

**GOWANDA VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.**

**230 ALDRICH STREET**

**GOWANDA, NY 14070**

[www.gowandafirerescue.com](http://www.gowandafirerescue.com)

Greetings,

The Gowanda Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. will be hosting its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trout Fishing Derby the weekend of October 14th & 15th, 2023. We would greatly appreciate your support in making this a successful event. We would like to ask that you consider sponsoring one or more tagged trout. The tagged trout will have a specific tag number assigned to each fish sponsored. The fish will be tagged to your corresponding sponsorship. The fish will be tagged the Thursday before the fishing derby and will be released into the Cattaraugus Creek on that Friday the day before. The tagged trout will be released within the waters of the Village of Gowanda into the Cattaraugus Creek. We are expecting numerous anglers of all ages from all over to attend this event.

There is no cost to sponsor a fish. In order to sponsor a fish, we ask that you are able to donate some sort of cash award, professional service, gift certificate or merchandise prize if your fish is caught. We ask that the minimum amount of the sponsored prize be at least \$25 or more. You will only be responsible for the sponsored prize if your tagged fish is caught. If you do sponsor a tagged trout with a cash value, the fire company will pay out the prize amount and the responsible party will be required to reimburse the fire company for the prize value paid out. A member of the derby committee will contact you and submit a form to you to be paid. In sponsoring a fish, you can name it or have it listed in memory of a loved one. If a tagged fish is caught by a participant, they are to clip the tag off the fish and release the fish back into the water. The participant will then bring that tag over to the derby headquarters, where officials will confirm the sponsored prize. Derby officials will then issue a certificate on department letterhead to the winner with the contact information and sponsored prize from that business or person to be redeemed by you. We will also notify the business by phone and/or email that said tagged fish they sponsored was caught. Sponsored prizes will only be eligible for fish caught during the set dates and hours of the fishing derby. There will be official derby spotters on the creek both days of the tournament to observe the participants and to make sure the fish were caught legally and according to the rules of the derby. The winner will be responsible to contact the sponsor within 30 days to claim their prize.

Please see the backside of this letter for the sponsorship contract. Please fill out the contract on the backside of this letter and mail it in with the required information for each fish sponsored. Each business and/or person will be listed on the event website under sponsored tagged trout. The official site will be under [www.gowandafirerescue.com](http://www.gowandafirerescue.com) fishing derby tab.

Again, we thank you in advance for your support of this event. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Steve Raiport, Derby Chairman, 716-698-9947 or email [sraiport@gmail.com](mailto:sraiport@gmail.com).

Thank You,

Steve Raiport  
Derby Chairman

SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT  
GOWANDA VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.

2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL TROUT DERBY

OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup> & 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2023



\_\_\_\_\_ (sponsor) agrees to support the Gowanda Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. by sponsoring a tagged trout for either cash award, gift card, professional service and/or merchandise for each fish sponsored with a minimum value of \$25 for each sponsored fish. Obligation to pay the sponsored amount, professional service or merchandise items is contingent upon catching and presentation of your sponsored tagged trout during the actual days of the event and in accordance with the rules of the derby.

In return for your support, the Gowanda Volunteer Fire Company Inc. will indicate your sponsorship at the event as well as listing your pledged sponsorship on the event website and handouts. If your sponsored trout is caught, the pledged sponsorship is due when derby officials contact the sponsor notifying them of such winner. Derby officials will give the winner a certificate acknowledging the fish was caught and bring that certificate to you to be redeemed, listing what was agreed on by the signed contract. If your tagged trout is of cash value, the fire company will pay out the prize amount, to be reimbursed by you to the fire company. If your trout is **NOT** caught, there is no further obligation to you. However, your financial support of the sponsorship is welcome and will be used to benefit Gowanda Volunteer Fire Company Inc. future equipment purchases. You can send in a gift certificate, at the time you submit your sponsorship, if you would like to if the sponsored prize is a gift certificate to your business etc. We will keep it on file, and only hand out if the fish was caught and still notify you of such winner.

Last year, people asked about dedicating their fish they sponsored. Dedications include such things as "In memory of" or "In Celebration of" as a nice way to remember someone, celebrate an event or congratulate someone. To dedicate the fish you sponsor, simply write what you want the prize list to say, the prize list lists the fish, it's sponsor, the dedication, the amount of money the fish is worth. It is posted at the derby and the derby website for everyone to see.

The Gowanda Volunteer Fire Company Inc. is tax-exempt as defined in section 501 (c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Your financial support of the activities of this organization may be tax deductible as an ordinary business expense.

Our IRS tax EIN is 84-1724219.

Number of fish sponsored \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsored pledge description for each trout Ex: merchandise, gift card, cash award, or professional service (minimum \$25 value for each prize).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business or Individual Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business or Individual Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

Dedicate the fish in the following manner: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Gowanda Volunteer Fire Company Inc, and mail with a copy of this agreement to: Gowanda Fire Department, Attn: Steve Raiport, 230 Aldrich St, Gowanda, NY 14070. Any questions please call Steve Raiport 716-698-9947. **Please return by October 1, 2023**

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

SOLICITOR: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_ CK #: \_\_\_\_\_

FISH CAUGHT YES OR NO/ Tag #caught \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor Notified: \_\_\_\_\_ Winner(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Tag #'s Assigned \_\_\_\_\_