

# Stoney Creek Fishing & Hunting Club



April 2024

Greetings all members,

Spring is quickly approaching and I hope everyone had a safe and warm winter. For those who were able to get out into the field for the late Migratory Bird season, I hope you had a successful season.

To keep everyone up to date on current and upcoming events, let me first start off with Air Gun League. Thank you to Brian and Ray Heslep for running Air Gun League again which is well under way every Wednesday evening. Also currently underway is Bench Rest League. Thank you to Tim Holbrook for leading that.

With Easter happening this past weekend, it's that time of year to get ready for the upcoming Club Egg Roll. The date for the Club Egg Roll is this upcoming Sunday, April 7th. Members who have young children or grand children this is a great event to attend. Thank you again to Brian Heslep for taking charge of this great event year after year. As a side note, those members who need "work hours", contact Brian Heslep, he can always use help with this event.

I'd like to take a moment to remind everyone that there are several upcoming leagues, club shoots, and events.

Spring Trap League is underway (contact Dave Cottrell for more info). The Pistol league first shoot starts here in April. M1/AR League starts up this spring also.

Also approaching are several club shoots in May and June. The club Lever Action Shoot is on 5/26. The club .22 Rifle Shoot is on 6/9 (contact Lee Moran for more info).

Mark your calendars for the following May and June events. The club Flea Market is 5/5 (contact Bob Larson for more info). On 6/15 the club will have its inaugural trap social event ( details are still in the works).

In closing and as a friendly reminder, as members of Stoney Creek Fishing & Hunting Club, Inc. there will be times when you will be asked to contact/communicate with elected officials as members of this club and as citizens outside of this club. I would like to take a moment and again remind all members to be courteous and respectful when communicating with elected officials as members of this club.

Thank you and Happy Spring

David J. Bathras, SR.

President

Stoney Creek Fishing & Hunting Club, Inc.



**Member Only Shoots/Events**  
 Egg Roll - 4/7  
 Flea Market - 5/5  
 Lever Action Shoot - 5/26

**Upcoming General Meeting Dates**  
 April 12th  
 April 26th  
 May 10th  
 May 31st  
 Board Meeting - April 8th



**Stoney Creek Fishing & Hunting Club  
 2024 Calendar of Events**

**January**

General Meetings 12,26  
 Air Gun League 3,10,17,24,31  
 Board Meeting 8(7pm)  
 Bench Rest 28

**February**

General Meetings 9,23  
 Air Gun League 7,14,21,28  
 \*\* Sniper Rifle 25  
 \*\*Bench Rest 18  
 Hunter Education Workshop 29 (5PM)

**March**

General Meetings 8,29  
 Air Gun League 6,13,20,27  
 Pistol League Mtg 14(7pm)  
 \*\*Bench Rest 17  
 Trap League 17,24,30  
 M1/AR Meeting 21(7pm)  
 Hunter Education Training 23(8AM)

**April**

General Meetings 12,26  
 \*\*Pistol League 6,21  
 Egg Roll 7  
 Board Meeting 8(7PM)  
 \*\*Bench Rest 14  
 Trap League 14,20,28

**May**

General Meetings 10,31  
 \*\*Pistol League 4,18  
 Trap League 4,11,19,26  
 Flea Market 5  
 Air Gun Banquet 18 (6pm)  
 \*\*Bench Rest 19  
 \*\*Lever Action Shoot 26

**June**

General Meetings 14,28  
 Trap League 1  
 \*\*Pistol League 2,15,30  
 \*\*Bench Rest M/U 2  
 Trap League Banquet 8(6pm)  
 \*\*.22 Rifle Shoot 9  
 Hunter Safety 17,20,22  
 Steak Night 15

**July**

General Meetings 12,26  
 \*\*Pistol Shoot 7  
 Board Meeting 8(7PM)  
 \*\*Pistol League 14,28

**August**

General Meetings 9,30  
**\*\*Trap Shoot 3**  
**\*\*Military Rifle & Pistol Shoot 3**  
 Hunter Qual 4,18,31  
 \*\*Pistol League 10,24  
 Trap League 11,18,24,31  
 Hunter Safety 12,15,17  
 Internet H. Safety 25

**September**

General Meetings 13,27  
 Hunter Qual 1  
 Trap League 7,15,21,29  
 \*\*Pistol League 8  
 Internet H. Safety 14  
 M1/AR Banquet 14(6pm)  
 \*\*All Gun Shoot 22  
 Pistol Banquet 28(5pm)

**October**

General Meetings 11  
 Internet H. Safety 5  
 Trap League 6,12,20  
 Board Meeting 7(7PM)  
**\*\*Side-X-Side and 13**  
**20-Gauge Trap Shoot**  
**\*\*Rifle Shoot 13**

**November**

General Meetings 8  
 Trap League Banquet 2 (6pm)  
 Flea Market 3  
 Calendar Meeting 13 (7pm)  
 Bench Rest Meeting 20 (7pm)

**December**

General Meetings 13  
 Air Gun League Mtg 18(7pm)  
 Merry Christmas 25

**\*\* Members Only Shoot -  
 registration 10AM to 2PM**

Hunter Qual 9AM to 1PM

TRAP EVERY TUESDAY @ 5PM  
 WEB SITE INFO - [www.scfhclub.org](http://www.scfhclub.org)

EVENTS LINE 410-255-2119

ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

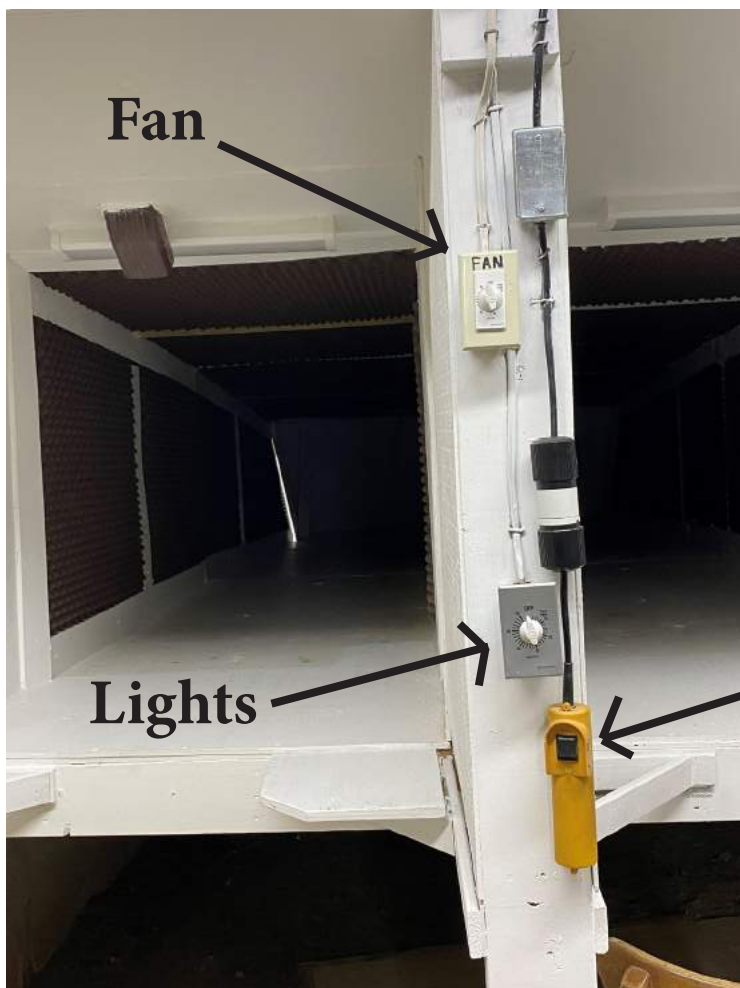
## New Range Rules:

All Ranges:

Please turn on the exhaust fans that have been installed on each lane during use. **A leaf blower is also located at the 50 yard range to clear out powder.**

25 & 50 yard Ranges:

The eyebrows have been removed. The outer doors must be opened all the way. The old eyebrow controllers now open and shut the outer doors.



**100 yds+ Eyebrow, Adjust like normal**  
**25-50 yds - Outer Door, open all the way**



## Training & Academics Committee

The Training committee has undergone a slight rebranding. We have many hoops to jump through to make sure we will not be breaking any laws, violating our insurance, or anything else needed depending on the class, plus finding the right people and committees to teach. This is more than one man can handle long term. I am looking for a few people to form an actual committee for this so classes can be planned months ahead. If you are interested, please contact Joseph Wiley.

Still Looking for people to help form a committee to get this going.

### PARKING ALERT

For those of you that don't know, our range parking area is directly next to a hole at the golf course. It is important to know where you park when visiting the range.

Stoney Creek Fishing and Hunting club is not responsible for your vehicle in the parking lot. The Golf Course is not responsible for your car getting hit.







## Lever Action Rifle Club Shoot

Any lever action rifle.

Shooter may choose to shoot in Open sight or Scoped/ Red Dot categories.

Slings are not allowed.

The same gun must be used through-out the full course of fire.

All shots will be taken form the standing (offhand) position.

The course of fire will be a total of 20 rounds, shot as follows:

50 yards – 5 rounds at clay birds

75 yards – 5 rounds at a 'Paper Tombstone"

100 yards – 5 rounds at a '9" Paper Plate'

150 yards – 5 rounds at a 'Paper Jug'

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## Time is due at the end of the April!!

Dues are coming up please remember to make sure your address and email address are up to date with Rob Clay, Sr.



## **Maryland Hunters Harvest 72,642 Deer for 2023-2024 Season**

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reported that deer hunters harvested 72,642 deer during the combined archery, firearms, and muzzleloader seasons, from Sept. 8, 2023 through Feb. 3, 2024.

The statewide harvest included 30,025 antlered and 38,511 antlerless white-tailed deer, and 1,912 antlered and 2,194 antlerless sika deer. The harvest was 5% lower than the 2022-2023 total of 76,687 deer.

“Maryland hunters enjoyed another successful season and managed to put some venison in their freezers,” Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Karina Stonesifer said. “Deer hunting is essential for managing the state’s deer population and assists with reducing agricultural damage and deer-vehicle collisions.”

Hunters harvested 7,074 deer on Sundays, comprising 10% of the total harvest. Hunting deer on Sunday is only permitted during certain weeks in 20 of Maryland’s 23 counties.

The harvest in deer management Region A (Western Maryland) decreased 4%, from 9,552 deer last year to 9,169 this year. Hunters in the western counties reported 5,678 antlered and 3,491 antlerless deer.

Hunters in Region B — the remainder of the state — harvested 63,473 deer, down 6% from 67,135 deer harvested last year. A total of 26,259 antlered and 37,214 antlerless deer were reported in this region.

Frederick County had the highest reported harvest again this year, with 6,549 deer reported. Carroll County followed with 5,729 deer, and Garrett County was third with 5,108. Baltimore and Washington counties rounded out the top five with 4,550 and 4,418 deer, respectively.



## **NRP Reminds Maryland's Recreational Crabbers to Comply with Conservation Laws**

Maryland's blue crab season officially opens April 1 in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries and the Atlantic Ocean and coastal bays. With the opening of a new season comes an increased presence by Natural Resources Police (NRP) officers to educate the public and enforce laws pertaining to crabbing, particularly with recreational crabbers and owners of private shorelines.

"While Marylanders are looking forward to the opening of blue crab season, it's important to stay in compliance with current laws and regulations," Brian Rathgeb, Acting Deputy Superintendent of the NRP said. "Whether you are crabbing from your dock or elsewhere, remember that NRP officers will be actively enforcing all crabbing laws and regulations including crab pot turtle reduction devices, proper markings, and owner's proper licensing and registrations."

Many turtle reduction devices are bright orange plastic rectangular devices fitted in crab pot entrance funnels. They have been required by law on recreational crab pots in Maryland since 1999. Large diamondback terrapins won't fit through the state-regulated devices (1.75 inches x 4.75 inches), but they do not interfere with catching legal crabs.

Diamondback terrapins, the state reptile, face tremendous danger in crab pots not fitted with reduction devices. Terrapins are lured into crab pots by the same baits used to attract blue crabs. However, unlike blue crabs, terrapins must rise periodically to the surface to breathe air. Terrapins trapped in a fully submerged crab pot will drown.

"Once prevalent in state waters, terrapins today face many challenges in the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic coastal waters," Jonathan McKnight, Associate Director of DNR's Natural Heritage Program said. "Loss of habitat and crab pot mortality pose significant threats to their population. When crabbing this season, keep the turtles in mind and know that your efforts are crucial in the conservation of this species."

Researchers from DNR's Wildlife and Heritage Service alongside NRP officers performed routine recreational crab pot checks in 2016, finding turtle reduction devices compliance as low as 53 percent. Marylanders are reminded that in addition to mandated turtle reduction devices, recreational crab pots must also be registered annually and marked with the owner's DNRid or name and address. NRP Officers are checking for gear compliance as frequently as ever, significantly increasing the number of crabbing related inspections from 2022 to 2023, while also recording a 13.6% increase in crabbing citations and warnings issued year-over-year.

Pots not affixed with turtle reduction devices can still be bought legally, however the devices must be installed prior to recreational use. As awareness of the devices has increased, many recreational crab pots now sold include the turtle-saving feature.

The plastic devices last longer than the galvanized wire versions, which might deteriorate over time due to rust, officials with DNR's Wildlife & Heritage Service stated. In a pinch, crabbers can make their own turtle reduction devices, but should also acquaint themselves with the latest state rules and regulations related to crabbing.



## **NRP Reminds Maryland’s Recreational Crabbers to Comply with Conservation Laws, Cont.**

“The harvest regulations in place are there for the future of crabbing in Maryland,” said Michael Luisi, Associate Director of DNR’s Fishing and Boating Services. “Crabbing is a time-honored tradition in our state and blue crabs are one of the most important species harvested in the Bay. For future generations to enjoy the blue crab harvests that we have, rules and restrictions on crab sizes, catch limits, and methods must be followed to maintain a healthy and sustainable blue crab population.”

Maryland’s blue crab season runs from April 1 to December 15 in the Chesapeake Bay and December 31 in the Atlantic Ocean and its coastal bays and tidal tributaries. The state’s blue crab harvest accounts for over 50% of total U.S. landings. While not mandated for every recreational crabber, Maryland DNR issued nearly 70,000 crabbing licenses and crab pot registrations in 2023.



## Club Officers

### President

David Bathras, Sr

### Vice President

Bobby Dill

### Secretary

Joseph Wiley

### Treasurer

Kevin Burket

### Financial Secretary

Rob Clay, Sr.

### Sergeant At Arms

Ed Panowicz

### Chief Range Officer

Lee Moran

### Clay Target Officer

Rob Peel

### Kitchen Officer

Melissa Basil

## Board of Directors

### Club President

### Club Vice President

Ray Ten Kate

Ted Mathison

Chris Colvin

Rob Clay, Sr

George McCauley

Joseph Wiley

Kevin Burket

Karl Sovik

John Grainger



Contact Stephen Moody  
for club license plate details

## Tuesday Night Trap

Trap is open for the season!  
Great way to meet people and earn  
hours.

Hello Everyone,

If you haven't noticed, my name is up here a few more times. I am looking for some help on the newsletter committee. Mostly I need help with taking photos and attending events that I am not able to go to. Reach out to me if your interested in earning some time.

Joe Wiley

### Membership

Michael Basil

### Public Relations

Robert Larsen

### Newsletter Editor

Joseph Wiley

