

*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 2017

The Eau Claire Lakes Conservation Club would like to inform you of last year's accomplishments and some of our plans for the upcoming year. 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 suggestions for new projects by offering suggestions 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.

We would like to start our 2017 newsletter by thanking Greg Martin for taking over the duties of president while Ron Jansen was out of the area dealing with a medical issue. We also want to thank all the active members for their effort planning and providing the labor for club projects and all the people who support us through their membership and/or donations. We could not do what we do without all of your support

2016 Projects

- The "Kids Don't Float" projects have been very successful on the Middle and Lower Eau Claire Lakes, so we have funded and built another for the Upper Eau Claire Lake which will be in place for the 2017 boating season.
- Ice conditions on the Upper Eau Claire were favorable for replenishing wood on an earlier "fish stick" placement on the Jansen property. Sue and Ron Jansen donated another 50 trees, mostly ironwood, which should last for a long time in the water.
- Extended growth walleye were planted in four area lakes: Beauregard, Pickerel, Robinson and Island Lakes.
- Club support was extended to the Barnes AIS committee to help fight invasive Eurasian water milfoil and curly pondweed. We will help fund divers and provide club member labor on the new BAISS boat designed for this project.
- The Club will support the Town of Barnes Tomahawk Lake ski trail by donating a fishing dock owned by the Club, and the funding and labor to do a "fish sticks" project using the trees taken down for the ski trail.
- We continue to explore the possibility of extending the rifle range out to 300 yards as a number of contributors have requested.
- The idea of putting wing dams in the Eau Claire River between the Upper and Middle Eau Claire Lakes to provide walleye spawning areas has been put on hold because of the objection of a property owner on the river.

Pictures of club members working on the walleye stocking and the wood-in-the-water are included after the membership page.

Ongoing Projects supported by ECLCC

- Fund and provide club member labor for the “sticks in the water” projects, as winter ice conditions permit and trees become available. New shoreline locations are needed for future “sticks” projects on other area lakes. Contact Scott Toshner at the DNR office in Brule if you have a shoreline site that could be used for a “sticks in the water” habitat.
- Maintain and fund the Barnes rifle and archery range located off County Road N. The heavily used range requires regular clean up and target repairs, work done by ECLCC members throughout the year. The ECLCC provides financing for the materials needed for range upkeep. Remember, we have a separate range for patterning shotguns with shot. Please do not use the rifle or pistol range with shot.
- Maintain loon-nesting platforms on area lakes.
- Place and remove the shallow water warning buoys on the Middle Eau Claire Lake.
- Donate to events and organizations in line with the club’s mission. Visit the Drummond library to check out some of the nature/conservation related books and materials purchased with ECLCC donations. This year materials came from the Wisconsin Historical Society Press and focused on areas relating to nature and conservation. If you’re in the area, stop by and ask Suzanne Widmar to steer you to some interesting reading. 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.
- 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/>

If you utilize the pontoon trailer rental, please note that we have raised the rental rate:

\$25 for 4 hours and \$50 for 8 hours. These fees cover the costs of parts and the person hired to maintain the trailers. The trailers are stored at the Webb Realty Office on Hwy N in Barnes, across from the Trading Post. If you have any questions relative to trailer rental, call Ron Jansen, 795-2389. Rental fees can be paid by placing the money in the slot provided at the Webb Realty Office or at the Trading Post. 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. 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. One added note, 15 bat houses are still available. Contact Ron Jansen or Jerry Kaiser to pick up one to mount on a garage peak overhang. Instructions included. 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.



**2017 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:

Return to: Eau Claire Lakes Conservation Club
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Thank You, We Appreciate Your Support!











