



IWLA Rockville Chapter
P.O. Box 2255
Germantown, MD 20875-2255

Hazardous Tree Safety Policy

General Information

The Rockville Chapter Izaak Walton League of America, Inc is a non-profit organization operating as a local subdivision of the national organization known as the “Izaak Walton League of America, Incorporated.” The Rockville Chapter is established to support the ideals of the League to conserve, maintain, protect and/or restore the soil, air, woods, waters and wildlife of our country; to promote means and opportunities for the education of the public with respect to the resources and the enjoyment as well as the wholesome utilization thereof.

Purpose

Our Chapter owns approximately 53 acres which include almost 41 acres of forest in a forest stewardship plan with the state of Maryland. Many of the trees are 100 years old or older. Fallen/hazardous trees and large limbs are a significant safety issue, and it is paramount that they are dealt with in a safe and expedient manner if they create an emergency or unsafe condition or impact Chapter facilities, trails, or activities. The purpose of this policy is to define the process of dealing with a fallen/hazardous tree. This policy is intended to cover only trees that are already down or damaged trees creating an immediate falling hazard.

Procedure

When a **fallen/hazardous tree or large tree limb** that impacts Chapter facilities, trails, or activities is identified:

- Any member present should perform an immediate safety assessment.
- **CALL 911** if the tree has caused injury, poses an immediate danger to people, is in contact with power lines, or is blocking Waring Station or Clopper Roads.
 - Chapter house area address: 18301 Waring Station Rd.
 - Lake area address: 12057 Clopper Rd.
- Evacuate any buildings that may have been damaged. Stay at least 30 feet away from any power lines.
- Secure the area to prevent or alert anyone from the danger in the surrounding area.



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- Document the fallen/hazardous tree and any damage with photos. This can be used to aid in assessing the situation and provide information for any insurance claims.
- Report the location of the tree to Chapter Leadership (Chapter President, 1st Vice-President, Treasurer, and/or Grounds Chair).
- An assessment will be made to determine if the tree or limb can be removed safely by the Chapter, or if it is too significant or unsafe and a professional contractor should be contacted.
- An additional assessment as to the immediacy of the tree removal will be made.
- If a professional contractor is determined to be required, the Chapter President, 1st Vice President, Treasurer, or Grounds Chair can authorize the contractor removal.

Noel Gollehon

Noel Gollehon, President
As Approved by the Board of Directors on March 20, 2026