

Happenings at the Hatchery!



Friends of the R.D. Pike Building, Inc.
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Greetings!

***A Great honor for Bayfield! Governor Tony Evers and DNR
Secretary Karen Hyun visit the Les Voigt Fish Hatchery!***

The Governor pays a visit! On Monday April 21st, 2025 during the Governor's scheduled travel week and in honor of Earth Day and Arbor Day celebrations planned throughout the state, Governor Tony Evers, DNR

Secretary Karen Hyun, and Fisheries Bureau Director Justine Hasz, started their week by visiting the Les Voigt State Fish Hatchery and the iconic R.D. Pike Building in Bayfield! While here, the Governor and Secretary held meetings about the work being done in the hatchery to raise hundreds of thousands of young Lake Trout, Brown Trout, and Splake, which are hatched and raised here for stocking in both Lake Superior and Lake Michigan. They met with hatchery Operations Supervisor and staff, who provided a tour of the fish culturing operations and answered their questions during the visit. The dignitaries had a chance to see the aquarium, rearing tanks and hatchery equipment, and collaborate about ongoing operational requirements of the Bayfield hatchery. They also discussed fish management techniques, which are vital in ensuring the future of Wisconsin's fish populations and the continual work to maintain the success of our state's rich fishing traditions. After completing their review of the new hatchery, the officials had a chance to see the Seneca and Black Oak strains of Lake Trout in the historic Pike Building hatchery. These 80,000+ fish being raised here are set to be stocked in inland lakes in Wisconsin later this year. During their stop, they also graciously met with board members of the Friends of the R.D. Pike Building, where they reviewed the building and some of the extensive historic materials and journals being archived here. They were briefed on the group's plans for renovation and restoration of the old hatchery building and the outline of plans to use the iconic building for education, research and historic presentation for the general public. Each of the officials was also presented with a "share-able"; a started Canna Lilly from the grounds at the R.D. Pike Building, for them to plant at each of their state facilities in honor of historical precedent. We are humbled and so grateful to have an audience with the Governor, the Secretary and other DNR officials. The time with them was an absolute privilege, and we will have MUCH more to report on this soon. As the State Motto says- Forward!





Save the Date!
Outdoor Adventure Day! June 7, 2025 at the hatchery.
10a.m. to 2p.m. More details in the May newsletter.

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