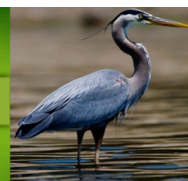




THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter



The Blue Heron Times June 2026 Issue

Points of Contact

President: Chris Ferguson
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Allen Kiger
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Membership Chair: Alan Ferguson
SNIWLA.mdr@gmail.com 757-292-3705(m)

Speaker Coordinator: Chris Ferguson (interim)
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Chapter website: sniwla.org
WebMaster: webmaster@sniwla.org

IWLA State/National
[IWLA Virginia Division](#)
[IWLA National](#)

Backyard Conservation News
AskHRgreen.org
[Chesapeake Bay Foundation](#)
[Department of Conservation & Recreation](#)
[Division of Wildlife Resources](#)
[Hoffler Creek Wildlife Foundation](#)
[Nansemond River Preservation Alliance](#)
[SCCC - Suffolk Clean Community Commission](#)
[Recycling](#)
[TerraScapes Environmental Consulting](#)
[The Wildlife Society](#)
[Virginia Conservation Network](#)
[Virginia Master Naturalist](#)

Classifieds
[Chuckatuck Trading Post](#)
(757)255-9295 5969 Goodwin Blvd, Suffolk

[Suffolk Radio & TV Service](#)
Radio/Television Repair
(757)539-2110, 536 W. Washington Street, Suffolk

[Appomattox River Company](#)
(757)890-0500, 3009 W. Mercury Blvd, Hampton

[Arzillo Recycling](#) (Scrap Metal)
(757)539-8593, Locations: Suffolk & PTMS Blvd

Meetings

Chapter Board of Directors meetings are held on the second Monday of each month. They last met at 7pm on **Monday, June 8th** at the Constantia House behind Baker's Funeral Home. The next month's Board meeting will be at 7pm on **Monday, July 13th** at the same location.

Chapter Members Dinner meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

The next chapter dinner meeting will be held at 6:30pm on **Wednesday, June 17th** at the Oakland Church Community Life Center located in Chuckatuck at 5641 Godwin Blvd, Suffolk, VA 23434.

The dinner menu will be Spaghetti and Meatballs, garlic bread, tossed salad, tea, water, assorted desserts. The cost will be \$10.

Our guest speaker for the evening will be Susan Stanley, acting Great Dismal Swamp Refuge Manager. She will give a presentation/update on the **Great Dismal Swamp Stakeholder Collaborative** (GDSSC) which is a coalition of Indigenous tribes, descendant communities, local governments, and conservation groups; in addition she will talk about the 4th grade SOL (Standards of Learning) program with volunteer instructors.

President's Note

PSA (Public Service Announcement) - The warmer weather is upon us. Be sure to hydrate and possibly take an electrolyte supplement. It could save you a night in the hospital.

But we have some great weather, get out and enjoy the park. We have a lot of activities scheduled; be sure to participate for the fun (and the volunteer work credits).

Elections are also coming, with nominations at the June dinner meeting. Consider stepping up to be a board member or officer.

"June is the time for being in the world in new ways, for throwing off the cold and dark spots of life." — Joan D. Chittister

Respectfully Yours,

Chris Ferguson,
Chapter President,
Suffolk-Nansemond IWLA

Calendar of Events

You can review our full chapter website calendar online at <https://sniwla.org/sniwla/calendar> for the most recent information about meetings and upcoming events. NOTE: after accessing the Chapter calendar in your web browser using the hyperlink shown above, you may wish to add this calendar to your own personal Google calendar by scrolling down and clicking on "Add to Google Calendar". A courtesy extract through the end of July is shown below.

MON 6/8 at 7pm - Board Meeting.

SAT 6/13 at 8am - *Chapter Park Maintenance Workday.

SAT 6/13 at 8am - Suffolk Recycling Drive & Tire Amnesty Day **at Nansemond River High School.**

WED 6/17 at 6:30pm - Dinner Meeting w/ Nominations of Chapter Officers and Board Members.

SAT 6/20 - IWLA VA Division Meeting at Clater Lake Chapter.

SUN 6/21 at 1pm to 4pm - *Chapter Youth Scavenger Hunt (Open-To-The-Public)

MON 7/13 at 7pm - Board Meeting.

WED 7/15 at 6:30pm - Dinner Meeting w/ Elections of Chapter Officers and Board Members.

FRI-SAT 7/17 thru 7/18 - IWLA National Convention in Bloomington, MN.

**Note: Events marked with an asterisk count towards work hour credits for meeting the chapter's annual membership volunteer [participation requirement](#).*

Please note that the venue for the 6/13 Suffolk Recycle Drive event was moved (from Florence Bowser as was originally posted in our May Newsletter Issue) to the Nansemond River High School location. Also, **IMPORTANT:** Chapter members will **NOT** be credited for volunteer work hours at the 6/13 Suffolk Recycle Drive event towards accumulating the required annual minimum hours. Reason is because a Chapter park member work day is already scheduled for this same day.

HOLIDAYS/COMMUNITY EVENTS:

SAT 6/14 - Flag Day.

MON /16 - Suffolk Commonwealth Attorney Status Update - Environmental Initiatives

FRI 6/19 - Juneteenth.

SUN 6/21 - Father's Day.

SAT 7/4 - Independence Day.

***Chapter Park Cleanup Workday Saturday, June 13th at 8am.**

Message from Jimmy Fanny, Chapter Park Manager

Members, we need your help. The **grass needs mowing and trimming throughout all areas of the park.** The goal is to get the park looking good for the upcoming Chapter Scavenger Hunt Youth Event scheduled to occur in a couple weeks. Plan to show up at the chapter park gazebo at 8AM on Saturday, June 13th and bring lawn mowers, weed trimmers, leaf blowers, shovels, heavy duty rakes, etc. Also, bring water to drink and wear sunscreen, insect repellent, sturdy boots, work gloves, and safety glasses.

Note: This event is applicable for chapter work hour credits in accordance with our Chapter's Volunteer [Participation Policy](#). Please be sure to mark **X in the work column of your park gate mailbox sign-in sheet entry, write "Park WorkDay" in the comments, and enter your start and end times so that we can calculate and tally your volunteer work hours accordingly.*

Keep Suffolk Beautiful Recycling Drive & Tire Amnesty - Nansemond River High

Keep Suffolk Beautiful's Recycling Drive & Tire Amnesty Day is scheduled for **Saturday, June 13th, 2026, from 8am to 11am** in the front parking lot of **Nansemond River High School – 3301 Nansemond Parkway, Suffolk, VA 23434**. This event is free and open to all Suffolk residents. Attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food and toiletry items to support local community partners.

Please note that the venue for the 6/13 Suffolk Recycle Drive event was moved (from Florence Bowser as was originally posted in our May Newsletter Issue) to the Nansemond River High School location.

Also, **IMPORTANT:** Chapter members will **NOT** be credited for volunteer work hours at this 6/13 Suffolk Recycle event towards accumulating the required annual minimum hours. Reason is because a Chapter park member work day is already scheduled for this same day.



Recipe of the Month - Sun-Dried Tomato Cannellini Bean Salad

Source Credits: <https://www.veggiessavetheday.com/cannellini-bean-salad>
by Amy Katz updated on May 6, 2025

Servings: 6

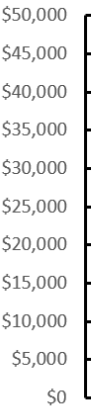
Ingredients:

- Qty 2 (two) 15-ounce cans cannellini beans*, (equivalent to 3 cups) rinsed and drained
- ½ cup fresh parsley, chopped
- ⅓ cup sun-dried tomatoes in olive oil, julienne cut, excess oil drained off
- ⅓ cup Kalamata olives, pits removed, sliced
- 1 Tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- 1 Tablespoon red wine vinegar
- salt and pepper, to taste

Cooking Instructions:

1. Place the beans, parsley, sun-dried tomatoes, olives, parsley, olive oil, vinegar, and salt and pepper in a large bowl.
2. Toss well to combine. Taste and adjust the seasonings, as needed. Serve immediately or cover and refrigerate for later.

*Note: If you can't find cannellini beans, also known as white kidney beans, feel free to use great northern beans or anything labeled "white beans." Navy beans, butter beans, and lima beans will all work well in this recipe. Leftover salad can be refrigerated in an airtight container for up to 3 days.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TRACKER

The graph to the left shows that we've accumulated \$7,040 in donations thus far towards our goal of raising money for expenses related to repairs and/or alterations of our chapter park dam. We are asking members to consider making a contribution to the Capital Campaign. This tracker will be included in future newsletters and updated at members' monthly meetings.

Please contact our Treasurer if you are willing to make a donation. Any help is very much appreciated. Contributions may be tax deductible; see your tax professional.

CAUTION: BE SURE TO MONITOR YOUR EMAILS CAREFULLY FOR POTENTIAL SPAM/PHISHING ATTEMPTS. The chapter will not send emails to members asking for any type of payment or donations.

Chapter Youth Scavenger Hunt Sunday, June 21st (Open-to-the-Public)

Article Reprinted from the May Newsletter Issue

The Chapter's annual Scavenger Hunt is scheduled for Sunday, June 21st, 2026. To sign up for this open-to-the-public event, please contact Mr. Chris Trimpey, our chapter Youth Program Committee Chair, at chris_trimpey@hotmail.com or (757) 449-4910. See the flyer below for more information. To share the flyer with social media, or to download a [Printable PDF](#) (Adobe Portable Document format) of it, click directly on the flyer image.



THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter





Upcoming Event

Scavenger Hunt AND Build Your Own Bird House

Open to the Public

- Date: 21 June 2026
- Time: 1-4 p.m.
- Max. # of participants: 15
- Age: 3-15
- Cost: free
- Address:
480 Kings Fork Road, Suffolk, VA

Children will look for artifacts found in nature like snake skin, arrows, plants, trees etc. We will also have a build a birdhouse activity during the event.

To Register:
Chris Trimpey
chris_trimpey@hotmail.com
757-449-4910

About Us

Chartered in June of 1954
501(c)(3) non-profit organization

Our Mission

Conservation, maintenance and protection of the soil, forest, water, and other natural resources of the city of Suffolk, VA and surrounding areas

Contact Us



Visit Us:
480 Kings Fork Road, Suffolk, VA



Email:
info@sniwla.org

Chapter Website
<https://sniwla.org>



COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM 2026

- **14 March:** Build your own Bird House
- **18 April:** Teddy Bear Hunt
- **21 June:** Scavenger Hunt
- **12 September:** Fishing Rodeo

For More Info or Registration:
info@sniwla.org OR <https://sniwla.org>

What We Offer

- 45 acre park
- Fishing Pond
- Archery Range
- Walking trails
- Picnic area
- Bird Observation

Suffolk Commonwealth Attorney Status Update - Environmental Initiatives



Commonwealth's Attorney
City of Suffolk

Voices for Environmental Justice: Initiative Update



**Monday, June 15, 2026
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Suffolk City Hall
Chambers
442 W. Washington St.
Suffolk, VA 23434**

Join us for our one-year update,
reflecting on progress, milestones,
and the work ahead.



IWLA National Action Alert Message from Jared Mott, Executive Director

"As a valued member of the Izaak Walton League of America, we urge you to speak up for conservation as Congress begins work on the fiscal year 2027 federal budget. Proposed cuts would significantly reduce funding for wetlands conservation, clean water programs, wildlife habitat, public lands, National Parks, and conservation assistance for farmers and ranchers. These programs protect the places we hunt, fish, hike, and enjoy with our families while supporting clean water, healthy forests, outdoor recreation, and local communities nationwide. Congress still has time to reject these harmful cuts — but lawmakers need to hear from conservation supporters now. Congress still has time to reject these harmful cuts, but lawmakers need to hear from people who care about conservation. The proposed budget would:

- Slash funding for wetlands conservation by cutting the North American Wetlands Conservation Act from \$49 million to \$10 million
- Dramatically reduce funding for clean water infrastructure programs that communities rely on for safe drinking water and wastewater treatment
- Cut Environmental Protection Agency funding, limiting the agency's ability to monitor pollution and protect water quality
- Eliminate critical forest and rangeland research used to manage wildfire risk, invasive species, and healthy forests
- Reduce funding for National Wildlife Refuges, migratory bird conservation, and public access to outdoor recreation opportunities
- Eliminate State and Tribal Wildlife Grants, one of the nation's most important tools for preventing species declines before they require Endangered Species Act protections
- Eliminate Conservation Technical Assistance, the boots-on-the-ground support that helps farmers and ranchers implement voluntary conservation practices
- Cut National Park Service funding by 25 percent during a time of record visitation
- Roll back the Bureau of Land Management Public Lands Rule, shifting public land management priorities away from conservation and toward increased extraction and development.

*Contact your Representatives and Senators today and urge them to protect conservation funding, public lands, wildlife habitat, and America's natural resources during the appropriations process."

**Note: For more information, IWLA National Action Alerts can be accessed on the IWLA national website at <https://iwla.org/conservation-priorities/advocate-for-conservation/#/>.*



Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America

w: <https://sniwla.org>

e: info@sniwla.org

Our USPS mailing address is: S-N IWLA, P.O. Box 351, Suffolk, VA 23439

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