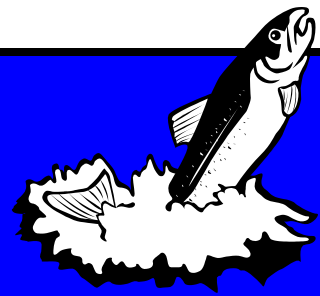


# Brule River

## Sportsmen's Club, Inc.



July 2023

OVER 500 MEMBERS DEDICATED TO THE IMPROVEMENT AND PRESERVATION OF THE BRULE

## Join Us For Trout Habitat Improvement

by Dennis Pratt

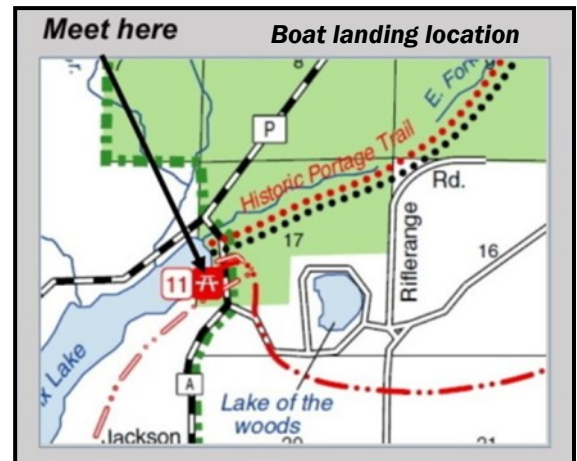
We are back at it again this summer! We will be working on two Saturday morning trout habitat improvement projects on July 22 and August 5. We scheduled two dates hoping more volunteers will be able to fit at least one date into their busy summer schedules.

**July 22:** we're returning to the Brule headwaters for maintenance work on the Beaupre Spring's tributary. We're planning to continue last summer's project here by cutting alder that slumped into the stream during last winter's heavy snowfall. Bring gloves, hip boots/waders and any lopping tools you may have.

**August 5:** we'll be removing a small man-made earthen dam at the headwaters of Swamp Angel creek. By removing the dam we'll be draining the impoundment to directly reconnect the inflowing springs with the creek, lowering the tributaries water temperatures. Bring gloves and shovels.

We're asking volunteers to meet at the Upper St. Croix boat landing at 9 a.m. each Saturday (landing is located on the Northeast end of the lake just off County Hwy. A). From there, we'll

drive to the project locations. After a morning's work, we'll return to the landing to enjoy a Club prepared lunch.



## Meet Brinley Tonn, 2023 NHS Scholarship Recipient



Board Member Paul Helbach presents a brook trout print to Brinley Tonn, Northwestern High School \$1000 scholarship recipient.

*A few words from Brinley:*

This fall I am attending the University of Wisconsin-Stout to major in Environmental Science. My love for nature and the outdoors grew through my membership and activity in both 4-H and FFA.

This past year I served as the Northwestern FFA president, which really pushed me in pursuing my chosen major. Outside of school, I enjoy hiking, kayaking, riding horses, and spending time with my family.

I am extremely grateful to receive such a respected award, and I would like to thank all the members of the Brule River Sportsmen's Club for their generosity in supporting my education.



**BRSC Calendar:** The next board meetings will be held on Monday, July 24, at the Kro Bar at 6:00 p.m.





## Brule River Sportsmen's Club Electronic Meeting Minutes June 26, 2023



President Dennis Pratt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at Kro Bar.

Officers and Directors: Present - Ed Chaplinski, Paul Helbach, Glen Hill, Courtney Johnson, Dennis Pratt, Mike Sierszen, Dennis Smet, Jeff Stollenwerk, Walt Swanson, Jim Waletzko, Dean Wellman, and Mike Zicus.

Minutes of the May Meeting: The minutes as written in the June newsletter were approved following a motion by Dennis Smet, second by Dean Wellman, and unanimous approval by voice vote.

Treasurer's and Financial Secretary's Reports: Treasurer Jeff Stollenwerk reported that May's beginning balance was \$24,289.09, and the ending balance was \$24,165.85 with the following expenses: Katie Thompson (May newsletter - \$200); Northwestern HS Scholarship (\$1,000); ProPrint (March newsletter - \$30.16); ProPrint (May newsletter six-page - \$53.58); Computing Done Right (email set-up - \$180); Dennis Smet (Clean-up day supplies/lunch - \$280); Dennis Pratt (expenses 3/10-5/31 - \$612.97). The Treasurer's report was approved following a motion by Dean Wellman, second by Mike Zicus and unanimous approval by voice vote. Financial Secretary Dean Wellman reported that there were \$1,233.47 in total deposits into the general fund in May and that the Club had two new members. The Financial Secretary's report was approved following a motion by Walt Swanson, a second by Jim Waletzko, and unanimous approval by voice vote.

### Committee Reports

Legislative: Ken Lundberg – Nothing to report.

Habitat: Dennis Pratt – APHIS trapper harvested two beavers at Beupre spring pond and removed the dam, reducing the water level by two thirds. Three dams were seen from aerial fly over on the West Fork. The APHIS trapper harvested the beaver responsible for those and removed all the dams. In July, the habitat volunteers will be at the Beupre Creek area removing alder bent over into the stream by the heavy snow last winter. In August, removal the Angel Creek man-made pond is the planned project.

Audit: Jeff Stollenwerk – Nothing to report.

Education: Dennis Smet – Nothing to report.

Scholarship: Mike Sierszen/Paul Helbach – Paul introduced this year's Northwestern High School Scholarship recipient, Brinley Tonn. Brinley spoke briefly on her future plans.

Membership: Jim Waletzko/Ed Chaplinski – Ed has been talking will people he meets. He also suggested that we push membership at the family fun day. Jim has been distributing paper newsletters to places like the Superior Fly Angler.

Social Media: Mike Zicus/Dennis Pratt – July newsletter articles – Announce NHS scholarship recipient, tree plant event and July and August volunteer habitat projects announcement. Ed Chaplinski wrote a fishing narrative about fishing the Brule since 1960, and Dennis Pratt typed it up.

### Other Business

Fly of the Month: – MG Midge Pupae.

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Update: Tom Tsklebar via email - Mark LaBarbera, executive director, is resigning as of July 10. Net proceeds from raffles and the District I April banquet was \$17,469.23. As a result, Wisconsin Wildlife Federation has \$1,746.92 to award as mini grants within the district.

Establishment of a Club Email: Mike Zicus/Walt Swanson - More testing is needed to verify this is working as intended and the correct procedures are documented.

See "Minutes" on pg. 3



"Minutes" from pg. 2

Nebagamon Creek Culvert Removal Progress: – All permits are in place to start this summer. Paul Piszczek emailed us the following update on June 5: "DNR is finalizing the project's bid specifications and documents. Also, DNR is requesting extensions to land use agreements to allow more time to complete the project. Construction is anticipated later this summer and early fall."

Family Fun Day: August 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ed Chaplinski will contact Ken Lundberg to get the status.

**Upcoming Events** – Latest events will be posted on the Calendar <https://bruleriversportsmensclub.com/category/club-calendar/>.

The business meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Recorded by Walt Swanson

## Brule River Sportsmen's Club 'Trees for Trout' Project Saturday, May 20

Ten volunteers met at 9 a.m. at the Upper St. Croix boat launch.

This was the Club's way of celebrating Arbor Day 2023. Over the last decade, the Club has performed habitat improvement work by draining those beaver ponds and re-connecting the spring flow of Beupre Spring Pond with the Brule River.

Before our restoration work, waters from the Spring Pond completely evaporated off the four very large beaver pond surfaces instead of reaching the Brule. That spring water connection has been restored by the Club for over a decade now.



### Volunteer List:

Dennis Pratt  
Darold Brathol  
Mike Zicus  
Randy Lueth  
Mark Brathol  
Dean Wellman  
Kevin Bovee  
Tom Heinrich  
Ken Zivic  
Dave Schulz,

*Brule River state forester*

In this stage of our habitat work we planted 500 tamarack and about 100 spruce trees along the trout channel now flowing from the Spring Pond through two of the four the old beaver pond footprints to eventually re-establish an evergreen stream-side forest on the banks the Beupre tributary to the Brule River previously destroyed by beaver occupation. The trees were provided by the Brule River State For-est. Forester, Dave Schulz provided tree planting instructions on site.

At noon we gathered once again at the Upper St. Croix boat launch and enjoyed a Club provided sub sandwich lunch.

<b>BRSC Gift Store Order Form</b> (prices include shipping & handling)			
#	Item	Cost	Total
	Lower river map poster of Brule (36"x24")	\$35	
	BRSC baseball hat	\$25	
	Lower Brule River map	\$10	
	Upper Brule River map	\$10	
	Historical newsletter DVD	\$5	
	Framed Lower River Map (cannot be Shipped)	\$125	
The Brule River Sportsmen's Club, Inc. is a tax-exempt organization defined by Chapter 501 (C) (3) of the IRS Tax Code.			



**What We Do:**

**Fisheries Habitat Projects** — Club members and others volunteer during the summer months to restore features necessary for fish spawning, growing, and feeding.

**Clean-ups** — Keep the Brule clean and beautiful.

**Monthly Membership Meetings** — Frequently include guest speakers.

**Monthly Newsletter** — Helps generate understanding of fisheries and water quality, and keeps members and others informed about Club activities.

**Scholarship Program** — Provides financial support to students.

Newsletter editor: Katie Thompson (goirish@cheqnet.net)

**BRSC Membership Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Type:**  Renewal (due January 1st)  New Membership

Email newsletter only:  \$20 – Individual  \$25 – Household

Paper newsletter only:  \$30 – Individual  \$35 – Household

**Donations**

College Scholarship \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Education \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 High School Scholarship \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Habitat \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 General \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Multiple \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Visit us online at [www.brulerriversportsmensclub.com](http://www.brulerriversportsmensclub.com)

All information contained herein is confidential.  
 All but \$1.00 of your membership dues is tax deductible.  
 Donations are 100 percent tax deductible.

<b>Officers</b>	<b>Board of Directors</b>
President — Dennis Pratt — prattd@charter.net	Ed Chaplinski
Vice President — Ken Lundberg	Paul Helbach
Financial Secretary — Dean Wellman	Courtney Johnson
Recording Secretary — Walt Swanson	Mick Killoren
Treasurer — Jeff Stollenwerk	Glen Hill
	Dennis Smet
	Jim Waletzko
	Mike Sierszen
	Mike Zicus
	Ken Zivic