



A SPORTSPERSON'S
CONSERVATION CLUB
Conservation Center
5641 Myers Lake Ave.
Belmont MI 49306



DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER
OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

www.michiganikes.org

The IKEs Update

November 2014

Fall in Michigan has been off-the-chart gorgeous! Impossible to describe, so I'll just hope your eyes are enjoying the colors as much as mine are.

We've had a lot going on, and other articles inside will describe the **SOS** stream event **Steg** and I did, the amazing solar array that **Shirley Kalio** installed, and my friendly Chickadees.

Upcoming, we have 2 events for you this month!

Shane Celeste will be talking about **Permaculture** on Monday, November 17 at 6:30.

Permaculture aims for sustainability, following patterns in nature to improve our gardens, architecture, and creative problem solving. Many of the ideas are simple and inexpensive, like edible landscaping with perennial crops. Shane is part of a group that is helping to introduce urban-farming in the Detroit area, and has started a non-profit called **Eating Gardens**. He'll give us a fascinating overview, and present a range of ideas. One on using alternative energy will probably follow this session in a few weeks. If you are interested in gardening, homesteading, tiny-house design, self-sufficiency, or saving on your heat-bill, come join the discussion. Shane is an enthusiastic speaker.

Then, on Thursday, November 20 it's our fabulous **Wild Game Dinner**! I know it's during hunting season, but maybe you can take a quick break. Camouflage attire will fit right in. We need your appetites and whatever you can bring to the table. Venison? Elk? Rattlesnake? Duck? Rabbit? Squirrel? Mystery meat? Garden

veggies? Irresistible desserts? Feel free to bring friends, so we can have even more fun! There will also be a presentation on **Wilderness First Aid**. Lots to learn & lots to enjoy this month!

Georgia Donovan

Wilderness First Aid Presentation for the Game Dinner



Wilderness First Aid (WFA) is the assessment of and treatment given to an ill or injured person in a remote environment where definitive care by a physician and/or rapid transport is not readily available. This course goes far beyond what you may know as "first aid." While it contains substantial medical information and teaches skills required for medical emergencies in the wild, the deeper purpose is to train participants to manage acute situations. The bottom line is this: Better decision-making at the incident scene miles from base facilities can save valuable time and human resources. It can save lives, too.

Presentation will give an overview of the class.

Chili Cook Off

Tom Watson

About thirty Ikes and friends participated in the third annual Chili Cook Off on October 10. We tasted, we compared and then we voted. **Alona Schnieder** took first place, I came in second and **Mary Lou Sundt** took third.

Chili indeed is the kind of dish that features no set recipe and the three winning entries produced a divergent interpretation of what makes a good chili. Perhaps next year someone will bring us another great version of chili. Until then, practice making your best recipe and join in the fun next October.

Following dinner, **Tam Bagby** presented a slide show concerning **Monarch Butterflies**. See her article in the October 2014 issued of this newsletter and look for future articles from her about Monarchs.

Bob Stegmier manned the door and Mary Lou tended bar. **Barry Gilbertson** assisted in the kitchen and also tallied the votes and announced the winners. Most everyone helped clean up, including Bob and **Gail Stegmier**, who washed all the dishes and **Georgia Donovan** and **Blake Gardner** who cleaned the dining room. Naturally, in the flurry of clean up some names escaped me, but thanks to all who pitched in.





IKEs CHRISTMAS DINNER

Jay Huston

Now is the time for all dedicated IKEs to come to the enjoyment of their Christmas dinner. With that said be sure to mark your calendar for **Thursday, December 4, 2014** and be at the **Timbers Inn/Restaurant**, 6555 Belding Road, NE, Rockford, MI, located approximately two and a half miles east of Wolverine Blvd. We have a semi private area in which to dine and will accommodate up to 65. I hope we have half that number.

The evening will begin with a Social hour at 6:00 PM with a cash bar and dinner at 7:00 PM. The dinner menu is choice of one of four entrees: Top Sirloin Steak (8 ounce), Walleye Fillet, BBQ Ribs (half slab) and Angel Hair Chicken. The entrees are served with choice of house salad or soup of the day, 9 grain bread and your choice of one of the following: vegetable medley, mashed potatoes with gravy, French Fries or wild rice and a beverage. If you would like a dessert, it is a la carte.

The sit down dinner is \$24.00 per person. **The reservation deadline is Monday, December 1.** Please cut off the reservation form below and mail with your check for \$24.00 per dinner ordered.

Please come and celebrate with your fellow IKEs.

Cheers, Jay

CHRISTMAS DINNER RESERVATION FORM

NAMES(S) _____

NUMBER OF DINNERS: _____ X \$24.00 = (TOTAL) \$ _____

YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER, IWLA
MAIL TO: JAY HUSTON, 207 GREENBRIER DRIVE, SE., GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49546

Thank you for joining our celebration.

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Action Please!

Bob Stegmier, National Director

No, this is not a movie set but something more important. Our National office issued this action alert below. If you have signed onto getting **Action Alerts** you would have gotten it and possibly have taken action. This Action Alert was written by the collaboration of three past National Presidents. They are all living and very active Ikes on the important issues. Their message and your oppor-

tunity is to send a message to the EPA urging restoration of wetland protection which was lost in Supreme Court decisions in 2001 and 2006. I think it is important to remember our roots. When the League was founded in 1922 it was very much about protecting the water quality of our streams and lakes and the battle continues today.

On page 8 is the message and

here is how you can easily take action. First go to **www.iwla.org** then click on **Advocacy** on the left sidebar. Then click on **Key Issues to Take Action**, and then click on **Support the Clean Water Rule**. Then fill out the necessary information and send this message below. It will be there ready to go when you click on send. You do have the option to modify the letter to your satisfaction if you wish.

Dredged Streams

John Stegmeier, Conservation Chair

Over the past few years I have heard a number of people express concern over flooding on the Grand River. Much of this concern has been directed at the management of the stream in the Grand Rapids area. Worries about the floodwalls, dams, and construction on the floodplain are legitimate concerns, but they affect the flood conditions after the water has entered the river and reached the downstream areas. Another way to look at the problems with flooding is to address the rate at which water enters streams and reaches the main stem of the river.

One cannot underestimate the importance of wetlands in controlling flooding and I expect that our members are generally familiar with the history of wetland loss including the draining or filling of 11 million acres of wetlands in Michigan by the middle of the last century, as reported by the **MDNR**. On top of this damage there has been and continues to be dredging and straightening of streams

for agricultural purposes which do not necessarily involve the draining of wetlands.

In order to have an earlier and more predictable planting season, farmers find it beneficial to install drain tiles in crop fields allowing excess water to drain from the fields more quickly. For the tiles to drain properly they must enter an adjacent ditch above the water level. The ditches are dug to move the water more quickly to the nearest stream. The streams are dredged and straightened so that they will carry more water to the river in a given time to keep up with the supply being delivered as more and more fields are tiled. Faster flowing water has more kinetic energy, which causes the water to suspend more sediment in the water column.

The result is a system of streams with unnaturally high fluctuations of flow. The combination of the fluctuations in stream level and dredging produce stream bottoms with unstable drift-

ing sediments, which can hold relatively low species diversity. These effects continue downstream, degrading the main stem of the river and as multitudes of small ditches rush water into streams the river reaches flood stages more quickly than in the past.

There are ditches throughout the **Grand River** watershed, but **Clinton County** stands out as having a high number of streams, which have been dredged and straightened. **Stony Creek** is a good example of a stream, which has been dredged and straightened throughout most of its length. It was done to benefit agriculture, but if the goal had been to cause flooding in the Grand River they could not have done a much better job.

SOS With Middle Schoolers On The Rogue

Georgia Donovan

We had an opportunity to work with **Assumption BVM School** in Belmont and share our love of rivers with our **Save Our Streams** teaching tools. Middle school teacher, **Beth Sochacki** contacted **Bob Stegmier** to see if the Izaak Walton League could help them, and we responded “yes” of course! So on October 1st, he and I met them at the **White Pine Trail Park** and proceeded down to the **Rogue River** with a class of 8th graders, all clomping along in waders and boots.

They were really good kids, eager to collect with nets and then identify their findings along the riverbank. And then, while Bob and I collected our trays, nets, and wits, the teachers went back and brought the 7th graders. So we presented the SOS procedure twice that morning, and were happy that all those kids had a chance to connect with their local river.

The teachers at Assumption seem to have a great program emphasizing a science-based care-taking approach to local ecology, while recognizing the benefits of getting outside and connecting the kids to the local landscape. We are hoping to partner with them again!

Note: To do things like this, we really need some new “stream-people.” Steg has come through for many years, and we need some new folks to carry the torch. It’s really a fun thing to volunteer for, because the kids always love it, it’s outside, and it only requires occasional time and commitment. We just need some backup!

Contact me: georgiadonovanart@gmail.com



Getting Friendly with Chickadees

Georgia Donovan

Enjoying birdwatching through the window is great, nothing wrong with it. But have you ever wished you could get a little closer, make some contact? The feel of those little bird toenails on your hand is positively electrifying!

Chickadees are a good place to start. They're curious, like to see what's going on. And gutsy, daring to dive in for a seed before someone else gets it. They won't just waltz up to the first person with a handful of oilers though. Here's my advice:

Step 1: Promise me you will never try to catch them. They are trusting you.

Step 2: Establish ONE feeder and get them used to you being nearby. If you had a choice of a whole buffet, or stealing food out of somebody's hand, which would you choose?

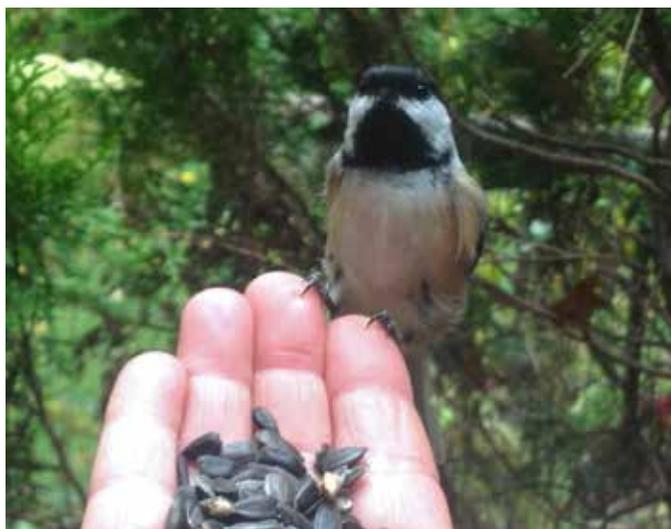
Step 3: When the feeder runs low, put the sunflower seeds out on a nearby cloth, old T-shirt or mitten.

Step 4: Now put your hand under the cloth, offering the seeds.

Step 5: If a bird lands, don't jerk, scream, or do anything. Relax.

Step 6: Repeat a few times so they get used to you, then put the seeds in your hand on top of the cloth.

Step 7: Now it's improvisation time. Just play nice!



Are You Life Members Tired Of Paying Chapter Dues Every Year?

Ron Waybrant

DLC has an answer for you. Two years ago the DLC board established a chapter "life membership" to complement the national IWLA life membership. While a life membership in the IWLA is a worthy investment, it applies only for national dues and does not apply to state or chapter dues. Thus, IWLA life members in our chapter still pay state and chapter dues annually. If a life member (national) becomes a life member at our chapter, they would not pay any annual national, state or chapter dues.

The chapter life membership is available for a \$300 payment and coordinated by the Chapter's membership chairperson. The chapter life membership was established two years ago and currently 5 life members have taken advantage of the opportunity. This option is only available to members who have a national IWLA life, family life, life benefactor or family benefactor membership.

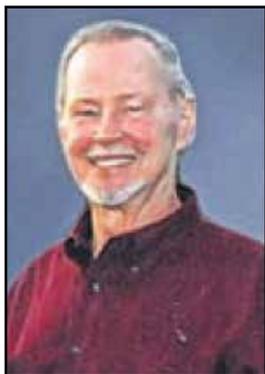
Life membership fees provide a continuing asset to further the goals of the IKEs. Life membership dues for both the chapter and IWLA are tax deductible. With this program, DLC is providing a benefit for the life members in our chapter. Currently we have 15 life members in our chapter, and would welcome more.

Needed:
Key Holder /Rental Coordinator
Jan Kuzma has done a great job with rentals, but a new volunteer is needed! We may have someone else who can keep track of reservations, but we need someone nearby where people can pick up & drop off the key.
Contact Georgia at georgiadonovanart@gmail.com

Kenneth Carl MacAdam Bob Stegmier

It is always difficult but important the passing of an Ike or a friend of the Ikes. You may have missed it reported in the *Grand Rapids Press*.

Ken had cancer and died quicker than expected. He and his wife Marney had been chapter members for many years. Note in his wishes the suggestion for donations to our DLC chapter. Please consider send a note to Marney or any member of the family. Great picture of Ken!



MACADAM, KENNETH CARL

Kenneth Carl MacAdam, 83, passed away October 5 at his

home in Grand Rapids, after a short battle with cancer. Ken, son of Kenneth Walter and Helen Bellinger MacAdam, was born and raised in Watertown, NY. He attended the University of Michigan and worked in the publishing business in Ann Arbor and Chicago until his retirement. He was preceded in death by his brother, David (Beth) MacAdam of Overland Park, KS. Ken is survived by his beloved wife, Marney (Margaret Whinery); his brother, Lynn (Sherrie) MacAdam of Oveido, FL; his loving stepchildren, Frederick Houseman, Kate Houseman (Craig Wassenaar), Hank Houseman and adoring grandchildren, Katherine (Michael) Marsoobian, Joseph (JoAnne) Gritter, Elizabeth Gritter, Thompson and David Houseman. Kenneth is also survived by two great-grandsons and his son, Tom (Amy) MacAdam. After several years of retirement, Ken joined the Meijer company as a greeter at the Rockford store when it opened ten years ago, a job he relished due to the opportunity of relating to and enjoying the many customers he grew to know through the years. Ken's unique sense of humor extended to his family, friends and Meijer customers who enjoyed meeting

with him on a regular basis. Ken particularly loved spending time at the cabin on Woodbeck Lake in Greenville. The family will greet friends at the Metcalf & Jonkhoff Funeral Home, on Saturday, October 11 from 4-7 PM. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Izaak Walton League at 5641 Myers Lake Avenue, Rockford, MI 49341. The family would like to thank Spectrum Hospice for their attentive and caring support. The family is being served by Metcalf & Jonkhoff Funeral Service.

**THOUGHT OF
THE MONTH**
JAY HUSTON

“Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone.”

Charles M. Schulz

Core Event Schedule 2014	
Please Check Monthly for Updates	
	Chairperson
November 8.....	University of Michigan club
November 14-15-16.....	Troop 367
November 17.....	Permaculture program
November 20, Thursday	Game Dinner @ CC Tom Watson
December 4, Thursday.....	Christmas Dinner @ Timbers Restaurant Jay Huston
December 6.....	Miller family.....

Action Alert

Jim Madsen and Dave Zentner,
Past Ike Presidents

Ikes and Friends of the League: You have all received previous action alerts from the **Izaak Walton League** urging you to support the rulemaking effort to restore some of the wetland and stream protections under the **Clean Water Act**.



The protections for upstream wetlands and streams were lost as a result of two Supreme Court decisions in 2001 and 2006. The **Environmental Protection Agency** and **Army Corps of Engineers** are proposing to restore some of those protections. A short description for this process is that it is simply an effort to clarify for ALL parties which wetlands and streams remain protected, and which need case-by-case evaluation.

Both of us have worked on this subject since the first unfortunate Supreme Court decision. Neither of us are scientific experts, but we are well informed on the specifics of this issue. Please add your voice to those of the over 280 Ikes and friends who have already weighed in.

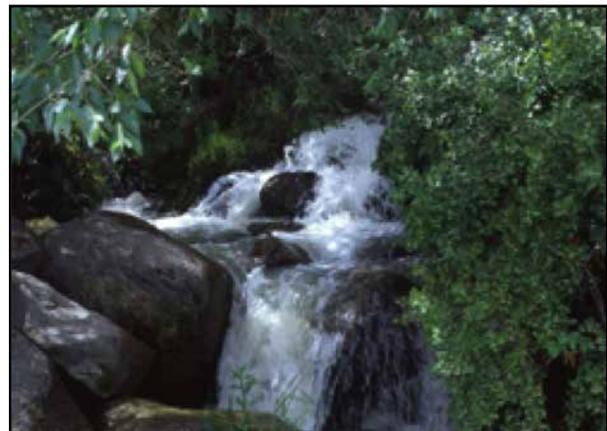
You know as well as any citizens in the USA today that our wetlands and headwaters play a vital role in our overall natural resource index of wellness. You also know that we've lost far too many wetlands, and that the destruction of over 50% of our original wetlands nationally has hurt us financially with flooding, soil losses, and degraded surface and groundwater resources.

You also know the price we continue to pay in the loss of biodiversity and sustainability, amenities that feed our souls and enrich us while we are here. The proposed rulemaking process does not attempt to restore all the protections our wetlands had prior to the Supreme Court decisions. From 1974-2001, while the more protective regulations were in force, we farmed, we managed our forests, we met our construction needs, and we planned

and built our communities. During that period (1974-2001) our economy was generally strong, and our employment robust.

Some groups appear to have forgotten these facts, as well as their responsibility to be factual. A campaign has been launched that vilifies EPA, screams out in language that portrays this as the biggest government land grab in history and that it would prevent routine farming practices. Talk about emotional, and unsubstantiated, hysteria. Yet this campaign of fear and misinformation unfortunately seems to be working. The wetlands destroyers just succeeded in passing a bill against this rule in the U.S House.

Ikes like farmers! Many of us are connected to families with farm histories. For decades, Ikes



have recognized the need to support taxpayer participation in the cost of private land conservation. Many Ikes work in construction and in diverse ways in our communities. All of us understand the need to recognize the rights of property owners and individuals AND the rights of the broad community. Since our country was founded, we've debated and we've balanced these rights. Balancing and discussing these diverse needs contributes to what makes us a great nation.

That is what this issue is all about; framing a modest set of regulations and allowing the exemptions that originated with the Clean Water Act, until the Supreme Court decisions threw the process into confusion and exposed millions of acres of our remaining wetlands and nearly 60% of our nation's streams to destruction.

(continued on page 9)

Action Alert

(continued from page 8)

It is time to call a halt to allowing us to be out-worked by a national campaign of misinformation and outright lies! Let us stand up, work together, and let our government and our political partners know that we want our water protected. Commerce is integral to a strong economy, but without vital natural resources, commerce is lessened. Clean water is vital to life itself. Remember, less than one-half of one percent of all the water in the world is available for human consumption, and today there are over 7 billion of us on this planet that must share that small percentage.

Can we count on you to send in a comment to the EPA supporting this clean water rule? And please, let your elected representatives know you care and ask your neighbors to help out as well.

Please note **the comment period to the EPA has been extended through November 14.** Sample comments are under the yellow button below, but you are also able to edit and/or write your own, as well.

SPECIAL EVENT!
PERMACULTURE

**Doable sustainable
homes & gardens**
By Shane Celeste of
EatingGardens.org
MONDAY 11/17 at 6:30
Come to the lodge for
presentation & questions

Membership Application ... Izaak Walton League of America

Dwight Lydell Chapter, 5641 Myers Lake Ave. Belmont MI 49306

Conservation Needs a Friend Ask a friend to join the IKEs!

NAME _____

SPOUSE _____ CHILDREN & AGES _____ HOME PHONE _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DATE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ SPONSOR _____

_____ Individual - \$52, _____ Family - \$72, _____ Student (18-21) - \$24, _____ Youth (under 18) - \$12.00

Mail to Izaak Walton League, PO Box 541, Belmont MI 49306. Checks payable to "Izaak Walton League"
Call Ron at 616.361.1422 for more information. A gate key is provided upon receipt of membership fee. You can pick up your key at the next dinner at the lodge. Please enjoy the 39 acres.

Indicate which of these important committees you're interested in working on:

Natural Features Stewardship _____ Finance _____ Membership _____ Building & Grounds _____
Conservation _____ Programs _____ Every Member Dinners _____

The Izaak Walton League of America – a non-profit conservation organization – is recognized as a Section 501(c)(3) public charity under the Internal Revenue Code.

Local Solar, Activated!

Georgia Donovan

Shirley and Gene Kallio's house is beautiful! They have topped off their earth-sheltered, geo-thermal, passive-solar, well decorated home with an array of 48 solar panels that match their ideals as well as their roofline.

Those who know Shirley know that she is committed to clean energy, and she is thrilled to have taken this step. She held an open house on September 28, where she explained the process, her contractor described the system, and Deb Havens discussed political possibilities for renewable energy.



The panels were made in Michigan and installed by Peninsular Solar. Their existing roof supplied a very good angle, but panels can also be installed on the ground or however it works best.

Shirley applied to the Consumers Energy Experimental Advanced Renewables Program, or EARP, which will pay her 24.4 cents per kilowatt hour. All of the energy from her solar home-factory goes into the grid, and then she gets a credit on her bill. She has been contributing clean energy to the grid since October 17. Thank-you, Shirley!

Now the Kallios can say they heat and cool with solar power, because it supplies the electricity to run their geo-thermal system.

The tables are turning on energy sources, as renewables drop in price compared to the carbon-producers. Prices have dropped by 50% since 2008 for wind and solar energy. According to Audubon Magazine's Jigar Shah, author of *Creating Climate Wealth*, switching to 100% renewable is not

only possible, but inevitable. "Globally, solar has been deployed at a rate of \$80 billion a year for the past few years." The old saying of "follow the money" can lead us in a new direction. Obstacles such as energy storage and connecting variable systems are being worked out. Hopefully, political obstacles can be worked out as well.

Shirley is promoting a "carbon fee with dividends" proposal. Fees generated by carbon-producers would create dividends for people to switch to clean-energy systems. But being Shirley, she didn't wait; she took action!

STUDENT EDITORS

Student editors this month were Bailey Armstrong, Radvile Butkeviciute, Jenny Start, Jacob Wiles.

THANK YOU STUDENTS!

To see this and past editions of the newsletter and national IKEs information please visit our websites:

**www.michiganIkes.org
www.iwla.org**

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS WORK AREAS

1. Pavilion by Pond
 - Roof Repair
 - Screening Installed
 - Grill Installation
 - Low Area Filled
 - Storage Shed Built/Purchased
2. Garage
 - Facia Covered
 - Door Stoop Replaced
 - Wood Rack Cover Provided
3. Lodge Exterior
 - Facia Covered
 - Pea Stones Under Eaves Replaced
 - Siding Cleaned and Stained
4. Pond
 - Docks Replaced
 - Water Level Controls Provided
 - Selected Trees Cut
5. Lodge Interior
 - Patch Drywall Near Fireplace
 - Fireplace Utensils Replaced
 - Firewood Box Needed
 - Carpet Cleaned
 - Windows Cleaned
6. Grounds
 - Driveway Graded
 - Picnic Tables Treated
 - Trails Maintained
 - Woody Debris Added to Stream
7. Camping Area
 - Pavilion Repaired
 - Picnic Tables Treated

Where's the Mulch?

Georgia Donovan

Tammy Lundeen, Barb McGuirl, and Gordon Griffin (of the **MSU Extension**) have put in many untold hours on our teardrop-shaped **Native Plant Garden**. Their work is taking root, the plants are interesting, its beauty should be shared with visitors... and instead, somebody has been helping themselves to their pile of mulch!

This is mulch that the IKEs purchased, not "free" mulch that may have been produced by volunteer labor to spread on trails.

So, if you took it, stop. And replace it if you can.

If you see other people on the property, please strike up a friendly conversation. If we spend more time around there, the occasional wanderers might realize that we do care about our place.

And, if you haven't been back to see the garden, by all means, go appreciate what a unique collection of plants they have gathered, from the Compass Plants to the Michigan Cactus. Tammy has donated many, many hours of her time to this project, and is also starting to grow seedlings of native varieties at home, for others to start their own landscapes. Get in touch with her if you are interested in buying some next spring at: sheisgrowingwild@gmail.com

**Save the Date:
Winterfest is Saturday, January
24.
More info next month.**



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Grand Rapids, MI 49525

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Please don't throw this newsletter away -
pass it on to a friend.

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Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Waters and Wildlife

Fish & Game Dinner

Thursday, November 20



Social Hour: 6:00PM, Dinner: 7:00PM
WILDERNESS PRESENTATION AT 7:30!

We count on you for great side dishes and dessert, too, so please bring
some along with friends and family!

Adults: \$8, youth: 6-12 \$4 and under 6
FREE as are first time quests.

PLEASE PLAN TO
ATTEND OUR
CHRISTMAS
DINNER



THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 4
Reservation form on page 3