



October 2010



## Beaver Island Wildlife Club

P.O. Box 103 Beaver Island, MI 49782

Volume 3 Issue 2

### Wildlife Club Members Volunteer Many Hours

In the spring newsletter, Lois Williams wrote about all the projects that the Beaver Island Wildlife Club has been involved with throughout the 70+ years of its existence. I decided to define the volunteer hours spent by our club members each year on these projects. We really have a lot of time spent working to improve Beaver Island's wildlife and no one is paid for these many hours. None of this would be possible without the volunteers.

Walleye Stocking Program:  
Set up pond in the spring—12 hours. Stocking pond with fry—2 hours. Monitoring fry—6 hours. Moving fry to

lakes and releasing—32 hours. Draining pond 6 hours. Total hours: 58. COST: \$5.50 for fry shipping .

Turkey Management:  
Delivery of food to storage—5 people x 2 hours each= 10 hours. Feeding turkeys 120 days x 15 minutes/day x 4-5 people = 120 hours. Delivery of feed to feeders from storage ~ 10 hours Total hours: 140. COST of feed and freight = \$2231.50 (2009).

Cormorant Control Program:  
Spring Harassment: 50 hours, Lethal control ~90 hours, egg oiling ~90 hours. Attendance at off island meetings and letter writing:4 days. Total Hours: 240 hours

+ 4 days COST:\$2773 (bullets \$417, flash bangs \$369, Oil \$912, Backpack sprayers - \$325, economic study- \$750) (2010)

Deer Management:  
Deer check: 2 people ~ 60 hours. Deer Driving surveys (5 people) 65 hours.

Food Plots: Individual club members spent anywhere from 16 to 160 hours on their food plots last year.  
COST: gas for driving surveys \$425, Lime + freight= \$4025, Posters for Let them grow campaign \$30, salt blocks \$244. Total cost: \$4724.

Dinner and Raffle: Volunteers to sell tickets and work (go to page 3)



### Board of Directors

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Jeff Powers

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*Newsletter editor:*  
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### Hunter's Dinner/Raffle

This fall's annual Harold Lounsberry Hunter's dinner and the rifle raffle will be held on Nov. 14th at the Shamrock. Similar to last year's dinner, a selection of wild meats will be offered. Everyone attending last year was impressed with the fare. The dinner will begin at 5 and run to 8:30 p.m. Proceeds are donated to the Beaver Island Community

School's scholarship fund in Harold's name.

There will be several raffles held during the dinner including the main raffle-The Rifle Raffle. This year, there will be two rifles: a .270 Savage Deer Rifle and a 7 mm Savage Deer rifle. Three additional prizes will be fine knives. Tickets are \$10 each or 11 for \$100 and are avail-

able through club members and at the dinner. Proceeds from the raffles help to support the Beaver Island Wildlife Club's many wildlife improvement programs... including turkey winter feeding, deer food plots, cormorant control and walleye fish stocking in local lakes. This raffle and dinner are the only fund raising efforts for the Wildlife Club each year.  
Hope to see you there!

### Upcoming Events

- Nov. 14- Hunter's Dinner 5 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at the Shamrock
- Rifle Raffle- drawing at the Hunter's Dinner between 8 and 9 p.m.
- Monthly meetings: second Thursday of the month. 7 p.m.

## Fall Turkey Hunt is on! Let 'Em Go, Let 'Em Grow

## Deer Check

Through the efforts of the Wildlife Club and regional DNRE Wildlife Biologists, the fall turkey hunt was on! Over the counter licenses may be purchased at McDonough's Market. Season started Sept. 15 and will run until Nov. 14th. We have been designated YY, the same as southern Michigan for this fall's turkey hunt. Turkeys did extremely well last winter and this summer produced a bumper crop of young, some hens having more than one brood! We saw week-old young in late August! So get your tags and your bird on Beaver Island this fall!

The Beaver Island Wildlife Club continues its campaign to leave the small bucks for another year and only harvest larger bucks. Our past year's campaigns were to let the spikes go. This year we are asking that you also let the 3's and 4's go. Plenty of doe tags are also available for this fall. This is purely voluntary but we hope to encourage the hunters to follow our recommendations. Last year's winter was very mild (only 38" of snowfall) and there should be plenty of healthy deer from which to choose.

Once again, the Beaver Island Wildlife Club will be asking hunters to check their deer. Data collected is extremely important to the management of our deer herd and you can help by bringing your deer (both doe and buck) in for a check. Checks will be conducted at the Beaver Island Boat Dock from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. during the first week of Rifle Season. You may also call Jacque LaFreniere (448-2220), Bob Tidmore (448-3088) or Jeff Powers (448-2572) and make arrangements for your deer check. DNRE successful hunter patches will be given to those who check their deer.

## Joint QDM plan reached between Island's Clubs

After months of controversy, the Beaver Island Wildlife Club met with the Beaver Island Conservation Club and agreed to a proposed QDM plan to begin in 2011 with DNRE approval.

The plan would include:

- A. 1 antlered deer maximum per hunter per year.
- B. 3 point minimum on one side (6 pt rule)
- C. Youth Hunt antler point restriction waver.

In addition, the following goals shall be included and reevaluated annually:

- 1. a buck to doe ratio of no greater than 1:2

2. Natural age distribution within the buck population

3. Adequate forest regeneration to support deer population.

4. Adequate harvest of female deer to ensure proper population ratios.

5. Deer population to be maintained at 50-70% of carrying capacity (approximately 450-550)

6. adequate DNRE funding and management to support forestry and enforcement efforts in support of Beaver Island.

The monitoring of this plan will include the following:

- 1. Herd monitoring through driving

surveys and camera surveys.

2. Hunter monitoring through mandatory deer checks

3. Alternative species monitoring to determine effect on other game and non game species through interviews, surveys and collection of anecdotal information.

4. Habitat monitoring to establish effects of deer herd on the flora of Beaver Island through anecdotal hunter information and food plot usage.

This plan will be in effect from 2011 through 2015 at which time it will be reevaluated for extension, revocation, or alteration.

## Membership

Would you like to help the wildlife club fund its many activities? Join now:

Youth (under 16): \$5

Adult one year: \$15

5 year: \$50

Lifetime: \$200

Would you like email updates from the Wildlife Club? Yes No

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

NAME

\_\_\_\_\_

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

City/  
State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:

Beaver Island Wildlife Club

Attn: Treasurer Mark LaFreniere

P.O. Box 103

Beaver Island, MI 49782

# St. James and Peaine Townships Pass QDM Resolution

The following resolution was passed by both townships at their September meetings. There was a stipulation that the township would ask for annual evaluations of its impact by qualified wildlife experts. The DNRE has final approval of any plan.

Resolution:

1. Whereas, Beaver Island recognizes a need to actively manage natural resources, and:
2. Whereas, whitetail deer are recognized as the top game species in the state, with over 1.2 million licenses sold in 2009, and:
3. Whereas, hunting-related tourism is an important component of Beaver Island's economy and can play

an increased role in the future, and:

4. Whereas, Quality Deer Management has been scientifically proven to improve the health and well being of deer herds, and:
5. Whereas, the Michigan DNRE has signed a historic memorandum agreeing to work with the QDM Association, and:
6. Whereas, the Beaver Island Wildlife Club and the Beaver Island Conservation Club have agreed on a QDM plan, and:
7. Whereas, the Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce has endorsed a resolution supporting QDM, representing over 120 island related

businesses, and:

8. Whereas, the NREtC's guest speaker Eric Ellis endorsed the Beaver Island QDM plan.
9. Now, therefore be it resolved, that on this day the townships (St. James 9/1/10)(Peaine 9/8/10) endorse the proposed Beaver Island Quality Deer Management Plan and will provide support for the inclusion of this plan in the 2011 Hunting Regulations.



## NREtC News

The NREtC has been busy in its first year. Some of the projects it has completed and are currently working on include:

A culvert was recently replaced on Iron Ore Creek to allow the passage of Brook Trout.

A Forest and Wildlife Habitat Management symposium was held in June. The speakers were Eric Myers (MSU forestry professor), Brian Mastenbrook (MDNRE), Phyllis Higman (Michigan Natural Features Inventory), Eric Ellis (Conservation Resource Alliance,) Tom Bailey (Little Traverse Conservancy,) and Kay Charter (Saving Birds through Habitat). From the round table discussions which followed, the NREtC began work on an Adaptive Management Plan for Beaver Island. It is currently in its 8th draft and seeking input from local organizations, DNRE, the Nature Conservancy, and other agencies. This is an all inclusive plan, for game and non-game species, as well as ecotourism.

A driving guide and trails guide were published and distributed this summer.

Cleanup began on Garden Island dump sites.

Work is beginning on a Birder's guide to the island with expert help from off island resources and on island birders. Hopefully, we will be able to host birder groups in the spring and fall for annual migrations.

Phragmites eradication efforts continued with 46 volunteers spending a couple of days hand swiping stands of phragmites on the island's beaches. The DNRE treated state land including High and Garden Islands. A treatment company was hired by the state to treat Hog Island.

NREtC participated in two grant requests by other organizations to assist in developing a natural resources plan for the island. These grant requests were to provide High Definition aerial imaging of the archipelago, and to secure funding to develop island restoration and management plans.

NREtC assisted the Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources in selecting Beaver Island as the location for their meeting in September.

The Wildlife Club is a voting member of the NREtC represented by Jacque LaFreniere, vice chair NREtC.

## Membership Renewals

.Please check your address label.

There will be a date or LT (lifetime) on the label to show when your membership is due.

Your membership dues help to support all of the many projects of the Beaver Island Wildlife Club. Please renew now!

## Volunteers Cont'd

dinner: 40 hours COST: \$1354 (Posters-\$30, Rifles and prizes ~\$1000, Tickets-\$124, Donation to scholarship fund-\$300).

Newsletter: 2 x a year, approximately 20 hours each, = 40 hours. Cost: stamps and printing: ~\$240.

So the grand totals for all this volunteer effort are:

Hours: 643 hours +4 days + time spent on food plots

Cost: \$11,328

Impressive isn't it?

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