



Friends of perch Lake

2018 Newsletter

Management Change

After many years of service both as a seasonal worker and site manager, Justin Townsend has moved on to a new challenge. FOPL thanks him for his service.

St. Croix County Community Development has hired Aaron Mason as the Interim Park Supervisor. Aaron has worked for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for 20 years and brings a diversity of park and wildlife management experience to assist the County Park system. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities. Aaron has been the Park Superintendent/Assistant Park Superintendent at Willow River State Park since 2007. One of his first objectives is filling the Homestead Parklands Site Coordinator position. He plans to have someone start in May. Information provided by St. Croix County CDD.

Friends of Perch Lake Annual Meeting

Saturday May 12 10:30 a.m.

Public is welcome.

Fair weather location is the pavilion by the playground. Foul weather location is the maintenance building.

Watercraft Rentals: The popularity of watercraft rentals continues to rise. St. Croix County ordered more paddle boats and boards for both Homestead Parklands and Glen Hills parks. Beaches have new sun cabanas and umbrellas. Information provided by St. Croix County CDD.

Homestead Parking Expansion:

County Parks serve many functions including protection of natural and scenic resources and providing access to recreation and natural resources to the County's residents and visitors. County staff are always working to balance and enhance these functions. Parking at Homestead Park was expanded based on numerous complaints from citizens frustrated by not being able to get into Homestead due to lack of parking over the past 2 years. Parking expansion was limited to areas where it could be done for minimal cost, located outside the shore-land zone, and with careful utilization of erosion control measures ensuring there would be no negative impact from construction. 33 spaces were added to the existing parking areas and approximately 40 across from the maintenance building in what will be a gravel lot. The area across from the maintenance building is the eventual site of the welcome and history center. This area will not be paved to plan for future construction. Information provided by St. Croix County CDD.

New DVD for Sale

Videographer Karl Volk has compiled a 30 minute DVD from interviews conducted with former property owner Donna Seim. In this new video Donna talks about her thoughts on saving the park and hopes for the future. To obtain a copy (The Interview) send \$15 to:

Friends of Perch Lake
P. O. Box 891
Hudson, WI 54016



FOPL's 1st video which features Donna relaying the family stories of homesteading on the land comprising most of the park is also available. For that 50 minute DVD (Homestead Forever) send \$20 to the same address. Should you reside outside the general area, please consider adding money for postage. For those who haven't heard, Donna suffered a fall last Spring, resulting in many surgeries over a number of months. She now resides in apartment #8 at the River Falls Comforts of Home, Falls Building and welcomes visitors.

Brat Stand Fund Raiser

FOPL's annual fund raiser with the Knights of Columbus at RJ's Meats in Hudson, will be July 6 & 7 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Bring your appetites and support the Friend's group.

Volunteers to man the trailer please contact Linda Rutherford at lruther1@comcast.net

Free Fishing & Parks Weekend:

St. Croix County Parks will join the State of Wisconsin DNR in offering Free Fishing and Parks weekend June 2nd and 3rd. All County and State Parks have free entry and no fishing license is needed. Events will include a Kids Learn to Fish activity sponsored by the Sportsmen's Alliance with prizes (furnished by Friends of Perch Lake) on Saturday June 2nd, bouncy house and face painting on Sunday June 3rd, and a scavenger hunt that starts that weekend and continues all summer at Homestead Park, Glen Hills Park, and Troy Beach! See the St. Croix County Park's facebook page for more details. Information provided by St. Croix County CDD.



Julia Meyer of Hudson participated in the 2018 Kid's Ice Fishing Contest. The event is organized by the St. Croix Sportsmen's Alliance who's volunteers drilled through 3 feet of ice to strike water. Friends of Perch Lake donated prizes.

Scavenger Hunts: Scavenger hunts, held at Glen Hills Campground the past couple of years have become really popular. The County has expanded them to 4 park locations! Participants will receive a St. Croix County lanyard with a card identifying 4 scavenger hunts at the Glen Hills Day Use/Picnic area, Homestead Parklands on Perch Lake, Troy Beach on the St. Croix River and the Wildwood Trail. Anyone completing all 4 scavenger hunts can bring their completed card to Glen Hills, Homestead or the Community Development office in Baldwin or Hudson to receive a 12-ounce aluminum water bottle donated by the Sportsmen's Alliance of St. Croix County. The event kicks off during the free weekend. Participants will have all summer to pick up their lanyard and card to participate and complete the scavenger hunts! Scavenger hunts can only be completed by visiting each of the 4 park facilities. Information provided by St. Croix County CDD.