

**Elk Rapids River Rats Social Pod Cleanup Event
May 16, 2020**

**St. Clair Lake-Six Mile Lake Nature Preserve (Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy) and
the Nathan Beem Memorial Nature Preserve (Little Traverse Conservancy)**

**In honor of the hundreds of persons and the organizations responsible for preserving and
maintaining the pristine natural areas known as the St. Clair Lake-Six Mile Lake Nature
Preserve (Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy) and the Nathan Beem Memorial Nature
Preserve (Little Traverse Conservancy), a small group of paddlers from the Boardman River
Clean Sweep and Traverse Area Paddle Club clean the shoreline and waters of these two natural
areas several times each year.**

**Other individuals and organizations have also been instrumental in keeping this area litter-free
and accessible, and this is evidenced by the lovely walkways and small amount of debris found
during the BRCS/TAPC cleanups.**

**The attached photographs of the most recent cleanup, May 16, 2020, illustrate the beauty and
solitude of this waterfront, and document the success of our community's efforts to keep the
waterway free from trash and debris.**

**During our cleanup, led by Ron Coyne and Jackie Anderson, we were blessed with sightings of
northern pike, perch, bass, beaver, kingfishers, red-winged blackbirds, woodpeckers and
numerous eagles, which flew thousands of feet above in a group of more than five.**

**To say that this area is special to us all is an understatement, and we thank my sister, JoAnne
Beemon, of Charlevoix, for her efforts in preserving many acres of this incredible natural area.**

**Our thanks go out to the BRCS for inspiring us to do these pre-season cleanups and for posting
the reports.**

Here are our photos:









Written by Glenn Bier