



Fishing With Vets is a Minnesota based 501(c)3 non-profit with a primary goal of giving Veterans and active-duty military the opportunity to fish the Midwest's premier fishing destinations free of charge to them. Our fishing trips help Veterans regain the camaraderie they miss from their time in service. We aim to promote new friendships, an opportunity to relax, and a bond that sportsmen and women know comes from spending time in the outdoors with each other.

**Information:**

- The idea for the organization began in 2014
- 501(c)3 accreditation Feb. 11, 2015
- First fully funded weekend trip in the Fall of 2015 at Lake of the Woods
- We will be back at Lake of the Woods in October for our 10th consecutive year.
- Surpassed 1,000 Veterans served early in 2024

**Finances:**

- We organize two fundraising events annually, in addition to our sponsorship program:
- Mudfest 9/11 Memorial ATV ride in Chisholm, MN
- Veteran Hero Softball Tournament in Wadena, MN
  - Together they generated \$35,000 for the organization in 2024
- Sponsorship Program
  - Generated \$30,000 in 2024

The rest of our funding comes from generous donations from various Veterans service organizations, businesses, and individuals who believe in what we do.

**Expenses:**

- 90% of our expenses support our mission
- 10% goes to marketing, insurances, and maintaining our trailer

We take great pride in being a completely volunteer-based organization. All positions on our board, field staff, legal team, and guides are unpaid.

**Successes**

- In 2018 we were running 7 trips annually and serving 90-100 Vets per year.
- In 2024 we completed 18 trips and served 207 Veterans and families
- In 2025 we have 22 trips scheduled serving a scheduled 260 Veterans and families
- We are rapidly approaching 10,000 followers on social media.
- Our Upper Red Lake trip in January, 2025 had our highest application total in our history at 183 Veterans, 78 of those applications had never been on a trip with our organization before.