



## WILD RICE PLANTING EVENT

Thursday, August 26th

8:30 to 11:30 am | Spirit Lake Marina | 121 Spring Street, Duluth

*Members of the St. Louis River Alliance are invited to volunteer in a wild rice reseeded and educational event. The date set is tentative and depends on the harvester's ability to collect seed.*

***This is a unique and special opportunity. Seats are limited to 10-12 volunteers. You must be a current Member of the St. Louis River Alliance in order to participate. We will plan on going out on Thursday, August 26th, but will reschedule if needed. Please bring your own canoe, gear will be provided if you don't have your own.***

*Kayaks are not practical in this effort, as the 50 lbs seed bag needs to fit in the boat. Please ask if you have any questions about this. There will be a motorized escort boat for safety purposes.*

**If you are a registered SLRA member and are interested in joining us, please email Alyssa at [Outreach@StLouisRiver.org](mailto:Outreach@StLouisRiver.org). In the email provide your name, phone number and if you have access to a canoe.**

We will reschedule if seed can not be harvested in time.

**If you would like to join us but need to become a member, [CLICK HERE](#) to fill out your membership application.**

*Canoes will be leaving from Spirit Lake Marina (121 Spring Street). 8:30 a.m. start time. Please arrive a few minutes early.*



## ***Wild Rice Restoration Information:***

Northern wild rice, Manoomin (Ojibwe), or *Zizania palustris* (scientific name), is an important component to the St. Louis River estuary, because of its value as both a cultural and ecological resource. It is tied to the Migration Story of the Ojibwe people, and it provides an important food source for wild life, Native Americans, and early settlements to the St. Louis River estuary area.

Wild rice was once abundant in the St. Louis River estuary. From the 1930's to the 1960's, the St. Louis River estuary contained between 600 and 1,000 acres of wild rice. Over the past 50 years, its abundance and distribution has been reduced to a few remnant stands. The cause for the decline in wild rice abundance include industry development in the estuary and water quality impacts from land use and point source inputs. Despite water quality improvements in the St. Louis River estuary, due in part to new waste treatment facilities going online such as the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District, wild rice populations have not rebounded.

The Manoomin Restoration Partnership - St. Louis River Estuary; which includes Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR), Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WIDNR), tribal partners, and non-profits; are seeking to restore at least 275 acres of wild rice in a ten years' period from 2014-2024. The plan outlines the specific implementation strategies including locations and practices to restore wild rice in each of the 27 prioritized areas.

Successful wild rice restoration normally requires 3-5 years of seeding due to annual fluctuation in precipitation and water levels. St. Louis River Alliance Volunteers have seeded approximately 10 acres of priority area in 2015, 2017, and will reseed wild rice over that same area in years to come. The 10-acre area was seeded by Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa in 2016.

The St. Louis River Alliance volunteers will implement at least 10 acres of small-scale wild rice restoration in and around Clough Island. Wild rice will be planted in areas with a water depth of 0.5-2.5 ft. and will be measured by with the canoe paddle during seeding. Wild rice seed will be broadcast-planted from canoes around Clough Island by SLRA member volunteers.



St. Louis River Alliance | 394 Lake Ave S., Ste. 208, Duluth, MN 55802

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