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Wildlife Forever Newsletter

Winter 2020

The Call of the Wild



Into the Wild

It was four years ago when we lost my Dad to heart disease. He was raised on a family farm in Hastings, Minnesota, a quaint river town nestled on the bank of Mississippi River. Today, our family celebrates countless traditions that stem from a rural way of life including hunting, fishing, and most importantly a deep connection to the land and water.

Dad had a unique way of fixing broken things. Often with the swift crack of a hammer, bailing wire or shoe goo, there was rarely an occasion where he wasn't working to improve and make something better. We were taught to *"add just a little more pepper, fly straight and steer into the waves."* Always take life head on.

The new year at WF brings optimism as our staff advances the *Clean Drain Dry Initiative* that works to

New Membership Benefits

Your Membership Dues will be sent out soon with a list of our updated member benefits.

Products for 2020 Members include:
2020 Caribou Member Pin
Olive Green WF Cap
12 oz Tumbler
Rosewood Pen
and more...

prevent the spread of invasive species. The *State-Fish Art* program teaches youth around the world about fish, fishing and clean water. Our newest program, *Prairie City USA®* has tremendous promise to help pollinators, like the monarch butterfly and rusty patch bumble bee, recover with more habitat. Making prairie common again will provide countless benefits to wildlife and communities across America. Funding development of this program is a top priority.

[2020 is Wildlife Forever's year of the caribou.](#)

Performing one of the greatest migrations on earth, caribou travel thousands of miles over snow packed mountains and windswept tundra. A lead bull usually guides the herd along this journey to safer and warmer wintering grounds. Caribou are resilient and a wonderful symbol of what is truly wild.

Together, with your financial support, WF will continue to fix key conservation challenges and find solutions that conserve our outdoor heritage. We'll fight to ensure strict guidelines maintain our 94.3% efficiency rating that you can be proud of. I'm grateful for members and donors who help to make Wildlife Forever possible.

Join us, head on, into the wild.

Pat Conzemius
President & CEO

P.S. Consider an estate, planned gift or tax-free IRA distribution to Wildlife Forever.

Help us build the [Legacy League](#) to ensure the future of conservation. Contact us to help answer any questions you might have. 763-253-0222
info@wildlifeforver.org

Clean Drain Dry Initiative™

Though the waters have frozen in Minnesota, invasive



Visit WildlifeForever.org
to renew your
membership now

Prairie City USA®

The Headquarters planting is moving onto phase two. Planting in winter may sound odd but many native seeds need to be outside to properly germinate in the springtime.

[Minnesota Native Landscapes](#) donated their native Mesic Prairie Seed Mix which will be sprinkled on top of the snow on our micro-prairie. As the sun shines on the darkly-colored seeds, they will warm and melt their way down to the soil keeping them safely under the snow until springtime.



Green Lights

species are still at the top of our list. 2019 brought many exciting developments in Invasive Species Prevention.

Most recently, Wildlife Forever [signed a Memorandum of Understanding](#) (MOU) with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and the North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA) to align our efforts in preventing the spread of invasive species.

We hosted our first Clean Drain Dry [Webinar](#) focused on our Rapid Response Kit. Connect with the Clean Drain Dry Initiative on [Facebook](#) to learn more about upcoming events.



State-Fish Art™

The State-Fish Art Contest welcomed the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission as the newest state host of this program.

Nebraska students should send their entries to:
Nebraska State-Fish Art Contest
ATTN: Larry Pape, NE Game and Parks Commission
2200 N 33rd Street
Lincoln, NE 68503

Entries for the 2020 State-Fish Art Contest are Due March 31st!

The State-Fish Art Contest has been expanding with support from **Title Sponsor Bass Pro Shops** along with the **US Forest Service**, **Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation**, and from Wildlife Forever Members like you!

Recycling



Wildlife Forever has partnered with Green Lights Recycling to help promote responsible recycling practices. Ever wondered what you should do with items such as spent light bulbs, batteries, and electronic scrap? Through **Green Lights Recycling** [Recycle & Restore](#) program, you can purchase prepaid mail-back containers to responsibly recycle materials from your home or business.

Support Wildlife Forever

Give Monthly, Join the Fireside Club



Follow us on Social Media



We hope 2020 will be the year that we are able to reach even more young people, families and educators. If you have any young people in your life, help them enter the State-Fish Art Contest by visiting www.StateFishArt.org today!

Artwork by Aadrita, 6 yrs old, India - Entry for the 2020 State-Fish Art Contest

On The Ground Work



570 acres of prairie restoration are planned and are already underway for 2020. Restoration work will entail removing invasive vegetation and encroaching trees from the open grasslands that support an abundance of pollinator and wildlife species. A species of concern in our focus this year is the endangered rusty patched bumble bee.



Our Partners



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