



Worcester County League of Sportsmen's Clubs Sportsmen's News

July 2020 Issue #343
An All Volunteer Publication
Since December 1990

Four Point Action Program
Education, Conservation, Public Relations, and Legislation

July 2020 Special Edition

Effects of COVID-19

2020 WORCESTER COUNTY LEAGUE'S ANNUAL APPRECIATION BANQUET CANCELED ****
2020 The Big MOE **CANCELED**

NEW ADDITION TO THE SQUANNACOOK RIVER WMA

MassWildlife continues to protect the Squannacook River WMA by adding additional acreage to the property.

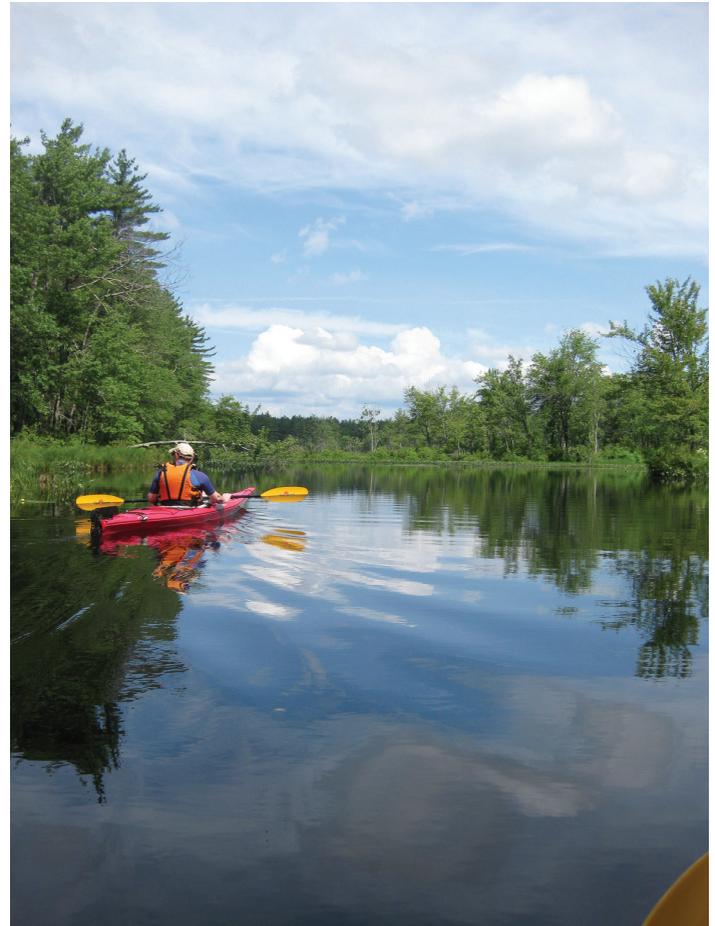
For over half a century, the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife) has worked to protect the Squannacook River in Townsend, Groton, and Shirley by acquiring land to add to the Squannacook River Wildlife Management Area (WMA). MassWildlife recently added another 45 acres to the 1,980 acres previously held along this beautiful forested river. The newly acquired property is on the east side of Warren Road south of Townsend Harbor, abutting the existing WMA.

The new parcel of land supports several rare species protected under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA), which is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2020. Blanding's turtles, listed as threatened in Massachusetts, have been observed in this area. This large, yellow-throated turtle is quite rare in New England, but can be found in pockets of eastern Massachusetts. As with most turtles, Blanding's turtles face threats from vehicle traffic, so the dense road network of eastern Massachusetts is a major hazard. Protecting land inhabited by these handsome turtles is the best strategy for long-term conservation.

The three other MESA-listed species are all species of special concern: the wood turtle, the brook snaketail dragonfly, and the creeper freshwater mussel. All three are dependent on the Squannacook River. Both Blanding's and wood turtles prefer to dig their nests and lay eggs in dry, sunny, sandy areas. Occasional openings in the forest near the river provide nesting sites and keep the female turtles from crossing roads in search of suitable places to nest. Protecting forests along the margins of the river also helps to maintain good water quality.

Along with providing habitat for rare species, this new addition to the WMA helps conserve other important resources. The river itself offers great opportunities for recreation and connecting with nature. Anglers can fish for trout, chain pickerel, bluegill, largemouth bass, and pumpkinseed. Enjoy fishing from a kayak or take a leisurely paddle down this peaceful river to appreciate the unique fire-adapted community found adjacent to the river. Visitors of all kinds will revel in the tranquil beauty of this area, which is only an hour from Boston and the North Shore.

We hope you get to visit our Squannacook River WMA sometime this year – it's a beautiful place to hunt, fish hike, and paddle! Check out the MassWildlife Lands Viewer online to get started.



Squannacook River paddling photo Marian Larson

Worcester County League
of Sportsmen's Clubs

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Sportsmen's Clubs Inc.
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www.WCLSC.ORG

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2020-2021 WCL Calendar of Events

Locations to be determined

September 18

October 16

November 20

December 18

January 15

February 19

March 19

April 16

May 21

June 18

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DIVISION OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE BOARD
MONTHLY MEETING NOTICE

The July monthly business meeting of the Fisheries and Wildlife Board will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

The Fisheries and Wildlife Board July business meeting will be held virtually via a Zoom Video Meeting of the Board members and MassWildlife staff, with the public joining via computer or phone line. Members of the public who wish to listen to or view the Fisheries and Wildlife Board's July meeting should plan to join the Zoom Meeting that has been arranged for this purpose at 1:00 p.m. Instructions on how to attend the meeting are below and are provided on the [Fisheries and Wildlife Board meeting page](#).

To join the Zoom Meeting via computer, click the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89204755319?pwd=VTF4QnJhUWlwWlY3WHJoNGlYajZldz09>

Meeting ID: 892 0475 5319

Password: 9dnhyc

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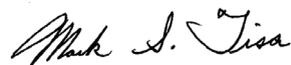
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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89204755319?pwd=VTF4QnJhUWlwWlY3WHJoNGlYajZldz09>

On March 10, the Baker-Polito Administration announced new guidance for Executive Branch employees in order to prevent and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, including virtually holding required meetings hosted by Executive Branch agencies involving external parties.

Thank you for your cooperation and support as the Commonwealth works to address this public health issue.



Director

Posted June 18, 2020; 1:00 p.m.

Please note

Any member of the public wishing to be placed on the agenda to speak must notify the Chair in writing 2 weeks prior to the Board meeting; for specific information, please contact Susan Sacco at susan.sacco@mass.gov.



Worcester County League of Sportsmen's Clubs
Four Point Action Program
Education, Conservation, Public Relations and Legislation

June 19,2020 This Month's meeting was held at the North Worcester Fox and Coon Club in Holden, Ma. The host club provided soft drinks, water and snacks. We had the meeting outside in the clubs pavilion. Social distancing was done according to the latest Phase of the Covid-19 requirements. It was good to see our fellow W.C.L.S. members at the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm followed with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for all that are no longer with us.

Joe Afonso thanked Jim Berube from the North Worcester Fox and Coon Club for hosting the meeting and providing the refreshments.

Jim extended a warm welcome to every one and explained an overview of the club and what they have to offer to its membership.

President's Message: President Afonso greeted everyone with wishes that the membership continue to stay healthy and said that there aren't any events this summer because of the phase that we are in with the Covid-19 issue.

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept report as stated in the online issue of W.C.L.S.

seconded and so voted.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept report as read, second was made and so voted.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Wayne Adams said he has seen an uptick in the use of the streamlined web site.

Old Business: Banquet has been cancelled for the year. All monies have been returned to their respective members. A new date has been penciled in for March of 2021. The Division of Ecological Restoration requested information on any local site that may need to be set up for a future reclamation project. As a follow up Bill Davis volunteered to assist Mel Crouse with a project that he has in mind, South Brook and Flint Pond.

MassWildlife was unavailable for an update. No guest speakers at the meeting.

New Business: Joe Afonso met with Paul Johnson, Mike Pelosa, and others about Hunter Education On Line. Discussed the pros and cons of pursuing the on line theme.

Joe asked the membership what their thoughts were on Hunter Education during the Covid-19 situation and beyond. Bill Davis stated that when he was working with Mass. Wildlife he and his co-workers developed an on line prototype for Hunter Education but never moved forward with it. Other members voiced that maybe we could look

at recognizing the NRA gun safety course as support for the Hunter Education course in conjunction with on line classes. It was also stated that most of the membership was in favor of an option where all the classes could be still done in person if one chose to do so. Over booked classes have always been an issue. It was stated that a person should be able to sign up for a class even at the last minute. We don't want to deter young people from taking the course as sporting license and fees are the heart of our conservation.

A motion was made to the following. Allow online testing, with one part being in person, and everyone was in favor of participants being able to do the class all in person as well. Second was made and motion carried.

Webster Printing has offered to sell some targets at cost. Per target price of .08 ea. It was voted to give Webster Printing a free ad in our WCLS paper because of the company generosity to our organization in the past. Motion was made, then a second, the motion was voted in favor and carried.

Worcester County League of Sportsmen's Club would like to thank Secretary Pete Silva for his dedication to the League and his years of service. We wish you well Pete.

Nominations were opened at the meeting. Jim Berube read off the nominations and asked if there were any other members that would like to nominate any one. No other names were mentioned. The following names were read aloud and nominated.

- Officers
- President-Joe Afonso
- Vice President-Bill Davis
- Recording Secretary-Patrick O'Day
- Corresponding Secretary-Wayne Adams
- Treasurer-LA Jones
- Asst. Treasurer-Dave Morin
- Board of Directors Members
- Ron Amidon
- Jim Berube
- Bonnie Booth
- Rosemary Charron
- Scott Hebert
- Tom Huber
- Steve La Rivee
- Dave Papale
- Ron Komar
- John Root
- Ken Stidsen

After the nominations and discussions the nominations were closed.

- Board of Directors, no announcements were made.
- Ware River, no meetings
- Quabbin, no meetings
- GOAL, none

Motion was made to spend up to \$2000.00 to support our yearly gun raffle. 2nd was made and favorable motion carried. Wayne Adams mentioned that we may have to change up the way we will sell tickets in view of the fact that all Sportsman's shows have been cancelled to date.

William Tell cancelled.

Young Guns cancelled.

Big MOE has been cancelled.

Good of the Order, Prevalence of bears in various towns. Please don't feed them and they will go away!

Meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.

Respectfully submitted, acting secretary- Pat O'Day

Sent from my iPad

The following 13 clubs were represented at the June 19, 2020 meeting at North Worcester Fox and Coon:

North Worcester Fox and Coon

Brookfield Rod and Gun Club

Worcester Pistol and Rifle

Harvard Sportsmen's Club

North Grafton Fish and Game

Hamilton Rod and Gun Club

Otter River Sportsmen's Club

Eight Point

Norco

Nimrod

Leicester Rod and Gun

South Barre Rod and Gun

Holliston Sportsmen's Club

Wills, Trusts, and Estate Administration



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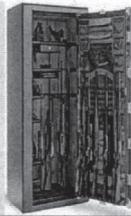
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Legislation *by Jim Nishan (Nish)*

Sometimes I just get lucky. Below you will find the GUN Owners' Action League Massachusetts Candidate Questionnaire. Study it and use it as a base line of questioning when politicians come looking for you vote. GOAL worked hard to develop the questionnaire. Make it work for all of us. Nish

Gun Owners' Action League
Massachusetts Candidate Questionnaire
2020

Protecting Your Freedom Begins Here:

Name: Election Date:

Office Sought: District:

Mailing Address: Party Affiliation:

City: Zip:

Campaign Phone: Campaign e-mail:

Website: OCPF#:

Campaign Contact Contact e-mail:

Name:

If the candidate has any questions regarding any part of the questionnaire please contact GOAL prior to submitting. All questionnaires will be graded as submitted.

1. Do you recognize that the Second Amendment is a fundamental natural right of all law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms for all lawful purposes?

Yes

No

2. I support firearms ownership for: (Check all that you think apply)

Hunting Defense of self and/or others Competitive shooting Constitutional Right Recreational shooting

Collecting All Lawful Purposes

Other: _____

3. Given that the Second Amendment is a civil right, what entities, if any, should have the authority to restrict the right to keep and bear arms of lawful citizens?

4. In 1964, our nation ratified the 24 Amendment that banned "Poll Taxes". For many years these taxes were implemented to discourage minorities and the poor from voting. The same can be said of the firearm licensing fees in Massachusetts. Do you believe that citizens should have to pay a fee to exercise their civil rights?

Yes

No

5. Given the strict criteria required for the lawful ownership of firearms in Massachusetts, do you support legislation or regulations banning lawful citizens from transferring, purchasing or possessing any type of firearm or accessories?

Yes

No

If so please specify what types and specifically why?:

6. Do you support an effort to establish national reciprocity for lawful gun owners nation-wide? Currently, many citizens become felons by crossing a state line with a firearm. This effort would provide legal protections for lawful citizens exercising their civil rights throughout the nation.

Yes

No

7. Massachusetts, the current firearm licensing system is based on suitability rather than a prohibited status. In many cases this forces citizens to spend a great deal of money to prove their suitability (innocence) in court. This type of process that flies in the face of our entire justice system. Do you support GOAL's efforts to ensure that denials and/or restrictions of civil rights are based on a factual prohibited person status that rightfully places the burden on the government?

Yes

No

8. Over the past several years, municipalities have attempted to enact local ordinances concerning our Second Amendment civil rights. This can create a dangerous patchwork of laws causing the prosecution of lawful gun owners. In order to protect citizens, many states across the country have enacted preemption legislation that rests the sole authority with the state legislature. Would you support this type of legislation in Massachusetts that would create a safer and more equitable system of consistent law?

Yes

No

9. For several decades, law-abiding citizens of Massachusetts have been denied their right to purchase many safe and high-quality pistols and revolvers that are in common use throughout the nation. More recently the Attorney General's office abused its authority by banning the sale of certain semiautomatic firearms. Would you support GOAL's efforts to overturn the Attorney General's efforts to prohibit the lawful purchase or transfer of these common use firearms in Massachusetts?

Yes

No

10. During the COVID-19 crisis government officials released many prisoners into the general population, many of them abusers and violent criminals. Do you believe that law-abiding citizens have the right to use potentially lethal force to protect themselves or others wherever they have a right to be?

Yes

No

11. One of the greatest threats to public safety throughout the country are so-called "Gun Free Zones". These are places, whether public or private, that law-abiding citizens are denied their fundamental right to protect their lives. Nearly every mass murder in recent history has taken place in a so-called Gun Free Zone. Do you support GOAL's efforts to have an honest and factual review of policies regarding these zones and establish actual methods that will protect our children and the general public?

Yes

No

12. Do you believe that law-abiding citizens and/or their estates should be protected from civil procedures brought upon them by a criminal assailant after an act of lawful defense in protection of self or others?

Yes

No

13. Currently law-abiding U.S. citizens have face criminal prosecution for exercising their Second Amendment Civil Rights while traveling through Massachusetts. The vast majority of states these citizens reside do not have the licensing, storage, transportation, etc. laws that the Commonwealth has. These lawful citizens are crossing through Massachusetts with no criminal intent. Would you support state legislation, that mirrors current federal law, giving these citizens protection from criminal prosecution under these circumstances?

Yes

No

14. Do you believe that criminals who use firearms to commit violence should be prosecuted to the full extent of the criminal laws instead of charges continually being plea bargained away?

Yes

No

15. Massachusetts' gun laws are based on the theory of restricting the activities of lawful gun owners as a means to reduce future criminal activity. Do you believe this "approach" is a legitimate means to reduce violent crime?

Yes

No

16. During the recent COVID-19 crisis the Commonwealth's political leaders specifically and arbitrarily closed firearm retailers, shooting ranges and training opportunities even though the federal guidelines declared those operations essential. This was a clear political attack on the Second Amendment using a crisis as cover. Even the Massachusetts Attorney General publicly accused the 16. During the recent COVID-19 crisis the Commonwealth's political leaders specifically and arbitrarily closed firearm retailers, shooting ranges and training opportunities even though the federal guidelines declared those operations essential. This was a clear political attack on the Second Amendment using a crisis as cover. Even the Massachusetts Attorney General publicly accused the Second Amendment community as being a threat to public safety, first responders and domestic violence victims. Would you support doing away with hurdles (mandates) to exercising civil rights that can be arbitrarily blocked without due process. Amendment community as being a threat to public safety, first responders and domestic violence victims. Would you support doing away with hurdles (mandates) to exercising civil rights that can be arbitrarily blocked without due process.

Yes

No

17. Which of the following choices best describes your attitude toward hunting?

Hunting should be eliminated.

Hunting is a long-standing tradition that is an essential tool of wildlife management and keeps families in personal touch with our wildlife resources

other _____

18. In 1946, the state legislature established the Fisheries and Wildlife Board to oversee the work of the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife to manage all fish and wildlife, including non-game species. As a result, the Division has become one of the most professional, self funded agencies in the Commonwealth. The Division's budget is predominately supported by sportsmen and women through license sales and taxes on the manufacture of guns and ammunition. Would you support the appointment of individuals to the Board who are fundamentally opposed to the hunting, trapping and fishing traditions?

I would support such appointments.

I would oppose such appointments.

Questionnaire Prepared by: _____ Date: _____

Candidate's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return options information: • Scan and e-mail to Jim Wallace – Jim@goal.org • Fax to 508-393-5222 • Mail: 361 W

“AUTHORIZATION: This signature attests this questionnaire accurately represents my views as a candidate.

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Steve Hay	544	2637	3rd
Natalie Higgins	33	2060	4th
Donald Berthiaume	540	2090	5th
Peter Durant	33	2060	6th
Paul Frost	542	2489	7th
Michael Soter	B2	2425	8th
David Muradian	156	2240	9th
Brian Murray	443	2520	10th
Hannah Kane	236	2430	11th
Harold Naughton Jr.	167	2230	12th
John J. Mahoney	443	2460	13th
James O'Day	540	2090	14th
Mary Keefe	473F	2210	15th
Daniel Donahue	160	2304	16th
David LeBoeuf	B2	2425	17th
Joseph D. McKenna	33	2060	18th
Todd Smola	124	2100	1st

Hampden

Senators: Worcester County

NAME	ROOM	PHONE
Anne Gobi	513	1540
Harriette Chandler	333	1544
James Eldridge	320	1120
Dean Tran	312D	1643
Michael Moore	109B	1485
Ryan Fattman	213A	1544

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Go to the state legislator website for more info: <http://www.mass.gov/legis/>

REPORT FISH KILLS THIS SUMMER

Call the Massachusetts Environmental Police 1 (800) 632-8075 to report a fish kill. The vast majority of summer fish kills reported are natural events.

Summer weather is here, lakes and ponds are warming up, and fish kills may occur. The sight of dead and dying fish along a shoreline can be distressing and can prompt concerns about pollution. However, the vast majority of summer fish kills reported are natural events.

Natural fish kills are generally the result of low oxygen levels, fish diseases, or spawning stress. Depletion of dissolved oxygen is one of the most common causes of natural fish kills. Water holds less dissolved oxygen at higher temperatures; in shallow, weedy ponds oxygen can be especially low as plants consume oxygen at night. Spawning of fish including sunfish and bass in late spring and early summer occurs in shallow waters along the shore. These densely crowded spawning areas can become susceptible to disease outbreaks, especially as water temperatures rise. The result is an unavoidable natural fish kill, usually consisting of only one or two species of fish.

To be sure there isn't a pollution problem, it's always best to report fish kills. When a fish kill report comes in, a MassWildlife fisheries biologist determines if the kill is a natural event or the result of pollution. In general, pollution impacts all kinds of aquatic life; therefore, the most important piece of evidence for the biologists is the number and variety of fish associated with the incident. When pollution is suspected, MassWildlife notifies the Department of Environmental Protection, who then conducts a formal investigation of the water and affected fish to determine the source of pollution.

To report a fish kill, contact the Environmental Police Radio Room at 1 (800) 632-8075.



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Conservation

A SUMMER OF LEARNING

As our summer starts many of us find ourselves wondering what to do. Most of us have had to make changes to the plans, if not cancel them all together do to the pandemic. How do we keep our children occupied and entertained? I offer you the summer of learning. There are many inexpensive books about nature, some of which include Trees of the Northeast, Birds of New England, Birds of Prey, Mammals of the Northeast, Animal Tracks of New England.

Buy a book of two and share them with family. If you chose a book on Trees of New England, spend some time together trying to locate as many of the trees in the book as you can. Take pictures and keep a log. If you chose a book on Birds of New England, go bird watching and log which birds you could locate and identify. The opportunities are truly endless. You could easily make several day trips choosing different activities for each journey back to nature.

For older kids we can spice it up a little by a challenge over a week's time and whoever finds and identifies the most trees, birds, mammals depending on the challenge gets to pick Friday night's dinner or what movie the family will watch together.

No children, no problem. You can do all these activities with siblings, loved one or friends. Give it a try and see what you find or can't find. If you can't find a particular animal or tree ask yourself if the habitat needed available or have they left the area due to loss of habitat.

Steve La Rivee June 2020



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Nature's Way

by Bill Safer

Jellyfish

Over the years many of us have traveled to the various beaches in New England. We have all seen seashells of various kinds, perhaps even a sea creature washed ashore from time to time. How many of us have seen a jellyfish? Recently, Lion's Mane Jelly Fish have washed up on shore in various places in Maine and Nahant is Massachusetts. They can get quite large, with stinging tentacles many feet long. The sting they give injects neurotoxic venom, similar to snakes like the Cobra, Black Mamba, and Coral snake!

Jellyfish were seldom seen and very rarely viewed by beach goers.

Jellyfish roam many of the oceans of the world. They are all venomous, some much more than others.

In recent years, jellyfish have been making a comeback in a big way. They have multiplied so fast that they have clogged nuclear power plants and electrical water turbines with their bodies.

Recently they stopped power to part of Sweden, by blocking up the intakes to the power plant.

They have destroyed some fisherman's catches to the point that the nets are filled with many, many jellyfish and not much of the fish they fish for, to make their living.

Once the fisherman's nets contain jellyfish, any fish that was stung by the jellyfish, cannot be sold at market. This is because the fish contain the venom from the jellyfish that stung them.

When a fish or an unlucky human is touched by a tentacle of a jellyfish, hundreds of little harpoons, all coiled up, in little nematocysts, fire at once, driving tiny hypodermic needles through the skin to deliver poison.

For a fish, this almost means certain death; to a human the reactions can be anything from a burning rash like area, to lung and heart stopping death.

The reason that the jellyfish venom is so strong is that they need to paralyze a fish at once, so the fish's struggles don't damage the fragile body of the jellyfish. Once the fish is dead, the jellyfish pulls the fish up to the stomach area where it is digested.

The box jellyfish, also known as the Sea Wasp, once only found in the areas in and near Australia were found and documented in Florida. This is one of the deadliest jellyfish in the world, as stings from them have paralyzed swimmers and caused them to drown. Survivors of their stings have

large red welts that produce agony and often scar them for life. A fairly newly discovered micro-miniature relative of the Box Jellyfish, is the Irukandji Jellyfish. Very tiny, but has all the punch and venom its larger cousin the Box Jellyfish. Without immediate treatment the victim can quickly die of heart failure.

These tiny venom packs and slip through nets designed to trap and keep out the larger Box Jellyfish.

The reason for the jellyfish population explosion, many scientists think, is, in areas where water gets warmer, and contains less oxygen, most sea creatures cannot exist. A large population of algae develop and this is the favorite food of many jellyfish, besides fish. Since jellyfish can live in low oxygenated water their numbers explode as these areas are ideal breeding grounds for them.

As jellyfish expand their numbers, they eat many fish that are fished for and eaten by humans. If the jellyfish population continues to grow and spread, many species of food fish could be threatened.

There are freshwater species of jellyfish, and they don't sting. They were about the size of a 1/2 dollar coin!

Back in the 1960's a huge wave of moon jellyfish descended on the beaches of southern Maine, sending many people to the beaches to see them, and as children, we threw them at each other not knowing that they stung.

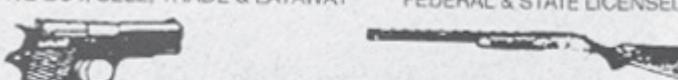
Many people were stung and the emergency rooms of local hospitals were crowded with sting victims. The moon jellyfish gave a serious and painful sting, but usually not deadly, unless the victim was allergic to the poison.

Jellyfish can lay eggs and breed thousands of offspring, that are now not being preyed upon as they once were, by fish and other creatures, as these predators have in many cases vanished from the jellyfish breeding and feeding grounds.

If you get a chance, do an internet search on jellyfish and view the different kinds out in the oceans and lakes. From the very tiny to the 400 plus pound jellyfish that clog pipes and fisherman's nets.

The jellyfish is no longer the gentle, passive creature floating along with the tide. It is a force to be reckoned with and hopefully controlled in the future, in Nature's Way.

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ANTLERLESS DEER PERMIT DEADLINE IS JULY 16, 2020

An antlerless deer permit (sometimes called a doe permit or doe tag) is required for those who want to hunt antlerless deer this fall.

If you want to hunt antlerless deer in 2020, you need an antlerless deer permit. If you apply for a permit by the July 16 deadline, you then must check back after August 1 to find out if you have been awarded the ability to purchase the permit. Hunters can apply online using MassFishHunt on a computer or smartphone. You need a valid hunting or sporting license to apply for an antlerless deer permit. There is no fee to apply; a \$5 fee is charged only if you are awarded a permit during the instant award period.

The instant award period begins August 1st at 8 a.m. and ends on December 31. Your odds of being awarded a permit are the same regardless of when you check your permit status. You can check the status of your permit through MassFishHunt.

North Grafton Fish Game & Bird Club, Inc.



Stowe Road, Grafton, Mass 01519

Website: northgraftonfgb.org

Email: ngfgbclub@juno.com

Range Phone: 508.887.8656



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P.O. Box 111
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Barre, MA 01005

Clubhouse (978) 355-4643

Contact: barresportsmansclub@gmail.com

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Treasurer:
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www.barresportsmansclub.org

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North Worcester Fox & Coon Club

P.O. Box 108, Mason Rd. Holden, MA 01520
508-829-5199
northworcesteroxandcoonclub.org

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Century Sportsmen's Club

Rochdale St./ Website URL: www.centurysportsmansclub.org
P.O. Box 115
Auburn, Ma. 01501 (508) 832-2211

President- Chris Martin
V. P. - Ed "Red" Langevin
Secretary- Peter Bates
Treasurer- Frank Hight



Rutland Sportsman's Club

75 Pleasantdale Road,
P.O. Box 134,
Rutland MA. 01543
Phone (508) 886-4721

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Vice President: Ryan Desrosiers
Treasurer: Denise Boyer
Secretary: Jerry McAlister
Collector: Bill Gonzalez
Sergeant at Arms: Mike Gabaree
Newsletter Editor - newsletter@rscma.org

Executive Board Members
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Ed Cortellini
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Dawn Labelle
Dave Lemieux
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Bar Manager: Bob Hoch



Westminster Rod and Gun Club

P.O. Box 465
175 Knower Rd.,
Westminster, MA 01473
WestminsterRodGunClub.org
[Facebook.com/WestminsterRG](https://www.facebook.com/WestminsterRG)
wraginfo@gmail.com

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Andy Wells, Al Hatch,
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Ron Wisenski

WCLSC Delegates:
Bob Feeley,
Ron Wisenski



North Grafton Fish, Game and Bird Club

Stow Rd.
PO Box 61,
Grafton Ma. 01519 508-887-8656

www.northgraftonfgb.org

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Treasurer: Jason Pellegatto
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WCL Delegate: Bill Davis
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Maspenock Rod & Gun Club

P.O.Box 42
Milford, Ma. 01757
508-473-9795

info_maspenock@maspenockrodandgun.org
<http://www.maspenockrodandgun.org>



New England Fly Tyers

PO Box 164,
Worcester, MA 01613
newenglandflytyers@yahoo.com

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Historian: Ryan Cashman

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Marty Nugent
Colin Wright
Mike Dorval
Bill Stotz
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North Brookfield Sportsmen's Club

20 Boynton Road,
North Brookfield, MA, 01535
Club Phone (508) 867-9216

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Norco Sportsman's Club

91 Houghton Rd. www.norco.club
Princeton, Ma. 01541 Clubhouse (978) 464 5243

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Vice President Wayne Adams	Paul Caneen	Chris Giglio
Secretary Jay Johnston	Rocko Trotto-Chair	Doolie Burdulis
Treasurer Mark Malkowski	Adam Charest	

Norco News WCL July 2020

Member COVID-19 Alert and Norco Precautions

- Visit www.norco.club for the most up-to-date alerts
 - July activities to take place:
 - o July 4th Steakout
 - o July 4th, trap & skeet closed for holiday ; open all other Monday, Thursday, and Saturdays
 - o July 9th meeting – on the lawn, bring chair, bug spray, and mask ; social distancing
 - o July 26th pin shoot
 - o July 12th DH3 class
 - o July 26th pin shoot
 - o 3D Archery is now setup with 10 stations
 - Clubhouse bar, rentals, and clubhouse scheduled programs – closed/canceled until further notice
 - Rifle, pistol, archery ranges open for use – use social distance guidelines
 - Pond open for fishing – use social distance guidelines
 - Men's room at clubhouse accessible; as well as all emergency medical kits; weekly sanitization done
 - Questions, refunds, future rentals – email wayne@norco.club or call the club phone 978-464-5243
- Club House & Bar Temporarily Closed – Until Further Notice

Calendar

July 2020

- 4 Clubhouse and Trap/Skeet Operations Closed for July 4th; all grounds and ranges open
 - 4 Steakout
 - 9 Business Meeting
 - 12 Defensive Handgun 3 Class
 - 23 Executive Board Meeting
 - 26 Pistol Bowling Pin Shoot
- August 2020
- 4,11,18,25 Youth Pheasant Shotgun Training at Trap Range, 6PM
 - 13 Business Meeting
 - 15 Annual Lobsterbake/clambake
 - 22 Central MA NWTF Annual Heritage Banquet (Sturbridge)
 - 23 Defensive Handgun 1 Class
 - 27 Executive Board Meeting
 - 30 Pistol Bowling Pin Shoot

September 2020

- 1,8,15,22,29 Youth Pheasant Shotgun Training at Trap Range, 6PM
 - 10 Business Meeting
 - 13 Defensive Handgun 2 Class
 - 27 Defensive Shotgun Class
 - 24 Executive Board Meeting
 - 27 Pistol Bowling Pin Shoot
- Range closures:
- Pistol Range: July 12th 12N-8pm; July 26th 12N-2pm; Aug 23 12N-8; Aug 30th 12-2pm, Sept 13th 12N-8; Sept 27th 12-2PM. When pistol range is scheduled to be closed, consider using the 25 yard rifle range.
- Rifle Range: none for July or August; Sept 27 12N-8
- Trap/Skeet: July 4th holiday, August 4,11,18,25 (Tuesdays), September– 6PM-9PM
- Archery Target Range and 3D Course: none for July, August, September
- Note: Pistol ranges closed during Defensive Handgun classes (9AM-5PM), Dimlight (5PM-9PM) and Bowling Pin Shoots (12-2PM). Note: all ranges closed all day during Pheasant Hunting Season on Saturdays, Oct 17 - Nov 28.

Visit the Norco Events Calendar for more details on all events <https://www.norco.club/events/> The brief one-page 2020 calendar is on the website for download and at the club by the door for pickup.

The 3D archery course is now setup with 10 stations. Stations #11-15 will remain unstaged. If you notice any damage to targets, please notify Peter at archery@norco.club The targets are for crossbow, straight bow, and recurve bows. No crossbows and bolts.

If you have not exchanged your gate key for a new one, with a \$10 deposit, please email membership@norco.club to make arrangements. Keys can be exchanged at the members monthly business meeting, second Thursday of every month. Late membership renewals are available online with a credit card at URL <https://bit.ly/2TI7cE0> . Email membership@norco.club with any questions.

Our June members meeting on the lawn was well attended, we were mindful of social distancing, and overall glad to get out of the house to renew our club comradery. July will be held on the lawn, please bring a chair and bug spray.

Firearm instructor Joseph Picariello has published upcoming Classes as follows: DH3 July 12; DH1 Aug 23, DH2 Sept 13, shotgun Sept 23 DH4/5/6 and Dimlight I/II will be forthcoming for the late summer and fall. DH Range sessions are held at Norco Pistol Range. Shotgun sessions are held on the Rifle Range. Classroom session for DH1 are held at Westminster Police Department.

wachusettfirearmtraining@yahoo.com or call 978-464-2776 .

August Lobsterbake tickets will be sold online and at the members meeting starting on July 9th. Choice of chicken or lobster. Volunteers are needed for the day as well. If interested, email wayne@norco.club

Any youth interested in the signing up for the pheasant hunter ed program, please email Ken Stidsen and team, at youth-pheasant@norco.club . Shotgun skill training sessions start in August on Tuesday evenings at the trap range.

Norco Bylaws updates are underway. At the June meeting, the membership class additions for social and family were reviewed, as well as the maximum membership of 300. At the July meeting, updates to the finance policy will be reviewed as well as enabling members teleconferencing meetings during states of emergency.

We are at mid-year and very few volunteer hours are being worked. Lots to do around the property by yourself or a small workparty. Email wayne@norco.club to see what needs done to match your interests. We have more power equipment running this year, a wall of handtools, and or bring your own. Need volunteer painters, carpenter, and plumber. Painting and trim replacement at the trap range. Plumbing is moving the clubhouse 2nd floor coffee station. Thanks for Lisa Trotto making the club entrance inviting and fitting within the neighborhood!

Norco leadership has launched a new Fundraising Committee to create more club fundraisers and run them. Committee will research ideas, establish budgets, and targets. Many starting ideas are quick to be observed – by looking at other clubs in the county – spanning more raffles for sporting goods and gift cards, wide range of turkey shoots (trap, pistol, rifle), competitions open to the public with entrée fees and prizes, meat raffles, attracting rentals (e.g. outdoor education), etc. If interested to join this committee, please email wayne@norco.club or call the club, leave a message.

Norco has closed its PO Box and all future correspondence should only be addressed to the street address: 91 Houghton Road, Princeton MA 01541.

Norco Tractor Training completed two training sessions with more to come. Details about the Norco Tractor and implements are here <https://www.norco.club/about-us/tractor/>

WCLSC has launched a county-wide Community Calendar for sportsmen. Visit www.wclsc.org/events or www.tockify.com/wclsc . Never be bored when there is so much to do every weekend - events, competitions, fund raisers, eating, shooting, fishing, education, gear-swaps. If you have a club or organization sportsmen event open to the public, submit it to the calendar for posting. Norco lists its public events there. Cross-check with the event organizer if the event is being held as listed, or rescheduled/canceled due to COVID-19 precautions.



Norco Entrance Way - Nicely Landscaped



Bill W. puppy meets a fawn on a recent training session



Norco June members meeting well attended



Gardner Fish & Gun Club

583 Clark St.,
Gardner, MA, 01440
Telephone 978-632-9774

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Shane Connors and Bill Shea,

President: Erik Storm
Vice President: Jim Morrill
Treasurer: Dennis Comee
Secretary: Susan Storm
Inside Guard, Jason Samuels

QUABBIN opening week was fantastic for salmon but recently it has slowed down and some are doing ok on the salmon and cold water fish and others not so good. I have been doing Smallie fishing and my spots have done well. The high water has made it more difficult to find the beds. Now it is time to switch to the cold water fish. No matter anytime you fish Quabbin it is a treat skunk or not.

EVENTS well not much happening at the club in the last 3 to 4 months. I would assume a lot of rescheduling were possible will take place. Missed events include the 150, workbee, member's night, bass tournament, kids fishing derby and maybe one or two that I missed. I do not know how this will all work out so keep an eye on the clubs website for the most updated information regarding club activities. If you have the desire you can find a way to get things done. Do you folks have the desire?

TURKEY the season turned out pretty good for many members. Many large toms were taken but also a few Jakes. There seemed to be many Tom birds around but gobbling was a bit light after the first week. Needless to say location location location!

MEMBERSHIP nothing to report but hopefully we will be back to business come sometime in July.

SHOOTING no registered sporting clays shoots yet. I have shot a few rounds of 50 birds at the Petersham Sportsman's Club on Sunday mornings. They have a very nice course and shooting keeps the eye and swing working! Already thinking this fall and bird season. Hopefully the virus does not screw up the pheasant programs in the different states.

PICS this month starts with several very nice fish caught at Quabbin. First Alex Czasnowski with dad John and a gorgeous Quabbin rainbow weighing 4 pounds 11 ounces on a state certified scale. John "JB" Boucher with his opening day Quabbin salmon weighing 4 pounds. Jaime Jaillet with a nice 4 pound Smallie caught at Quabbin while fishing with her granddaddy John "JB" Boucher. Jaime also caught her first Salmon the same day about 3 pounds. A fine Turkey picture of your club reporter and his Ma. Tom weighing in at 19 pounds with an 8" beard.

NOTES no LTC class yet but hopefully sooner than later. Remember keep a watch on the club website for the most updated news on club activities. It certainly seems like there are many deer around this spring. Hoping for a doe permit! Solar field work is continuing and going quite well. Submitted 6/20/20

Anthony J Asmar, Club Reporter and Editor



Alex Czasnowski with dad John



John "JB" Boucher



Jaime Jaillet



Tony

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200 Sportsmen Club

184 Sutton Ave,
Webster, MA 01570

Tel: (508) 943-9722

Web Site: <http://twohundredclub.tripod.com/>

President: Jim Lavallee

V Pres Lou Dniels

Treasurer Jim Booth

Recording Secretary: Vity

Financial Secretary: Steve Schur

Greetings All

I hope all is well with everyone. Well here we are, July finally middle of the Summer with beautiful weather. Too bad you can't go out to a nice air conditioned restaurant and sit down and have a decent meal.

This is going to be the Reader's Digest version again cuz not much is going on so I don't have much to write about.

Okay The \$64,000 Question is when's the Club going to reopen?? I guess we don't matter much to the state, we're way down on the totem pole we're like phase 14 people. I'm just kidding we're in Phase 4 I believe so it means by the end of July we should be able to open up the Club, of course with all their regulations blah blah blah.

And the big news of the month is that my good friend Keith Cheevers just got a new job. The bad news is he's not going to be the chairman of the Bird committee any more, he's not going to have enough time now he has to travel to work. I know Keith well and I remember his old job and he was only a half mile from his house. He's going to have to get used to commuting like the rest of us. So if you see him tell him congratulations on his new job and I'm sure he's going to be looking for some guys to help take his place in the bird committee. Then again by the time you read this I'm sure he'll already have something worked out because I believe the pheasants are coming in early July. Associates this is a good time if you're not working head down the club and help him load the birds, so keep your eyes on the Facebook page and I don't know, head down the club and see if there's anyone around.

There's still a few things that you can do at the Club like I say every month. I'm not going to bring it up again, the archery range is open, the 3D course is set up, you can use the rifle range but you have to walk in from the gate and make sure you sign the book that they have up there.

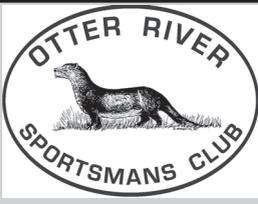
The beach and camping area are open just remember to take out what you brought in. I mean the dumpsters right at the top of the driveway you can take your trash out and dump it out, if you do plan on camping out for the weekend you can bring a barrel down with you but bring the barrel back up to the dumpster when you leave. I was just down there yesterday looks pretty good. I saw that some people have been using it, someone left a cooler down there but other than that place looks pretty good. The grounds also look awesome if you just want to head down and go hang out under the trees down by the pond.

Speaking of the pond, it's a beautiful time to get out there if you have a canoe or kayak or a nice little Jon Boat with electric motor the bass are everywhere. I was just talking with Ken the other day, from a safe distance of course and he told me he caught a nice bass he said well over 4 pounds. And I know from my own past fishing experiences that there are some porker bucket mouth's in there. So with that being said grab yourself some rubber worms and if you do go out paddling I strongly suggest that you bump up on the weight of your line because you know for sure you're going to get tangled them lily pads.

Well hopefully by next month will be getting things a little bit more on track. Right now I know that not a lot of our older members are internet savvy so it's not like they're going to read this by looking for it even though it's very simple to get to. But it would be nice to be able to get your paper back. so like I said hopefully next month we'll get things straightened out till then I guess I'll

C Ya at the Club





Otter River Sportsman's Club Inc.

Street Address for the club is;
250 Lord Rd.
Templeton MA 01468

Mailing Address for the club:
P.O. Box 28
Baldwinville, Ma. 01436

(978-939-4824) or (978-939-7375)

www.otterriversportsmansclub.org

2019 ORSC Officers
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Vice-President: OPEN
Treasurer: Les Dossett
Asst. Treasurer: OPEN
Recording Secretary: Pete Couillard
Membership Secretary: Ben Napier
Inside Guard: Bill Lambert

WCL Committee Chairman: Ron Amidon

CHECK OUT CURRENT EVENTS & DETAILS AT OUR WEBSITE:

www.otterriversportsmansclub.org



To all Members and Friends:

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All events and club hours are pending state/town regulations regarding the COVID-19 emergency shutdown. Please adhere to state guidelines pertaining to social distancing, face masks, and frequent handwashing

Volunteers Needed: As the summertime approaches, we are entering our prime season for bringing revenue into the club. Please see any club officer to inquire about the many volunteer opportunities available including groundskeeping, office help, general maintenance, food services, and helping at fundraising events. Remember, every member has a duty to contribute to "The Good of the Club"

Event Calendar - July, 2020:

All planned events must have Board of Directors approval prior to advertising. We would like to help you promote your event or activity on our website. Please email announcements, flyers, and/or photos to the club at orscmailbox@gmail.com

Queen of Hearts Social & Drawing - Every Wednesday at 7PM

Independence Day (Observed) Friday July 3rd

Independence Day Saturday July 4th

Range Committee Meeting 7:00PM Tuesday July 7th

Board of Directors' Meeting 7:00PM Tuesday July 14th

Tax Day Wednesday July 15th

Millers River Trout Unlimited 7:00PM Thursday July 16th

Members Meeting 7:00PM Thursday July 30th

Clubhouse Operating Hours Monday and Tuesday - Closed

Wednesday thru Friday - Open 3PM-9PM

Saturday - Open 11AM-10PM

Sunday - Open 10AM-7PM

Guests: Members bringing guests to the clubhouse, please make sure to sign the Guest Book. Guests must always be accompanied by the member while anywhere on the premises

Rental: Members renting the club facilities are responsible for all cleanup and trash removal.

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F.A.W.N.S.

Facts About Wildlife and Nature Society

P.O. Box 674
Holden, MA 01520
www.fawnsexpo.com

**The F.A.W.N Society has ONE GOAL or
PRIME DIRECTIVE
which shall always be the
goal of its programs and activities:
TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE OUR
CONNECTIONS WITH NATURE BY**

- Nourishing a realistic understanding of the interactions between people and the natural world.
- Facilitating a universal and accurate comprehension of modern, successful fisheries and wildlife management.
- Cultivating effective education programs enabling the public to make informed decisions regarding wildlife issues.
- Exposing prejudice directed against those who choose to use nature for subsistence.
- Fostering humane ethical use of wildlife.



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1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough MA 01581
General Office Phone 508-389-7820
Course Enrollment Line 508-389-7830

WHO NEEDS TO TAKE A HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE?

If you are 18 years of age or older, you are eligible for a Massachusetts Hunting or Sporting License if you meet one of the following statements:

- You have earned a government-issued Basic Hunter Education certificate (from any state in the US or Mexico or Canadian province)
- You held a hunting or sporting license before January 1, 2007 (from any state in the US or Mexico or Canadian province) Proof is not required.

If you can say YES to either of the above criteria, you may obtain a MA hunting or sporting license.

If you do not meet the above criteria, you must take and successfully complete a Basic Hunter Education course before you can obtain your Massachusetts Hunting or Sporting license.

Hunting regulations for minors (less than 18 years of age)

- In Massachusetts, minors under 12 years of age cannot hunt.
- Minors 12 to 17 years of age can hunt and must follow regulations particular for their age.
 - o Minors 12–14 years of age can hunt under the direct supervision of an adult. One minor can share one firearm or bow with one licensed adult. They share one bag limit. The supervising adult must have a valid Massachusetts hunting or sporting license, any required state or federal stamps, and any permits required to possess a firearm; none of these are required for the minor.
 - o Minors 15–17 years of age can hunt and must have a valid Minor Hunting License in addition to any required state or federal stamps, and any license required to hunt with a firearm.

- While minors are not mandated to complete Basic Hunter Education to hunt, it is one option for minors (15-17 years of age) to obtain a hunting license and it is a prerequisite for all minors (12-17 years of age) to participate in some youth programs such as the youth turkey hunt program and the young adult pheasant hunt program.

Under normal circumstances, a minor's license can only be obtained in person and written parental consent must be provided in order to purchase the license. During the COVID-19 State of Emergency, parents and guardians can use an electronic form to provide consent. Once processed, it will enable a minor hunting license to be purchased online through MassFishHunt. Please email mass.wildlife@mass.gov if you have any questions.

FIREARMS LICENSING

Massachusetts requires all firearm owners to be licensed. All Massachusetts residents 15 years of age and older who wish to possess, carry, and transport firearms, ammunition, or feeding devices are required to have a firearms license. Firearms licenses are issued by local police departments. Successful completion of a CERTIFIED FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE or the MASSACHUSETTS BASIC HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE fulfills the requirements established by Massachusetts General Law [M.G.L. Chapter 140 Section 131 P(a)] to apply with your local police department for a Firearms Identification Card (FID) or a License to Carry Firearms (LTC).

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Phone: 508-792-3333 Fax: 508-792-3311
www.WorcesterCountyMemorials.com

Philip Costanzo Email: Phil@WorcesterCountyMemorials.com
Colleen Prokop Email: colleen@wcmemorials.com

Barre Sportsman's Club

22 Spring Hill Rd Barre, MA
Archery - Mon 6pm
22Shoots Tue - 6pm
Trap - Wed 7:30pm

Leicester Rod & Gun Club

Public is welcome at all shooting events
Trap Mondays 6 PM
Pistol shoots Tuesdays 6 PM rimfire
pistol shoot
Thursday 6 PM center fire pistol shoot
Archery Indoors Jan-Mar, 3D Spring & Summer
Sporting Clays Saturday's 9 AM
Summer. For more details see
leicesterrodandgunclub.com or
Leicester Rod and Gun Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/Leicester-Rod-And-Gun-Club-157978684263644/>

Wickaboag Sportsman's Club

New Braintree Road West
Brookfield, MA. Phone 508-867-9804
SUNDAY 3D SHOOT
May 5th, June 16th, August 25th
Scott Lariviere Archery Chairman
Spencer Fish & Game Club
155 Mechanic St., P.O. Box 238
Spencer, MA 01562 508-885-5925
Trap: Sunday 12pm & Thursday 6:30
pm
Ice Fishing Derby 1/11 7-1 pm, back
up date 2/8
Huge Meat Raffle 1/26 2pm
both open to the public

Petersham Gun Club

158 Nelson Rd Petersham MA, 01366
SPORTING CLAYS,
Sundays 10am till 1pm.. Winter League
starts February 1st.

NORCO Sportsmen's Club

91 Houghton Rd. Princeton, MA 01541
Trap and skeet range open
Mon. and Thurs 6 pm to 9 pm Sat 1-4

Hubbardston Rod & Gun Club

P.O. Box 47 Hubbardston, MA 01452
2nd Tuesdays Regular Business
Meeting.

Nimrod League of Holden

Coal Kiln Road, Princeton, MA
Mason Road, (Holden.off Rte 31 north)
Trap and Skeet shoots every Thursday
6 - 9 pm

Club Events

Fitchburg Sportsmen's Club,

289 Rindge State Road (Route 119)
Ashburnham, MA
Trap shooting - Wednesday Nites at
6 PM. Kitchen usually open. Public
invited. For information contact Ron
978-827-6800.
All of the events are at the Fitchburg
Sportsmen's Club at "Swallow Hill"
Grounds. For more info contact
George 978-342-5928.

Beginners Trap Shooting Clinic on
Sunday, 8 July 2018 from 9:00 AM to
Noon. It is open to the public. Contact
Ron for info. 978-827-6800

Leominster

Sportsmen's Association

1455 Elm St., Leominster
Trap and Skeet, 9 AM to Noon
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and
Sunday
Skeet, Friday, 6PM to 9 PM
5 Stand, Saturday, 9 AM to Noon and
Sunday, Noon to 3 PM
Public invited and welcome

Hamilton Rod and Gun Club

24 Hamilton Rd Sturbridge Mass
1-508-347-3389
Trap every Sunday 9:30 am
2nd & 4th Friday nights 6:30
Bar open Friday nights 7
New members class 2nd Sat of each
month.
Aug 2nd -3rd Mill Town Hot Rods
show

Sept 13 IMOC Italian Motorcycle
owner club Sept 20nd the big
MOE Massachusetts Outdoor Expo
CANCELED
Hamilton Rod and Gun will host the
R100 3D archery shoot from June 26th
thru June 28th. For times and cost visit
the R100 web page www.r100.org

Marlborough Fish & Game Asc

1 Muddy Lane
Marlborough MA 01752-1047
508-485-9739

Rutland Sportsman's Club

75 Pleasantdale Road, Rutland, MA

Auburn Sportsman's Club

50 Elm St. Auburn, MA
(508) 832-6492

Brookfield Rod and Gun Club

56 Webber Road
Brookfield, Ma. 01506
Inviting the Public to the Following
event:
Turkey Shoots every Sunday starting
October 26, 2019 through April 26th,
2020.

Start time is 10:00am.
20 rounds, 15 bird rounds and 5 slug
rounds. \$40.00 Includes all rounds.
Cash and Meat Prizes. Attend six
Sunday shoots during the year and you
and a guest are invited to the Turkey
Shoot Banquet held at the completion
of the shooting season.

Special Event:
August 15th, 2020. Slug Team Shoot,
\$30.00 for Ten Rounds. All meat
prizes. Sign up by August 1st. Call
Sue Holmes Range Safety Officer and
Range Committee chair at 774-262-
9471. Leave message on cell.
Thanks, Pat O'Day

North Brookfield Sportsman's Club

20 Boynton Road,
North Brookfield, MA, 01535
Club Phone (508) 867-9216
Wednesday Trap Shoots at 7:00PM,
they are open to the public

Townsend Rod and Gun Club

46 Emery Road
Townsend, MA 01469
Public always welcome to all events
Trap every Sunday 9 AM - 12PM
and Thursday 9 - 11:30 AM
Bowling Pin Shoots
8:30 AM- 1 PM
17 May, 2nd Sunday June-Oct.
Black Powder Shoot every 3rd Sunday
9 AM-1 PM

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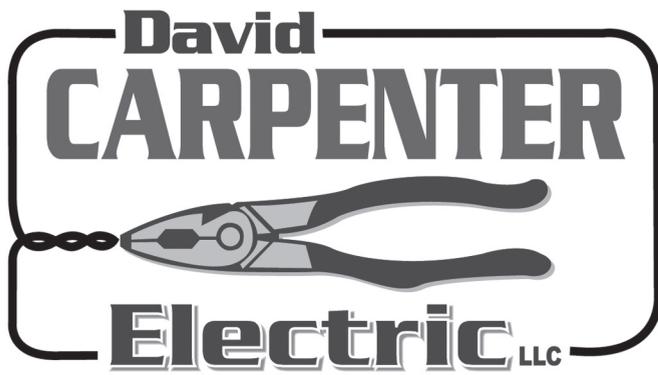
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