

# Department of Natural Resources Impact in Eau Claire County

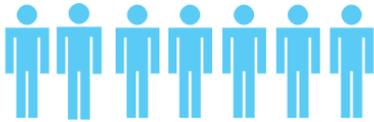
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources aims to excel at working and partnering with the public to protect and manage the state's natural resources while supporting the economy and the well-being of our citizenry.



## Did you know?

In 2011, Wisconsin had

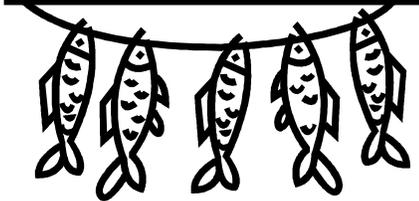
**763,384**



**RESIDENT HUNTERS**

In 2011, fishing in Wisconsin had an economic impact of over

**\$1.4 billion**



In Eau Claire County, **56,475** licenses were sold in 2013-14.

## Contact Information

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[Facebook.com/widnr/](https://www.facebook.com/widnr/)

## Investments in Recreation

**Lower Chippewa River State Natural Area** (2,184 acres) features the **largest concentration** of remaining prairies and savannahs found in Wisconsin.

Eau Claire County has over **3,357 acres** of state owned lands open to **public hunting and outdoor recreation**.

DNR offers a variety of safety classes around the state annually. In 2013, a total of **531 citizens** became **hunter, ATV, boating and snowmobile** certified in Eau Claire County.

## Community Partnerships

**\$9,444** was awarded to the **Eau Claire Sheriff Department** for ATV and snowmobile patrol activities.

The DNR has strong relationships with Eau Claire County groups through its **Citizen-based Monitoring Program**, an initiative that connects citizens and scientists working together to monitor and evaluate Wisconsin's natural resources. Recent partnerships in Eau Claire County include: support to Beaver Creek Reserve to engage the citizens of the Chippewa Valley in education, conservation and monitoring of Wisconsin bats, birds and insects.

## Snapshot of grants in Eau Claire County

A total of **\$2,117,771** was awarded in Eau Claire County for **water quality, outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, public health and safety and forestry activities**. Activities include: Beaver Creek Clean Boats – Clean Water, utility-terrain vehicle trail maintenance and invasive plant management.

\*\*Numbers reflect the July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 time period.

## Forestry Activities

**Forestry is one of the top ten industries** in Eau Claire County, **producing \$401.6 million** in output and providing **\$106.1 million** in added value to the county.

In the last 3 fiscal years, **Eau Claire County Forest has received over \$205,360 in grants** from the DNR for the purchase, development, preservation and maintenance of the county forest lands.

**Eau Claire County has 7,126 acres of private land open for public access for recreation as a result of tax law programs** (Forest Crop and MFL). The Tax Law Programs encourage proper management of timber, wildlife, water quality and the environment through written management plans for a landowner's property.

Over the last 3 fiscal years, **DNR has annually provided 0.7 full time employee equivalents of forestry staff time** as assistance to Eau Claire County Forest. This assistance helped the county forest generate an average of **\$724,447/year in revenue**.

Since 2011, **DNR has granted \$13,499 to local Fire Departments** to purchase equipment and supplies that improve their capability and safety on wild land fires.

Since 2005, **over 6,226 cord equivalents of timber products have been harvested from state-owned land** in Eau Claire County providing more than **\$168,982 in revenue** to the state.

Since June 2010, **DNR has provided over \$9,225 to private forest owners in the county to assist them in protecting and enhancing their forested lands and waters**.

## Environmental Cleanup Efforts

**DNR worked to remediate a former coal manufactured gas plant** and other industrial properties. Today, two \$13 million, 4-story office buildings, one \$8 million residential building and Phoenix Park with Pavilion, Amphitheater and Trails take their place.

DNR provided **\$176,284 in reimbursements** over the past 3 years for expenses relating to the **investigation and cleanup of petroleum contamination from product storage systems**.

DNR approved **cleanups at 185 contaminated properties resulting in 22 acres being made available for reuse**.

## Deer Management in Eau Claire County

In 2014, Eau Claire County established a County Deer Advisory Council. One council per county, they provide input and recommendations to the DNR on deer management.

In 2013, a total of 4,189 deer were registered in Eau Claire County with 1,254 harvested during archery deer season and 2,935 harvested during the gun deer season.