

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE

Volunteers Pull **XX Pounds/Bags of Trash out of **XX Stream****

***Izaak Walton League **XX Chapter** Brings Community Together
To Stop Water Pollution***

CITY, STATE — Trash in streams is more than just an eyesore – it can pollute our water supplies, damage fish and wildlife habitat, and spoil outdoor recreation. The **XX Chapter** of the Izaak Walton League is combatting water pollution with a clean-up of **XX Stream** and bringing our community together for clean water.

To help keep our community clean and safe, **XX [number]** members of the League's **XX Chapter** and other volunteers spent **xx hours** removing trash from **XX Stream**.

Insert details from event, such as:

- *How many bags/pounds/dumpsters of trash were collected*
- *Some of the most interesting items removed from stream*
- *Approximate area of stream/stream bank cleaned up (e.g., one mile)*
- *Partner organizations involved*
- *Next steps, such as a clean-up on a another segment of the stream*
- *Whether the clean-up is a regular event (quarterly, annual)*
- *Other steps the chapter may take, such as meeting with local government officials to discuss boosting recycling efforts or educating residents about the negative impacts trash in streams.*

How can trash cause so much trouble for our community? As plastic breaks down, Bisphenol A (BPA) and other chemicals can leach into streams and rivers, which is where most Americans get their drinking water. Plastics and other litter can collect toxic chemicals and bacteria pollutants and distribute them throughout the waterway. Large trash items can cause stream erosion that further degrades water quality and can even contaminate the streambed.

Trash also has physical impacts on our community. Glass and metal can cut anglers, kids, and dogs playing in the stream. Trash in the water can lead to fish kills due to decreased oxygen levels. As trash begins to break up, fish and other animals can mistake it for food, causing intestinal blockages, toxicity, and eventually death.

Every person in our community deserves clean water. Visit the **XX Chapter** website at **[URL here]** for more information.

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Founded in 1922, the Izaak Walton League of America (www.iwla.org) and our more than 42,000 members protect America's outdoors through education, community-based conservation, and promoting outdoor recreation.

Contact:

Name and daytime phone/e-mail address

Event photos available by request