

ABOUT RIVER DAY

River Day is designed to encourage appreciation and recreational use of the waterways of the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair. We celebrate the leadership of local citizens, organizations, and communities whose efforts are critical to protecting and enhancing the overall quality of the Clinton River watershed.

River “Day” began as a single program day that aligned with Michigan’s Free Fishing Weekend. Due to high interest and participation it quickly expanded to include events hosted throughout the month.

Individuals, businesses, community groups, and local governments across the watershed are joining forces to enhance and celebrate the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair. Activities range from nature hikes, fishing derbies, and outdoor education to river clean-ups, invasive species pulls, and native landscaping.

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS

Events and programs from a variety of sources within the watershed are compiled by the Clinton River Watershed Council. Through this guide, popular opportunities that protect, enhance, and celebrate the Clinton River watershed are brought together in one place to help people access opportunities in their region.

This year, Friends of the Detroit River was instrumental in contributing events for the River Day Event Guide. We offer them thanks for their dedicated support.



SPONSORS

River Day would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors. We offer them thanks for their contributions toward River Day and protecting, enhancing and celebrating the Clinton River watershed and Lake St. Clair.



DESIGN CONTEST

The cover art on this guide was created by Adam Awdish as part of the River Day Design Contest. The contest encouraged local artists to get involved in the promotion of River Day and celebrating the natural world through art.

Contestants at various skill levels throughout the watershed make submissions in a variety of formats. Submissions ranged from sketched line work to charcoal etchings to professionally designed vector art. For his submission, Adam used an iPad and app to create a digital sketch.

In Adam’s artist statement, he writes about his experience working in multiple mediums. “From photography to painting, charcoal art to mixed

media, my art spans across various mediums and forms, all of which focus on the captivating power and beauty of nature. I’m constantly exploring new artistic styles and messages, using Michigan’s landscapes as my muse.”

Designs were voted on at CRWC’s Annual Meeting on April 20, 2023 and Adam’s design received more than half of the votes. Adam said “I am thrilled to have won 2023 River Day logo contest, and even more honored that my illustration will represent the 2023 River Day events. It brings me joy to know that my art will be used to support the efforts of the CRWC and their dedication to preserving and protecting Michigan’s natural resources.”

EVENTS

Learn more about River Day at:

CRWC.ORG/EVENTS/COMMUNITY/RIVER-DAY



PREPADDLEBREWSA

June 2, 2023 // 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Blue Skies Brewery • Auburn Hills

Join us at Blue Skies Brewery in Downtown Auburn Hills on Friday, June 2, for all-you-can-eat pizza, a beer, cash bar, and door prizes! All for a good cause - to raise funds for the Clinton River Watershed Council, which keeps our river healthy and clean! Register for \$25 per person. Anyone is welcome to attend Prepaddlebrewza - you do not need to be a race participant to attend!



Register at auburnhills.org/community/downtown/paddlepalooza/index.php.

PADDLEPALOOZA

June 3, 2023 // 7:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Riverside Park • Downtown Auburn Hills

It's time for the annual 8-mile Auburn Hills to Rochester Hills Paddlepalooza! Three events to choose from: the Kayakers race (1 person), the Canoeists race (2 people), or the Adventure Paddle (no race -no inflatables). Registration is required and a limited number of canoes and kayaks are available for rent, so don't delay.



Register at auburnhills.org/community/downtown/paddlepalooza/index.php.



BUDD & CANAL PARK RIVER CLEAN UP

June 3, 2023 // 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Budd Park • Clinton Township

Participants can bring their own canoes or kayaks to work in the Clinton River to remove trash and debris. Those that do not have their own vessel can help with clean-up along the shore of the river. Pizza, water, t-shirts, gloves provided. Waterproof boots, long sleeved shirts, and comfortable pants are highly recommended.

Register at <https://forms.office.com/r/J2n8rBagxb>.

CRWC NATIVE PLANT SALE

June 4 - June 9
CRWC office • Rochester Hills

Support the Clinton River Watershed Council, Plants for Ecology, and the watershed by purchasing native plants. Order online at plantsforecology.com. The sale runs from June 4 to June 9. Order pickup is on June 10 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Clinton River Watershed Council, 1115 W Avon Rd. Rochester Hills. No plants will be for sale during pickup. This is a pre-purchase sale only.



TRASH RUN

June 9, 2023 // 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Route and location provided after registration

Join CRWC and Clinton River Canoe and Kayak for an in-river clean-up event. Volunteers will paddle down the Clinton River in canoes, picking up trash and debris. Registration is required. Volunteers must be at least 14 years old to participate. This event is not recommended for those not comfortable maneuvering in the water.



Register bit.ly/3NKxodB.

PUDDLE JUMPERS

June 9, 2023 // 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Wint Nature Center • City of the Village of Clarkston

Children ages 3-6 can enjoy nature fun as they increase their love for the great outdoors. A naturalist will engage children with a story, nature talk and related activity. Each child will also make a craft to take home. June's topic is Pollinators. Call (248) 858-0916 weekdays to register.

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RIVER FRONT RUN

June 10, 2023 // 7:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Detroit RiverFront Conservancy • Detroit

This year's Detroit Riverfront Run features a 5k & 10k run/walk and will be held on June 10, 2023. The race route will showcase the beautiful Detroit Riverwalk and Dequindre Cut. All participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt, a participation medal, post race snacks and other goodies to be announced. Registration for the 5K run/walk is \$35 per participant, 10K is \$45 per person or virtual race is \$45 per person before May 1. Starting May 1st registration fees increase to \$40 for the 5k, \$50 for the 10k or \$50 for the virtual race.



More info: <https://detroitriverfront.org/things-to-do/detroit-riverfront-run-2023>

CRWC WATERCRESS PULL

June 10, 2023 // 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Clinton River Watershed Council • Rochester Hills

Are you interested in removing non-native species from a local river? We need your help to clean up non-native watercress behind the Clinton River Watershed Office in Avon Creek! Waders will be provided. Walk-ins are welcome!

NEW HAVEN BEAUTIFICATION DAY

June 10, 2023 // 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

New Haven

The village of New Haven asks that volunteers meet at the New Haven Municipal Offices prepared for community park beautification and/or river clean-up. Please feel free to bring any equipment you feel might be helpful. Light refreshments and lunch will be provided to volunteers. Register your group contact at 586-749-5301.



Learn more at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/622624503216364>

RIVER DAY @ DINO HILL

June 10, 2023 // 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve • Rochester Hills

Meander the trails and nature center at Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve to find activity stations exploring macroinvertebrates, invasive species, fish, & more! You can even create a special river day craft. No registration required.

UTICA PARKS AND RECREATION BIRD FRIENDS EVENT

June 10, 2023 // 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Clinton River Heritage Park • Utica

The Utica Parks and Recreation Commission invites all bird friends to enjoy a day at Clinton River Heritage Park. We will be making pine cone bird feeders. This is a free event and all supplies are included. Everyone is welcome.

ART FISH FUN

June 10, 2023 // 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Beaudette Park • Pontiac

Hosted by the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office, Pure Oakland Water, The Art Experience, and the City of Pontiac, this family friendly and free event that makes learning about water fun through interactive art and education stations. The day kicks off with a park clean-up from 11:00 a.m. to noon.

After the clean-up, attendees will enjoy arts and crafts, games, face painting, live animals, bounce houses, and so much more! A BBQ lunch will be made available free of charge and guests can fish or learn to fish with Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner Jim Nash.



Learn more at artfishfunfestival.com.

SLOW ROW LO - RIVER DAY CLEAN UP

June 10, 2023 // 12:00 p.m.

Metamora-Hadley State Recreation Area

Slow Row Lo is a group of community Paddlers from the Lake Orion, Oxford, and Rochester areas. They are hosting a paddling clean-up on the lake at the Metamora Hadley Recreation Area at one of their scheduled paddles for the season. Bring your own canoe or kayak. No registration required.



BOOKS, RIVERS, AND FISH...OH MY!

June 10, 2023 // 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ray Township Public Library • Ray Township

Join the Ray Township Public Library for a quick story, followed by a hike to the river and some fishing fun! Bring a pole or borrow one of ours (kid sized) and partake in free fishing weekend.

Sign up to let them know you're coming at: tinyurl.com/booksriverfish.



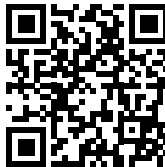
CLINTON RIVER DAY CLEAN-UP

June 10, 2023 // 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Burgess-Shadbrush Nature Center • Shelby Township

Burgess-Shadbrush Nature Center needs your help at a Clinton River clean-up! In partnership with the Clinton River Watershed Council, they are seeking volunteers to help remove trash around this beautiful waterway as they prepare the park for major upgrades. You can celebrate your hard work with ice cream and while they share details about the upcoming project that will make the park universally accessible to all water lovers. Meet at the River Bends Park - Fishing Site (49354 Ryan Rd) at 2:00 p.m. Free pre-registration is required to ensure they have enough supplies. A limited quantity of dairy/gluten free ice cream will be available, first come first served.

Register at: register.shelbytwp.org (RIVER.01).



TURTLE TREK

June 10, 2023 // 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Lake St. Clair Metro Park • Harrison Township

Turtles are one of Southeastern Michigan's most interesting residents. Hear all about their relation to dinosaurs, unique adaptations, and get up close with some of the nature center's turtles. After the animal meet and greet you'll go for a hike through the marsh to find turtles out in the wild. This event is appropriate for all ages. Registration is \$3 per child and \$5 per adult, children under 2 are free!

Pre-registration is required by 4:00 p.m. June 9. Register at: bit.ly/3MkyzQ2.



CLINTON TOWNSHIP RIVER DERBY

June 10, 2023 // 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Clinton Township Civic Center - Clinton Township

If your child loves to fish, they cannot miss this event! The Clinton Township Civic center invites your family to go fishing at their children's River Derby.

The contest is based on total inches caught, whether that be the elusive giant catfish or a variety of panfish. A fishing license is not required to participate. Parents are welcome to assist, but children must reel in the fish. Catch and release only. Prizes will be awarded and everybody is eligible for door prizes. The cost to participate is \$7.00 for residents and \$9.50 Non-Resident. Must Pre-Register due to space available. This event is for people 16 years old & under.

Register online at <https://register.clintontownship.com/ViewCourseActivityDetails.aspx?id=C3518> or by visiting the Main Office at 40700 Romeo Plank Clinton Township, MI



AUBURN HILLS FISHING DERBY

June 11, 2023 // 7:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Riverside Park • Auburn Hills

Join The City of Auburn Hills, Bass Pro Shops, Trout Unlimited & Detroit Area Steelheaders for the 18th Annual Fishing Derby. Children and youth (16 years old and under) fish for rainbow trout. All anglers must bring their own equipment. NO fly rods, treble hooks, or multi hooks are allowed. Catch and release only.

For more information and to register, visit auburnhills.org/community/downtown/river_day_fishing_derby.php



EAGLES BY WAGON RIDE

June 11, 2023 // 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Stony Creek Metropark, Nature Center • Shelby Township

Learn the history of the marvelous comeback of bald eagles in the state of Michigan. Participants will meet at the Inwood Rustic Trail parking lot for a short wagon ride to the nesting site. This Eagle viewing tour is for those who don't want to walk that far but would still like to see where they are nesting. Bring binoculars if you have them. A limited supply will be available to borrow. This event is for individuals 18 years of age and older.



Register for \$5 per adult. Pre-registration is required by 4:00 p.m. on June 10. Register at bit.ly/41BucVa.

KIDS FISHING FEST

June 11, 2023 // 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Milliken State Park • Detroit

Parents, Grandparents and Guardians come enjoy this special opportunity to spend quality time with the children in your life and create fun lasting memories for your family. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy a beautiful day in Milliken State Park.

- Free family event for kids
- Free bait
- FREE pole rental* for those without, please plan to bring a pole if you have one.
- Free snacks



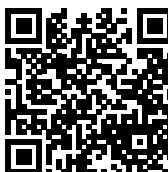
Register and find more info at: <https://detroitriverfront.org/2023kidsfishingfest>.

GO FISH!

June 11, 2023 // 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Marshbank Park • West Bloomfield Township

Join West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation on their fishing pier on Cass Lake to share in this great outdoor pastime! Never been fishing before? No problem! They will have staff on hand with a limited number of fishing poles provided for hands-on instruction to get you and your child started. Win a fishing themed prize if you catch the smallest or the largest fish! A simple craft and game will be available in case the fish aren't biting. Special guest; Mike McKinstry of "The Bassquatch Hunter" TV show, will be sharing great fishing tips! This program will be catch and release of ALL fish, so bring your camera to document your successes! This event is on the DNR's free fishing weekend, so no fishing license is required.



Register at: wbparcs.org/event/go-fish/2023-06-11/.

BELLE ISLE CLEAN-UP

June 17, 2023 // 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Belle Isle Aquarium • Detroit

Bring the whole family to Keep Belle Isle Beautiful on the third Saturday of each month, April - September.

We also invite you to bring your own kayak or SUP and join us as we 'paddle against plastic pollution' along the canals of Belle Isle. Some kayaks will be available onsite on a first come first serve basis.

Learn more at: <https://www.detroitriver.org/events/belle-isle-cleanup-hlslb>



BAY-RAMA FLYFISH FESTIVAL

June 21-25, 2023

Downtown New Baltimore

The Bay-Rama Fishfly Festival is a fun-filled five-day event attended by over 50,000 people in downtown New Baltimore. They feature a large, clean midway, a festival tent with live entertainment, Miss Bay-Rama Queen's Pageant, Kid's Day Fun, a large firework display on the waterfront, a spectacular parade along Green Street, and much more!

Learn more at bay-rama.com.



LITTLE CRITTERS: FANTASTIC FROGS

June 24, 2023 // 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Lake St. Clair Metro Park • Harrison Township

This class for our youngest learners will ignite excitement for nature by focusing each month on a well-known animal, plant or natural occurrence. Through stories, games and nature play, kids will collect information about these fun topics. With this new knowledge, kids and families will gain confidence with outdoor nature play and experience the joy and wonder of nature.

This event is for children 3-6 years old. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Register for \$3 per child and adults are free! Pre-registration is required by 4:00 p.m. on June 23.

Register at bit.ly/3MgaRnV.

