

Fur, Fins and Feathers



June 2018

The Clubhouse is off Old Oliphant Road on Northacres road and off County Road 13 in Wiarton.
Next meeting, June 29th, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. Your participation is welcome and anticipated. For inquiries e-mail bpsportsmen@gmail.com or mail to P.O. Box 548, Wiarton, Ontario N0H 2T0

A Celebration of Trees



These people don't mind being called "tree huggers".

On a sunny Saturday morning they gathered at the clubhouse of the conservation group the Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association (BPSA). 32 BPSA members set out for Bruce Road 9 and what's called the Vanishing Creek Trail on Bruce Road 9. These volunteers believe in TREES. They know that trees provide valuable habitat for birds and animals. Trees clean the air, prevent flash flooding and visually enhance what we already know as our truly beautiful region.

Our members aged 3 to 73, planted 200-spruce and 200-pine tree seedlings supplied by BPSA for this project as part of a Land Stewardship grant from Lee Thirsten at the Grey-Sauble Conservation group.

Project organizers Lincoln Leudke and BPSA Vice-President Kevin Harders report that this is the start of a new chapter of conservation for our club. One where we again live up to the club constitution which states we exist "to enhance and preserve our wildlife and our environment". The tree planting project was completed with the co-operation of the Bruce Trail Conservancy which is encouraging us to complete more projects like this.

Anita Cunningham with the Bruce Trail Conservancy was on hand for the planting. She thanked BPSA and said she was impressed that so many youngsters were involved. This successful event was followed by a barbecue sponsored by BPSA members Amanda and Marty Maisonneuve who live near Vanishing Creek Trail.

BPSA has already installed Boot-Scrubber units at the Vanishing Creek section of the Bruce Trail. The scrubbers were installed as part of a campaign we launched two years ago. So far we have built and installed 20 units with 80 more in the works. The scrubbers and attached weatherproof signs, create awareness of invasives. When hikers clean their boots on the scrubbers they also help prevent the spread of the seeds of invasives such as phragmites, a rapidly spreading plant which can severely damage eco-systems.

BPSA stages a wide range of community events throughout the year including our KIDS FISHING DERBY at our hatchery pond West of Wiarton. This year the fun runs on June 9, 2018 from 9-11am with prizes for the largest fish. Youngsters 12 and under are welcome to take part. The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters is one of many groups and individuals that have contributed to our 2018 KIDS DERBY which as usual should be a lot of fun. Our largest fund-raiser of the year, the annual Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association Pork & Beef Barbecue, is set for Saturday July 14 from 4-7pm. See you there!!!



Thanks everyone who came to help out.

*Stu Paterson for the BRUCE PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION
PHOTOS Kevin Harders/Jim Martell*

Youth Year End **Shotgun Shoot**

Thanks again to all the safety officers who helped with the kids program.

It was a small turn out for the kids trap shoot this year as a few people cancelled last min I know a couple kids couldn't make it due to previous commitments. However the kids who did show up had a great time shooting.

A special thanks to Jack Wallace, and Jim O'Reilly who set up the North Grey Bruce Range for us, and A special thanks to Ed Franczek who helped out as well. The kids had the opportunity to shoot different gauges and styles of shot guns since all those who helped brought different guns for the kids and some parents to try.

Thank you for another great year of shooting and hope to see you next year!

Rob and Krista Quesnel



Conservation Group Helps Out Sports Fishery

More than forty people aged two to eighty-two showed up. They had one thing in common. They were continuing the work their club began more than fifty years ago. That was to stock fish for our recreational fishery. These members of the 250-member Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association (BPSA) took time away from their Victoria Day weekend celebrations, to stock about 11-thousand yearling rainbow trout. Another 10-thousand rainbows remain at our hatchery for later stocking.



This recent action took place beside Gleason Brook off Grey Road One. The year-old trout were raised at the BPSA hatchery and transported to the creek by our tanker trailer. A multi-person bucket brigade made sure the fish were carefully transferred to their new life in the wild in Georgian Bay.

Last year our club planted 130-thousand rainbow trout and 24-thousand brown trout. Since the sixties we have stocked more than 4-million fish. Provincial studies have

concluded that each fish stocked pumps 30-dollars into the economy of the community where it is stocked. We are very proud of our contributions to our sports fishery in Grey-Bruce region.



Our conservation club is mostly known for our fish stocking. Our volunteer members work year round to raise and plant thousands of rainbow and brown trout which become part of what's called a "put-and-take" fishery. We put the fish in the lake. You catch them.

Half of the cost of operating our state of the art hatchery is covered by the Ontario Community Hatchery Program (CHP) that controls a network of 40 volunteer run hatcheries. This Program is run by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters under the guidance of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. Our fish stocking program is the longest operating volunteer run stocking effort in Ontario.



BPSA stages a wide range of community events throughout the year including our KIDS FISHING DERBY at our hatchery pond. It's coming soon so the pond has been stocked with extra rainbow trout. This year the fun runs on June 9, 2018 from 9-11am with prizes for the largest fish. Youngsters 12 and under are welcome to take part. And it is all free including bait and refreshments. Bring our own equipment. If you don't have any we will have rods and reel kits on hand.



And don't forget a popular Grey-Bruce institution. The annual BPSA Pork & Beef Barbecue July 14, 2018 at our clubhouse West of Wiarton. This is our main fund-raiser of the year and runs from 4-7pm on Saturday July 14. You are supporting our conservation work when you join us for this tasty event.

Perhaps you might be interested in a family BPSA membership. We are always looking for energetic volunteers to help with our many conservation programs and projects such our invasive species fighting "Boot Scrubber" and "Tree Planting" programs. From September to June our monthly meetings are held on the last Thursday evening of each month.

Stu Paterson PATERSON MEDIA for the Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association



Program runs every Tuesday. Youth practice 6-7 pm adults practice 7-9 pm. You can contact Donna and Paul Maginnis at bpsaarchery@gmail.com.

BPSA 2018 EVENTS

- February 19th Family Day 11 am -2 pm.
- March 24th Potluck Supper at 5 pm.
- March 29th Elections of Officers and Directors club meeting 7:30 pm
- April 21st Potluck Social 5 pm (tentative)
- April 26th Club meeting Wilderness First Aid presentation 7:30 pm
- May 5th Tree Planting Activity
- May 26th Potluck Social 5 pm.
- June 9th Kids fishing day at the club 9-11 am
- July 14th Beef and Pork BQQ 4 -7 pm
- Aug 22 Set up Fish Tent at Sydenham Sportsman event Owen Sound 8 am to noon
- Sept 9th Community Living fishing at the club 2:00 to 5:00 pm
- Nov 17th Pot luck supper at the club.



Wayne Musselman puts up new Canadian Flag at BPSA Club House and Hatchery.W



Barrow Bay Anglers Presented the BPSA \$5,000.00

As a big thanks for all the help BPSA members over the many years toward enhancing sports fishery in Barrow Bay area. The aim is to improve the survival rate of our hatchery fish by keeping the building cooler in summer and warmer in winter.

From left to right Barrow Bay Anglers Sec. Terry Souter, Pres. Don Russel, BPSA members, Ray Marklevitz, Treas. Jim Halliday and President Jim Martel.

Walker attended the May monthly meeting of the Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association (BPSA).

Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MPP Bill Walker has predicted a dramatic increase in the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) budget, if his party wins Ontario.

Walker said, referring to the hard work of conservation groups like ours, "we will make sure your blood sweat and tears get more attention at Queen's Park" and that "the Ontario Ministry of Natural

Resources and Forestry will get enough funding to do its job properly". He also said his party will do much more consulting with stakeholders when it comes to issues affecting our commercial and sports fisheries. Walker added "everyones rights will be represented at the



table when stakeholders meet". For too long he said, this Ministry has not been a priority of the Ontario government.

Walker stressed "there will be openness and accountability when it comes to dealing with all issues relating to commercial and recreational fishing in our region".

