

Our Future

We welcome opportunities to collaborate with others. If you are part of a local, regional or state organization and think there may be ways for us to work together to help preserve and protect the Eau Claire Lakes Area watershed for future generations, please let us know!

Our members keep us strong. We welcome your suggestions on how we can improve our organization – and if you would like to learn more about how you can become involved, we would love to hear from you!

Email us

eauclairefriends@gmail.com

Visit us

<https://friendsofeauclairelakesarea.com>



2021 Healthy Lakes & Rivers grant project.

Please Join Us!

Officially registered as “Property Owners Association, Inc. Barnes/Eau Claire Lakes Area,” we are a tax-exempt nonprofit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS tax code.

Complete your membership online at friendsofeauclairelakesarea.com or mail this form with your check (payable to “Friends of the Eau Claire Lakes Area”) to FOECLA, PO Box 1308, Hayward, WI 54843-1308.

Name

Mailing Address

Email

Annual Membership Levels:

- Basic \$20
- Contributing \$50
- Sponsor \$100
- Sustaining \$200
- Patron \$400

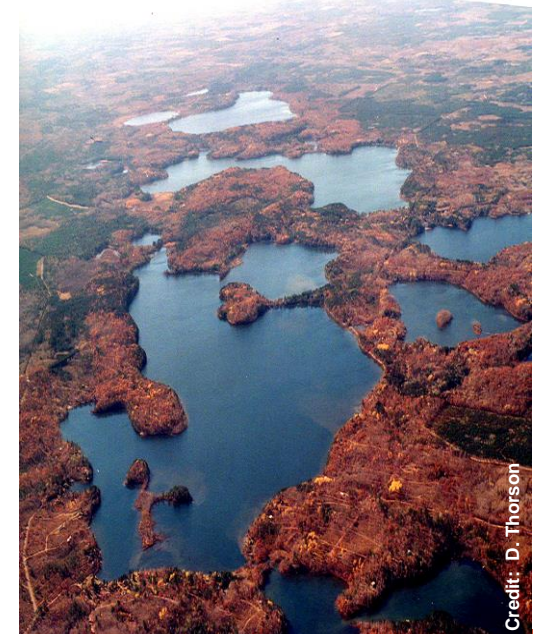
Additional Special Contributions:

- _____ Clean Boats Clean Waters
- _____ Aquatic Invasive Species Remediation
- _____ Education (LEEP and Adult Education)
- _____ Student Scholarship

_____ **TOTAL ENCLOSED**

Thank you for your support!

Rev. 5/2023



Credit: D. Thorson

Our mission is to protect, preserve and improve the environmental and aesthetic qualities of the Eau Claire Lakes Area watershed, including the lakes, rivers, shorelands, wetlands, forests and attendant wildlife resources.

Caring for Our Community

Organized in 1973, Friends of the Eau Claire Lakes Area is a voluntary group of individuals interested in preserving the beautiful environment of the Eau Claire Lakes area.

Since its earliest years, our organization has provided leadership in raising awareness of the impacts of aquatic invasive species (AIS) on our lakes. We helped construct the BAISS boat used today to remove Eurasian water-milfoil and curly-leaf pondweed from area lakes, and we encouraged the Town of Barnes to create a standing committee to address local AIS issues.

Town of Barnes AIS Committee

Our members serve on the AIS Committee and we provide funds to help the Town in its efforts to control the spread of aquatic invasive species. We also connect people interested in monitoring their shorelines for invasive species with the Town's AIS Coordinator.

Clean Boats Clean Waters Program

This statewide program is coordinated locally by a member of the Town of Barnes AIS Committee. We provide funding for boat landing monitors who inspect boats and educate boaters on "aquatic hitchhikers," and we refer individuals interested in becoming boat landing monitors to the local CBCW Coordinator.



Credit: S. Pease

Town of Barnes Vatten Paddlar

We help sponsor and support the annual canoe/kayak/SUP races that highlight the beauty of our lakes. We also refer individuals interested in volunteering to race organizers.

Lake Level Monitoring

2021 was our first full year of scientifically monitoring area lake levels. Data collected by our volunteers will be used to propose action steps for slowing shoreline erosion during periods of high water.

WDNR Citizen Lake Monitoring Network

We have provided funding to purchase new water testing equipment for citizen monitors to use on area lakes. The data collected indicate the overall health of each lake. We also refer individuals interested in volunteering for this program to WDNR staff.

You can view reports, statistics and the trophic states of our lakes at:
<https://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/CLMN>

WDNR Healthy Lakes & Rivers

We partner with WDNR's Healthy Lakes & Rivers program (<https://healthylakeswi.com>) to help local property owners implement shoreline practices that improve habitat and water quality. We provide guidance on installing fish sticks, native plantings, water diversions, rock infiltrations, and rain gardens. We then apply for Healthy Lakes & Rivers grants and administer them on behalf of the property owners. So far, we have been awarded \$23,000 from the WDNR.

Educating Our Community

Student Scholarships

We provide \$1,000 scholarships to area high school graduates enrolled at a two-year or four-year higher education institution in a course of study that promotes our mission.

Lake Ecology Education Program (LEEP)

Since 2009, we have been partnering with the Drummond Area School District to help seventh grade students become life-long lake stewards. Our award-winning program delivers classroom lessons and one field trip each spring and fall. The curriculum meets Wisconsin educational standards.



Adult Education Programs

Every year, we host educational programs for the community. Programs have covered topics including the local fisheries, birds, aquatic invasive plants, the geologic history of the area, the night sky, fly fishing, the history of logging in northwest Wisconsin, furbearing mammals, oak wilt, and how to harvest and enjoy wild plants, nuts and berries. We've also spotlighted the work of authors Gordon MacQuarrie and Emily Stone.