



GRIFFITH & MATAWATCHAN FISH & GAME CLUB NEWSLETTER

June 2017

Volume 126

Our membership sits at 209 right now! Numbers are good so far for the year! Thanks for your support!

Don't forget to apply for your antlerless tag! It's due by the end of June



The Hunter/Firearm's Safety course was a success again this year. 16 people took the course, 9 of those, pictured above, the club and the OFAH are proud to have helped out. Thanks Kevin White for coming out this way and to the Griffith Lion's Club for providing a great location and lunch for the students!

We're holding an Annual General Meeting on Saturday, June 17th at the Matawatchan Hall. We encourage your attendance and participation as we have lots to discuss, as well as elections! Hope to see you there at 11:00!

Lunch will be served at noon after the meeting. After lunch we'd like to have a Lake Cleanup. We have a couple of areas in mind and would love any assistance you can offer.

You can join us for one, two, or all three of these events on this day.

If you choose to help us with lake cleanup, bring your shovels, rakes and weed wackers if

Our Kid's Fishing Derby is going to be held at Aird's Lake this year! The date is Saturday, July 15th from 10 am until 3 pm. Anyone can fish but you must be under 17 years of age to enter the derby. All juniors will go home with a prize and this event is free!

Hamburgs and hot dogs will be sold on site and drinks are free. We'll have worms available as well. You can bring a boat or fish off shore, the choice is yours!

The MNRF is in the process of reviewing the Fisheries Management Plan for Zone 15. As part of that process they have formed an advisory council that includes representatives from across this zone who represent a variety of interests. This council along with the MNRF staff and first nations will create a new draft Management Zone Plan, which will then undergo further review by MNRF and public consultation before being placed on Ontario's Environmental Registry for further comments. This process is estimated to take two years, finishing near the end of 2018.

In the end a new fisheries management plan for Zone 15 will be created and there will very likely be changes to the fishing regulations as a result.

Your club representatives have been making recommendations for a change for a number of years and are very excited about this! Time will tell.

In the interim this council have approached us for input on our concerns and possible solutions. We have proposed a round table to be held at the Matawatchan Hall, Tuesday June 27th from 7 until 9 pm. We've invited all the local fishing clubs, camp ground owners, resort owners and other civilian stake holders to join us in this round table to express their concerns and develop a strategy for a sustainable walleye fishery here in the future. If you're interested in attending this meeting, contact Brian Sutcliffe.

There are new bait fish regulations coming into effect you should be interested in. This will have a major impact on bait users who fish in Zone 15 & 18. The requirement that bait fish only be used in the same zone where purchased is going to be especially nasty if MNRF is aggressive with their enforcement. For example, you buy your minnows in Calabogie for use on Centennial Lake and all is good. But if you decide to up Mackie Creek to Round Schooner you're in a different zone and your bait is no longer legal. Now think about how far you have to go out of your way to buy bait fish to fish Fortune Lake.

The other nasty requirement restricts how you can transport bait you catch yourself. You will not be allowed to transport it over land (think about how this will affect ice fishing as well). MNRF could have a field day laying charges if you can't prove where you bought your bait or where you caught it.

We only have until June 30th to make comment on the province's environmental registry. We urge ALL ANGLERS to go online and register your concerns. Here is how: Environmental Registry (www.ontario.ca/ebr) #012-9791

Attention Rabbit Hunters! Effective the 2018 season, the end of hare and rabbit season will no longer take place on June 15th. The season will end on April 1st in WMU's 1-50 and 53-59.



This is like catching walleye on Centennial Lake!

Our DEER FEED PLOT program is available again this year. If you're interested in planting seed for a plot you can call Dave VanInderstine at the number below. The seed will be available through Griffith General Store again and our Plot Mule and

Seeder will be available for your use. The club will pay for only one bag of seed per camp to cover ½ acre.

We encourage you to join OFAH through the club at a reduced rate. The savings you get by purchasing through the club will more than cover your fish and game membership.

The cost of memberships through the club is:

Adult Membership	\$41.20 from \$52.40
Family Membership	\$51.20 from \$64.40
Youth Membership	\$36.70

To join the OFAH, contact Sandy Sutcliffe at 613-333-9564



Here's a sight we'd all love to see. The Holtzhauer's knew exactly what to do. Leave the baby alone, mother will be back. If you think you're saving a fawn, chances are the mother is watching you take it away.

Check us out and feel free to share on our Facebook page at "Griffith & Matawatchan Fish & Game Club" for local upcoming events and articles!

Board members can be reached at the following address:

fishandgameclub@gmail.com or Griffith & Matawatchan Fish & Game Club, 5445 Centennial Lake Rd., Griffith, K0J 2R0.

To contact board members, phone numbers are as follows:

Brian & Sandy Sutcliffe	613-333-9564
Dave VanInderstine	613-281-1415
Karen Holleran	613-333-2294
Janice & Rudy Derstroff	613-333-2797