

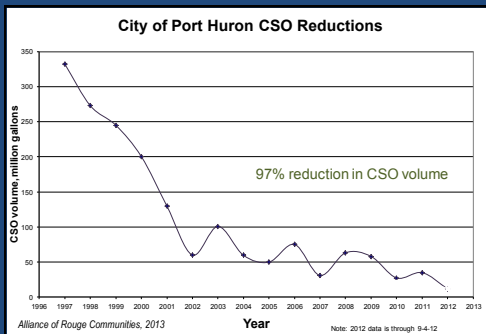


St. Clair River Area of Concern

On the Road to Recovery!!

The St. Clair River is a binational Area of Concern (AOC). Canadian and American governments, First Nation communities, industry and non-profit organizations are working together to improve water quality and habitat damaged from historic discharges, spills and development. Much like on the Canadian side of the river, many projects have been conducted in the United States (US) to improve water quality and habitat. The highlighted projects below are a small sampling of the work conducted on the US side of the river that benefit the environmental health of the St. Clair River.

Port Huron Sewer Separation Project



Substantial progress has been made in Port Huron, Michigan in separating combined sewers throughout the city. By the end of 2012, combined sewer overflow (CSO) volumes were reduced by 97%. This is equivalent to over 1 billion liters of sanitary and storm sewage that did not reach the St. Clair River.

Blue Water River Walk

The Blue Water River Walk project consisted of naturalizing a one kilometer stretch of former industrial land along the St. Clair River shoreline beginning and running south from the mouth of the Black River in Port Huron, Michigan. In addition to improving habitat for fish and wildlife, the area is publically accessible and provides educational opportunities about the St. Clair River and the environment in general.



Marysville Living Shoreline

In 2013, a project was completed in Marysville, Michigan that saw approximately 575 meters (1885 feet) of steel seawall replaced with a rocky and more naturalized shoreline, improving aquatic habitat and reducing erosion. In addition, native vegetation was planted along the upland areas of the shoreline to benefit birds and other wildlife.



Middle Channel Reef

Situated in waters between Harsens and Dickinson Islands in the St. Clair River, the middle channel reef was constructed with loosely piled rocks to improve fish habitat and populations. The project has been successful with many species, in particular lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*). Lake Sturgeon, a threatened fish in both Michigan and Ontario, were observed using the newly constructed reef to spawn.