

OFAH ZONE J AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER



Special Points of Interest:

- OFAH Zone J Membership meetings to go virtual
- Norfolk pheasant hunt
- OFAH Catch The Ace lottery
- Hunter Education available on-line



With the cancellation of all in person OFAH Zone Meetings for 2020, the OFAH Zone J Executive that you elected in 2019 are holding their positions until a Zone J Election can be held in 2021.

WE NEED YOU!!! Please consider standing for a position as some of our current Executive have held their positions for many years and will be retiring in 2021.

WE NEED YOU!!

As OFAH Zone J Executives we invite members in good standing (at least one full year) to step up to the plate and bat for our South Western Ontario hunting and fishing interests. Your contributions to making our Zone what it could and should be regarding increased opportunities and standing up for our collective interests will be appreciated. To stand for one of the Zone's 5 annually elected executive positions, after determining your personal time and travel availability you simply need to declare your intent to stand by advising Tony Jackson or Felix Barbetti (nominating committee) by e-mail or phone or by advising any of our current executive.

Time & Travel Commitments

There are 3 quarterly general meetings at which delegated reports and updates are presented to our membership at large. Between these get together are teleconferences scheduled as required. Other discussions and commitments should also be expected commensurate with your dedication and interests to our core directions. In appreciation, Executive and their spouses are also invited to our OFAH annual conference.

Travel and costs incurred while conducting Zone business are reimbursed. It's essential to the health and progress of our Zone J to refresh the team and network by encouraging new energetic and dedicated members to stand for election for **Chair**,

1st Vice Chair and Director (these

positions are also full OFAH Board participants with additional commitments), **2nd Vice Chair, Secretary/Treasurer.**

After the elections a new year commences with the newly elected team announced. The chair then assigns or confirms the areas of interest that each member is expected to be attentive to and or report on. The Zone J and OFAH policies are also discussed early in each year.

Our past Zone Chair is also a member of the current executive for Zone continuity and their proven expertise.

So please join us and continue to make your Zone a great place to hunt and fish. Please contact Tony Jackson or Felix Barbetti to express your interest.

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OFAH Zone J Tag Bags

Sealable and large enough to hold your license paperwork for the upcoming License System changes.

Email secretaryzonej@gmail.com to order yours for the price of \$4 each.

www.ofah.org/zonej





OFAH ZONE J EXECUTIVE 2019-2021 CONTACT INFO

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1st Vice, Felix Barbetti	Fonthill area	fbarbetti@congeco.ca 905-892-4381
Director, Joe Tetreault	Cambridge area	joet.ofah@gmail.com 905-452-4676
2nd Vice, Randy MacPherson	Kitchener area	martin.mac@wightman.ca 519-835-5442
Secretary/Treasurer, Kathy Moore (also Newsletter Editor)	Brantford area	secretaryzonej@gmail.com 519-861-0965
Past Chair, Tony Jackson	Stratford area	tonyj_ofah@mail.com 519-273-4193



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Please share this
Newsletter with your
Club and your friends.



Watch your inbox and Zone J facebook page
for the announcement of an upcoming on-line
OFAH Zone J Membership meeting

Draw results are now available for antlerless deer, moose
and elk. Access your results by visiting
<https://www.huntandfishontario.com> and
select "View Draw Entries and Results" then log in to your
online account or call the
automated phone line at 1-800-288-1155.

Tags will be available for printing on August 18.



Potential Impact of COVID-19 on our Fisheries

The effects of Covid -19 on agencies conducting or not conducting Fisheries Assessment –monitoring annual growth at age of significant fish stocks and forage abundance that inform annual allowable catch limits could compromise 2020 data. Delayed or curtailed spring harvests by sport and commercial operations will also make a difference this year.

Anecdotal evidence regarding forage species like emerald shiners and smelt that higher predators like perch and salmonids rely on will require more attention. As good as the walleye fishery is and has been lake wide on Lake Erie the yellow perch harvest is trending downward especially in the Central area .

Respectfully submitted,

Felix Barbetti



MNRF announces a fall harvest season for double-crested cormorants



OFAH members, through two decades of advocacy, have been at the forefront of requesting government control of overabundant double-crested cormorants and this fall season marks the first step in utilizing hunters to help create a manageable population of cormorants and minimize their impact on other fish and wildlife species, as well as the habitat and ecosystems that support them.

“Provincial government actions has been a long time coming in the of many OFAH members, and today’s announcement reinforces the need for persistence and determination when there is a conservation concern that threatens our fish and wildlife,” says Lauren Tonelli, OFAH Resource Management Specialist.

For more info visit ofah.org/cormorants



Norfolk to stage fall pheasant hunt

The following Good News story was published in the Simcoe Reformer by Monte Sonnenberg MSonnenberg@postmedia.com



Norfolk County will have an opportunity this fall to raise its profile with the hunting community in Ontario. Norfolk is poised to stage the only pheasant hunt in this part of the Province now that other jurisdictions have bowed out due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last week, Norfolk council transferred responsibility for administering the hunt to the Long Point Fish and Game Club. This includes a one-time grant of \$9,000.00 for the purchase of 785 ring-necked pheasant, which are raised on a farm north of Delhi and will be released this fall.

“This is economic development,” said Delhi Coun. Mike Columbus. “Knowing the history of the fish and game club, I’m confident they will succeed.”

Norfolk and the municipalities preceding it have stocked pheasant and sold permits to hunt them and rabbits for about 50 years. As a cost cutting measure earlier this year, Norfolk council agreed to offload the program to the Long Point club, which has shared in its administration for many years.

The pheasant and rabbit program had a net levy impact of \$1,300.00 last year and had a projected cost of \$3,000.00 this year. The Long Point club has given assurances it can keep the program rolling now that it has seed money.

“It’s a one shot deal,” says Vittoria Coun. Chris Van Paassen. “We’re done with it, and keep we keep the program going. I think the economic development people should’ve had some input on this. When the people come down, they spend money here.

Pheasant hunting is also a popular fall past time on Pelee Island. However, that hunt has been cancelled as COVID-19 precaution.

Former conservation officer Jim Greenwood, president of the Long Point club, says the birds are released on public land in traditional hunting areas of the county. He gave assurances hunters are well-versed on the laws against trespassing and where, when and how to discharge a firearm.

Pheasant and rabbit permits no longer will be sold at county offices. Instead, they will be available through third-party retailers associated with the fish and game community.

“There are a significant number of people from outside who come and buy licenses,” said Greenwood. “To my knowledge, the hunters are acting responsibly and ethically. There are legal, open areas for hunting. We try to find properties where don’t run into these problems.”

The transfer came as a recommendation in a staff report.

“The club is also agreeable to providing Norfolk with an annual briefing so the county has the assurance the program is being administer in compliance with existing bylaws and regulations,” forestry supervisor Adam Biddle said.



Anglers know how to reel 'em in but have you ever tried to Catch the Ace? Here is your first chance to land a minimum \$1,000 cash in the weekly draw presented in the new OFAH Catch the Ace progressive lottery.

□ LEARN MORE & BUY TICKETS TODAY AT www.ofahcta.ca
Lottery License #12151



The 2020 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit is now available to purchase. There are 3 different ways to obtain your permit and stamp...

1. purchase an electronic permit (e-permit) <https://www.canada.ca/.../migratory-game-bird-hun.../permit.html>
2. purchase a permit from select Canada Post outlets
3. purchase a permit through an independent vendor

***NOTE: you must have a printed and signed permit on-hand while hunting**





Did you know the Hunter Education course is now temporarily available online for Ontario residents? In person classroom sessions have been suspended to ensure the safety of the instructors and participants. Find out how to register at ohp.net

- Focus efforts on preventing spread by removing isolated plants and small populations first.
- Digging up the root crown is a viable eradication measure for small populations.
- Selective clipping of plants later in the growing season can provide an effective reduction in seed production.
- Covering an infested area with a dark tarp can block sunlight and “cook” the root system.
- Regular follow-up and removal of new growth is essential to management success.





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