



# FREDERICK CHAPTER NO. 1 THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

**Chapter Web Site:** <http://www.frederickiwa.org>  
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## NEWSLETTER

October 2023

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<b>Newsletter Editors</b> Preston Wood, Josh Phipps				
Send submissions or articles for the newsletter to <a href="mailto:newsletter@frederickiwa.org">newsletter@frederickiwa.org</a> . Let us know if you are not receiving the newsletter.				

### Important Dates

02 Oct – Conservation Committee Meeting 6:00 pm	22 Oct – Youth Program practice/meeting 12:00pm
08 Oct – Youth Program practice/meeting 12:00pm	24 Oct – Frederick County Sportsman’s Council 7pm
10 Oct – Board Meeting 6:30 pm	28 Oct – SOS Water Testing, Ballenger Creek 10am
10 Oct – Membership Meeting 7:00 pm	



In this month’s newsletter: Community outreach, a successful Pig Roast fundraiser, celebrating our Chapter’s 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, new concealed carry law, Chapter rule changes, and more!

# CHAPTER NEWS

## In The Streets

As part of our community outreach, the IWLA Frederick #1 Chapter promoted Chapter programs such as Conservation, Youth Group, Education Classes, as well as recruiting for membership at Celebrate Frederick's [IN THE STREETS](#) event Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in Downtown Frederick. Our Chapter Ikes took shifts at our booth over the course of the day to talk to the public about our Izaak Walton League Chapter, and our mission to conserve, restore, and promote the sustainable use and enjoyment of our natural resources, including soil, air, woods, waters, and wildlife. Our IWLA mission and Chapter programs were well received by the crowd of people visiting our booth.





## Gun Raffle & Pig Roast



On Sunday, September 24, 2023, we held our Frederick Chapter Pig Roast and Gun Raffle at Amvets Post #2 starting 2pm. This was our annual fundraising event, and we had a large turnout raffling over 20 firearms including cash prizes, "tip jar" raffles, guaranteed winner tickets, and a new 52-card deck raffle. We also celebrated our Chapter's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Many thanks to all Ikes and their families with setup and cooking the pig at midnight the night before, running the event, tear down, and transport of equipment back to the Clubhouse.





**Judge blocks parts of new Maryland gun law that limits areas where gun owners are allowed to carry concealed or open-wear firearms.**



On Friday, September 29, 2023, a federal court judge Friday blocked parts of a new Maryland law that limits areas where gun owners in Maryland are allowed to carry concealed or open-wear firearms just as it was set to go into effect on Sunday, October 1, 2023.

The Maryland Gun Safety Act of 2023 prevents gun owners from taking firearms into schools, hospitals, government buildings, businesses selling alcohol or cannabis, stadiums, museums, racetracks and video lottery facilities unless the facility posts a sign allowing concealed carry.

However, in a lawsuit opposing the legislation filed in U.S. District Court for Maryland, Judge George Levi Russell III issued a preliminary injunction blocking enforcement of the provisions pertaining to where alcohol is sold, near public demonstrations and in private establishments without the owner's consent. The suit was filed by Susannah Kipke of Pasadena, the wife of Del. Nicholas Kipke, R-Anne Arundel, and the Maryland Rifle and Pistol Association.

The ruling means that gun owners may continue to carry their weapons in bars, restaurants, demonstrations and on private property without the owners' consent as the lawsuit progresses. "Today's injunction is a win for public safety in Maryland," said Senate Minority Leader Steve Hershey, R-Kent, Queen Anne's, Caroline and Cecil. "Maryland Democrats continue to pass unconstitutional laws to strip away the rights of law-abiding citizens while trying to pass it off as public safety legislation."

The portion of the law that was blocked requires business owners to give express permission or a clear and conspicuous sign indicating that firearms are allowed on the property. The injunction reverts back to the previous law, in which businesses will have to state if they ban firearms.

In preparation for the new concealed carry restrictions to take effect, the [Frederick County Sportsman's Council](#) was ready with a response to start a new program making signs available to establishments and businesses that wish to announce concealed carry is permitted in their place of business. Instead of a "gun-free zone", this sign would, in effect, create a "gun permitted zone". The Council believes this could be a benefit to businesses and customers knowing the likelihood of armed robbery or violent crime would be greatly reduced in that establishment and could lead to repeat business and a flourishing economy in the concealed carry permitted area.



Ben Kelkye, Frederick #1 Chapter Ike, displays the Lawful Concealed Carry Permitted sign available from the Frederick County Sportsman's Council

Sources:

Capital News Service

[Judge blocks parts of new Maryland gun law that goes into effect Sunday](#)

U.S. News

[Gun Control Among New Laws Taking Effect in Maryland](#)

WTOP News

[Gun control among new laws taking effect in Maryland](#)

Maryland General Assembly

[Criminal Law - Wearing, Carrying, or Transporting Firearms - Restrictions \(Gun Safety Act of 2023\)](#)



In 2020, a group of 16 youth successfully sued the State of Montana by challenging a provision in the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) that forbids consideration of the role of climate change or greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the state’s review of environmental impacts (a provision called the MEPA limitation). The lawsuit argued that policies in MEPA violate Montana’s constitution, which states in part, the “state and each person shall maintain and improve a clean and healthful environment in Montana for present and future generations.” That section was added to the state’s constitution in 1972. Pat Parenteau, emeritus professor at Vermont Law and Graduate School, called the case a breakthrough and was “the first time a court in the United States has ruled that there is a constitutional right to a safe climate, in effect.” [IWLA.org](http://IWLA.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following rule changes were presented at the August membership meeting. The main purpose of these changes is to help entice new prospective members as well as ease the burden on current members in hopes to maintain them. The Board would like to have as much input as possible on this from Membership. There will be open discussion on these rule changes at our October 10, 2023 Membership Meeting. Our Chapter President, Mike Morgan, will have this put up for a vote no later than the November meeting for potentially taking effect January 1.

**Objective:** To increase membership numbers and club participation by removing barriers which may hinder new members joining, renewing, or actively participating in club activities.

**Goal:** To distinguish our chapter from what similar clubs in the area can offer its members.

**Note: All recommended motions to take affect at the first of the new year, January 1, 2024**

**Hunter Eligibility:** Goal is to promote increased participation of those members who take advantage of the club’s hunting privileges.

Amend **Section 5:1 – Rules of The Hunt** – to add the following language:

1. Be a member in good standing (dues up to date)
2. Attend (4) or more monthly membership meetings prior to requesting their initial hunt for the season.
3. All hunters are required to complete service hour requirements regardless of age for the privilege of hunting the property. Members must complete 50% of their required service hours before they are eligible to sign up or hunt the club property.
4. Delete **Section 4:4 – May only hunt once a week. Section 4:1 Location and Time Selection;** already ensures a fair and ordered selection process. Limiting any member to hunt only once a week is arbitrary and capricious.

**Service Hour Requirement:** Goal is to evaluate barriers to new or legacy members with the objective of increasing membership and participation. The objective is to gain new members and maintain legacy members.

1. Members can earn 1-hour of service time for each monthly membership meeting attended (12-hours total).
2. Members can earn 1-hour of service time for each sponsored activity attended (12-hours total). This includes Conservation activities, Book Management, YHEC, and Course Instruction etc.
3. Members will be given 4 hours of service time if they attend both the Annual Budget Meeting as well as the Annual Nominating meeting. This will encourage attendance at these two quorum critical meetings.
4. Members can receive up to 4 hours of service time for each sponsored fund-raising event attended. This can be prorated to include prep work, set-up, take down and clean-up.
5. Reduce **Individual and Family Service time to 12 hours.** Families have many competing activities in their lives. We must reduce this artificial obstacle. This allows members to achieve their requirement by participating in two service days a year.

**Membership Dues Reduction:** Goal is to evaluate barriers to new or continued membership with the need for club participation. The objective is to gain new members and maintain legacy members.

1. Introductory New Member 1<sup>st</sup> year due structure discount of 50% (Attracts new members without the financial burden or risk)
2. Remove any initiation fee. Currently it is \$75.00. (Again, this lessens the financial commitment to new members and potentially brings back old or lapse members who are opposed to having to pay the initiation fee again.)
3. Reduce the "Family" member due structure to be the same as the "Individual" member. (This attracts more family participation which can generate additional families joining the club with increased participation).

**Current Dues breakdown based on our website:**

Individual Renewal - \$105.00 (current rate) **-AND-** 24 Hours Worked **-OR-** \$260.00  
Family membership renewal: \$157.50 (current rate) **-AND-** 32 Hours Worked **-OR-** \$315.00

The Board of Directors would also like remind all members that membership renewals have been mailed out. Please look for membership renewal notices in the mail. The Chapter By-Laws have changed to be in line with National rules requiring members to renew memberships by December 31 to remain in good standing.

The Frederick Chapter Board of Directors meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm just prior to the regular Membership Meeting. Members are welcome and encouraged to observe these open meetings which address the business of the Chapter. Members may bring up any issues they may have during the Membership Meeting.



A group of dedicated volunteers, Friends of Waterford Park, meet each week to foster stewardship, plant and water trees, and help the city maintain the Park while encouraging the public to take advantage of its beauty. "I just took a walk here one day, and fell in love and wanted to be part of it," said Deb Portney, a certified Maryland master naturalist and volunteer with Friends of Waterford Park. The group has secured a \$5,000 federal invasive species control grant, and a 400 tree native species planting grant from Chesapeake Bay Trust. Besides the meadow, the 18-acre park's main feature is a paved, mixed-use trail that weaves a path across the well-manicured grounds adorned with stone benches, bird and bat houses, a wide diversity of flowers and trees, and interpretive signs for visitors to learn about the various plants and wildlife there. [Frederick News Post](#)

## CONSERVATION

Our Chapter is dedicated to supporting the Izaak Walton League's [Mission Statement](#): "To conserve, restore, and promote the sustainable use and enjoyment of our natural resources, including soil, air, woods, waters, and wildlife."

Our monthly Conservation Committee meetings are held the first Monday of the month; all Chapter members are welcome to attend. Our next meeting is Monday, October 2, 2023 at 6pm at the Chapter Clubhouse.

### Local Environmental News

#### Sewage Overflow Near Lake Linganore

The public was advised to avoid contact with water in the Lake Linganore area for 10 days after more than 10,000 gallons of sewage overflowed from Frederick County's Boyer's Mill Road pumping station

on Sept. 20, 2023. Officials said drinking water supplies were not expected to be affected by the overflow, but remediation steps were taken as a precaution. The Lake Linganore Association notified residents of the community about the sewage issue through an [online announcement](#). Signage was also posted to indicate the closure of the lake and the nearby Indian Cave trail.

According to Mark Schweitzer, director of Frederick County's Division of Water and Sewer Utilities, the overflow was caused by the failure of an electrical component at the pumping station. Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) spokesman Jay Apperson said no sewage entered state waterways as a result of the overflow. Some wastewater, however, did make its way into Lake Linganore.

The incident at the Boyer's Mill Road pumping station last week was the county's sixth sewer overflow this calendar year, Schweitzer said.

According to Apperson, another overflow occurred near Lake Linganore just days earlier, on Sept. 16, 2023. During that incident, roughly 5,000 gallons of sewage were discharged from a manhole. Some wastewater made its way into Lake Merle and Lake Linganore, Apperson said. County sewage facilities overflowed five times last year.

Source:

Frederick News Post

[Public urged to avoid water affected by sewage overflow near Lake Linganore](#)

### **[Save our Streams](#) Water Testing**



Save Our Streams monitoring occurs each month currently alternating between Ballenger Creek in Frederick and Big Hunting Creek in Thurmont. Check the date and location on our [Chapter calendar](#). Please email [stephen.meyer7@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.meyer7@gmail.com) if you wish to observe or participate.

Three conservation team members, Steve Meyer, Chris Barrett, and Al Manus conducted chemical and macroinvertebrate water testing at Big Hunting Creek in Thurmont on a beautiful Saturday morning, September 30, 2023. After casting their net in the creek, they identified in their macroinvertebrate test





sample 22 Mayflies, 1 Stonefly, and 1 Fishfly. Since Mayflies and Stoneflies are very sensitive to pollution and Fishflies are less sensitive, and the overwhelming majority of identified species are Mayflies and Stoneflies, the testing team concluded that Big Hunting Creek most likely is a healthy creek.

This conclusion was further confirmed with chemical tests showing excellent dissolved oxygen saturation, and no discernable presence of nitrates or reactive phosphates with excellent water transparency. However, the team noted a decrease in pH from 7 to 6 and a slight increased presence of chloride to 29mg/l. These readings are still within acceptable limits but will be monitored since we've had a recent increase in rain causing runoff and higher water levels plus decaying leaves that can impact data. We are also concerned with how the salinity of the creek will increase dramatically from runoff when adjacent Rocky Ridge Road is salted during the winter.

We will conduct chemical tests at Ballenger Creek at 10am October 28, 2023. Anyone interested in participating or observing please contact Steve Meyer at [stephen.meyer7@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.meyer7@gmail.com).

Our remaining 2023 water testing schedule (all start 10am):

- Oct 28, 2023, Chemical Testing @Ballenger Creek
- Nov 18, 2023, Chemical Testing @Big Hunting Creek, Thurmont

IWLA Frederick Chapter #1 Save our Streams program provides testing and long-term water chemistry data on select streams in Frederick County Maryland. The Izaak Walton League's Save Our Streams program is the only nationwide program training volunteers to protect waterways from pollution and bring information about water quality to their communities.



Frequent snow is predicted for Winter 2023/2024. Each year, the roads are salted during the winter leading to saltier and saltier waterways due to runoff. That in turn can lead to detrimental effects to our environment, infrastructure, and drinking water! The Izaak Walton League needs your help measuring the impact road salt is having on our creeks and streams. You can be ready for Salt Watch by pre-ordering your [free test kit](#) from the IWLA website.

If you have ideas for conservation projects or would like to participate in our conservation programs, please contact the Conservation Committee at [iwlafred1conservation@gmail.com](mailto:iwlafred1conservation@gmail.com). If you would like to participate in Chapter Conservation Committee activities, please attend our monthly Conservation meeting at the Chapter. Next meeting is Monday, October 2nd at 6pm in the Clubhouse.



Hunting plays an important part in state wildlife management. Sportsmen help keep wildlife healthy by balancing wildlife populations with available habitat. For example, humans are the only remaining "predators" for white-tailed deer in many parts of the country – an overly populous species that was endangered just a century ago. Restoration programs funded by sportsmen helped this species recover. [IWLA.org](http://IWLA.org)

## EDUCATION

The [full schedule of courses](#) conducted at the Chapter Clubhouse for 2023 is posted on the Chapter website. Proceeds from training classes support the Frederick Chapter Youth Program. Contact Ben Kelkye ([ben@kelkye.com](mailto:ben@kelkye.com)) if you have any questions about the schedule or courses.

Below are courses offered at the Frederick #1 Chapter in October 2023:

Date	Start Time	End Time	Course	Cost
Sunday, October 8, 2023	12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Youth Program	
Saturday, October 14, 2023	7:30 AM	Finish	RSO	\$175.00
Saturday, October 21, 2023	7:30 AM	Finish	Online Hunter Safety	
Sunday, October 22, 2023	12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Youth Program	



Eighty percent of state wildlife agency funding comes from hunters and anglers via license sales and excise taxes on their equipment. Non-game species must be managed with this revenue, which is declining as license sales go down. Current funding to implement state wildlife action plans is less than five percent of what experts say is needed to conserve the species most at risk. [IWLA.org](http://IWLA.org)

## Around The Chapter

Send any submissions to [newsletter@frederickiwla.org](mailto:newsletter@frederickiwla.org)



Frederick #1 Chapter Ike Preston Wood cuts down a dead pine tree in the driveway circle before it can fall on the power lines.



Boys from the Frederick Chapter Youth Group investigate a small snake they found behind the Clubhouse.



Frederick #1 Chapter Ike Chris Barrett rode 198.1 miles on his bicycle for the Children’s Cancer Research Fund’s Great Cycle Challenge. Over four years, Chris has ridden 803 miles and raised \$4,736 for children’s cancer research.

## CLASSIFIEDS / WANT ADS / NEEDS AT THE CHAPTER

Send any submissions to [newsletter@frederickiwa.org](mailto:newsletter@frederickiwa.org)



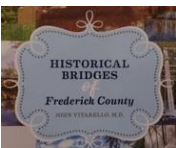
Photos wanted of Chapter clubhouse and grounds, Chapter activities, shooting sports, and conservation programs to be used for marketing and recruitment.



Get your new IWLA Frederick Chapter 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary shirts, official swag and uniform for Frederick Chapter events. These heavy cotton quality shirts are \$15. Shirts are currently sold at the Clubhouse and Membership meetings.



Please let us know what you are doing in the outdoors, enjoying nature, and being a champion and defender of the nation’s soil, air, woods, water, and wildlife. If you would like to participate in nature outings, please let us know at [newsletter@frederickiwa.org](mailto:newsletter@frederickiwa.org).



On sale at the Clubhouse is the book *Historical Bridges of Frederick County*, written by Frederick Chapter member Dr. John Vitarello containing 99 pages of photographs coupled with information about each of the bridges and their connection to Frederick County’s history. There are also driving, bicycle and fishing tour routes included to aid readers who will be inspired to seek out the bridges themselves. Each book is \$20.

Purchase of each book helps fund the Frederick Chapter’s conservation programs. According to Dr. Vitarello, “Individuals, service groups and charitable organizations alike have made an everlasting favorable impression on me to the point that I want to dedicate this book to local Frederick charities.” Books can be purchased at the Frederick Chapter clubhouse. Please see Ben Kelkye.