

# United Northern Sportmen's News

Conservation Pledge: I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully to defend from waste, the natural resources of my country - its' air, soil and minerals, its' forests, waters and wildlife.

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## Club Calendar

Ranges Closed on Mondays,  
for Maintenance, Reserved Activities

- Jun. 7 UNS Board Meeting  
6:00pm, Clubhouse or Zoom
- Jun. 10 UNS School of Fish  
9:30am - 12
- July 5 UNS Board Meeting  
6:00pm, Clubhouse or Zoom
- Aug. 2 UNS Board Meeting  
6:00pm, Clubhouse or Zoom
- Aug. 19 UNS Youth Outdoor Field Day
- Sep. 6 UNS Board Meeting  
6:00pm, Clubhouse or Zoom

All members are encouraged to attend board meetings. RSVP Eric at [gonefishing0101@hotmail.com](mailto:gonefishing0101@hotmail.com). If the meeting is via Zoom a connection will be provided when you RSVP.

### RANGE USE CALENDAR

may be found on our Website:  
[www.unitednorthernsportmen.org](http://www.unitednorthernsportmen.org)

### SHOOTING HOURS

Range hours: 8am to 30 minutes before sunset. All ranges are closed on Mondays. Range opening and closing times are posted on the ranges and the bulletin board on the Clubhouse Bldg. Please obey the rules or lose your shooting privileges.

### NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE:

A monthly newsletter is emailed before the end of the month. A printed newsletter will be mailed quarterly, at the beginnoing of each quarter. Articles are due by the 15th of the previous month. If you have an article you would like share or photos please send to [sue@b-green.us](mailto:sue@b-green.us). It may be shared space permitting.

### EMAILS WANTED:

Remember, the next time you renew your membership, or even tomorrow, send us your current email address so you can receive our newsletter via email. You will not only receive an enhanced version but you will also get it sooner. And, after all, we are a conservation club!

Emails may be sent to [unsclub@gmail.com](mailto:unsclub@gmail.com).

## UNS SCHOOL OF FISH THIS SATURDAY, JUNE 10th

The School of Fish is a 2 ½ hour fishing class (9:30am -12:00pm) open to kids ages 6 to 12, taught by pro angler and Fishing the Midwest TV show host Mike Frisch. Held at the UNS Retreat on Island Lake, students will learn about lakes, the fish that live in them, and how to find and catch those fish. The kids will also learn how to tie a fishing knot and rigging, and how to use a slip-bobber setup.

All students will receive a full-color School of Fish workbook, a Zebco rod and reel, and tackle box with tackle, and a School of Fish hat. AND... class students have the opportunity to enter a drawing to be a fishing TV show guest on Fishing the Midwest TV on the Sportsman Channel!

Best of all, the School of Fish is FREE to all students, compliments of United Northern Sportmen. The class will be capped at 20 students so sign up fast!

If you have questions or just wish to sign up, please contact Jeff Jarvela, Committee Chair, at [jjjarvela@msn.com](mailto:jjjarvela@msn.com) or 218-461-6007.

## 13TH ANNUAL YOUTH OUTDOOR FIELD DAY

One of your clubs priorities is to try to keep our youth involved in the great outdoors. On August 19th UNS will be hosting the 13th annual Youth Outdoor Field Day along with the Lake Superior Chapter of the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association. The activities will be similar to those in past years such as high-powered (deer) rifles, small bore range (.22 cal), archery range, trap range, black powder demonstration, tree stand safety, and trapping seminar. Lunch will be served, and participants will have a chance to take home a great prize.

As always, this event is free! Registration has started and is open to the first 80 kids (ages 8 to 16). To register please contact John Bathke, 612-991-5363, [john@b-green.us](mailto:john@b-green.us), [unsclub@gmail.com](mailto:unsclub@gmail.com).

John Bathke is the event chair and if f you are interested in helping out on the day of the event contact John.

## TRIVIA

*How many miles of shoreline does Lake Superior have?*

*Where is the deepest spot?*

*How much water is in Lake Superior?*

## UNS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Minutes, May 3, 2023

**Call to Order:** by President Tom Wasbotten at 6:04pm. **Conservation Pledge** was recited.

**Roll Call of Officers:** Tom Wasbotten, Lance Parthe, Bob Kuettel, Tina Sund,, Vickie Jensen, Lance Haavisto, John Bathke, Keith Dar-sow, Maggie Cretens. **Excused Officers:** Ron Cretens, Eric Haansen, Jeff Jarvela, Duane Lasley. **Appt. Pos. Attending:** Sue Bathke.

**Correspondence:** Gnesen Township newsletter, Bernick's statement.

**Agenda Additions & Approval:** Motion to approve the agenda with the addition by Tina Sund of Bernick's statement (M/S/C).

**Reading of Minutes:** Maggie Cretens read the minutes from the April 2023 Board of Directors meeting. Motion to accept the minutes as corrected (M/S/C).

**Treasurer's Report:** Tina Sund as of April 30, 2023.. Motion to approve financial report and pay the bills (M/S/C).

**Membership Secretary's Report:** Tina Sund as of April 30, 2023: Current membership is 1439 Individual Membership renewals: 41 and 2 new, Family Membership 29 and (\*2=for individual) (2.5 new).. Coming up: 158 renewals., 49 second/Expired Notices.

### OTHER REPORTS:

**Web Master:** Eric Hansen: updated website: Home Page: range use calendar, May newsletter.

**Facilities Committee:** Lance Parthe – The range and adjacent shack is repaired from last year's storm damage and looks good. The wheels on the docks are fixed. The lawn mower repair will be next. The board needs to decide what repairs should be done to the ranges. A push broom was stolen. The flag pole will need to be repaired from damage by high winds. Lance fixed the Site 28 electric power pedestal. Trap range made it through the winter with two throwers operational. The pistol range did not get used as much this winter. Some lawn areas damaged from snow removal and have divots that need repair and reseeding. Jon Polecheck suggested raking now, sprinkle with grass seed and fertilizer, and when it rains, they will sprout. We are planning a volunteer work day for lawn work and other maintenance on Sunday, May 21 st . Starting at 12 Noon for 2-3 hours. Communications Committee will send out an email blast. Please bring a rake. We will see if we can get the grill going and have some lunch.The final bill arrived from Northern Trends for their work on repairing the storm damage and a check will be sent for the remaining balance. May 1 st is the opening day of our summer camping season. Ron Cretens will be onsite by May 7 and set up for the summer.

**Range and Grounds Calendar:** No upcoming reservations. Retired police officers will reserve a date in September for their annual qualifying.

**Incident Report:** Lance Parthe had nothing to report. However, he noted that the attitudes of members coming up to the ranges has improved greatly in the past year. Unlike in the past, they volunteer to show their membership cards and are pleasant. It should be noted that it has been quite awhile since we have caught any nonmembers attempting to use our ranges.

**Volunteer Awards Committee:** Vickie Jensen had nothing to report.

**Communication Committee:** Co-Chairs Maggie Cretens and Lance Haavisto said nothing new to report.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Website Development Committee Update** – Lance Parthe shared the committee had met and worked on the historical portion(About Us) of the website.

**UNS Youth Outdoor Field Day August 19, 2023 Update – John Bathke:** The event preparations are progressing. Had contact with Paul Pederson from the Minnesota Deerhunters Association. Paul hopes to be able to recruit around 8 volunteers to help the day of the event. UNS will also get volunteers from our group.

**School Of Fish Saturday, June 10, 2023 Update – Jeff Jarvela** has been out of town so no direct report. Sarah Spindler has been contacted by kids who have already signed up wondering about any further information, next steps, or updates. Garret Eliason will check in with Jeff when he returns.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**John T. Radar Estate Assets Transfer To UNS:** Lance Parthe explained the transfer. We are hoping to trade in the guns and ammo given to us by the Radar estate. We want to use the exchange to purchase new 22 rifles to be used in our youth events replacing our older outdated 22s. We cannot directly sell them and have to work with a registered firearms dealer. A motion to pursue this with a dealer was mad. (M/S/C). Tina requested an inventory list.

**Terch & Associates Request:** Tom Wasbotten was contacted by David Huntley from Terch & Associates regarding the possibility of using our ranges for firearm training of their employees. Tom shared with them some alternative options as we normally don't allow our ranges to be used for commercial training purposes; commercial activities are not a part of our mission.

**Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute Request:** Tom Wasbotten explained the nature of this organization's request to use our facilities. A motion was made to deny their request (M/S/C). Tom will contact their management with our decision.

**Bernicks' Soft Drink Machine Maintenance Contract:** After some background information on our experience using this service, A motion was made to let the contract lapse

**Members Sick or in Distress:** None known.

**Date of Next Meeting & Adjournment:** In Person Meeting on Wednesday, June 7th at 6 pm at UNS Clubhouse. Motion made to adjourn meeting at 7:19pm (M/S/C).

Respectively submitted by Maggie Cretens.

## **ATV RIDERS CAN EXPLORE MINNESOTA TRAILS FOR FREE JUNE 10-11TH**

Ride with an all-terrain vehicle registered for private or agricultural use won't need to pay the registration fee to ride the state's public ATV trails June 10-11. This is the 10th year that Minnesota is providing ATV riders with free access to more than 3,000 miles of state forest and grant-in-aid trails during an annual no registration weekend.

Outside of the June 10-11 no-registration riding weekend, Minnesotans need to pay \$60 for a three-year registration to ride the state's ATV trails. Out-of-state riders pay \$21 annually for a nonresident trail pass.

"We see this weekend as a great opportunity to showcase the wide variety of state and grant-in-aid trails across Minnesota," said Joe Unger, off-highway vehicle program consultant. "There are many privately registered ATVs across the state, and during this weekend, those riders can try motorized state and GIA trails without registration. We hope they have a great experience and decide to register their equipment so they can ride the trails regularly."

Recommended trails for riders new to the state trail system include:

The Iron Range Off-Highway Vehicle State Recreation Area, a 1,200-acre OHV park in Gilbert, with 36 miles of scenic trails for riders of all abilities.

The 100-mile trail system in Nemadji State Forest, which connects to the Matthew Lourey State Trail and the Gandy Dancer Trail for more riding opportunities.

The 29-mile Spider Lake trail system in the Foot Hills State Forest, where riders will curve around lakes and ponds, go up and down a variety of hills, and view overlooks from the ridges throughout the forest.

The 200-mile Northwoods Regional Trail System in Aitkin and Itasca counties, where riders will use the Soo Line Trail to connect to great communities and trail loops.

Riders should always keep safety in mind when out on the trails. Safety training is recommended for everyone who operates an ATV and is required for riders born after July 1, 1987. Trainings are offered by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Trail maps, updates on trail conditions, ATV Safety training schedules and other OHV information can be found on the OHV page of the DNR website ([mndnr.gov/ohv](http://mndnr.gov/ohv)).

We are one step closer to modernizing the way you can access licensing services from the DNR," said Tarek Tomes, commissioner of Minnesota IT Services. "The new system will make it faster and easier for Minnesotans to buy licenses and ultimately, experience Minnesota's natural resources."

Minnesotans will still be able to buy licenses at their favorite bait shop or sporting goods store, but the new system will provide much improved online capabilities, including the ability to buy and store licenses on mobile devices. Recreational vehicle and boat license and registration services will continue to be provided by mail, online or in-person at deputy registrar offices. Licenses and registrations will also continue to be available at the DNR license center in St. Paul.

The new system's construction and testing are expected to take about two years to complete, with a public launch expected in early 2025. For more information, and to sign up to receive email updates about the new license system, visit the DNR website ([mndnr.gov/rfp/elshtml](http://mndnr.gov/rfp/elshtml)).

Complete instructions about how to apply for a license, maps of permit areas and a listing of permit availability for each area are available on the DNR website ([mndnr.gov/hunting/bear](http://mndnr.gov/hunting/bear)).

## **DNR WEBINAR COVERS LAUNCHING A BOAT**

The Minnesota DNR invites people interested in fishing, wildlife and outdoor skills to tune in to upcoming webinars that feature discussions about muskellunge diets and launching a boat.

The second webinar is at noon Wednesday, June 7. Boating is woven into Minnesota culture — along with a culture of safety that needs to be modeled and reinforced both at the ramp and on the water. Lisa Dugan, DNR's recreation safety outreach coordinator, will review important safety preparations and etiquette for those launching a boat.

The webinars are part of the DNR's Minnesota Outdoor Skills and Stewardship Series. The webinars are free, but registration is required. More information is available on the outdoor skills & stewardship page of the DNR website [mndnr.gov/discover](http://mndnr.gov/discover).

## WOLF LEGISLATION UPDATE, WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023



The Energy and Environment Conference Committee adopted their final environment conference report this morning. No language regarding the ban of a future wolf hunt was included. This is a big win for Minnesota conservation and the welfare of our ecological landscape!

A huge thank you to everyone who took the time to write and call their legislators. Also, a huge thank you to all of the organizations who signed on to our Joint Letter: The Sportsmen's Alliance, Minnesota Forest Zone Trappers Association, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Safari Club International, Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association, Ruffed Grouse Society, Minnesota Elk Breeders Association, Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, Minnesota Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, MN State Chapter National Deer Association, and Minnesota Trapper's Association!

This is just one battle of many to come, but we must celebrate every victory we can. MDHA is here to fight for Minnesota deer hunters and Minnesota's wild deer. Please continue to support us in this mission!

Sincerely,

Jared J. Mazurek  
Executive Director  
Minnesota Deer Hunters Association

### HARVESTING WHITE PINE NEEDLES FOR TEA

*\*\*Do not consume anything from the wild that has not been verified by a professional or accurately identified. Always be sure of the identification of the plant/fungi before consuming and avoid foraging in potentially contaminated areas. Misidentification can lead to serious illness or even death. Also, be sure to check local regulations.*

White Pine needles are a great source of vitamin C and vitamin A. They can be harvested at any time of the year. Most white pines are located outside of the Twin Cities area up north. However, you can find park and homestead plantings here and there. As always, make sure to harvest only with the landowner's permission.

Eastern white pine is easy to identify. It has 3- to 5-inch needles in bundles of 5 that are soft and bend when you push them into your hand (unlike the shorter and stiffer red pine needles which come in clusters of 2). If you happen to pick red pine instead of white pine, this is okay as both make good tea and contain the same health benefits.

To harvest the white pine needles, choose green as opposed to brown needles attached to a branch. If harvesting a larger amount, choose a little from different trees and different areas of the tree to prevent causing stress. If there are any lighter green needles, choose these as they are younger.

To make 1 cup of tea, you will need about one-third cup per 2 cups of water. Simply boil the water and pour it over the pine needles that have been cut to a half inch to release the flavor and nutrients. Let it sit or steep for 10-15 minutes. Then strain out the needles. You can also steep the needles in a tea ball. If desired, you can add some lemon or honey for additional flavoring.

## BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKER MODEL INFORMS FIRE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

Our forest fire area around Greenwood Lake is similar to the study area in California.

Black-backed woodpeckers require a mosaic of different types of burned areas after a fire. [Researchers recently developed an app to help fire managers make sure those areas are available for the species.](#)



Article by Dana Kilinitsky, 5/30/23, The Wildlife Society

*A black-backed woodpecker  
visits its nest site in a burned forest.  
Credit: Jeremy Roberts/www.ConservationMedia.com*

## LOST IN THE WOODS? INJURED ON A LAKE? ST. LOUIS COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD IS ON THE WAY!

Our Since 1958, the all-volunteer squad has been finding and saving people, winter and summer, from the Boundary Waters to Brookston and beyond.

At some point this summer, it's likely a paddler in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness will call 911 on a cellphone or activate an emergency beacon to signal some sort of emergency: a heart attack, a broken leg or maybe a lightning strike. And it's almost assured that members of the St. Louis County Rescue Squad will be sent to help.

That mission covers all 6,860 square miles of St. Louis County — nearly the size of New Jersey — but also often expands into neighboring counties as well, especially for search-and-rescue missions and drowning victim recoveries. In 2022 the 95 crew members responded to 500 calls and put in 34,000 volunteer hours. With bases at Pike Lake, Virginia and Ely, and lots of stuff, a modest budget is provided by the county and the rest is from donations, grants and training.

[Press here](#) for the full article by John Myers, Duluth News Tribune, Northland Outdoors, May 26, 2023.

UNITED NORTHERN SPORTSMEN'S NEWS  
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### 2023 Board of Directors

President Tom Wasbotten	218-721-4864 763-228-8889
Vice President Lance Parthe	218-349-5555
Secretary Eric Hansen	218-831-8646
Treasurer Tina Sund	218-591-3304
Sgt at Arms Bob Kuettel	218-393-2000
<hr/>	
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Webmaster Eric Hansen	218-831-8646
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