

# ...from the Lake Shores

News and information from your Lake Association

"Preserving and protecting our lakes for today and for future generations."



## Welcome

to the fifteenth edition of the Connors Lake/Little Papoose/Lake of the Pines Voluntary Lake Association, Inc., Newsletter.

## A message from Tom Stram, President

Another beautiful summer at the lake. We were very busy entertaining friends and relatives. As the saying goes at the cabin, nine months of winter and three months of visitors. Connors Lake was as clear as I can remember and the water temperature was ideal for swimming all summer. The panfish were plentiful off the end of the pier.

This was the year to renew memberships in the Lake Association and we would like to see more of you become members. It is only \$50 every two years, per member, and you may send your \$50 check to CoPaPi Lake Association, P.O. Box 63, Winter WI 54896. If you do not remember whether or not you sent in your membership, please contact myself or one of the officers of the lake association.

Dave Cooley stepped down from the Board after many years of supervising the Clean Boats Clean Waters boat inspection program. Thank You Dave!! Patty Pelloquin Behrenbrinker, who was elected to the board in 2012, has taken over management of the CBCW program. It would be helpful if a small group of volunteers from LOP would step forward and start boat inspections in an effort to keep milfoil out of the lake. You can probably get some volunteers from Connors Lake to help get it started. LOP has also been active this year in monitoring water quality through the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network. After many years as our Recording Secretary, Ellen Cernjar is now a Board Member at Large. Thank You Ellen!! We were very fortunate to have Sarah Belson Happe step forward as our new Recording Secretary. You can be proud that attendance at our board meetings is usually close to 100%.

We also had a large number of people attending the summer general membership meetings. Vice-president, Jim Schofield scheduled three excellent speakers for our summer meetings. Thanks go out to Mark LaVick for another successful Raffle and Picnic. The annual summer picnic has become so popular that we ran out of several food items.

Because of anchorage problems Gene Johnson devised a new system for anchoring the buoys. Read more about it in this newsletter. Our monthly web-site visits average well over 250 so we have decided to pay more to expand our website space and provide additional/unlimited data for our visitors. Next summer I anticipate we will be spending some of our money stocking fish following recommendations of the DNR. How many of you were stopped this summer by a representative of the DNR doing a creel survey? On one occasion I was embarrassed to show her some of the tiny pan fish my grandchildren insisted we keep and throw in the live-well.

After several years of calm the dam issue again reared its ugly head. A complaint was filed with the DNR after rocks were placed at the outlet of Connors Lake. Negotiations with the DNR resulted in manual rather than machine removal of these rocks and the dam was restored to a photo taken in 2006. Signs are to be placed at the outlet warning against obstructing the channel. If necessary, we can legally install a surveillance camera. It is MY OPINION ONLY that the effect of the dam on water levels is over-exaggerated. There are many factors that affect water levels but the two most important for our lakes are precipitation and evaporation. Recall what happened when 6 -7 inches of rain fell in two days in late August 2013. The lake level rose significantly and a check of the outlet did not reveal water rushing out of the lake.

There has been considerable interest in improving the trail from the end of Johnson Road to Connors Creek. Ultimately the DNR/Flambeau River State Forest Master Plan is to develop a bike/hiking trail around both lakes but not until 2018. This includes a bridge over Connors Creek. We are talking with the DNR to improve the trail this coming year with a combination of donations of money, labor, equipment and possibly grants. These are just a few examples of your lake association at work for you. Thanks for your encouragement and support.

Enjoy our award-winning newsletter and have a great fall and winter "at the lake".

## 2013 General Membership Meetings at Connors Lake Pavilion

Saturday	May 24	Memorial Day Weekend
Saturday	July 5	Association Annual Meeting
Saturday	August 30	Labor Day Weekend

All meetings will begin at 9:00 am

The spring newsletter will be mailed in May 2014. Please submit your contributions or mention items you would like to see in future newsletters by Wednesday April 9 to Sandra Lehmann. Drop off at the house, call 715.332.5101 or email [sjl@pctcnet.net](mailto:sjl@pctcnet.net)

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**Township of Winter****Town Website: [www.townofwinter.com](http://www.townofwinter.com)****Chairman:** James Genrich, N7009 Fender Rd., Winter, WI 54896, 715-266-6011**1st Supervisor:** David Kinsley, W7270 Thorsen Road, Winter, WI 54896, 715.266.2102**2nd Supervisor:** Helen Dennis, N4437 Lake Winter Road, Winter, WI 54896, 715.567-0445**Clerk/Treas:** Lori Van Winkle, P.O. Box 129, Winter, WI 54896, 715.266.3131**Town Mailing Address:** Town of Winter, P.O. Box 129, Winter, WI 54896, Phone: 715.266.3131, email: [townofwinter@centurytel.net](mailto:townofwinter@centurytel.net)

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**CoPaPi Board of Directors for 2013-2014****Officers**

President	Tom Stram	term ends 2014
Vice President	Jim Schofield	term ends 2014
Treasurer	Nancy Sorensen	term ends 2015
Recording Secretary	Sarah Belson Happe	term ends 2015
Corresponding Secretary	Sandra Lehmann	term ends 2015

**Board Members at Large**

Dale Lehmann, Tom Deinhammer, Dave Schiotz, Patty Peloquin Behrenbrinker	term ends 2014
Ellen Cernjar, Mark LaVick, Dave Bauer, Bob Feller	term ends 2015
Gene Johnson—Past President, Esther Johnson—Past Treasurer	

**Phone Numbers and Email Addresses**

Tom Stram	715.384.8348	<a href="mailto:twrcstram@frontier.com">twrcstram@frontier.com</a>
Jim Schofield	715.723.2011	<a href="mailto:schofieldje@hotmail.com">schofieldje@hotmail.com</a>
Nancy Sorensen	715.332.5624	<a href="mailto:plato@pctcnet.net">plato@pctcnet.net</a>
Sarah Belson Happe	952.473.9645	<a href="mailto:sbhappe@msn.com">sbhappe@msn.com</a>
Sandra Lehmann	715.332.5101	<a href="mailto:sjl@pctcnet.net">sjl@pctcnet.net</a>
Dave Bauer	920.915.1101	<a href="mailto:dbauer9255@gmail.com">dbauer9255@gmail.com</a>
Ellen Cernjar	715.878.4672	<a href="mailto:gecernjar@yahoo.com">gecernjar@yahoo.com</a>
Mark LaVick	715.332.5399	<a href="mailto:cabinatconnors@pctcnet.net">cabinatconnors@pctcnet.net</a>
Bob Feller	608.849.7449	<a href="mailto:rfeller@tds.net">rfeller@tds.net</a>
Dale Lehmann	715.332.5101	<a href="mailto:sjl@pctcnet.net">sjl@pctcnet.net</a>
Dave Schiotz	715.235.9322	<a href="mailto:dkschiotz@yahoo.com">dkschiotz@yahoo.com</a>
Tom Deinhammer	715.835.6588	<a href="mailto:deintj@charter.net">deintj@charter.net</a>
Patty Peloquin Behrenbrinker	715.332.5344	<a href="mailto:pbehrenbrinker@gmail.com">pbehrenbrinker@gmail.com</a>
Gene Johnson	715.536.0219	<a href="mailto:genes.johnson@frontier.com">genes.johnson@frontier.com</a>
Esther Johnson	715.332.5223	

**HOLD THE DATE!! Saturday—July 26, 2014****CoPaPi Voluntary Lake Association****Old Fashioned Family Picnic****Connors Lake Picnic Park 11:30 am-1:30 pm****The event is free and open to all lake residents, their families and friends.****More information in the Spring Newsletter****Paul Meyer** of Reedsburg passed away on August 1, 2013. Paul had a place on Johnson Road and was a charter member of our board. His daughter and son-in-law (Paula and Tom) will now have the place.**Rev Dan Ahrens** of Appleton passed away on October 1. Dan and Marilyn lived on Old Lodge Lane before moving to Appleton a couple of years ago.

The Cash Raffle was held on Saturday, September 21, 2013, at The Cabin on Connors Lake. The CoPaPi Voluntary Lake Association would like to thank everyone who participated in and bought tickets for our cash raffle. Congratulations to the winners.

1 <sup>st</sup> prize	\$2500	Elizabeth Reid	6 <sup>th</sup> prize	\$ 100	Dan & Haley Derrick
2 <sup>nd</sup> prize	\$1000	Shawna Schultz	7 <sup>th</sup> prize	\$ 100	Russell Bonikowske
3 <sup>rd</sup> prize	\$ 500	Garrett Schultz	8 <sup>th</sup> prize	\$ 100	Hans Erik Feller
4 <sup>th</sup> prize	\$ 250	Jeff Hansen	9 <sup>th</sup> prize	\$ 100	Ann Boson
5 <sup>th</sup> prize	\$ 100	Paul Nelson	10 <sup>th</sup> prize	\$ 100	Karla Luptak

**WCLMN (Wisconsin Citizens Lake  
Monitoring Network)  
by Dave Schiotz, Coordinator**

Last spring as I was writing my Newsletter article, looking at a foot plus of snow still covering the ground, I hypothesized that the phosphorus levels in our lakes may be higher, at least initially, than in a normal year. Rapid melting of snow and heavy rainfall does add phosphorus to our lakes through run off. We checked both lakes on May 24<sup>th</sup> and found the phosphorus level was 17.3ug/l in Connors and 33.6ug/l in LOP. Testing done in June, July and August showed the levels were lower in both lakes, however, LOP has a consistently higher phosphorus level.

Since phosphorus acts as a fertilizer to aquatic plants, increased plant growth would be expected. In LOP we did find a greater algae concentration following the elevated phosphorus levels. In Connors there was no significant change.

Average water clarity, as measured by secchi disk readings, has shown a gradual increase in both lakes over the past few years. When we compare our clarity, chlorophyll and phosphorus levels with averages for lakes in our region, our lakes appear healthy as they enter into "Middle Age."

This is the first year that we have had excellent data from both lakes. For this we thank the volunteers who are really taking ownership in data collection. I am hoping they will consent to be part of the CLMN team again next year. On LOP we had Larry Anderson, Dave Bauer, Tom Deinhammer, Carl Edwardson and Jim Schofield. On Connors we had Greg & Ellen Cernjar, Gordie Dukerschein, Bob Feller, Jeff & Sherry Hansen, Dale & Sandra Lehmann, Rich Marusinec, Dave & Karen Schiotz and Tom Stram.

If anyone is interested in volunteering or if you just would like to observe the sampling, please let me know. (Dave Schiotz [dkschiotz@yahoo.com](mailto:dkschiotz@yahoo.com) or 715 332-5164) or contact one of the volunteers listed above.

A special thank you to Sandra Lehmann for inputting all our data from both lakes into the DNR network.

Have a good Winter!!

You can access WCLMN reports at <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/clmn>

Do not key in www, just http://

1. Citizen Lake Monitoring page opens
2. Find Sawyer County and click on it
3. Find Connors Lake or Lake of the Pines
4. In the Report column click on Details



**Clean Boats/Clean Waters  
by Patty Behrenbrinker**



Many thanks to the volunteers who donated their time last summer to the Clean Boats/Clean Waters Program. Thank you for using some of your precious summer time to spend at the boat landing helping to keep AIS from entering or leaving Connor's Lake.

The Clean Boats/Clean Waters program focuses on education of boaters and inspection of boats, trailers and other watercraft for aquatic invasive species (AIS). Another great benefit of this program is that our Lake Association is given monetary credit towards our portion of the cost to treat Eurasian Milfoil in Connors Lake. We receive \$12 for each volunteer hour.

Volunteering at the boat landing is an opportunity to meet our lake neighbors and possibly receive good fishing tips! This program relies on volunteers so please consider donating a couple hours of your time next summer to help keep our lakes clean.

For more information to help with Clean Boats/Clean Waters please contact Patty Behrenbrinker at 612.419.6896 or email [pbehenbrinker@gmail.com](mailto:pbehenbrinker@gmail.com)

For more information about the "Clean boats, Clean Waters" program go to the website:

[www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexplakes/CBCW](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexplakes/CBCW)

**July 2013 Annual Picnic  
By Mark LaVick**

Once again, on the last Saturday in July, families, friends and neighbors gathered at the Connors Lake picnic area for what is turning into a cheerful get together. Its purpose is solely to help all of those interested in the preservation of the lakes and surrounding area to meet and get to know one another.

Our local establishments, The Cabin at Connors Lake, Flambeau Forest Inn and Red's Big Bear Lodge graciously donated a picnic luncheon for all to enjoy. This year we served close to 60 attendees.

Each year interest is growing. In addition, committees were on hand to share their findings, show equipment and usage and to answer questions. It is our hope we'll be able to add family oriented activities for all ages to enjoy and make it a festive fun filled day for everyone for years to come.

See you next year on the last Saturday in July which is July 26, 2014!!!

There is no such thing as Safe Ice! Springs, air pockets, currents, vegetation and even rough fish can cause variations.

- 2" STAY OFF!
- 4" ICE FISHING
- 5" SNOWMOBILE/ATV
- 12" SMALL CAR
- 15: MEDIUM TRUCK

**Fishery News**  
by Tom Deinhammer, Chairman

The government shut down has caused problems in writing an up to date report for this newsletter as the numbers I need are stored in their files. When the shut down is removed the WDNR will be able to decide if we get walleyes stocked in our lakes. The number of walleyes in our lakes may be down some so let us hope some stocking is done.

The following has been completed by the WDNR: fall 2012 netting, spring 2013 netting, fall 2013 netting and the 2013 electroshocking. The WDNR has been really good to work with and I am very thankful for all of their work and cooperation.

That just about does it for now so if you have any questions call me (715.835.6588) and I will try to answer them to the best I can.

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**Fall Fire Season**  
by Sandra Lehmann

DNR officials are requesting that people use extra caution when doing outdoor burning. Grasses and leaves dry out quickly and can often burn within days or even hours after rainfall.

Any outdoor burning requires a burning permit and has restrictions on dates and times when burning is allowed. Whenever the ground is not snow covered, a permit is required to burn any type of debris.

The burning permits are free and list a toll free number to call to check on daily burning restrictions. It is required to check by telephone, or online on the DNR website, to confirm if burning is allowed, and for times burning is permitted, each time a person burns debris.

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**Wild Instincts**  
by Sandra Lehmann

Wild Instincts was formed to address a need for quality, ethical wildlife rehabilitation in the area.

If you go to their website at

[www.wildinstinctsrehab.com](http://www.wildinstinctsrehab.com)

and click on Newsletters, then click on the newsletter for July 2013 (page 2) you will read about their treatment of a loon having swallowed two fishing hooks. It shows the x-ray with the two hooks and tells about the endoscopy that was performed. It also tells about another loon they treated that had swallowed a lead sinker.

When clicking on the link "HERE" you will see a video of the inside of a live loon.

Wild Instincts is located in Rhinelander and will pick up and rehabilitate injured animals. Their phone number is 715-490-2727



**Aquatic Invasive Species Report**  
by Tom Stram

We are face to face with the fact that Eurasian water-milfoil is going to be in Connors Lake forever unless an effective biological option is discovered. Aquatic weevils are an insect herbivore that lays its eggs in the growing parts of the milfoil and the larvae destroy the vascular plant tissues. The weevil is found naturally in some lakes (not our lakes) but is very expensive to purchase and does not thrive in clear deep lakes. So we have to control the milfoil with herbicides.

The past several years we have done an early spring treatment (about 3 -5 acres) with 2,4-D granular herbicide followed by a mid-summer spot treatment (about 0.5 acres) of new or previously overlooked plants that I see while cruising around the lake.

We have had two grants over the past years to assist us in financing the cost of treatment but the last Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Control Grant from the DNR ends this year. We applied for two grants on August 1st but we did not match for the AIS Control Grant. The DNR is not funding maintenance but rather rapid or first response treatments because of budget shortfalls. We did however receive an AIS Education Grant to cover the cost of the pre and post-treatment plant survey (\$2,000) and other costs like the newsletter and mailings. I anticipate that it will cost us \$8,000 annually to control the milfoil. Hopefully we can keep LOP milfoil free.

Below is a photo of Dale Dressel after he and I applied the herbicide for the milfoil on Connors Lake.



**Lake Superior Facts**

Lake Superior contains ten percent of all the fresh water on the planet Earth.  
It covers 82,000 square kilometers or 31,700 square miles.  
The average depth is 147 meters or 483 feet.  
There have been about 350 shipwrecks recorded in Lake Superior  
It contains as much water as all the other Great Lakes combined, plus three extra Lake Erie 's!!  
The deepest point in the lake is 405 meters or 1,333 feet.  
There are 78 different species of fish that call the big lake home.



## Safety Buoys on Connors Lake By Gene Johnson

The CoPaPi Lake Association would like to say a big Thank You to Gene for all of his research and hard work on this project.

As we approach nearly a decade with our warning buoys signaling the location of the bars/shoals on the lake, we are grateful for their silent reminder. The buoys stand resolute and say nothing, yet they warn of danger during the light of day via their reflective markings and contrasting white silhouette and at night via the solar powered strobe atop their structure.

Through the years, we have encountered and overcome a couple hiccups. The current status has everything above the water line in relatively good shape. As we enter the depths, we find that our anchoring methods have been tried with some conventions working better than others. The most successful to date has been a simple acorn screw augured 3-4 feet into the lake base. The problems encountered are all due to Mother Nature's exertion of strength in a quiet but forceful manner. The most recent issues have been caused by late season ice traversing the lake during spring break up. A couple of things that have worked in parallel against the success of our anchoring systems are fishermen and the formation of ice around the stand pipe and chain. Upon thawing, the ice drifts and takes the buried anchor for a ride.

After researching anchors with the USGS and Coast Guard, it has been determined that our lake is classified as a shallow depth lake surrounded by deep sections on a small water body. Consequently, we would suffer from the making of large anchors, as this would expose material above the water line and do more damage than good since our water ways are traveled by multiple water craft and used by many. An alternative to large anchors is the type of anchor we have now proceeded with, which is in the shape of a turtle shell with a brim. In time, the brim will become buried with just the center hump rising up. In selecting this type of anchor, it will serve as

not only an anchor but also a visual signal under water in case the above water marker was not in place. Having a raised oval profile, the anchor provides a direction of the bar or "It's Length".

Since the anchor will live its life in water, it is desirable to build it right the first time. To limit the possibility of rust, all internal rebar and anchor points are stainless steel and, because weight is our friend, a large amount of cement/gravel mix was used to make the concrete anchor. In total the anchor weighs in at 800 pounds. To help locate and identify it in the water, the top side was painted with florescent paint with a strip across the top. This will aide in the finding of the anchor in low level light. To those concerned about budget – no charge was made for this anchor. All products and time have been donated!

Installation of the buoy was made easy with the assistance of a skid steer placing the anchor on a swim raft and the swim raft being launched at the boat landing and then towed to the site. The anchor was raised and pipes, the width of the anchor, were placed underneath. With two people, one pulling on the anchor via rope and the other anchoring the raft, the buoy rolled to the edge and slid to the depths of its new home. The first anchor is placed on the bar in front of Cervenka's.

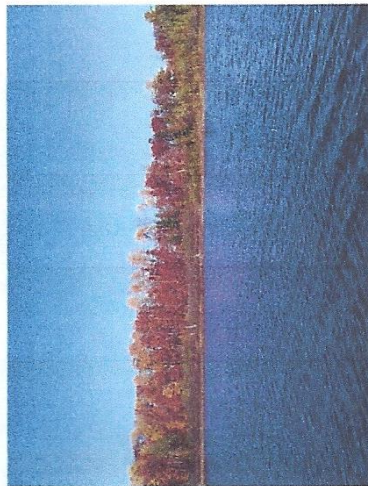
A special thanks to those who offered to help. With few calm water days and no quiet water craft days, the odds were against us—but in the end we prevailed. A special nod to Dale Lehmann for enduring the rain, wind and weather.

This is the first of three anchors for Connors Lake and one for Lake of the Pines. Till next spring, have a great winter - stay warm!





# Sawyer County Shoreland Property Guidelines



Windigo Lake

## What waterfront property owners need to know

Rev. 3/12

### Definitions to Understand:

**BUFFER ZONE:** A strip of land 35 feet wide inland from the ordinary high-water mark of any navigable body of water, including but not limited to: streams, rivers, ponds, flowages and lakes. Term used synonymously with buffer area, buffer strip, and Shoreline Vegetation Protection Area (SVPA).

**ACCESS AND VIEWING CORRIDOR:** the strip of vegetated land that allows pedestrian access to the shore through the vegetative buffer zone.

**ORDINARY HIGH-WATER MARK (OHWM):** means the point on the bank or shore up to which the presence and action of surface water is so continuous as to leave a distinctive mark such as by erosion, destruction or prevention of terrestrial vegetation, predominance of aquatic vegetation, or other easily recognized characteristics.

**ROUTINE MAINTENANCE OF VEGETATION:** normally accepted horticultural practices that do not result in the loss of any layer of existing vegetation and do not require earth disturbance.

**STRUCTURE:** any construction, excluding fills, or any production or piece of work artificially built or composed of parts joined together in some definite manner having form, shape, and utility. Examples of structures would include, but not be limited to: concrete, flagstone and block patios; concrete slabs, retaining walls, fences, portable storage buildings, etc.

**MITIGATION:** balancing measures that are designed, implemented and function to restore natural functions and values that are otherwise lost through development and human activities.

**IMPERVIOUS SURFACE:** Surfaces which prevent or impede normal water infiltration and/or cause runoff to other areas. Includes, but not limited to: (1) all rooftops (area measured at roof gable end and eave lines), (2) stairs, walkways, driveways and parking or other areas, comprised of brick, paver stone, cementitious substances, or any bituminous substance, including asphalt, and (3) any subbase of plastic or any shield which prevents or impedes water penetration. Decks, stairways and elevated walkways with minimum gaps of 1/8" in their surface structure (e.g., wooden decks with open cracks between the deck boards) allowing water to readily pass through the structure are not considered an impervious surface. Any portion of a township road traversing a lot will not be included as part of the impervious surface for calculation purposes.



Left: This diagram depicts the 35' buffer zone (BZ) along the water, a 30' access/viewing corridor, and the 75' structure setback.

~Lake/River~



### Allowed:

Maintain a 35 foot buffer zone. The land from the water's edge back 35 feet is protected from mowing, clearing, excavating, and other vegetation removal. Once established, a buffer zone may not be removed.

Utilize 30 feet in any 100 feet of shoreline as an access/viewing corridor by selectively removing vegetation.

Construct up to a 5 foot wide walkway/stairway within your access/viewing corridor; landings may not exceed 40 square feet and attached benches, seats or tables are prohibited.

Removal of dead, dying and diseased trees which pose a safety hazard, as well as noxious vegetation (ex. poison ivy). Take photographic evidence before removal.

Plant native vegetation throughout your property.

### Not Allowed:

Removal of vegetation from the ground within 35 feet of the OHWM (see routine maintenance of vegetation definition)

Use of heavy machinery within 35 feet of the OHWM

Any new structure within 75 feet of the OHWM (see definition for structure)

Cause soil erosion or runoff into the water.

To view the complete Shoreland-Wetland Protection Ordinance, visit our website:  
[www.sawycercounty.gov.org](http://www.sawycercounty.gov.org)

### How to be a good steward of the land:

Refrain from using chemical fertilizers, especially those containing phosphorus, on your shoreland property.

Construct a raingarden to absorb runoff from your roof and other impervious surfaces.

Plant native trees, shrubs and wildflowers, and enjoy the wildlife that will seek those species out.

Use vegetation as a privacy screen from your neighbors and other lake users.

Reduce the amount of lawn you mow – more time to relax and enjoy your property!

Limit impervious surfaces.

Inspect and maintain septic systems.

*Enjoy the reasons you are attracted to property in Sawyer County: clean water, abundant wildlife, good fishing, and natural scenic beauty!*

Sawyer County Zoning & Conservation has jurisdiction from the OHWM landward.

The DNR has jurisdiction from the OHWM into Wisconsin waters.

The local DNR Service Center in Hayward is located at:  
10220N State Highway 27  
(715) 634-2688 Hayward DNR

### Resources available from the Sawyer County Zoning & Conservation Office:

- \* Spring Tree Sales Program
- \* Native Plant Restoration Brochure
- \* Conservation Star Home Program
- \* Plantskydd Repellent Sales
- \* Raingarden Information
- \* Mitigation Plan Checklist
- \* Conservation cost-share funding and engineering design assistance for erosion control and shoreline stabilization.



Nelson Lake

### For more information:

Sawyer County Zoning & Conservation  
10610 Main Street, Suite 49  
Hayward, WI 54843  
Phone: 715-634-8288

or e-mail us at:  
[conservation@sawycercounty.gov.org](mailto:conservation@sawycercounty.gov.org)

[www.sawycercounty.gov.org](http://www.sawycercounty.gov.org)

## Paul Bunyan Submitted by Sandra Lehmann

“Paul Bunyan, the greatest lumberjack who ever skidded a log, who with the aid of his wonderful blue ox and his crew of hardy lumbermen cleared one hundred million feet of pine from a single forty and performed other feats related about the roaring fires of the lumber shanties.”

Paul Bunyan has been known as a true American icon and others say he is a fraud and the sole product of an advertising campaign. According to the book *Out of the Northwoods: The Many Lives of Paul Bunyan* by Michael Edmonds, when thousands of novice loggers entered the Great Lakes wilderness to work for the lumber industry in the early-1880s, “Grizzled veterans in logging shanties from Saginaw, Michigan, to Duluth, Minnesota, began to tell tall tales about the old days, when things were *really* tough. Some of them claimed to have worked for a camp foreman named Paul Bunyan, whose unusual size, strength and cleverness helped his men escape catastrophes or solve problems.” Some of the stories were intended to intimidate the new loggers, most of whom were teenagers fresh from home, by exaggerating the extreme winter conditions or the danger of mythical forest beasts. Occasionally, the tales were told simply for fun, or to pass the time, as loggers competed with one another in creative lying contests.

The earliest reliably dated reference to Paul Bunyan comes from a logging camp north of Tomahawk, WI., during the winter of 1885-1886, when a timber cruiser (a person who estimates the value of standing timber) named Bill Mulhollen told a tale about the famous lumberjack. Charles Brown (1872-1946), director of the Wisconsin Historical Society Museum who collected Bunyan stories from 1906-1946, heard the tales from a retired camp foreman in Oshkosh, Wis., in the early 1890s. By the beginning of the 20th century, Bunyan stories were being told aloud in logging camps from coast to coast, until many states laid claim to his birth.

An anonymous 1904 article tells us—“His pet joke and the one with which the green horn at the camp is sure to be tried, consists of a series of imaginative tales about the year Paul Bunyan lumbered in North Dakota. The

great Paul is represented as getting out countless millions of timber in the year of the ‘blue snow.’” (Duluth News Tribune, August 4, 1904). This printing appears over a decade before any commercial use of the Paul Bunyan name.

J. E. Rockwell in the nature journal *The Outer’s Book* introduces us to an eight foot, three-hundred pound, quick tempered, peerless smoking, lumber baron who ruled over his subordinates “with an iron hand.” He is a man of great might, resourcefulness, harder than rock, whose voice shook the earth and made his workers jump. Here the rigid Paul Bunyan is accompanied by his logging crew, his cook and a peculiar BLUE OX. The extraordinary creature, “measured eight ax-handles between the horns” and “hailed all the wood and water for the camp.”

Bunyan made his advertising debut in 5,000 promotional brochures printed by the Red River Lumber Co. of Minneapolis in 1914. During the 1920s, two professional writers who labored in the timber industry as young men resurrected the Bunyan stories and reworked them into short fiction. By the 1940s, Paul Bunyan’s name and image had been so exploited by advertisers, and there were so many stories, both sterilized and embellished, about the folk hero that Richard Dorson, the “dean of American folklorists,” coined the term “fakelore” to describe the Bunyan tales.

University of Wisconsin-Madison undergraduate Bernice Stewart (1894-1975) and her English professor, Homer Watt (1884-1948), were the first scholars to try to systematically gather Bunyan stories. Scholars believe their work, gathered while traveling through Wisconsin lumber camps and northern towns between 1914 and 1916, contains the most authentic versions of original Bunyan tales.

The “Round River Drive” was published by columnist James MacGillivray in *Detroit News Tribune* in 1910 and appears below as retold by S. E. Schlosser. Most of the exploits of Paul Bunyan center at Round River.

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### Round River Drive

Well now Paul Bunyan scouted around the north woods of Wisconsin for quite a while afore he found the perfect spot for his winter lumber camp. It was right next to a fast river, and Paul figured they could pile the logs up right next to it and come spring time it would be mighty easy to tumble the logs into the river and float ‘em down to the mill.

Soon the woods beside that mighty river were bustling with activity, and calls of “timber!” as the lumberjacks felled the huge trees. Babe the Blue Ox and his cousin Little Benny were kept busy from dawn to dusk hauling logs to the river, and Sourdough Sam the cook hardly stepped foot outside his cooking shanty neither, working all day and most of the night to keep all them lumberjacks fed. Took about twenty cooking assistants alone just to make enough flapjacks for Paul Bunyan!

Well, by the time spring rolled around, they had logs piled up so high folks passing through Wisconsin mistook them for a mountain range and thought they’d reached the Rockies. The mighty river was free of ice, and Paul declared himself ready to take the first big batch of logs down-river to the saw mill the very next morning. In preparation for his journey to civilization, Paul struggled out of his huge red long johns and took a bath in Lake Superior. Then he washed the long johns and strung them up to dry on the flagpole. When they flapped in the breeze, it scared the migrating birds so much they turned around and went back South.

Paul Bunyan, the shanty cook Joe Murphy, and the other river drivers all piled up onto the log raft and set off down the river. It was a pleasant ride overall, and it didn’t take more than three days for them to spot smoke rising above the woods.



"Can't be the saw mill," Paul Bunyan told his men. "That's still a couple weeks away. Must be another lumber camp. I thought we were the only ones up this far." The fellers watched awhile as the camp drew nearer and nearer. It had a huge cooking shanty more than an acre long and a great big barn and a fellow that looked jest like Sourdough Sam came out and rang the dinner bell to call the lumberjacks in to supper. There was even a pair of red long Johns hanging from the flagpole.

"Looks like a nice place," Joe Murphy said. "Just like our camp. Funny how they've got a pair of red long Johns up on their flagpole, jest like us." And the men all agreed. It was too bad they couldn't stop and rest awhile, but they needed to get to the saw mill lickety split, so they jest kept going. The river drivers were kept busy fighting the rapids and portaging over shallow spots for the next couple of days. On the third day they spotted smoke coming over the top of the trees. "Another lumber camp!" Paul Bunyan exclaimed in irritation. "Jiminy! If this keeps up Wisconsin will be lumbered out in no time!"

The log raft floated past a huge cooking shanty more than an acre long, and a fellow what looked jest like Sourdough Sam waved to them from the doorway. Then they floated beside a huge barn big enough to fit Babe the Blue Ox. Finally, they rounded a bend and saw a tall flagpole with a pair of red long Johns strung up at the top. "These lumber camps all look alike," Joe Murphy complained. "You'd think they'd have some variety or something!" "And there's too many of them," Paul Bunyan replied as they floated on down the river toward the saw mill. "They are gonna put us out of business. I'll have to look into it when we get back from the mill!"

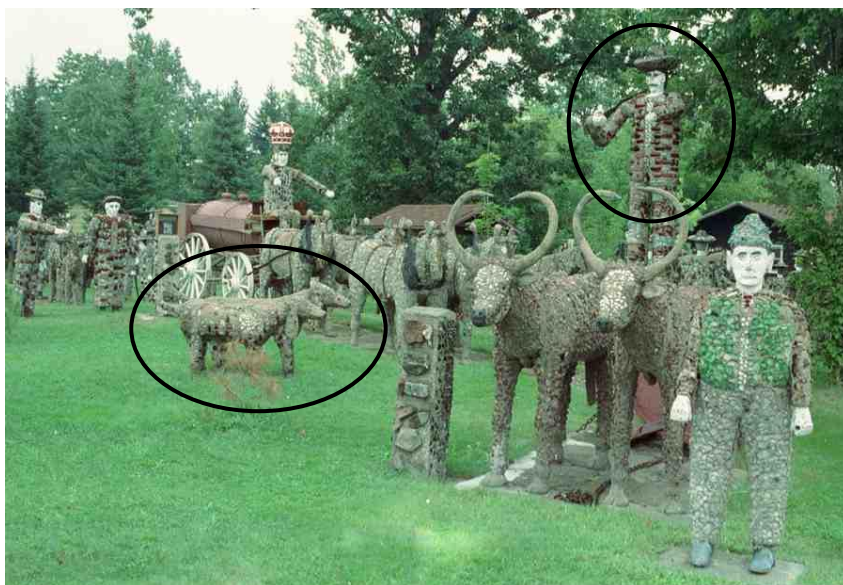
At that moment they hit some rapids, just like they had right after seeing the first lumbercamp, and they were too busy working to say anymore about it. But three days later, when they spotted yet another lumber camp, Paul Bunyan got mad. He was the first scout in these spots. How dare all these lumberjacks invade his territory without talking to him first! After all, the north woods were only so big. "This dad-gum camp is jest like the rest!" exclaimed Joe Murphy as they poled the raft toward shore. "Same cooking shanty, same big barn, same flagpole with the long Johns on top. Jiminy! Get some variety, folks!"

Paul Bunyan jumped out as soon as they reached the bank and went storming toward the main building to complain to the boss. But halfway there, Sourdough Sam himself came out of the cooking shanty to ring the supper bell. "Sourdough! What are you doin' here?" Paul Bunyan asked in astonishment. "I work here," said Sourdough Sam. "And so do you!" "Dad-gum! You mean this is my camp?" asked Paul Bunyan. "Sure 'tis!" said Sourdough Sam. "We've been watchin' you fellers floating past the camp every couple of days with the lumber and we've been wondering where you think yer going! I though you was headed south to the saw mill!" "So we've been going round in a circle all this while," mused Paul Bunyan. Then he started laughing and slapped his leg with his huge hand. "We musta been logging next to the Round River! I heard there was a big ol' river in the north of Wisconsin that ran in a perfect circle with no way out. Guess this must be it!" "That explains why we never reached a saw mill," Joe Murphy said as he and the boys from the lumber raft came ashore to see what was keeping Paul Bunyan. "And why all the lumber camps looked the same!"

All the lumberjacks laughed heartily when they realized that Mother Nature had played a good joke on them. Who'd have ever guessed they were working on the only round river in the world! Then they went into the cooking shanty and ate flapjacks until they were ready to burst. And Paul Bunyan went scouting around 'til he found a river that really did run south to the saw mill, and they took the logs out that way instead. The next year Paul Bunyan was careful to avoid the Round River when scouting out a camp for the winter logging. Once was enough.

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Paul Bunyan was even created by Fred Smith and is in the **Wisconsin Concrete Park**, alongside Hwy 13 in Phillips, WI. The kerosene wagon is left-center, Paul Bunyan's hounds are in front of it. Bunyan is back right and Mr. Knox and oxen are right front.



# Interesting Lake Happenings

by Carolyn Mealman

Whew!! Zoom!! That was it? I can't remember a summer that has gone by so fast. It just seemed like two months since ice out on May 8. It also seems like lake water activity was down this year. With the landscape dressed in all its fall colors though, it means the seasons will come and go without our say so.



### Loon Watch

Our three loons arrived on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> with some bergs still floating. The two mates did make a nest, but

this year there were no chicks. At times we had up to six loons on Connors Lake at one time. On Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, as we were cruising around the lake in our pontoon, we spied two loons down towards the Connors Lake Campground area. Close by was a third and then another appeared off to our left. We immediately stopped to watch all of the hooting and greeting as they came together. Shortly, another pair came from the creek area and the dipping, diving and flopping started all over again. I guess they had called a lake association meeting. They had twenty minutes to conduct business before a speeding boat approached to land at the shore. The loons were not happy their meeting was so abruptly closed. When we were working and took our vacation at my uncle's resort in Minnesota, it took us 4 or 5 days to slow down and enjoy all the area and wildlife around us, which is too bad that our lives are this busy.

Wisconsin has approximately 3131 nesting adults now. Harassing protected waterfowl carries a fine of up to \$1000. This summer I met Erica LeMoine, head of the loon program in Ashland, when I attended a Chautauqua Concert. She was presenting loon calls as part of an added feature.

During spring migration there was a late ice storm in some areas of Wisconsin. Reports were made of some loons that were wet and had become encased with ice and falling to the ground like missiles. Loons are not able to survive on land; they must be in the water. The Raptor Education Group took in 57 stranded and injured birds in 3 days, most of which were rehabbed and released.

### Other Wildlife

This spring we had a goose family at our bird feeders for a while. One day we noticed one was having trouble walking and was falling and couldn't keep up with the group. The parents tried with all of their knowledge and



physical strength to help their little one, but to no avail. Wally picked it up and put it in a box and we took it over to Jim and his crew at the DNR office. They all checked it over and no cause was found for its condition, so we returned it to the family (that were not

Happy we had removed it) and had to let "mother nature" take her course.

### Fireworks



Other water birds were also far and few between this year and all seemed to disappear over the four "week" July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. No one likes fireworks more than I do. but when they go on for weeks it is not pleasant for water birds. I know I sound grumpy, but with all the fireworks clutter going into the lake water, it can't be good for the quality. Also, it was very dry at that time, and one weekend (July 27) we found a "rocket" on our front porch which means that some of the burning remains are landing on land, making it an accident waiting to happen. Setting off fireworks in the Flambeau State Forest is really against the law and carries a fine of at least \$200, so please be very careful when having fu

### Hummingbirds



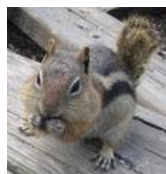
The little hummers left us on September 16th and were much more plentiful this summer. It kept Wally making syrup for them every day.

### Turkeys



This fall we have had 7 to 14 turkeys that stop by the "feeding station" for a snack every now and then. It is not quite the bonanza that corn piles are but we enjoy them.

### Chippies



Chippies are busy storing up a stash for the winter. I have one that sits on a toad statue on our patio. He begs from me every day as we eat our dinner. It comes right up to the front door to greet me and gets its treat out of my hand. Caution though—they are still wildlife creatures and may try to nip your fingers.

I am sure most of you have seen the muskrat and river otters that eat and play in the water. Also the eagles that keep an eye on you as you take rides around the lake.





## Wild Columbine, an Elfin Beauty Submitted by Tom Stram

My favorite native wildflower is the Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia Canadensis*). It is found throughout Wisconsin but you have to search for them in our area. I have found them in the wooded area between the picnic ground parking lot and the road on Connors Lake.

*Aquilegia* is from the Latin word for Eagle (*aquilinum*) referring to the spurred petals that suggest an eagle's talons. *Canadensis* comes from the Latin "of Canada". Other names include Rock Bells, Meetinghouses, Chuckies, Rock Lily, Jack-in-Trousers, Granny's Bonnets, Dancing Fairies and Love Perfume.

Columbines have been grown in gardens for centuries and are one of the most popular perennials. The columbine was ranked as the seventh most popular wildflower in the 1940s and there once was a movement to make it the national flower. The garden varieties come in many different colors. The native wildflower species features a nodding, salmon and yellow flower with five upward-spurred petals, alternating with spreading red sepals and numerous yellow stamens hanging below the petals. The flower is 1 - 2 inches and the plant grows to a height of 1 - 2 feet. The stems are slender and the leaves are light green with three lobed leaflets.

Columbines flower from April to July and are found in habitats ranging from woodlands to open rocky slopes. The American columbine is red, a color that most attracts ruby-throated hummingbirds. The Rocky Mountain varieties come in white, yellow and blue (*Aquilegiaerulea*)-colors that do not attract hummingbirds. Hummingbirds are the only creatures that can easily sip the nectar from the flowers and in so doing, pollinate them.

The plant was used by ancient herbalists to treat jaundice, abdominal pains, measles, smallpox and to reduce swelling of the liver. Young Meskwaki Indians mixed ripe seed capsules with smoking tobacco to improve its smell yielding a "love perfume", handy when courting. Columbine can be easily grown from seed sown from spring to early summer. Seedlings do not bloom the first year.

### Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote:

"A woodland walk,  
A quest of river grapes,  
A mocking thrush,  
A wild rose or,  
Rock loving columbine  
Salve my worst wounds."



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## FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST

### From the Superintendent—Jim Halvorson

Hope everyone has had a good summer. The leaves have turned and have fallen and it is time to get prepared for winter. Hopefully, before the snow flies, you can get out and chase a few grouse and scout for deer season. If you need maps or tips on where we have been actively logging stop in and we will try to help out. **Grouse** populations are low, **deer** are stable and **bear** are up. Then we come to **turkeys**, they seem to be everywhere. The **goose control** seems to be working with the help of our two swan decoys. I was a bit skeptical but they have been staying out of the beach area.

Here is a brief update of what's been happening this past year and upcoming events.

### Highlights

- There were a number of **timber sales** cut this year. It has been slow the past two years as the logging contractors shifted to cutting the wind damaged counties to our west. Since those areas have been cleaned up they have shifted back to the State Forest. This year 2,741 acres were set up for harvest with about the same number of acres 2,738 acres being cut. These acres of timber we do set up are spread out over 20-30 sales and fall within our allowable cut which is based on the yearly growth of the forest.
- **Forest Inventory** of our backlog is wrapping up. We are now back on track with having to review only 5000-6000 acres per year. What this converts to is every acre within the state forest gets reviewed for timber production, recreation, wildlife potential, invasives, trespass issues and access issues every 20 years. This **inventory** is the backbone to forest management on the State Forest.





- The **access plan** continues and is close to completion. This past year four additional roads have been improved. In addition funding was allocated to help Draper, Winter, and Flambeau Twsp. along with Rusk County in the repair of town roads that benefit the State Forest. In addition two additional roads in the Oxbo area were built, along with four access roads in the southern portion of the forest graveled. Additional gates have also been placed restricting access to foot travel only protecting sensitive areas and following the intent of our access plan that many of you were a part of.
- We continue to monitor the forest for insect and disease issues. Two key bugs that we continue to watch closely for are the emerald ash borer and gypsy moth. **Emerald ash borer** continues to spread slowly across the State. Last month an outbreak was found in Superior which required the quarantine of Douglas County. This is a bad bug everyone. On the positive side it is relatively large, and not a good flier. How it makes large leaps is primarily movement of firewood. Firewood coming into the State Forest is not allowed unless it comes within 25 miles of the State Forest boundaries or it comes from a certified firewood supplier. This hauling distance of 25 miles will most likely become less in the future years. **Remember, if you are bringing firewood from your home or buying it outside of this 25 mile radius it can be confiscated and destroyed.** If this critter gets a foothold on the Flambeau River State Forest it will most likely kill 30% of the trees across the forest and 100% of our ash wetland stands.
- **Implementation of the Master Plan.** Projects that have been approved for funding and will be taking place this upcoming year involve:

- Graveling 3.3 mi of Skinner Creek road
- ATV trail renovation, (2.2 mi)
- Mowing 120 miles of access rds. ATV/Snowmobile trails and Hunter/walking trails
- Construction of new ATV trail Co.Hwy. M to Fisherman's Landing (1.5 mi.)
- Renovation of Connors Lake Picnic area (tree planting, grills, landscaping, etc.)
- Construct four additional campsites at Cedar rapids
- Renovate and stabilize Beaver Dam and Cedar Rapids canoe landings
- Renovate and install Trailhead signage and kiosks
- Replace vault toilet at Lake of the Pines campground
- Replace roof and siding on storage building
- Lake of the Pines (LOP) boat landing still on hold pending funding

Any questions on any of the projects give me a call.

- **Recreation improvements** this past year involved **new roof** on Connors Lake picnic bathroom and changing room, placement of **kiosk** at LOP boat landing (materials to build provided by CoPaPi Lake Association) , renovation of 60 miles of **hunter/walking** trails, **step replacement** down to LOP beach area and **access improvement** to Cedar Rapids campsites. This year we have also placed **red open net bags** at all the landings to cut back on litter. Rather than throwing cans, etc. in the bottom of their canoes, it now goes into bags and is tied down. If they do tip the garbage is

contained and does not go floating down the river. We are also in the process of mowing approximately 60 miles of hunter/walking trails through-out the Forest to improve hunter access.

- **Events** this year included our **naturalist programs** on Saturdays for our children. It continues to be difficult in getting the public involved. Any ideas on how we can improve participation, I am open to suggestions. The **candlelight ski** is scheduled for **February 8<sup>th</sup>**; don't forget to put it on your calendar. We hope to see you there this winter.
- **Law enforcement** activities continue on the Forest. It was a relatively quiet summer. The number of campers was down due to the cold wet spring. **Thanks** to all the volunteers who spent time at our landings informing the public and checking for Eurasian milfoil, and the work the Lake Association has done in controlling this invasive. Hunting season has started; if you come across violations please give us a call 715-332-5251 ext. 103. If you are unsure of the rules stop by and we will be glad help interpret them for you. At times they can be confusing.
- **Wildlife** activities this past year continued. Surveys on grouse, wolf, bear, eagle, osprey, goshawk and track surveys were conducted. Grouse populations are down this year, bear has increased, wolf and other critters are stable. Elk will be introduced this next year with a holding pen being placed on Sawyer Co. Forest in the vicinity of Haystack and Thornapple road. Two additional releases may also happen pending approvals.

Details of the Master Plan for the Forest can be viewed on line at  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/stateforests/SF-Flambeau/>

Hope you have a great fall and winter

CoPaPi Voluntary Lake Association, Inc. would like to give a special thanks to the businesses on this and the following pages for supporting our lake association by advertising in our newsletter. Please support them when you have the opportunity.

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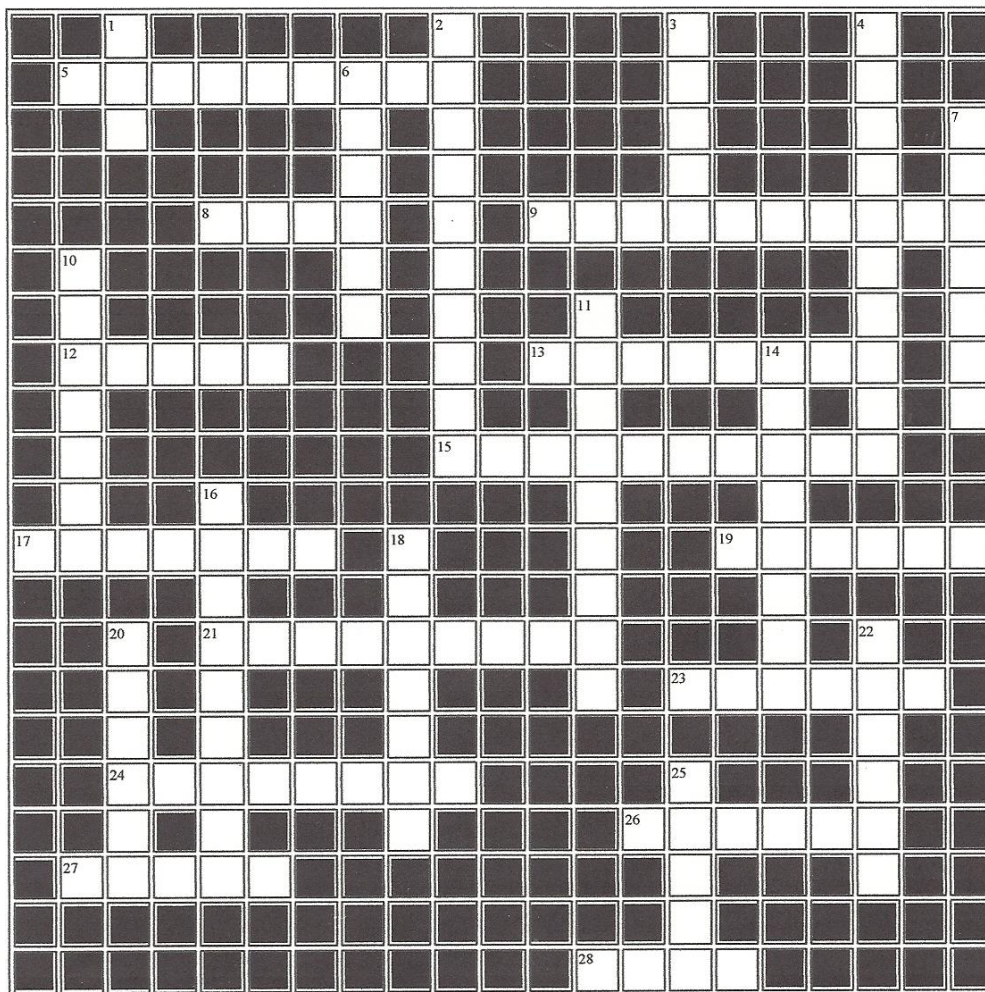
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# Fun for kids of all ages



You will find the answers to the crossword puzzle clues somewhere in this newsletter.

## Across

## Down

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>5. Aquatic weevils are an insect _____ that lays its eggs in the growing parts of the milfoil.</p> <p>8. There is no such thing as _____ ice.</p> <p>9. _____ acts as a fertilizer to aquatic plants.</p> <p>12. The _____ River Drive is a story of Paul Bunyan.</p> <p>13. Paul Bunyan is a _____ legend.</p> <p>15. _____ programs were held on Saturdays, during the summer, by the forest office.</p> <p>17. Wisconsin has about 3131 _____ loon adults now.</p> <p>19. Two swan _____ were placed on the beach at Connors picnic park.</p> <p>21. The CB/CW program focuses on the _____ of boaters.</p> <p>23. Outdoor burning requires a _____ when the ground is not snow covered.</p> <p>24. The emerald ash borer and the gypsy moth can come into the area on _____.</p> <p>26. A _____ disk is used to record the clarity of the water in the lake.</p> <p>27. The _____ seem to be under control at Connors picnic park.</p> <p>28. Paul Bunyan had a blue ox whose name was _____.</p> | <p>1. The _____ color attracts hummingbirds.</p> <p>2. You may not remove _____ from the ground within 35 ft of the high water mark.</p> <p>3. We have safety _____ on Connors Lake.</p> <p>4. The _____ shut down did not let us write an up-to-date fishing report.</p> <p>6. We have seen the river _____ playing in our lake this summer.</p> <p>7. In the CB/CW program we _____ the boats for invasive species.</p> <p>10. An impervious _____ prevent or impede normal water infiltration and could cause runoff to other areas.</p> <p>11. A _____ plant is one of the most popular perennials.</p> <p>14. An _____ is used to record the water temperature in the lake.</p> <p>16. July 4 seems to bring _____ to the area.</p> <p>18. Our lake is classified as a _____ depth lake by the USGS and the Coast Guard.</p> <p>20. On September 21, 2013, the lake association held their annual cash _____.</p> <p>22. On July 26, 2013, the lake association held their annual summer _____.</p> <p>25. Wild Instincts is a _____ facility in Rhinelander.</p> |
|--|--|





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