



TIMBERLINES

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter



Izaak Walton League
December/January 2024
www.breckenridgeikes.org

Coming Events

January 2025

- 14 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 19 **Annual Holiday Party** 4 pm, Dinner 5 pm, Program 6 pm:

February 2025

- 14 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 28 **Social Educational Meeting 7:30 pm**
Friends of the Boundary Waters

March 2025

- 11 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 25 **Social Educational Meeting 7:30 pm**

was inducted into the National Rivers Hall of Fame at the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium in Dubuque, Iowa, as part of the Museum's celebration of the 100th anniversary of the creation of the **Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge**, which Will Dilg and the League successfully advocated for, beginning in 1923. This is a proud moment for the League. Dilg will join Rachel Carson, Ding Darling, Mark Twain and Aldo Leopold, among others, in the National Rivers Hall of Fame. [*IWLA Conservation Currents*]

Holiday Party Features *A Visit with Will Dilg*

We invite and encourage any interested attend our annual Winter Party to view the film, *A Visit with Will Dilg*, and meet its creator. Steven Marking plays Will Dilg, the singular driving force behind the formation of the Izaak Walton League and the formation of our Upper Mississippi National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. Steve wrote the script, filmed and photographed the scenery, and partnered with Ramble Pictures to produce a documentary characteristic of Steve's artistry. Steve will appear in person to show and discuss his film at our Annual Holiday Party on January 19.

Last summer Will Dilg, a founding member and the first national president of the Izaak Walton League,





WLA Breckenridge Chapter
Holiday Party

Sunday, January 19, 2025

\$25 suggested donation

Proceeds go to the Breckenridge Chapter's Scholarship Fund

4 p.m. – Social Hour

Silent Auction
Hors d'oeuvres

5 p.m. – Dinner

Carol Knutson - Spectacular Catering
Bring desserts to share!

6 p.m. – Program

Steve Marking in his film:
A Visit with Will Dilg

Please RSVP to
Barbara Franklin (bbfrankli@gmail.com)
Call or text
763-242-0432

Everyone Welcome

Reinventing Hennepin County's solid waste system

Breckenridge Chapter members and guests were privileged to hear David McNary (Asst Director Hennepin County Environment and Energy Dept) give an update on the County's solid waste management plans and an explanation of the important role being played by the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC). Next month we will summarize the HERC portion of his presentation.



To help create an understanding of the magnitude of the amount of trash we need to manage – imagine Target Field filled from the field to the top of the seating canopy. Our residents and businesses fill Target Field 6 times a year with discarded items put in the trash. We have a monumental lift in front of us to achieve a zero-waste future.

Hennepin County has a vision of a reinvented solid waste system – a zero-waste future where less waste is created in the first place, a system where everyone shares responsibility and benefits from easily accessible services. This vision depends on state leadership and residents' and businesses' support. We can stop trashing our valuable resources and close HERC. And we can do it while reaching our climate and zero-waste goals.

For the 2025 legislative session, the county is prioritizing the following platform items:

- 1) Keep pushing on recycling grants to counties
- 2) Get the previous allocation for the Anaerobic Digestion facility (that we are no longer pursuing) transferred to recycling recovery facility in Brooklyn Park.
- 3) Address construction and demolition waste
- 4) Address challenges from managing lithium-ion batteries. A policy solution is needed to reduce the costs to counties for management and safe handling.

Highest impact zero-waste actions

- Prioritize extended producer responsibility for packaging
- Support the transition to organized collection across Hennepin County
- Reduce single-use plastics and plastic packaging
- Secure adequate funding for zero-waste initiatives through SCORE and other sources
- Increase compliance with Ordinance 13 and expand requirements
- Increase the reuse and recycling of construction and demolition waste
- Ban recyclable and organic materials from landfills
- Develop and implement county plan to eliminate food waste
- Mandate participation in recycling and composting programs
- Recover recyclable materials from the trash – recycling recovery facility
- Expand collection and drop-off options for hard to recycle items
- Ensure every individual has equitable access to zero-waste tools



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The county has prioritized 12 most impactful actions, which account for almost 80% of the potential tons that could be diverted from the trash by implementing the actions in the county’s Zero Waste Plan - The actions highlighted in green are actions that are seen as opportunities for alignment regionally.

Zero-waste dashboard – 2023 results



The county board established this zero-waste dashboard as criteria to responsibly close HERC - tracking the recycling rate, the proportion of the waste that is biogenic, over waste generation rates to ensure we are meeting state law, while achieving climate and zero-waste goals.

And the final zero waste metric, is drawing a redline for landfilling rates. If we don’t succeed in advancing zero-waste actions, we risk increasing landfilling and going in the wrong direction for climate. The county is committing to not increase landfilling rates over 2022 actuals of 357,000 tons.



Recycling Recovery Facility

- Proposed location next to Brooklyn Park Transfer Station
- Process 350,000 tons of waste per year
- Separate recyclables and organics
- Obtaining permits will drive the schedule
- Planned start up in 2029 or 2030
- Seeking legislature to re-purpose \$26 M in bonding from anaerobic digester to recycling recovery facility



The county’s infrastructure priority is to begin with developing a recycling recovery facility adjacent to our Brooklyn Park Transfer Station to increase recovery of recyclables such as metals and cardboard from the trash.

Next steps

- Focused on the legislative session
- Continue to work with partners and stakeholders
- Continue to implement Zero Waste priority actions
- Report back on zero-waste dashboard metrics and session progress in June and annually thereafter



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Reported by Tim Johnson (Hennepin County PowerPoint illustrations provided by David McNary)



Did you realize that at certain times of the year the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge contains about 50% of the world’s population of canvasback ducks, about 60% of all common mergansers, about 45% of the Eastern Tundra Swans, over 600 Bald Eagles, and large numbers of other waterfowl species such as white pelicans.

Larry Kennebeck

**IWLA Breckenridge Chapter
Membership Application:**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Dues are subject to change.

Please make check payable to: IWLA, Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter

Membership Dues:
Individual: 71.50
Family: 99.00
Student: 43.00

Mail to:
Karen Ostenso
3742 Logan Ave N
Minneapolis, MN 55412

Reminder: Have you paid dues?

Notices of Breckenridge Chapter dues for 2025 went out in September. If you have not paid, please follow up with Karen Ostenso. Our Chapter membership determines our representation and votes in the State and National IWLA. (See Membership Application above)

**Breckenridge Chapter Board
Meeting Highlights
November 12, December 10**

Board Officers

were elected at the November Social meeting: Steve Schaust, President, Wendy Steele, Secretary, and Sue Schmidt, Treasurer, agreed to stay on. Josh Wildt will replace Larry Kennebeck as 1st Vice President, Larry will stay on as 2nd VP.

The Breckenridge Chapter members offer the most sincere condolences to our newest members; **Julia Singer and friend Scott Vetsch**. On November 10 Julia was struck by a hit and run driver. Her injuries were serious, but we hope Julia has a good and lasting recovery.

Our condolences also to **John Moriarty**, who lost his wife, JoAnne to ovarian cancer on December 20. A celebration of her life for is planned in the spring. A remembrance is posted here: johnmoriarty.com/joanne-remembrance.

Chapter House Rental Rates*

Current Members who are in good standing only
(damage deposit: \$200.00; \$100 for previous renters)
Monday through
Thursday.....\$150.00
Friday, Saturday, Sunday &
Holidays.....\$200.00
Scouts: (damage deposit \$50.00)
Overnights.....\$50.00

*Rates and terms subject to change without notice; please contact the Chapter for special circumstances. The Rental Agreement and Renters Checkout List are available on our website by clicking [here](#).

For availability, please contact Tim Johnson by email johns860@mac.com

News from a Scholarship Student

We received a thank you letter from Audrey Komann, entering her sophomore year at New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Thank you so much for renewing my scholarship for the '24-'25 school year! The funding greatly contributes to my educational experience, and I have been making the most of my college career!

This summer I interned for an energy company and I helped buildings in NY become more energy efficient. I also conducted environmental research and contributed to the development of a composting system for my school's dining hall. I also am working for NJIT's office of sustainability where I collect and report data about the university's energy usage and organize/lead projects to increase the culture of promoting sustainability among the student body.

I also have obtained a leadership position as the recycling and composting specialist for NJIT's environmental club, "NJIT Green". So far we have hosted a sustainability fair to engage the student body with sustainable organizations on campus, which was a huge success! Alongside my environmental involvements, I am pursuing a degree in chemical engineering and competing on our women's basketball team at the division 1 level.

Thank you again! Audrey

Update Regarding Single Use Paper Products

The National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) continues to monitor the use of recycled paper in fabrication of bathroom tissue, paper towels and table napkins. Since they started reporting on this situation, there has been some progress.

One company that has made significant improvement is Georgia-Pacific, the producers of

Quilted Northern bath tissue and Brawny paper towels. They also make toilet tissue called ARIA, which I had never heard of. It is available through Amazon, and at a couple of stores I have never heard of. NRDC originally gave it an "F" on its scorecard but has now given it "A+." It is made from 100% recycled paper.

Other brands that are given higher grades are a Trader Joe's product, Who Gives a Crap (available online), and Seventh Generation. I have seen some Seventh Generation Products in Cub, but not bathroom tissue. It is available online.

Kimberly Clarke is another major producer that makes Kleenex, Cottonelle and Scott. It has announced a goal of decreasing its use of forest fiber by 50% by the end of this decade.

Proctor and Gamble, maker of Charmin, Puffs, and Bounty, said in 2022 that it was prohibiting forest degradation, but dropped the claim the next year. So, 95% of all Charmin products include NO recycled paper.

We all know the enormous negative effects of destroying acres and acres of forest: wildlife habitat degradation, decreased carbon storage, and subsequent weather alteration, to name a few.

I typically shop at Cub, and when I checked recently, all of the bathroom tissue there was made from 100% nonrecycled products. A year or 2 ago, I started ordering Who Gives a Crap from their website and it arrives in 2-3 days.

(Ed. Note: I also use Who Gives a Crap, partly because it's made from bamboo, is stronger and rolls last longer. BF)

The full "Issue with Tissue" report card can be seen at [nrdc.org/tissue](https://www.nrdc.org/tissue).

Karen Ostenso

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Izaak Walton League of America
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Brooklyn Park MN 55444



If you would like to submit an article for the Timberlines, please send it to
Barbara Franklin at: bbfrankli@gmail.com
Deadline is the First Day of each month.

All articles in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the Breckenridge
Board of Directors. The Editor reserves the right to edit material as necessary.

A big thank you to John for letting us use
his monthly haiku observations in Timberlines for the past year.

From:

*one day and three lines at a time:
a year of nature haiku
by John Moriarty*

December Haiku

*The year is over
So says the calendar page
Winter continues*



January Haiku

*Tiny footprints in snow
Back and forth between two logs
Woodland mouse highway*

