

Beaversprite

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Fall 2023



A view from the Lookout to the south of Twilight Pond as Owen writes in our Journal. Photo by Owen Brown

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President's Message

What a Season! We've had some of our best moments—and some of the worst. For example, *one of BWW's computers crashed— taking out our latest membership list with it.*

BWW Members! If you'd like to continue receiving our issues, please call us at 518/568-2077 or email us with your contact information as soon as possible.

About 140,000 computers per year reportedly crash in North America, and we lacked an adequate backup. After decades with no problems, we'd become complacent.

Sharon and I are now in our 80's and ready to retire, BWW's fine Board of Directors is considering the options going forward.



Here's a mushroom that can fell trees! Photo by Tom Murray

A Mighty Mushroom

A tall cherry curved over our road and leaned on our internet line this year, threatening to shut down our email. Instead, our internet provider, Frontier, immediately sent out a technician with a lift truck. He didn't bring a chain saw, so we lent him our small electric Stihl. He went up, and down came the tree's top.

Sharon later climbed down to the cherry's base, a few feet below the road, to check out a yellowish mass. It was a huge *Polypore squamosus* or Dryad's Saddle. Dryads are legendary wood nymphs and the two-foot-long mushroom was big enough to be a saddle.

Being a biologist, Sharon weighed the giant mushroom and found it was over seven pounds. This species causes "white rot" that can topple trees.

"Like a Song"

Every year BWW helps many people to coexist with beavers, but we don't always hear back from them. So it was great to find a message on our answering machine from a fellow we'd recently advised about Flex Leveler. He said about his install, "It went like a song!"

In another case, residents of Orchard Park, NY called BWW because their town officials were planning to trap beavers due to flooding at a park. We made suggestions, and a peaceful solution now appears likely (See p. 6).



A chipmunk sits on the nose of our wooden bear with a Welcome sign.

Wild Neighbors

We enjoy seeing local wildlife even though we may lose a sunflower seed-feeder to a bear, or a planting to a deer. Once we watched a wild bear walk up our driveway and stop to check out the wooden bear with a Welcome sign in front of our garage.

Last winter we were surprised to see up to five ravens on our platform birdfeeder. Also, for the first time in decades, our motion light revealed a raccoon dining at night on cracked corn at our platform. Our suet feeder attracted a beautiful white weasel with a black-tipped tail. In the spring, his fur became yellowish as he began to turn brown.

We are grateful to our members for supporting our educational nonprofit's goals. More and more, the beaver's role as our partner in battling climate change, pollution and the extinction crisis is being recognized.

Have a great 2024!
For Beavers and All,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Owen".

News & Alerts

New California Policy

Because “beavers help improve habitat restoration and water quality, restore ecosystem processes and bolster wildfire resiliency” the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) now has a new beaver management policy, according to Director Charlton Bonham

“Beavers are truly the Swiss army knife of native species,” Bonham said, “due to their ability to provide so many nature-based ecosystem services.”

This new policy formally recognizes beavers as both a keystone species and ecosystem engineers. It recognizes the ecological benefits of beavers while also mitigating conflicts over damage to land and property (depredation). It lays the groundwork for projects that harness beavers’ natural ability to help protect biodiversity, restore habitat and build wildfire-resilient landscapes.



California’s Bill Beaver.

The changes include a process that enables beaver relocation as a restoration tool and a new non-lethal option. It prioritizes the use of nonlethal deterrents whenever possible and ensures that lethal removal of depredation beavers is done in a humane manner.

Learn more about this progressive new policy at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Mammals/Beaver>

Hawks, Owls & Falcons

BWW’s 2023 Annual Meeting on April 29 had a program on Hawks, Owls and Falcons at the Kirkland Town Library in Clinton, NY. It was standing room only at the Kirkland Town Library in Clinton, NY. We learned later that 200 attended—a new record!

After Owen held brief elections naturalist Matt Perry showed his short video “Introduction to Beavers: Wetlands & Wildlife,



Deb Saltis with a Red-Tailed Hawk.

” Next, Deb Saltis, founder of Falcon Heart Rescue, introduced the four educational raptors she’d brought in carriers. The first was a Red-tailed hawk that emerged with dramatic wing flapping. Deb answered many questions about the beautiful hawk, and three smaller birds: a charming Barred owl, a Screech owl and a vocal Kestrel, who gave us his whistle-like call.

Deb became interested in birds of prey 14 years ago when she was working on the 15th floor of Utica’s Adirondack Bank. Matt Perry suggested that a Peregrine Falcon nestbox be installed outside the window of her office. She said, “I went from being a non-believer of falcons nesting in downtown Utica to becoming a wildlife rehabilitator and educator.”

Matt Perry, Conservation Director at Spring Farms Cares and leader of the Utica Peregrine Falcon Project, gave a Peregrine program. It included a local pair that used a nestbox outside Deb’s window at the bank for over a dozen years. Many people asked questions after his engaging presentation.

As the Planet Heats Up, Clean Energy Surges Too.

Author Bill McKibben’s latest *New Yorker* article covers the earth’s 2023 climate change wins—and losses. “In July a buoy off the Florida keys recorded what some meteorologists believe is the highest marine temperature ever measured...101.1 degrees, which is right about where people keep their hot tubs.”

Yet simultaneously, the installations of solar energy worldwide is surging. McKibben said “the cost of clean energy has dropped so far that it is now possible that saving the planet might be a corollary of saving cash.” Just as the earth had record temperatures in midsummer, a gigawatt’s worth of solar panels per day were being installed.

Factors like the Ukrainian war that spurred European nations to abandon Russian oil, and the infusion of cash from President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act, are helping clean energy to surge. **Total greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. and E.U. are now falling, and even China’s emissions are expected to decline in early 2025.** “In the next few years, while the planet’s climate system teeters on the edge of breaking, it’s sun, wind, and batteries that matter.”

American Climate Corps

President Biden announced a new initiative to train young people in high-demand skills for jobs in the clean energy. The Climate Corps will put a new generation of Americans to work building community resilience, using clean energy, implementing energy efficient technologies, and tackling climate change.

The American Climate Corps is a national service of the US government and plans to recruit 20,000 young people. Learn more at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/climatecorps/>

Twilight Pond's 2023 Season

By April 3 Twilight Pond was turning into a three-ring circus. Thanks to a partial thaw, the pond had come to life with a mix of beavers, white-tailed deer, wood ducks and Canada Geese.

We watched an older pair of geese land on ice near the south shore and determinedly stride across the frozen surface, despite much slipping and sliding. They were headed toward open water around the Lookout, but took a rest-stop to groom their feathers. Two other goose couples soon joined them at Lookout Cove. Had some of them lived here before, and were they reclaiming favorite nest sites?

Reunions with Wild Neighbors

A small beaver that looked like Thrifty, a dark kit born last year, came in at 6:15 pm. He was sharing the corn we'd thrown in the shallows with geese when two adult beavers joined the picnic. One looked like Hesitant, who often floated in front of the Lookout while staring up at us. Then Thrifty's copper-colored littermate Swifty paddled in. They sat side by side in the shallows to eat corn while both made "Ahh! Ahh!" sounds.

Meanwhile, Falene, a near-yearling doe began grazing along the west



This 2023 kit always held his tail in a C-shape as he emerged from a dive – or an attempt at a dive that was more like a somersault. We called him Diver.

shore of Lookout Cove. Her gray winter coat had been replaced by a rather fluffy, russet coat, and the white heart on her forehead now looked blurred”

Seven beavers were at the cove by 6:30 pm when a flock of six wood ducks paddled up to the East Point of Lookout.



Falene is one of the twins we'd been watching at the Cove since they were spotted fawns. She came to the pond more often than her brother Fabius.



A Canada Goose couple strides across the frozen pond.

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Continued on page 5.

Twilight Pond *Continued from p. 4.*

Ruffle is Pregnant!

A beaver we'd called Red Ruff (another was named just Ruff) had her name changed to Ruffle when grooming revealed her enlarged nipples. As she moved her front paws to and fro across her chest, the top two of four nipples became visible.



As Ruffle grooms, one nipple is above and just to the left of her paw. Another is to the left at the end of a blade of grass.

It's not easy to discern the sex of a beaver as their sexual organs are within the cloaca (a common passageway for the digestive, urinary and reproductive systems of many aquatic animals). Usually, we can identify females from a distance, only when they are pregnant, or nursing, because the four nipples on their chest become enlarged then.

Our colony had a favorite site for both grooming and posting their territory that was halfway to the East Point of

Lookout Cove (Please see the photo on the left). Often we'd see two, or more, beavers there engaging in those activities or eating the green bark off a branch in the nearby water.

Stealing Branches

It wasn't unusual for a small beaver to approach an adult that was eating a poplar branch by the shore. At times,

the adult would give up their prize to the youngster. Or they might jump at the newcomer (false charges are a common beaver defensive tactic). Quite often, the owner of the branch tried to swim off with it as the kit followed — close enough behind to bite off a piece.

Apple, the second



A female goose nests on a lodge.

brush and fell, breaking my upper arm into a few pieces. Our cover shot for this issue shows Owen writing in our *Journal* when I could not. Although Owen developed a cardiac arrhythmia this spring, his condition improved somewhat after he had an ablation.



2023 kit, has a brighter coat, and is very active. See her photo above.

Surround Sunsets!

2023, has been the hottest year on record for the earth. In the Northeast, that meant more rainy days, since warmer air can hold more water vapor. May 1 was a very wet day and I almost slipped off the boardwalk as we approached the Lookout. I threw in corn at the shoreline, and as I stepped back, tripped over some

With more time to enjoy the pond scenery, I noticed a striking evening phenomenon. At times, the sunsets to the west were accompanied by colorful skies to the east and south!

We built the Lookout over the water and at sunset time on certain days, a remarkable 180-degree display has very different, brilliant views in each of the three directions. They are truly spectacular displays.

By Sharon Brown

Orchard Park Considers Humane Ways to Deal with Beavers

BWW took calls from two citizens this fall about plans to trap beavers at Birdsong Park in Orchard Park, NY. We'd consulted there 10 years ago, and now sent a link to a segment in our "Coexisting with Beavers" video about managing beaver ponds.



Orchard Park, N.Y. (WBEN) - Town of Orchard Park leaders are putting the brakes on plans to trap and kill beavers at Birdsong Nature Trails Park.

"I've noticed over the past three years the deterioration of boardwalk, flooded trails and damaged trees," said Orchard Park Parks and Recreation Director Ed Leak. "And I've known all along that we have a beaver colony over there."

Leak said he reached out to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. They offered two approaches. One was to relocate the beavers from one location in Birdsong Park to another location in Birdsong Park.

"That didn't make sense because it was just shifting the problem," he said.

The other option was translocation which would involve moving the beaver from Birdsong to another location elsewhere. But he was informed that translocation is not permitted by the DEC.

Leak said the only choice he had at the time was to hire a trapper. But when the town was about to move forward with the program, which would involve trapping and killing the beaver, the public started pushing back.

"About 30 people showed up for last night's Town Board meeting," said Leak. "About a dozen town residents spoke passionately and smartly and suggested other opportunities to address the issue."

Leak said it made a lot of sense. "This is new information that I was not aware of. It was very positive."

Volunteers offered to get involved. A dozen people signed up to meet him on October 28 to look at other opportunities. "I feel good that we're listening to everybody and taking care of a beautiful asset."

Asked how many beaver have taken up residence at Birdsong Park, Leak said they don't know exactly but a best guess is between 10 and 15.

Was it the word kill that set off the controversy? "No question," said Leak. "That word then turned into slaughter and murder. Kill is a sensitive word. No one likes to kill animals but it was based on the directions that I got from the DEC."

Non-lethal strategies that could potentially be used at Birdsong Park include piping for water drainage. Also, baffles that can be used to prevent clogging of drains. Both would benefit the ecosystem. "We're going to look at it collectively with this group."

Overall, Leak said he's pleased with the outcome. "It's going to be a good collaboration between government and residents and will have a positive result for all."

Here is a map of Birdsong Park, where many of the neighbors say that they enjoy seeing the beavers.



TN Park Staff Finds Solution to Beaver Problem

By Emily Crisman

Chattanooga beavers are especially eager this year to acquire building materials for their dams from Ross's Landing, where the city's Parks and Outdoors Department is taking unusual measures to manage the damage to the trees along the riverfront.

The parks team recently planted new trees along the riverfront at Ross's Landing, and team members chose to plant bald cypress trees because beavers usually leave those alone. But the trees repeatedly were being damaged or taken down completely, sometimes within 24 hours of planting, city of Chattanooga Parks and Outdoors Communications and Marketing Director Brian Smith said.

A Colorful Solution

The best solution they settled on—which is recommended by the Humane Society of the United States—was to paint the trees using nontoxic interior latex paint diluted with water and mixed with sand, which irritates the beavers' mouth enough to encourage them to look elsewhere for a snack.

"This is the first year we have seen beavers in this area repeatedly," Smith said, adding that since staff members don't know where the beavers are taking the trees, it's difficult to say whether the area has a large beaver population. "Our parks team believes that the small size of the trees, this may have attracted them."

But beaver chew marks also have been spotted on other, older trees in Ross's



Park staff used nontoxic latex paint mixed with sand to deter beavers from chewing on trees. Photo by Olivia Ross

Landing as well as in the nearby plaza surrounding the Tennessee Aquarium.

"What is also a curious trend. Smith said, is chewing patterns noted on magnolia trees, shrubs and redbud trees, which is unusual."

Staff members think the beavers may be chewing more aggressively to use the trees to build dams to impress potential mates during mating season.

The parks team tried several methods to deter the beavers from gnawing on the trees. Team members put fences around them, but the beavers climbed the fences and continued to chew. Then they put hot sauce on the trees, which kept the beavers from chewing them, but the sauce washed off in the rain.

Beavers also eat bark and twigs from trees, with a preference for maple, willow, alder and birch. They store branches underwater near their lodges, according to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency website.

Park staff observed light chew marks on some of the painted trees, so the

new method appears to be deterring the beavers. It is the first time staff members have used the painting method, which can also be used by citizens experiencing problems with beaver damage.

Beavers are considered to be a keystone species that shapes our ecosystem by providing a wetland habitat for several native species when building their dams," Smith said of the importance of beavers.

"We have seen damaged trees in other locations, which are part of the ecosystem, but in this case, these trees are close to the path and playground, and are a more concentrated effort, thus we needed to act for the safety of our citizens."

This article was in the 4/12/23 issue of the Times Free Press.

U.S. to Slash Methane (Climate Warming) Emissions

President Biden's EPA has recently announced new rules to sharply lower emissions of methane a green-house gas that is second only to carbon dioxide. 2023 has been the earth's hottest year on record, and the new rules will cover 95% of U.S. methane emissions. 90 countries have now committed to the U.S. and E.U.-led Global Methane Pledge to reduce the gas by 30% worldwide by 2030.



Wisconsin's Killing of 4-Footed Engineers is Challenged

Critics are calling for a change in the state's beaver policy that destroys beneficial wetlands.

When BWW investigated Wisconsin's unusual beaver management in 2011, the result was "Wisconsin's War on Nature" in the Winter 2011-2012 issue of *Beaversprite*. That and another BWW article from 2009, "Atlantic Salmon/Beaver Dam Controversy," later became references for Chap. 5 of Ben Goldfarb's fine 2018 book *Eager*. Now Wisconsin ecologists are taking action.

By Susan Lambert Smith

After Madison endured a long, hot summer of drought and wildfire haze, maybe it's time to embrace what beavers have to offer.

These industrious hydrologic engineers are champing at the sticks to restore the 50% of Wisconsin wetlands that were drained for farming, including much of Madison's isthmus. Their ponds slow flooding during rainy seasons, store water for times of drought, create a swampy barrier against wildfires, and build habitat for other species ranging from woodpeckers to fish to amphibians.

Wisconsin has "spent \$15 million in the last 20 years to kill beavers."

Because of beavers' documented ability to mitigate climate change, western states are encouraging beaver populations, and protecting them with new laws. In June, California declared beavers a "keystone species." Seattle has installed pond levelers so beavers can build dams in its parks without flooding them, and groups such as the SLO Beaver Brigade document the health of local populations.

Europe, where beavers were wiped out during the craze for beaver hats, is restoring beavers into wetlands from Scotland to Russia. And with a documentary called *The Beaver Believers*, and the publication of two recent books extolling their virtues — *Beaverland* by Leila Philip and *Eager* by Ben Goldfarb — beavers are having their moment of fame. Except, not so much in Wisconsin.



Bob Boucher of the Superior Bio-Conservancy stands in front of a Wisconsin beaver dam.

"We're the only state that has a budget to destroy beavers; we've spent \$15 million in the last 20 years to kill beavers," said Bob Boucher, who claims the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is pursuing "a policy of beaver holocaust." In the past decade, Boucher says U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services statistics indicate that federal and state policies have killed 28,141 Wisconsin beavers and blown up or destroyed 14,796 beaver dams through hand removal or explosives, accidentally killing 1,091 river otters in the process.

"In blowing up 14,000 dams, that is 14,000 wetlands that they have destroyed, which is bizarre considering they're supposed to be the environmental watchdogs," Boucher says. DNR spokespeople declined to comment, citing pending litigation.

In Madison, some Tenney Park neighbors were surprised to find a trapper working in the park last winter. Ann Shea of the

Madison Parks Department, says that two beavers were live-trapped and relocated from Tenney Park because of the damage they were doing to park trees; four more beavers were trapped last year at Yahara Hills, where they were flooding the golf course.

"For the most part, we tolerate beavers in natural areas through the park system," Shea says, noting that beaver populations exist in Cherokee Marsh and the Paunack Marsh

near Lake Monona's outlet.

But Midwestern attitudes may be changing and there are moves afoot to rethink beaver management. Boucher's group, Superior Bio-Conservancy, filed notice in late June that it intends to sue the wildlife services division of the USDA, which carries out the DNR's orders to remove beavers along 1,800 miles of trout streams in Wisconsin.

Boucher, who was co-author of a 2021 study that proposed using beavers to build \$3.3 billion worth of flood-proofing along the Milwaukee River watershed, says he's made 17 requests to meet with the DNR on its beaver policy, only to be rebuffed.

"I hope that a stern talking-to from a judge may get them to pay attention," he says.

"Beavers in northern Wisconsin trout streams" was the topic of the annual trout stream improvement workshop on Aug. 15, 2023 co-sponsored by the DNR and

Continued on p. 9.

UW Wisconsin, *Continued from p. 8.*

Stevens Point. Another Midwest beaver and trout management conference sponsored by the American Fisheries Society, was a week later in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Dynamiting beaver dams to “improve” streams for trout has long been a DNR policy. Trout biologist Ray White, who was a speaker at the August event in Hayward, grew up in Madison and remembers watching a nature movie at the Wisconsin Historical Society in the 1940s that showed game wardens ridding Wisconsin of beavers to encourage trout.

“I knew even as a kid that Wisconsin wanted to remove beavers,” says White, who worked at the Wisconsin DNR before going on to faculty positions at Michigan State and Montana State. “And then I became a biologist and I became involved in it. We felt beavers were messing up our work.”

Trout Dogma

Today, White, 88, sees the issue as less clear cut. Eastern brook trout, Wisconsin’s native species, and beavers evolved together in Wisconsin. **While trout improvement dogma declares that beaver dams cause trout streams to warm up and silt up behind the dams, White says that isn’t necessarily a problem for trout spawning.**

“It turns out that eastern brook trout spawn where groundwater comes up through the gravel, they seek out places where they can feel the upwelling water,” he says. “If the silt is thin enough at the edge of a beaver pond, they can still spawn there.”

Still, White doesn’t oppose removing beavers from trout waters, saying, “we don’t need beavers everywhere.”

Another workshop speaker Emily Fairfax, a hydrologist at the University of Minnesota, says that her research

shows that **beaver dams can have a beneficial effect, forcing moving water downwards, where it mingles with chilly groundwater and reemerges much colder.**

“I’ve felt this, walking down beaver-dammed streams, and suddenly you’ll feel this ice cold stream of water coming up,” Fairfax says. “So beaver ponds will have super cool pools that trout love, warmer pools that turtles and amphibians love, there’s something for everyone in this habitat. Beavers are really, really good at creating these biodiversity hotspots.”

Fairfax, who did her beaver research in California and other western states, says Wisconsin lacks solid data on its beaver populations because the DNR does not track the number of beavers killed by



Ecohydrologist Emily Fairfax at a dam.

private landowners. (In his complaint, Boucher notes the USDA wildlife services kills three times more beavers per year than was planned in its 2013 environmental assessment plan.)

“There needs to be a way to track the actual population because they reproduce slowly, they only have one litter of kits a year and only half will survive to adulthood,” Fairfax says. “Beavers won’t reproduce under stress, they’re not like other rodents that reproduce quickly.”

Another thing Wisconsin could do, she

says, is get rid of a state law that makes it legal to go onto a neighbor’s property and destroy a beaver dam. Fairfax understands that some landowners don’t enjoy the aesthetics of a swiftly moving

stream being converted by beavers into a murky swamp.

“Ecological amnesia,”

“We have what I call ‘ecological amnesia,’ because it’s been 200 or 300 years since beavers were really abundant,” Fairfax says. The first Europeans who arrived in Wisconsin were fur traders, and they encountered a wet, paleo landscape of braided streams that would flood during wet seasons and contract during dry times.

When the French explorer Daniel Greysolon, Sieur du Lhut, began bushwhacking his way up the Brule River in 1680, looking for a connection between Lake Superior and the Mississippi, he also found lots and lots of beavers. The namesake of Duluth reported that he smashed through at least 100 beaver dams

before reaching Upper Lake Saint Croix.

Beavers won’t reproduce under stress. They’re not like other rodents...”

Based on her California experience, Fairfax says it may take a lawsuit to get Wisconsin’s beaver believers working with the trout fanciers. It also may take a climate-fueled disaster or two.

“The West was confronted with climate disasters much sooner, and those are situations where you really see the benefits of beavers,” Fairfax says. “If we want to be climate resilient, we need more wetlands, and beavers are great builders of wetlands.”

This article is from the August 8, 2023 edition of Isthmus, an independent, online news source based in Madison, WI.

For more information: about the Superior Bio-Conservancy (named after Lake Superior) visit the group’s website at <https://www.superiorbioconservancy.org/>.

Also, here’s another article:

<https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-dnr-lawsuit-against-beaver-management-superior-bio-conservancy>



BWW Catalog—Help Wildlife with Your Purchases

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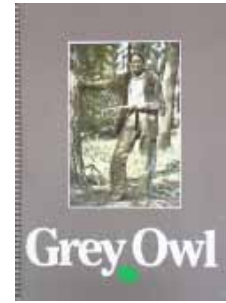
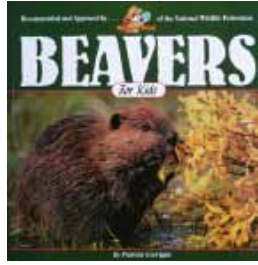


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Family Forests and Climate Change

Private individuals now own about 263 million acres or 35% of U.S. forest acreage. Most family forests are less than 100 acres with many being under ten acres. Forest owners don't always realize that they could be taking actions to improve both the biodiversity and the health of their forests. During this era of climate change, it's even more important to understand the options available.

Taken as a whole, U.S. family forests are larger than America's national forests.

According to the U.S. Forest Service, a "family forest" can be as little as one acre with at least 10 per cent tree coverage owned by an individual, family, or unincorporated group. 61% of owners own less than 10 acres. Yet when a small treed property adjoins other forests, owned by neighbors, it may comprise a good-sized forest.

Forest ownership is divided among 18 million people, each making independent decisions about their land. **Critical issues facing forests, their wildlife and owners include invasive insects and diseases, fire, climate change, and the health and livability of urban areas.**

Expert advice can save land owners from wasting their time and money on management methods that are not suitable for their forests. It can also reveal ways to make money from a forest without widespread harvesting.

Often a government forester can walk your property with you; assess its health; help you identify trees, plants, soil, and light conditions; and offer suggestions about what you might do given your particular interests and goals.

Call the local office of your state's

Beavers: Wetlands & Wildlife (BWW) is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization created to carry on the educational work of the "Beaver Woman" Dorothy Richards who was both an environmentalist and a wildlife advocate. Officers are Owen Brown PhD, President; Andrew Mason, Vice-President; Sharon T. Brown, MS, Treasurer; and Caryl Hopson; Secretary. Other members of the Board of Directors are: James Hopson, Kenneth Koman, Matthew Perry, and Deborah Saltis.

Our Advisory Board consists of Robert Boucher, MS, Gen. John Burney, Anthony DeLuca, Bernis Nelson, Esq., Darrel Norris, PhD, and Elissa Wolfson. *Beaversprite* staff consists of Sharon Brown, Editor and Contributing Editors: Matt Perry, L. Ted Parker (WA) and Owen Brown. Malcolm Kenton (DC) is Social Media Coordinator. Opinions in *Beaversprite* may not be identical with BWW policies.

conservation agency to learn more. Some even states have programs that reimburse owners for improvements.