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FREE



BILL THORNLEY

Gifts From The Barred Owls

Special conversation will never be forgotten

It's a hypnotic-like sound guaranteed to send chills through your body. If you live in Northern Wisconsin, you have heard the distinctive "Aaaaaaaa-oooooo-aaaaa!" on a chilly evening as the long shadows begin to spread out like boney fingers grasping the landscape.

And that is usually followed by a loud "Hooo, hoo, ha-hoo, hoo, hoo, hoo, aaaahhhhhh!" Others have described the haunting call as sounding like, "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you-all?"

We're talking about the many cackles, gurgles, screeches and long, drawn-out hoots of a barred owl. There is a reason they have earned the nickname "hoot owl."

We don't often see our brown and white striped nocturnal neighbors. They are well-camouflaged, silent when they fly, and blend in perfectly with the dark forest. They're rarely spotted during the day.

Recently I stepped outside at dusk as the final hints of daylight disappeared into the midnight blue and charcoal shadows at sunset. From a 40-foot pine off to my right, at a distance of only a few yards, came the

loud owl's call. It stopped me in my tracks and I tried to spot the maker. Across the field in front of me came a reply, and within moments a third barred owl joined in across the Yellow River. I had somehow been granted access to a conversation that went on and on between them for several minutes. It was one of those special times that will never be forgotten.

It occurred to me that from his hidden perch among the high pine branches, the first owl had a perfect view of the entire property laid out below him.

I wondered how many times he had rested there silently with nobody even knowing he was watching. I recalled sitting in a deer stand a few years ago when a barred owl flew within a few feet without making a sound. No wonder they're such effective predators.

"Aaaaaaaa-oooooo-aaaaa!" The ghostly call came again, loud, clear and wonderfully close. The second caller answered, and the third now sounded farther away.

Mother Nature has waved her hand, signaling the change of seasons once again. Not long ago it was too warm to sleep

comfortably. Now an autumn chill greets us in the morning.

Canada geese are flying over a rapidly changing landscape now. The trees are on fire with color, and on the forest floor ferns have turned brown and yellow. In autumn the landscape is painted with a golden brush, and the owl is witness to it all as his incredibly sharp eyes search for unlucky mice and squirrels below.

"Hooo, hoo, ha-hoo, hoo, hoo, hoo, aaaahhhhhh!" As the bird completed the call it swooped down out of the pine and flew over my head. I could only see the shape, but what a treat. It settled into another tree and continued to hoot.

It was a sound that deer hunters have come to know well on late November afternoons. With darkness settling in, the barred owl sends chills through us with that call, and it is without a doubt the loneliest sound in the forest at the end of the day.

But this time it wasn't cold or lonely or sad, and I felt very fortunate to be able to hear it. Moments later the spell was broken as the owl flew off and the darkness was



The sound of a barred owl in the darkness can be lonely and cold. But sometimes, on rare occasions, the solitary birds can invite us into their secretive worlds for a brief moment. Photo by Bill Thornley.

silent.

What the owl sees from his perch up high is literally everything below, from all types of wildlife to humans going about their lives. And unless he hoots and tips us off, we don't even know he is there. 🦉

DAVE FIDLIN

Natural Bridge State Park

Sandstone arch among storied history

As an official state park, Natural Bridge's history runs fairly shallow, only attaining the designation in 1973. But the 530-acre site's overall storied lineage runs much deeper, into Wisconsin's glacial periods, as noted by archeological studies and a popular natural feature.

One of Natural Bridge's standout attributes as a state park is the natural arch - Wisconsin's largest - which is alluded to in the green space's name. The arch is the largest within Wisconsin and, over time, has attained widespread notoriety because of this distinction.

More than a full century before Natural Bridge's creation as a state park, documented evidence indicated the unique arch became a tourist attraction, drawing people far and wide to the area to marvel at it.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' website, there is documented evidence of an Independence Day celebration taking place at the arch in 1885. The site also notes an 1888 article from a then-local newspaper, the Sauk County News, noting the area was

"visited nearly every day."

An accompanying natural feature, the Raddatz Rockshelter, is situated directly beneath the arch. Archeological and historical data links the shelter back to the Paleo-Indian community that had settled in the area.

Because of the cultural and historical significance, the shelter is named to the National Register of Historic Places.

Structurally, the natural arch's top stands 35 feet above ground, while its opening is about 25 feet wide. The rock shelter, meanwhile, is 60 feet wide and 35 feet deep.

Geologically speaking, Natural Bridge State Park's attributes stem from the specific location of the land, which is on the edge of the Baraboo Range and within one of the Driftless areas within south central Wisconsin.

Unlike many of Wisconsin's other DNR-run state parks, Natural Bridge is relatively simple, in terms of amenities. But this adds to its beauty because it further accentuates the unspoiled natural features that are abundant throughout the site.



Natural Bridge State Park holds the distinction of having Wisconsin's largest natural arch, which includes the Raddatz Rockshelter directly beneath it.

Visitors can take a rest or enjoy a meal at picnic tables, and restrooms are provided on the park grounds. But other popular features at most other state-run parks, such as camping, are not available at Natural Bridge.

Parks staffers have created two separate, disparate

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



TOP PICKS FOR 2025



GOLDEN BOY YOUTH
H004Y – .22 S/L/LR

MINI BOLT YOUTH G2
H005RMG – .22 S/L/LR
H005R – .22 S/L/LR

HOMESTEADER 9MM
H027-H9G – .22 S/L/LR

THE AMERICAN EAGLE
H004AE – .22 S/L/LR

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DAVE DUWE

For The Heartiest of Souls

Fall payoff well worth fishing cold weather

Some of the best fishing of the year happens in fall. You have to tough out the cold, but trust me, it's worth it.

During the late fall months, walleye fishing is my favorite. With clients in the summer, I spend a lot of time fishing largemouth bass or northern pike, most often with live bait. In fall crankbaits are the go-to. With crankbaits, you have options to cast or troll and success can be found with either.

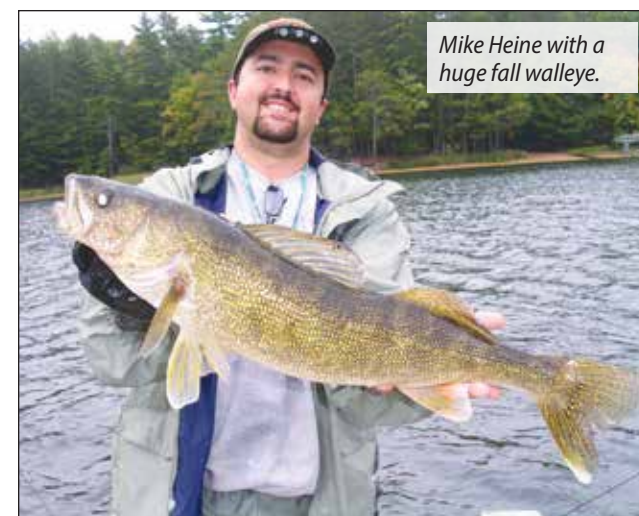
Trolling is a very effective way to cover water and catch a lot of feeding fish. I look for weed lines in the lake that still have live green weeds associated with scattered rock bottom. Main lake points are always a good choice. During day time hours, I will troll 15 - 17 feet of water. During night-time hours, I go for the shallower water, approximately 12 - 14 feet deep. At night, the walleyes slide up the weed line to feed. I use 10-pound silver thread to aid in getting optimal depth for the crankbait.

My trolling rod preference is a seven-foot medium light casting rod, teamed with a bait-casting reel. The lighter action rod seems to keep the treble hooks of the crankbaits from pulling out of the fish. When fishing I will only use one pole per person, as the use of planer boards seems

to be less effective. The fish are in small areas, so exact presentation is the key. I try to initiate a strike by gradually pumping the rod; this adds a very enticing pause to the lure. When getting a strike, you never want to set the hook, instead make sure that the fish has it and lightly pull back. With weed line trolling, the worst enemy is the weed itself. If your lure gets fouled, you need to remove the weed. Not only will your lure not run effectively, it also won't get eaten.

My second choice for Fall crankbait fishing is a jerk bait. For me, jerkbait fishing is almost exclusively done at night. In late fall, the water is clear after turnover making the walleyes spooky in the shallower water. My bait of choice is the Smithwick suspending rogue. I like chrome/blue or chrome/black for color choices. Using 10-pound monofilament on a medium action spinning combo works well. I find the best fall fishing occurs when there is wind. It's colder but more productive. I will always fish on the windward side of the lake. Main lake points again are the best places to fish. Water depth varies greatly; I have caught suspended walleyes in 20-feet of water and as shallow as six-feet. Keep in mind these fish are feeding, so the walleyes will be wherever the bait fish are.

The retrieve I find most effective is a couple fast cranks



Mike Heine with a huge fall walleye.

to get depth, then a couple cranks and a pause. With water temperatures cold, I don't aggressively jerk the lure. Most of the time the strike will feel like extra weight or a weed. I use a normal hook set when fishing a jerkbait; you have more slack in the line and need to get the hooks embedded.

Be careful if you are fishing at night in the fall season and stay aware of your surroundings. Many lake districts remove their navigation buoys late in the year. Check the fishing regulations for any special regulations before keeping any walleyes. You will find the last days of open water season will provide exceptional successes. Dress warm, it is fishing for the heartiest of souls. 🐟

On The Cover

For more than 600,000 Wisconsin hunters, November and December is time once again to claim our hunting heritage. The archery and gun deer hunts and everything that goes along with it, from the long-anticipated whitetail rut to family gatherings to Thanksgiving lie on the horizon.

When another hunt is on the books, it's a good bet that one hunter, archer Jaden Sacia, will have harvested a bigger buck than the hundreds of thousands of us who hit the woods hoping for a similar encounter. A buck that stepped out of a dream wearing a rack measuring in with a 29-inch spread and 172 inches of antler. If you are fortunate enough to see one like this in your lifetime, you have our permission to pass on the "buck fever" and go right to cardiac arrest.

Read the story Jaden wrote on the pages ahead. He knew the buck was there from trail cam photos, made a last-minute decision to take an October stand, and brought home a memory.

As Jaden puts it, every now and then, a deer becomes part of your story—a legacy shared between generations. He's got that right. This one will definitely be talked about for years to come.

The majority of us we'll be content with some great sits in the field hopefully ending in a harvest of our own. And the true bonus; venison in the freezer and the promise ahead of marinated back straps on the grill and everything else good on the table that comes with a successful hunt.

But Wisconsin isn't just about hunting and fishing. Take a peek inside. Like every issue, our tourism partners are inviting you to visit their towns and counties and join them in everything they have to offer, 12 months a year.

We'll see you in the fields. And in Everywhere, Wisconsin. Wherever you land though...

Go Pack Go!



On Wisconsin
Outdoors
With the Dick Ellis Experts

HUNTING • FISHING • TRAVEL
EXPLORE WISCONSIN

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TOM LUBA

Late Fall Fishing

Outdoor tactics, indoor hobby to target crappie, bass, walleye

For fall river crappie, I like it simple. Drifting a light jig and minnow right to their holding area.

As a perfect example, we caught a couple of crappie close together by a bottom snag and then anchored. The winning formula was tossing a 1/32nd ounce jig 10 yards upstream and letting it sink and drift to the fish. They were packed tight. Several boats stopped near us but couldn't hit the sweet spot. We had steady action.

River backwaters are different. We found one school hugging bottom 15-feet down. Rigging a slip bobber 14-feet deep was the ticket. The right boat position also let us reach the branches of laydowns, allowing us shallow and deep fish.

Jigs are excellent for crappie. And they work for other species, too.

My favorite, also for rivers, is a basic smallmouth bass bucktail with black or natural brown hair. Making your own is a good winter hobby. Use store-bought pre-painted black jig heads to eliminate painting; 1/8th ounce is a good bass size.

Here's how: You'll need a low-cost vise, thread, a bobbin to hold thread, a bobbin line threader and deer hair which are available through companies like Barlow's and Lure Parts Online.

To start, place jig in vise, hook down. Wrap a few winds of thread around the jig collar. Hold with a drop of super glue. Cut bucktail long enough to extend past the hook bend. Feather it around on the collar. Hold it with another drop of glue and wind it tighter. Let thread bobbin hang down to hold the hair in place.

Then reverse the jig so hook point faces up. Feather more hair around the collar and wind several times, then add another drop or two of glue. The idea is to have an even spread of the bucktail around the head.

Then wind it tighter and add more glue if needed. Tightening flares out the hair so it sinks slower. Do a couple of half hitches, and let it dry. After making some, you should get the hang of how much hair and glue to use. Buy tying thread from the catalog; it's stronger and easier to use.

For fishing, I like tipping it with a four-inch curl, red fire-tail worm as an attention getter. You can shorten the worm a bit, if needed.

Once you get going you may want to try other materials and head colors. Maribou for crappie and walleye can be productive. Don't be afraid to experiment. That's how new patterns get discovered. 🎣

**JOHN FAUCHER**

Wolf River Walleyes

Fishing through the bait balls of fall

Anglers in fall on many Wisconsin waterways, including the Wolf River system, will eventually witness large schools of baitfish gathering near inlets, landings and bayous. Schools so thick, in fact, they seemingly cannot even be fished.

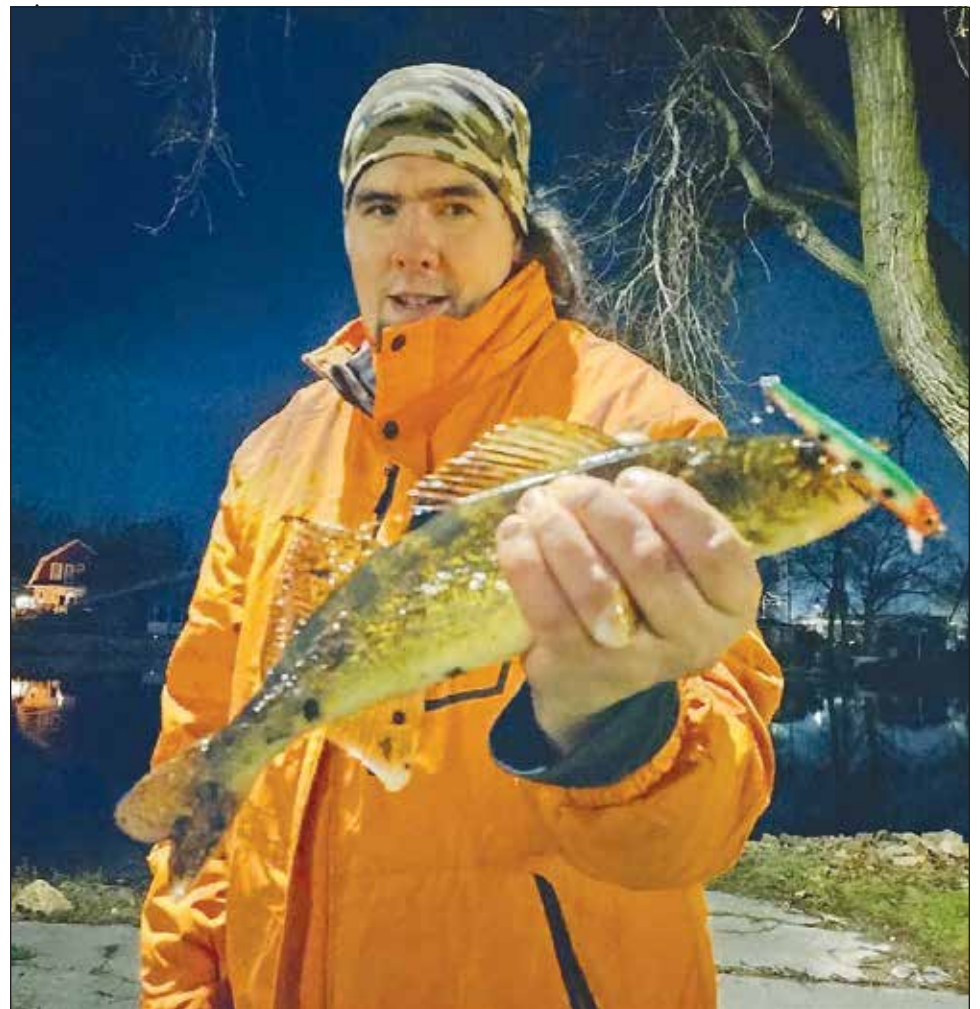
Most anglers will never forget a phenomenon quite like it. Watching the schooling ball of baitfish and the walleye underneath feeding is difficult to fathom. Casting a jig, or any bait, can be frustrating. Take it from an experienced angler who has thrown every lure at them during that magic moment; any offering seems a frivolous endeavor.

A slow roll approach is your ticket to success, a lazy retrieve with a stick-bait that parts the cloud of baitfish barely below the surface. Reel too fast, and you are hooking the minnows, not the fish. I do not normally promote specific lures, but a Thunderstick Junior is a necessary tool to part the school slowly, as Moses did when he rolled open the seas with God's help.

These are amazing moments on the water. And a miraculous time to experience.

See you on the water. Good fishing.

For all Wolf River Fishing needs, connect with Johnny's Little Shop of Bait at www.thelittleshoppeofbait.com or 920-982-4802. 🎣



Tim Tautges targeting walleyes through bait balls of fall on the Wolf River. Credit John Faucher.



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DAN MOERICKE

An 'Up Nort' Report

The search for perch

I love perch. My parents also loved perch and made frequent trips to Pelican Lake to find them. At the age of three, I had a cane pole thrust into my hands and was taught to watch a bobber. About 10 years later, I had a knife handed to me and taught how to fillet them. My dad told me that the first 500 would be the hardest. He was right.

These days, most of my fishing is focused on walleyes and crappies, but occasionally I'll run into a few perch and then wonder why I don't spend more time chasing them. They are second to none for table fare. Just my opinion.

Anyway, a month ago my friend Jack Alters called and told me that he and his wife Kim had room in a cabin they were renting on Cass Lake in northern Minnesota. He said the perch there were big and plentiful. I cleared my calendar.

Like the more well-known Lake Winnibigoshish, Cass Lake is a perch factory. Ten thousand acres of crystal-clear water in which fish were plainly visible down to eight or

nine feet. Fortunately for me, Jack had been there three or four years in a row and knew a number of good spots to try.

We were blessed with calm winds and warm weather on the days I was there and the fish were cooperative. While other boats at the resort lugged minnow buckets out to their boats, Jack and I fished only with plastics. Jack was using something called 'Eye Candy,' which I thought looked way too big for perch but obviously was not. I used Crappie Magnets under a bobber or a small chartreuse paddletail on a jig. All of the above worked well.

We found perch in almost every spot Jack had marked. We fished mostly six-to nine-feet of water with weeds on the bottom. If you get to Cass Lake, there are hundreds of acres that fit that criterion. My possession limit was 40 perch and I went home with a cooler full of future fish fries and a big smile on my face.

Catching a bunch of 11 - 12-inch perch will do that to ya. Just sayin' 🐟



Jack with a sink full of future fish fries.

PHIL SCHWEIK

Fall Transition

Great fishing, less competition means it's time to be on the water

Late fall transition from open water fishing to early ice action is one of my favorite times of the year. Any given day could offer one or the other. That is until everything finally freezes over completely, and we are on to full blown ice fishing.

With that said, I do my best to take full advantage of the remaining open water days as much as I can. This can be some of the best fishing of the year and not only for numbers of fish but some of the largest fish of the year as well.

When the water temperatures drop down into that mid-to lower-30 degrees range, fish become more predictable and accessible, not only with their location but their feeding habits as well. At this time of the year, you will find fish in deeper water haunts and in some instances, you will want to search out and locate the deepest water in the system. Presentation at this time of the year can be slowed down to almost a crawl as the fish are more lethargic and less likely



Ron Hall with a nice musky.

to chase your bait. Even though location and presentation are critical, time and temperature play a big role, too.

As winter looms, the amount of sunlight during the day becomes less and less but it can play a huge role in fish locations and feeding activity. When the sun is out for any period of time the water warms up, and even if only a couple of degrees it will be enough to move the fish that are holding in deeper water to shallower locations. Fish that have moved out from deep water and up to shallow, warmer water are more active and they are there to feed. The nice thing about finding active fish in shallow water is that not only will live bait work, but plastics and shallow-running crankbaits will also work as well, if not better.

So, as we migrate from fall to winter, don't put that open water gear away just quite yet. Take advantage of the remaining open water opportunities and you just might find yourself with some of the best fishing of the season. And, you will probably have the lake to yourself! 🐟

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The Wisconsin Outdoor Events Page

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EVENT	DATES	LOCATION	CONTACT
Elkhorn Deer Site-In	November 8	Southern Lakes Church	www.business.elkhornchamber.com
Oshkosh Deer Site-In	November 8-22	Van Dyne Sportsmen Club	www.vdsc.org/events
Deer Site-In	November 8-9	Racine County Line Rifle Club	www.racinecountylinrifleclub.com
Dane County Deer Site-In	November 14-21	Dane County Law Enforcement Training Center	www.danesherriff.com/Hunting-and-Range-Use
Deer Site-in	November 15-16	Racine County Line Rifle Club	www.racinecountylinrifleclub.com
Deer Site-In	November 8-9	Daniel Boone Conservation League	www.dbcl.org
Deer Site-In	November 13-16	Daniel Boone Conservation League	www.dbcl.org
Green Bay Save Hunting Town Hall Meeting	November 14	1963 Holmgren Way	www.hunternation.org
Santa Shoot for Charities	December 13	Mayville Gun Club	www.mayvillegunbclub.com
2026 Chicago Muskie Expo	January 16-18	Kane County Fairgrounds	www.muskieexpo.com
SCI-Wisconsin Chapter Grand Banquet	February 13-14	Brookfield Conference Center	www.sciwi.org
2026 Milwaukee Muskie Expo	February 13-15	Washington Co. Fair Park	www.muskieexpo.com
SCI-Northeast Wisconsin Chapter, 27th Annual SCI Hunters Banquet	February 28	Stadium Bar and Grill, Green Bay	www.newisci.org
SCI-Northeast Wisconsin Chapter, 27th Annual SCI Hunters Expo	February 27-March 1	Resch Expo, Green Bay	www.newisci.org
Wisconsin State Hunting and Fishing Expo	February 27-March 1	Resch Expo, Green Bay,	920-676-1915
2026 Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Sports Show	March 6-8	State Fair Park	www.jssportsshow.com
2026 Wi Decoy & Sporting Collectibles Show	March 13-15	Hilton Garden Inn, Oshkosh	920-379-5889

Promote your outdoor show at no cost. To list your coming event, send event name, dates, event location and contact information to ellis@onwisconsinoutdoors.com or 262-352-5579.

Thanks for your consideration of booth space at your shows with our goal being to invite more sportsmen and women to vote each election. Any booth visitor providing their contact information, which will not be shared or sold, will also be eligible for prizes provided by our sponsors raffled at each show, with a grand prize raffle in 2026.

DENNY MURAWSKA

Betting on Benches

Elevated flats are natural draws for deer, hunters

When it comes to deer hunting, most of us know the fundamentals. Deer like edge habitat. Forget the deep piney woods, deer will be moving along boundaries between shelter and food sources. Some areas can be natural deer funnels, and we seek these as well. Holes in fences, narrow strips of woodland connecting a feeding and bedding area, and gullies where they can move covertly.

However, one overlooked deer magnet that should be sought out is a bench. I can recall vividly one of my first deer hunting excursions after moving out to Colorado right out of college. Old John Hill, my rancher friend, gave the "greenhorn" from back east some sound advice. I was to go up to John's acreage on Salt Creek, find the benches, and

hunt there.

I was ecstatic, but a bit perplexed. It occurred to be that this must be one great spot if he took the time to build nice cushy benches up there. Heck, I would be able to sit for hours. I never did find any structures resembling a bench. As I was later to learn, a bench is a flat spot on a hillside. Deer love to hang out in such areas.

I got to thinking about this fact as I was checking out a new Wisconsin hunting area in Trempealeau County. My friend has a narrow property with a high ridgetop, studded with a couple of nice stands. As he was describing the boundaries of his property, we hiked along some hot trails just below the top of the ridge. There were many more

tracks and some nice rubs along here as opposed to the very apex of the ridge. Yes, we were walking along narrow benches. Deer will use trails that suit their needs. While I won't say deer are lazy, I don't often see trails straight up or down a steep hill. Rather, almost like human highways, the trails hug curves and switchback along the slopes.

Of course, I mark these trails with tacks that glow in the dark. When it comes to blood trailing, deer will use these pathways just as they in do in their daily meanderings. Glowing tacks aid me as well if I get lost at night, which is pretty much a given. Now, each season, benches are sought out. If they cannot be spotted right away, at least I know what I am looking for now. 📷

Wisconsin Decoy & Sporting Collectible Show

The perfect place to showcase your gear, and share a bit of history

Have grandpa's old decoys been sitting in your basement for decades gathering dust and you don't even hunt? Do you wonder if that Buck knife passed down across the ages is worth more than you think? You're not even sure what some of those lures are in Uncle Jack's tackle box that compelled him to tell those same classic stories again and again over a glass of holiday eggnog since you were in grade school?

Bring your decoys, collectibles, lures, knives, nets, rods.... anything to do with hunting or fishing that you may want to sell, see appraised, or just learn more about to the Wisconsin Decoy & Sporting Collectible Show March 13 and 14th, 2026 in Oshkosh.

A \$5 entry fee brings you in to this great show for one day. Join the Wisconsin Decoy & Sporting Decoys Association for \$10 and enjoy the show at no cost. Purchase a table for \$70 and buy, trade or show off your merchandise. Buy a discounted room at the Hilton and

sell, trade or simply look and enjoy the camaraderie from room to room.

But take our word for it. This show is more exciting than a flock of canvasbacks setting over the blocks. See adjacent advertisement for all the details. 📷



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Joe LeRoy - DBA Decoys
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TOM CARPENTER

Dad's Last Deer

A time for remembering, with gratitude

For many Wisconsin families, the annual gun deer season is a tradition as sacrosanct as Thanksgiving dinner, Christmas Eve, Easter Sunday and a Fourth of July picnic.

This season will be my 54th in the hills of southwestern Wisconsin. Our little hunting group started out as just my dad, my two older brothers, and me. When the brothers went their own way in the world, it was just me and Dad for 21 of those years.

Dad was 84 years old in 2002. He was slowing down, but not enough to stay home. He told me the evening before opening day that he would come out, but not until after breakfast time and full light.

I could see a stretch of country road up on the hilltop from my stand down in the creek bottom. At 8:30 am, right about when I expected, his old station wagon trundled down the road.

By the time I got up to our parking spot, Dad was out of the car and working to slip on his orange coveralls. We got him bundled up, grabbed his gun and shells and a thermos of coffee, and shuffled down the brushy fence row for maybe 50 yards.

"This'll do," Dad said, and I set up his lawn chair right

there.

I sat down and we visited a long while. Then he said, "You go back and hunt, Tommy, I'll be fine. I'll see you at lunchtime."

Of course, I knew I'd be back to check on him before then. But about ten minutes after I had hiked back down the hill and settled back into my stand, I heard a shot that could only have been from him.

Uh oh. Uh oh? Oh no.

Back down the tree I went. Back I hiked up the hill. At the place where Dad should have been sitting came into view, my heartbeat quickened: He wasn't there. Was he okay?

Fairly trotting up to his empty lawn chair, I spotted him maybe 75 yards away, behind a rise in the hayfield. Whew. His head was to the ground and he was looking for something. Maybe he missed?

I walked over and surprised his concentration.

'Lookin' for blood?' I asked.

"Oh, the deer is lying right over there," he pointed matter-of-factly. "I dropped my glove somewhere. Help me find it."

Such was my father.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



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-Gregg Borneman



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ski-doo

BOB'S BEAR BAIT

Thanks For Another Great Year in The Books, With Better Things Ahead

As the 2025 bear-baiting season winds down, one thing stands out loud and clear: we couldn't do any of this without you. From the early-morning regulars loading up their pickups to the weekend warriors stocking up for one last run, every single one of you plays a part in what makes Bob's Bear Bait the go-to name for hunters across the Northwoods.

You all showed up loyal, prepared, and ready to get the job done. Whether you stopped by our Birnamwood shop, swung through Appleton or Hortonville, or made the trek up to Crystal Falls, Phelps or Ishpeming, we've loved catching up, swapping stories, and seeing those trail-cam photos roll in. The passion, dedication, and community spirit that you bring to the bear woods are exactly why we keep doing what we do.

Every season reminds us how lucky we are to have such a loyal customer base. You trust us with your bait needs year after year, and that's something we'll never take lightly. We see the familiar faces who've been with us since day one and the new hunters just getting started, and it's that mix of tradition and fresh enthusiasm that keeps this community thriving.

Don't Forget to Apply for Your 2026 Bear Tag

Before the snow flies and life gets busy with ice fishing, snowmobiling, and holiday prep, take a minute to mark your calendar. Bear tag applications for the 2026 Wisconsin season will open before you know it. Applying early means you stay in the preference-point game and don't miss your chance when your number comes up. Even if you're still a few points

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

BOB'S Bear Bait



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- ★ 336 US Hwy 45, Birnamwood, WI
- ★ 4069 Volkman Rd, Phelps, WI
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- ★ Ishpeming, Michigan
- ★ Crystal Falls, upper Michigan

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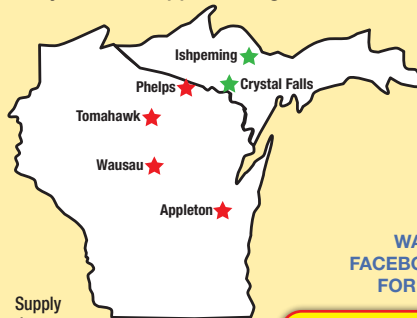
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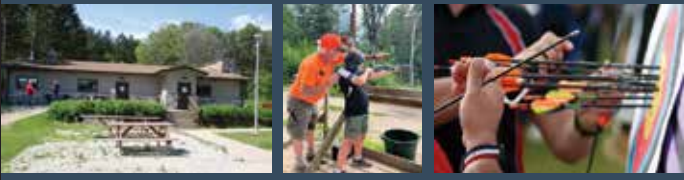
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BOB'S BEAR BAIT, *FROM PAGE 12*

away, every year counts.

What's Ahead for 2026: More Protein, More Performance

While the bears might be hibernating, we're already gearing up for 2026. Our team has been working hard to source and stock a bigger variety of high-protein bait blends designed to keep bears coming back for more. Think hearty mixes loaded with nuts, grains, and natural fat perfect for building energy before the hunt and drawing those big boars in from deep cover.

We'll still have all the sweet favorites everyone loves, but we're stepping up the nutrition game this season. These high-protein options don't just smell irresistible; they give bears the sustenance they crave, which keeps them hitting your bait sites consistently and confidently. Keep an eye on BobsBearBait.com and our Facebook page for updates as spring approaches.

From all of us at Bob's Bear Bait, thank you for choosing to shop local, support small business, and be part of our extended hunting family. We're proud to be part of your success stories, season after season.

So here's to another great year in the books—full freezers, full hearts, and even fuller bait barrels. We can't wait to see what 2026 brings. Until then, stay safe, stay warm, and don't forget: great hunts start with great bait. 🐾

FIDLIN, *FROM PAGE 2*

hiking trails throughout the park site. Combined, the two trails stretch three-and-a-half miles in length.

The Indian Moccasin Nature Trail is the more popular of the two and will take visitors to the natural arch and rock shelter. The Whitetail Hiking Trail, which is longer, loops around the southern portion of the park site, which is more desolate.

Most of Natural Bridge State Park is forested and adorned with such hardwood species as oak. Select areas also feature prairie grasses that offer a variety of different plants, such as ferns.

Natural Bridge State Park is located at E7792 County Road C, less than a mile outside Leland's village limits (southwest of Baraboo) within Sauk County. It is open daily from 6 am to 11 pm, year-round. 🐾



SPOTLIGHT | ELKHORN



The Ideal, Late Autumn Getaway

Elkhorn, nestled in the heart of Walworth County, transforms into a picturesque wonderland during the fall season. As the leaves turn vibrant shades of red, orange, and gold, the town offers visitors a blend of scenic beauty, festive events, and local businesses that make it an ideal destination for a late autumn getaway.

Elkhorn's charming downtown comes alive with holiday spirit. One of the key attractions during this time is the Elkhorn Christmas Parade, a beloved tradition that takes place in early December. Families and visitors from all over gather to watch the festive floats, enjoy live music, and see Santa Claus himself. The downtown area is decked out with twinkling lights and holiday

decorations, creating a magical ambiance perfect for holiday shopping and dining.

For those who appreciate outdoor activities, Lake Geneva is just a short drive away, offering opportunities for hiking, biking, or simply enjoying the stunning fall foliage that peaks in November. As the colder weather sets in, visitors can explore the area's Christmas tree farms, where families can cut their own tree and enjoy a quintessential winter experience.

When it comes to local businesses, Elkhorn boasts a variety of exciting places to visit in the fall months. The Apple Barn Orchard & Winery, located just outside of town, is a must-visit. In November, visitors can pick apples, sample fresh cider, and explore the winery's selection of local wines. The cozy atmosphere and delicious offerings make it a perfect stop for anyone looking to savor local flavors.

For those interested in unique holiday gifts, Terra Barn Collective offers a wide range of vintage and handmade items. This eclectic shop is perfect for finding one-of-a-kind treasures. Similarly, Friends on the Square, a quaint gift shop in downtown Elkhorn, is a great place to discover locally crafted goods, home decor, and seasonal items that reflect the charm of the town.

Food lovers will enjoy stopping by The Elk Restaurant, a staple in Elkhorn since 1945, serving classic American dishes. For a more festive experience, Moy's Restaurant, renowned for its Asian cuisine, offers hearty meals to warm up after a day of exploring.

Whether you're looking to experience the warmth of small-town charm or indulge in seasonal attractions, Elkhorn provides a delightful mix of fall beauty and holiday cheer, making it a destination well worth visiting. 🐾




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SPOTLIGHT | KENOSHA

Winter is Wonderful in Kenosha

As fall gives way to winter, a whole new season of fun emerges in Southeastern Wisconsin. From brisk hikes and snowshoeing to skiing, sledding, and snowboarding, there is endless opportunity to enjoy the outdoors even when cooler temperatures arrive.

Spend a day near Lake Michigan for beautiful views and crisp air. The City of Kenosha hosts an ice-skating rink at Veterans Memorial Park which is free to utilize – bring your own skates or borrow a pair. Stroll along the Sculpture Walk at Harbor Park with more than a dozen works of art on display. Or enjoy miles of lakefront bike paths year-round.

Head west and explore wide-open spaces in Kenosha County. Downhill skiing is just one of the many activities to be enjoyed at Wilmot Mountain. Snowboarding is another option at this popular winter attraction – and don't worry, lessons are available for all ages! No lessons required, everyone in your crew can enjoy snow tubing. Plus, the motorized lift will transport you and your tube back to the top of the hill to save all your energy for the fun parts.

Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are also great when the snow flies. County parks such as Petrifying Springs Park and Fox River Park offer great trails for hiking and logging steps during the winter months. Disc golf courses are open year-round for frisbee fun, too.

New this year, an outdoor winter art display at Harbor Park, more lights downtown, and a Drone Show during the Lightin' Up and City of Kenosha Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. Join in the sparkle and magic on Friday, November 28. While the golf season may have ended, Washington Park Municipal Golf Course is home to "Magic at Muni" on the weekends. Enjoy a stroll through the course in the evening beginning November 29 through the end of December to see light displays, sip on cocoa, and more.

In fact, there are holiday activities every day of the week from Thanksgiving through the New Year in the Kenosha Area – many of them are completely free. Start planning your winter weekend getaway at VisitKenosha.com. 🍷



YOU'LL NEVER HEAR "I'M BORED" AROUND HERE.

Embrace the crisp air this winter and find fun faster in Kenosha. Explore parks that stretch for miles along Lake Michigan or year-round disc golf courses for games that will thrill everyone in your group. Put on a pair of ice skates, skis, or snowshoes for a day outdoors. Explore a vibrant downtown filled with museums, historic sites, authentic streetcars, unique dining experiences, and much more. Wherever your interests lie, Kenosha offers adventure beyond the expected.

Scan to explore Winter
Fun in Kenosha!



VISITKENOSHA.COM





SPOTLIGHT | HURLEY



Upcoming Hurley Winter Events – Mark Your Calendars!

Fun Frost Family Day – Saturday, December 13, 2025 | 12–3 PM | FREE

Join us at the Hurley School for an afternoon of festive family fun! Celebrate the season with FREE activities for kids and adults alike:

- **Hot Beverages by Late Run** - have some coffee while you make reindeer food – a must-do for kids before Santa's big night.
- **Visits from Mr. & Mrs. Claus** – plus two of Santa's favorite elves!
- **Bouncy House Fun and Face Painting** - courtesy of Fun E Business.
- **Craft Fair & Vendors** – hosted in partnership with the Hurley School; local makers, holiday gifts, and treats!
- **Coloring and Craft Station** – creative fun for all ages.
- **Free Movie**– grab some popcorn and a cozy seat for a holiday favorite.
- **Reading Room** – enjoy holiday books read by our Friends of the Library.
- **Ugly Sweater Contest** – show off your best (or worst!) holiday fashion for prizes and photos with local photographers.
- **Holiday Decorations** from Rose's and Santa's Wreaths will bring extra cheer.

Winter Fun in Hurley – All Season Long!

Winter in Hurley means snowmobile season is almost here! With hundreds of miles of groomed trails, stop along the way to warm up at Hurley's iconic bars, restaurants, and shops on Silver Street and beyond. Many local businesses host live music, raffles, and winter specials every weekend—so bundle up and join the fun!

Winter Medallion Hunt

Think you can find it? Our annual Winter Medallion Contest is back! Three pieces of the medallion are hidden throughout the northern part of Iron County just before the first snowfall. Follow the weekly clues published in the local paper, The Miner, and be the first to assemble the complete medallion to win prizes and bragging rights!

From Santa to snowmobiles, Hurley is the place for winter fun, community pride, and small-town holiday cheer.

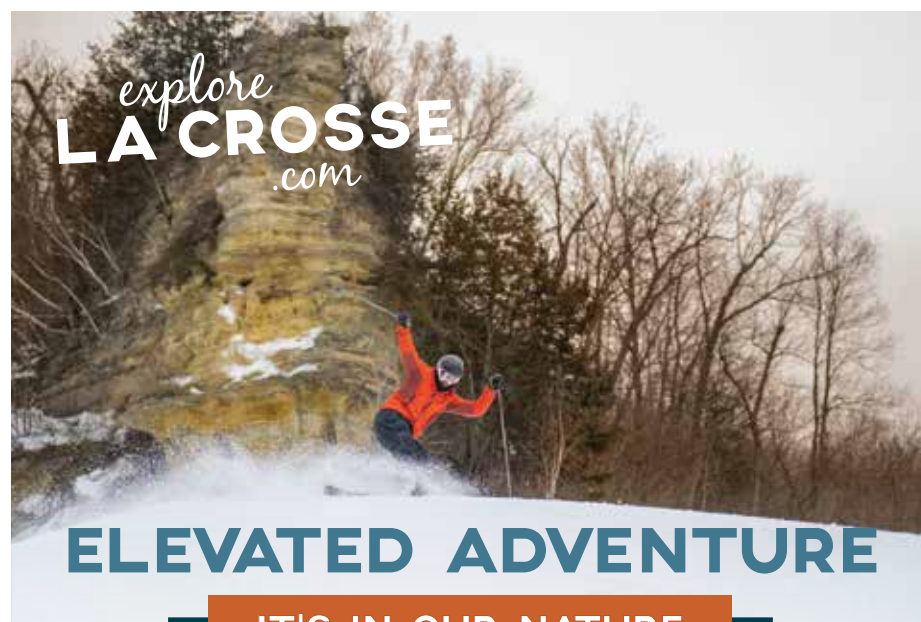
Visit Hurley this season—a place where everyone can play!



A Place Where Everyone Can Play



Hurley, WI



Nestled between ancient bluffs and along the Mississippi River, the La Crosse Region bursts with cozy nooks, inspiring heights, picturesque landscapes, and 100 miles of trails. Immerse yourself in spirited communities alive with vibrant festivals and a savory scene overflowing with flavor and authenticity. From charming, historic downtowns to downhill skiing and ice fishing, the La Crosse Region offers something for every explorer.

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SPOTLIGHT | ITBEC



Holiday Charm in Wisconsin's Beautiful Northwest

Holiday Magic Sparkles Across Northwest Wisconsin

There's something magical about Christmas in Northwest Wisconsin. As snowflakes dust the pines and towns twinkle with lights, communities across the region come alive with festivities. From glowing tunnels and parades to sleigh rides and small-town markets, the Northwoods offers holiday charm at every turn.

Washburn County: A Forest of Lights

In Washburn County, Bashaw Lake Resort dazzles visitors with a half-mile light trail featuring 1,600 LED lights, a glowing tunnel, synchronized music, and animated displays. Nearby, the Shell Lake Lions transform the Shell Lake Municipal Campground into a cozy, walk- or drive-through lakeside light display - perfect for a winter evening with loved ones.

Sawyer County: Christmas in Hayward

The town of Hayward celebrates from the Saturday after Thanksgiving through mid-December with hot chocolate by the fire, horse-drawn sleigh rides, a lighted parade, and carolers filling downtown with holiday music. Local shops offer unique gifts, making it a festive destination for families and visitors alike.

Ashland County: Garland City of the North

Ashland kicks off the season with Customer Appreciation Day, where more than 30 retailers greet shoppers with holiday



treats and gift wrapping. That evening, the 57th Annual Garland City of the North Christmas Parade lights up Main Street, followed by a community tree lighting at Plaza Park with carols, cocoa, cookies, and a holiday message from the mayor. South of town, Butternut's Christmas in the Village on December 6 brings artisans, bakers, and crafters together for a charming holiday market.

Barron County: Gingerbread Land
Rice Lake's downtown sparkles during its

Gingerbread Land Holiday Parade. Families can visit Santa, admire decorated trees at City Hall, and enjoy a Northwinds British Brass Band concert - an evening steeped in tradition and cheer.

Bayfield County: Christmas in Cable
The first weekend of December, Cable hosts tree lighting, cookie exchanges, arts and crafts, and a Christmas Cash Raffle. The Shop Local Holiday Challenge makes gift-giving meaningful while supporting small businesses.

Iron County: Fun, Frost and Family in Hurley

On December 13, Hurley's family celebration includes meet-and-greets with Santa, a Reindeer Walk, ornament making, and festive treats, filling the air with laughter and music.

Whether you're exploring a glowing light tunnel or sipping cocoa by a fire, the holiday spirit shines brightly across Northwest Wisconsin. Bundle up and make this Christmas one to remember. 🎅

CARPENTER, FROM PAGE 10

The whitetail, a fat little young-of-the-year buck, would be just right for him and Mom to eat.

After field-dressing the deer, as I always did for my father, I started dragging it toward the vehicles, but he said, "Oh just leave it up by my chair. It's pretty nice out. I'll just stay out awhile. Ma isn't expecting me home soon anyway."

Later I came back, grabbed our lunches and another lawn chair, and we ate in the November sunshine by his deer. He went home afterwards.

So ended Charles E. Carpenter's deer hunting career. Mom got sick later that winter, Dad didn't want to leave her the next year for deer hunting, and she passed away the following spring.

Sooner or later, the wind quits billowing the hayfield and blowing our sails. We don't always know when we are drifting into port. That's why you love and live what you have while you have it.

I always think of Dad at dawn of opening day, and at lunchtime, and smile. 🎅

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Request your free map today.



SPOTLIGHT | PLATTEVILLE



Phenomenal And Breathtaking Attractions Await For Adults, Children

Platteville's Fall and Winter Outdoor Recreation Opportunities

Platteville offers many outdoor recreational opportunities throughout the fall and winter seasons. Get on our roadways and explore the countryside on your ATV or UTV. The colors can be phenomenal and breathtaking as you venture from one destination to another. For detailed information on local and county routes and maps, stop at the Wisconsin Welcome Center located in Platteville.

Along the routes, there will be opportunities to see many varieties of wildlife, as well as interesting attractions and destinations to explore. As fall turns into winter and the snow begins to fall, check out our trail system with your fat tire bike. No longer is bicycling just a summer

activity! We have many miles of trails in and around Platteville that will be challenging and provide you with great scenic views. And for those that wish to cross country ski, snowshoe, or just go for a walk, our trail system can accommodate you as well!

To learn more, visit www.platteville.com or call the Platteville Regional Chamber and Wisconsin Welcome Center at 608-348-8888.

Katie's Garden Offers Holiday Excitement for Southwest Wisconsin

The first weekend in December, Katie's Garden, a parcel of land adjacent to the Wisconsin Welcome Center, is transformed into a Winter Wonderland. The garden magically transforms into a scene right out of a Christmas movie. All the trees will be filled with lights to illuminate the grounds



Holiday excitement awaits in Platteville.

and take your breath away. The open areas of the garden will be filled with inflatables of all sizes which will be perfect backdrops for photos of you and your children. Not to mention all the animated lights that will be flashing and depicting movements of toy soldiers, elves, reindeer, and even Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Speaking of the Claus family, they will arrive by fire truck on Friday, December 5, and be available in the Santa Shed at the

west end of the property. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be present both December 5 and 6 from 5 pm to 8 pm, and will return the following Saturday, December 13 to visit with any children that may have missed their arrival by fire truck. Hundreds of children attend each year to visit with the jolly couple and receive an ornament dedicated each year to their visit. For more information visit www.platteville.com and check the events tab. 🎅



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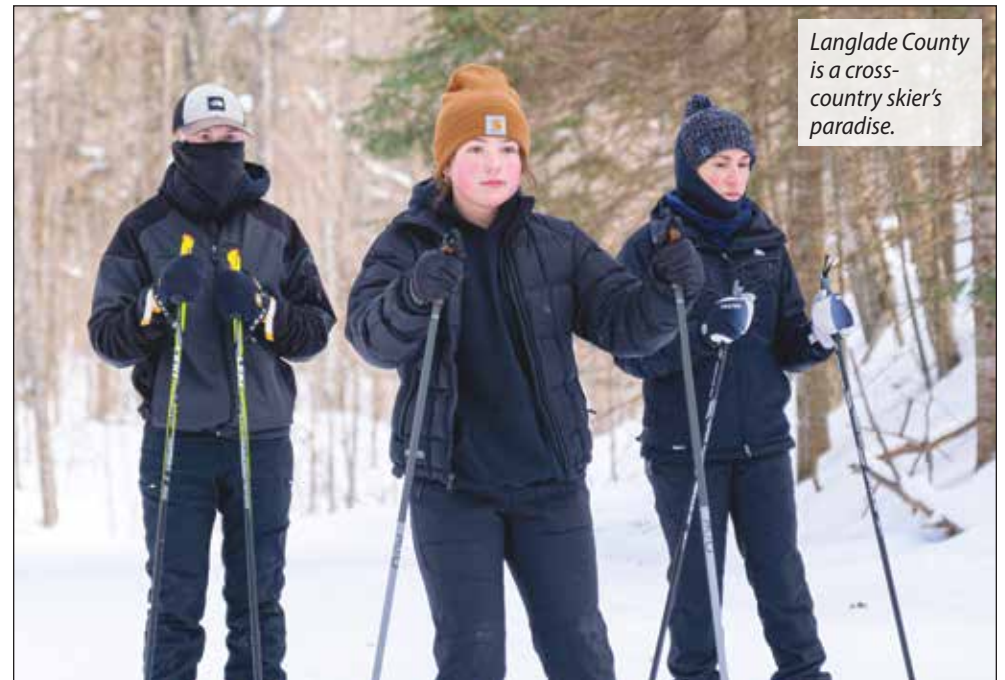
As autumn fades into winter, Langlade County continues to be a haven for outdoor enthusiasts and holiday travelers. November marks the height of Wisconsin's legendary hunting season - drawing sportsmen from across the Midwest to the 130,000-plus acres of public forests, fields, and flowages. With abundant deer, grouse, and waterfowl populations, the "County of Trails" offers endless opportunities for hunters seeking the perfect Northwoods experience. Remember to plan ahead, respect private land boundaries, and check the DNR's season regulations before heading out.

After a crisp day outdoors, unwind at one of Antigo's comfortable hotels. From family-friendly accommodations to cozy stays close to shopping and dining, you'll find lodging options that fit every need and budget. Many hotels also offer ample parking for trailers and easy access to nearby trail systems - perfect for those planning winter recreation getaways.

As December approaches, it's time to embrace the season of snow. Langlade County's extensive network of snowmobile, cross-country ski, snowshoe, and sled dog trails will soon open, offering over 600 miles of winter adventure through scenic forests and rolling countryside. Families can look forward to winter festivals, ice fishing, and peaceful walks through the illuminated streets of downtown Antigo to shop at unique family-owned businesses.

Whether you come for the thrill of the hunt, a quiet weekend retreat, or the excitement of upcoming snow-season fun, Langlade County invites you to relax, recharge, and rediscover Wisconsin's Northwoods this holiday season.

Plan your stay and trail adventures at www.langladecounty.org.



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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER EVENTS

NOV. 8 ST. Germain Women's Service Club Winter Bazaar

NOV. 29 Lighting Up St. Germain Parade & Celebration

DEC. 6 Holiday Marketplace

DEC. 6 Jingle Bell Run 5K

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 **Explore Wisconsin**

SPOTLIGHT | ST. GERMAIN



A Little Town in The Forest Holidays in St. Germain are magical

Winter in the Heart of the Northwoods!

There's something magical about the holidays in St. Germain. Far from crowded commercial centers and generic urban holiday sales, our little town in the forest offers a holiday experience that's become far too rare.

Here's why you should kick off the holidays in St. Germain, and some special events that you won't want to miss!

Lighting Up St. Germain Celebration

The heart of the holidays will be in the heart of St. Germain on November 29. From 4 - 6 pm, there will be a tree lighting event at the St. Germain Fire Department and Community Building. A magnificent tree will dazzle the crowd with light and plenty of hot cocoa and cookies will be on hand. Santa will be making an appearance – kids will want to bring their wish lists and be sure to stay on Santa's "nice" list!

Holiday Marketplace

On December 6, from 9 am – 3 pm, St. Germain's Community Center will be a bustling and festive place. The Holiday Marketplace is a lively annual tradition that draws a wide range of artists and artisans. There's an amazing selection of special and unique gifts, as well as beautiful holiday and home decor items. There will be 30 vendors on hand selling everything from fine jewelry and quilted items to tasty baked goods and birdhouses.

Jingle Bell Run

The Jingle Bell Run takes place at 10 am on December 6 at the St. Germain Community Center. The run/walk is a 5k professionally timed event. The course heads off of the roads into the scenic Awassa Trails – the route will be kept open for running, even if we get a little snow. There will be holiday music playing on the course and you can follow little snowman markers to stay on track. There's even a shorter (1K) kids race for any little elves that would like to participate – if they do, they will receive a candy bar! Tortoise & Hare Race Management will provide finishing times for the event.

Holiday Shopping

Holiday shopping is an experience to savor in St. Germain. Our stores have something for everyone on your list. For example, Bear Paw Pottery sells beautiful pieces that are made on site. Lake Nokomis Cranberries sells wonderful cranberry products, including wine. You can also give the gift of St. Germain with our Chamber Chexx gift certificates. They come in \$5, \$10, \$15, \$20, and \$25 denominations and can be used like money at most St. Germain businesses and restaurants. They can be purchased in the St. Germain Area Chamber of Commerce. If you can't make it in to our office, just call and we'll be happy to ship them to you.

Cozy Lodging

There's nothing cozier than a St. Germain getaway. A warm fireplace is waiting for you here, and you can choose a lodging option that's perfect for you. St. Germain has cozy and convenient hotels, timeless resorts, and spacious vacation homes.

Everyone is welcome in St. Germain and we can't wait to see you this holiday season! 🍷

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SPOTLIGHT | ALGOMA

LEE HAASCH

Late Fall - Algoma Has it All

November and December in Wisconsin bring some outstanding outdoor experiences and the Algoma area is no exception. The pre-winter wonderland is full of outdoor activities for everyone. You can catch a cooler of fish in the morning and spend time in the woods in the afternoon.

The Algoma shops are abundant with Christmas shopping opportunities and shelves are stocked with all kinds of interesting gift ideas. Art galleries offer displays of crafty, artistic gift ideas. A short distance to the west you can attend a Packer practice or take in a game and tour the Packer Hall of Fame.

If the great outdoors is your game, Kewaunee County is rich in agriculture, and this farm country produces large numbers of whitetail deer and trophy bucks that are a common site feasting in the fields. The Lake Michigan shoreline and farm fields provide the ideal environment for flocks of geese and the annual migration of diving ducks give waterfowl hunters plenty of action.

Don't forget about the fishing in Algoma. The Ahnapee

River running through Algoma will hold king salmon, brown trout and northern pike right up until ice time. Many inland area lakes are abundant with pan fish that remain hungry right up until hard water time. But be ready, because first ice offers even more angling opportunities.

If you are looking for the perfect gift for the beverage connoisseur, then look no further than the Von Stiehl Winery, with many award winning wines and distillery products. If craft beer is your fancy, the Ahnapee Brewery features a wide variety of local craft beers. Both the winery and brewery also offer some pretty nice gift ideas.

Fall is harvest time in Wisconsin and the Algoma area offers the beauty of fall colors, wonderful opportunities to get farm fresh products, award winning wines, local apple and cherry products, and is home to the "Sport Fishing Capital of the Great Lakes." Take in a season-ending walk on our beautiful beach or you can hike or bike the Ahnapee Trail and experience the Ice Age Trail before the snow flies. Visit Algoma, we've got it all!

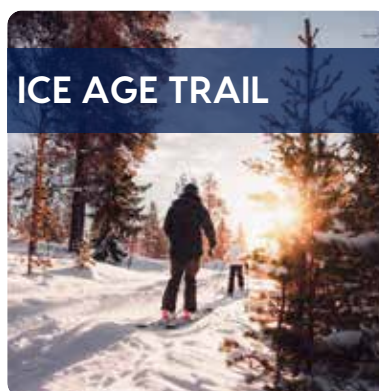
Experience the great fishery Lake Michigan has to offer.



Lake Michigan tributaries, like the Ahnapee River in Algoma, hold thousands of salmon migrating upstream on their spawning run and provide unbelievable angling opportunities.

And if you want BIG fish, check out Algoma! For charter information or fishing reports, visit our facebook page at: Algoma, Wisc. Fishing. For a calendar of events or activities, visit our website: VisitAlgomaWi.org

The winter outdoors is yours in Algoma!



PRAIRIE DU CHIEN WISCONSIN



EVENTS

Nov 15..... Holiday Craft & Gift Fair @ Hoffman Hall
Nov 22..... Hunting Season Starts in Wisconsin
Nov 27..... Turkey Trot @ 8am Hoffman Hall
Dec 5..... Holiday Parade, Downtown
Dec 5-7 & Dec 12-14.... Villa Louis Christmas Tea, Villa Louis Historic Site
Dec 29-31 Carpfest

To register or for more information,
visit www.prairieduchien.org or call 800-732-1673





Explore Wisconsin



SPOTLIGHT | PRAIRIE DU CHIEN AND CRAWFORD COUNTY

Combining The Best of Wisconsin's Outdoors With Small Town Celebrations

In Prairie du Chien and across Crawford County, the change of seasons brings together the best of Wisconsin's outdoors and small-town celebrations. From the thrill of the hunt to the warmth of holiday gatherings, this corner of the Driftless Region shines with tradition and adventure.

The festivities begin November 15 with the Holiday Craft & Gift Fair at Hoffman Hall in Prairie du Chien - perfect for finding local treasures before heading outdoors. Then, on November 22, hunters take to the bluffs, fields, and river valleys as Wisconsin's Deer Hunting Season officially begins, drawing sportsmen and women eager to experience Crawford County's outstanding hunting grounds.

The holiday spirit continues November 27 with the Turkey Trot three-mile run/walk at Hoffman Hall, followed by Prairie du Chien's festive Holiday Parade on December 5. Step back in time at the elegant Villa Louis Christmas Tea, held December 5 - 7 and 12 - 14, where Victorian charm meets Christmas cheer.

Close out the year on the banks of the Mississippi with Carpfest, December 29 - 31, a uniquely Prairie du Chien tradition to ring in the New Year.

From the woods to the waterfront, Prairie du Chien and Crawford County truly come alive this season.



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SPOTLIGHT | NORTHERN OCONTO COUNTY



The Season That Slows You Down

Some places make you hurry. The Northwoods makes you linger.

November and December in Northern Oconto County don't apologize for what they're not. There are no festival crowds, no packed calendars, no pressure to maximize every minute. Instead, these months offer something increasingly rare: permission to move at a different pace entirely.

This is the season locals know best - after the fall color chasers have gone, before the deep winter snowmobile rush arrives. The communities of Breed, Doty, Lakewood, Mountain, and Townsend settle into a rhythm that feels like they're sharing a secret they hope you're wise enough to discover.

Winter arrives gently here. The first real snows dust the pines without burying the trails. Lakes begin their slow freeze. The air carries that particular clarity that makes every breath feel fresh.

The landscape reveals things hidden all summer. Bare trees expose ridgelines you couldn't see

through August's canopy. Animal tracks tell stories in fresh snow. You notice things when you're not rushing past them.

This is when the Northwoods trades spectacle for smaller moments. Wood smoke curling from a cabin chimney at dusk. The silence after the first real snowfall. Warming frozen fingers around something hot after an hour outside.

The trails are yours. Evening comes early, which feels like a gift - an excuse to retreat to lodges with fireplaces, small-town bars, rental cabins where the only agenda is feeding the woodstove.

Bring your people. This is the season for long conversations, for meals that stretch into evening, for remembering that the best memories are made being together somewhere that doesn't demand anything from you.

While the world accelerates toward year-end obligations, we're here moving at a different speed entirely.

Come find your pace. We'll be here, unhurried.



NORTHERN OCONTO COUNTY: THE SEASON THAT SLOWS YOU DOWN



VISIT
WISCONSIN'S
FAVORITE
WINTER
DESTINATION



VISIT
NORTHERN
OCONTO
COUNTY



SPOTLIGHT | CITY OF MARINETTE



Outdoor Magic, Indoor Charm

When autumn arrives in Marinette, the Menominee River transforms into a masterpiece of color and calm. The crisp air carries the scent of pine and falling leaves, and the golden reflection of maple and birch trees dances across the water's surface. For kayakers, there may be no better time to experience the Menominee River than during the fall - a season that turns every paddle stroke into a brushstroke on nature's canvas.

Starting your journey near Marinette, you'll immediately feel the serene rhythm of the river. The current moves at a comfortable pace, allowing you to take in the scenery without rush. Along the banks, fiery reds, glowing ambers, and deep oranges blend with evergreen pines, creating a dazzling mosaic that stretches as far as the eye can see. The only sounds you'll hear are

the gentle splash of your paddle and the call of migrating birds overhead as they make their way south.

The section from the Hattie Street Bridge to the mouth of Green Bay is exceptionally breathtaking in autumn. Here, calm waters reflect the changing trees like a mirror, and the cool breeze carries whispers of the season's arrival. As you glide along, the twin cities of Marinette and Menominee frame the river with historic charm and quiet beauty. It's common to spot fishermen along the shoreline, as the fall salmon run attracts both anglers and wildlife to the area. Paddle alongside newly created US Navy combat ships. After seeing these massive ships, you can explore one of the bay's oldest lighthouses. Watching the sun rise over the bay while surrounded by fall colors is a moment that lingers long after the paddle is

done.

For those who crave a bit more adventure, the upper stretches of the Menominee River near Piers Gorge offer thrilling whitewater runs framed by breathtaking fall foliage. The contrast between the roaring rapids and the tranquil, colorful forest above creates a scene that feels almost cinematic. Local outfitters often lead guided kayaking excursions through this area, providing everything needed for a safe and exhilarating ride. Even if you're not paddling the rapids yourself, it's worth a visit just to watch the water thunder through the gorge surrounded by autumn's brilliance.

Wildlife activity peaks during this time of year, too. Bald eagles soar high above, scanning for fish below the surface, while deer and foxes make quiet appearances

along the forest edge. The peaceful solitude of the river allows you to witness nature preparing for winter, all while enjoying the comfort of a mild fall afternoon.

After your kayaking adventure, warm up in downtown Marinette, where local coffee shops and restaurants welcome paddlers with cozy charm. Enjoy a hot drink or a hearty meal, and swap stories with locals who know that this time of year is something truly special.

Kayaking the Menominee River in the fall isn't just an outdoor activity - it's an immersive experience that captures the very spirit of Marinette. It's about feeling the rhythm of the water, the crispness of the air, and the quiet beauty of the changing season. Each paddle stroke draws you deeper into the landscape, reminding you why autumn in Marinette is pure magic on the water. 🍂



Green Bay Town Hall Hosted by Hunter Nation-Wisconsin Chapter

You're invited to a very special night of discussion about the future of hunting in Wisconsin, including questions and answers on the impact of wolves in our state and the importance of voting.

This event is limited to the first 200 hunters who register. To learn more and to reserve your place, scan the QR Code below.



Friday, November 14. 1963 Holmgren Way.
Refreshments will be served.

JADEN SACIA

A Whitetail For The Ages

Massive buck falls to Wisconsin archer

The air was cool and still that October afternoon in Jackson County when I made a last-minute decision to head for the woods. It was my first sit of the season—no expectations, just a quiet evening surrounded by the fall woods. But the woods had other plans.

From the first trail cam picture, we knew it was game on. This wasn't just another deer; this was the buck. My mom, Dana Sacia, hunted him hard the year before on our family property, spending countless hours in the stand, hoping he'd show in daylight. He never did, taunting us night after night on camera. The neighbors knew him too. He'd become the "hush-hush" legend everyone was chasing.

After the 2024 season ended, Mom, her boyfriend Jeremy Cole, and I watched him all winter, standing in the snow like a king—massive, wide, and proud. He made it through rifle season,

and by then we knew one thing for sure: next year, the chase would continue.

When a cold front rolled in on October 6th, dropping temps from the 80s to the 60s, we knew it was time. We had only one photo of him in velvet that year—proof he was still alive and bigger than ever. Mom said, "Go ahead and take my stand—I'll sit somewhere else." Neither of us knew she was giving me the opportunity of a lifetime.

Two quiet hours passed, and then, out of nowhere, he appeared. The second I saw that rack weaving through the trees, my heartbeat drowned out the world. At 40 yards, he stopped broadside. I drew, found my mark, and released. He bolted, crashing through the creek bottom before disappearing into the trees.

For a moment, I was frozen with doubt. Did I miss? Was it clean? Then we found the arrow—painted red. Relief washed over me as we followed the

blood trail. There he was, lying beside the road like he'd chosen the perfect place for us to find him. We stood in silence, awestruck by his size—then came the hugs, high fives, and shouts of excitement.

He was a giant—29 inches wide and scoring an incredible 172 inches. The kind of buck you dream about but rarely meet in a lifetime. Jeremy grinned and said, "Jaden, we have his sheds from last year!" It all came full circle in that instant.

As I knelt beside him, gratitude replaced adrenaline. Mom smiled and said, "Congratulations, buddy. He stayed in the family. That's a win for all of us."

Some deer are just deer. But every now and then, one becomes part of your story—a legacy shared between generations. For us, that story began with coffee by a winter window and ended with family, laughter, and a buck that finally came home. 🍷



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RON STRESING

Clean and Ready

Gun maintenance critical to safe, efficient use for years to come

Modern semi-auto shotguns fall into two basic categories, gas operated or inertia driven with a gas regulation system. Generally speaking, inertia driven gas regulating guns stay a little cleaner than fully gas operated guns. A classic gas operated gun is the famous Remington 1100. Modern inertia driven gas regulating guns like a Benelli Ethos or SKB RS300 and RS400 series use a hybrid system that allow them to cycle light or heavy loads. This is why I use my inertia driven semi-auto for hunting. I can use a light one-ounce load for my first shot, and follow up with 1-1/8 ounce or 1-1/4-ounce loads if needed. I own guns that use both systems, and there are a lot of commonalities in cleaning and maintaining them.

Reliability: Today's semi-auto guns are the most reliable yet. But all semi-auto guns need to be kept clean and maintained. Because there are literally dozens of models, made by various manufactures, it would take volumes to cover specific cleaning for them all. Consult with the owner's manual and look for YouTube videos on cleaning and lubrication of your specific model. I found a video of a gun with internals that looked identical to mine, and the video made cleaning it a breeze!

Before starting, make sure you have a cleaning rod or bore snake, lint-free cotton cloth, patches, solvent, and gun oil or other lubricants. You will also need a small drift pin, nail or punch and a small hammer to remove the trigger group. Wear plastic or latex gloves because of the solvents and possible lead exposure. Gun Scrubber and Hoppes #9 are classic solvents. Rem Oil, Three in One oil, and specialty lubes like CLP all work as lubricants. Don't over apply lubricants, as they will hold dirt and get gummy in cold weather. I also suggest using only factory shells in your semi-auto hunting guns. Reloads tend to burn a little dirtier due to the powder being less



Today's semi-auto shotguns are the most reliable ever.

compressed. I say this even though I fire thousands of reloads at clay targets every year.

Make sure the shotgun is unloaded. Check both visually and physically to make sure the chamber is empty. Unscrew the magazine cap and remove the forend. It should simply slide right off after the cap is removed. Pull back on the bolt, and the barrel should work free from the receiver. After removing the barrel, clean it thoroughly along with any gas ports on the barrel. I use a bore snake with solvent applied. Loosen and remove the choke tube. Wipe it clean, remove any residue, and wipe with gun oil. Clean the threads, and apply a new coating of anti-seize compound to the threads. Clean action bars, piston sleeves, etc., as recommend by the manufacturer. Lubricate as needed, and wipe down the metal exterior with a light coat of oil for storage.

I still have my grandfather's Browning A5 semi-auto he purchased in 1938, and yes, it still fires and cycles shells because it has been well maintained. 🦋

STUART WILKE

The Gun That Spoke

A Veterans Day salute to those who served

Many vintage firearm enthusiasts wonder what their guns would say if they could talk.

World War II German pistol collector Jim Dandy (not his real name) owns just such a gun - a captured P08 "Luger" that can speak and he can prove it. The gun in question was recently purchased from a local gun store. According to the sales clerk, it was brought in by a veteran's family member who did not want the gun. Asked about the gun's history by a sales clerk, the family member answered only that it was taken from a dead German.

This was no ordinary veteran souvenir brought back from the European Theatre of War. The gun came with a number of tantalizing clues regarding its history, not the least of which was the vet's name, Joseph E. Scanland, and the date of the gun's capture, May 6, 1945, one day before the war ended, scratched on the back of its holster. Furthermore, Scanland had his initials, J.E.S., carved within an oak leaf motif on the gun's left pistol grip.

So, who was Sgt. Scanland? Well, he wasn't just any dog face from Colorado, from which he hailed. He was a member of a four-man reconnaissance squad in Czechoslovakia assigned to a Jeep with a .50 caliber machine gun mounted on it. Scanland did not overplay his contribution to the war effort, and he freely noted in a videotaped interview that he survived the war without a scratch. Not all of his comrades were so lucky. One of them received an accidental gunshot wound to the leg while engaged in "horseplay."

Scanland may not have embellished his service, but he did see action. On more than one occasion, he and his squad exchanged fire with German reconnaissance patrols. The sergeant did more than help to liberate Czechoslovakia. During one memorable recon patrol in his



jeep, his squad came across a number of Russian prisoners being led to (probably) a POW camp by German prison guards. Upon seeing the Americans, the Russians began calling out and waving shirts and other items over their heads to get the Yanks' attention. In response, Scanland's Jeep crew fired a burst of .50 caliber machine-gun fire over the heads of the Russians and their German captors.

The Russians took this as their cue to attack and kill the Germans, after which Scanland and his fellow soldiers directed them to an area where they could find safety.

One day before the war ended on the Western Front, May 6, 1945, Scanland retrieved his much-deserved war trophy from the body of a dead German.

How do we know so much about Scanland and his history? We can thank the Library of Congress which posted an in-depth interview with him detailing his life before, after and during the war. The information that the Sergeant provides is a fascinating look at life during war time and its aftermath.

On this Veterans' Day, we salute Sgt. Scanland and all of those who have served their country when called.

For more information about Scanland and his service, see https://www.loc.gov/item/afc2001001.77165/#item-service_history 🦋

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DICK ELLIS

From Alaska to Wisconsin *Wolf lessons from yesterday*

PUBLISHER NOTE: OWO columns on wolf predation to follow are accurate but extremely graphic. Use your own discretion in deciding whether you or children should read.

Frank Glaser was a government-paid wolf hunter in Alaska for decades. His work as a predator agent was featured by Outdoor Life magazine writer Jim Rearden, who also wrote the book, "Alaska's Wolf Man: The 1915 - 55 Wilderness Adventures of Frank Glaser." Glaser's Alaskan lessons from yesterday provide insight into the wolf as a predator that must be considered in developing Wisconsin wolf and deer management strategy today.

Glaser verifies that wolves need large prey animals from the cervid family to survive, which in Alaska means predation of high numbers of moose, caribou or deer taken annually. In Wisconsin, the primary prey of the wolf is deer and in limited areas, elk. Other prey, including beavers, also are targeted by wolves here.

Glaser said that many hunters interested in wildlife will harvest sick, crippled or otherwise "misfit" animals to benefit the health of the prey species like deer. But is the wolf as we hear so often from



02-18-2025 Juneau County 1 Wolf



07-05-2025 Waushara County 7 Wolves
(Photo provided by Deer & Deer Hunting)

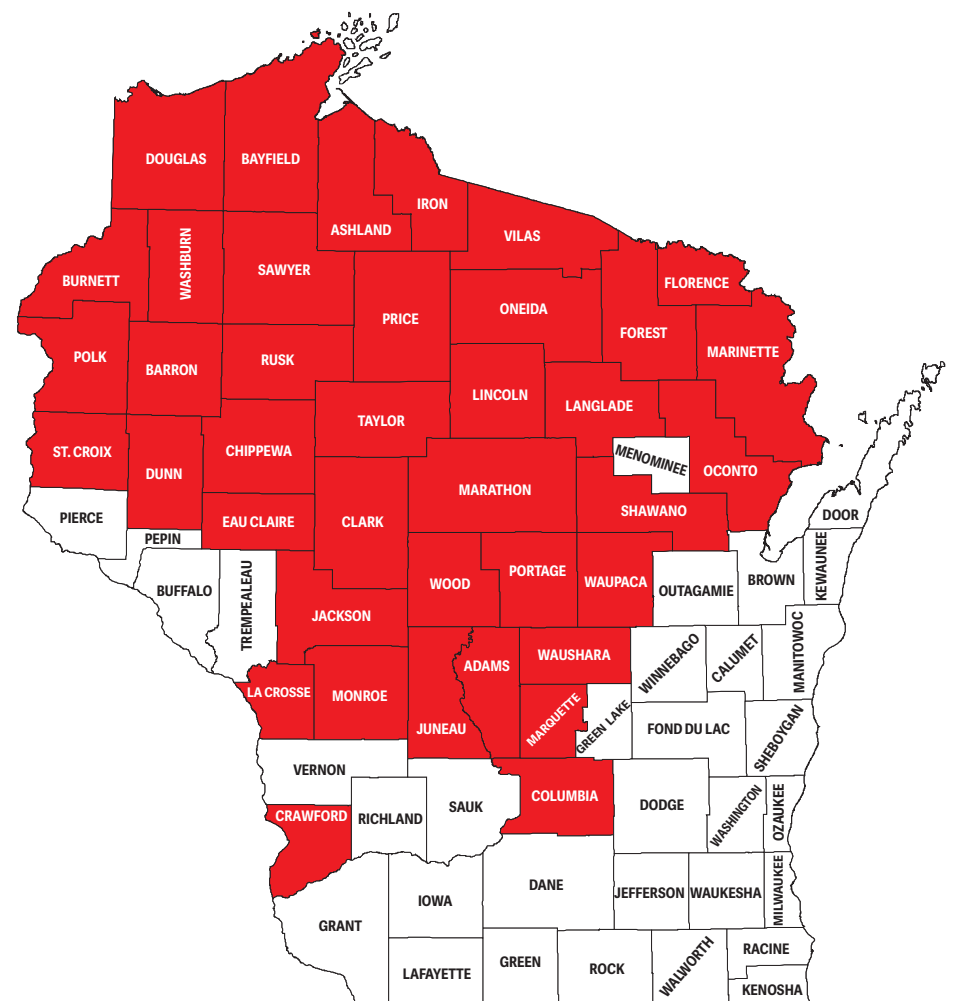
the management "experts" and media in Wisconsin really a culling tool for deer with Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)?

"A wolf takes what's available," he said. "He doesn't go out of his way to kill misfit animals. Wolves commonly kill stragglers. Some are weak animals, others aren't. A pregnant caribou or moose is more vulnerable to wolves than a barren cow. The same animal at another time of year might be able to run circles around the wolf, which is a relatively slow runner."

Young of year, Glaser said, are especially vulnerable to wolf predation. "These are not 'sick' or 'misfit' animals needing to be weeded from the population. It takes a large number of wolves to pull down a mature hard-antlered bull moose in good condition, with good footing. But two or three wolves can finish off the biggest bull that ever lived if he's antlerless and bogged down in deep and crusted snow. Mature moose or caribou herd bulls without antlers, tired



09-02-2025 Waukesha County 1 Mountain Lion
(Photo provided by Wern Valley Hunting Preserve)



and weakened from a long and vigorous breeding season (similar to Wisconsin's whitetail rut), can be killed easily by wolves; they are not 'sick' or 'misfit' either."

A wolf's teeth work like shears, Glaser said, with the upper teeth fitting the outside of the lowers. Wolves slash with extremely powerful jaw muscles, leaving cuts in the prey's hide resembling cuts made with a sharp knife. The soft flank or underbelly is the usual target. A long slash and the target prey's innards fall out, the animal trips and walks on them as it tries to flee until taken down and killed.

A large wolf can eat 25 to 30 pounds of meat at one feeding. Glaser examined the contents of hundreds of wolf stomachs during his time as a predator agent and consistently found fist-size chunks of meat. Wolves, he said, feed weaned pups by regurgitating that food.

"I have often found these pieces at wolf dens," he said. "The wolf's cruelty is not exaggerated, although that's viewing it from the human perspective. The wolf isn't



9-23-2025 Price County 8 Wolves

intentionally cruel; it's just being a wolf."

Glaser details the slow death of a bull moose he first saw standing in Alaska's Savage River before the animal was found the next day lying on the bank with his head on the ground. Although alive, the bull couldn't lift his head. Wolves had eaten 25 to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29

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ELLIS, FROM PAGE 28

30 pounds of meat from one of his hind legs. Glaser ended the suffering with a rifle shot to the head before backtracking the bull's trail to discover how five wolves had ravaged the animal on the hoof until it fell, then ate what they wanted before leaving. Similar examples are referenced in the book.

Glaser details the story of a lone wolf killing six reindeer (often called caribou). "The wolf tracks showed on the hard snow where it had dug in its toes," he said. "It had used the technique common to wolves in killing caribou; it ran beside a fleeing caribou and slashed its flank. The stomach of the reindeer fell out, pulling the entrails with it. The deer traveled maybe 50 or 60 yards, pulling itself along with its front feet, with the hind quarters dragging, until it died. I found the six reindeer scattered over a stretch of perhaps a half-mile, each with its stomach and entrails strung out behind."

In addition to Glaser, other agents were eventually hired to control Alaskan predators. He relates success stories for the predator control division in the Nelchina caribou herd, which includes the vast Nelchina basin between the Wrangell and Alaska Ranges. Because these caribou were accessible by highway, 65-percent of the caribou legally-killed by hunters in the territory were taken from the Nelchina herd. When hard hit by wolf predation, there were only seven calves per 100 adults in the herd's fall counts.

Over a three-year period, predator control agents killed more than 300 wolves from the Nelchina territory. Calf numbers per 100 caribou jumped to 15, more than double the previous figure. As caribou increased in response to wolf reduction, the kill by human hunters doubled. With good numbers of caribou in the herd wolf hunting was stopped, and wolves also gradually increased in the area.

What was documented in Alaska yesterday is true in Wisconsin today. To receive a PDF of OWO's work on the wolf over five years, including many graphic Wisconsin wolf predation photos of deer, livestock, sporting dogs and pets mirroring Glaser's field accounts above, connect with ellis@onwisconsinoutdoors.com. Or, view the PDF on our homepage at www.onwisconsinoutdoors.com. Also on our homepage, view a video, including dramatic audio of a large and heavy-antlered whitetail buck in its death struggle with two wolves.

The most critical factor in wolf and deer management in our state is truth. Seek it, and decide for yourself where you stand on wolves in Wisconsin. 🐾



9-19-2025 Clark County 3 Wolves



9-7-2025D Portage County 2 Wolves



6-14-2025 Marquette County 3 Wolves



9-1602925 Langlade County 16 Wolves
(Photo provided by Hunter Nation)

DICK ELLIS

"Just Being a Wolf" *Hunting the truth on predator-prey management in Wisconsin*

Over years of reporting, OWO has stated repeatedly that DNR wolf population estimates are not close to reality. Our stand comes from anecdotal evidence regarding what thousands of Wisconsin hunters see in the field; higher wolf numbers, lower deer encounters. And, our ongoing informal population census soliciting reader trail cam photos of wolves from a growing number of counties throughout Wisconsin. Forty of Wisconsin's 72 counties have now contributed photos in 20 months, as seen in the counties colored red on the adjacent map.

Recently OWO publishers were invited as guests on the Steve Schroeder podcast, The Sportsman's Voice, to share our views on the Wisconsin wolf and the many negative consequences of inaccurate counts. In particular our perspectives on DNR wolf management practices here and correlating decimation of the Wisconsin deer herd and hunting heritage.

Prior to our taping in Green Bay, Hunter Nation - Wisconsin State Director Chris Vaughan was a guest on the Steve Schroeder Radio Show airing from Green Bay on Saturdays from 12 pm - 3 pm on AM 1360 and FM 97.5, and online at WTAQ with wolves also the topic. OWO shares the same concerns and questions specific to national and state wolf management as Vaughan and Hunter Nation.

When asked by Schroeder what he thinks the number of wolves in Wisconsin might be with the DNR most recent estimate being 1200, Vaughan said, "North of 3000, but I know others who think it's three times that many."

Read the adjacent story on wolf expert Frank Glaser, who served as a US predator control agent in Alaska for decades. Glaser's experiences highlight factors there that we believe are critical to proper management here. Does a wolf target sick prey, like those with CWD? Does he kill only what he needs? How does he kill? Is he or man a more efficient and humane tool in wolf and deer management? How will a too-high predator population affect prey numbers, hunting, and ultimately, our hunting heritage?

"The wolf's cruelty is not exaggerated, although that's viewing it from the human perspective," Glaser said. "The wolf isn't intentionally cruel; it's just being a wolf."

The current DNR Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan, has no population estimate or population goal and ignores the most basic formula imperative to responsible wolf management; where are the numbers now, where do we want to be, and how do we get there responsibly.

An accurate number of wolves in Wisconsin is critically important to maintaining a proper predator-prey balance. Without sound wildlife management, you get what we now have. Too many wolves, too few deer, and a liberal tool to take your hunting tradition and ultimately, your firearms rights.

An excessive wolf population, under the protection of liberal federal judges that will without warrant keep wolves on the endangered species list and protected from hunting in Wisconsin, will destroy your heritage. Let your voice be heard, beginning with the Wisconsin Supreme Court election in April with a vote for Maria Lazar, and in the 2026 gubernatorial election for the constitutional candidate who will protect your 2nd Amendment and hunting rights.

Links to both Hunter Nation and OWO appearances on the Steve Schroeder Shows are available upon request. Steve Vaughan is also available as a public speaker. Connect with Vaughan or Hunter Nation, who initiated the lawsuit that allowed Wisconsin to hold its most recent wolf hunt in 2021, at Chris@hunternation.org or www.hunternation.org.

Send your Wisconsin trail camera photos of wolves for publication to: wolves@onwisconsinoutdoors.com. Include the date and the county where the photos were taken, and verify the number of wolves visible in each photo. Your name will not be published without permission. Thanks to all Wisconsin residents who have participated to date, and to Hunter Nation, Deer & Deer Hunting and Wern Valley Sportsman's Club for their photo contributions in this issue. 🐾

BOOK ACROSS THE BAY

CHAPTER 27

FEBRUARY 14, 2026 • 6:00 PM

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ASHLAND

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SPOTLIGHT | **ASHLAND COUNTY**



A Peaceful, Unforgettable Northwoods' Experience

Winter in Ashland County arrives gently, turning crisp autumn air into a fresh, frosty landscape that's perfect for getting outside. November and December are special months here on the south shore of Lake Superior. The summer crowds are gone, the first snow begins to fall, and the quiet beauty of the outdoors becomes the real star of the season.

Ashland County is a haven for those who love fresh air. A walk along the Lake Superior shoreline in winter is something unforgettable. The waterfront trail and Ashland's scenic lakewalk offer wide views of Chequamegon Bay, where early winter sunlight sparkles on the water and icy formations glisten along the rocks. Bald eagles are a familiar sight, often perched near open water, and on calm days the bay offers moments of stillness that are hard to find anywhere else.

As the snow deepens, the Northwoods trail network comes to life. The Tri-County Corridor offers miles of trail for snowmobilers, snowshoers, and winter adventurers. Fat tire bikers often make early-season rides before the big snow arrives, while snowshoers and hikers enjoy the peacefulness of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. The Copper Falls State Park trails just south of Ashland are especially beautiful after a light snow, when the waterfalls frame the season with icy edges and misty air.

This is also prime time to explore Ashland County's quiet corners. Winter birding is excellent, with open waters drawing eagles, ducks, and other migratory species. Photographers and winter wanderers will find some of the best sunrise and sunset views of the year during these months.

If you like to combine recreation with community spirit, the holiday season in Ashland adds a special touch. Festive lights along Main Street and the holiday events in the city create the perfect pairing for a day spent outdoors. After a trail walk or snowy ride, it's easy to warm up in one of the local cafés or restaurants for a hearty meal, a cup of cocoa, or a craft beer.

Whether it's a shoreline walk, an early snowmobile ride, a winter hike, or a photo stop to watch the bay sparkle, Ashland County in November and December offers a peaceful, unforgettable Northwoods outdoor experience. 🌿



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JOHN ELLIS

Restoring Verifiable Elections

The winning priority for Wisconsin's next governor

The candidate for Wisconsin Governor who makes restoring verifiability to our elections his first priority will quickly become the front runner to win the 2026 election. By using *On Wisconsin Outdoors'* reporting over the last two years on *why* our elections are unverifiable and putting forward a plan to correct the problem, he will separate himself from the other candidates and win the overwhelming support of Wisconsin's voters.

The candidate's clearly stated goal will be to restore *verifiable* elections to our state, not *free and fair* elections, and this is why. "Free and fair" is a meaningless phrase for elections, used by the media and ineffective politicians, that does not guarantee or even imply verifiability. But "verifiable" elections are designed so that every vote counted is tied to a verifiable, eligible voter. Because of this, *only* verifiable elections can validate the will of Wisconsin's voters. Simply put, all verifiable elections will be free and fair, but not all free and fair elections will be verifiable.

The candidate's plan will include the following steps:

1. The Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) will be dismantled. The WEC is unaccountable to voters, facilitates unverifiable elections, and provides cover for the state legislators who have refused to correct Wisconsin's serious election problems. Responsibility for our elections will be returned to those legislators, where Wisconsin's voters can hold them accountable.

2. Wisconsin will discontinue membership in the Electronic Voting Information Center (ERIC). ERIC is a multistate agreement, promoted as helping member states improve the accuracy of their voter rolls. But Wisconsin's membership in ERIC has contributed to the state voter registration list expanding to nearly twice the

size of Wisconsin's voting aged population. The accuracy of Wisconsin's voter registration list will be ensured by maintaining it solely in-state as described in step 3.

3. The lists of eligible voters used for Wisconsin's elections will be maintained locally, within each municipality, by the clerks. Those lists will be available for inspection by citizens free of charge and used by the state legislators to build and maintain the official list of registered voters as required by law. The cumulative total of eligible voters maintained by local municipalities will equal the number of eligible voters on the legislators' list. This will make it impossible for unverifiable illegal ballots to be cast, because every vote will be tied to a locally verifiable, eligible voter.

Currently, the WEC maintains a voter registration list with more than 8.2 million names in a state with only 4.6 million voting aged citizens. That list includes more than 4 million ineligible names. To receive a copy of the list costs \$12,500.00. The size and cost of the list make it easy for unverifiable fraudulent ballots to be cast and impossible to inspect.

4. The voter IDs used when registering to vote will be tied to a verifiable, eligible Wisconsin voter. There are currently more than 250,000 people living legally in Wisconsin who are ineligible to vote, but who have been issued Driver's Licenses that are identical to those of Wisconsin residents who are eligible to vote. Because a Driver's License is all you need to register in Wisconsin, the ineligible people with the licenses can easily vote. To correct this, all Wisconsin Driver's Licenses issued to people who are here legally but ineligible to vote will be clearly marked "**Not for Voting**".

5. Paper ballots will be used, filled out manually, and

counted locally using simple counters that cannot be connected to the internet. Those ballots will be kept for recounts, and to cross check with the local lists of eligible voters. After the polls close each clerk will report the results from their municipality directly to the legislators, eliminating central count. This will make any discrepancies in the vote count after elections easily found and verified locally.

6. Absentee Voting will be limited to those who are unable to make it to the polls on Election Day, and all voting by mail will end. According to a report that was released in September of 2005 by the Commission on Federal Election Reform, Co-Chaired by Democrat Jimmy Carter and Republican James Baker, voting by mail increases the risk of fraud and absentee or "convenience voting" detracts from the collective expression of citizenship that takes place on Election Day.

7. The 28-day residency rule, which allows out-of-state students to vote in Wisconsin's elections, will end. Out-of-state students have no vested interest in Wisconsin and a responsibility to vote in their home states. In addition, the University of Wisconsin system will be required to verify the citizenship of students before issuing a voting ID. Currently there is no requirement, even though there are more than 8000 non-citizen students, from 100 countries, at UW Madison alone.

No issue is more important than restoring verifiability to Wisconsin's elections, because *every* issue we vote on depends on it. The candidate for Wisconsin Governor who recognizes this and runs on a plan like the one outlined above as his first priority, will excite the masses and win in a landslide. 🗳️

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