

*Eau Claire Lakes Conservation Club
c/o Sam Frelichowski
14010 S Eau Claire Acres
Gordon, WI 54838*



*President: Ron Jansen
Vice President: Greg Martin
Treasurer: "Sam" Frelichowski
Secretary: Bob Cochrane*

Eau Claire Lakes Conservation Club Newsletter 2018

The Eau Claire Lakes Conservation Club would like to inform you of last year's accomplishments. Formed over 60 years ago, the **Eau Claire Lakes Conservation Club (ECLCC) organizes and completes projects to preserve, protect, and promote the land and water of the Eau Claire Lakes area**. The club encourages participation and your suggestions for new projects when you return the membership/donation form or by contacting any of our officers or members. Interested area residents and seasonal visitors are invited to attend our monthly meetings held the third Monday of each month April through October at the VFW.

First of all, we must thank all the active members for their efforts in planning and providing labor for club projects and all the people who support us through the membership and/or donations. We could not do what we do without all of your support. At the end of the newsletter there is a comment section, and on this section last year we were asked if we were part of the Friends of the Eau Claire Lakes Area organization. We are two separate organizations with our own budget and financing, however, some of our members support both organizations.

2017 Projects

- completed work on the 300 yard rifle range target, ready for use beginning in 2018
- partnered with the DNR by providing boats and manpower to 'scatter plant' extended length walleye on the Upper and Lower Eau Claire Lakes (Pictures of club members working on the walleye stocking can be found on the Barnes website)
- completed the "Kids Don't Float" unit for the Upper Eau Claire Lake landing and now have them on all three lakes
- built new decking for the Mimi Lake dock structure
- worked with a scout on bluebird house construction for his Eagle Scout project
- provided funding and member labor to complete March's fish stick project on Tomahawk Lake (pictures on Barnes website)

Ongoing Projects supported by ECLCC

- place, remove and maintain the "Kids Don't Float" units in the spring and fall
- maintain and fund the Barnes Rifle and Archery Range located off County N. The heavily used range requires regular clean up and target repairs, work done and financed by ECLCC members throughout the year. Remember, we have a separate range for patterning shotguns with shot, please do not use the rifle or pistol range with shot.
- spring placement and fall removal of shallow water safety buoys on the Middle Eau Claire
- maintain loon nesting platform on area lakes. Two loon chicks successfully fledged from a platform on the Upper Eau Claire Lake in 2017.
- fund and provide club labor for "fish sticks" habitat projects, as winter ice conditions permit and trees become available. Contact Scott Toshner at the DNR office in Brule if you have a shoreline site that could be used for one of these stick projects.
- donate funds to the Drummond library for purchase of conservation related materials. If you're in the Drummond area, stop by the library and ask Suzanne Widmar to steer you to

some interesting reading, especially the Gordon MacQuarrie series. While there, ask about the two trail cameras purchased for patrons' use, check one out to see what wildlife visits you at night.

- assist with the cost of swimming lessons when classes are offered.
- donate to events and organizations in line with the club's mission
- support students seeking post-secondary education in conservation-related fields by providing a \$500 scholarship.
- maintain and monitor Smokey Bear Safety / Fire Danger signs located on town roads. Please remember that burning permits are required.
- NOTE: It is important to have your written and signed **annual burning permit** available while burning and follow all restrictions listed on both sides of the permit. You can also call **1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876) for Daily Restrictions or visit this DNR Web site for all burning permit information.** <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestFire/>

Projects under consideration for 2018

- build additional bluebird boxes if there is a demand
- plan and construct benches for Lower Eau Claire landing and Tomahawk Lake Park
- support habitat plantings on trails in Tomahawk Lake Park
- explore stocking walleyes in area lakes

If you utilize the pontoon trailer rental, please note that changes have been made. Dick Webb sold his structure so the trailers will no longer be stored or paid for there. The two pontoon trailers available for rent are now located at the Trading Post and can be rented for \$25 for 4 hours and \$50 for 8 hours. These fees cover the costs of parts and the person hired to maintain the trailers. Trailers are rented on a first come, first take basis. Prior to taking the trailer, pay the fee at the Barnes Trading Post on County Road N, checks payable to the Eau Claire Lakes Conservation Club. If you damage a trailer, we ask that you estimate what the repairs might cost and make an additional donation to cover those repairs. Also, please let Ron Jansen know of repairs that need to be made (715-795-2389). With your help we can keep the fees for pontoon trailers as low as possible.

Thank you for taking the time to read our annual newsletter. This club continues to thrive because of the involvement of community members and property owners, the membership dues and donations received from them. We encourage suggestions, ideas and questions, and if you would like a response, please include your email address.

To become more involved, please contact club members or attend the regular monthly meetings of the club. The meetings are held on the third Monday of the month, April thru October, at the Barnes VFW starting at 7:00 p.m. New members are needed and welcome.



**2018 Eau Claire Lakes Conservation Club
Dues, Membership and Donation Information**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

_____ # of memberships @ \$2.00 \$ _____

Additional Donation \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please Offer Suggestions for Future Projects:

Please include your email address if you would like a response

Return to: Eau Claire Lakes Conservation Club
 c/o Sam Frelichowski
 14010 S Eau Claire Acres
 Gordon, WI 54838

Thank You, We Appreciate Your Support!