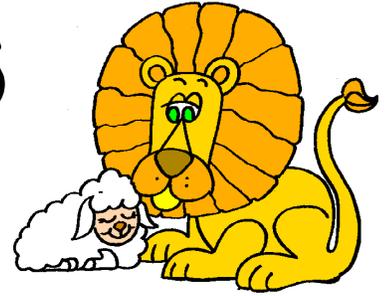




TIMBERLINES



W. J. Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League
March 2021

www.breckenridgeikes.org

It's Time to "Get the Lead Out" Here Are a Half Million Reasons Why!

*A letter from Carrol Henderson, Former director of the Nongame Wildlife Program
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources*

Hello!

I am finding plenty to keep me busy in retirement-probably no surprise to most of you.

My most recent project was to summarize ten years of the results from the Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture's venison testing program. They test all deer donated to food shelves after it is processed into venison packages and X-ray it for presence of lead. These deer were taken by all means-bowhunting, rifles, shotguns, and muzzleloaders and both lead and nontoxic ammo and the data is merged for all those sources. All packages containing lead fragments were destroyed. The average percentage of packages containing lead for the past ten years was 7.1%. I extrapolated that percentage to the amount of venison taken home by deer hunters last fall and came up with a total of over a half million pounds of lead-contaminated venison that deer hunters brought home last fall to feed their family and friends!



Comparison of discharged lead (left) and non-lead (right) bullets

(Continued on p2)

(Continued from p1)

I believe that this is an issue that extends beyond deer hunters. The spouses, children, grandchildren, and friends of deer hunters who consume venison taken by lead ammo typically have no idea that the venison contains lead. Most deer hunters are men. When was the last time a male deer hunter asked his spouse or children what kind of ammo he should buy for deer hunting--lead, or nontoxic?!! This is a public health issue that needs legislative action. Legislators need to know that hunters can switch nontoxic ammo like copper ammunition for deer hunting with no loss of hunting opportunities or quality of the hunting experience.

One reason that this has been such a contentious issue is that many hunters believe misinformation coming from the NRA that switching to nontoxic ammo is part of a plot by antihunters “to take away their guns and the second amendment.” That is pure baloney.

Switching to nontoxic ammo is a way for hunters to show that they are conservationists in the truest sense and are not polluters putting lead into both our raptors and our families. I have worked on various lead poisoning issues in Canada geese, bald eagles, and trumpeter swans since 1977. Now it has become quite apparent that this toxic lead food chain has worked its way back to Minnesota's citizens in venison.

Please take a look at the Dept. of Agriculture statistics from their venison testing program and my accompanying article that relates those statistics to the deer being consumed by Minnesota citizens--most of whom have no clue they are eating lead if the deer were taken with lead bullets.

Educational efforts by themselves are not reaching Minnesota's 500,000 deer hunters. Enlightened legislation is necessary to move this forward. We need a much broader citizenry to move this issue forward to a healthy conclusion: legislators, League of Women Voter members, Garden club members, birders, nature photographers, anglers, public health officials, state park enthusiasts, hunters who advocate wild game as a healthy source of locavore food, and many more...

If lead is bad for citizens in Flint, Michigan, it is bad for citizens in Minnesota. Please share as you wish.

Sincerely, Carrol Henderson

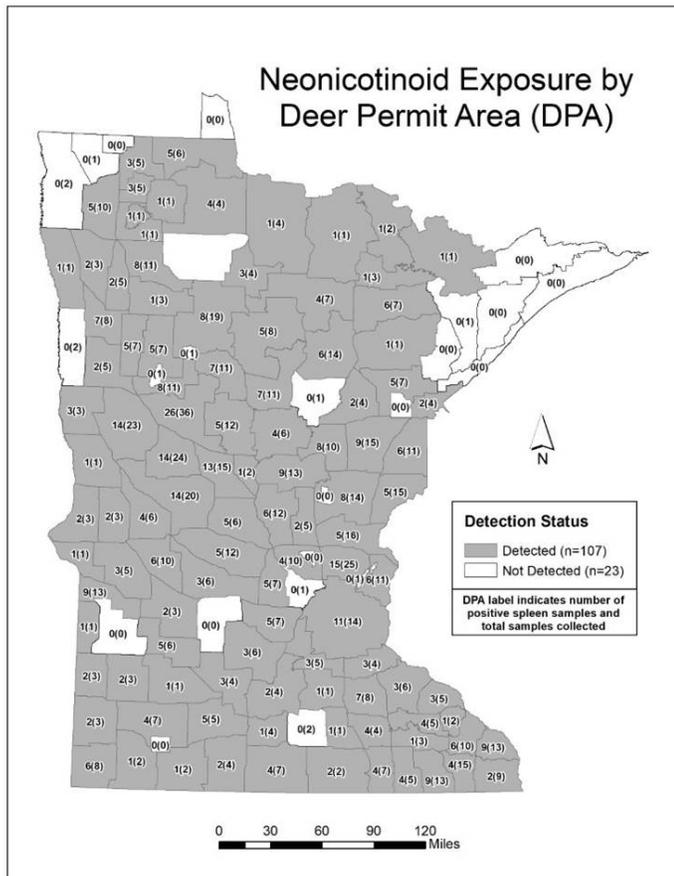
Bill to Prohibit Neonicotinoid Insecticide on State Lands



Neonicotinoids (neonics) are the most widely used class of insecticides worldwide and are in more than 500 commercial and domestic products in the US. They are used in agricultural applications (seed coating, leaf spray, soil injection).

Unlike traditional pesticides, “neonics” are systemic — meaning they are distributed throughout the plant and make the entire plant toxic to insects. Bees and other pollinators are exposed to these toxic chemicals through pollen, nectar, dust, dew droplets on plant leaves, and in the soil where many native bee species nest. These neonics came into heavy use in the mid-2000s at the same time beekeepers were observing widespread cases of colony losses.

Recently the MN DNR published the results of a study to see how many of Minnesota's deer were contaminated by neonics. The preliminary results showed that 61% of spleen samples tested positive for the presence of neonics indicating exposure at some level. Neonics were present in deer spleens provided from across the state, see Figure 1.



Representative Rick Hansen who Chairs the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy Committee has been holding hearings on **H.F. 1210, a bill to prohibit the use of neonicotinoid insecticides and chlorpyrifos on state lands** (WMAs, state parks, SNAs, state forests, and state aquatic management areas). The bill has been laid over for inclusion in an omnibus bill.

Tom Casey of Friends of Minnesota SNAs cites “as an example of neonicotinoid insecticides, “... the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has determined that the neonicotinoid insecticides clothianidin and imidacloprid are ‘surface water pesticides of concern’ in accordance with the state Pesticide Management Plan (PMP).” [Minn. State Register, December 7, 2020, page 557.]”

Public education efforts to discourage the use of neonicotinoid insecticides have failed to result in meaningful change. Although educational efforts to increase public awareness remain important, legislation, such as H.F. 1210, is required to adequately address neonicotinoid insecticide pollution.

Please contact your legislators to tell them you support this bill and to work further to restrict neonicotinoid and chlorpyrifos insecticides across the State.

Reported by Tim Johnson

The highest levels observed in the preliminary results of deer spleens was around **6.1 ng/g**. Further study will be required to determine if exposure levels found have any potential adverse impacts to deer health. DNR plans to continue to investigate this issue with more deer spleen collections this coming fall. A study conducted on captive deer in South Dakota showed that fawn survival decreased with neonic concentrations greater than **0.33 ng/g**.

New Minnesota Division Website

Please visit the new Minnesota Division website at the link below:

<https://sites.google.com/view/minnesotaikes/>

The Minnesota Division is very fortunate to have Jon Anderson of the McCabe Chapter (Duluth) put in many volunteer hours over the course of several months creating our new website.

Thank you for your great work Jon!!!

Minutes - Breckenridge Chapter IWLA BOD meeting February 10, 2021

ZOOM meeting:

Members present: Steve Schaust, Tim Johnson, Barb Franklin, Dick Brown, Wendy Steele, Jerry Steele, Karen Ostenso, Jim Arnold, Joe Klohs and Dennis Leslie.

Island Deer Hunt: need more discussion with the city and hunters to agree on a compromise for future balance of take between antlerless and bucks.

Contacting individual members: Overall positive reception One member suggested listing members' hobbies, skills or interests as a resource just to know there are some among us who are experts at certain things who they feel they can trust. A phone call to John Rust to get his input about this suggestion. [Anyone volunteer to do this?] Additionally, looking at corporate memberships, like Target or other local businesses might be a good opportunity to recruit new members.

There have been some really great Zoom conservation presentations recently and there are many Zoom meetings coming up that are sponsored by other IWL Chapters. Barb is sending out reminders the day before each Zoom meeting.

Dick recommended that we all write letters to our legislators expressing our position on banning lead in fishing tackle to encourage legislators to make this important change to existing laws. There is also concern about a hunting season opening on Trumpeter Swans and Sandhill Cranes. Dick wrote a letter in opposition of killing these amazing birds. His letters were in the February Timberlines.

Fire Inspection at the chapter house is due. Check to be sure that we have fire extinguishers in good

working order. Tim will get in touch with fire department to schedule the inspection.

Treasurer's report: Two \$500 donations were received in January and February. Water/Sewer bill seemed a little excessive given the limited use of the Chapter House this past year. Jim will review.

New Treasurer volunteer is Sue Schmidt. Jim, Tim, Sue and John Fraley will meet to make transition. She is also the Treasurer for the Champlin Garden Club.

Scholarship Endowment is in very good shape.

Rental calendar is wide open due to Covid-19 restrictions. Hoping this will pick up this summer as most people get vaccinated.

Meeting ended at 8:27 pm.

2021 National Convention

Based on input from League members nationwide and ongoing concerns about public health and safety during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nebraska Division and national office of the Izaak Walton League of America have mutually agreed to cancel an in-person national convention scheduled for July 20-23, 2021.

The League will hold a virtual convention in July minimally to elect new national officers and members of the Executive Board and consider policy resolutions submitted by chapters and divisions. More information on the date, format and components of a virtual convention will be coming soon.

The following Resolution was submitted to the Minnesota Division for consideration at the Annual Meeting on April 29-30.

Resolution #2020-8

OPPOSING THE INDISCRIMINATE KILLING OF WILDLIFE IN THE FORM OF WILDLIFE KILLING CONTESTS

WHEREAS -the Izaak Walton League holds the highest value and respect for Minnesota's long and revered tradition of hunting and fishing for food gathering, recreation, and wildlife management; and

WHEREAS, wildlife killing contests are held all across Minnesota, in which participants compete for cash and prizes to kill the most, the heaviest, or even the smallest foxes, coyotes, and other native Minnesota species over a one- or two-day period; and

WHEREAS, the only discernible purpose of many wildlife killing contests is to compete for cash or prizes and not for sustenance, protection of property, or conservation; and

WHEREAS, the incentives of prizes, the short time frames of the killing contests, and negative attitudes toward the species targeted in killing contests can lead to the abandonment of normal and proper consideration of sportsmanship, fair chase, and ethical hunting practices in pursuit of those species; and

WHEREAS, the professional organization The Wildlife Society states that wildlife killing contests that encourage the unlimited and indiscriminate kill in furbearer species for prizes differ from "trophy deer" or "big buck" competitions because Minnesota deer are hunted only under strict regulations that dictate seasons, methods of take, and bag limits and are then submitted for judging; and

WHEREAS, the League recognizes the intrinsic value of wild carnivore species and their important ecological roles and believes that here is no justification for widespread destruction of animals classified as predators; and

WHEREAS, wildlife killing contests encourage the wanton waste of Minnesota's valued and finite natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the indiscriminate killing of wild carnivore species, even when done legally, upsets the natural balance of Minnesota's ecosystem and violates the traditional tenets of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation; and

WHEREAS, wildlife management professionals, state wildlife management agencies, and wildlife scientists have found that contests that encourage the random and mass killing of animals for prizes do not serve scientifically verifiable wildlife management purpose and do not lead to an increase in game species populations; and

WHEREAS, wildlife killing contests have the potential to threaten the future of hunting in general, and damage the reputation of Minnesota's sportsmen and sportswomen who recognize hunting wildlife as a privilege worthy of the highest ethical standards of pursuit;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Division – Izaak Walton League of America opposes wildlife killing contests and respectfully requests that the Minnesota Department of Natural resources and/or the Minnesota Legislature pass regulations of legislation, respectively, banning such contests.

Larry Kennebeck Date: 12/29/2020
Vice President
Walter J Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America

Dick P. Brown Date: Dec. 26, 2020
Conservation Chair
Walter J Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America



Hudson Bay Bound - Book Read and Discussion with Author & Adventurer Natalie Warren

Monday March 29th at 6:30 PM

Price: Free

Zoom Information:

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89875601961>

Meeting ID: 898 7560 1961

Dial-In: 312-626-6799

Join us for an evening with Author and Adventurer Natalie Warren as we chat about her and Ann Raiho's 2,000-mile journey by paddle from Minneapolis to Hudson Bay, as captured in her book Hudson Bay Bound.

This event is sponsored by the Minnesota Valley Chapter of the Izaak Walton League.

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

Natalie Warren and Ann Raiho take a 2,000-mile journey by paddle from Minneapolis to Hudson Bay, giving readers an insider view from the practicalities of planning a three-month canoe expedition to the successful accomplishment of the adventure of a lifetime. Unrelenting winds, carnivorous polar bears, snake nests, sweltering heat, and constant hunger. Paddling from Minneapolis to Hudson Bay, following the 2,000-mile route made famous by Eric s Severied in his 1935 classic Canoeing with the Cree, Natalie and Ann faced unexpected trials.

Natalie Warren: A lifelong paddler and river lover, Natalie was one of the first two women to paddle from Minneapolis to Hudson Bay. She has since canoed the length of the Mississippi River and won first place in the Yukon River Quest in the women's voyageur division, paddling 450 miles in fifty-three hours. A contributing writer to outdoor publications, she has worked with Bancroft Arnesen Explore, St. Croix River Association, and River Management Society, and she started a nonprofit to present urban rivers as natural, dynamic classrooms for youth.

Natalie is currently a PhD student in the Communication Studies department at the University of Minnesota studying Environmental Communication. Natalie lives in Minneapolis with her husband, daughter and dog.

To strive for the purity of water, the clarity of air, and the wise stewardship of the land and its resources; to know the beauty and understanding of nature and the value of wildlife, woodlands, and open space; to the preservation of this heritage and to man's sharing in it.

**Interested in wildlife and the outdoors?
Please Join Us!
IWLA Breckenridge Chapter Membership Application:**

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Dues are subject to change. Please make check payable to: IWLA, Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter Membership

Dues: Individual: 71.50 Family: 99.00 Student: 43.00

Mail to:

Mary Ellen Vetter

7715 York Lane N

Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

Phone: 763-561-1761

Chapter House Rental Rates

Non-Members:

(damage deposit: \$300.00; \$200 for previous renters)

Monday through Thursday \$275.00

Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Holidays \$350.00

Members:(damage deposit \$100.00)

Monday through Thursday\$125.00

Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Holidays\$175.00

Boy Scouts:(damage deposit \$50.00)

Overnights.....\$50.00*

Rates and terms subject to change without notice; please contact the Chapter for special circumstances.

Rental Chairperson: Tim Johnson

**W. J. Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
8816 West River Road
Brooklyn Park MN 55444**



**If you would like to submit an article for the Timberlines,
please send it to**

Barbara Franklin at: bbfrankli@gmail.com

Deadline is the last day of each month.

All articles in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the Breckenridge Board of Directors. The Editor reserves the right to edit material as necessary.

Upcoming Minnesota Division meetings

Thursday April 29, 2021 – Zoom meeting

6:30 - 8:30pm

1. Reading of Resolutions to be considered by the Minnesota Division
2. Zoom Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89938970684>
3. Meeting ID: 899 3897 0684
4. Phone into meeting: 1-312-626-6799,
,89938970684#

Saturday May 1st, 2021 – Zoom meeting

9 – 11:30am

1. Meeting of the Minnesota Division at Annual Convention
2. Zoom Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85750243014>
3. Meeting ID: 857 5024 3014
4. Phone into meeting: 1-312-626-6799,
,85750243014#

Please click on the Zoom link on the date and time indicated above, or call in. Your participation is important in keeping the MN Division a vibrant, growing, and compelling organization that continues to make grassroots positive impact for wildlife and habitat, as well as clean water and air. If you would like to be a voting delegate at the MN Division Annual convention on the morning of May 1st, please indicate so to your chapter president. Below are the delegate counts that are allocated by each chapter. The number of voting delegates is limited. Please talk to your Chapter President ASAP. Thank you for your passionate efforts across the state we love.