

AGENDA

Eau Claire County

• **Committee on Parks & Forest** •

Monday, March 1, 2021

5:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Dial In: +1-415-655-0001 Access Code: 145 800 7191

For those wishing to make public comment, you must e-mail Winnie Parker at Winnie.Parker@co.eau-claire.wi.us at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. You will be called on during the public session to make your comments. Public comments are limited to 3 minutes per person and 30 minutes maximum for the public comment period.

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Meeting Notice
2. Public Comment
3. County Forest 15-Year Plan review of discussion topics – Discussion/Action
4. Future Committee Meetings and Items for Discussion

Next Meeting – March 8, 2021 at 5 p.m.

5. Adjourn

Prepared by: Winnie Parker, Parks & Forest

Please note: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through sign language, interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request the service, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-4710 (FAX) 8391669 or (TDD) 8394735 or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources Department, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Ave., Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703.

Discussion Topics for 15-Year Plan

Chapter 100

- 125.3
-third bullet point... effort to educate the public on the merits of clearcutting sounds biased. I think this might be balance with education on the merits of the opposite. DISCUSSION TOPIC.

Chapter 200

- 220.1 DISCUSSION TOPIC
-It seems the Administrator and Finance Department have some role in this.
- 225.1 DISCUSSION TOPIC
-We should discuss an enforcement position.

Chapter 300

- 300.2.6 DISCUSSION TOPIC
-should we plan to conduct a survey?
- 300.3.2 DISCUSSION TOPIC
-should we set a goal of x number of community outreach engagements?

Chapter 400

- 415
-DISCUSSION TOPIC... should we put some of the evaluation burden on the Stewardship Subcommittee? Similarly, section 425 might point toward the Stewardship SC.
- 460.1 DISCUSSION TOPIC.

Chapter 500

- 505.8.15 DISCUSSION TOPIC
-15 ft from wetland sounds way too close to me.
- On page 500-10 It says a timber sale contractor may request permission to gate a timber access trail. I know there was further discussion in the plan about the pros and cons of gated trails. Should we have a more specific policy on when a trail will be gated or bermed?

Chapter 600

- 610.3.1.1. I suggest we might want Committee approval before we spray. I have seen them do this down the river valley, and have lived through a major outbreak when I lived in Pa....DISCUSSION TOPIC.
- 605.5.3... DISCUSSION TOPIC... seems we ought to define what we are going to do and where to focus our efforts... how much effort or budget?

Chapter 700

- 710.2 and 710.3
Seems we ought to publish maps on these to make it clear what is and is not open for vehicle. Flambeau Forest did this some years back closed some roads and opened others. But they now publish area maps making it very clear.... a nice model DISCUSSION TOPIC???
- 715 DISCUSSION TOPIC... Should the policy be:
a. OK to use highway vehicles anywhere in forest unless restricted or b. Highway use vehicle use is restricted to authorized areas.

Chapter 800

- 805... DISCUSSION QUESTION. bold paragraph.... should we consider something beyond "...so people can enjoy...". Not to get too philosophical, it sounds very consumptive. Maybe something like ... so people can also be healthy and productive members of the ecosystem."
- 810.1.6. DISCUSSION TOPIC... Should the Committee be consulted before any change in BMP implementation?
- 815.1.4... This is awesome... DISCUSSION TOPIC
- 820.. DISCUSSION... who sets the County objectives? What is the process?
- 820.2. DISCUSSION... seems we need to answer 820 before we can answer the "landscape considerations" for all of these.
- The plan does include some language on Climate Change and on 815.1.4. Should we mention the County's Carbon Neutral by 2050 goal earlier in the plan. In 200-4 under the duties of the Park and Forest Committee should we include something about the committee overseeing efforts to enhance carbon sequestration in the county forest, in cooperation with the county's new sustainability person. Also incorporating new information on carbon sequestration and forestry as it becomes available?

Chapter 900

- The next is addressing electric bikes in the motorized travel section on page 7 of the same chapter. These bikes are getting more popular and are common on the forest already. My thought is that they should be handled the same way as mountain bikes since the motors are only an assist to pedaling. They do not currently present any of the issues that a motorbike would. This may change in the future as they get more powerful since that seems to be the trend with everything, but for now they are easy on the landscape.
- The last issue is Amish buggies at the boat landings. There is more Amish activity every year at the lake, particularly the Skid Row landing as Amish owned property extends farther north from Augusta. Last year there was only room for one or two trailers to park for the fishing opener due to the number of buggies parked in the lot. This would not be a problem except for the fact that buggies do not have to buy a sticker to use the landing. This is starting to cause a little friction with fishermen. We discussed this at a meeting several years ago and decided to not do anything at that time, but I think it might be time to revisit it and see what others think.
- 940... DISCUSSION TOPIC... This is a place to insert a goal of a County Loop Trail Network...Connecting City parks to county recreation nodes along the river corridor, down to the Buffalo River corridor, the Elewa Ridge, and the Lower Chippewa back to EC.
- 950.1... DISCUSSION TOPIC... should we fund a pastime position with a fixed % of fees?