OUTDOORS FOREVER
Conservation Club
A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization

Newsletter

Juneau County • WI

Outdoors Forever Club
P.O. Box 361 • Mauston, WI 53948
www.OutdoorsForeverClub.com

Fall 2026

Youth Report

April 10, 2026, students from Mauston High School helped remove invasive species at the Carl nelson Wildlife Area.

April 20, 2026, Mauston Wildlife Class planted Burr Oak saplings on the Lemonweir Farm as part of a program to improve wildlife habitat. They also toured the habitat areas already established and learned the benefits and the environment.

April 25, 2026, over 100 kids attended the "Annual Kids Outdoor Day" held at the Lemonweir Farm. Activities included archery, BB gun target shooting, bird house building, fishing instruction, pollinators, tree planting, and shed antler hunting. It was a great learning experience. The weather was beautiful! Kids could take home an oak tree sapling, a fishing rod & reel combo set and shed antler for those that found one. Thanks to all the volunteers that made this possible!

On May 7, 2026, all the 5th. Graders in the Mauston School District attended the Annual Conservation Field Day at the Lemonweir Farm. Topics included Foresty & Wildland Fire Control, Water Quality Ecology, Conservation Law Enforcement, Wildlife Habitat, Outdoor Health & Safety, Trapping, and Hunting & Fishing methods. Following these events, students participated in a stream cleanup project along the Lemonweir River, learning firsthand about pollution's impact on aquatic life and the importance of maintaining clean water systems for wildlife and human use alike.

In June, the Mauston Wildlife Class organized a butterfly garden planting day at the local park. This initiative aimed to support pollinator populations while educating participants about the vital role butterflies and bees play in sustaining healthy ecosystems.

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Habitat Report

The pollinator habitat plot along Hwy N across from the clubhouse was mowed to keep undesirable vegetation down and some native flowers displayed their blooms this summer. Also, in addition, 100 Burr Oaks trees were planted west of the clubhouse. Jeff Scully, Dave Laridain and Larry Schmidt planted sorghum food plots on the Lemonweir Farm, Duffy Road area and Larsen Road properties. A BIG THANK YOU to them for their time and use of their equipment.

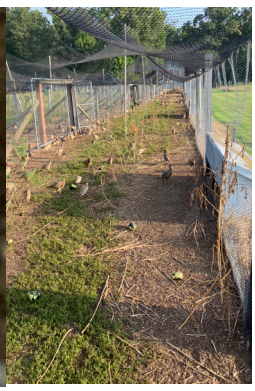
2 Pictures

Upland Bird Report

As fall approaches and the mornings are just a little more crip, many of you might be starting to prepare for hunting season. It's certainly on our mind as well as the pheasants continue to grow and develop their plumage. This year the pheasants arrived on June 15th. And were about the size of golf ball at just a day old. From there they have grown and developed throughout the summer into young adults. Soon, they will have their full plumage and begin their journey out on the landscape. For now, they are spread out in the flight pens where they can safely grow into mature birds with a better chance of survival when they are released.

Several reports of birds from pervious years crowing around the area have been received with a number of sightings as well. This is exciting news and we hope to continue expanding and releasing birds to keep them on the landscape.

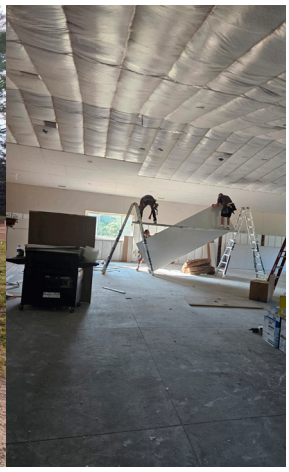
As always, the Pheasant Committee thoroughly appreciates the support of the club and countless donated hours to make this program such a success!!



Bobwhite Quail Report

Dave Laridain and Jeff Scully added another Johnny house (quail condo) to the Outdoors Forever property on Count N. We will now have the capacity to house 100 native Bobwhite Quail on this land. This is a five year commitment the club made to see if they can be brought back to this area of Wisconsin where they once thrived. We ask all members that hunt our properties to refrain from harvesting any Bobwhites to give then a chance to survive and get established.

Learning Center Progress



Progress on the new Learning Center is picking up. The insulation has been blown in and the drywall is up. By the time you read this, the drywall will be sprayed with an orange peal texture. The lighting fixtures and the HVAC system will be completed early in September. After this, we will need to paint the sidewalls and the bathroom areas. So, if there are any painters out there that would like to volunteer, please contact us via email at: outdoorsforeverclub@gmail.com.

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A Note from the Editor

We will be sending out a "Winter Newsletter" in December which will include sign up sheets for membership in 2027 along with the banquet. There are some possible changes coming up with the banquet so, stay in touch with us via our Facebook page: outdoorsforeverclub and/or our website: www.outdoorsforeverclub.com. We keep you informed about any changes and current news through these tools. We are also experiencing some problems at the Meyer Pond Fishing Area. It has been brought to our attention that has been a litter (garbage) problem. Please keep in mind our policy has always been what you bring in, take out with you. We do not have garbage pick up. If you are a member, please help us enforce this policy as we do not want to jeopardize this program. The club is also looking into utilizing the dock that was donated by the City of Mauston at the pond. Approximately 500 rainbow trout were released into the pond this spring which was funded solely by the club as the DNR Trout program has been eliminated by budget restrictions. The pond was set up to accommodate and encourage fishing by the youth, seniors and handicapped in our area.

Outdoors Forever Members Instruct 2 Hunter Safety Classes

The Juneau County Outdoors Forever Sportsmen Club proudly recognizes the dedicated club members who recently taught two Wisconsin DNR-sanctioned hunter education classes, helping prepare the next generation of Wisconsin hunters with the knowledge, skills, and safety practices needed for a successful and responsible outdoor experience. Through their time, expertise, and commitment, these instructors provided students with valuable instruction on firearm and hunting safety, wildlife conservation, ethics, and the responsibilities that come with being a hunter. The Outdoors Forever Club is grateful to these members for giving back to the community and continuing the proud tradition of conservation and responsible hunting in Juneau County. Lead instructor Bob Nicksic, supported by instructors Dave Pharo, Randy Scherwin, John Morris and Jeff Scully. The first class graduated 18 students from the July 13th. week of classes, sponsored by the New Lisbon Sports Club. The second graduated 20 students from August 17th. week of classes and was sponsored by the Juneau County Outdoors Forever Club.

First Annual Woman's Day

On the last Saturday in March an Outdoor Woman's Seminar was held at the clubhouse to learn about the different types of guns, bows, and crossbows. The twelve attendees learned about safe gun handling, proper shooting form, how the different actions worked on shotguns, rifles, handguns, bows, and crossbows. Some of the ladies shot the bows upstairs in the archery range. Some future activities might include a hunter education class, shooting at an outdoor range, and going on a mentored hunt. If interested call or text Tom Jodarski at 608-548-4979.

Consider Remembering Juneau County Outdoors Forever in Your Estate Plans

For many people, some of their most meaningful memories were made outdoors sitting in a deer stand with a child or grandchild, walking a favorite stretch of woods, casting a line into a quiet stream, teaching someone how to hunt, or simply enjoying peace and beauty that Wisconsin forests, fields and waters provide. These experiences are more than memories. They are part of what makes a community special. As we think about the legacy that we leave behind, there is an opportunity to make sure those experiences continue for generations to come. One meaningful way to do that is by including Juneau County Outdoors Forever in your estate plans through a gift of cash, retirement assets, land, or other property.

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Watch our Facebook page or website for important updates!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Brown	President
Dave Pharo	Vice President
Tom Jodarski	Secretary
Deb Priest	Treasurer
Derek Brown	Director
Dennis Hazel	Director
Tom Heindl	Director
Jeff Scully	Director
Taylor Finger	Director

ODF COMMITTEES — CHAIRS

1. Youth	Tom Jodarski/Jim Bires
2. Club House	Derek Brown
3. Pheasant	Corbin Czyscon
4. Banquet	Jenn Rittenhouse /Garrett Manthe
5. Habitat	Tom Jodarski
6. Signs	Tom Heindl
7. Newsletter	John od holm
8. Long Term Planning	Paul Schaller
9. Trout & Memorial	Dave Puhl
10. Audit	Dave Pharo
11. Stewards to Sportsman	Taylor Finger
12. Building Committee	Dave Laridain

If you want to help or have an idea for a project contact the committee Chair.

Reminder

Dues Based on Calendar Year/web