

*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: Susan Jansen*

Eau Claire Lakes Conservation Club Newsletter 2019

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 welcome to attend our monthly meetings held at 7 p.m. the third Monday of each month, April through October, at the VFW.

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 their memberships and/or donations. We could not do what we do without all of your support.

Do you value and enjoy the things the Conservation Club provides for the Barnes community such as shooting range maintenance and improvements, stocking of walleye, pontoon trailer rentals, fish habitat projects to name a few? If your answer is yes, consider joining the club. The Conservation Club needs new members in order to continue providing these services, as the current active members are aging, with many in their 70s and 80s. Without new membership, we may have to consider if the club can continue to exist. At our monthly meetings, we do planning and organizing for club projects. Business is usually concluded within an hour, leaving time to socialize at the bar for those so inclined. Please join us.

2018 Projects

- **Walleye Stocking**-partnered with the Red Cliff Reservation to scatter plant 6000 extended length walleye in Middle Eau Claire Lake. The Club provided the boats and the man power to transfer the fish from the transport tanks to waiting pontoons, and then out to the deepest areas of the lake for release
- **Rifle Range**-continued work with the Town of Barnes on the 300 yard rifle range target.
- **Mimi Lake dock**-removed the dock on Mimi Lake that was under water, and looking at replacing it with a new floating dock to be constructed this spring.
- **Eagle Scout Bluebird Project**-club members assisted with purchasing materials and provided guidance with cutting the lumber, using power tools and assembling 50 nesting boxes. The Scout's family are cabin owners here in Barnes and he was looking for an opportunity to work with a local organization to assist in his project. Club members were alerted and then worked closely with the scout to coordinate and complete this project. Jerry Kaiser was instrumental in working closely with the scout to coordinate and complete this project.
- **Park Benches**-three benches in the process of being constructed, one for the Lower Eau Claire Lake landing, and two for the Tomahawk Lake Park ski trail
- **Club Webpage link**-pictures and short summaries of Club events can be found at the Barnes webpage under Organizations

Ongoing Projects supported by ECLCC

- **Kids Don't Float** -place, remove and maintain the "Kids Don't Float" life jacket storage boxes in the spring and fall
- **Rifle Range**-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.
- **Safety Buoys**-spring placement and fall removal of shallow water safety buoys on the Middle Eau Claire
- **Nesting Platforms**-maintain loon nesting platforms on area lakes.
- **Vatten Paddlar**-provide starters and safety boat monitors for the Vatten Paddlar
- **Fish Habitat**-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.
Scott.Toshner@Wisconsin.gov
- **Library Resources**-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.
- **Lessons**-assist with the cost of swimming lessons when classes are offered.
- **Donations**-donate to events and organizations in line with the club's mission
- **Scholarships**-support students seeking post-secondary education in conservation-related fields by providing a \$500 scholarship.
- **Fire Danger Signs**-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 2019

- build additional bluebird boxes if there is a demand
- support habitat plantings on trails in Tomahawk Lake Park
- scatter plant walleyes in the three Eau Claire Lakes

If you utilize the pontoon trailer rental, please note that changes have been made. 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, as well as 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.



**2019 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
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Thank You, We Appreciate Your Support!