



Winchester IWLA Newsletter

Woods, water, wildlife - our heritage, our responsibility.



www.winchester-iwla.org

November 2021

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

Your Chapter is currently collecting non-perishable food items through November 13th. Read more in [Other News](#).

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Read more in [Other News](#), or simply contact Brian Callahan at 540-664-1578 and ask what you can do to help.

CHAPTER WORK DAY

Speaking of a need for volunteers, your Chapter's Work Day is scheduled for Saturday, November 6. Read more in [Other News](#).

MULEY FANATICS DONATION

Chapter President Dan Arico accepted a \$2,000 donation from our friends at Muley Foundation. Read more in [Other News](#). Consider supporting this worthwhile organization. www.muleyfanatic.org.



SPECIAL THANKS TO SEVERIN RIESGRAF



Severin Riesgraf, a scout with Troop 34 (Berryville, VA), completed a conservation service project in the campground on his own. He cleared invasive autumn olive shrubs and planted 50 black walnut trees. His work is GREATLY appreciated! This project satisfied his service requirements, earning him the rank of Life Scout. Thank you, Severin! And congratulations!

INVASIVE SPECIES

From bugs to boars, there are several invasive species that wreak havoc on our native species. Read more in [Other News](#), and what you can do to help.





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FROM THE EDITOR



I hope everyone had a safe Halloween... or commemoration of the 504th anniversary of Martin Luther's mailing his famous *Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences* to Albert of Brandenburg, Archbishop of Mainz. (He likely nailed them to various church doors in Wittenburg, as was the custom of the university.) Whatever you did – passing out or collecting candy, or running around nailing disputes to church doors – I hope you had a good time.

It is getting cooler, but the trails are resplendent in fall colors, the fish are still biting in Lake Neff, the clay birds are still soaring all around the five stand, and paper targets stand bold as you please down range – so get out to your Chapter and enjoy all the blessings we have been gifted.

POINTS OF CONTACT

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BOARD REPORTS

Your Board met on October 7th. Minutes can be found at <https://www.winchester-iwla.org/Board-Meeting-Minutes>.

The Board recognized the countless volunteer hours put in by Brian Callahan by dedicating the Campground Trail to him. Brian has the privilege of naming the trail. (psst...Brian, not for nothing, but *Editor's Trail* has a nice ring to it.) Congratulations, Brian! And thank you for all you do for our Chapter.

LAKE AND CONSERVATION REPORT

Water Quality

I have been saying in the past two newsletters my intention to limit water testing to quarterly samples. Look for an updated water quality report in January. Samples will be taken and tested in January, April, July, and October of each year.

RANGE REPORT

Range Accessibility

One item that hasn't been touted about our new 5 stand shooting platform is we built it with the ability to allow handicapped shooters to enjoy our facility. We built a great ramp and a gravel path for wheelchairs and built one of our shooting stations with a fold down railing so the shooter can shoot while sitting, either in their wheelchair or a regular chair if preferred. We did this so we could not only handle our member shooters but nonmember groups such as Wounded Warriors or Tunnels to Towers. Just imagine how much enjoyment the club could give to such groups. We offer fishing, rifle and pistol shooting along with our Shotgun Range. I've personally had the honor to work with some of these groups and encourage any interested members to take the lead in initiating a day of recognition for some of these great groups.



Handicap Use at the Five-Stand

Thanks to all members for their support, we look forward to seeing you at the Dr. Green Memorial Shotgun Range.

Rick Hill, Shotgun Range Master

Editor's note: The photo was sent to your Editor back in early July, but I forgot about it until Rick Hill, your Shotgun Range Master, reminded me. The photo was taken Wednesday, June 30, 2021, by Vernon Guidry. In the picture, Member Steve Lander, second from right, assists his guest Jim Schleyer on the five-stand. Mr. Schleyer is able to stand but uses a wheeled chair for mobility, making the handicap access to the five-stand a necessity. At left, Shotgun Range Master Rick Hill offers pointers. Above center, another guest, Gary Feth, works the clays.

2022 Range Quals

Due to unforeseen circumstances, range quals have not been scheduled for 2022. Members with valid 2021 range qual stickers will be able to shoot at the ranges in 2022. Members with no range qualification are still not permitted to use the ranges.

Range quals will resume for the 2023 year, so look for announcements and sign-up dates in late 2022.

Guest Shooters

Members are reminded that they are free to bring guests to the range but can only supervise one shooter at a time. If you have two guests, only one can shoot at a time. Do not forget to sign them in and pay the guest fee(s).



Dr Green Memorial Shotgun Range Hours

There has been a little confusion regarding the hours for the shotgun range.

Day	Time
Wednesday	1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Sunday	12 p.m. – 3 p.m.

We still need volunteers to work as RSOs at the five stand. It cannot open without a trained RSO. Please contact Rick Hill (rhil1105@aol.com) if you are interested. If you are a current RSO, you will need training on operating the wobble trap.

OTHER NEWS

Holiday Food Drive

The WIWL Holiday Food Drive to support area food banks started at the October membership meeting and will run through November 13. There is a box in the chapterhouse for non-perishable donations. The boy scouts will be assisting with managing the food drive.

Muley Fanatic Donation



At the October Membership meeting, WIWL member Dave Kavanah, representing the only chapter of the Muley Fanatics Foundation east of the Mississippi River, spoke about the Foundation's mission to ensure the conservation of mule deer and their habitat. He announced that the chapter's fundraising efforts included a \$2,000.00 contribution to the Winchester Chapter of IWLA. Dave invited members who are interested in the Foundation's mission to contact him or visit the Foundation's website at www.muleyfanatic.org.

Chapter Work Day

Save the date! Chapter Work Day is scheduled for November 6. We have a list started including aeration, dam maintenance, wood, autumn olive cleanup, lake cleanup and tree trimming. We especially need pole saws on this work day. More details to follow.

Major Maintenance at Chapter House

Major maintenance at the Chapterhouse parking lot. Rappahanock Electric has determined the large pine trees are endangering the power lines. The trees are dying and will be removed over the next two weeks. Expect work crews in the parking lot as they remove the trees, chip the branches and cut up the wood. The wood will be split and used in the campground. The wood chips will be used on chapter trails and for eagle scout projects (like the boat storage rack).

Clarion Call for Volunteers

Have some free time in the afternoons or weekends and want to volunteer some hours? We have many projects being worked this fall and have small crews working in the afternoons during the week. Please contact Brian 540-664-1578 if you would like to volunteer. The weather has been fantastic for fall forestry work!

Invasive Species!

This may be old news to some, but I wasn't aware of some of these species. Feral hogs? I had no idea. It also didn't occur to me that hunting may have the opposite effect on population control as it will cause the pigs to hide better. And



the nutria? I didn't know it was a problem. You can read about these two, and the snakehead fish and zebra mussel, and how you can help control them and help preserve our native species, at the Department of Natural Resource's website: <https://dwr.virginia.gov/wildlife/invasive-species/>.





The other guy to watch out for is the lantern bug. These bugs are incredibly quick and nimble. Squashing them requires a ridiculously quick stomp. A trick I learned is to put my foot directly over the bug and come straight down,



rather than at an angle. For some reason these apparently cannot see straight up and don't notice the foot coming.

They are much easier to stomp before they get wings. In early spring, they are black with white polka-dots. By mid-summer, they are red with white polka-dots. By August they are adults with quick reflexes and wings.

The photos and information came from an article I found out of the University of Delaware from last year - <https://www.udel.edu/udaily/2020/august/spotted-lanternfly-invasive-pest/>.

I'll repeat this in the February newsletter (unless I forget) so we can all be ready for these beasties next spring.

Winchester Aquarium and Pet Center

The fine folk at the Winchester Pet and Aquarium Center are responsible for testing the water sampled from Lake Neff. They provide this service freely, willingly, and cheerfully.

A.P.C.
WINCHESTER

“Your Pet Professionals”

190 Costello Drive Winchester, VA 22602 Phone: 540-667-8198 wapcinfo@comcast.net	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Mon—Fri</td> <td>10am to 8pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturday</td> <td>10am to 7pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunday</td> <td>11am to 5pm</td> </tr> </table>	Mon—Fri	10am to 8pm	Saturday	10am to 7pm	Sunday	11am to 5pm
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www.petcenteronline.com

If you have a pet, or are interested in one, please consider doing your business with them. They give to your Chapter; we should give back at least a little. They are located at 190 Costello Drive, just down from Costco.

Chapter Facebook Page

I know this same message has been in previous newsletters, but it bears repeating. There are two Facebook pages for your Chapter. The original was set up, but the password for that page has been lost and so that page can no longer be maintained.

A second Facebook page was created recently and can be found [here](#). It is updated regularly and is your best source to know the latest goings-on with your Chapter.



Sometimes the Chapter will be closed or events cancelled due to weather or other reasons. Be sure to check the Facebook page to check for closures or cancellations.

Amazon Smile

This is another nugget worth repeating. Would you like an easy way to give back to your Chapter? By selecting Winchester IWLA as your charitable organization at smile.amazon.com, a portion of eligible purchases will be donated back. You can read more about this program [here](#).

To select your Chapter, follow these simple steps:

1. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com>.
2. Choose “Winchester Izaak Walton” as your charity. It can be found [here](#).
3. Be sure that when you shop you are at **smile.amazon.com**. Having the ‘smile’ at the beginning of the URL makes the difference.

