

President's Message

I hope you had a great summer and spent some time outside at your Rockville IWLAs. While school is starting, that does not mean that you still cannot get out and utilize the grounds, lake and ranges at Rockville IWLAs. The days are still long and warm so get out and enjoy.

We have a big event coming up on September 27. That is the day of our annual Hunting and Fishing Day Open House when we have several hundred friends and potential members tour our facilities and try some activities. Almost every month during new member orientation, someone will say they came to the Open House and that experience is now why they are applying for membership. It is BIG DEAL folks! We need your support!

The Open House is coordinated by Catie Wright at iwlarhopenhouse@gmail.com (thanks Catie!) and she recently sent a request for volunteers.

President's Message (continued)

Volunteers are needed for several tasks associated with hosting the sized crowd, for example setup and breakdown, picking up breakfast, ice, and lunch, assisting with lunch prep for our volunteers, helping with the kids' fishing team at the lake, a parking team to direct traffic flow, and at the registration table. This is a great time to earn your volunteer hours Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050545AFA62DA6F94-51885259-iwlar#/> (On the day of the event, you can show up early and stay later than your chosen time slot, however please only pick 1 time slot on this form.)

Student volunteers can earn SSL hours. What a great opportunity for you and your students to earn both volunteer and SSL hours together.

Speaking of volunteer hours, as announced, the fee for not completing your volunteer service hours to the Chapter will be increasing in 2026. IWLAR is a volunteer-based organization, if we all put in a little time (six hours) the work of maintaining the Chapter is distributed to all the members. Whatever your level of activity we can find a productive way to use your talent, and you can earn your six hours of volunteer time.

Hunting and Fishing Day is a great chance to get those hours. But it is not the only way. There are many opportunities to earn your six hours. There are always invasives to work on and road clean ups every other month. In addition, we need members to assist Boy Scouts with eagle projects. We have several scouts requesting an opportunity to complete their eagle projects at our facility, and we are struggling to find members to guide their efforts. This is not a heavy physical lift, but it is an important opportunity for the scouts to demonstrate their initiative and complete a project.

Our September General Membership Meeting will be on the first Friday, September 5. This is a special meeting as we honor those in the Chapter that have won National Awards. Please join us in person or via Zoom.

Get out and enjoy IWLAR!

Tight Lines
Noel Gollehon

**Izaak Walton League of America
Rockville Chapter 2025 Open House**




Free and
open to the
public

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 • 1:00–5:00 P.M.
18301 Waring Station Rd, Germantown, MD 20874**







Join us for a day of outdoor fun!


Try out
 Air rifles
 Archery
 Muzzleloaders
 Canoeing
 Fishing
 Kayaking

Learn about
 American Chestnuts
 Beekeeping
 Save Our Streams
 Wood ducks

Explore
 Nature trails
 Pollinator gardens


and so much more!



 Local exhibitors will also be on hand to
showcase their conservation efforts

Visit www.IWLAR.org or facebook.com/IWLARockville for more info.

Note: Because the September GMM features awards, there will be no guest speaker.

IWLA-R Presentation at Conservation Series

On July 31, 2025, our Chapter's Phillip Mariscal delivered a presentation to The Potomac Hunt as part of the Hunt's annual conservation series. The presentation focused on the Chapter's Save Our Streams program. Other presenters included representatives from the Montgomery Soil Conservation District and the Seneca Creek Watershed Partners.

Phillip spoke to an audience of approximately 20 Potomac Hunt landowners and members, highlighting the history of the Izaak Walton League, the Rockville Chapter, and the Save Our Streams initiative. The presentation also addressed local water quality issues, particularly in areas surrounding Great Seneca Creek and the Potomac Hunt's clubhouse in Dickerson, Maryland.

The farmers and landowners expressed interest in exploring ways to reduce their environmental impact on local waters. The group discussed options like planting cover crops, low-till agriculture, livestock fences, and nutrient management plans.

Founded in 1931, The Potomac Hunt organizes fox chases on private lands throughout upper Montgomery County. In addition to biweekly fox chases, the Hunt hosts a variety of events, including horse shows and races, trail rides, riding schools, hound walks, and birdwatching outings. Conservation lies at the core of the Hunt's mission, and it educates members on topics such as native plants, field care, and water quality.

The Potomac Hunt is actively seeking opportunities to collaborate with Izaak Walton League chapters on future conservation initiatives. If you have ideas for potential partnerships, please contact Phillip.

MoCo Fair Recap

Thank you to all the help and Volunteers that made the Montgomery County Agriculture Fair a success. On August 14th the Fair presented our tent with The Community Service Award.



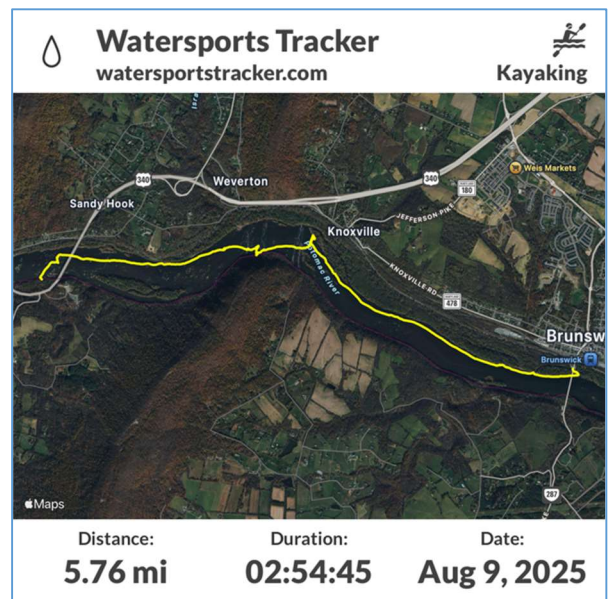
Corey and Nate Clemmons manning the IWLA Booth

Thank you for the support from the IWLA National, State, and Montgomery Chapters for the information provided and all the Volunteers for this recognition. Good Job!

~Bill Leaman~

Record Turnout for Watersports

Fifteen Ikes and others (including past Chapter President Ryck Lydecker) took part in the August 9 kayaking trip on the Potomac from Harpers' Ferry to Brunswick. That's the highest number we have had this year.



The paddlers enjoyed superb weather and a few rapids. This section of the Potomac is a little more demanding than the two earlier watersports events this year.

Fifteen people is on the upper end of what we can handle logistically, but we're happy for the enthusiasm just the same.

Recently Awarded Scholarship Winners



Left to right at the August GMM

Brendan Lewis, Susquehanna University, Ecology
Liliana Katz-Hollander, Smith College, Environmental Science and Policy with double major in Government
Stella Ward, Towson, Environmental Science
Andrew Wells, UMCP, Engineering/Science and Global Change
Nathaniel Chen, UMCP, Aerospace Engineering - Environment applications of drones

Not Pictured - Kurt Wilson, University of Toronto, Masters of Sustainability

Giving SOS Another Go

Save our Streams (SOS) has had a tough start this year with the first two events rained out. However, we're ready to bounce back with one great event before National Hunting and Fishing Day - and we'd love for you to join us! The event will be held on September 21 from 1 to 4pm.

SOS teaches kids how aquatic insects, which we also call macroinvertebrates, inform on stream health. Did you know some of these water bugs we collect live underwater for years and then for only a day or two on land? Do you want to hold some of the most popular trout flies like caddisflies, mayflies, and stoneflies and learn about whether they indicate clean or polluted water? Are you brave enough to let a hellgrammite (yes they tickle . . . and maybe pinch) crawl on your arm?

Please join us as we collect macroinvertebrates from the Great Seneca Creek near the Izaak Walton League (Rockville Chapter) lake. We will use portable magnifiers to identify and count these water bugs, which will teach us about water quality in Great Seneca Creek.

This event is geared toward ages 10+. Youth must be accompanied by a parent (no drop-offs).

Please dress according to the weather and to get your feet wet. You must wear shoes (preferably water shoes) to enter the water. Anyone wearing open-toed shoes may not enter the creek.

SOS (continued)

The event is limited to 40 guests, and registration is required, and you may register at this Registration Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FACA822A4FEC43-58011140-save>.

This event is FREE and open to the public, IWLA members, and their guests. Students wanting to earn SSL hours should bring SSL forms. Please share this sign up with anyone who might find interest in this event. We also would appreciate it if someone would photograph the event.

Meet at the Izaak Walton League Lake located at 12057 Clopper Road, Germantown, MD 20874. The lake entrance is on Clopper Road between Waring Station Road and the entrance to Seneca State Park.

Questions? Contact Phillip Mariscal.

New Members Recently Inducted

Sandy Bostian	Montgomery Village
Parker Dabbs	Gaithersburg
Anthony Flood	Silver Spring
Nilu Kundagrami	Bethesda
Donna Poole	Derwood
Nanc Smith	Montgomery Village

A warm welcome to all!