

# Badger Fly Fishers

An Active Member Club of the Federation of Fly Fishers



Newsletter

April 2014

**TUESDAY, APRIL 15 6:30-9 PM**

**WISCONSIN SMALLMOUTH ALLIANCE LTD.**

## **9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FUNDRAISER AUCTION**

**FLIES AND LURES  
GUIDED TRIPS  
RODS AND REELS  
TASTY TREATS  
AND MUCH MORE**



**THE MAPLE TREE RESTAURANT IN  
MCFARLAND. COME EARLIER FOR DINNER!**

Our fellow club, the [Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance](#), invites everyone to its ninth annual fundraiser auction.

Featured, will be trips with Roger Lapenter and Kip Vieth. Also will be two trips by Ron Barefield, and day trips with Black Water Fly Fishing, 45 Degrees North Fly Fishing Co., Black Earth Angling Co., and Reel Good Guide Services. These trips are the highlight of the evening and many of our fishing seasons..

New this year will be the auctioning of the Simms Contender Inflatable Life Vest in memory of guides Adam LaPorte and Dennis Todd, who drowned in recent years.

They will also feature a Stihl chainsaw raffle, and a wide array of gift certificates from area restaurants and businesses. Spin and fly fishers should check out the auction list for names like St. Croix, Shimano, Guideline, Orvis, Sage, Redington, Stowmaster, Fishpond,

Simms, Bass Pro, Bushnell, Rio, etc.

There will be flies for multiple species of fish, tied by some of the most talented tiers around. The selection and quality of these flies is outstanding.

As always, this event is open to the public. Please consider bringing a guest or two to assure the continued success of this event - [WSA's only fundraiser](#).

WSA has contributed over \$22,000 to various programs. The past year's contributions have been to the Kids On Ice and Kids Summer Fishing Day here in Dane Co., Sauk County Youth Conservation Days, benefiting over 1,700 kids.

They also contributed to The River Alliance and have partnered with the DNR to provide transmitters for research on the lower Menomonee River. They also worked with the DNR on funding a brochure about the construction of half-log structures, to be distributed to the public.

A reminder: **only cash or checks** are accepted as payment for auction items. An ATM machine is available on site.

Mike Simon, Fundraising  
Chairman

608-848-3770 or  
[madisonmike@tds.net](mailto:madisonmike@tds.net)



# Spring Hearings



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## Significant trout questions on this year's ballot

The hearings will be held Monday, April 14th in each county of the state. The meeting agenda will start with elections of local congress delegates, followed by DNR advisory questions, citizen resolutions, congress advisory questions and a town hall meeting to discuss conservation issues, including a special focus on suggestions for rule simplifications.

Significant questions include:

- Begin early trout season January 1st
- Extend trout season into October
- Create more catch and release seasons.
- Length exemptions for bass tournaments.
- Increase trophy bass length from 18" to 20"
- Max limits vs slot limits.
- Allow "1 over" regulations.

The meetings will start at 7:00 p.m. The nearest locations are:

Dane - Middleton High School Performing Arts Center, 2100 Bristol Street, Middleton,  
 Iowa - Dodgeville High School, Gymnasium, 912 Chapel Street, Dodgeville  
 Columbia - Poynette Village Hall, 106 S Main Street, Poynette,  
 Sauk - UW Baraboo Campus, Lecture Hall A-4, 1006 Connie Road, Baraboo

More information including the complete questions and a list of locations can be found at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/About/WCC/springhearing.html>

## DNR seeks feedback on expanding trout seasons

MADISON - Moving the start of the early trout season to January 1 and expanding the early season to all inland waters to provide more fishing opportunities are among the options Wisconsin anglers can weigh in on during the 2014 Spring Fish and Wildlife Hearings.

The six advisory questions on trout topics, [Spring hearings questionnaire questions 22-27 \[PDF\]](#), are the latest step in a comprehensive review of trout fishing in Wisconsin launched in 2011. The questions are designed to help gauge support for possible season changes, one of many components under consideration as the Department of Natural Resources develops a rule pack-

Continued on next page

The Badger Fly Fishers Newsletter is published monthly. Articles, photos, information, and calendar events for the newsletter are encouraged and should be submitted by the 1st day of the month of issue to: Dan Johnson, 426 Glenway St., Madison WI 53711. If possible, Word files sent to: [johnson7@tds.net](mailto:johnson7@tds.net) are most appreciated.

age aimed at improving anglers' trout fishing experiences without jeopardizing the quality of the fishery.

"We are trying to provide more fishing opportunity for trout anglers," says Scot Stewart, the DNR fish supervisor leading the review effort. "At the same time we are trying to respect regional desires throughout the state. We are using the advisory questions to focus in on those desires."

Anglers also will get a chance to share their input during public informational meetings planned for summer 2014. Both will be used to shape a proposed trout regulation rule package for consideration at the 2015 Spring Fish & Wildlife Rule Hearings, Stewart says.

These public input opportunities are part of the statewide effort launched in 2011 to review inland trout fishing because it had been more than 25 years since DNR had collected angler input on a statewide basis, says Joanna Griffin, a fisheries specialist who leads DNR's trout team. Trout populations, trout streams, and trout angler habits and attitudes themselves had changed significantly over that time. Trout populations, for instance, increased overall on a statewide basis as has the number and mileage of trout streams, a story told in "[A Trout Treasury](#)" in the April 2011 *Wisconsin Natural Resources* magazine.

Results from a mail survey of current inland trout anglers sent in February 2012 is now being finalized. That survey was sent to 1,000 randomly-selected purchasers of the 2011 inland trout stamp.

In early 2013, DNR formed a [Trout Management Task Force](#) to review the survey results, provide input, and develop goals for the future of Wisconsin's trout fisheries. The group included 40 people from around Wisconsin who represent the Conservation Congress, conservation organizations, and businesses and fishing guides with an interest in trout fishing.

Based on the task force's input, DNR's trout team put together the advisory questions related to season changes, says Griffin.

The advisory questions, in addition to moving up the opening day of the early trout season, ask whether the season should be statewide. Right now, much of northeastern Wisconsin and selected waters elsewhere are closed during the early season. Other questions ask whether the early season should end the day before the regular season begins, eliminating the five-day closure now in place between the two seasons.

Anglers are also asked if they want to extend the regular season to Oct. 15 from Sept. 31, as it is now, with options of making the extra two weeks open to harvest or to catch and release only, Griffin says.

Finally, anglers are asked if they favor a uniform gamefish season for so-called put-and-take trout lakes and ponds, where catchable size fish are stocked every spring but where the lakes and ponds may not support survival over winter.

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## For Sale – 1996 Old Town Square Stern Canoe & trailer



Canoe is 17 ft. long, and is set up with two sets of oar locks so you can row from the center or back seat. Canoe comes with a custom made cover, a set of oars & oar locks, molded, removable seats, a very nice anchor system, and a 1998 shorelander trailer with bearing buddies installed, spare tire and rim & a custom made removeable steel rack that allows easy transport of two additional canoes. Asking \$1500.00. Contact Steve Winters at 608-524-6348 or e-mail [swinters@rucls.net](mailto:swinters@rucls.net)

**River Boat For Sale** The custom built boat is 17 ft. 3 " long. It is 3 ft. wide on the floor and 50 inches wide at the center oar locks, raked at both ends & will handle up to a 6 hp. motor. It has two sets of oar locks so it can be rowed either from the middle or from the rear seat. It has a four ft. front deck with removeable carpet, as well as cherry seats with seat holders built in. The gunnels of the boat are also cherry, while the main body of the boat is 3/8" plywood with a 1/2" plywood bottom covered with fiberglass. It has holders for anchor hangers in both the front and rear of the boat. The boat weighs 300 pounds and comes with a shorelander trailer equipped with bearing buddies and a mounted spare tire & rim and led lights. The boat and trailer are both 2005 models and have been kept under a roof for their duration when not in use and have been well maintained. The boat was built by Jim Hauer of Green Bay, and the trailer is a Shorelander. The owner just bought a new drift boat and is simply out of room. Asking \$1500.00. For more information, call Steve Winters at 608-524-6348 (afternoons or evenings please) or [swinters@rucls.net](mailto:swinters@rucls.net)



# Next Meeting:

Monday  
April 28<sup>th</sup>

**Jim Bartelt**

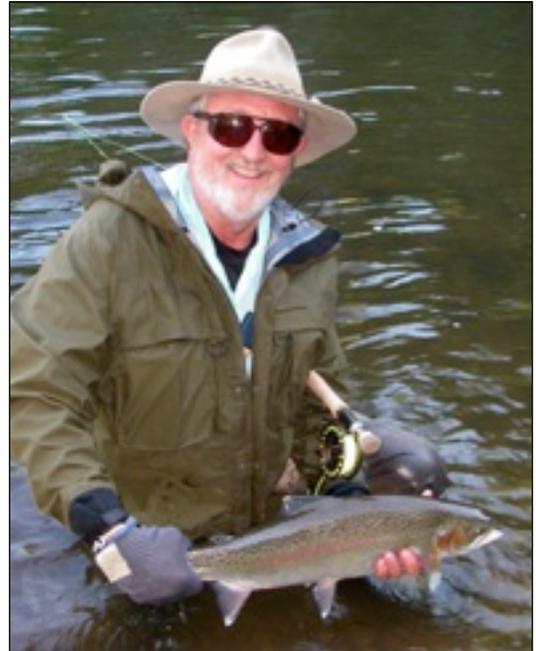
**“Trout Fishing Southwestern Wisconsin**

Coursing through most of these valleys are thousands of miles of spring creeks that support excellent aquatic insect life, crustaceans, forage fish, and of course, trout. These are true limestone spring creeks like those found in England and Pennsylvania.

Some streams are managed for trophy Rainbow and Brown Trout. Others support Wisconsin native Brook Trout. Each stream is managed individually, with the goal of maximizing its potential.

Jim has a lifetime of fly fishing experience on these spring creeks since. He is a professional fly casting instructor and veteran Fly Fishing School Instructor.

He will share his knowledge of fly fishing and the intricacies of his home waters with us, and share proven tactics that are unique to the area streams.



## Events Calendar

April 15<sup>th</sup> **WSA Annual Fundraiser Auction**

May 19<sup>th</sup> **BFF Monthly Meeting**  
Steve Born, Fishing the Hex Hatch

April 28<sup>th</sup> **BFF Monthly Meeting**  
Jim Bartelt on Trout Fishing in SW Wisconsin

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**The Badger Fly Fishers'** meetings are normally held on the fourth Monday of each month. **Wisconsin Small-mouth Alliance** meets on the third Tuesday. Both groups meet at the Mapletree Restaurant on Highway 51, in McFarland, Wisconsin.

Programs begin at 7:00 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m. Visitors and guests are always welcome.

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### **The Fly Fishers in Milwaukee announce Annual Spring Opener Open House**

It's time once again for our annual spring Open House. Join us on April 12th from 9AM to 4PM for tons of fun. Once again we will have reps, special one day a year in-house specials, brats and beverages and live blues music with our buddy Keith Scott of New Buffalo, Michigan.

### **SWTU Casting Clinic**

Saturday, April 12th 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Salmo Pond [map](#)

No cost! Come learn about fly casting, insects, reading the water, gear and more.