

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

A message from Jim Schofield, President

How important it is that those who go ahead of us do the best they can do. It sets the tone and tempo for us who follow. Such was the case of our past president of CoPaPi, Tom Stram. Our thanks to him for his wonderful leadership, dedication, and giving. We as an association and "lake neighborhood" are so much better off because of his hard work. I plan to take up where Tom left off and look forward to continue in giving back to the people and area that I have grown to love over these past forty-five years.

Your lake association board has begun to develop some long range goals that we will strive to accomplish in the upcoming years. One of these goals is to make our lake association more VISIBLE as an association and make you, our members, more AWARE of all this association is doing for you. But, before going forward, let's take a quick look at some of what the lake association has accomplished up to now.

Kiosks at the boat landings

Involvement in fish management and stocking of fish

Buoys in both lakes

Grants for Eurasian Water milfoil treatment

Annual picnics

Helping in the creation of trails

Website

Working with the Flambeau State Forest management plan

Newsletters

Attending conferences and meetings related to lake management

Taking water samples

Monitoring boat landings

This is quite a list, isn't it?

This leads me into another goal of the lake association board. We are aiming in trying harder to get you as a member more involved in the activities of the association. We feel that by getting you more involved with other members, you will better enjoy, understand, and benefit being a member of CoPaPi Lake Association. We hope to begin a volunteer/membership campaign over these next two years. We are looking forward to meeting old acquaintances and making new ones.

As you can see, the board/association has some great goals ahead of us. We will need your help if we hope to achieve the best results! And, in closing, the Board and I want to thank you for all your support and membership in the lake association. It means a great deal to us! These lakes and forest are a very beautiful and special gift given to us. Let each one of us become a good steward and do our best for all those who will follow us!

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

2015 CoPaPi Lake Association Dates at Connors Lake Pavilion

Saturday **May 23**

Memorial Weekend Meeting

Meeting Speakers to be

Saturday **July 4**

Association Annual Meeting

announced

Saturday **July 18**

Annual Family Picnic (11:30 - 1:30)

All meetings will begin at

Saturday **September 5**

Labor Day Weekend Meeting

9:00 am

Township of Winter

Town Website: www.townofwinter.com

Chairman: David Kinsley, W7270 Thorson Road., Winter WI 54896, 715.266.2102

1st Supervisor: Helen Dennis, N4437 Lake Winter Road, Winter WI 54896, 715.567.0445

2nd Supervisor: Ron Barnaby, W6930 County Road G, Winter WI 54896, 715.266.4461

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

The spring newsletter will be mailed in May 2015. Please submit your contributions or mention items you would like to see in future newsletters by Wednesday April 8 to Sandra Lehmann. Drop off at the house, call 715.332.5101 or email sjl@pctnet.net

CoPaPi Board of Directors for 2014-2015

Officers

President	Jim Schofield	term ends 2016
Vice President	Bob Feller	term ends 2016
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 2016
Ellen Cernjar, Mark LaVick, Dave Bauer, Tom Stram	term ends 2015
Gene Johnson—Past President, Esther Johnson—Past Treasurer	

Phone Numbers and Email Addresses

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

Saturday—July 18, 2015

**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.

Memberships in CoPaPi Lake Association

The CoPaPi Board has decided to start yearly memberships for the year 2015. You will receive a membership notice every year in the spring newsletter. A membership is \$25 per year per member.

The **Cash Raffle** was held Saturday, September 20, 2014, at the Flambeau Forest Inn. The CoPaPi Voluntary Lake Association would like to thank everyone who participated in and bought tickets for our cash raffle. Congratulations to the winners.

1st prize \$2500 Steve Reisner
2nd prize \$1000 Ricky Austin
3rd prize \$ 500 Pat Grunberg
4th prize \$ 250 Garrett Schultz
5th prize \$ 100 Andrew Anderson

6th prize \$100 Jamie Teigen
7th prize \$100 John Reid
8th prize \$100 Gene & Marge Verdegan
9th prize \$100 Dan Hardy
10th prize \$100 Patricia Bebak

CoPaPi Voluntary Lake Association would like to say
WELCOME

to all new people in our lake area.

Please consider becoming a member in 2015.



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

The Secchi disk, oximeter and other sampling equipment has been "put to rest." now that we have finished monitoring our lakes for 2014. This year our volunteers did a super job providing the most complete data on both lakes we have ever had!

What happens to the data we collect and how is it used? Our data along with that from other lakes in WI is all submitted to the WI DNR Citizens Lake Monitoring Network. From there the data is used nationally, regionally and statewide in an effort to improve our water quality. Nationally, the data that citizens collect is used every two years to report trends in WI lakes and identify needs to the federal government.

Similar geographic and ecological features divide lakes into regions of the state. We often compare our two lakes to those in our region as far as phosphorus, chlorophyll and clarity. CLMN data is summarized and presented annually to lake organizations to indicate water quality trends. The lake data is also summarized in tables which allow readers to more easily compare water quality, condition and changes that may be occurring in our regional water bodies. This information is used to set priorities for lake protection, restoration and funding.

An example of important legislation enacted to protect our lakes was the limit on phosphorus discharge from wastewater treatment plants and the ban on phosphate detergents and lawn fertilizer in WI. Lake data collected by CLMN volunteers was instrumental in these regulations being enacted.

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

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

A rather high -tech use of our lake data is the University of WI Environment Remote Sensing Center (ERSC). In 1999, UW (ERSC) began a program of comparing Secchi disk readings to satellite photographs to predict water clarity in lakes. Using volunteer Secchi readings they discovered they could actually measure water clarity on over 8,000 lakes using a satellite imagery model, calibrated with a small number of lakes actually sampled. If we monitor our two lakes on the day the satellite is overhead, we are helping monitor other lakes that don't have any volunteers.

A long term study of Northern Temperate lakes used CLMN data from phosphorus, chlorophyll and secchi readings to look for trends in these lakes over a long period of time.

Our CLMN volunteers are VITAL to the continual monitoring of our lakes. For this we thank them and hope they will consider "signing up" for another year. Our volunteers are: On LOP—Larry Anderson, Dave Bauer, Tom Deinhammer, Carl Edwardson and Jim Schofield. On Connors—Greg & Ellen Cernjar, Gordie Dukerschein, Bob Feller, Jeff & Sherry Hansen, Dale & Sandy Lehmann, Rich Marusinec, Dave & Karen Schiotz and Tom Stram.

If anyone is interested in volunteering or if you would just like to observe the sampling, please let me know. (Dave Schiotz dkschiotz@yahoo.com or 715.332.5164.

HAVE A GOOD WINTER!



Amy Schiotz and Ridge with Ridge's first hunting success.

Lake of the Pines Pontoon Ride

September 27 was a perfect Saturday for a pontoon ride around Lake of the Pines. Jim Schofield graciously volunteered to take anyone who was interested and able to go.



Clean Boats/Clean Waters by Patty Behrenbrinker

Many thanks to volunteers who donated their time to the Clean Boats/Clean Waters

Program this summer. This program focuses on education of boaters and inspection of boats, trailers and other watercraft for aquatic invasive species (AIS). 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.

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 Conner's 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 pbehrenbrinker@gmail.com



Aquatic Invasive Species Report by Tom Stram

The Survey of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) that was done in the fall of 2013 revealed 0.83 acres of our nemesis Eurasian water-milfoil (EWM) and was performed by Steve Schieffer, Certified Watershed Manager of Ecological Integrity Service. Our treatment plan and permit application were based on this survey for this past summer's herbicide treatment.

Dale Dressel of Northern Aquatic Services, our herbicide applicator, planned to do two or three spot treatments. The initial treatment was much later this year because of the late onset of spring and resultant delayed growth of aquatic plants in general. Once the aquatic plants started to grow, however, they all went crazy.

The initial treatment was performed on July 9, 2014. I go out on the lake with Dale because of my knowledge of the lake and the EWM locations. The past several years Bob Feller also trails along so we will have another board member who is familiar with our invasive weed problem and its management. When the treatment starts we leave the boat for safety reasons especially if Dale uses the broadcast sprayer.

In July Dale applied herbicide to 1.3 acres and on August 21 to another 0.5 acres. In August Dale found two new colonies of milfoil including one near the boat launch. The painful part of this process is the total cost of \$4,200. This is a good reason to help us check the boats coming into our lakes for new AIS through the Clean Boats/Clean Waters Program. Please consider helping this summer for only 2 hours. A fall survey of both lakes is scheduled.

You can look up the lakes in your WI County that have invasive species by keying in

<http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives>

Under Data & Maps (on the right side) choose Lakes & Rivers with Aquatic Invasive Species. In the location line click on the check box and choose your county. You will find interesting information.



This is the new entrance to the hiking/biking trail at the end of Johnson Road to Connors Creek. The WDNR office marked the trees to be cleared out of the woods and Dale Lehmann, with some help from Rich Marusinec and Bob Feller prepared the clearing.

The DNR office will now clear the stumps and prepare the trail with a good surface. When completed the trail will be a much welcomed improvement.

Interesting Lake Happenings

by Carolyn Mealman

As I write this article, it is raining and the leaves are falling rapidly, (seemed like they changed overnight) just as the summer (all two weeks of it) flew by. I know that time flies faster the older you get, but this is overdoing it. Activity on the lake was low also.

The water level is up for October. "Ice out" was April 28 for the upper part of Connors and May 1 for those near the camp ground. The way the pattern is going now we could see "ice over" in November. We woke up to snow on Saturday morning, October 4.

Other Wildlife

The humming birds and other migrators were here until the third week-end of September, but they probably are enjoying much warmer temps by now. Our woodpeckers and nut hatches and three turkeys have once again joined the rest of our feathered flock from the forest. We did see the otters quite often and some of those teensy frogs were on our window again.

Our visitors included 20 geese (two families) and a few more mallards. It was interesting and educational to watch these birds grow from baby chicks to adults. These waterfowl creatures are some of the best parents around and very protective of their clan. The geese preen their feathers very meticulously, seeing that every feather is in place and getting rid of the unruly ones. There are multiple personalities in each group.

One of our trapeze artists of the forest crawled into a little trouble this August. Wally takes our bird feeders in during this time of year (coons/bears) so we can use them more than one season. We have two red metal ones that hold seed. There were some peep holes so one could see how much was in there. They were of hard plastic, but that was just a good sharpening tool for the squirrels. Thus the reason for the black tape around the tube to hold the grain in, which has been chewed away many times (how do they know exactly where that little space is?). The black metal tops were confiscated and carried off by raccoons ages ago. Wally has replaced the tops with home-made devices. It seems the squirrels are driven to get into mischief.

One night when Wally went to bring in the feeders, he encountered a gray squirrel stuck down in the tube with

As of October 24 a bull, cow and calf were seen east of the river and have been in radio contact (collars) on the west side, about 2 miles south of headquarters.

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only the tail showing. We both decided to just lay it down and let the imp back out. No go! Wally finally wriggled the hanger off, but had to lightly and very carefully pull its tail. The animal hung on to the bottom bar for life. One more pull of the tail and the trouble maker finally let loose and scampered away, up a tree and flew across the branches, with only a slightly hurt tail, to its home. These very curious, creative robbers hang by their hind feet to the hanger and then they can reach the hole where the seed comes out, taking only the sun flower seeds while the rest falls to the ground, thus helping and appeasing the birds.

Hope you all have good and memorable times at the lake!



Loon Watch

The three loons appeared April 29th. The territorial pair nested on the island again, but I'm guessing the black flies were too bothersome and the female left the nest. So there were no chicks. The loons were around all summer (sometimes 4) and they are still here on Oct. 2nd.

I will be retiring from my volunteer position this year and looking for a replacement. You need not be a permanent resident but need to be able to observe the lake several times a month, especially in the spring, or have a helper. Arrival time, pairs, and nesting data are important. There are guidelines to follow – it isn't hard – and the hours you spend are counted toward our association 'lake hours' at \$12 an hour toward lake grants.

Please call Carolyn at 715-332-5267 and she will be glad to explain and help you.

Andrew Anderson
Agent
5146N Main Street • PO Box 190
Winter, WI 54896
northwoodsins@centurytel.net
cell: 715-491-0323
office: 715-266-4181 • fax: 715-266-2802



How to Make a Long-Burning Campfire Log

Submitted by Tom Stram

Taken from Cabin Life magazine, August 2013

A log and a chain saw are all you need to create this mesmerizing fuel source that burns for hours

By Gary Bartholomew

Any season is a great time for a bonfire. A bonfire serves as the perfect place to gather and talk about the day's catch or other events. I've had so much fun creating fire logs for gatherings, and I have received many compliments on them. A friend of mine even told me that he once saw a similar precut fire log for sale in a hardware store. But why buy one when it's so easy to make one yourself?

How does it work?

This fire is different because it burns from the inside out. A log that is at least 12 inches in diameter and 15 inches long will burn for 2–3 hours. Fires are easier to start, and the log gives off lots of light and heat and very little smoke.

Prepping the log

To make a fire log, all you need is a log, a chain saw and proper hearing and eye protection. You should also be familiar with operating a chain saw. I used a log from a poplar tree, but almost any type of wood will work as long as it's dry. Birch and oak burn longer than poplar, but they are a little harder to start.

When cutting the log, think of a pizza. With the log standing upright, make four straight, intersecting cuts down the length of the log, stopping around 1½ inches from the bottom.

Enjoying the bonfire

Pour a little charcoal lighter fluid down the center of the log and carefully light it. (*EDITOR'S NOTE: Exercise caution when working with highly flammable substances like lighter fluid. Do not use gasoline.*)

You can use the fire log for heating water or cooking. Just be sure that the base is on a stable surface. The outside pillars will stay solid and support a frying pan for most of the first 2 hours. The log produces a lot of radiant heat. It will cook a marshmallow or hot dog very fast, so keep them rotating.

Once the center of the log has been mostly burned away, carefully push the standing wood sections in toward each other, creating a more traditional fire configuration while extending the life of the bonfire.

We have had nothing but great reviews every time we light one of these. In fact, our neighbors had an outdoor wedding last year and I asked if I could bring a fire log. The bride and groom loved the surprise, and all of their guests asked me about the design.

Remember, safety is most important with any bonfire. Check your overhead clearance for branches, use a fire ring or other barrier, clear the area around your fire pit, and never start a fire when there are strong winds.



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2013 – 2014 Creel Survey on Connors Lake and Lake of the Pines

Submitted by Sandra Lehmann

In 2013-2014 the WDNR conducted an open water creel survey on Connors Lake and Lake of the Pines. It was done by Donna Sorensen from the WDNR's Treaty Fisheries Assessment Team based in Spooner. The survey was conducted from opening day of game fish season on May 4, 2013 and ran through the end of October. Winter creel was conducted from December 1 through the close of the game fish season on March 2, 2014.

A creel survey is a sampling tool used to measure the fishing activities of the sport anglers and to estimate the amount of fish harvested on a body of water. The information collected from anglers during the interview includes the species of fish being targeted, catch and harvest, lengths of harvested fish, and hours of fishing effort.

The data collected during the survey is processed by a computer program and summarized by month to calculate estimates of the total fishing pressure, fishing effort directed at each species, catch and harvest rates, and the number of fish caught and harvested. The creel survey report will provide you with four types of estimated information for a body of water:

1. Overall fishing pressure
 2. Fishing effort directed at each species
 3. Catch and harvest rates
 4. Numbers of fish caught and harvested.

Also included in the report is physical information about the lake, a discussion of results of the survey and detailed summaries by species.

You can find the 17 page survey for Connors Lake and Lake of the Pines on the Internet by doing the following. I think you will find it quite interesting to look at all the information that is provided.

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/north/trtycrlsrvys.html>

Under 2013-2014 /creel survey final reports click on Connors Lake or Lake of the Pines.

Another way to [find the survey](#) is to key wdnr creel survey in your search engine. Then choose Fishing Wisconsin – Northern Fisheries Creel Surveys – WDNR. Then proceed to click on Connors Lake or Lake of the Pines.

Make sure you look at pages 16 and 17 of the survey on each of our two lakes.



Josh and Caisa Schuelke
with Caisa's first turkey,
shot in FRSF.

New Fawn



Dan Schauder

Josh Schuelke



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Yellow, orange and variations thereof always reside in the pigmentation of tree leaves, but they are just overpowered by the abundance of green from the chlorophyll in the leaves.

Red and purple leaves are actually caused by the presence of sugars from sap that is trapped inside of the leaves.

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L ocated midway between Winter and Phillips on County Road W, The Cabin at Connors Lake offers a unique up north dining experience nestled in the heart of The Flambeau River State Forest. A scenic and relaxing drive to the southeastern corner of Sawyer County will reward you with casual fine dining in an intimate setting of rustic log furniture and wood burning fireplaces.

Changing with the seasons, our chefs with over forty years of culinary excellence, create from scratch, soups, desserts, and seasonal salad dressings. All of our innovative entrees

are skillfully prepared to order using only the finest ingredients, and presented with great attention to detail, quality and service.

Our bar offers an unrivaled fireside setting with multiple televisions for every venue, signature sandwiches, tantalizing appetizers, and the best custom made pizzas in the north woods. We feature premium brands of liquor, beer, and Wisconsin draught beers. Our extensive wine list is superb and very reasonably priced, with many of our selections having a rating of 90 or higher.

We're open year 'round at 4:30, closed Monday and Tuesday. Our climate-controlled facility is available for private parties, business conferences and retreats, and family celebrations for up to fifty. For more information, seasonal hours, daily specials, or reservations, please call us at 715.332.5399, or visit us at W1115 County Road W, Winter, Wisconsin 54896, on facebook, or cabinatconnors@pctcnet.net.

Reservations Recommended

Featuring

Appetizers

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Entrees

Friday Seafood
Specials

Nightly specials

You're bound to see pumpkins as part of autumn décor. The pumpkin was first named by the Greeks. They called this edible orange item "pepon" which means "large melon."

October 4, 2014, Saturday morning—Woke up to snow on the ground and roof tops. Beautiful, but way too early.

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Saturday Prime Rib



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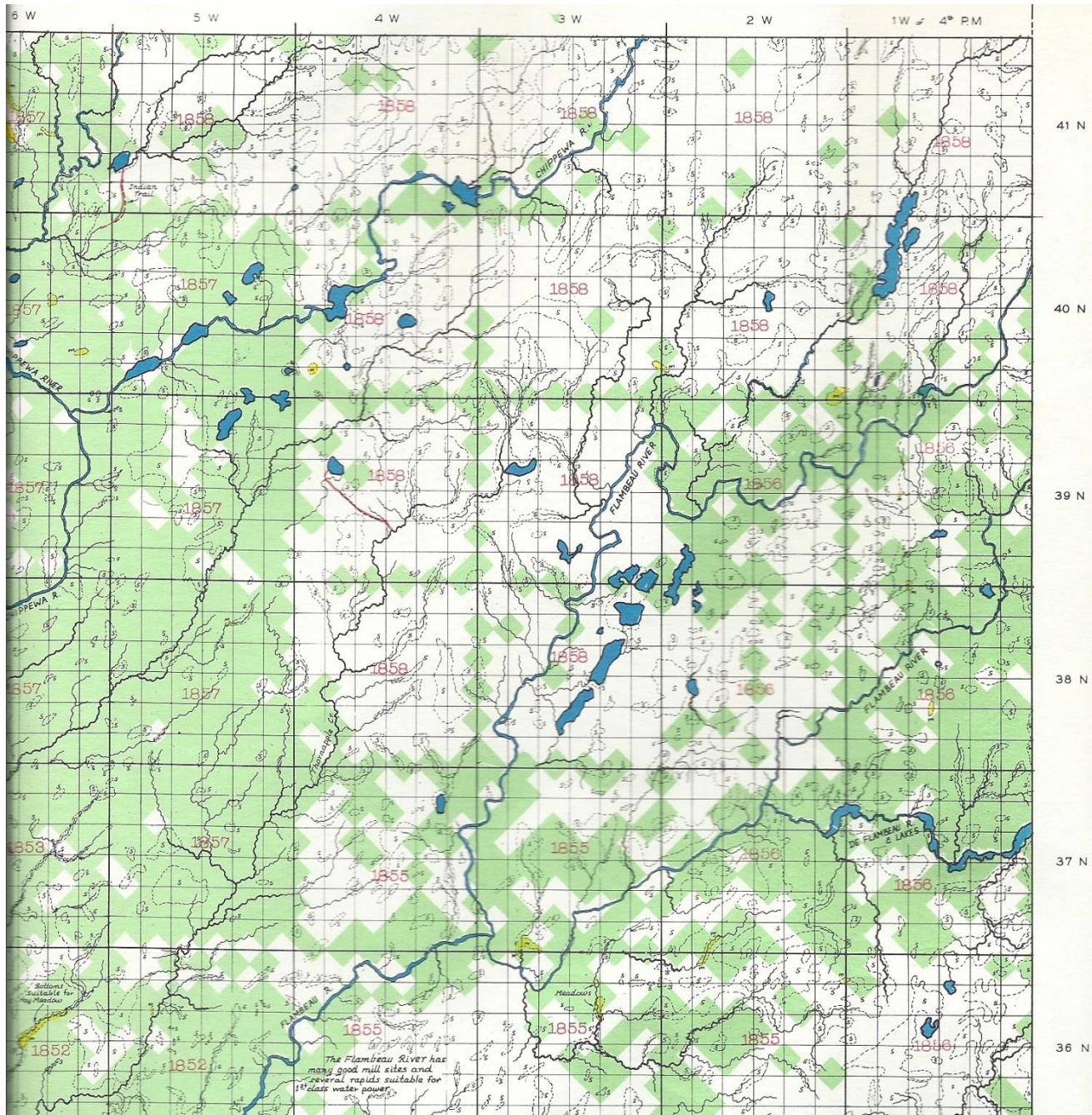
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Contrary to popular belief, squirrels who have spent the entire autumn collecting acorns and other foods do not hibernate for the winter. Rather, they spend the majority of their time in nests they built to shelter them from harsh weather.

Portion of 1858 map showing CoPaPi area by Sandra Lehmann



This is an 1858 map showing part of T. 38 N.-R. 3 W. in Sawyer County. I obtained this map from the Trygg Land Office in Ely, Minnesota. Bill Trygg made a series of these maps for the various Indian tribes claiming compensation under the Indian Claims Commission. The map details the nature of the land as it existed when it was first surveyed under the terms of the "Land Ordinance of 1785" passed by the Continental Congress and then later the "Northwest Ordinance of 1787" and the "Enabling Act of 1802".

The Land Ordinance of 1785 provided that the territories to the west should be surveyed, and this meant that surveyors walked the sections lines throughout the country, noting in journals everything they saw so that the value of the land could be determined. The surveyors would note things like the slope of the land—"rolling hills" or "steep gullies", whether the land was fertile, the species, size and qualities of any trees, even minerals such as lead. They also noted any evidence of white settlement or Indian presence.

Bill's job was not only to make the maps, but then to also appraise the value of the land as it was at the time of surveying based on the information in the surveys and the maps, compare that to what the Indians actually got for the land at the time, which the lawyers then used to estimate whether the Indians had been cheated. Because of his work the federal government did provide more compensation to the Indians for their lands. In making the maps Bill studied tens of thousands of pages of field notes and maps left by 19th century land surveyors. He interviewed pioneers and Indians and covered subjects from railroads to reminiscences of the land as it had been.

FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST

From the Superintendent—Jim Halvorson

As Mother Nature's colorful tapestry fades and the first snow hints of the coming winter, all the natural world is busily readying itself for the changes on the way. As you prepare for the changing seasons, hopefully you have had many chances to enjoy the summer and fall with family and friends in spite of all the rain, mosquitoes and black flies. Here at the Flambeau River State Forest we have been busy with a variety of projects and improvements. Following is a brief summary of some of the things we have accomplished or are planning for the near future.



New Headquarters

- Just like the many animals searching for new homes to ride out the coming winter, we at the Flambeau River State Forest are eagerly anticipating moving into our **new** headquarters building. The building is scheduled to be completed by the **end of October**. Hopefully we will be moved in before the snow flies in earnest. The new building will provide much more needed room for staff as well as better accommodations for visitors including showers for those using the Forest for extended periods. To help give the new building a northwoods feel, we are hoping to get an array of various animal and fish mounts for display. Anyone having a unique quality mount their wife wants out of the house on a loan basis or donated please give me a call—Superintendent Jim Halvorson at (715) 532-5271 Ext.105.
- Everyone is asking what is to become of the **existing** headquarters building? Plans are to turn it into a **self-guided interpretive center** for the public to access and learn more about the history and folklore of the Flambeau River area. However, this may not happen for a number of years.

Forestry

- At the bid opening in May, 2,200 acres in timber sales were sold for \$910,000. Another 1,000 acres will be bid out at the November bid opening. There were several sales being cut this summer with more to occur during the busy winter months. These sales include select cuts in hardwoods and coppice or regeneration cuts in aspen stands. The result is a mosaic of timber types and ages which promotes forest diversity and provides for a wide range of recreation interests from hiking to hunting.

Recreation

- Our number of visitors to the Forest was down due no doubt to the cold spring and early summer as well as the persistent rains and high water. The hoards of mosquitoes and black flies also made for less than ideal outdoor recreation conditions.
- Work is scheduled this fall to improve the **Beaver Dam** and **Camp 41 landings**.
- The access and parking area at **Mason/Evergreen lakes** is also complete and provides opportunity to more easily enjoy these beautiful resources.
- Improvements are being made to **70 gun deer season camp sites**.
- **60 miles** of hunter walking trails were mowed and some parking areas to those trails were graveled. These trails provide a peaceful way to access areas for hunting, whether the quarry is deer, turkey, or the ever popular grouse. **Grouse** seem to have come through the past winter fairly well and their numbers appear to be very healthy on the Forest. I had it from a fairly reliable source that they had 80 flushes in 1 day. Sounds like a lot so take that one with a grain of salt.
- In preparation for the upcoming winter recreation season, sections of the **Flambeau Hills Trail** were widened, seeded and brushed to improve the trail for recreation users as well as to make trail grooming easier.
- **Snowshoeing** can be a relaxing way to enjoy the winter wonderland of the Flambeau. You will find **signed, packed trails** waiting for you at **Lake of the Pines Campground** and **Slough-Gundy/Little Falls Scenic Area**.
- The **23rd annual Candlelight Ski** event is scheduled for **Saturday, February 7, 2015 at 5:00 pm**. Bring the family and friends to the **Flambeau Hills Trail Head** to ski/snowshoe/hike 1.8 km of trail lit with over 600 candles. Grills, campfires and warm drinks will be provided. You may bring a dish to pass or your own food to grill. This is a great way to enjoy the Flambeau during the winter season.
- Oh.... If you happen to see 2 swan decoys that we use for goose control floating around grab them and drop them off at the office. They seem to have escaped from the Connors Lake Beach area.
- A special thanks to Dale Lehmann for cutting out the trail at the south end of Johnson Road to Connors Creek. We are still hoping to get a piece of equipment there to do some trail work before the snow comes. Plans are to gravel it next summer to provide a better walking/biking trail.

Elk

- A small herd of elk was transplanted from the **Clam Lake herd** during this past winter to a holding pen off **Haystack Road**. Though the brutal winter was tough on the elk resulting in losses to some of the herd, the survivors seem to be doing well and will hopefully go into winter healthy and strong. Plans this winter are to add

additional elk down West lane, south of the office. The piercing bugle of a bull elk on a misty September morning will be an exciting addition to the Flambeau experience. You may be hearing them soon.

For those of you heading out with the geese to your winter homes in warmer climes have a safe and enjoyable rest of the fall and winter. For those staying here in the north, be sure to stop in to the new headquarters and say hi. Let's all hope that Old Man Winter does not have a repeat performance of last year planned for us this time around. Keep the date **February 7, 2015** open for the **Candlelight Ski** and from all of the staff at the Flambeau River State Forest warm wishes for a healthy and happy fall and winter.

Special Thanks to **Ron Weber** for putting this article together. He is working for us as a forester as well as being an accomplished writer. Look for his articles in a number of magazines and newspapers through-out the State.

Flambeau River State Forest Elk News by Laine Stowell

The intent of confining the elk to the pen on Thornapple Road, just south of Haystack Road, was not to hold them indefinitely in the pen, but rather just hold them until they were acclimated and until after the pregnant cows in the group had given birth.

On June 19th we opened an 80 foot section of fence on the north side of the pen. Elk continued to go in and out after that, so we opened the southwest gate so to allow a "back door" in case predators entered the pen. The pen area was 4 acres, and the elk are still within 2-3 miles of the pen and are again "wild elk". We intend to release more elk in this area over the next 3-5 years.



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Autumn also signals another colorful spectacle apart from the tree leaves. The aurora borealis, also known as the Northern Lights, tends to be visible this time of year.

Evergreen trees will not lose their leaves like deciduous trees. Their leaves, also called needles, are covered with a thick wax. This wax protects the inner components of the needles, preventing them from freezing.

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Crows vs Ravens

By Sandra Lehmann

Can you tell the difference between a crow and a raven? They are very different in their behavior, habitat and even have physical characteristics that distinguish them from one another. Below is a comparison chart showing the differences.



Crow	Raven
Feathers	Less shiny, may have lighter markings
Bill	Smaller and flat. There is no tuft of hair atop the bill.
Size	Smaller; the size of a pigeon; 17 inches long (approx.); weight around 20 oz
Wings	Blunt and splayed; wingspan 32 to 40 inches
Life span	8 years
Adaptive skills	Like being in human populated areas; more social and audacious
Vocalization	Caw- Caw; nasal, high pitched call
Habitat	Urban landscape
Tail	Fan-shaped

Ravens and Crows in Mythology

Crows are associated with war and death in Irish mythology. In Cornish folklore crows are associated with the "otherworld" and so must be treated with respect. In Australian Aboriginal mythology, the crow is an ancestral being. In Buddhism the protector of the Dharma is represented by a crow in one of his physical/earthly forms.

The raven is revered as god by the indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest in North America and in northeast Asia. Several totem poles erected by native Americans in Washington, Alaska and Oregon depict ravens and the stories they feature in. In the Old Testament of the Bible there are several references to common Ravens. In the British Isles, ravens were symbolic to the Celts. In Irish mythology, the goddess Morrígan alighted on the hero Cú Chulainn's shoulder in the form of a raven after his death.



The Sioux Indians tell a story of how a white crow used to warn buffalo of approaching hunting parties; the buffalo would then stampede, and the hunters would be left hungry. Eventually, an angry Indian threw the bird into the fire which turned today's American crow black.

A totem pole in Anchorage, Alaska, showing a raven stealing the moon and stars.

The Crow and the Pitcher An Aesop's Fable

A Crow, half-dead with thirst, came upon a Pitcher which had once been full of water; but when the Crow put its beak into the mouth of the Pitcher he found that only very little water was left in it, and that he could not reach far enough down to get at it. He tried, and he tried, but at last had to give up in despair. Then a thought came to him, and he took a pebble and dropped it into the Pitcher. Then he took another pebble and dropped it into the Pitcher. Then he took another pebble and dropped that into the Pitcher. Then he took another pebble and dropped that into the Pitcher. Then he took another pebble and dropped that into the Pitcher. At last, at last, he saw the water mount up near him, and after casting in a few more pebbles he was able to quench his thirst and save his life.

Moral of Aesop's Fable: Little by little does the trick

Gray wolf in Wisconsin



A growing population of wolves now lives in Wisconsin, one of about a dozen states in the country where gray wolves exist in the wild. Gray wolves, also referred to as timber wolves, are the largest wild members of the dog family. Wolves are social animals, living in a family group, or pack. A wolf pack's territory may cover 20-80 square miles, about one tenth the size of an average Wisconsin county. The gray wolf was removed from the state endangered species list in 2004 and was federally delisted on January 27, 2012.

Hunters killing Wisconsin wolves quicker this year

From Todd Richmond The Associated Press 9:22 a.m. CDT October 24, 2014

MADISON - Hunters are killing Wisconsin wolves at a dizzying rate, pushing another season toward an early end. The season began on Oct. 15 and is slated to last until Feb. 28 or until hunters reach a 150-animal statewide kill limit. As of Thursday morning, just eight days into the season, hunters had killed 103 animals, nearly 70 percent of the limit. State wildlife officials have closed four of the six wolf-hunting zones where hunters were quickly approaching zone-specific harvest limits or had reached or exceeded them.

Dave MacFarland, a large carnivore specialist for the Department of Natural Resources, said hunters didn't reach the 70 percent mark last year until two weeks into the season. The kill limit was higher, at 251 animals, but the DNR issued about 1,000 more tags than this year. Hunters needed 34 days to reach the 70 percent mark in the inaugural season of 2012, when the quota was 116 animals and 1,160 tags were issued.

MacFarland attributed this year's fast pace to more hunters heading into the woods early in the hopes of bagging a wolf before their zone closes. More hunters are using traps, perhaps the most efficient means of hunting wolves, he added. Of all the wolves killed so far this year, 85 percent were trapped, compared with 70 percent in 2013 and 52 percent in 2012.

He also noted that the DNR issues 10 tags for every wolf counted in the quota, putting more hunters on the landscape than for other species. For example, the agency authorized 1,500 wolf tags this year compared with about 10,000 tags for 4,700 bears, a ratio of almost two hunters per bear, he said. The 2012 and 2013 seasons each ended on Dec. 23, two months ahead of the February stop date. MacFarland said he wasn't sure when this season might end.

Hunters were still 32 animals shy of the quota in Zone 3, a corner of northwestern Wisconsin, and 28 wolves short of the limit in Zone 6, which encompasses most of southern two-thirds of the state.

MacFarland said the kill rate is typically slower in that area but DNR officials are watching for signs that they may have to shut the hunt down early to compensate for the over-quota numbers elsewhere.

"It's definitely going quick," he said. "We'll have to wait and see if that trend continues. It's going to depend on how much people are motivated to get out in the two remaining units."

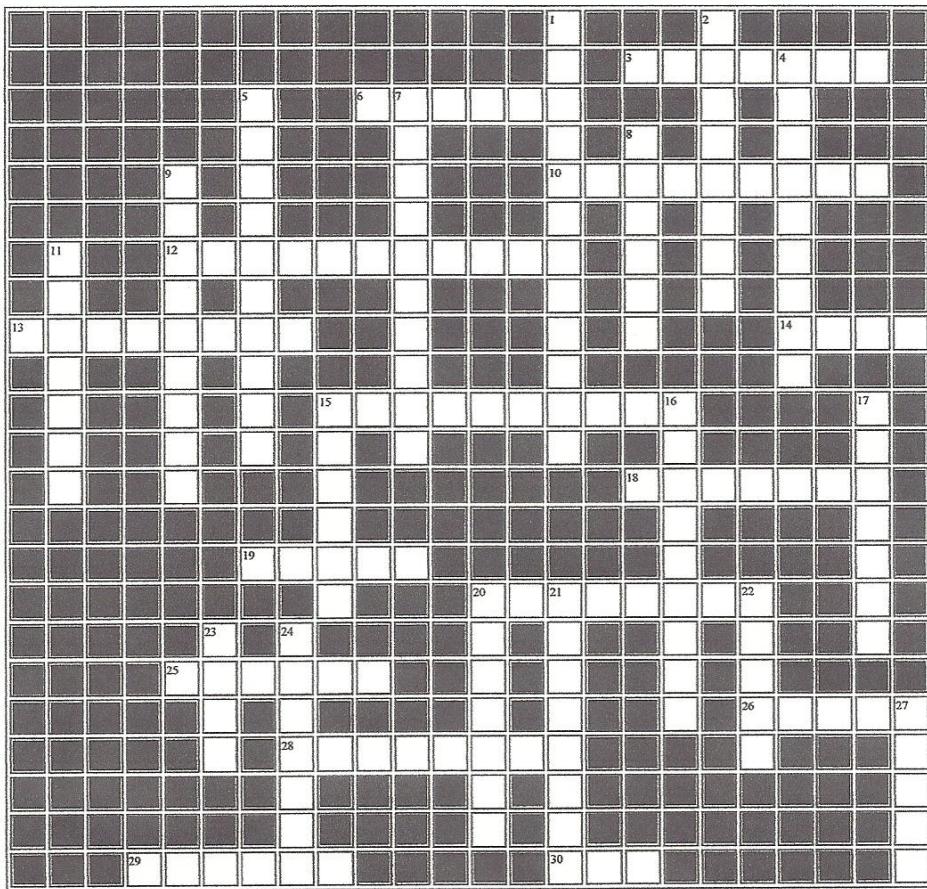
Sawyer County—On September 13, Wildlife Services confirmed that wolves killed a 2 year old Walker bear hound and a 2 year old Blue Tick Bear hound during the same incident. The attack occurred in the Town of Draper, Sawyer County

Adrian Wydeven is a wolf expert for the Department of Natural Resources in Park Falls. He says that when wolves have pups present that they become especially aggressive toward dogs. Wydeven says typical bear-hunting dog training takes the dog away from the hunter. He says attacks most often occur when there aren't people nearby, because people tend to scare off wolves. Wydeven says in this case family dogs aren't in danger.

This is a fairly wild country, there aren't really any people living right in the area where the depredations are occurring, so it wouldn't be a place people would normally be allowing their dogs to roam anyway, but it would be a good idea not to let your dog roam in that area if people are considering doing that.

Wydeven says this week a bear-hunting dog was killed north of Ladysmith in southern Sawyer County by a wolf pack that had killed four dogs last year. He says this type of aggressive behavior can carry over. Certain packs develop an attitude toward dog depredation and if they do kill dogs one year there is a good chance they'll do it again the following year. Wydeven says about 70 to 80 wolf packs are found in northern Wisconsin areas used for bear-hound training.

Fun for kids of all ages



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

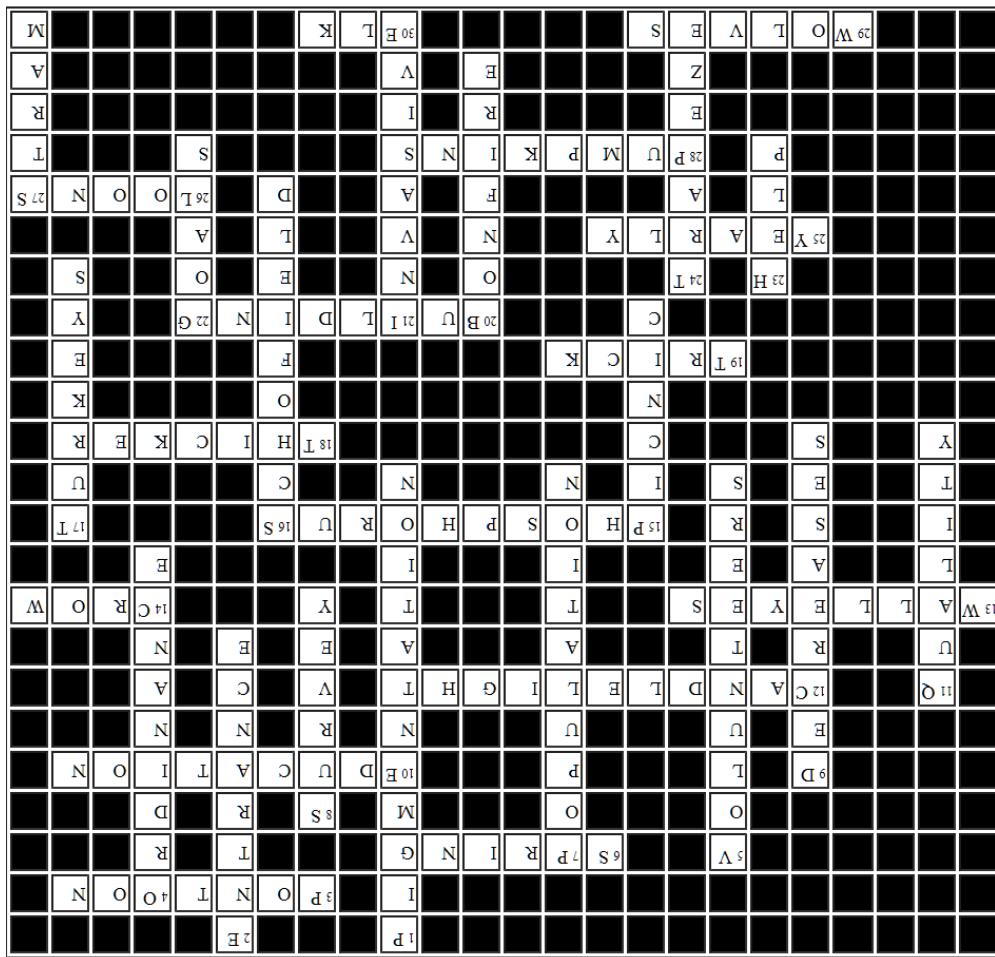
Across

3. A _____ ride around Lake of the Pines was offered.
6. The next newsletter will be mailed in the _____.
10. CBCW is a program that focuses on _____ of boaters.
12. The _____ ski will be held this February at the trail head.
13. _____ were stocked in Lake of the Pines this fall.
14. A raven is larger than a _____.
15. There is a ban on using _____ in detergents and lawn fertilizer.
18. _____ acorn shells mean an extra-cold winter.
19. A moral of Aesop's Fable in this newsletter is "Little by little does the _____".
20. The forest service will be moving into their new headquarters _____ this fall.
25. We are going to start _____ memberships in 2015.
26. We can still hear _____ on the lake.
28. _____ are part of autumn decor.
29. A growing population of _____ now lives in Wisconsin.
30. _____ have been introduced into the forest.

Down

1. Yellow and orange always reside in the _____ of tree leaves.
2. We have a new _____ to the hiking/biking trail at the end of Johnson Road.
4. The Land _____ of 1875 provided that the territories to the west should be surveyed.
5. Our CLMN _____ are vital to the continual monitoring of our lakes.
7. Electro shocking is done to find out the population of a lake.
8. In 2013-2014 a water creel _____ was conducted on our lakes.
9. Rodent activity _____ during unseasonably warm weather.
11. The data we collect in CLMN is used to improve our water _____.
15. On July 18 we will host our annual family _____.
16. Our new president is Jim _____.
17. We are seeing many _____ while driving on the roads in our areas.
20. Any season is a great time for a _____.
21. AIS stands for aquatic _____ species.
22. Your lake association has many _____.
23. Your _____ is much appreciated by us.
24. Squirrels are known as very good trapeze artists where bird feeders are concerned.
27. Our outgoing president is Tom _____.

Crossword Puzzle Answer Key



Do Old Wives Tales Really Forecast Weather

Woolly worms and winter—According to folklore, the black-and-brown caterpillars of the tiger moth species can predict just how cold and snowy it's going to be for the upcoming winter when spotted during the fall season. The caterpillars have black bands at each end of their bodies and a reddish-brown section in the center. Folk wisdom has it that when the brown band is narrow, winter weather will be harsh.

Fur—If animals have an unusually thick coat of fur as winter approaches, the wives' tale says expect it to be colder than normal. A similar sign is said to be when animals, including pets, seem to be storing more fat than usual.

Food—When squirrels urgently gather great quantities of acorns, and birds dive-bomb at bird feeders attempting to get as much food out of it as quickly as possible, does it mean that a big storm is on the way? Squirrels may also bury their nuts deeper than usual. The idea is that these animals can sense impending weather, and are preparing for it.

Weather—Legend has it that for every foggy morning in August, there will be a snowfall during the winter and "Sailors talk about the calm before the storm and red sky in the morning, sailors take warning,"

Birds—When the geese start flying south earlier than usual, they're fleeing oncoming winter weather. The same holds true for other species of birds that usually migrate out of the area. If they're still hanging out in late November, the idea is that they're not in a big hurry to leave because they know the winter weather won't be severe.

Rodents—Rodent activity decreases during unseasonably warm weather, but some people believe they can sense minute changes in weather and prepare for them. If a home is prone to mice infestations and people start hearing activity in their walls earlier than normal, winter may come earlier than expected.

Trees—Trees supposedly produce a greater quantity of larger pine cones than usual before a severe winter, to make sure that some seeds will make it through the squirrel and bird feeding frenzy.

Acorns—The Farmer's Almanac, which has long been relied on to provide winter weather forecasts, points out a piece of lore that says thicker acorn shells mean an extra-cold winter. The Almanac notes that such sayings have been "handed down from generation to generation, so perhaps in some of the handing down, some of the lore has been altered slightly. But some have remained the same and often times prove to be quite accurate."

Fall foliage—It has been said that the brighter the fall foliage, the more severe the winter will be. In truth, the color of fall foliage depends on a number of factors including how dry the past year has been. But chlorophyll, the pigment that makes leaves green, does begin to decrease as the nights get longer in the fall, with cooler weather bringing brighter colors.



July Sunrise at Connors Lake

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