



Izaak Walton League of America

STAFF REPORT 2025 National Convention

Summary of Accomplishments Since January 2025

- Completed a lengthy process of constructing a new membership database and a totally redesigned website with improved navigation and graphics.
- Led approximately 75 advocacy meetings with members of Congress and their staffs regarding the League's conservation policy priorities for the 119th Congress.
- Raised public awareness about the League and its mission through op-eds from League leadership and news coverage by National Public Radio, *Washington Post* and other media.
- Submitted in-depth technical comments and organized a coalition effort that included 58 League chapters and 14 state divisions opposing the push by EPA and Army Corps of Engineers to further weaken Clean Water Act safeguards for streams and wetlands across the U.S.
- Worked to protect billions of dollars of investment in agricultural conservation that some lawmakers wanted to redirect for tax cuts. The House of Representatives passed legislation to preserve the funding and boost program budgets by roughly 54 percent.
- Provided extensive training for MDRs and chapter officers on using the new database—everything from logging in to renewing members and running chapter rosters.
- Generated 4,564 test results from 1,967 sites nationwide where Salt Watch monitors had requested kits. Advocacy from volunteers helped to spur introduction of a bill in Maryland requiring salt piles to be covered when stored outside.
- Trained National Park Service rangers at Shenandoah National Park who requested instruction in water monitoring protocols from the League's Save Our Streams staff.
- Highlighted the dangerous and costly nitrate pollution crisis using data collected from Nitrate Watch volunteers, which was cited in news stories, including by ABC News and the Associated Press.

Messages to Take Back to Chapters

- **Develop contacts with local, state and federal policymakers**—invite them to a meeting, visit a field office, advocate for League priorities, including chapter and division priorities.
- **Sign up for advocacy alerts:** portal.iwla.org/Web/IWLA-Website-Contact-Us.aspx.
- **Learn about water monitoring**—subscribe to Clean Water Webinar alerts at iwla.org/subscriptions.

Conservation Advocacy: Past Progress and Future Priorities

In the first half of the year, League staff led nearly 75 advocacy meetings with members of Congress and their staff. While most took place in Washington, D.C., several were held in district offices and included active participation from Ikes promoting the League's conservation policy priorities. Staff also expanded our Salt Watch advocacy network in Ohio by meeting with more than 20 potential partners—ranging from grassroots watershed groups to statewide government-run programs—who could use Salt Watch data to advance clean water protections.

A key focus was **defending essential protections for streams, wetlands and drinking water for more than 100 million Americans** through the Clean Water Act.

In March, EPA and Army Corps of Engineers launched an ill-defined “public process” that could provide the basis for further weakening limits on discharging pollution directly into streams that do not have water flowing in them all year long. If that isn't bad enough, the agencies also opened the door to draining even more wetlands that do not have a continuous surface water connection to another waterway, following the loss of protections as a result of the Supreme Court's *Sackett* decision.

In response, **League staff submitted in-depth technical comments** and organized a coalition effort that included 58 League chapters and 14 state divisions signing on to their own public comments. Hundreds of individuals also submitted comments through a League action alert—many of them volunteer water quality monitors inspired to use their data for advocacy, even if they weren't League members.

Looking ahead, we will be pressing Congress to introduce and enact legislation aligned with our policy goals, especially measures that protect threatened grasslands and shape a conservation-focused Farm Bill. While staff lead these efforts, **engagement by League members is critical** to building a strong grassroots network. Whether you're interested in joining a meeting with a lawmaker, speaking with local officials about road salt runoff or simply encouraging advocacy by more members of your chapter, we can help. To get started, contact the League's Grassroots Advocacy Manager, Jessica Gordon, at jgordon@iwla.org.

With regard to the EPA and Army Corps focus on weakening the Clean Water Act, the next steps the agencies will take are unclear. But the League remains engaged. We will make the case for following the science and the law. **We will use water quality data gathered by our thousands of volunteers** to inform the public, the media and policymakers about how rolling back the Clean Water Act threatens public health, fish and wildlife habitat and the \$1.2 trillion outdoor recreation economy.

Finally, we'll keep expanding our Salt Watch and Nitrate Watch campaigns to empower new communities to fight water pollution at its source—creating more opportunities for Ikes to be effective clean water advocates. **Anyone can advocate using this data**—we're ready to connect you with volunteer monitors in your area so you can help turn data into action for cleaner rivers and streams.

Agriculture

In the first half of the year, agriculture program staff advocated at the federal and state levels to advance conservation and soil health on agricultural lands.

League staff advocated for many months to protect funding for agricultural conservation programs, which some lawmakers wanted to redirect to offset tax cuts. In May, **our efforts were rewarded when the House of Representatives passed legislation that would preserve the funding for conservation.** These investments stand to boost the budgets for key programs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture by roughly 54 percent. This represents a significant win for programs that have long been underfunded and oversubscribed that spur adoption of beneficial practices that improve water quality, soil health, and wildlife habitat across the country. We will continue our work to ensure the increased funding becomes law.”

Staff and Ikes have also engaged to protect wetlands on agricultural lands. Within the Farm Bill debate, we identified policy opportunities that would help conserve wetlands, and **League members and supporters sent upwards of 800 messages to Capitol Hill** as part of an action alert campaign. We also have paid close attention to a legal case involving Conservation Compliance provisions, specifically Swampbuster. In April, staff hosted a webinar with interveners in the lawsuit, and in May, **a federal judge ruled in favor of conservation and water quality** by affirming that the protections for wetlands are constitutional.



Conservation team staff advocated on Capitol Hill for League priorities.

This spring, **staff were successful in securing two years of funding for the League's Agriculture Program from our largest funder.** Now, we are setting strategy that will guide our future work. We will continue to advocate for federal policies that advance conservation on agricultural lands, including in the Farm Bill, and more immediately, in the reconciliation package working its way through Congress. This will include coordinating visits with Members of Congress and their staff, developing educational materials, and continuing to advance policy priorities like our State and Tribal Soil Health Grant Program.

We also have plans to better integrate volunteer water monitors in our grassroots advocacy strategy by helping them share their stories and monitoring results with their local, state, and federal lawmakers.

This work will succeed if we have all hands on deck. Ikes must get involved. **Offer your chapter as a meeting site for congressional lawmakers and staff, particularly this August.** This will help create opportunities to inform members of Congress and their staff about the League's mission and presence in their community and ultimately discuss policy changes we would like to see.

Further, amidst a challenging Farm Bill debate, there is an increased need for Ikes and conservation advocates to speak out about why the Farm Bill and its conservation programs are important. **Contact Agriculture Program Director Kate Hansen at khansen@iwla.org if you are willing to pen an op-ed, blog or letter to the editor.** We are happy to help.

Chapter Relations

Chapter Tools and Resources

The League continues to offer a wide variety of resources, tools and services to help chapter leaders and members manage operations, conserve natural resources and promote outdoor recreation. The most recent and significant offering is the newly launched national website with its chapter resources and search pages that provide the resources needed to successfully run, locate and promote Izaak Walton League chapters.

One Stop Shop for Chapters on New National Website

The Chapter Resources section of the new website (iwla.org/chapter-resources) provides a single location where chapters can manage membership, access a wide array of chapter resources, get information about national awards and much more.

- 1) Use the "Manage Chapter" tab to get right to the chapter portal in the new database where authorized officers can manage memberships, submit payments, update officers and access the national directory.
- 2) Under "Chapter Resources" you will find detailed information, documents and materials, related to:
 - Officer Responsibilities
 - Chapter Management Tips
 - Chapter Communications
 - Starting a New Chapter

- Signage and Merchandise
- Water Monitoring Resources

3) “Awards Programs” includes descriptions of the League’s national awards for individual member and chapter accomplishments in leadership, conservation, outdoor ethics, water quality, communications and youth-focused achievements.

Chapter Search Webpage

The chapter search webpage (iwla.org/find-a-chapter) has long been the most visited on the League’s website. In conjunction with the chapter profile data, the website will continue to display details about each chapter.

The new page allows visitors to search for chapters based on availability of seven of the most common amenities offered by chapters with property: archery course, boating, camping, chapter house, firearms range, fishing, and hiking.



Visit “Find A Chapter” to view each chapter’s current membership contact, a representative photo for the chapter, a brief description of the chapter’s primary activities and priorities and a link to the chapter website or social media platform. Chapters are strongly encouraged to review their profiles and send updated chapter overviews and image to info@iwla.org.

National Shooting Sports Month (NSSM)

The League again partnered with the National Shooting Sports Foundation to promote recreational target shooting in August 2025 (shootingsportsmoonh.org). Through our mini-grant program, funding (up to \$250) will support chapter NSSM events focused specifically on engaging families with little or no firearms experience and not already active in target shooting.

Over the past four years, with a small donation received specifically to promote participation in shooting sports, the League has awarded mini-grants to 19 chapters to support their National Shooting Sports Month events.

Member Recognition and Awards

In March, 64 chapters submitted nominations for the Judge John W. Tobin Chapter Volunteer Appreciation Award, while 45 chapters successfully applied for the annual Defenders Chapter Achievement Award. In June, the Awards Committee reviewed 65 nominations and selected several recipients for national awards.

An additional eight chapters and the Indiana Division will be recognized for their significant membership growth accomplishments in 2024. All national and membership awards will be announced and presented during the national convention. Afterwards, winners will be recognized online and in *Outdoor America*.

2025 National Conservation Scholarships

Funded by the Izaak Walton League of America Endowment, the League will again provide two \$2,500 scholarships to the following undergraduate students majoring in natural resource fields:

- Alyse Walenski, an Environmental Engineering and Technology major at University of Wisconsin—Green Bay, and
- Norah Foreman, a Conservation Biology and Ecology major at Montana State University.

Communications

Leaning on web experts, the communications team completed a year's long task of building a new website. This entailed creating new content and migrating existing text and images to a reimagined site, still located at iwla.org. With a fresh look and contributions from across the entire staff and membership, the new site promises to deliver inspiration as well as practical information to visitors—whether a chapter officer, a new lke or a curious member of the general public.

Outdoor America, the League's quarterly magazine, provided insights into what's at stake in the debates about conservation policy. The magazine offered stories about some of the League's history-shaping victories and profiled a small sample of the achievements and innovative youth programs from across the League's wide array of active chapters.

The League and its programs gained visibility through good media coverage, including a *New York Times* profile of the Green Crew youth program created at the Minnesota Valley Chapter. A variety of op-eds from the League elected leaders and staff and press coverage also raised the organization's profile in newspapers, radio and television. A few highlights of the media coverage are listed at the end of this report.

In the months ahead, the team will inform the media, policymakers and national audiences about the League's leading role in protecting water quality and conservation broadly. We are always looking for stories about advocacy actions taken, conservation projects and other innovations from chapters and divisions. So please share them with Communications Director Michael Reinemer at mreinemer@iwla.org.

Development

Growing the Donor Base

The League has continued to market itself through significant direct mail efforts to obtain financial support and grow our donor base. We have had success not only in reaching new donors from outside the League but also in growing the number of first-time contributions from League members.

Our efforts have met or exceeded industry benchmarks and represent an important source of revenue for the League. We have another robust plan to conduct multiple donor acquisitions and appeals to current donors throughout the remainder of 2025. With the results from each

mailing, we continue to fine tune and target our outreach to find the audiences most in sync with our message and likely to make contributions; in fact, the number of people making *more than* one donation during the course of the year has continued to rise. We thank all of our generous donors for providing the financial support that helps the League to achieve our mission nationwide.

Board Giving

Board member giving is an important metric, now more than ever. As many foundations seek to limit the number of grant recipients, it is important for the League to show that 100 percent of our Board members contribute. It demonstrates Board support in a very public way and can encourage giving from the general membership. The amount of the donation is less important than the percentage of board members making a gift. During 2024, 60 percent of Board members made a donation to the national organization.

Please help us reach the 100 percent milestone for 2025. You can contribute at any time by donating online at www.iwla.org or by mailing a check to the national office. Many thanks to Board members for your support.

Membership

We ended 2024 with 40,427 members, down about 1½ percent from 2023 (about 600 members). The most current membership report, reflecting numbers as of June 30, 2025 will be included in your convention meeting packet. Please review the details carefully as some chapters still have large numbers of renewals for 2025 outstanding.

Preparing for the Fall Billing for the 2026 Membership Year

Letters have gone out to all chapter membership officers asking for confirmation of 2026 dues rates and chapter mailing addresses for membership items. **This information must be provided to the national office before the August 15, 2025 deadline** in order to generate and distribute the first billing to chapters on time in early September.

Database Updates

Our new database and the associated website went live on May 8. Both have been met with positive feedback and we continue to work hard to resolve issues that have cropped up since the “go live” date. Online registrations for convention, donations and member-at-large payments have been coming in well. Not surprisingly, as it is our biggest processing function, there have been some challenges with chapter membership processing ranging from individual difficulties logging in to some changes needed to the membership portal pages. As database launches go, this went smoothly on the whole and within the first month we were live, more than 130 chapter membership batches were submitted and successfully processed.

In May, League staff provided extensive training for MDRs and chapter officers on using the new database—everything from logging in to renewing members and running chapter rosters. Recordings of those sessions for reference or a refresher can be found here:

portal.iwla.org/IWLA/Contacts/Instruction-Videos.aspx. Also printed “tip sheets,” with screen shots and embedded instructions, are available at iwla.org/wp-content/uploads/Login-Tip-Sheets.pdf. Prior to the fall renewal season, staff will host live training sessions again.

If members of your chapter did not participate in trainings in May or have not used the new database much because the chapter had submitted all of its memberships for the year or for any other reason, **we encourage MDRs and chapter officers to participate in the live training later this year.**

Staff will stay diligent and respond as quickly as possible to issues as they crop up in the coming months. If you have questions about using the new database or need support to perform a specific task, please email imis@iwla.org. Using this email will help ensure timely response.

Clean Water Program

In 2025, the Izaak Walton League's Clean Water Program continues to forge ahead with a growth mindset. Our goal is not only engaging more people in water quality monitoring across the country but also providing resources to help volunteers become advocates who can create change at local and regional levels. With tools like free crowdsourced monitoring techniques (Salt Watch and Nitrate Watch), and the Clean Water Hub database being used by more than 250 organizations, the League has cemented itself as an integral pillar in the volunteer monitoring community nationwide.

Save Our Streams (SOS)

In 2025, staff remain committed to expanding monitoring and making it easy for new volunteers to get engaged, receive training and submit data. Staff continue to offer hybrid training for macro-invertebrate monitoring where new volunteers can begin their training and certification online and complete training with a truncated field session. So far this year, 197 volunteers have completed the online training, many of whom have already completed their field portion and became fully certified SOS monitors.

Iowa Save Our Streams

2025 is off to a strong start for the League-led water quality monitoring community in Iowa. Between January and June, volunteers reported more than 1,300 water quality readings at 500 sites. Save Our Streams trainers offered trainings at three locations (Marion, Panora and Carroll), providing opportunities for new volunteers to become certified in SOS biological monitoring. The Iowa equipment loan network continues to serve as a key resource for volunteers, providing a free source of chemical and biological monitoring supplies. We recently added two new locations to the loan network, bringing the total to 15 statewide.

In early 2025, we created a **new Facebook group** as a place where Iowa's water quality monitors and advocates can celebrate successes, elevate local water news, share advocacy opportunities and find monitoring events. Ikes are encouraged to join this group to stay engaged and add to the conversation about water monitoring in Iowa. Find the group by navigating to [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) and searching for "Iowa Save Our Streams."

The Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund, also known as IWILL, has been a focus for engaging Iowa volunteers in 2025 to help advocate for clean water beyond monitoring. The Trust, which Iowa voters overwhelmingly approved to provide dedicated funding for conservation, but which has remained unfunded by the state legislature for nearly 15 years,

faced opposition in the Iowa legislature earlier this year. Over 100 Iowans responded to League action alerts, urging state representatives to vote “no” on a measure that would have repealed the Trust; ultimately the measure did not advance and the Trust was not repealed.

League members and chapters should continue to communicate with their state representatives about the importance of fully funding the Trust. Complete the **IWILL action alert** on the League website (iwla.org/actionalert), share it within your network and consider setting up a meeting with your representatives or inviting them to your chapter for an event. Our **IWILL fact sheet** is a helpful informational resource and makes a great handout—find it in the League resource library, iwla.org/resource. Ikes or water advocates seeking support as they engage in this work can contact Heather Wilson at hwilson@iwla.org.

Virginia Save Our Streams

At the beginning of 2025, data entry for Virginia Save Our Streams (VA SOS) moved from a database built and maintained by a volunteer to the League’s Clean Water Hub. This transition allows easier data visualization and sharing. VA SOS volunteers have submitted 70 approved stream health surveys to the Clean Water Hub so far this year. This data is available for anyone to access on the Hub, so Ikes across Virginia can use this data to speak up and advocate for clean water in their community.

Our volunteer trainers have held 11 trainings across Virginia and Maryland, certifying 43 new monitors. Six monitors are in the process of completing trainer certification, with League staff scheduled to run the field portion of the training this summer. Any League members in Virginia or Maryland are eligible to become certified monitors. Get started today at iwla.org/sos.

If you are part of a Maryland chapter that currently conducts Save Our Streams monitoring, consider switching from the national protocol to the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative/Virginia Save Our Streams protocol. We are able to send this data to the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative and the Chesapeake Bay Program, so it has the potential to be more impactful at the state and federal level. We also have a need for more certified trainers in Maryland. If you are interested in either, League staff can provide training. Reach out to Maggie Dombroski at mdombroski@iwla.org for more information.

In August of this year, League staff plan to host a Clean Water Webinar on how volunteer monitors can get involved in water quality advocacy at the local level, featuring several Virginia monitors who have had success in this area. While this webinar will have a Virginia lens, it will be informative for anyone who wants to get involved in local advocacy. All Ikes are encouraged to attend. Subscribe to our Clean Water Webinar alerts at iwla.org/subscriptions for updates.

Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative

The Izaak Walton League remains a vital partner within the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative (CMC). The League serves as the primary service provider for benthic macroinvertebrate data collection in the lower Chesapeake watershed through the VA SOS program.

In 2024, the League also focused on expanding the CMC’s reach by integrating crowdsourced data into its broader monitoring efforts. As part of this initiative, the Salt Watch program was

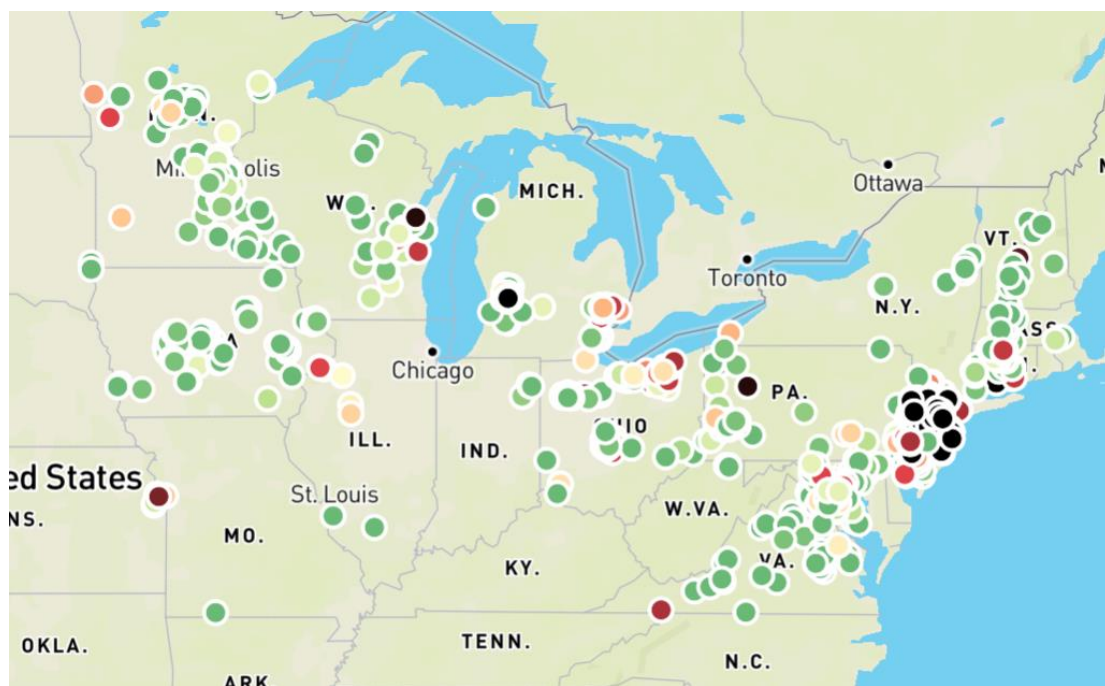
identified as a highly accessible, community-driven water monitoring effort that engages volunteers across the region. Development of a comprehensive Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for Salt Watch began in 2024. This QAPP will serve as a verification that the data collected by Salt Watch volunteers is of high enough quality to be accurate about the state of water quality in the sampled areas. The goal is to have the QAPP approved by EPA and fully integrated into the CMC program by the end of 2025.

Salt Watch

In 2025 from January to mid-May, Salt Watch staff distributed 2,554 Salt Watch kits requested by volunteers who reported 4,564 test results from 1,967 sites nationwide. These results are concentrated from the Midwest to the mid-Atlantic region and into New England on the East Coast with largest data clusters in Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey and in New England following the Connecticut River.

There were high chloride readings recorded in many areas across the U.S.—especially New Jersey, the DC Metro Region, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Columbus, Grand Rapids, Minneapolis-Saint Paul and Kansas City. Some organizations needed to purchase high-range test strips because the chloride levels in water were constantly “off the charts” higher than the range up to 650 parts per million in the League’s Salt Watch kits. Levels over 860 parts per million can kill aquatic life in a matter of hours.

This further highlights the importance of community science monitoring of local waterways and drinking water as **community scientists can serve as the first line of defense for noticing changes and concerning levels of pollution in waterways**. These monitoring efforts have translated to real advocacy on the ground: the League played an integral role in introducing a bill in Maryland requiring salt piles to be stored under cover, and our partners Friends of Sligo Creek are using the Salt Watch program to bring attention to the issue in the DC Metro Region.



Salt Watch data submissions, January to May 2025 (www.cleanwaterhub.org/maps/salt-watch)

Starting to monitor with Salt Watch and getting your chapter and division involved is easy. We thank the chapters who are already involved and actively submitting test results. If you would like to learn more and get started, please check out the Salt Watch Chapter Toolkit at iwla.org/toolkit for information on monitoring, outreach and advocacy. You can also request outreach supplies to promote Salt Watch and other Izaak Walton League Clean Water programs at iwla.org/toolkit.

Looking ahead, League staff and partners are already gearing up for **Winter Salt Awareness Week 2026**, taking place from January 26-30, 2026. Winter Salt Awareness Week is a week-long awareness campaign full of daily webinars and a push for individuals and groups to test local waters for chloride pollution using Salt Watch. Advertising webinars and taking part in this event is something chapters and divisions can do to help promote public awareness about the threats excessive use of road salt pose to human health, infrastructure and fish and wildlife. More information about the event will be made available as the event approaches.

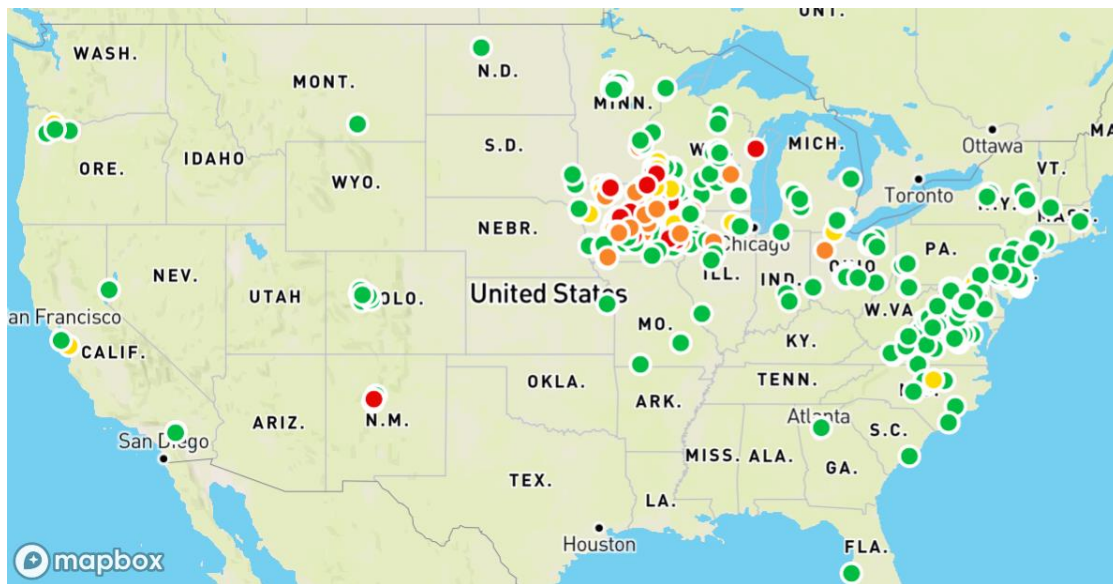
Salt Watch staff plan to meet with legislators in Maryland and Virginia to discuss opportunities for **state legislation for reducing road salt pollution and creating incentives for road salt applicators to learn and follow best practices**. Support for such legislation by chapter members and state divisions would help to move the needle for passing legislation to reduce salt pollution.

To keep up to date with our specific programs, please consider signing up for our Salt Watch and other Clean Water newsletters if you haven't already. This can be done on the new website platform at iwla.org.

Nitrate Watch

Between January and June 2025, volunteers have reported over 1,900 Nitrate Watch readings at more than 900 sites across the country. Many of these readings are being reported by volunteers in the Upper Midwest, particularly Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin, which is a priority region for Nitrate Watch engagement and partnership-building in 2025.

As we observed in 2024, the average nitrate concentrations in surface water reported by volunteers are increasing as we enter late spring. This "spring flush" of nitrate pollution is a result of increased precipitation and increased fertilizer input on the landscape. We will continue to monitor this trend and share test results documenting this problem with the public, policymakers and media.



Nitrate Watch data January to June 2025 (www.cleanwaterhub.org/maps/nitrate-watch)

Several League members and chapters have gotten involved in Nitrate Watch monitoring and outreach in recent months. Thank you to those who have embraced this program thus far! Ikes who are interested in getting more involved, as an individual or as a chapter, are encouraged to download the **Nitrate Watch IWLA Chapter Toolkit**. The resource includes information about how to engage with the program through monitoring, outreach and advocacy. Ikes can also **request promotional materials** for Nitrate Watch and other Clean Water programs using the clean water outreach supplies request form. Find both of these resources at iwla.org/toolkit.

Nitrate Watch has **driven increased attention to nitrate pollution in the media** this spring. An April article from the *Iowa Capital Dispatch* titled “Citizen scientists take to Iowa’s waters to monitor nitrate levels” highlighted the League and the Nitrate Watch program in particular as an important tool for supplementing existing water quality monitoring and giving volunteers a way to understand water quality locally. An op-ed from League leaders Jodi Labs and Dale Braun, published in the Cedar Rapids *Gazette* and the *Quad City Times*, calls out the importance of reevaluating the federal drinking water standard for nitrate to ensure that it protects human health.

A June 17 article from the *Iowa Capital Dispatch* (“Iowans across the state asked to conserve water due to dry wells, high nitrate levels”) covers the story of central Iowa’s lawn watering ban in response to stress on the water utilities from nitrate pollution. Data and insight from the Nitrate Watch program were featured prominently in this article. As a result of this news coverage and an overall uptick in awareness of the nitrate pollution issue in Iowa, **the Nitrate Watch program saw a dramatic increase in kit requests**. The week of June 22 alone saw more than 300 Nitrate Watch kit requests from volunteers in Iowa—that’s over one-third of the kits sent in all of 2025 so far.

Sharing our data and our stories with the press is an important way to elevate the issue of nitrate pollution in local communities. If you are interested in reaching out to local media, please contact us at nitratewatch@iwla.org and let us know how we can support you. Check out

the **Letter to the Editor & Op-Ed Guide** (search “LTE” at iwla.org/resource) for more guidance and inspiration. Also, let us know if you get an op-ed or letter to the editor published—we’d love to celebrate and share your work!

Finance and Administration

2024 Audit

The League received a “clean opinion” for its 2024 audit. This means all accounting and financial reporting complied with generally accepted accounting practices and accurately reflected revenue, expenses and total assets for the calendar year. The League will file its annual 990 tax return with the IRS later this summer.

Annual Chapter and Division Nonprofit and Bylaw Reporting

The national bylaws require all chapters and divisions to provide specific information to the national organization annually, and additional requirements apply to chapters and divisions that are exempt from federal income taxes under the League’s 501c3 group exemption. **The deadline for submitting information to the national office is August 15, 2025.**

All of the information needed for submissions, including the annual conservation questionnaire, sample chapter and division questionnaires and a submission check list, are posted on the national website at www.iwla.org/501c3.

2026 National Convention in Minneapolis

2026 national convention will be held in **Minneapolis, Minnesota July 17-18, 2026**. League representatives from Minnesota will provide a general preview at the 2025 convention. Information, including the specific convention site hotel and nightly room rates, will be posted on the League’s website later this summer.

Media coverage highlights

January – June 2025

New York Times, May 20 “Minnesota Teens Are Fighting Climate Anxiety with Shovels,” by Kate Selig, features Green Crew program at the League’s Minnesota Valley Chapter

The Gazette, April 12, Cedar Rapids, Iowa “Thinking smarter about our drinking water,” op-ed by Jodi Labs and Dale Braun

Washington Post, June 4 “A salt crisis is looming for U.S. rivers,” by Kasha Patel; article on salt pollution profiles a Salt Watch partner in the Washington, DC area

Quad-City Times, May 9, Dubuque, Iowa/Rock Island, Ill. “Izaak Walton League of America: Provide incentives to reduce nitrate runoff,” op-ed by Jodi Labs and Dale Braun

Outdoor News (Minnesota), Apr. 4 “Ike’s Common-sense Conservation Agenda,” by Jared Mott

Outdoor News (Ohio), June 4 “Izaak Walton League of America: More funding should be pumped into nation’s Farm Bill,” by Celeste Baumgartner

Cedar Rapids Gazette, Jan. 2 “Prairie classroom” mentions League, via *Iowa Capital Dispatch*

Des Moines Register, Jan. 2, 2025 “Prairie Classroom” mentions Izaak Walton League, via *Iowa Capital Dispatch*, Cami Koons

Minnesota Public Radio, June 2 “A group of Minnesota teens are taking climate change into their own hands,” by Nina Moini. Interview with Green Crew from Minnesota Valley Chapter

Iowa Capital Dispatch, Apr. 11 “Citizen scientists take to Iowa’s waters to monitor nitrate levels,” Cami Koons

Telegraph Herald, April 12, Dubuque, Iowa & Rock Island, Ill. “Citizen scientists take to Iowa’s waters to monitor nitrate levels,” Cami Koons

Iowa Capital Dispatch, June 17 “Iowans across the state asked to conserve water due to dry wells, high nitrate levels,” Cami Koons

WMRA-FM, NPR affiliate, Harrisonburg, Va. June 3 “Assessing stream health in Virginia with biology and chemistry,” by Randi B. Hagi



Randi B. Hagi

Samantha Puckett, left, and Matthew Kierce, with the Izaak Walton League of America, demonstrate techniques for catching aquatic macroinvertebrates in a stream in Rockingham County in May.