

Paddle with Us!

Join the Friends!

The Friends and our partners have established successful river cleanups, stewardship and education, aquatic monitoring and tree planting programs to repair our riparian areas.

Joining the Friends supports local efforts and is your opportunity to help protect our resources for our future. Contributions are tax-deductible.

Benefits

- * Opportunity for you and your family to be a part of the annual River Clean-Up and other activities.
- * Invitation to special canoe outing and other 'members only' recreational activities.
- * Satisfaction of helping to protect and restore the Shiawassee River.
- * Subscription to the River View newsletter and e-mail updates on the latest river happenings.
- * Free Friends shopping tote, compliments of Meijer, to show off your membership and conserve resources while you shop.
- * Complimentary admission to Wine Tasting for Walleye and Bald Eagle membership.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/St./Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Membership Levels

- _____ \$25 Friend
- _____ \$35 Supporter
- _____ \$50 Benefactor
- _____ \$100 Blue Heron
- _____ \$250 Walleye
- _____ \$500 Bald Eagle

Please make checks payable to:
Friends of the Shiawassee River
P.O. Box 402
Owosso, MI 48867

Our future: Now!

Join us in a watershed-wide effort to sustain our most important aquatic resource, the Shiawassee River!

The Friends have held more than a dozen River Clean-Ups, removed over 300 yards of debris, planted thousands of trees, educated kids and the community, fought invasive species, monitored stream health and have been important partners to improve water quality and recreation on the Shiawassee River.

The Friends are on a path towards a promising future aided by assets including:

- * A new strategic plan that gives the Friends purpose, direction and support to best meet our mission;
- * A successful partnership with The Nature Conservancy and conservation plan dedicated to the Shiawassee River watershed;
- * Professional staff to carry out our important work;
- * And you!



Contact Information

Friends of the Shiawassee River
P.O. Box 402, Owosso, MI 48867

Phone: (989) 723-9062

info@ShiawasseeRiver.org
ShiawasseeRiver.org



David Vaughn

Who are we?

The Friends of the Shiawassee River

In 1996, a group of Friends came together to take care of the local environment, share their appreciation of the Shiawassee River, and enjoy good times with one another.



Now, the Friends is a 501©3 non-profit organization governed by a local board of directors, powered by dedicated volunteers, and supported by generous donors. By engaging volunteers

in conservation, the Friends are helping to sustain and restore our natural resources. We've helped care for the river and expanded our activities to include monitoring, river and habitat stewardship and much more!

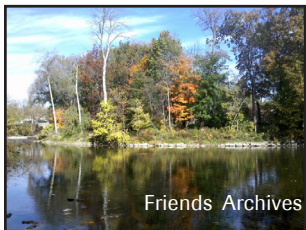
Our Mission

Care, Share, Enjoy!

care, to maintain and improve the water quality and habitats of the Shiawassee River watershed;

share, to enhance the community's appreciation and knowledge of the river, especially among youth; and

enjoy, to increase recreational access and responsible use of the Shiawassee River.



Our Activities

Annual River Cleanup in the spring & summer each year engage community volunteers in stewardship of our river. Programming recycles tires and metal retrieved.



Removal of invasive species that pose a

threat to the river's ecosystem.

Reforestation of the banks of the Shiawassee and community tree planting events.

The increased vegetation along the river helps reduce sediment, nutrient loss and it increases the river's water quality.



Annual fundraising events in which all proceeds go towards the efforts of the Friends organization.

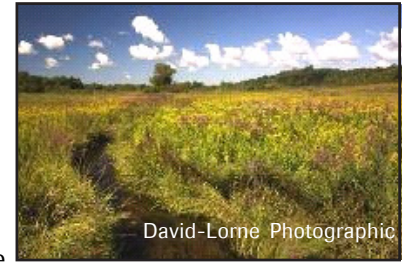
Sharing our knowledge, appreciation and enjoyment of the Shiawassee River with members of the community.

The Shiawassee River: A Resource Worth Protecting

In its 110 mile journey across the landscape, the Shiawassee River traverses through Oakland, Genesee, Livingston, Shiawassee and Saginaw Counties before flowing into Lake Huron. Along its path grew the communities we call home.

The Shiawassee has supported our communities, industries, leisure pursuits. It is an important part of 'Placemaking' & 'New Economy' strategies for our region. As one of the best preserved warm-water rivers, the Shiawassee supports over 70 species of fish and freshwater mussel. The river provides important habitat for migratory birds en route to the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge and beyond.

A great river to fish and paddle, the Shiawassee is a vital asset to our economic, cultural and environmental future. Well over 180,000 residents call the Shiawassee



River watershed home and thousands more visit annually to recreate and enjoy our coastline.

What Threatens the River?

Dams and Impoundments were once necessary to fuel development but limit the movement of important species, such as walleye.

Invasive species, such as garlic mustard, and other plant & animals not native to the region outcompete others for resources and invade landscapes.

Water quality degradation degrades habitat and limits recreation and development activities. Causes include: illegal dumping, failing septic systems, over-fertilization of lawns and fields and excess sedimentation.

Unnatural drainage systems speed water movement and increase sedimentation, especially on unprotected river banks.

Incompatible land uses can be moderated by using low-impact development to reduce pollutant flow.

Join us today!

Your membership supports activities that promote healthy water and habitat. Become active as a member and volunteer!

