



2025 IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA AWARD NOMINEES SOUGHT (AWARDED IN YEAR 2026)

This packet contains all the details and forms you and your chapter or division need for this year's IWLA Awards (offered during 2026). The awards program is updated annually to make the nomination process more user-friendly and encourage more nominations of deserving League chapters, divisions, and individual members. Changes and points to note include the following:

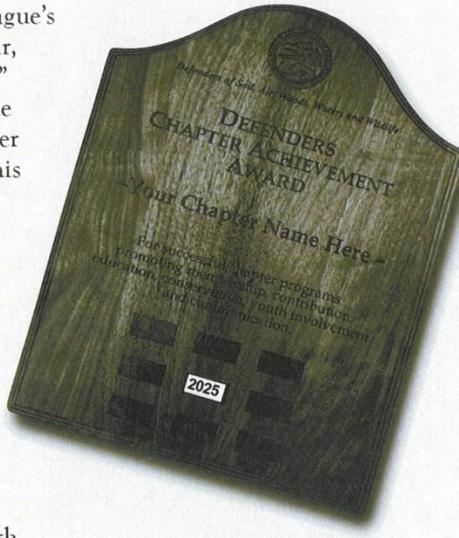
- The **2025 Defenders Chapter Achievement Award** and the **2025 Judge John W. Tobin Chapter Volunteer Appreciation Award** forms (the first two forms found in this packet) are included. **However, the March 15, 2026 deadline for submitting these two award forms is earlier than for the National Awards.**
- The **deadline** for submitting other **National Award** nominations remains later on **June 1, 2026**. This is to enable the Awards Committee to meet and still allow adequate time for award preparations. This means some IWLA divisions may be holding state meetings after the award nomination deadline — please note that "**division approval**" does not mean the approval must be an outcome of a division meeting. A division may have their president or a separate awards chairman or some other method of their choosing (i.e., authorization by a national director) to allow the approval to be granted (and then perhaps later reported on as an "action taken" at the division meeting).
- As a reminder, should the nominee — member, non-member, organization or chapter — be selected to receive an award, the nominator will need to be prepared to supply photo(s) of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website. Thank you in advance.
- A notable change: Completed applications may no longer be faxed to IWLA. However, they can be e-mailed to: awards@iwla.org. This e-mail address is noted on each nomination form, so if you would like to scan and e-mail your completed form(s) and attach supporting documents, you may do so. When e-mailing award application(s), please remember to request confirmation upon receipt.
- Each award has a **nomination form specific to the award** in this packet. The award criteria are outlined in more depth on each form to help identify potential nominees. Additionally, questions pertaining to the nominee and how they meet the specific award criteria are listed as a guideline to aid in filling out the nomination form.
- Both **IWLA national directors** and **division officers** are encouraged to actively be on the watch for worthy recipients and submit nominations.
- Should you have any questions regarding the awards process, please contact the IWLA Chapter Relations staff by calling toll-free **(800) IKE-LINE (453-5463), extension 216**, or emailing awards@iwla.org. Editable PDF versions of each form are found and may be downloaded from the League's chapter resources web page at iwla.org/awards.
- **Note:** Only those nominators and individuals or chapters who are selected for an award by the Awards Committee will be contacted by IWLA staff prior to the upcoming National Convention.

THE DEFENDERS CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Izaak Walton League's Defenders Chapter Achievement Award is named after the League's motto: "Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Waters and Wildlife." Based on your activities in the last calendar year, your chapter might be eligible to receive this national recognition for your many ongoing efforts and accomplishments.

To be eligible for this annual award designation, your chapter must have met criteria in five of the following categories during 2025: membership, financial contributions, education, conservation, youth involvement and communication.

Initial recognition of your chapter's 2025 accomplishments will be made at the 2026 IWLA National Convention, and will be published in a future issue of *Outdoor America*.



Applications for both awards were mailed in January to each chapter president, secretary and awards chair. For additional information or an application form, please contact the IWLA Chapter Relations Department toll-free at (800) IKE-LINE, extension 216, or email awards@iwa.org. Forms are also available online at iwa.org/awards. Applications must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2026.

2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS

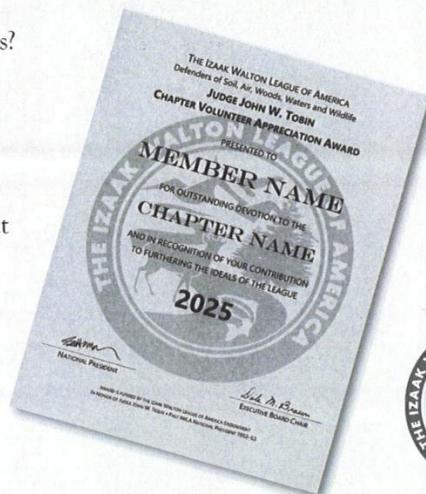
Arlington-Fairfax Chapter, Virginia
Austin Chapter, Minnesota
Berkeley County Chapter, West Virginia
Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter, Maryland
Bill Cook Chapter, Wisconsin
Brown County Chapter, Wisconsin
Bush Lake Chapter, Minnesota
Cass County Chapter, Minnesota
Central New York Chapter, New York
Des Moines Chapter, Iowa
Dwight Lydell Chapter, Michigan
Elgin Chapter, Illinois
Frederick #1 Chapter, Maryland
Fredericksburg-Rappahannock Chapter, Virginia
Grand Island Chapter, Nebraska
Hamilton Chapter, Ohio
Kampska Chapter, South Dakota
Lincoln Chapter, Nebraska
Linn County Chapter, Iowa
Lois Green-Sligo Chapter, Maryland
Loudoun County Chapter, Virginia
McCook Lake Chapter, South Dakota
Mid-Shore Chapter, Maryland
Minnesota Valley Chapter, Minnesota
Mountaineer Chapter, West Virginia
New London Chapter, Minnesota
New Ulm Chapter #79, Minnesota
Owatonna Chapter, Minnesota
Prairie Woods Chapter, Minnesota
Rochester Chapter, Minnesota
Rockville Chapter, Maryland
Sioux Falls Chapter, South Dakota
Sportsman's Chapter, Maryland
Sunshine Chapter, South Dakota
Tiffin-Seneca County Chapter, Ohio
W.J. McCabe Chapter, Minnesota
Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter, Minnesota
Warren County Chapter, Iowa
Warren County Chapter, Virginia
Wayne County Chapter, Ohio
Wes Libby - Northern Lakes Chapter, Minnesota
West Central Chapter, Iowa
Wildlife Achievement Chapter, Maryland
Will Dilg Chapter, Minnesota
York Chapter #67, Pennsylvania

THE TOBIN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

Who are the dedicated Ikes among your division or chapter members? You know—the ones who show up for all the meetings, sign up first for work crews, help maintain the grounds and make the organization run more smoothly? They are your chapter's most generous members and they deserve a hearty thanks.

The Judge John W. Tobin Volunteer Appreciation Award, established in 1976 by past IWLA President John Tobin, is the perfect way to recognize that special member. Every chapter is encouraged to present a Tobin Award to one of its members each year. The award not only recognizes a member's conservation commitment, but also demonstrates the connection between chapters and national as it is presented by a national director during a chapter meeting.

Make sure your chapter selects its Tobin Award winner by March 15!



2025 DEFENDERS CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

APPLICATION FORM — DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 2026



Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Waters and Wildlife

APPLICATION FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2025

DATE COMPLETED _____ / _____ / _____

CHAPTER NAME _____

DIVISION AND CHAPTER NUMBER _____ - _____

NAME AND TITLE OF CHAPTER OFFICER _____

SIGNATURE _____

DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

This Izaak Walton League of America award program – the **Defenders Chapter Achievement Award** – annually recognizes a Chapter's overall local efforts during each previous year. Each applying IWLA Chapter needs to meet criteria in **at least** five (5) of the following six (6) categories during the same year to attain this annual award designation. Categories address **membership, contribution, education, conservation, youth involvement and communication**. Each Chapter will be required to resubmit an application annually for ongoing recognition of their accomplishments.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Complete application for the **previous year's** activities of the Chapter. **Submit (postmarked) no later than March 15th.**
- Where applicable, check off the appropriate boxes (under criteria). Type or clearly print the requested information.
- Supporting documentation is accepted and encouraged.
- Send the National Office the completed copy. Make a photocopy of this form before sending for your Chapter's records.
- Send your application to: **Izaak Walton League of America**
Chapter Relations Department
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983
Email: awards@iwna.org

Awards recognition for the preceding year's accomplishments will be presented at the annual IWLA National Convention. Also, the chapters will be listed in post-convention issue of *Outdoor America*. An engraved, wood plaque, with brass year plates added for year of completion, will be presented to each deserving Chapter as part of a formal recognition at a mutually scheduled Chapter meeting. The presentation will be made by either a volunteer League leader such as your Chapter's assigned National Director liaison, or when possible, by an IWLA National Office staff member.

AWARD CATEGORIES:

Our Chapter confirms that we have met the criteria in **at least five** of the following six award categories:

1. **Membership** – Offered **all** four available membership types at the Chapter level: Individual, Family, Student, and Youth.

Please indicate offered memberships by completing total dues amount charged by your Chapter. **Include national and state (if applicable) dues in each of these totals:**

Yes, for the calendar year 2025, our Chapter offered **all** of the following four (4) membership types at the following rates:

\$ _____ Individual \$ _____ Family \$ _____ Student \$ _____ Youth

2. **Contribution** – Made a **minimum** \$100 donation to either the Izaak Walton League Trust, an Izaak Walton League Division, an appeal from the IWLA National Office, or some other IWLA Conservation Program. – Or – Made a contribution to IWLA Endowment. **NOTE:** Cannot include submission of National/Division membership dues.

Please check off the specific beneficiary of your donation(s), along with the donated amount and the date submitted:

Izaak Walton League Trust — \$ _____ on _____ / _____ / _____

Izaak Walton League Division (Specify) _____ — \$ _____ on _____ / _____ / _____

IWLA National Office Appeal — \$ _____ on _____ / _____ / _____

IWLA Century Society Partner Pledge – Or – Partners in Outdoor America's Future Pledge — \$ _____ on _____ / _____ / _____

Other IWLA Conservation Program (Specify) _____ — \$ _____ on _____ / _____ / _____ – Or –

Izaak Walton League of America Endowment — \$ _____ on _____ / _____ / _____

MLR0126

3. Education – Offered or provided a scholarship to a local, college-bound student who intends to study conservation – Or –environmental-related major. –Or – Made a contribution to a multiple chapter or division-sponsored scholarship fund. –Or – Made a contribution to IWLA National Conservation Scholarship Fund (*minimum \$100*).

Please indicate the student's name, intended major, accepted university, and financial amount received:

and \$. . . – Or –

Check if your Chapter contributed to the IWLA National Conservation Scholarship program. Indicate amount and date submitted. \$ on / / .

4. Conservation – Completed a Chapter on-the-ground conservation project in keeping with the goals of a national program such as, but not limited to, Soil, Air, Woods, Waters, Wildlife, Energy, or Agriculture.

Specify Soil, Air, Woods (Forestry), Waters, Wildlife, Energy, Agriculture-
 Other conservation project (i.e., outdoor ethics, conservation education, or wildlife habitat restoration, etc.)

Please give a brief description of your project (s) and completed goals and accomplishments: _____

5. **Youth Involvement** – Established and maintained an organized youth entity within the existing Chapter structure. – Or – Provided financial or volunteer support for a conservation education event for either a Chapter’s youth group (i.e., Uncle Ikes, Young Ikes, T’Ikes, or FAN Club), a community-based youth organization (i.e., Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, Future Farmers of America) or another conservation group’s youth program (i.e., National Wild Turkey Federation’s J.A.K.E.S., Ducks Unlimited’s Greenwings, National Rifle Association’s Youth Hunter Education Challenge). – Or – Provided a contribution to IWLA National Youth Convention (**minimum \$100**).

Chapter's Youth Entity's Name and number of young participants . . . -Or-

Other Youth Involvement/Event/Activity (Specify) _____

Please give a brief description of your youth project and completed accomplishments:

Please give a brief description of your youth project and completed accomplishments: _____

\$. ____ on ____ / ____ / ____

6. Communication – Printed and distributed a Chapter newsletter (with copies regularly sent to National Office).

– Or – Maintained a website and
Supervised the creation of “O

– Or – Sponsored at least six “Outdoor America” magazine subscriptions to school, university, or public libraries.

Check to confirm that the IWLA National Office is on your Chapter's mailing list. - Or -
 Website and/or Facebook URL Webmaster's name - Or -

Check to confirm that your Chapter sponsored at least six “Outdoor America” magazine subscriptions. List local school, university, or public libraries:

Added information is requested to help the IWLA National Office staff learn more about your chapter's many successful projects and activities. In order to generate quality press releases on your award, please feel free to attach any additional detailed documentation (such as photos, or news clippings) to this form. Including supporting material with background information would be helpful but is not required.

2025 JUDGE JOHN W. TOBIN CHAPTER VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 2026

Award Criteria: Who is the dedicated Ike among your chapter members—the one who shows up for all meetings, signs up first for work crews, serves on committees, helps maintain chapter grounds, and makes the organization run more smoothly? Who is the key volunteer for your chapter’s conservation projects or outdoor activities? Give your chapter’s outstanding volunteer a hearty “thank you” by nominating her or him for the Izaak Walton League’s **2025 Judge John W. Tobin Chapter Volunteer Appreciation Award**.

Established in 1976 by past IWLA President Judge John W. Tobin, and in cooperation with the IWLA Endowment, the award is a great way to thank Ikes for their hard work. It is also a way to link chapters and national directors since it is presented by a national director at a chapter meeting or event. Every chapter is encouraged to present a Tobin Award to one of its members each year.

NOTE: Only one (1) submission per each chapter per year, please. **Submit (postmarked) no later than March 15, 2026.**

Please type or print all information clearly. Please be certain the nominee’s name is spelled correctly—the name and spelling given will be used on award certificate.

Date Completed: _____ / _____ / 2026

Nominee: _____

Chapter Name: _____

Member Number (required)*: _____

Division and Chapter Number: _____ - _____

***Nominee must be a current (paid/renewed) IWLA chapter member at the time of submission for this award.**

In the space below write a brief statement describing the achievements of your chapter’s “Tobin Award” nominee:

This information is requested to help the award presenter (national director assigned to your chapter) learn more about the recipient’s background. Please feel free to attach any additional documentation (such as summary of the nominee’s qualifications) to this form. Including supporting material with this nomination (such as news clippings or testimonial letters) would be helpful, but is not required.

I certify that this chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America has selected the above name nominee for their Judge John W. Tobin Chapter Volunteer Appreciation Award.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Chapter President, Secretary, Awards Chair, etc.)

Nominating Officer’s Signature: _____

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mail to: Izaak Walton League of America
Chapter Relations Department
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org



WANTED

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE AWARD NOMINATIONS

Each year, the Izaak Walton League offers national awards for conservation, outdoor ethics, water quality, communications, youth-focused achievements, leadership, and more!



We encourage IWLA chapters and divisions to nominate all worthy candidates.

Nomination deadline:
June 1, 2026

REWARD!

Visit www.iwla.org/awards
or contact awards@iwla.org

2025 NATIONAL AWARDS

AVAILABLE FOR DIVISION, CHAPTER, AND INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION

The following is a summary of the National Awards are available for nomination from Izaak Walton League divisions and chapters. All are encouraged to submit nominations. Deadline for submitting the **2025 National Awards** nominations is **June 1, 2026** (postmarked).

- **54 Founders Award** – This award (only 1), the League’s highest honor, is given to an individual, group, or organization (member or non-member) judged to have made an outstanding contribution to the conservation of America’s natural and renewable resources. Recipients should have a distinguished history of conservation achievement in a wide arena over the course of time.
- **Hall of Fame Awards** – This award is designed to recognize members who have given long and devoted service to the League. Recipients of this award (up to 5) have achieved a record of outstanding accomplishment in furthering the mission and goals of the League over the course of time.
- **Honor Roll Awards** – This award (up to 10) is designed to recognize non-members (groups or individuals) who have achieved outstanding accomplishments involving conservation, public education or publicity efforts in keeping with the League’s goals.
- **Conservation Awards** – This award (up to 12) recognizes individual member contributions to conservation in the League’s name.
- **Outdoor Ethics Awards** – This award (up to 6) recognizes individuals, groups, or organizations (member or non-member) judged to have done outstanding work in outdoor ethics during the past year.
- **Save Our Streams Awards** – This award (up to 6) recognizes individuals, groups, or organizations (member or non-member) judged to have done outstanding work in demonstrating the principles of environmental education and citizen activism for clean water during the past year.
- **Shooting Sports Awards** – This award (up to 6) recognizes individuals, groups, or organizations (member or non-member) judged to have done outstanding work to advance the shooting sports within or in support of the League during the past year.
- **Arthur R. Thompson Memorial Award** – This award (only 1) recognizes the division that has carried out the most outstanding conservation program(s) during the past year.
- **James Lawton Childs Awards**† – This award (up to 2) and monetary gift (\$250—courtesy IWLA Endowment) recognizes the chapter that has carried out the most outstanding conservation program(s) during the past year.
- **Robert C. O’Hair Awards**† – This award (up to 2) and monetary gift (\$250) recognizes the chapter that has carried out the most outstanding youth program(s) during the past year.
- **Thelma “Pete” Reed Memorial Award*** – This award (only 1) is presented to an individual member who has volunteered many hours at the local or state level in conservation projects, educational efforts, community service, or chapter leadership development. The member may not currently be a national leader of the League but, by virtue of his/her grassroots efforts, is considered an “up and coming” future leader of the Izaak Walton League.
- **Outdoor America’s Future Award*** – This award (only 1) is presented to an individual youth or student member who has volunteered many hours at the local or state level in conservation projects, related efforts in school, community service, or chapter leadership development. By virtue of his/her grassroots efforts, is considered an “up and coming” future leader of the League.
- **Best Division Newsletter Award** – This award (only 1) is presented to the division judged to have the best newsletter in terms of appearance, originality, timeliness, and news coverage. The best newsletters focus not only on news from the division and its chapters, but also provide information about national and state news.
- **Best Chapter Newsletter Awards**† – This award (up to 2) is presented to the chapter judged to have the best newsletter(s) in terms of appearance, originality, timeliness, and news coverage. The best newsletters focus not only on local chapter events but also provide information about national and state news, as well as community-related conservation topics.
- **Best Division and Chapter Website Awards** – This award (1 each) honors the division and chapter judged to have created and/or maintained the most effective website(s) during the past year.
- **Best Chapter Membership Recruitment and Retention Award*** – This award (only 1) and monetary gift (\$250) recognizes the chapter that carried out the most effective membership recruitment and retention programs in 2025.

NOTE: Submissions for most of the awards will not be considered by the Awards Committee without division endorsement.

* Division approval is not required for this award.

† Available for two chapters, one chapter with fewer than 500 members, and one chapter with 500 or more members.

2025 NATIONAL 54 FOUNDERS AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award, the League's highest honor, is given to an individual, group, or organization (member or non-member) for lifetime contributions to natural resource conservation and the protection of America's outdoors. Award recipients should have a distinguished history of conservation achievement in a wide arena over the course of time. Questions are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. **One** (1) award may be given each year.

NOTE: Division approval is required.

Please type or print all information clearly. Please be certain the nominee's full name is spelled correctly—the name and spelling given will be used on awards and plaques.

Nominee: _____ Member Number (if applicable): _____

Address: _____ **Date Completed:** _____ / _____ / 2026

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Who will be attending the convention to accept this award (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Attach a summary of the nominee's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions and answer each as thoroughly as possible. This information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each nominee to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should he/she/they be selected.

 Is the nominee a member of the League? If so, please consider the following questions:

- How long has the nominee been an active member of the League?
- Has he/she held office at the local level? State level? National level? Which positions?
- What conservation-related committees (League or community-based) does he/she serve on?
- What other local, state, or national recognition has he/she received for his/her efforts?

 For all nominees, consider the following questions:

- Describe some specific conservation-related activities or programs the nominee has regularly been involved with over the course of time.
- How has the nominee's work had a positive effect in furthering the League's mission and goals (i.e., an impact on a particular species or fostering conservation ethics in children)?
- What is the scope of the nominee's work? Statewide? National? International?

 Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the nominee?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____
(print name) _____ (signature) _____

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org

MLR0126

2025 NATIONAL HALL OF FAME AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award is designed to recognize members who have given long and devoted service to the League. Recipients of this award have achieved a record of outstanding accomplishment in furthering the mission and goals of the League over the course of time. Questions are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. Up to **five** (5) of these awards are given each year.

NOTE: Division approval is required.

Please type or print all information clearly. Please be certain the nominee's full name is spelled correctly—the name and spelling given will be used on awards and plaques.

Nominee: _____

Date Completed: _____ / _____ / **2026**

Member Number (required): _____

Chapter (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Who will be attending the convention to accept this award (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Attach a summary of the nominee's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee may not know the nominee and this information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each nominee to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should he/she/they be selected.

- How long has the nominee been an active member of the League?
- Has he/she held office at the local level? State level? National level? Which positions?
- Which conservation-related committees (either for the League or in the community) does he/she serve on?
- Describe some specific conservation-related activities or programs he/she has regularly been involved with during their years of membership in the League.
- What other local, state, or national recognition has he/she received for his/her efforts?
- How has his/her work had a positive effect in furthering the League's mission and goals (i.e., an impact on a particular species or fostering conservation ethics in children)?
- Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the nominee?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____
(print name) _____ (signature) _____

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org

MLR0126

2025 NATIONAL HONOR ROLL AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award is designed to recognize non-members (groups or individuals) who have achieved outstanding accomplishments involving conservation, public education, or publicity efforts in keeping with the League's goals. Questions are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. Up to ten (10) of these awards are given each year.

NOTE: Division approval is required.

Please type or print all information clearly. Please be certain the nominee's full name is spelled correctly—the name and spelling given will be used on awards and plaques.

Nominee: _____ **Date Completed:** _____ / _____ / 2026

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Who will be attending the convention to accept this award (if known)?

Name: _____ **Email:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Attach a summary of the nominee's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee may not know the nominee and this information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each nominee to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should he/she/they be selected.

-  Does the nominee serve on any conservation-related committees in the community?
-  Describe some specific conservation-related activities or programs he/she has regularly been involved with.
-  What other local, state, or national recognition has he/she received for his/her efforts?
-  How has his/her work had a positive effect in furthering the League's mission and goals?
-  Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the nominee?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____
(print name) _____ (signature) _____

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983
Email: awards@iwla.org

2025 NATIONAL CONSERVATION AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award recognizes individual member contributions to conservation in the name of the League. Questions about the nominee are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. Up to **twelve** (12) of these awards are given each year.

NOTE: Division approval is required.

Please type or print all information clearly. Please be certain the nominee's full name is spelled correctly—the name and spelling given will be used on awards and plaques.

Nominee: _____ **Date Completed:** _____ / _____ / 2026

Chapter (if applicable): _____ Member Number (required): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Who will be attending the convention to accept this award (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Attach a summary of the nominee's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee may not know the nominee and this information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each nominee to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should he/she/they be selected.

- How long has the nominee been an active member of the League?
- Has he/she held office at the local level? State level? National level? Which positions?
- Which conservation-related committees (either for the League or in the community) does he/she serve on?
- Describe some specific conservation-related activities or programs he/she has regularly been involved with during the past year.
- What other local, state, or national recognition has he/she received for his/her conservation efforts?
- How has his/her work had a positive effect in furthering the League's mission and goals (i.e., an impact on a particular species or fostering conservation ethics in children)?
- Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the nominee?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____
(print name) _____
(signature) _____

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org

2026 NATIONAL OUTDOOR ETHICS AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award recognizes individuals, groups, or organizations (member or non-member) judged to have done outstanding work in outdoor ethics during the past year. Questions about the nominee are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. Expanded available recognition, with up to six (6) of these awards may be given each year.

NOTE: Division approval is required.

Please type or print all information clearly. Please be certain the nominee's full name is spelled correctly—the name and spelling given will be used on awards and plaques.

Nominee: _____ **Date Completed:** _____ / _____ / 2026

Chapter (if applicable): _____ Member Number (required): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Who will be attending the convention to accept this award (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Attach a summary of the nominee's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee may not know the nominee and this information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each nominee to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should he/she/they be selected.

 Is the nominee a member of the League? If so, please consider the following questions:

- How long has the nominee been an active member of the League?
- Has he/she held office at the local level? State level? National level? Which positions?

 For all nominees, consider the following questions:

- Describe some specific outdoor ethics-related activities or programs the nominee has been involved with.
- What outdoor ethics-related committees (League or community-based) does the nominee serve on?
- How has the nominee's work had a positive effect in furthering the League's Outdoor Ethics goals?

 Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the nominee?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____
(print name) _____ (signature) _____

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org

MLR0126

2025 NATIONAL SAVE OUR STREAMS AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award recognizes individuals, groups, or organizations (member or non-member) judged to have done outstanding work in demonstrating the principles of environmental education and citizen activism for clean water during the past year. Questions about the nominee are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. Expanded available recognition, with up to **six** (6) of these awards may be given each year.

NOTE: Division approval is required.

Please type or print all information clearly. Please be certain the nominee's full name is spelled correctly—the name and spelling given will be used on awards and plaques.

Nominee: _____ **Date Completed:** _____ / _____ / 2026

Chapter (if applicable): _____ Member Number (required): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Who will be attending the convention to accept this award (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Attach a summary of the nominee's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee may not know the nominee and this information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each nominee to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should he/she/they be selected.

 Is the nominee a member of the League? If so, please consider the following questions:

- How long has the nominee been an active member of the League?
- Has he/she held office at the local level? State level? National level? Which positions?

 For all nominees, consider the following questions:

- Describe some specific Save Our Streams-related activities or programs the nominee has been involved with.
- What water quality-related committees (League or community-based) does the nominee serve on?
- How has the nominee's work had a positive effect in furthering the League's Save Our Streams goals?

 Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the nominee?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____ (print name) _____ (signature)

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983
Email: awards@iwla.org

2025 NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award recognizes individuals, groups, or organizations (member or non-member) judged to have done outstanding work to advance the shooting sports within or in support of the Izaak Walton League during the past year. Questions about the nominee are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. Expanded available recognition, with up to **six** (6) of these awards may be given annually.

NOTE: Division approval is required. Winners (including chapters) are eligible every three years.

Please type or print all information clearly. Please be certain the nominee's full name is spelled correctly—the name and spelling given will be used on awards and plaques.

Nominee: _____ **Date Completed:** _____ / _____ / 2026

Chapter (if applicable): _____ Member Number (required): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Who will be attending the convention to accept this award (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Attach a summary of the nominee's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee may not know the nominee and this information are designed to help the committee learn enough about each nominee to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should he/she/they be selected.

 Is the nominee a member of the League? If so, please consider the following questions:

- How long has the nominee been an active member of the League?
- Has he/she held office at the local level? State level? National level? Which positions?

 For all nominees, consider the following questions:

- Describe some specific shooting sports-related accomplishments of the nominee and/or activities or programs the nominee has been involved with.
- What shooting sports-related committees, organizations, educational programs, or competitive teams (League or community-based) does the nominee serve on?
- How has the nominee's work or contribution had a positive effect in furthering the League's goals to promote outdoor recreation through the shooting sports?

 Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the nominee?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____

(print name)

(signature)

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org

MLR0126

2025 NATIONAL ARTHUR R. THOMPSON MEMORIAL AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award recognizes the state division that has carried out the most outstanding conservation program/s during the past year. Questions about the nominee are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. **One (1)** of these awards may be presented each year.

NOTE: Division approval is required.

Please type or print all information clearly.

Division Name: _____ **Date Completed:** _____ / _____ / 2026

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Who from the division will be accepting the award at the convention (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Attach a summary of the division's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee members are not familiar with every division's programs and this information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each chapter to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should it be selected.

- How long has the division been conducting the program/s they are being nominated for?
- Describe the conservation-related activities or programs the division has conducted or participated in during the past year. Consider details such as number of attendees, duration of the program (a one-time event, a monthly program, etc.), where it was held, etc.
- What was the scope of the program? Local communities/counties? Statewide?
- Were there sponsors involved in the program/s? Who were they and what form of support did they provide (i.e., monetary support, provision of supplies and materials, etc.)?
- How has the division's work had a positive effect in furthering the League's mission and goals (i.e., an impact on a particular species or fostering conservation ethics in children)?
- Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the division's programs?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____

(print name)

(signature)

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org

2025 NATIONAL JAMES LAWTON CHILDS AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award and monetary gift (\$250 each — courtesy of the IWLA Endowment) recognizes chapters that carried out the most outstanding conservation program/s during the past year. Questions about the nominee are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. Up to two (2) of these awards are given each year; one for a chapter of 500 members or less and the other for a chapter of more than 500 members. Chapter membership numbers are based on the previous year-end count.

NOTE: Division approval is required.

Please type or print all information clearly.

Date Completed: _____ / _____ / 2026

Chapter Name: _____ **Division:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Who from the chapter will be accepting the award at the convention (if known)?

Name: _____ **Email:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Attach a summary of the chapter's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee members are not familiar with every chapter's programs and this information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each chapter to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should it be selected.

- How long has the chapter been conducting the program/s they are being nominated for?
- Describe the conservation-related activities or programs the chapter has conducted or participated in during the past year. Consider details such as number of attendees, duration of the program (a one-time event, a monthly program, etc.), where it was held, etc.
- Were there local sponsors involved in the program/s? Who were they and what form of support did they provide (i.e., monetary support, provision of supplies and materials, etc.)?
- How has the chapter's work had a positive effect in furthering the League's mission and goals (i.e., an impact on a particular species or fostering conservation ethics in children)?
- Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the chapter's programs?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____

(print name)

(signature)

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org

MLR0126

2025 NATIONAL ROBERT C. O'HAIR AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award and monetary gift (\$250 each) recognizes chapters that carried out the most outstanding youth program/s during the past year. Questions about the nominee are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. Up to **two** (2) of these awards are given each year; one for a chapter of 500 members or less and the other for a chapter of more than 500 members. Chapter membership numbers are based on the previous year-end count.

NOTE: Division approval is required.

Please type or print all information clearly.

Date Completed: _____ / _____ / 2026

Chapter Name: _____ **Division:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Who from the chapter will be accepting the award at the convention (if known)?

Name: _____ **Email:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Attach a summary of the chapter's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee members are not familiar with every chapter's programs and this information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each chapter to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should it be selected.

- How long has the chapter been conducting the youth program/s they are being nominated for?
- Describe the conservation-related activities or programs the chapter has conducted for youths during the past year. Consider details such as number of attendees, duration of the program (a one-time event, a monthly program, etc.), where it was held, etc.
- Were there local sponsors involved in the program/s? Who were they and what form of support did they provide (i.e., monetary support, provision of supplies and materials, etc.)?
- How has the chapter's work had a positive effect in fostering the League's mission and goals in youths?
- Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the chapter's programs?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____

(print name)

(signature)

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org

MLR0126

2025 NATIONAL THELMA “PETE” REED MEMORIAL AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award is presented to an individual member who has volunteered many hours at the local or state level in conservation projects, educational efforts, community service, or chapter leadership development. The member may *not* currently be a national leader of the League (national officer, executive board, national director, or national committee chair) but, by virtue of his/her grassroots efforts, is considered an “up and coming” future leader of the Izaak Walton League. Questions about the nominee are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. **One** (1) of these awards may be presented each year.

NOTE: Division approval for this award is **NOT** a requirement.

Please type or print all information clearly. Please be certain the nominee’s full name is spelled correctly—the name and spelling given will be used on awards and plaques.

Nominee: _____ **Date Completed:** _____ / _____ / 2026

Chapter (if applicable): _____ Member Number (required): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Who will be attending the convention to accept this award (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Attach a summary of the nominee’s qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee may not know the nominee and this information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each nominee to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should he/she/they be selected.

- How long has the nominee been an active member of the League?
- Has he/she held office at the local level? Which positions?
- Which conservation-related committees (either for the League or in the community) does he/she serve on?
- Describe some specific conservation-related activities or programs he/she has regularly been involved with during the past year.
- What other local, state, or national recognition has he/she received for his/her conservation efforts?
- How has his/her work had a positive effect in furthering the League’s mission and goals?
- Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the nominee?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League’s website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____

(print name)

(signature)

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org

MLR0126

2025 NATIONAL OUTDOOR AMERICA'S FUTURE AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award is presented to one youth or student member (under the age of 18, unless a continuing undergraduate), or someone considered a member as part of a family membership. It recognizes a young person who has volunteered many hours for the League's conservation mission at the local or state level in conservation projects, educational efforts, community service, or chapter leadership development. This young member, by virtue of his/her grassroots efforts, is considered an "up and coming" future leader of the Izaak Walton League. Questions about the nominee are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. **One (1)** of these awards may be presented each year.

NOTE: Division approval for this award is **NOT** a requirement.

Please type or print all information clearly. Please be certain the nominee's name is spelled correctly — the name and spelling given will be used on awards and plaques.

Nominee: _____ **Date Completed:** _____ / _____ / **2026**

Chapter (if applicable): _____ Member Number (required): _____

Address: _____ Indicate Type: Youth Student Family

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Who will be attending the convention to accept this award (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Attach a summary of the nominee's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee may not know the nominee and this information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each nominee to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation), as well as a one- or two-sentence quote about your nominee for a press release should he/she/they be selected.

- 🌲 How long has the nominee been an active youth/student member of the League?
- 🌲 If applicable, has he/she held office at the local chapter level? Which positions?
- 🌲 Which conservation-related committees or clubs (either for the League, or in the community or school) does he/she serve on?
- 🌲 Describe some specific conservation-related activities or programs he/she has regularly been involved with during the past year (either in a League chapter, the community, or his/her school).
- 🌲 What other local, state, or national recognition has he/she received for his/her conservation efforts?
- 🌲 What are his/her interests in conservation and the outdoors?
- 🌲 How has his/her work had a positive effect in furthering the League's mission and goals?
- 🌲 Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the nominee?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the award recipient for potential future use during the awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____ (print name) _____ (signature)

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org

MLR0126

2025 NATIONAL BEST DIVISION NEWSLETTER AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award is presented to the division judged to have the best newsletter in terms of appearance, originality, timeliness, and news coverage. The best newsletters focus not only on news from division chapters but also provide information on a larger scale about national and state news (such as minutes from national and state meetings, changes in League policies, important resolutions, and other conservation-minded news). **One (1)** of these awards may be presented each year.

NOTE: Division approval is required. Winners are eligible every three years.

Please type or print all information clearly.

Date Completed: _____ / ____ / 2026

Division's Newsletter Title: _____ Division: _____

Who from the division will be accepting the award at the convention (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please submit only one (1) complete copy of at least two or more issues of your 2025 newsletters with this nomination — IWLA Staff will make copies of each issue of your submitted newsletters and provide them to each member of the awards committee to judge. Include a brief summary of the division's newsletter accomplishments. Some questions to consider are listed below:

- How often is the newsletter issued and who is it issued to (are members-at-large included? the national board of directors?)
- How is it funded (division funds, advertising space, etc.)?
- Do various chapter or division members submit information for different columns (i.e., a president's message, or a state or national convention summary, or a re-cap of a speaker's presentation, etc.)?
- Are there other details about the newsletter that will help the committee in their decision?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply graphic images of the newsletter cover for potential future use during awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____ (print name) _____ (signature)

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983
Email: awards@iwla.org

2025 NATIONAL BEST CHAPTER NEWSLETTER AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award is presented to the chapter judged to have the best newsletter in terms of appearance, originality, timeliness, and news coverage. The best newsletters focus not only on local chapter events (such as grounds clean-up days or picnics or bingo) but also provide information about national and state news as well as topics covering community-related conservation hot topics. Up to **two** (2) of these awards are given each year; one for a chapter of 500 members or less and the other for a chapter of more than 500 members. Chapter membership numbers are based on the previous year-end count.

Note: Division approval is required. Winners are eligible every three years.

Please type or print all information clearly.

Date Completed: _____ / ____ / 2026

Chapter's Newsletter Title: _____

Chapter: _____ State: _____

Who from the chapter will be accepting the award at the convention (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

*Please submit **only one (1) complete copy of at least two or more issues of your 2025 newsletters** with this nomination — IWLA Staff will make copies of each issue of your submitted newsletters and provide them to each member of the awards committee to judge. Include a brief summary of the chapter's newsletter accomplishments. Some questions to consider are listed below:*

- ▢ How often is the newsletter issued?
- ▢ How is it funded (chapter funds, advertising space, etc.)?
- ▢ Do various chapter members submit information for different columns (i.e., a president's message, or a state or national convention summary, or a re-cap of a speaker's presentation)?
- ▢ Are there other details about the newsletter that will help the committee in their decision?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply graphic images of the newsletter cover for potential future use during awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____
(print name) _____ (signature) _____

Mail to: IWLA National Awards Program
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983
Email: awards@iwla.org

2025 NATIONAL BEST DIVISION WEBSITE AWARD AND BEST CHAPTER WEBSITE AWARD NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: These **two** (2) separate awards are presented to the state division *and* the local chapter judged to have the best website in terms of appearance, originality, timeliness, and news coverage. For example, the best chapter website focuses not only on local chapter events (such as grounds work days or picnics or bingo fundraisers) and projects (like roadside litter clean-ups or tree plantings or stream restoration efforts) but also provides information about national and state news, as well as topics covering community-related conservation hot topics. Effective websites also include links to other League-related sites (i.e., IWLA National website, state conservation agencies).

Note: Division approval is required. Winners are eligible every three years.

Please type or print all information clearly.

Date Completed: _____ / _____ / 2026

Website Address: _____ **Indicate Award:** Division Chapter

Name: Division _____ – Or – Chapter _____ State _____

Who from the division or chapter will be accepting the award at the convention (if known)?

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

*Please submit **only one (1)** print-out of just the home (primary) page of the website with this nomination. Copy of this web page may be in color or black and white as long as they are easy to read. The awards committee will then visit and further judge your website online. Factors the committee will consider when evaluating your site include:*

-  Does the website include local chapter events and projects?
-  Does the website include local, state, and/or national conservation topics and issues?
-  Is the website visually interesting?
-  Is the website easy to navigate?
-  Is the website current?
-  Do various members submit information for different sections (i.e., a president's message, or a state or national convention summary, or a re-cap of a speaker's presentation)?
-  Are there links provided to pertinent sections of the National organization's website?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply graphic images of the website's home page for potential future use during awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Division or Chapter, and Title: _____
(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division Approval:

Division Representative: _____
(print name) _____ (signature) _____

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org

MLR0126

2025 NATIONAL BEST CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION AWARD

NOMINATION FORM — DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026

Award Criteria: This award and monetary gift (\$250) recognizes the chapter that has carried out the most effective membership recruitment and retention programs during recent years, particularly during the previous year. Questions about the nominee are listed below as a guide to the specific information the awards committee is looking for. **One (1)** of these awards may be presented each year.

NOTE: Division approval for this award is **NOT** a requirement.

Please type or print all information clearly.

Date Completed: _____ / _____ / 2026

Chapter Name: _____ **State:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Who will be attending the convention to accept this award (if known)?

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____ **Email:** _____

Attach a summary of the chapter's qualifications to this form. Please consider each of the following questions when completing the nomination and answer each as thoroughly as possible. Remember that the awards committee members are not familiar with every chapter's programs and this information is designed to help the committee learn enough about each chapter to make a knowledgeable decision. Include supporting material with the nomination (such as news clippings or letters of recommendation).

- ❑ How long has the chapter been conducting the program/s they are being nominated for?
- ❑ Describe the specific membership recruitment and/or retention activities the chapter conducts. Consider details such as how many chapter members are involved in conducting these programs (i.e., a membership committee of people), how often the program takes place (such as a new member orientation event), how long the program lasts (i.e., a current member takes a new member "under his wing" for the first two months or a committee makes calls to expired members once a month), etc.
- ❑ Are there specific programs or activities the chapter offers that serve as strong draws for new members?
- ❑ What are some positive outcomes of the chapter's efforts (such as regular new member joins, increased member renewals, increased member knowledge of chapter programs and conservation efforts, etc.)?
- ❑ Are there other details that will help the committee learn about the chapter's programs?

NOTE: If selected to receive this award, you need to be prepared to supply photos of the chapter's related activities for potential future use during awards presentation, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on the League's website.

Your Name, Chapter, and Title: _____

(i.e., Awards Committee Chair or National Director or Chapter President, etc.)

To Receive Award Confirmation:

Your Daytime Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Mail to: **IWLA National Awards Program**
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

Email: awards@iwla.org



Izaak Walton League of America
National Awards Program
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Merrifield, VA
PERMIT NO. 2333

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

A MESSAGE FROM THE IWLA AWARDS COMMITTEE

Dear League Leader:

Each year the Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA) offers nearly 60 **National Awards** for conservation, outdoor ethics, water quality, shooting sports, communications, youth-focused achievements and much more! This year, they are to be presented during the 2026 IWLA National Convention in Bloomington, Minnesota to those most deserving recognition.

You will find on the first few pages of this mailer the application forms for both the annual **Defenders Chapter Achievement Award** and **Judge John W. Tobin Chapter Volunteer Appreciation Award** (both with a **March 15, 2026** deadline). Neither of these two annual awards requires division approval.

This program offers you the opportunity to recognize people and organizations (within and outside of the IWLA) for their conservation work at the local, state and national level last year in 2025. You may also choose to honor some members and organizations for their lifelong accomplishments and longtime devotion to natural resources conservation.

Don't let this opportunity pass by! Submit nominations for as many of these awards for which you can find worthy candidates. This packet includes explanations of the criteria for nominations and information about all our awards.

Remember when preparing your nomination that some of the **National Awards** require approval from your state division. The deadline for all these awards (except the Tobin and Chapter Defenders Awards) is **June 1, 2026**.

We ask that you do your part to help honor deserving members and other individuals and chapters, divisions and outside organizations for their dedication to conservation. Please forward your nominations for processing to the IWLA national office before the deadlines.

Thank you and your chapter for all you do to promote conservation and outdoor recreation!