



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

**Chapter Web Site:** <http://www.frederickiwa.org>  
**Like Us on Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/frederickiwa>  
**Chapter Calendar:** <http://www.frederickiwa.org/calendar.html>

## NEWSLETTER

May 2024

<b>President</b> Michael Morgan	<b>Vice President</b> Tracy Hickman	<b>Secretary</b> Ronald Colbert	<b>Treasurer</b> Jim Stewart	<b>Membership Secretary</b> Ron Colbert
<b>Board Member</b> Hiram Escabi	<b>Board Member</b> Michael Money Penny	<b>Board Member</b> Preston Wood	<b>Board Member</b> Ben Kelkye	<b>Board Member</b> Vineet Kewalramani
<b>Newsletter Editors</b> Preston Wood, Josh Phipps, Lisa Merriam				
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.				
<b>Important Dates</b>				
04 May – Internet Field Day, 7:30am 05 May – Youth Group Practice, 12:30pm 06 May – Conservation Committee Meeting, 6pm No Social Committee Meeting this month 12 May – Youth Group Practice, 12:30pm 14 May – Board of Directors Meeting, 6:30pm		14 May – Membership Meeting, 7pm 19 May – Youth Group Practice 12:30pm 25 May – Save Our Streams (SOS) Testing, 10am 26 May – Youth Group Practice 12:30pm 28 May – Frederick County Sportsman’s Council, 7pm		



Sporting Clays Social Event at the Frederick IWLA Range, April 14, 2024

## Sporting Clays Shoot – Frederick IWLA Social Event

The Chapter had a fun and exciting Sporting Clays social event on Sunday, April 14, 2024 at 4pm at the Chapter range. Using 12 and 20 gauge shotguns from different positions, members and guests shot clays in the air and ground simulating moving bird and rabbit targets. It was a beautiful day with blue skies and perfect weather.

Twelve Ikes attended including Ben Kelkye, Dave Carlson, Jeff Pearson, Preston Wood, Nigel Wood, Robert Hartman, Tracy Hickman, Robert Vendemia, and Artimis Vendemia. Manning the tower were Dwayne Ausherman, Mike Money Penny, and Brian Algots.

Our next social event will be a 3-D Archery shoot on the Chapter grounds Sunday, June 2, 2024 at 4pm.











**IWLA Salt Watchers of the Month of March - Steve Meyer and Chris Barrett**  
Reprinted from the IWLA National Salt Watch Newsletter, 24 April 2024



Steve and Chris were recognized by IWLA National as Salt Watchers of the Month because of their efforts to bring Salt Watch monitoring to local schools in Maryland and through their Izaak Walton League chapter. Chris and Steve have been doing chemical and macroinvertebrate testing of several streams in Frederick County, MD, along with Salt Watch and Nitrate Watch.

In 2023 Chris and Steve presented the League's Save Our Streams program to students kindergarten through sixth grade at the newly established Frederick County Sabillasville Environmental Charter School. They covered water chemistry testing techniques in one session and macroinvertebrate analysis in the next. Most recently they were invited back to present the Salt Watch program in December.

Steve has been a resident of Frederick, Maryland, since 2017, and has lived in Maryland since the late 1960s. He retired in 2009. Currently, he is a member of the League's Frederick Chapter. He volunteers a great deal in conservation projects, including Save Our Streams, Salt Watch and Forest Stewardship. Steve also volunteers in the community and for the American Legion.

Chris has always been interested in conservation and protecting the environment. He established the first Earth Day celebration at his high school in April of 1970 and has been involved with many conservation initiatives throughout the years. Most notably, Chris became the Business Unit Manager for the Environmental, Health and Safety Training Division of the Bureau of National Affairs in 1983. Not only did he organize Earth Day and other conservation activities there, but he was also responsible for the development of the first eight-hour program designed to train employees how to handle, store and dispose of hazardous waste properly. Chris joined the League's Frederick Chapter in March of 2021 to pursue his continued interest in conservation and protecting the environment.

Nominate a Salt Watcher of the Month!

To submit nominations for Salt Watcher of the Month, or to let us know of advocacy actions in your area, please email [saltwatch@iwla.org](mailto:saltwatch@iwla.org) and tell us your nominee's name, email, state, organization (if applicable), and why you think they should be the Salt Watcher of the Month! Individuals selected for Salt Watcher of the Month will receive a goodie bag of Salt Watch swag, opportunities to be part of our webinars and blogs, and recognition on our website for their great work.

If you need a new Salt Watch kit, [request one](#) and we will mail it right to your door. Need more than one kit? Email us at [saltwatch@iwla.org](mailto:saltwatch@iwla.org). Let's make this the biggest Salt Watch monitoring year on record!

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWS

## Chapter Rules Changes & Reminders

### Chapter Cancellation and Closure Guidelines

The Chapter has new guidelines for Chapter closure due to inclement weather which were approved by the Board and voted on at the April 2024 Membership Meeting:

The Frederick Chapter IWLA will cancel scheduled events due to weather emergencies or power outages or if the safety and well-being of their members and guests are at risk.

When the safety and security of individuals of the chapter is compromised, it is advisable to close until the situation improves and it is safe for everyone to return.

The club will continue to align its closure policy with Frederick County school closures for consistency and ease of understanding. This is strictly a guideline. The final decision on the opening or closing of the club will be determined by the Board of Directors.

The following are changes approved by the Board of Directors. Discussion and membership approval process will take place at our May Membership Meeting Tuesday May 14, 2024:

### Range Rules, Emergency Procedures, and RSO Report

Below are links to the Original Documents and the proposed changes to those documents. Please review and provide any comments to the club President, Mike Morgan [ml4wheeling@gmail.com](mailto:ml4wheeling@gmail.com).

Click the links to compare the original with proposed changes:

[Original Documents](#)

[Range Rules 2016](#)

[Emergency Procedures 2020](#)

[RSO Report 2020](#)

[Proposed Changes](#)

[Range Rules 2024](#)

[Emergency Procedures 2024](#)

[RSO Report 2024](#)

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 directly after the Board meeting.

## 2024 IWLA National Convention



[Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Golf Resort, Spa and Marina](#) -

Cambridge, MD

Monday July 15 - Tuesday July 16

Early Bird Welcome Reception Sunday July 14

Optional day for field trips and group activities Wednesday July 17

Note About the Schedule: The convention will be held Sunday through Tuesday in 2024. This schedule dramatically reduces hotel room rates and ensures League members can travel to Maryland's Eastern Shore during off-peak summer hours.

The discounted hotel room rate for convention attendees is \$175/night (plus taxes). The special rate is available for three days before and three days after the convention dates (subject to room availability).

Reserve your room [online](#) or by calling the hotel directly at (877) 803-7534 and providing our group code (G-IZWL) to receive the League's discounted rate.

At the 2024 convention, the League will focus on our historic mission to protect the nation's great waterways, including the Chesapeake Bay, and discuss how we can take action today to secure a better future. We will also host a special event to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the League's 1924 achievement of establishing the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge.

[Learn more at this 2024 Convention link.](#)

## CHAPTER CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

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 normally held the first Monday of the month; all Chapter members are welcome to attend. Our next meeting is Monday, May 6, 2024, at 6pm at the Chapter Clubhouse.

## Bluebird Nesting Box News

While checking our nesting boxes, Frederick Chapter Ike Al Manus discovered a new bird family has moved into box #10. Although the eggs do not appear to be Eastern Blue Bird, our bird team thinks they may be from either a Black Caped Chickadee, Wren, Nuthatch, or Eastern Phoebe. See the egg identification links below and let us know at [newsletter@frederickiwa.org](mailto:newsletter@frederickiwa.org) what bird you think these eggs are from.

<https://www.birdsandblooms.com/birding/attracting-birds/bird-nesting/identify-bird-eggs/>

<https://www.sialis.org/chickadee/>

<https://www.sialis.org/nestwbnu/>

<https://www.sialis.org/nestsphoebe/>

<https://www.sialis.org/nestshowr/>

For reference, the entrance hole to the nesting box is 1.5" in diameter.

The Nesting Box Team is looking for an endoscope to take pictures of the eggs and eventual babies without opening the box. **Are there any Ikes in the Frederick #1 Chapter that have an endoscope the Nesting Box Team can borrow to monitor this brood?**



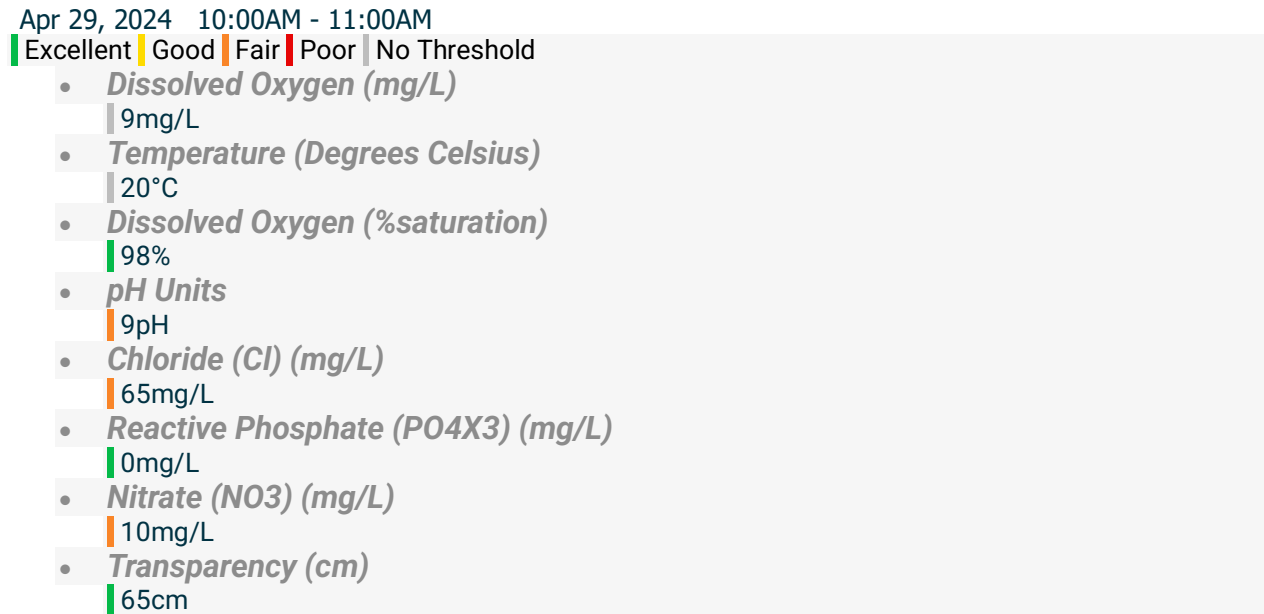
The 2024 [Save Our Streams](#) (SOS) season has resumed at Ballenger Creek Park and at Tuscarora Creek near the C&O Canal occurring each month from March to November.

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, Chris Barrett, Steve Meyer, and new member Robert Vendemmia conducted chemical water tests at Tuscarora Creek near the C&O canal. This location is South of



the data center construction at the former Alcoa plant. The location for taking water samples is not ideal since there isn't much parking in the area and the banks are muddy and steep. As a result, we used samples collected in bottles which is not ideal. However, it is publicly accessible, and the team wanted to test a creek we suspect is compromised. If any Ikes know of viable access points to Tuscarora Creek south of the former Alcoa plant, please email Steve Meyer at [stephen.meyer7@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.meyer7@gmail.com).

Water quality at Tuscarora Creek was generally only fair as you can see from the test results below. Although there was excellent dissolved oxygen and transparency, the water was only fair in pH, and contained chloride, and nitrates. You can find all our water testing data on [cleanwaterhub.org](https://cleanwaterhub.org).



May and September tests will include macroinvertebrate biological testing.

IWLA Frederick Chapter #1 Save our Streams program provides testing and long-term water chemistry data on select streams in Frederick County Maryland. The remaining Save Our Streams testing dates for 2024:

- 9AM Saturday May 25, Ballenger Creek, includes macroinvertebrates
- 10AM Monday June 29, Tuscarora Creek
- 10AM Saturday July 27, Ballenger Creek
- 10AM Monday August 26, Tuscarora Creek
- 9AM Saturday September 28, Ballenger Creek includes, macroinvertebrates
- 10AM Monday October 28, Tuscarora Creek
- 10AM Saturday November 16, Ballenger Creek

You can find these dates, and other events, and location on our [Chapter calendar](#). Please email [stephen.meyer7@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.meyer7@gmail.com) if you wish to observe or participate.

### **Frederick Chapter #1 Forest Stewardship Program**



Two volunteers are needed to assist with forest stewardship on the chapter property. Primary duties include locating invasive plants, guiding work parties to selected areas of the property once or twice a year, and observing and reporting plant removal and herbicide application by workers. Later in 2024, volunteers are needed to help plan establishment of food plots for turkey and deer in cleared areas. Numerous YouTube videos are available to help with training in forestry. We also have access to several books on the topic. If interested please attend a future Conservation meeting, held the first Monday each month at 6pm. All work earns points for conservation. Please contact Steve Meyer with interest in participating in management of our forest and invasive species removal at [stephen.meyer7@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.meyer7@gmail.com).

The new Forest Stewardship Program has greatly expanded our potential for further conservation work. A healthy forest adds so much to the overall environment that we need only look to our own property to meet our mandate to preserve our water, land and air. The University of Maryland Extension Service offers several affordable online courses each spring and fall that involve forestry. If only a few members self-educated themselves in how to improve our woodland, we could set our chapter up for conservation successes for the foreseeable future.

Stephen Meyer  
Conservation Committee

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, May 6th at 6pm in the Clubhouse.

## **CHAPTER EDUCATION PROGRAMMING**

### **Wear and Carry Class**

On April 23, 2024 a private Introduction to Pistol Shooting and HQL class was conducted at the Chapter facilities for the Orthodontist office of Dr. Jon Moles of Frederick Maryland. Ikes Ben Kelkye and Richard Sedlak were instructors. According to our Chapter CRSO and Board Member, Ben Kelkye, "I did that for community outreach and public

awareness". There were ten total students including Dr. Moles. "It was a good time for all and I gave a few applications to join the club.", per Ben. Tracy Hickman, Frederick Chapter Vice-President, mentioned, "It was his [Dr. Moles] birthday that day, and he brought his entire staff out for some training. There were quite a few first timers, and potential new members."







The [full schedule of courses](#) conducted at the Chapter Clubhouse is posted on the Chapter website. Proceeds from training classes support the Frederick#1 Chapter Youth Program. Contact Ben Kelkye (ben@kelkye.com) if you have any questions about the schedule or courses.

Below are courses offered at the Frederick #1 Chapter for May 2024:

Date	Start Time	End Time	Course	Cost
Saturday, May 4, 2024	7:30:00 AM	Finish	Internet Field Day	
Sunday, May 5, 2024	12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Youth Program	
Sunday, May 12, 2024	12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Youth Program	
Sunday, May 19, 2024	12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Youth Program	
Sunday, May 26, 2024	12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Youth Program	
Sunday, June 2, 2024	12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Youth Program	
Thursday, June 6, 2024	7:45 AM	Finish	Hunter Safety Classroom	\$0.00
Friday, June 7, 2024	6:30 PM	10:00 PM	Hunter Safety Classroom	\$0.00
Saturday, June 8, 2024	6:30 PM	10:00 PM	Hunter Safety Classroom	\$0.00
<b>Contact Ben Kelkye to schedule an appointment. Cell: 301-401-6262 Email: ben@kelkye.com</b>				
<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)

### Frederick #1 Chapter Youth Group practice April 14 and 21, 2024.

Our Chapter Youth Group is preparing for the [Youth Hunter Education Competition](#) at Williamsport, Maryland June 21-23, 2024. Below are pictures from their shotgun practice.















## CLASSIFIEDS / WANT ADS / NEEDS AT THE CHAPTER

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

### Newsletter Requesting Photos



Photos wanted of Chapter clubhouse and grounds, Chapter activities, shooting sports, and conservation programs to be used for marketing and recruitment. Please send to [newsletter@frederickiwa.org](mailto:newsletter@frederickiwa.org).

### Get Your Chapter T-Shirt



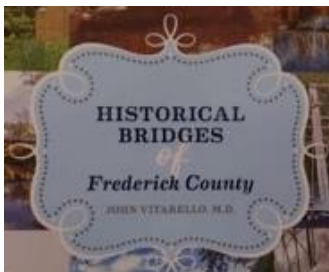
Get your new IWLA Frederick Chapter 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary shirts, official swag and uniform for Frederick Chapter events. These heavy cotton quality shirts are \$15. Shirts are currently sold at the Clubhouse and Membership meetings.

### Nature Outings



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).

### Historical Bridges Book For Sale



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.