



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

**Chapter Web Site:** <http://www.frederickiwa.org>  
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**Chapter Calendar:** <http://www.frederickiwa.org/calendar.html>

## NEWSLETTER

September 2024

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<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>Recording Secretary</b> David Carlson				

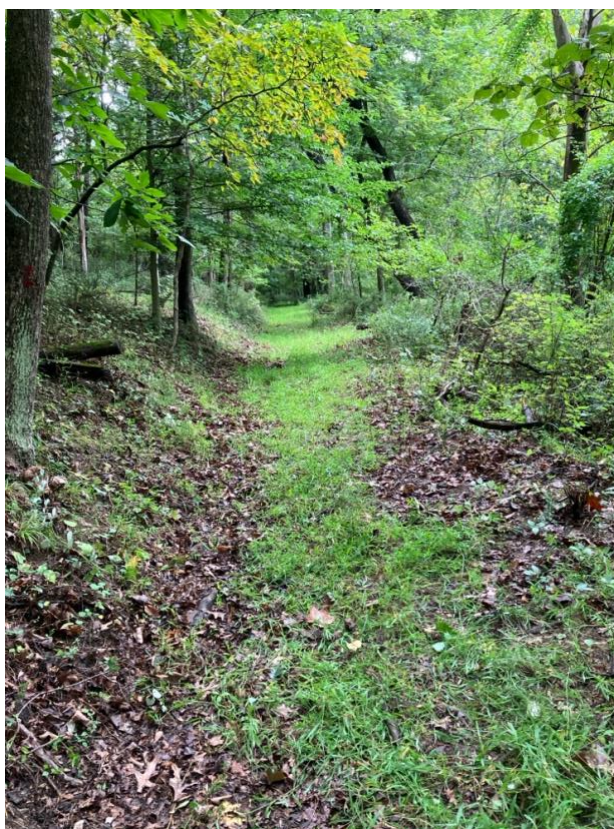
### Newsletter Editors

Preston Wood, Josh Phipps, Lisa Merriam

Send submissions or articles for the newsletter to [newsletter@frederickiwa.org](mailto:newsletter@frederickiwa.org). Let us know if you are not receiving the newsletter.

### Important Dates

02 Sept – Labor Day	14 Sept – RSO Class, 7:30am
08 Sept – Youth Group Practice, 12:30pm	22 Sept – Annual Pig Roast, 2pm
09 Sept – Conservation Committee Meeting, 6pm	24 Sept – Frederick County Sportsman’s Council, 7pm
10 Sept – Social Committee Meeting, 5:15pm	26-28 Sept – Hunter Safety Classroom Sessions
10 Sept – Board of Directors Meeting, 6:30pm	27 Sept – Range for Clay Target Shooting
10 Sept – Membership Meeting, 7pm	28 Sept – SOS Water Testing, 9am
13 Sept – Range for Clay Target Shooting	



Part of the East side Conservation Trail with invasive Japanese Barberry and Wineberry plants removed. This is part of our Forest Stewardship Project with help from Nigel Wood’s Eagle Scout Service Project and [Boy Scout Troop 796](#), Ijamsville MD.

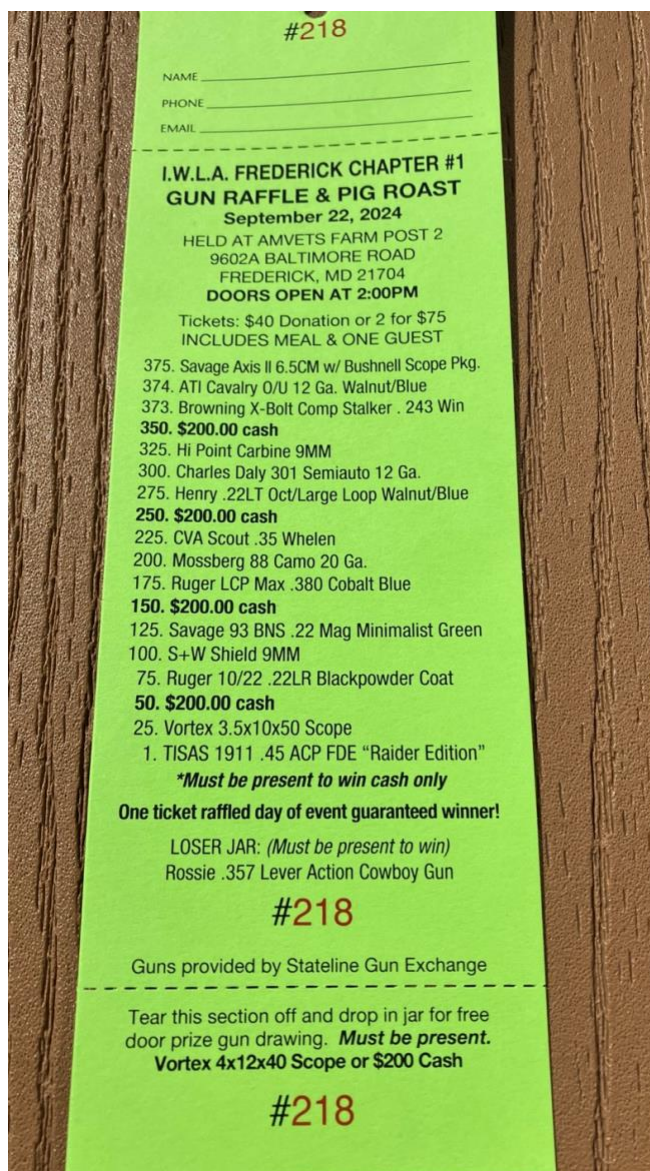
# CHAPTER NEWS

## Sunday, September 22, 2024 Annual Gun Raffle Pig Roast



See you there!

The IWLA Frederick #1 Chapter's annual Gun Raffle Pig Roast will be held at Amvets Post 2 (9602 Baltimore Road, Frederick MD 21704) on September 22, 2024. Members get your tickets from Ben Kelkye, sell additional tickets to your friends, neighbors, and colleagues, and bring your family to the Pig Roast. Volunteers are needed to help prepare the pig the night before, and sell tip jar tickets and work the kitchen during the Pig Roast



Ticket for the 2024 Gun Raffle and Pig Roast with prize list

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWS

## **New Range Rules: Workgroup Recommendation**

On Monday, July 22, 2024, at the direction of the Chapter President Mike Morgan, a workgroup consisting of John Gallo, Jake Bise, Mark Davies, Ben Kelkye, and Hiram Escabi convened to review the 2024 draft range rules and associated documents. At the conclusion of the meeting, the workgroup unanimously voted to send [the range rules revision documents](#) to the membership for approval. Click the link to find:

1. 2024 Range Rules
2. 2024 Range Area Map
3. 2024 Emergency Procedures
4. 2024 Injury Report Form

The workgroup recommends communicating these documents to the membership in accordance with the Chapter By-laws; Article XII, Section 3, at least 10 days prior to the next Monthly Business Meeting, so the membership may vote at the September Membership Meeting, and the Chapter adopt the 2024 Range Rules in their entirety.

The workgroup also recommends the archiving of the following documents and language on our Chapters website and replacing them with the 2024 approved documents listed above:

### Range Safety Officer Requirements

- Range Rules from 2016
- Range Rules with highlighted changes
- Emergency Procedures Original
- Emergency Procedures with highlighted changes
- RSO Report Original
- RSO Report with highlighted changes

### Range Rules

- Range Rules

### Emergency Procedures

- Emergency Procedures

Other Unwritten Rules (recommend Archiving this entire section and replace with member approved Policies and/or rules.

- Friday Shotgun

### Home

- Work Hours



Finally, the workgroup recommends the Chapter take the following actions that are outside its purview:

1. Have the IT Committee create and post an Emergency Contact List so the Chapters' leadership can be notified of critical incidents or events.
2. Create and post additional signage illustrating the Traffic Light Indicator legend.
3. Include the Traffic Light Indicator legend be printed on the back of the RSO ID card.
4. Decide on the use of the Indemnity (Hold Harmless) form and if required for range usage.

Feel free to reach out to any of the workgroup members if you have questions or would like clarity on any topic.

## **Board Meetings**

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 but take care not to disrupt the meeting. Members may bring up any issues they may have during the Membership Meeting directly after the Board meeting.

## **CONSERVATION NEWS**

### **Second Largest Coal-Fired Power Plant in Maryland to Close Early**



This is an article from 2021 indicating GenOn Holdings will close its coal power generating plants in Maryland by June 2022. As of this writing, I verified on the [GenOn website](#) that it currently has no coal power plants in operation. According to the article, "In December, the company announced that it would cease coal operations by 2027, so this is a substantially accelerated timetable. While environmental groups are generally happy with the decision, the new timetable means dozens of the plant's employees will be out of a job sooner than anticipated — and before meaningful worker retraining programs can be launched." GenOn Holdings released a statement, "...its decision to retire its coal production in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Maryland "is driven by unfavorable economic conditions, *higher costs including those associated with environmental compliance*, an inability to compete with other generation types, and evolving market rules that promote subsidized resources."

There was bipartisan legislation to help reduce the hard impact on the industry and gradually phase out the coal power plants called [The Maryland Coal Community Transition Act of 2021](#), "... which would have phased out Maryland's coal-fired plants over the next decade and establish a council to mitigate economic impacts for displaced employees.

However, the bill faced a strong divide between environmentalists and labor unions and was ultimately [withdrawn](#) by Del. Benjamin T. Brooks Sr. (D-Baltimore County), the House sponsor of the bill, in favor of a "summer study" during the legislative interim. But West, the Senate sponsor of the bill, said on Monday said he had not been contacted for a "summer study."

There are many factors at play, but it would seem the zeal to enact environmental protection measures in Maryland without carefully considering the economic impact has had a negative effect on the careers of employees in this industry.

Source:

[Md. Coal-Fired Power Plant Will Retire Five Years Early — Before Worker Retraining Kicks In](#)  
Maryland Matters  
Author: Elizabeth Shwe  
Published: June 14, 2021 8:32PM

## 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 September 9, 2024 at 6pm.

### Boy Scout Eagle Service Project, Invasive Plant Species Removal



Nigel Wood, Life rank scout from Boy Scout Troop 796 Ijamsville MD, conducted his Eagle Service Project at the Frederick #1 Chapter August 24 and 31 removing invasive plant species including Japanese Barberry and Wineberry. This project was a part of our Frederick #1 Chapter Forest Stewardship Program which is in partnership with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and a DNR Woodland Incentive Grant. Mentored by Frederick #1 Chapter Conservation Committee member Steve Meyer, Nigel Wood directed Troop 796 scouts in identifying invasive plant species, cutting and removing identified invasives, and building debris piles with the cuttings to serve as wildlife habitats.

The two main invasive species found are [Japanese Barberry](#) and [Wineberry](#). Both are thorny plants with the Barberry often growing in large thorny bushes with thick stalks. Both plants are found widely on the Chapter property and extensively encroach on the Conservation Trail. The scouts developed techniques using rope and garden rakes to push back the bushes to more safely reveal the base of the bush for cutting. Also, per DNR recommendations, the cut exposed stalks were sprayed with an herbicide to kill the bush. Habitat piles were constructed per DNR designs using the invasive plant cuttings on top of a base of logs to provide access ways for small animals to live and hide from predators.

Participants from Troop 796 are Ayush Ajay, Nolan Dow, Nigel Wood, Connor Choinski, and Rowan Wood with Adult Leaders Assistant Scoutmaster Alex Dow, Troop Committee Member Ajay Ravichandran, and Scoutmaster / Frederick #1 Chapter Conservation Committee Chair Preston Wood. Frederick #1 Chapter Conservation Committee members Steve Meyer, Robert Vendemmia, and Artemis Vendemmia provided support removing invasive plants and spraying the herbicide while also cutting vines constricting trees. All the work originally scoped out by Nigel Wood and Steve Meyer was accomplished opening areas of our Chapter Forest for native plant species to grow while increasing habitat for wildlife and beautifying the property removing the unsightly plants.



*Nigel Wood standing beside a habitat pile of Japanese Barberry and Wineberry debris.*





*(l to r) Nigel Wood, Connor Choinski, Rowan Wood, and Ayush Ajay use both a rope and garden rake to expose Barberry bush for cutting and removal.*



*(l to r) Nolan Dow, Nigel Wood, and Ayush Ajay use a rope to lift Barberry thorn branches and cut the bush.*





*Rowan Wood cutting invasive species bushes on Chapter property.*



*Troop 796 scouts (l to r) Connor Choinski, Nigel Wood, Rowan Wood, and Ayush Ajay team up to cut and remove a large Japanese Barberry bush. The bush is as tall as they are.*





*Scouts (l to r) Ayush Ajay and Nigel Wood removing invasive plants beside the Frederick #1 Chapter Clubhouse..*



*Freshly cut stumps from a Japanese Barberry bush.*





*Steve Meyer applying herbicide to freshly cut Barberry stumps.*



*Robert Vendemmia and Artemis Vendemmia cutting invasive plants and using herbicide.*





*Steve Meyer standing beside a newly constructed habitat pile.*



*An animal habitat pile of invasive plant debris and sticks to weigh down the pile.*

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



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 a course: "The Woods in Your Backyard" that can help us understand how our land offers recreational and wildlife possibilities, and how to manage projects to help meet our goals. Please contact Steve Meyer for information about the Save Our Streams program or the chapter Forest Stewardship Program at [stephen.meyer7@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.meyer7@gmail.com).

## Save Our Streams Water Testing



The 2024 [Save Our Streams](#) (SOS) season continues with chemical water testing conducted in Bush Creek at Monocacy Battlefield on Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup> 10am. SOS team members Chris Barrett, Robert Vendemmia, Artemis Vendemmia, and Steve Meyer conducted the tests. This is a new testing location for our SOS team and chosen to test a creek we were curious of the water quality since Bush Creek is downstream from the Frederick Landfill. Our Chapter SOS Testing Team received the following data:

Dissolved O<sub>2</sub> = 11 mg/L  
Ph = 7  
Chloride: 52 mg/L  
Phosphate = 0.2 mg/L  
Nitrate = 2 mg/L  
Water temp = 21 C

The team wasn't expecting good readings, yet all measurements were in the good to excellent range except Chloride which was only considered fair. The team is considering finding a test location along Bush Creek that is closer to the Frederick Landfill to see if measurement readings change.

Our Frederick #1 Chapter Save Our Streams program now has two separate teams monitoring streams monthly on Saturdays and Mondays. If interested in participating, contact Stephen Meyer at [stephen.meyer7@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.meyer7@gmail.com). Conservation credit is given for working on either team.

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 September 28, Ballenger Creek includes macroinvertebrates
- 10AM Monday October 28, Bush Creek at [Gambrills Mill section of Monocacy Battlefield](#). Meet in parking lot.
- 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.

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. Our next meeting is Monday September 9, 2024, at 6pm.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

### Activities Survey Results



Thank you for taking the time to complete the online Member Activities Survey. As you will recall, the intent of the survey was to gather information on the activities that are of interest to our membership so that the Social Committee can focus our efforts on the events that are of greatest importance to you. We had 36% of our members respond, which is a pretty good sampling. We reviewed the results of the survey at our August 13<sup>th</sup>

Membership Meeting.

The survey was separated into three sections: Education, Firearms & Archery and Outings & Gatherings. There was a total of eighteen activities that were scored within the three sections. Respondents scored those activities from 1-5, with 5 being of greatest interest. Interestingly, all eighteen activities received at least one 4 and one 5 from at least one member. From the data, we used a weighted average to determine those activities that were of the greatest interest to our membership, allowing us to focus our energy on the activities that are of the greatest interest to a large cross section of membership.

Within the Education Section, Personal Protection was ranked as the activity with the greatest interest. In fact, it scored higher than any activity in any category. While Personal Protection could be viewed as a very broad category, we do currently offer several courses that would fall within this space. Those classes include Basic Pistol, Personal Protection In The Home, Personal Protection Outside The Home, Defensive Pistol, and Refuse To Be A Victim. There are three NRA Master Training Counselors in the United States. We are fortunate to have one of them (Ben) as a member of our chapter. All the classes come with a cost to the participant. In the coming weeks the Social Committee will work with Ben to see if we can bundle these classes together at a reduced rate. Our thought is that we could offer a bundled price to the general public and offer a further reduced bundled price to our membership. Stay tuned!

CPR Training ranked a close second to Personal Protection. As you may know, Ron Colbert purchased an AED device and donated to our chapter. Mike Morgan is working to secure a trainer for CPR training. The Social Committee will work with Mike in the coming weeks on a training program that we can offer to the membership as well as those outside our club.

Within the Firearms & Archery sections, rifle, pistol, and shotgun events were scored very closely. The committee will work with Ben in the coming months to host events within these categories.

There was interest in several activities within the Outings & Gatherings section. Among those of greatest interest were Fishing, Bonfires on the club property and Canoeing/Kayaking trips. We will need a few volunteers from the membership to coordinate these activities. Please reach out to me if you are interested in doing so. Finally, I would like to offer a special thank you to Michael O'Brien for the work he put into developing and administering the survey!

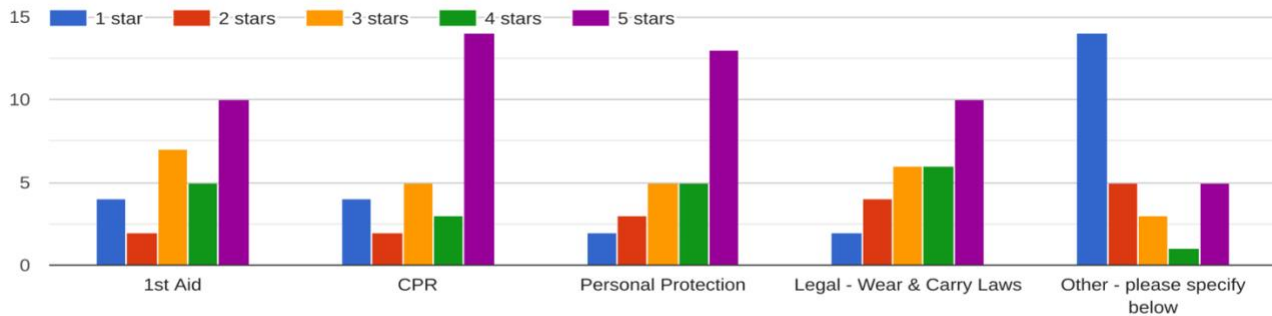
Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with thoughts, concerns, or ideas. I can be reached via email at [davidw.carlson@comcast.net](mailto:davidw.carlson@comcast.net) or via my cell at 301-252-7213.

Dave Carlson



## Education

Please score EACH of the below ideas from 5 (highest) to 1 (lowest) according to your interest to participate in that activity.

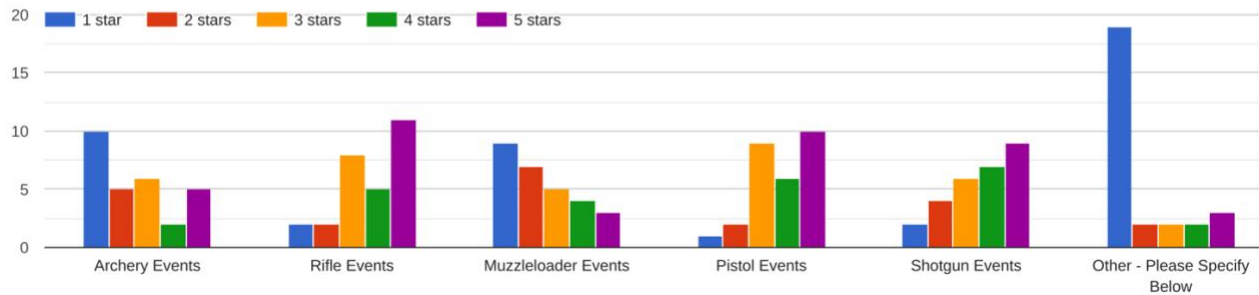






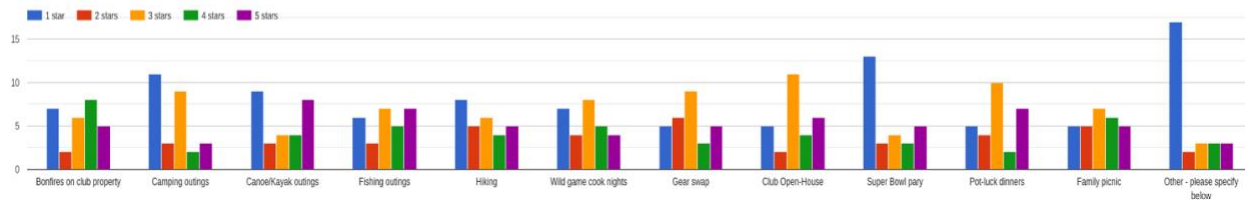
## Firearms & Archery

Please score EACH of the below ideas from 5 (highest) to 1 (lowest) according to your interest to participate in that activity.



## Outings & Gatherings

Please score EACH of the below ideas from 5 (highest) to 1 (lowest) according to your interest to participate in that activity.



## CHAPTER EDUCATION PROGRAMMING

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 September and October:

Date	Start Time	End Time	Course	Cost
Sunday, September 8, 2024	12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Youth Program	
Saturday, September 14, 2024	7:30 AM	Finish	RSO	\$175.00
Sunday, September 22, 2024	12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Youth Program	
Thursday, September 26, 2024	7:45 AM	Finish	Hunter Safety Classroom	\$0.00
Friday, September 27, 2024	6:30 PM	10:00 PM	Hunter Safety Classroom	\$0.00
Saturday, September 28, 2024	6:30 PM	10:00 PM	Hunter Safety Classroom	\$0.00
Saturday, October 19, 2024	12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Youth Program	
Saturday, October 19, 2024	7:30:00 AM	Finish	Internet Field Day	
Sunday, October 27, 2024	12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Youth Program	

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

Let us know what you are doing. Send any submissions to [newsletter@frederickiwla.org](mailto:newsletter@frederickiwla.org)

### Frederick #1 Chapter Youth Group Begins New Season 2024-25



The IWLA Frederick #1 Chapter Youth Group started a new season with practice on August 25, 2024, dusting the cobwebs off with 22LR rifle shooting. Team members will practice outdoor 3D archery in September, muzzleloader in October, and rifle in November. Interested youth members and their guardians are encouraged to contact Head Coach Ben Kelkye. Practices are held on the second and fourth Sundays starting at 12:30pm.











### **Inspiration For the Day**

Grow where you are planted.



*Weeds growing from the large stone in front of the Clubhouse in the parking lot island.*



## Sacrifices Made

Invasive plant species Japanese Barberry fought bitterly against its removal during the Chapter's August 24th and 31<sup>st</sup> forest service project with [Boy Scout Troop 796](#).



*Frederick Ike Preston Wood's right arm much better the day after the August 31<sup>st</sup> invasive plant species removal project along the Chapter Conservation Trail east side.*

## Range Facilities



*Shooting Pavilion and Pistol Range at the Frederick #1 Chapter August 2024*

## CLASSIFIEDS / WANT ADS / NEEDS AT THE CHAPTER

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

### 2024 IWLA National Convention



Let us know your about your experience at the 2024 IWLA National Convention held at [Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Golf Resort, Spa and Marina](#) - Cambridge, MD July 15 – 16.

### Newsletter Requesting Photos and Chapter News



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

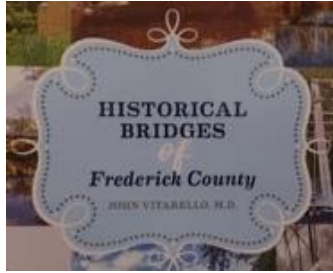
### Nature Outings



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@frederickiwla.org](mailto:newsletter@frederickiwla.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.