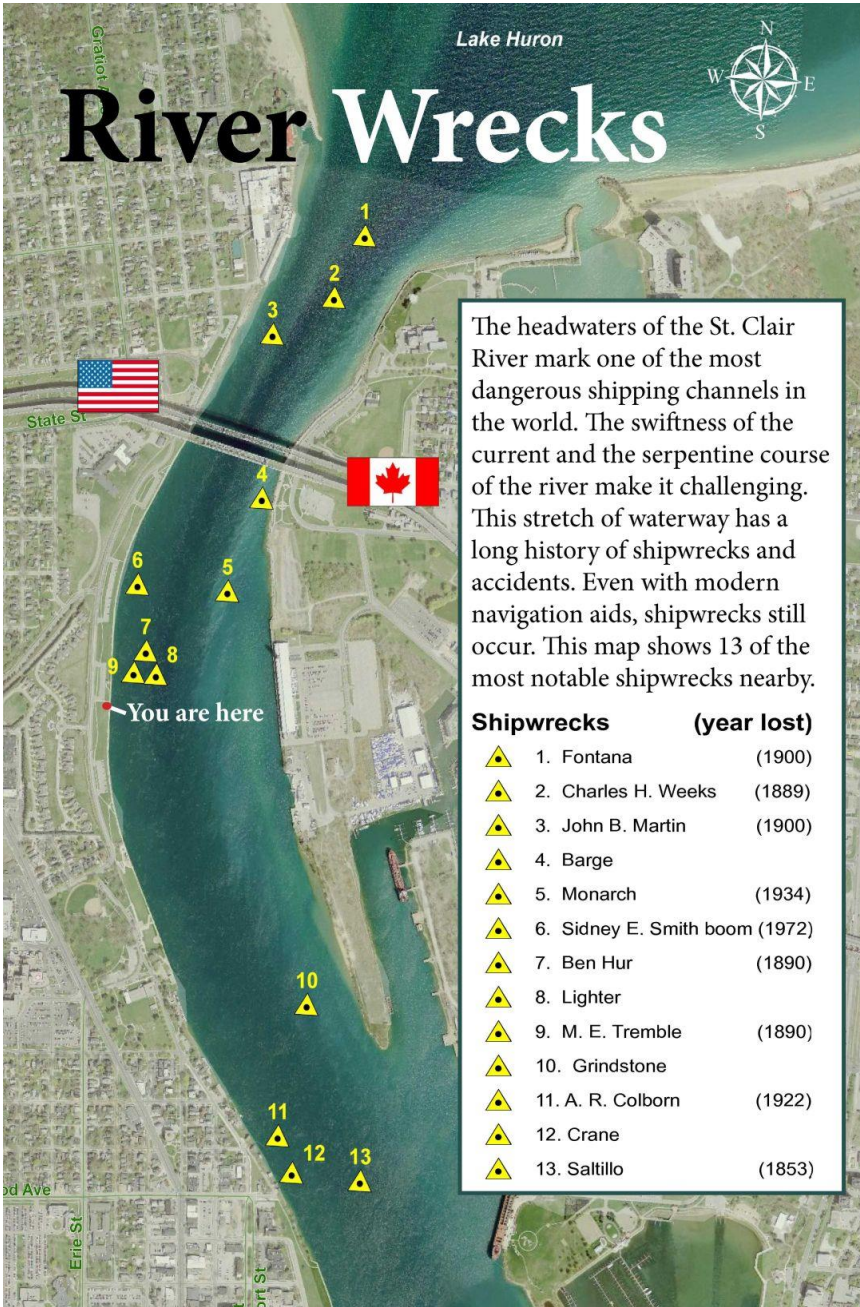
What You Can Do

You can help in the recovery of these Gentle Giants: Understand and adhere to all fishing and environmental regulations and report illegal activity. Get involved in the annual Sturgeon Festival in Port Huron and volunteer with organizations that promote Lake Sturgeon conservation. Become knowledgeable about Lake Sturgeon and share that knowledge with community organizations and school groups.



River Wrecks

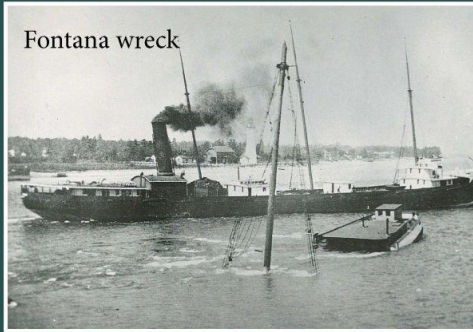
Lake Huron



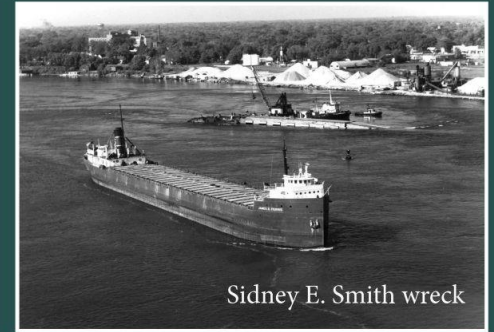
The headwaters of the St. Clair River mark one of the most dangerous shipping channels in the world. The swiftness of the current and the serpentine course of the river make it challenging. This stretch of waterway has a long history of shipwrecks and accidents. Even with modern navigation aids, shipwrecks still occur. This map shows 13 of the most notable shipwrecks nearby.

Shipwrecks (year lost)

- ▲ 1. Fontana (1900)
- ▲ 2. Charles H. Weeks (1889)
- ▲ 3. John B. Martin (1900)
- ▲ 4. Barge
- ▲ 5. Monarch (1934)
- ▲ 6. Sidney E. Smith boom (1972)
- ▲ 7. Ben Hur (1890)
- ▲ 8. Lighter
- ▲ 9. M. E. Tremble (1890)
- ▲ 10. Grindstone
- ▲ 11. A. R. Colborn (1922)
- ▲ 12. Crane
- ▲ 13. Saltillo (1853)



Fontana wreck



Sidney E. Smith wreck

The shipwrecks that occurred in the shipping channel itself were the most dangerous because passing vessels had to navigate around the wreckage. Even worse, a wreck could block the shipping channel for days at a time.

The most notable of the listed shipwrecks was the collision of the Parker Evans and the Sidney E. Smith in 1972. The Parker Evans sustained extensive bow damage but remained afloat. The Sidney Smith, on the other hand, capsized and blocked the shipping channel for several days.

As a result of that accident, several navigation measures and restrictions were implemented. Safety measures included the Sarnia Traffic Centre, one ship in the channel at a time and that only North American licensed pilots are allowed to navigate ships through this part of the river.



Sidney E. Smith wreck



For more information about the St. Clair River wrecks, scan this QR code with your smart phone or tablet or visit www.scriver.org.



Navigation bar for Windows Internet Explorer showing address bar (http://www.michiganwatertrails.org/), menu (File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, Help), and search bar (Live Search).



Photo: Michigan Water Trails

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MICHIGAN'S GREAT LAKES Water Trails

A map of Michigan showing the Great Lakes (Superior, Michigan, Huron) and various water trails highlighted in red boxes. The trails are: UPPER PENINSULA, NORTHWEST MICHIGAN, NORTHEAST MICHIGAN, WEST MICHIGAN, and SAGINAW BAY. Other locations marked include ISLE ROYALE, HOUGHTON, EWEENAW BAY, GRAND MARAIS, WHITEFISH BAY, SAULT STE. MARIE, NORTH CHANNEL, MARQUETTE, MUNISING, ESCANABA, STRAITS OF MACKINAC, MACKINAW CITY, PETOSKEY, ALPENA, THUNDER BAY, GREEN BAY, TRVERSE CITY, FRANKFORT, LUDINGTON, EAST TAWAS, and SAGINAW BAY. Three callout boxes on the left side of the map are: "Paddling in Michigan" (yellow), "Plan Your Adventure" (green), and "Weather & Safety" (red).

Virtual Access

The Island Loop was just captured with the Google Trekker, and can be seen on Street View in Google Earth!

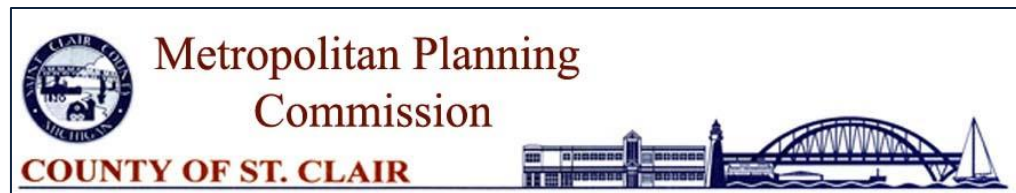


Robert Wilson, with a Google Trekker, at Island Loop Route National Water Trail, in Michigan.



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- For more information on the NWT program, go to <http://www.nps.gov/WaterTrails/>
- Visit the Blueways of St. Clair website at www.BluewaysOfStClair.org
- Visit the Michigan Great Lakes Water Trails website at <http://www.michiganwatertrails.org/>