



February, 2018

Lake Eau Claire Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 229  
Augusta, WI 54722  
[www.lakeeauclaire.org](http://www.lakeeauclaire.org)  
LakeECAssociation@gmail.com

### PRESIDENT'S NOTE

By Lori Bechtel

Welcome to 2018! I can't believe how quickly time flies by and we turn the page on a new year. As I look outside from inside my warm house, I'm reminded that we are in the middle of winter and all the whiteness of the season. I'm definitely looking forward to warmer weather and days spent on the lake.

As we closed out 2017, I reflected back on all the great accomplishments the Lake Eau Claire Association had during the year. We increased membership by 115%, raised over \$30k for lake rehabilitation efforts, installed additional fish cribs and tree falls which brought our total to over 430 structures, increased corporate sponsorship by 27%, and held a separate fundraiser specifically for the fireworks show in 2018.

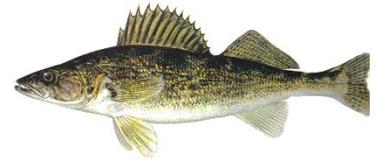
All of these accomplishments could not have been achieved without the help of MANY volunteers! I want to personally thank everyone that donated time, money, and ideas in 2017. The entire LECA board is truly thankful for all the support!



## Save the Date!

Clearwater Triathlon & Picnic – Saturday, June 9, 2018  
Fireworks over Lake Eau Claire – July 4, 2018  
Boat Parade – 4:00 pm July 4, 2018  
Golf Outing – Saturday, July 28, 2018  
Annual Meeting & Picnic – Saturday, August 18, 2018





## Muskies and Northerns and Walleyes...Oh My!

Ok, it may not be as catchy (no pun intended) as Lions and Tigers and Bears...Oh My, but it did get you to continue reading the article! Each year, the Lake Eau Claire Association is fortunate to have sponsorship from local and regional businesses. In 2017, we had over 30 sponsors (a complete list can be found here: <http://www.lakeeauclaire.org/news>) who donated money or goods in exchange for their sponsorship. Our sponsors can choose to be a Muskie, Northern, Walleye or Pan fish sponsor; with each level offering different advertising opportunities. As an example, Muskie Sponsorship includes:

- Annual Triathlon Major sponsor recognition
  - Company name displayed on event t-shirt, event banner, event registration material and event Facebook and website pages
  - 2 participant entries
- Annual Golf Outing sponsor recognition
  - Hole sponsorship which includes your company name on 1 hole
- Newsletter ads equal to ¼ page (our 2018 sponsors will be featured in our next newsletter for the following 12 months)
- Recognition on our website as a LECA Muskie sponsor with a link to your website for one full year
- Recognition on our Facebook page as a LECA Muskie sponsor
- Annual picnic – 2 entries

Along with the benefits listed, we also work with our sponsors to help cross promote events through our Facebook page, which is great way to grow Facebook followers and generate interest in events!

**Consider becoming a 2018 sponsor today...it's quick & easy!**

Simply go to <https://www.memberplanet.com/s/lakeeauclaireassociation/sponsorship> or complete the form at end of the newsletter and mail it back with your payment. Questions about becoming a sponsor, send an email to [LakeEauClaireAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:LakeEauClaireAssociation@gmail.com).

The Lake Eau Claire Association thanks you for your support and for your consideration in supporting the water quality improvement projects that affect us all.



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## Holiday Party in Review!

On Saturday, January 13, the Lake Eau Claire Association Board hosted their annual Holiday Party at the Augusta Lions' Hall. More than 60 attendees enjoyed an evening of socialization, great food and excellent company. New this year was the introduction of a community giving event, where money and non-perishable food items were collected for donation to the Augusta Food Pantry (<https://www.facebook.com/augustafaodpantry>).



Our attendees stepped up...we collected over \$300 and 3 bulging boxes of non-perishable items! Our own LECA board member, Cathy Lea, was able to personally make the donation to the food pantry director, Brenda Pettis, who commented "So grateful for your donation. All of this will help feed our community members for a month. Thank you so very much." They shared that the money will purchase one full delivery of food for all the families that they serve.

As part of the evening events, we received an end of year summary from board president, Lori Bechtel; and board vice president Duane Ives recognized the 2017 sponsors and volunteers. Throughout the evening, attendees had the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for prize baskets and get a chance in on a 50/25/25 raffle (like a 50/50, but with two winners)! Once again, our winners stepped up with both winners of the 50/25/25 drawing donating their winnings back to the association.

A special thanks to everyone who donated a prize basket for the drawing and to everyone who purchased raffle tickets! In addition, the board would like to thank Tugger's Restaurant & Catering for providing a delicious meal and dessert menu. Lastly, a special thanks also goes out to Carol and Roger Carlson for their donation of wine, which was given away as part of the door prizes.

If you missed your chance to attend this year's event, watch the newsletter and emails from the Lake Eau Claire Association for next year's event in January 2019.



**WISCONSIN  
LAKES**

2017 saw big changes to laws and regulations regarding Wisconsin Lakes. Regardless of how you feel about some of these issues, riparian owners should be aware of these changes. Some issues, such as wetland regulation will be carried over to 2018. The new rules:

- Relieve counties of the mandate to have any shoreland zoning ordinance at all.
- Remove the requirement for the Dept. of Natural Resources to approve any ordinances counties do pass.
- Restrict shoreland zoning ordinance standards to be no more restrictive than the state's standards.
- Specify that county zoning departments may inspect and review replacement, repair/remodel, and vertical expansions of structures for compliance with shoreland, floodplain, wetland and general zoning standards and issue a permit.
- Specify that counties may adopt a shoreland zoning ordinance that restricts the height (no less than 25 feet) of any structure other than a principal structure within the 75-foot setback from the OHWM. Retain language that would allow vertical expansion of a principal structure up to 35 feet only if the structure is at least 35 feet from the OHWM.
- Property owners may dredge with a general permit for small scale dredging.
- Aquaculture would be treated similar to agriculture.

For more detail please consult [www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov).

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## Lake District News by Marlo Orth

Currently we are dredging sediment from Troubled Waters Bridge Trap (TWBT). The contractor uses an excavator to do this work which is considerably less costly and they are able to do a better job vs using a hydraulic dredge. Had we not removed this material, it would have ended up in the lake. Our goal is to save the lake. Last year we received permission from Eau Claire County to use a 36 acre parcel of land about 9/10 mile north of TWBT on Highway G as a new deposit site. Previously we had to transport all sediment from TWBT to the Gravel Pit deposit site. Not only is this new site closer, it is black top all the way to the deposit site. We are still able to take material from GPT to the gravel pit deposit site.

We are very grateful for the Lake Association because all the District revenue funds are consumed cleaning the river traps and funding the aeration system operation. Your Lake District and Lake Association work together in doing projects. In fact the Lake Association volunteered to fund surveying, engineering and construction of the new deposit site on Highway G. Also the Lake Association is supplying the funds to explore and hopefully develop a new sediment trap on Hay Creek. Eau Claire County is partnering with us and contributing half on all these projects.

Everyone has probably seen the large deltas developing at the mouth of Hay and Muskrat Creeks. When we have large rain storm events in their respective watersheds, the water just roars as it comes down the creeks toward the lake transporting sediment (sand). When we hydraulically dredged these two creeks in 2003, because of granite type bedrock, we were not able to install a sediment trap on Muskrat Creek, however we were able to install one on Hay Creek. We soon discovered it was not large enough for the sediment load coming down the creek, so in 2005 the trap was more than doubled in size and it is still too small. In addition Hay Creek divides above where this trap is located. One side comes down along ND and the other along NL. We would like to install a new larger trap above where Hay Creek divides. Rod Zika has located a potential site for this new trap. Fred Poss probed the bottom of this proposed site and at about 3 to 4 feet deep he struck something hard. On January 23, 2018 we received permission from DNR and Eau Claire County Parks & Forest to use an excavator to dig a test hole to see what this hard pan is and if we can install a sediment trap about 8 or 9 feet deep there. While Krueger is here cleaning out TWBT and GPT we intend to have him dig a hole at this site.

Also, to reduce the impact of heavy rain events in our watershed, several of us have been actively involved with the Eau Claire River Watershed group. This group has been meeting for about two years. By encompassing the entire River Watershed, we are eligible for large Federal Grants. Another effort of the group is to work with farmers encouraging them to change their farming practices (no till, cover crops, interseeding, etc.) so as to realize a better bottom line. Implementation of these practices would reduce rain sheet run off. The water would soak in, thus staying in place and entering the water table. By reducing water runoff, it would also reduce top soil loss (less sediment coming to the lakes). This would reduce the frequency and impact of high water events for the lakes. The Eau Claire River Watershed includes parts of five counties. (It includes Lake Mead, Lake Altoona, as well as Lake Eau Claire.)

We are very fortunate at Lake Eau Claire to have so many willing volunteers, because anything that can be done by volunteers is done by volunteers. This has saved us thousands of dollars. All the revenue raised by the fundraisers, raffles etc. conducted by the Lake Association go into projects to protect and improve Lake Eau Claire. A BIG THANK YOU to all who have contributed and I invite and encourage anyone who has not been involved, to join the Lake Association and get involved.

Marlo Orth, Chairman  
Lake Eau Claire Protection & Rehabilitation District



GINGRAS, CATES & WACHS



**NOW OPEN!**

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## Renew, Recruit...Join Today!



Membership for the Lake Eau Claire Association is only \$25 per year. As you can imagine, the Lake Association has many expenses during the year. Your membership fee helps pay for things like equipment repairs, website hosting and maintenance, postage and other mailing expenses, newsletter printing, and a host of other things. The dues received are put to good use and spent very wisely. In addition to all that the Lake Association provides today, Lake Association members will now have the opportunity to be enrolled in a texting service that we can utilize during emergency situations. Given the flooding that occurred in September

2016, we believe we need multiple options for notifying people of emergency situations and important announcements. This service will **ONLY** be available to members who are up-to-date on their membership dues. You can renew your membership or join today by going to the following link, <https://www.memberplanet.com/lakeeauclaireassociation>, click the “Join our group” button and fill out the form to “Create an account”. You can also join by mailing your payment to: Lake Eau Claire Association, PO Box 229, Augusta, WI 54722.



## Clothing & Accessories Now Available!

To view all items available & to place an order visit:

<https://lec18.itemorder.com>

Orders must be placed by Sunday, March 11!

**\*\*A portion of each sale will go the Lake Eau Claire Association to help fund their lake rehabilitation efforts\*\***

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# Lake EAU CLAIRE CLEAR WATER TRIATHLON

June 9, 2018



Join us at beautiful Lake Eau Claire for this family fun event to raise money for water quality improvement! The triathlon follows the shores of Lake Eau Claire and is a non-timed event.

#### Location:

LakeHouse Grill & Bar  
E19986 Cty Rd ND  
Augusta, WI 54722

#### Event Times:

**Registration/Package Pick up** – 9:00 am – 10:15 am  
**Triathlon** – 10:30 am  
**Beverages** – 1:00 pm  
**Music by Bonafide** – 2:00 pm – TBD  
**Picnic Dinner** – 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
**Raffles & Silent Auction** – 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm

#### Divisions

##### Individual

**Team (2 people)** - Complete the bike and run separately and canoe/kayak in tandem, or do the triathlon as a relay

**NOTE:** Children under 12 must be accompanied by an individual over 18 as a team member and both entrants must complete the run, paddle, and bike together

#### Triathlon w/ Picnic Pricing:

Entry includes: Participation in event, T-Shirt (first 110 entries), beverages, and picnic dinner

**Adult Entry** – March 1 – April 30: \$30  
**Adult Entry** – May 1 – June 10: \$40  
**12 and under Entry** – March 1 – June 10: \$20

#### Picnic Only Pricing:

For individuals not participating in the triathlon, includes dinner and beverages

**Adult** - \$15  
**12 and under** - \$10

#### Registration:

**Online** – <https://endurancecui.active.com/event-reg/select-race?e=52064154>

**Mail** – Complete registration form with check (payable to Lake Eau Claire Association) and mail to:

Trisha Ives  
1505 Centennial Pkwy  
Waunakee, WI 53597

#### Additional Information:

Equipment will not be provided. Participants may use canoes or kayaks. Life jackets and bike helmets are required. Canoes/kayaks will need to be dropped off by participants at Lake Eau Claire County Beach. County park permits will need to be purchased for individuals that park and leave vehicles at the beach. The course will be marked and rules of the road are to be followed while biking and running. There will not be any refunds.

Full day of fun  
for the entire  
family!

#### TRIATHLON:

2.5 MILE WALK/RUN

1 MILE PADDLE

8 MILE BIKE RIDE

#### PICNIC FOR ALL:

MUSIC BY BONAFIDE

PICNIC DINNER

BEVERAGES

RAFFLES

SILENT AUCTION

#### QUESTIONS?

Contact us at:

715-225-1226

LakeECAssociation@gmail.com

[www.lakeeauclaire.org](http://www.lakeeauclaire.org)

Facebook: Lake Eau Claire  
Association

## The Woodland

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## AERATORS AND FISH CRIBS!

By Fred Poss

It is fair to ask the question: “What results can be demonstrated by the aeration system and the continued installation of fish cribs in Lake Eau Claire?”

The answer, as it turns out, is a very positive one. As I have previously reported, according to DNR fyke net results, the average Wisconsin walleye lake has an average of 2 adult walleyes (15 inches or larger) per acre. Our lake has witnessed a steady improvement of walleye growth since the installation of the aeration system and our fish cribs. This year we can proudly boast an average of 5.3 adult walleyes per acre. This is more than **double** the number of a typical walleye lake in our state.

Recently, a DNR electro-shocking crew came here in November to shock a mile stretch of the lake. A good average number for finding young-of-the-year walleye is 30 per mile. (Young-of-the-year walleyes are defined as fish that range from 1 to 7.3 inches.) I had a conversation with the DNR fish biologist who conducted the work and he reported that our count per mile was 53 fish...nearly double the number of a good average lake.

So how come the walleyes are doing so well? There are two clear answers. First, with the installation of the aerators, we no longer have the deadly blue-green algae blooms that turn our lake into a thick pea soup that kills little walleyes with underdeveloped gill and lung systems that clog up. Second, we now have a total 430 fish cribs and tree falls which add critical woody habitat essential to provide cover for minnows and game fish alike. Remember, our goal is to install 500 cribs/tree falls by 2020, and after that, to continue to add about 20 cribs per year to account for loss and deterioration of older cribs.

If you are interested in helping with the fish crib program, we will be hard at it again in June at the North boat landing. We start at 8 AM and are finished before noon. Please contact Fred Poss to sign up to volunteer by email at [fredposs@gmail.com](mailto:fredposs@gmail.com) or by phone at 715.286.9413.



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**Please note**, Amazon Smile only works when using the link provided above. It does NOT work when shopping through the Amazon app on a mobile device or shopping directly through Amazon.com. **Be sure to save the link as a favorite and use it each time you shop on Amazon!**

**We received our first payment from Amazon this month and over \$30 has been generated by people shopping at Amazon Smile. Keep it up!**

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### Lake Eau Claire Association Fundraiser Raffle currently in progress!

Would you like tickets to sell or buy? Just email [lbechtel@comcast.net](mailto:lbechtel@comcast.net) or call 612.991.8331 to arrange.

## Lake Eau Claire Association Raffle

Drawing: Saturday, June 9, 2018 at our fundraiser at LakeHouse Grill

### 2018 PRIZES:

- 1st: Four (Single Game) Green Bay Packers Tickets 2018 Regular Season
- 2nd: New Kayak with Paddles
- 3rd: \$150 Scheel's Gift Card
- 4th: \$100 Cash

*Sponsored by: Lake Eau Claire Association • P.O. Box 229, Augusta, WI 54722*  
Lic. No: R0016768A-10570 • Need not be present to win • Tickets: \$5 each or 3 for \$10

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# DONATIONS

*Did you know...*

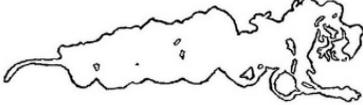
**Donations to the Lake Eau Claire Association are Tax Deductible!!**

**Consider making a donation today! 100% of all donations go directly to the improvements of the lake.**

<https://www.memberplanet.com/campaign/lakeeauclaireassociation/donations>

The Lake Eau Claire Ice Fisheree was held on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and was a great success.

## Lake Eau Claire Ice Fisheree



The Lake Eau Claire Association was able to raffle off a new Vexilar donated by Dan Marcheske and sell tickets for a 50/50 raffle. In total, over \$2,500 was raised. All money will go towards our lake rehabilitation efforts. Thank you to everyone that volunteered that day to assist the Association including Dale Zank, Fred Poss, Vicki Reed, Mike Harden, Tom Crowe, Al Ross, Cathy Friedl, and Kathy Zank.

**Congratulations to all the winners!**



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## Frequently Asked Ice Fishing Questions:

### **How many tip-ups and fishing rods can one person have on the ice at one time?**

Statewide fishing restrictions apply: An angler may not fish with more than three hooks, baits or lures at one time. This means that an angler may set a tip-up and fish with two rods, or set two tip-ups and fish with one rod.

### **When ice fishing using tip-ups, is there are requirement that the angler's name be marked on the tip-up?**

No, an angler does not need to put his or her name on the tip-up.

### **Is there a requirement regarding the spacing or distance between the tip-ups?**

There are no regulations regarding the spacing or distance between tip-ups.

### **Is there a requirement regarding the distance between an angler and their tip-ups?**

There are no regulations regarding the distance between an angler and their tip-ups or fishing rods. However, the angler must be able to respond to his or her tip-up immediately when the flag goes up. Failure to respond immediately to a line upon indication of a bite will be sufficient evidence that the line is unattended.

### **Do I need a permit or license for my ice fishing shelter? No**

### **Do I need a name and address on my ice fishing shanty or shelter, even if it is portable?**

It depends. The name and address (in English) of the person owning or using any fishing shelter must be legibly painted or permanently affixed on the outside of the shelter in block lettering at least one inch square in contrasting colors, when the shelter is left on the ice and is not occupied or otherwise in use.

However, beginning April 1, 2002, fishing shelters that are occupied or otherwise in use and removed from the ice daily are exempt from this requirement. If you remove the shelter from the ice when you come off the ice, a name and address is not required.

### **Can I lock the door of my ice fishing shelter?**

Yes, but only when the shelter is unoccupied. The door must be unlocked while the shelter is occupied.

### **How large of a hole can I make in the ice?**

Up to 12 inches, but no larger.



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## Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention

April 20-22, 2018

Holiday Inn Convention Center  
Stevens Point, Wisconsin

The wail call of the loon, with its mournful and calming howl, often signals social interactions between individuals. Loons use it to reconnect, to find each other in the fog or on a moonless night. Like the loon's wail, we send out this annual call to water lovers everywhere to reconnect with us in Stevens Point at the annual Lakes Partnership Convention and Water Action Volunteers Symposium. We call you to connect with each other too: with fellow organization leaders, volunteer monitors, resource managers, researchers, service providers and educators. We call you to learn, to share, and to socialize. We especially call those who have never come to our event in the past. We welcome you to join our unique gathering. Together, we will create the great cacophony, the informed discussion about protecting and restoring lake health that cannot be ignored. Join us, heed the call!

This convention will again join with the Water Action Volunteers (WAV) Symposium to bring citizens and professionals together to work on not only lake matters, but expand those efforts into the watershed. As our waters do not stop at the borders of Wisconsin, neither do our partnerships. The 2018 Lakes Convention will also overlap with the annual meeting of the Society for Ecological Restoration Midwest-Great Lakes Chapter (April 20-22).

For more information or to register, please go to [www.uwsp.edu](http://www.uwsp.edu). Click on 2018 Wisconsin Lakes Convention. Or call Kristin Charlton at 920-918-3737.

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## Lake Eau Claire Association Officers

**President** - Lori Bechtel, E19885 County Road ND, Augusta, WI 54722 612.991.8331 [lbechtel@comcast.net](mailto:lbechtel@comcast.net)

**Vice-President** - Duane Ives, 1505 Centennial Pkwy, Waunakee 53597 608.444.0380 [dives@amfam.com](mailto:dives@amfam.com)

**Treasurer** - Dean Boehne, 512 5th Ave. N., Strum 54770 715.695.3131 [dcbost@triwest.net](mailto:dcbost@triwest.net)

**Secretary** - Pam Hanson, 704.905.8705 [pam.hanson@e5solutions.com](mailto:pam.hanson@e5solutions.com)

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## Lake District Officers

**Chairperson**- Marlo Orth, 712 E Grant Ave., Eau Claire WI 715-832-6961 c:715-828-3052  
[marloorth@aol.com](mailto:marloorth@aol.com)

**Secretary**- Mike Lea, E21680 Cty Rd SD, Augusta, WI 54722 715-286-5423 c715-225-8768  
[armlea@centuurytel.net](mailto:armlea@centuurytel.net)

**Treasurer** - Dean Boehne, 512 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. N., Strum, WI 54770 715-695-3131 [dcbost@tcc.coop](mailto:dcbost@tcc.coop)

**Vice Chair & Commissioner** - Gary Gibson E16934 Scenic Dr., Fall Creek, WI 54742  
715-877-2730 c:715-210-0401 [gary.gibson@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:gary.gibson@co.eau-claire.wi.us)

**Commissioner** - Patrick Bethke, E19535 Faske Rd, Augusta, WI 54722 715-579-1208

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*Want to renew your membership early? It is only costs \$25 per year to be a Lake Eau Claire Association Member!*

**Lake Eau Claire Membership Dues Renewal/Application**

Name:			
Street Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Email:			
Phone:			
Annual Membership Dues:			
One Year	\$ 25.00	Three Years	\$ 75.00
Two Years	\$ 50.00	Four Years	\$100.00
Membership Amount:			\$ .00
Additional Donation:			
Fireworks	\$		
Lake Rehab	\$		
Other	\$		
Donation Amount:			\$ .00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ .00</b>

Are you interested in volunteering?

Fundraising \_\_\_\_\_ Grant Applications \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Picnic \_\_\_\_\_ Triathlon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Donations to the LECA are tax deductible.*

**Payment options:**

**Member Planet Online Payment Options:**

Memberships: You can renew your membership or join today by going to the following link,

<https://www.memberplanet.com/lakeeauclaireassociation>, click the "Join our group" button and fill out the form to "Create an account".

Donations: <https://www.memberplanet.com/campaign/lakeeauclaireassociation/donations>

Mail completed form with check made out to Lake Eau Claire Association to the following address:

Lake Eau Claire Association  
 Attn: Dean Boehne  
 PO Box 229  
 Augusta, Wisconsin 54722 – 0229



Becoming a sponsor of the Lake Eau Claire Association is a great way to support activities on Lake Eau Claire while advertising your business to the community. Please select your sponsorship level below and complete the contact information section.

**Please select your sponsorship level:**

- Muskie (\$300)
- Northern (\$150)
- Walleye (\$85)
- Pan fish (\$50) Choose one: Newsletter or Hole Sponsorship

**Contact Information:**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit checks payable to 'Lake Eau Claire Association' and mail to:

Lake Eau Claire Association  
Attn: Sponsorship Committee  
PO Box 229  
Augusta, WI 5472

## Northern Level Sponsors



**Judy's 360**  
57275 Hwy 27 - Augusta, WI  
(715) 286-2552



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armlea@centurytel.net  
*Home Performance Testing*



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Cell (715) 225-8768  
Fax (715) 286-2531

## Walleye Level Sponsors

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## Panfish Level Sponsors

