



## DAKOTA PRAIRIE LODGE & RESORT

# PRAIRIE NEWS

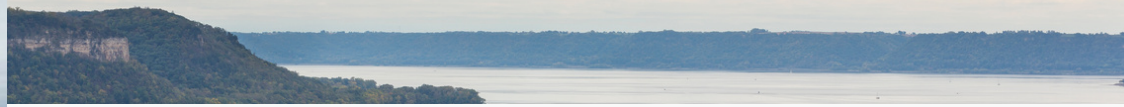


### MEET OUR TEAM

**MACHELLE BOGENHAGEN**  
*Hospitality Staff*

Mabelle has been with us at the Lodge for about three years now, and she helps out in countless different areas. Originally from Kimball, South Dakota, Mabelle is an avid deer and pheasant hunter. She also loves working as a guide – her favorite part of her job is guiding prairie dog hunters throughout the summer.

Pheasant hunting is a tradition that has been in Mabelle's family for generations – and she loves continuing to participate in that tradition at the Lodge. But most of all, she loves working with Lodge owner Toni Korzan. "Toni makes everything easy – for employees and hunters," says Mabelle. Make sure to say hello to her next time you visit!



### PUPPY ANNOUNCEMENT: COMING LATE APRIL!



This month, we have big news at the Lodge: our black lab Molly is expecting! She is due to have a litter of sweet, little puppies in late April. If you have met Molly, then you know that she is an amazing girl who loves the outdoors and was born to hunt. She is an excellent swimmer and loves hunting pheasants and waterfowl.

We cannot wait to welcome Molly's puppies into the world, and we are certain that they will share her friendly temperament and highly trainable nature. We are eager to find homes for our girl's litter, so please reach out if you are interested in taking home one of these babies. They will be ready to go in late June!

### COME HELP US PLANT OUR NEW TREE LINE

We have been traveling all over the midwest this month, visiting numerous hunting shows. Come April, however, it is time to return to the Lodge – and we have an exciting project ahead of us. We will be planting a new tree line that will total over 5,000 feet of trees. We plan to put in three rows of Eastern Red Cedar, one row of Aronia bushes, and one row of cherry bushes. Planting trees on our naturally flat prairie landscape is an important piece of maintaining soil health and building a sustainable habitat for all of our native species of birds – pheasants included.

You may have heard of a traditional "barn raising" – but this April at the Lodge, we invite any and all to join us for weekend "tree raising" events. We welcome anyone who wants to head on out to Brule County, spend some time outdoors, and contribute to maintaining the beautiful prairie landscape that supports our hunts.



## DISCOVER LOCAL FISHING TOURNAMENTS

It's that time of year again! As April begins, Walleye will begin spawning on the rocks of the Missouri River. Affectionately called the "Big Muddy," the Missouri flows nearby our prime Lodge location and is home to many local fishing tournaments throughout the spring. Here are some of our guides' favorite competitions. When you come out to fish in South Dakota, we would be happy to host you at the Lodge – and our many experienced guides can help you get your bearings on the Missouri.

### CEDAR SHORES WALLEYE TOURNAMENT

**Date:** April 6-7, 2024 | **Fee:** \$300/team | **Prize:** 80% of total entries

This is a catch-and-release tournament for one- and two-person teams in Lake Francis Case, located in Chamberlain, SD. Each boat will receive seven tags per day, five of which will be weighed. The entry fee is \$300 per team, and the payout will be 80% of the total pot.



### 25TH ANNUAL LAKE FRANCIS CASE WALLEYE TOURNAMENT

**Date:** April 20-21, 2024 | **Fee:** \$250 | **Prize:** Over \$20,000 available in prizes

Located at Cedar Shore Marina in Lake Francis Case, this tournament also has a fall counterpart set for October 12, 2024. The prizes here are typically large, and the tournament maxes out at 99 boats. The actual prize money allocated will change depending on the number of entries in the tournament. Last year's winning Walleye was 12.41 pounds.



### BASS PRO SHOPS AND CABELA'S MASTERS WALLEYE CIRCUIT

**Date:** April 26-27 | **Fee:** \$650 | **Prize:** 131% of total entry fees

This is a more expensive tournament, but the prize money is also significant. It is one part of a circuit that began March 22 in Illinois, where the winning Walleye was 18.09 pounds.

### FISH THE MISSOURI RIVER WITH DAKOTA PRAIRIE LODGE & RESORT

Looking for a more relaxed fishing excursion? Spend a long weekend at our Lodge. One of our experienced guides will accompany you onto the Missouri River and show you all of the best spots for Walleye fishing. Then, come back to our rustic and comfortable Lodge for food, fun, and memories.

## PRAIRIE PUZZLE

**March Question:** How much did the largest Walleye ever caught in South Dakota weigh?

- a) 22 pounds, 10 ounces
- b) 15 pounds, 11 ounces
- c) 20 pounds, 3 ounces
- d) 17 pounds, 13 ounces

Submit your answer by April 10, 2024, for a chance to win! Answers will be accepted via email, phone, or mail. Correct answers will be entered into the prize drawing to receive a FREE Dakota Prairie Lodge & Resort hat.

