



ACORN

Jaques Chapter Izaak Walton League of America
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Business Meeting Set for January 8

A chapter business meeting is scheduled for January 8 at 7 p.m. in the Wildwood Library meeting room. Refreshments will be available at 6:45. A number of important local, state and national concerns will be addressed. The IWLA is a grass roots organization and its resolutions process starts right here at the chapter level. Come to the meeting prepared to introduce material for a resolution. The resolutions process will be open until the March meeting.

Other matters on the agenda will be our scholarship program, national dues collection process and marsh concerns. (See Resolutions information material on page 2.) Be sure to attend because your input is needed.

Wetland Banking Discussed at November Meeting

Changes are taking place at the Marsh following a plan set up in 2006 to use part of our almost 100 acre preserve as a wetland mitigation site under Minnesota Wetland Bank regulations. At our November meeting Don Girolamo, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Wetland Bank Coordinator, gave us a history of the regulations and the many amendments that have been made to coordinate wetland replacement in the state.

The Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act was enacted in 1991 and amended in 1993 to establish a state wetland bank to work for wetlands restoration. In 1996 another amendment required BWSR to replace public road impacts. In 1999 the US Corps of Engineers was involved with review and approval of Wetland Bank Plans. The DNR is also involved. The Department of Transportation has a cooperative agreement that shares resources and improves the process of replacing wetland impacts associated with road projects. Many governmental groups are involved in the process.

The Wetland Bank works on a credit system. Our marsh will earn credits against wetland loss in other areas.

Important League Resolutions Guidelines

The Izaak Walton League has long been a grass roots organization, and, proudly so. One of our more important annual actions revolves around our resolution process. We do our resolutions each year at our state convention. It is time for you and your chapter members to discuss issues important to you, and, issues that are part of the League's mission, that may require authoring an appropriate resolution for consideration at our 2009 State Convention.

Here are some things to keep in mind.

1. All resolutions should be about subjects that are of State, Regional, or National Significance.
2. All resolutions should be consistent with Izaak Walton League Purpose.
3. All resolutions shall endeavor to make every effort to be accurate, their intended purpose clear, and shall include (may be done separately), who will do what.
4. Our By Laws require resolutions thirty days in advance of our Annual Meeting.
5. The resolution proposed needs to be sponsored by a Chapter, or State Division standing committee.
6. It is always a good idea to check to be sure the resolution is really new, or if a re-statement of an existing resolution is appropriate.
7. Provide data to support your claims.
8. Be sure to have someone at the annual meeting to advocate for your resolution, and, or answer questions.



The Izaak Walton Policy Manual at the National level, and the list of State resolutions, comprise our policies. We encourage your resolutions, we offer our assistance and look forward to a very productive exchange of ideas.

No conservation/environmental organization has done more to shape the conservation policies of Minnesota than the IWLA. Let us keep up the good works and cause our legislature, our agencies to continue to keep Minnesota in a leadership role in natural resources conservation.

Sincerely, Bill Henke and Dave Zentner

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Solutions to Global Climate Crisis Speakers Series

January 21, 2009 - What's Going on with the Honey Bees? Dr. Marla Spivak, Department of Entomology, University of Minnesota

The decline of honey bees has received much public interest in the last two years, as an event called Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) continues to sweep through the U. S. leading to high losses of honey bee colonies. Last winter, an estimated 35% of U. S. bee colonies died, some from natural causes and others from symptoms specific to CCD. We will explore the possible causes of this drastic collapse of bee colonies. What can the public do? Support beekeepers, encourage the planting of flowers along roadsides and crop borders and be careful with use of insecticides!

February 18 - From Sewage to Algae to Oil - Dr. Robert Polta, R and D Manager, Metropolitan Council Environmental Services.

Can we use algae to convert municipal sewage into oil for fuel? We will learn why the Met Council is interested in using algae to treat sewage, what research is being done at the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant using algae to assist in creating biodiesel and what the potential may be for additional energy products.

Meetings will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church, Maple and Hallam in Mahtomedi.

Declining Bee Populations

Does it Matter to Me?

Honey bees pollinate about one-third of the food we eat. Bees pollinate blueberries, almonds, strawberries, raspberries, pears, and apples. Without bees, we wouldn't have the fruits, vegetables and nuts we enjoy. Bees are critical to our food supply.



Britain, Scotland, and much of Europe have had large declines in bee populations. The decline in bee numbers is a worldwide problem, and affects the US. The fruit growing areas of California and Florida have been especially hard hit. Bees are not native to America, but they did first cross the Atlantic in the 17th century with the Jamestown pilgrims. People keep bees in America primarily for pollinating crops. Commercial beekeepers truck their bees all over the U.S. to germinate different crops every year.

When bee colonies collapse it is known as Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). So what is CCD? A beekeeper in Pennsylvania first reported CCD in

2006. The symptoms include fewer or no adult bees, but the hive has plenty of larvae and honey. Surviving bees do not want to touch the food. There have been many large die-outs of bee colonies. More than 30 states report heavy losses. Some estimate that one-third of all honey bees have died since 2006. It has been suggested that four main areas are factors in CCD. Stress on the bees from migration and other factors weaken the bees' immune systems. Parasitic mites can weaken and kill bees. Pesticides on crops and in people' yards harms bees. Finally, these factors all lead to pathogens, like bacteria, fungi and viruses, killing off bees that would otherwise be able to fight off these diseases.

People can promote a more bee-friendly environment by planting flowers, and not picking dandelions on the lawn. The use of pesticides on apple trees and other foods can hurt bees as well. Those who want to do more can support the Pollinator Protection Act and various bee researchers. This article compiled from various sources on the internet –

By John Rust, President Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter

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Meeting Notice
Chapter Business Meeting
Jan. 8, 2009
Wildwood Library, Mahtomedi

Dated Material

EATING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Growing, Buying, Cooking, Preserving our Harvests

Mahtomedi Area Green Initiative (MAGI) and Mahtomedi Community Education

What does eating "local" mean?

- Buying/eating fresh foods grown or produced nearby and IN SEASON

100-mile Diet...local eating for global change (become a locavore or "localvore"*)

How can you do this?

- Home gardens
- Community gardens
- School gardens (teaching the next generation; www.mahtomedikidsgarden.blogspot.com)
- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares
- Local farm-gate stands and orchards (Axdahl's, Costas, Aamodt's, Pine Tree)
- Local farm stands or truck farmers (buy those)
- Farmer's markets (WBL, St. Paul market that allows only regionally grown food)
- Natural food co-op groceries
- Neighborhood grocery stores that buy from local farmers (Festival, Brine's, Kowalski's, Cub)
- Supporting restaurants/chefs who buy and serve local foods

***Local food or the local food movement is a "collaborative effort to build more locally based, self-reliant food economies - one in which sustainable food production, processing, distribution, and consumption is integrated to enhance the economic, environmental and social health of a particular place" and is considered to be a part of the broader sustainability movement. It is part of the concept of local purchasing and local economies, a preference to buy locally produced goods and services.**