



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

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## NEWSLETTER

November 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

05 Nov - Daylight Saving Time ends	14 Nov – Membership Meeting 7:00 pm
06 Nov – Conservation Committee Meeting 6:00pm	18 Nov – SOS Testing, Big Hunting Creek 10am
12 Nov – Youth Program practice 12:00pm	26 Nov – Youth Program practice/meeting 12:00pm
14 Nov – Board Meeting 6:30 pm	28 Nov – Frederick County Sportsman’s Council 7pm



In this month’s newsletter: Clean Water Act, chapter rule changes, conservation, water testing, air quality monitoring, Chesapeake Bay Dead Zones, youth and adult education, and more!



To protect clean water and wildlife in the wake of weakened protections triggered by the Supreme Court's Sackett v EPA decision, the Izaak Walton League has endorsed H.R. 5983, the Clean Water Act of 2023.

"Safeguarding our nation's waters ultimately depends on Congress amending the Clean Water Act to specifically include tributary streams, wetlands and other waters in the definition of the waterbodies protected by the Act," said Scott Kovarovics, executive director, Izaak Walton League of America. H.R. 5983 would amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to restore a national minimum standard of protection for the water resources of the United States while providing certainty to regulated entities. The Sackett v EPA decision rolled back 50 years of Clean Water Act protections for wetlands and tributary streams. In response, the League has launched a multi-year campaign to mitigate the potential damage. [IWLA.org](http://IWLA.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following rule changes were presented at the August membership meeting and voted on at the October Membership Meeting. All rules passed except for the Service Hours Requirements which was postponed until the November 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 from Membership on the Service Hours Requirements. There will be open discussion and a vote on the Service Hours Requirement rules at our November 14, 2023 Membership Meeting. Rule changes are scheduled to take effect January 1.

### The following has already been voted on and approved by the Membership:

**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.

**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 following will be discussed and voted on at the November 14th Membership Meeting:**

**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 pro-rated 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.
6. Points will be recorded utilizing the Chapter's established validation process.
7. Points can be earned only once per activity per family for each meeting, or event.

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.



Since 1910, conservation has been an integral part of the program of the Boy Scouts of America. The BSA has been a positive force in conservation and environmental efforts. Scouts have rendered distinguished public service by helping to conserve wildlife, energy, forests, soil, and water. Past generations of Scouts have been widely recognized for undertaking conservation Good Turn action projects in their local communities. Scouts of today have grown up hearing words such as ecosystem, biodiversity, and climate change. They recognize the need for, and the benefits of, conserving natural resources. Scouts understand that we all must work together for the betterment of the land, forests, wildlife, air, and water. Much has been accomplished in recent years by individual Scouts and through unit conservation Good Turns. Much more needs to be done. [scouting.org](http://scouting.org)



# 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, November 6, 2023 at 6pm at the Chapter clubhouse

## Local Environmental News

Frederick County introduces air quality monitoring network; Brunswick first municipality to join Oct 27, 2023

The Frederick County Division of Energy and Environment is setting up a network of air quality monitoring stations to provide localized, real-time updates about the concentration of fine particulate matter in the air with a focus on high-risk areas.

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The Energy and Environment Division has installed two air quality monitors, according to a county press release on Tuesday.



One monitor is stationed at the Frederick County Division of Housing facility on Sagner Avenue in Frederick. The other is at the Milton E. Frech Jr. Operations Center in Brunswick. "We are honored to lead the way in Frederick County by being the first municipality to join the air quality monitoring network," Brunswick Assistant City Administrator Jeremy Mose said in the press release. "This program will help us track and reduce the sources of air pollution that threaten our health and environment."

In an email on Wednesday, county sustainability program administrator Tiara Lester wrote that her division is "actively working on developing partnerships and selecting installation sites now, with new monitoring locations coming online into early 2024." According to the press release, at least five of the 12 monitors will be placed in areas where residents are more likely to be affected by air quality issues and may have fewer resources available.

Lester wrote that her division is using the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Environmental Justice Screening Tool to identify areas that are underserved, exposed to more pollutants or have sensitive populations. People who live in neighborhoods bordering industrial operations or congested roads are more likely to inhale different pollutants on a regular basis and may experience serious health problems as a result. According to Lester, MDE is responsible for monitoring air quality at 24 strategic sites throughout the state. Frederick Municipal Airport is one site. With this project, Lester said, members of the public can easily access information about air quality in their own communities and in the entire region.

PurpleAir, the manufacturer of the air quality monitors used by the Frederick County government, provides an [interactive online map](#) that residents can use to view readings from individual monitors in their area.

Source:

Frederick News Post

[Frederick County introduces air quality monitoring network; Brunswick first municipality to join](#)

### Dead Zones

According to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), the Chesapeake Bay has areas that contain little to no oxygen. These are called "dead zones". Fish, crabs, oysters and other aquatic life literally suffocate in these zones. The CBF report that dead zones are caused by excessive nitrogen and phosphorous pollution from:

- Agricultural runoff from farmland that carries nutrients from fertilizers and animal manure into rivers and streams, eventually flowing into the Chesapeake Bay.
- Urban/suburban runoff from developed areas that washes nutrients from fertilizers, septic systems, and other pollutants into local waterways that flow downstream into the Chesapeake Bay.
- Wastewater treatment plants that release treated water—often still containing large amounts of nutrients—into streams and rivers across the watershed that flow into the Chesapeake Bay.
- Air pollution from our cars, factories, gas-powered tools, and power plants that contribute nearly 30 percent of the total nitrogen pollution to the Bay's waterways.

Excessive nitrogen and phosphorus levels in the water can cause algae to bloom to harmful levels. When the algae die, it sinks to the bottom and are decomposed by bacteria which strips dissolved oxygen from the surrounding water. Dense algal blooms also block sunlight, which prevents underwater grasses from growing. In turn, the animals that depend on these grasses for food and shelter suffer, as well.

On average, the Chesapeake Bay dead zone covers between 1.2 cubic miles during the summer months, when the water is warmest and oxygen levels are historically lowest. Long-term trends indicate the Bay's dead zones are getting smaller.

Source:

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

[DEAD ZONES](#)

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## 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.ve or participate.

Three conservation team members, Steve Meyer, Preston Wood, and Al Manus conducted chemical water testing at Ballenger Creek on a beautiful and warm Saturday morning, October 28, 2023. They were joined by Nigel Wood who is a Star Scout at Boy Scout Troop 796 Ijamsville MD. Nigel helped the team test the creek and determine there was only a minimal change overall in the health of Ballenger Creek since the July test. However, there is an increase in chlorides up to 54mg/L which is considered "fair". Also, the water is slightly more basic with a pH reading of 8.5 and dissolved oxygen percent saturation is "fair" at 65%. We noted that there were decaying leaves from trees in the water which can contribute to these tested conditions since decomposition tends to use up oxygen in the water. The area tested contained no perceptible amounts of phosphates and very little nitrates; these readings were in the "excellent" range.



Steve Meyer, Al Manus, and Nigel Wood taking a dissolved oxygen reading.



Nigel Wood taking a pH reading, while Al Manus helps Steve Meyer with a temperature test.





Steve Meyer showing Nigel Wood how to measure a chloride test, and Preston Wood sporting a shadow



Nigel Wood learning about phosphate tests from Al Manus. mustache that would make Ben Kelkye proud.



Ballenger Creek running under the footbridge at Ballenger Creek Park.



We will conduct chemical tests at Big Hunting Creek at 10am November 18, 2023. Anyone interested in participating or observing please contact Steve Meyer at [stephen.meyer7@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.meyer7@gmail.com).

Our last remaining SOS water test for 2023 is (start 10am):

- 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, November 6th at 6pm in the Clubhouse.



Animal waste is an excellent source of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and beneficial microbes - all things that are good for plants. But animal waste can also contain things that are bad for people, including salmonella, E. coli, and other harmful bacteria. These bacteria won't survive the composting process in an intensively-managed pile, but make sure to learn how to do this type of composting properly before you add potentially hazardous materials to your pile. [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
Saturday, November 11, 2023	7:30 AM	Finish	Online Hunter Safety	
Monday, November 27, 2023	7:30 AM	Finish	Online Hunter Safety	

Contact Ben Kelkye to schedule an appointment. Cell: 301-401-6262 Email: <a href="mailto:ben@kelkye.com">ben@kelkye.com</a>				
<i>By Request Only</i>	<i>Appointment</i>	<i>Only</i>	<i>Wear and Carry - 16 Hour Class for new applicant - MD or DC</i>	<i>\$275.00</i>
<i>By Request Only</i>	<i>Appointment</i>	<i>Only</i>	<i>Renewal - 10 Hour Class - MD or DC</i>	<i>\$225.00</i>
<i>By Request Only</i>	<i>Appointment</i>	<i>Only</i>	<i>MD &amp; DC - Wear and Carry - 16 Hour Class for new applicant</i>	<i>\$415.00</i>



## AROUND THE CHAPTER

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



Coach Ben Kelkye teaching off-hand position to our The Chapter Youth Group on the range firing line Chapter Youth Group during their Fundamentals of Rifle practicing marksmanship and getting ready for the Youth Shooting practice session at the Chapter range. Hunter Education Competition (YHEC) in June.

## CLASSIFIEDS / WANT ADS / NEEDS AT THE CHAPTER

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



## For Sale!

Brand new in box Ruger American Predator  
6.5 Creedmoor

Just in time for hunting season. Never been shot.

Retails for \$599.99 but I'm selling for \$479.99 plus transfer fee.  
(Usually about \$25.00)

Contact Tracy Hickman 301 676 1116 [tmanhickman@yahoo.com](mailto:tmanhickman@yahoo.com)



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

and \$15.

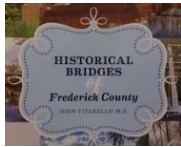


Get your new IWLA Frederick Chapter 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary shirts, official swag uniform for Frederick Chapter events. These heavy cotton quality shirts are Shirts are currently sold at the Clubhouse and Membership meetings.

being If you



Please let us know what you are doing in the outdoors, enjoying nature, and a champion and defender of the nation's soil, air, woods, water, and wildlife. 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.

