

Friends of Perch Lake



2013 Newsletter

Ice Fishing

St. Croix County Parks Department teamed up with the St. Croix Sportsman Alliance to organize a kids' fishing contest at Perch Lake Sat, Feb 23. The 2 hour contest was open to children ages 6-12. 59 kids checked in eager to learn about ice fishing and kept alliance/park/ and FOPL volunteers very busy drilling/ clearing holes and giving advice. Most had not previously enjoyed the pastime.



Taylor Stoner of Hudson got a nice bass, which she released.

Friends of Perch Lake, County Parks, Bass Lake Cheese Factory, and St. Croix Sports Alliance furnished prizes. Each child also received a "goody bag" of DNR info made up by Buck Mallick.



FOPL member Jim Traeger gives tips to the Berger boys of Hudson.

Weevils to the Rescue

There is a type of weevil that thinks Eurasian milfoil is delicious. The county was able to secure a grant to buy breeding stock. It is significantly cheaper to breed thousands of weevils from a few hundred than to buy that amount of adults.

Thanks go to park staff, U Of M students doing a study on how efficacious the weevils are for keeping the milfoil in check, and to FOPL members who gave the time to harvest and sort milfoil for the breeding tubs. The weevils were placed in the lake on either side of the beach area. We are eagerly hoping to see a decline in milfoil.

Volunteer scuba divers will once again be working to clear the milfoil from the swimming area. This is done by hand pulling-so very labor intensive. Terry Nooner of St. Croix scuba gets the divers schedule organized and supplies air tanks. Be sure to thank them for their efforts if you should see them in the park.

The feeding of said divers will involve a pig roast after the last dive June 23. This will be the same day as the park celebration.

FUN FACTS

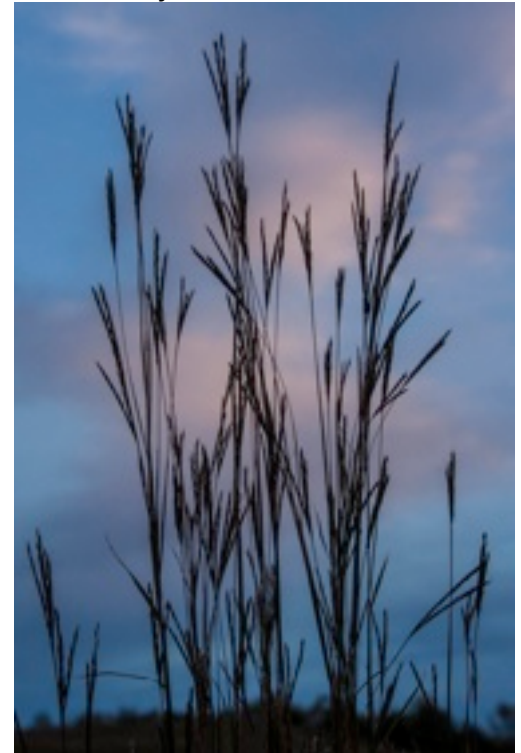
Homestead Car count 2012
9,997

Homestead revenue: \$37,688

School districts which had field trips in park 2012: Hudson, New Richmond, & UW River Falls.

Celebrate

This year is the 10th anniversary of the park opening. There will be diving events, guided park tours, and homestead history presentations. The friends group will be selling pictures to raise money for the learning center. See included flyer for details.



ANNUAL MEETING

When: Sat 5/18

Time: 1:30 pm

Where: Playground picnic pavilion if fair maintenance building if rainy.

Who: All welcome

PRAIRIE DOGS FUNDRAISER



FOPL will be holding a fundraiser in July. The prairie will be in full bloom. Bring your dog for a portrait amongst the flowers. Participants will receive a picture of their pet printed on letter-sized paper. Paper/printing costs donated by photographer. **Entrance fee waived unless staying beyond your slot.** When: Sat. July 13, 2013
Times:
Early-mid-morning & late-afternoon to evening.
Appointments required.

Donation to FOPL capital fund for Learning/ Reception Center: \$35.

Contact photographer Linda Rutherford nee Seim to reserve your slot at lruther1@comcast.net
Phone: 715-426-9297

NAME THOSE TRAILS

There are 2 new trails in the park that do not have a name. One is a mowed trail through the prairie restoration area that has a great view of the lake. The other connects the playground to the picnic area above the beach. It terminates at a new picnic pavilion in that area. Hike them and see what inspirations come to you.

FOPL president Donna Seim will select the winning names. In the event that any one of the winning names has been submitted by multiple entrants, Donna will randomly choose one entrant from among the duplicate entries received and that entrant shall be the winner TBA 6/22/13. Prizes: Season Pass or 3 hr boat rental.

FOPL requests a donation of one dollar per entry. Entries may be sent to: Friends of Perch Lake PO Box 891

Hudson, WI 54016 or turn in to park office by 6/1/13.

Contest entrants agree that, if their proposed name is selected as the winner, FOPL/Homestead Parklands may use the entrant's name and likeness for promotional purposes including, but not limited to, official press release announcing the public space's name and contest winner; optional appearance and/or photo opportunity at an event announcing the name; and official announcement on websites.

Submission of an entry constitutes the entrant's consent to irrevocably assign and transfer to the contest sponsors any and all rights, title and interest in and to the proposed name.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

DOG WRANGLING

Linda will need lots of help July 13, so that she may concentrate on getting great photos. Things like checking people in, collecting donations, water supply for dogs, prop set-ups, reflector holding, squeezing a squeekie toy over her head to get the dog's ears to perk up are what she would like. Her email is lruther1@comcast.net.

FIELD TRIPS

There are usually a number of school field trips in May. Donna could always use an extra pair of hands to help set-up and take down the items she uses in her history talks. Contact her for dates and times at dmdseim@aol.com.

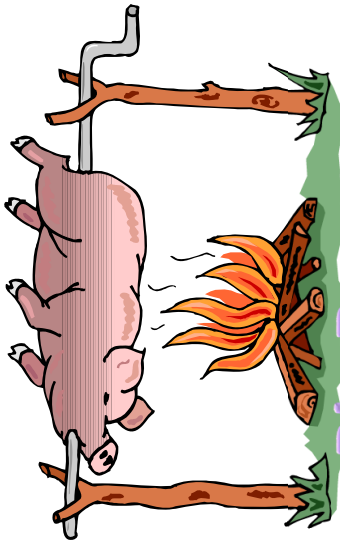


BUCKTHORN

Keeping ahead of invasive buckthorn is a never ending battle. Individuals or groups are welcome to help out. Contact park manager Justin Townsend to schedule a time and receive instructions. He can be reached at [<Justin.Townsend@co.saint-croix.wi.us>](mailto:Justin.Townsend@co.saint-croix.wi.us)

BRAT STAND

July 26 & 27. Fri 10-5, Sat 10-4. Email availability for 4hr shifts to dmdseim@aol.com.

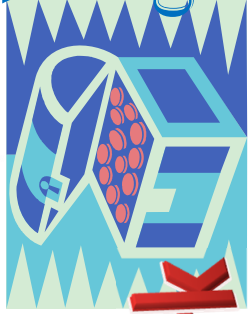


Pig Roast
(Donated by Steve Scherrer)

June 22, 2013



**TREASURE HUNT
& FUN DIVE
OVER \$1,500.00
IN PRIZES**



**Sponsored by:
St. Croix Scuba**



Scuba Regulator, Wetsuit
Aluminum Tank, Masks
Wrist Dive Computer, Snorkels
Fins, Much, Much More

PARK TOURS/ORIENTATION



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Friends of Perch Lake is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the natural resources of Perch Lake. We provide educational programs and opportunities for all ages to enjoy the beauty of Perch Lake. We are currently seeking members and sponsors to help us achieve our goals. Use this site to learn more about our organization and how you can participate and help us succeed. Thank you!

355 Perch Lake Road • Hudson, WI 54601 • 715-546-0123
Friends of Perch Lake

**Buy
Pictures
and
Support
"Friends of Perch Lake"**

Where: Homestead Parklands on Perch Lake
550 Perch Lake Road, Hudson, Wisconsin
(Approximately 8 Mi. East of Stillwater, MN & 8 Mi. North of Hudson, WI)

When: June 22, 2013 – Starting at 9:00 AM

Schedule of Activities

Hour Diver Activities Hour Other Events in the Park

9:00 Pre Dive Preparation 9:00 – 3:00 Friends of Perch Lake Fundraiser

10:00 Treasure Hunt Briefing 9:50 Walking Tour of homestead Parklands

10:30 – 11:30 Treasure Hunt Fun Dive 10:00 History Talk - FOPL

11:00 Walking Tour of homestead Parklands

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch for Everyone (Say “hi” to the chef, Steve Scherrer)

12:30 Award Treasure Hunt Prizes 1:30 Walking Tour of Homestead Parklands

2:00 Fun Dive 2:00 History Talk - FOPL

3:30 Events End

Narrative

St. Croix Scuba, Friends of Perch Lake, and the staff of Homestead Parklands on Perch Lake are teaming together to bring you a “Day in the Park”. You are invited to Homestead Parklands on Perch Lake for a fun day of scuba diving, treasure hunting, and exploring in the park. The treasure hunt and fun dive activities are sponsored by St. Croix Scuba. Divers are required to pay \$10.00 entrance fee for the treasure hunt. Prizes will be awarded to all participants.

Friends of Perch Lake is selling pictures and accepting donations to build a learning center in Homestead Parklands on Perch Lake that will benefit ours and future generations. A volunteer from Friends of Perch Lake will present information on homesteading and the history of St. Croix County. Please help to make this fundraiser a success.

The staff of Homestead Parklands on Perch Lake will be leading walking tours of the park and highlighting park features and facilities. Everyone should take advantage of this special offering.

Details / Costs

Car Pass: \$7.00 daily or \$25.00 annual, pay at the park entrance.

(Offsite parking will be available if the park is full. Ask about it at the park entrance.)

Diver Fee: \$10.00 – payable to St. Croix Scuba when you sign up.

Sign up all divers and non-divers at St. Croix Scuba before June 19.

(We need the number of attendees to plan for the pig roast.)

Reserve rental gear in advance – the more advance notice, the better.

(Rental gear will be discounted for this event.)

All treasure hunt divers win prizes. One golf ball per diver, search for the lowest number in the allotted time. The finder of the lowest numbered ball gets the first choice of prizes, second low number picks second, etc. When you find your second ball, keep the ball with the lower number and drop the other ball. Only one prize per diver, please.