

Rondeau Bay  
Waterfowler's  
Association



Proposal: The Rondeau Bay Waterfowlers Association (RBWA) would like your financial support for a permanent 'special needs blind' and access route on the Marsh Trail in "A" Zone at Rondeau Provincial Park. The cost of this ambitious project, including a hard surface walkway that would be wheel chair accessible, and a covered blind capable of holding several wheel chairs is \$15000.00.

Dear Madam/Sir:

The Rondeau Bay Waterfowlers Association maintains thirty hunting blinds in Rondeau Provincial Park. We are a volunteer organization that is dedicated to the conservation, rehabilitation and recreation through waterfowling. Our organization works cooperatively with Rondeau Park to maintain blinds, travel routes and recreational opportunities for the public. We erect, repair, and decorate these blinds on a continual basis making them available to the public. Members (approximately one hundred) pay ten dollars/ per day to hunt while non-members pay fifteen dollars/day for use of a blind. Waterfowl hunting on Rondeau Bay is allowed on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday during the duck season. We maintain an office in Rondeau during the hunting season, hiring two individuals to operate it from 4:00 am until the last hunter returns to the office at the end of the day. RBWA manages the public hunting at Rondeau; the Ministry of Natural Resources carries out enforcement. We receive no funding from Rondeau Provincial Park.

Currently the Rodeau Bay Waterfowlers Association has one 'special needs blind' (our #4 blind). It is wheel chair accessible from a parking lot within the marsh. The need for a second 'special needs blind' has become more apparent each year. During this past year, disabled hunters (accompanied by a helper and often young family members) have been turned away because the blind is in use by others. This blind is available to any hunter(s) with special needs by reserving it. Many times folks just show up hoping to use it. This was a viable operation up until the last few years when it's use has been very constant. During the off season this blind is also used by bird watchers and hikers as it provides a place to sit and observe action on the Bay halfway to Lake Erie.

As a result a proposal was put forward to Rondeau Provincial Park for a second 'special needs blind'. This proposal (attached) was approved at a location which already has a small parking lot. The proposal includes a wheel chair accessible walkway from the parking lot to the blind. The blind itself requires room for two wheel chairs. RBWA will maintain this blind in the future. Part of the motivation for this blind comes from the Sam Suitor family whose son died tragically in 2014. In Jacob's memory the family asked that friends and relatives make donations to the RBWA Youth Hunt. RBWA has decided to build this 'special needs blind' in memory of Jacob Suitor and will contribute funds to

this blind.

RBWA goes to great lengths to provide opportunities for young people to become involved in waterfowling which is a very equipment intensive sport. Our mandate is to provide recreation, conservation, and communication. A youth hunt has been held for many years (more than 10). Decoys, canoes, are available at numerous blinds throughout A Zone the cost being included in their daily blind rental fee. We also hold one of the largest kids fishing derby on the Great Lakes (averaging over 300 kids per year).

We respectfully ask for your financial support for this special needs blind. It would give us pleasure to add your name to the donor recognition plaque that will be located on this very unique hunting and bird watching blind! Thank you for considering this request. Please visit our website: [rondeauwaterfowlers.com](http://rondeauwaterfowlers.com). If you would like additional information or wish for us to present to your organization, please contact me at: 519-359-7932 or by email at: [mmoynihansr@outlook.com](mailto:mmoynihansr@outlook.com)

Yours truly,

Mike Moynihan  
Rondeau Bay Waterfowlers Association