



WATERVLIET ROD & GUN CLUB

April 2024 NEWSLETTER

April 3 is the Membership Meeting at 7:30pm

President's Page

The Robins are here and the Sandhill Cranes are headed north so spring is here and so is our Spring Cleanup Day. This year it's April 27th at 9am. Bring your rakes, we have a lot of stones to remove from the yard from snow plowing, bring your shovels for we have ditches to open and ruts to repair. We will have a lot of stone to move in the parking lot, the road to the pistol ranges and some on the 25 yard pistol range. We will also be replacing some railroad ties on the ranges. A note to everyone that during the clean-up, **ALL RANGES ARE CLOSED.**

If you have been out to the club lately, you have probably noticed that the 40 yard pistol range is pretty much unusable. It is covered with standing water and when it seems that it is drying up, it rains again. We met with EGLE, Michigan Department of Environment Great Lakes and Energy on March 15th to discuss our options of opening the ditch behind the 40 yard pistol range and the running of field drains to remove the water. EGLE was originally the Michigan Department of Quality. The meeting was positive and we should be able to move along with our plans. We have to submit some paperwork, provide them with more details on exactly what we plan to do and what the plans are for the dirt being removed. The big problem is that most of our property is considered wetlands, due to the type vegetation that is growing there. It may be midsummer before we can get started.

We are anticipating starting work on the electronic gate sometime in April. As we transition from the padlock system to the electronic system the membership will need to watch their email for updates on the process

April 1st will be kicking off our summer trap program. The 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month will be at 6:30pm and the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month will be at 2pm.

Check out the rest of the newsletter and I hope to see you at the club. Shoot straight, keep them in the bull, and do it safely! JIM



Club Calendar

April	
1	Trap 6:30pm
3	Membership meeting 7:30pm
9	CPL Registration 6:00pm
9	T2G Shotgun & Pistol 6:00 - 9:00pm
11	CPL Class 6:00 - 10:00pm
13	CPL Class 8:00am - 4:00pm
14	4H Youth & Trap 2:00pm
15	Trap 6:30pm
18	Bullshooters 10:00am
20	Project Appleseed 7:00am - 6:00pm
21	Project Appleseed 7:00am - 6:00pm
24	Board Meeting 6:30pm
27	Spring Cleanup Day 9:00am - 3:00pm
28	4H Youth & Trap 2:00pm
30	T2G Rifle & Pistol 6:00 - 9:00pm
May	
1	Membership meeting 7:30pm
4	SW Michigan Friends of NRA Event
6	Trap 6:30pm
11	Ladies Day Event
12	Mother's Day
14	CPL Registration 6:00pm
14	T2G Shotgun & Pistol 6:00 - 9:00pm
16	Bullshooters 10:00am
16	CPL Class 6:00 - 10:00pm
18	CPL Class 8:00am - 4:00pm
20	Trap 6:30pm
27	Memorial Day
28	T2G Rifle & Pistol 6:00 - 9:00pm
29	Board Meeting 6:30pm

Club Officers

President Jim Harner 269-470-9191

Vice President Matt Siple 708-903-5458

Secretary Kevin Schneider 269-861-5156

Treasurer Barry Nilson 616-499-5789

Trustee 1 yr. Dick Moeckel

Trustee 2 yr. Mike Swisher 269-470-1659

Trustee 3 yr. DeWayne Hellenga 269-921-7918

Bullshooters

On March 21 we had 16 people attend our monthly gathering. 13 people went to lunch at The Bend. We will meet again on April 18 at 10 am for coffee and donuts.

SW Michigan Friends of NRA Event

The SW Michigan Friends of NRA Committee will hold a fundraising event on Saturday, May 4, 2024. The event will be held at the Van Buren Conference Center in Lawrence, Michigan at 5:00pm. The price for the event ticket is \$75 with 2 strips of Patriot Raffle Tickets included. There are other event packages available. Event tickets must be purchased in advance. There are 2 gun raffles that will be drawn on Saturday, May 4 at 7:00pm. Raffle tickets for a Savage Axis 2 XP 400 Legend Rifle or \$500 Cash are for sale for \$10 each with 200 raffle tickets available. Raffle tickets for a Henry .360 Buckhammer Rifle & Kimber K6XS Revolver are being sold online for \$50 each with 100 raffle tickets available. For more information send an email to swmifnracommittee@gmail.com Kevin Schneider 269-8615156

WRGC to host two Appleseed events in 2024

For the 14th year in a row, WRGC will host Project Appleseed events. 2024 will bring two marksmanship and history events, a rifle marksmanship event on April 20-21 and a pistol marksmanship event on June 8-9.

With nearly 300 people participating in these events at WRGC alone, Project Appleseed teaches the fundamentals of rifle and pistol marksmanship while reminding participants of their American heritage through stories of the founding of our country. To learn more and to sign up for either event, go to Project Appleseed's national website <https://appleseedinfo.org/schedule/?qstate=MI&state=Michigan>

Project Appleseed is a 501c3 non-partisan non-profit. Since its founding in 2006, over 140,000 people have sent 35 million rounds down range safely while improving their skills and knowledge of what makes America great. Kris Rich

Hunter Education Program at Watervliet Rod and Gun Club

Watervliet Rod and Gun Club would like to have a Hunter Education Program. We are looking for volunteer instructors. If you have a passion for hunting and would like to help ensure the future of outdoor recreation in Michigan please see the information below.

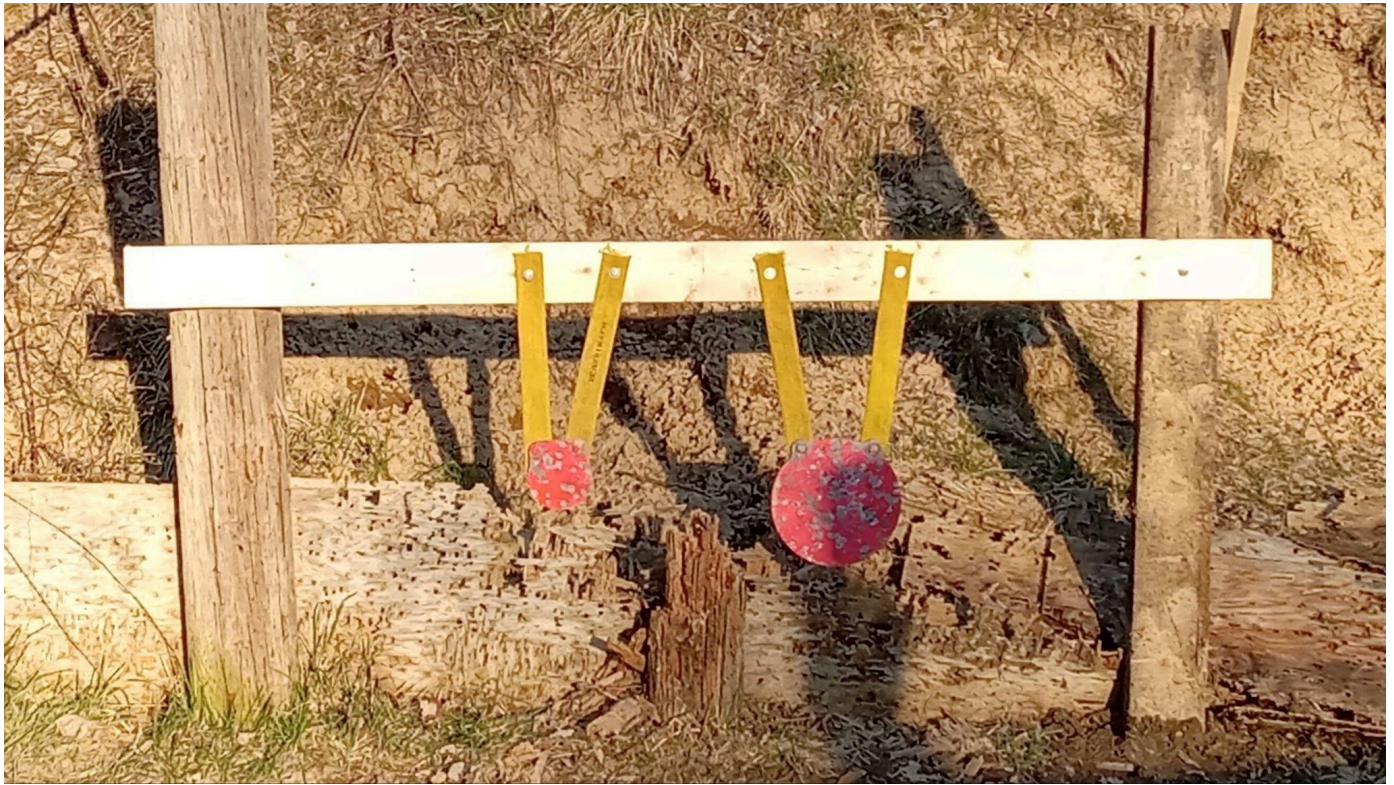
Volunteer instructors: We strive to recruit the most qualified instructors available and provide them with the materials and training necessary to conduct recreational education courses including Hunter Education, Boating, Snowmobile and ORV safety.

Why volunteers are necessary:

There are not enough conservation officers to conduct training in every community in the state. Although conservation officers are active in the recreational safety programs, they generally do not have enough time to conduct entire training classes along with their many other duties. Volunteers provide skills or expertise otherwise not available within the agency. Examples of such skills include professional teaching experience, specialty safety training and specialty outdoor recreation training. Volunteers are often well-established local citizens who can help create community interest in the course. They usually have extensive local contacts, are aware of community needs and can facilitate setting up local classes.

Qualifications: An individual desiring certification as a volunteer instructor must meet the following requirements. Be at least 18 years of age. Be a high school graduate or possess a graduate equivalency diploma (GED). Have no felony convictions. Have no misdemeanor convictions within the past three (3) years. Have no Natural Resource Law convictions that could result in the revocation of license privileges within the last five (5) years. Other convictions of Natural Resource Law violations are subject to review and may result in the rejection of any application. Have a background which is free of any negative implication or activity which would bring discredit to the recreational safety program(s) as determined by Recreational Safety, Education, and Enforcement Section (RSEES) staff. Have and maintain high moral character and ethical standards as determined by RSEES staff. Be a graduate of the appropriate student recreational safety course.

If you are interested please contact John Andrasi at 269-861-1824 for more information.



The club has hopefully created an improved way to hang the steel targets on the 200 yard range. We ordered some used firehose to hang the targets but it does not seem that it is a very durable type of hose. If someone has good ideas on how to hang steel targets at the club in a durable way, contact the club email at wrg49098@gmail.com



Straight Shooters 4-H Club met on February 11, 2024 at Strikers Bowling. The kids, leaders and parents had a blast!

Straight Shooters will begin meeting again every 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2:00 - 4:00pm from April through October excluding holiday weekends!
Julie Holtsclaw

Ladies Day

Basic Firearm Safety and Training Class

Plenty of space available

Saturday, May 11, 2024 8:00am - 4:00pm

at Watervliet Rod and Gun Club

3413 Hennessey Road Watervliet, MI 49098

Ladies, Here's your chance to learn to safely handle and use firearms, learn about different kinds of ammunition and firearms. Have the opportunity to shoot them on the range with 1:1 instruction. .22 caliber handguns, rifles, and 20 gauge shotguns.

Lunch, Firearms & Ammo provided.

Bring Eye and Ear Protection

Cost is \$30.00

For Information: Call (269) 470-9191 or (269) 861-5156

www.watervlietrodandgunclub.org



Watervliet Rod and Gun Club
P.O. Box 434
Watervliet, MI 49098