

# IKES ON TARGET



PHOTO: JAY CLARK

## Insurance, Liability, and Safety

These three words ought to resonate with any Izaak Walton League chapter that maintains shooting facilities. Insurance, liability, and safety are critical issues to consider when operating a range on League property.

As separate and independent entities, all chapters are responsible for managing their own affairs and can be sued and held accountable for their actions.

It is up to each chapter to decide what type(s) of shooting ranges best meet its needs and to ensure that any related activity is done safely and in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and permits. Each chapter should also seek the advice of a local attorney on steps it can and should take to help avoid future liability.

Steps chapters can take to help ensure the safety of all members and their guests and protect the chapter from future liability include providing orientation for members — training them on the appropriate use of equipment and how to follow established and posted safety precautions. Chapters should also monitor shooting activities closely to reduce liability and secure liability release forms from members and their guests (if applicable), as well as all special event participants, regardless of age.

In addition to complying with local, state, and federal laws and regulations and adhering to best practices in managing all chapter facilities and activities, chapters should carry adequate insurance to cover any potential liabilities.

Izaak Walton League Bylaws require all League chapters to carry public liability and

property damage insurance covering property owned, leased, rented, or used by chapters for their meetings or other activities. It is always advisable for chapters to consult an attorney and a local insurance agent to seek independent advice on whether your insurance policy is adequate to meet your needs and circumstances — especially as they may relate to education/training and competitive activities for recreational shooters.

Physical improvements that could help reduce liability risk include:

- Fenced-in parameters around shooting ranges (not always easy for larger field and 3-D archery courses or an extensive sporting clays set-up)
- Established on-the-line shooting range procedures
- Posted range rules and hours
- Recognized, trained range safety officers to monitor the range

As with any planned activity on chapter grounds, spend some time preparing for the unexpected. Having identifiable and fully-equipped first aid kits onsite is a reasonable investment. Chapter leaders and instructors — in fact, all members — need to be briefed on standard medical procedures and how to summon emergency medical responders. Ensure that all range users know the chapter property address to give first responders.

Remember the old saying, “Gun safety is no accident!” So stay focused on your chapter’s need to maintain adequate insurance, work at reducing your potential liabilities, and strive for a safe and enjoyable environment at your chapter grounds. Stay “on target”!

## On Target: Featured Chapters

In each issue of *Ikes On Target*, we highlight a few chapters that have developed their grounds with facilities to promote the shooting sports.

### Under 500 Members —



Photo courtesy Wayne County Chapter IWLA

### Wayne County Chapter, Ohio

Based in rural countryside near the town of Salem, these 226 Ikes own and operate 275 acres as a conservation-outdoor recreation facility. The "Izaak Walton Memorial Forest" includes archery and small caliber rifle ranges.

They host a successful annual Kids Adventure Camp each summer, offering — in most cases — a child's first experience with shooting sports.

[www.iwla.org/waynecounty](http://www.iwla.org/waynecounty)

## Special Henry-IWLA Rifle Offer

The Henry Repeating Arms Company has announced a special production rifle to be available during the Izaak Walton League's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



For pricing and details on how to order your special edition IWLA rifle or other special IWLA rifles by the Henry Repeating Arms Company, download an order form at [www.iwla.org/shootingsports](http://www.iwla.org/shootingsports).

Please join us in celebrating 90 years of enjoying and protecting America's outdoors by purchasing your Henry Golden Boy IWLA 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition rifle today! This is a limited edition offer. Void after December 31, 2012. (**Note:** Refer to enclosed order form.)

### Over 500 Members —



Photo by Jay Clark

### Pikes Peak Chapter, Colorado

Located in prairie land off Coalmine Road, well outside the city limits of Colorado Springs, these chapter grounds are "home on the range" for more than 1,700 Ikes.

The chapter operates multiple trap, skeet, and sporting clays courses and rifle and handgun ranges.

Annually, these IWLA members successfully organize a Scholastic Clay Target Program for youth and have trained many young shooters who went on to compete at state- and national-level championships

[www.pikespeakgunclub.org](http://www.pikespeakgunclub.org)



# Can lead or arsenic close your range?

*Environmental regulations have been used to close many ranges. Fortunately, there are steps you can take now to protect yourself in the future. Our expertise can help you avoid problems—or help you out of a current crisis.*

- ✓ **Proactive Environmental Stewardship**
- ✓ **Environmental Sampling**
- ✓ **Contaminant Assessment**
- ✓ **Contaminant Remediation**
- ✓ **Expert Witness Testimony**

**PLAN TO ATTEND OUR  
WORKSHOP AT THE  
IWLA NATIONAL CONVENTION,  
THURSDAY, JULY 19,  
3-3:45 P.M.**

*We wrote the first BMP guidance document for shooting ranges in 1997, and updated it in 2009 (EPA and OSHA Compliance Guide for Small Arms Shooting Ranges: A Focus on Lead). We have also instructed on Environmental Assessments for the NRA's Range Development Conferences. We can help you ... call today for details.*



**Environmental & Turf Services, Inc.**

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## At Convention in Lincoln

There's always a lot happening at each National Convention. The 90<sup>th</sup> IWLA National Convention in Lincoln, Nebraska, will have its share of leadership, guest speakers, and award presentations, along with voting on potential bylaw amendments and conservation policy resolutions. There's also a local chapter tour with a home-cooked meal and a trap shoot upon the close of the convention.

There will be two chapter shooting range management workshops offered at convention as well. Hosted by the IWLA Shooting Sports Conservation Special Committee, these workshops will provide information on lead management at chapter facilities with outdoor rifle, pistol, and shotgun ranges. In each workshop session, Environmental & Turf Services, Inc. will provide their added expertise. Topics for the two sessions are as follows:

**Writing an EMS Plan:** This workshop is designed to provide guidance on how to develop an Environmental Management System (EMS) Plan for chapter shooting ranges and will provide an emphasis on complying with EPA's "Best Management Practices for Lead in Outdoor Shooting Ranges" (EPA-902-B-01-001). Participants will receive a CD with this EPA "best practices" document and sample plans written by other chapters.

**Implementing an EMS Plan:** The second session continues the shooting range EMS Plan process by addressing important hydrologic and geologic issues critical to managing environmental aspects of a shooting range. It includes how to conduct risk assessments for lead and arsenic, how to collect and process soil and water samples, and potential soil treatments to slow down or prevent release of contaminants from spent ammunition.

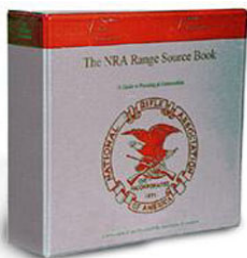
## NRA Range Source Book

Thanks to a grant obtained by IWLA staff, the NRA Foundation recently funded the National Rifle Association's Range Services Department to distribute *The NRA Range Source Book* CD-ROM to each IWLA chapter with shooting facilities. This in-kind gift to the League has a value of more than \$2,400.

Each source book (CD-ROM version), valued individually at about \$20, provides both basic and advanced guidance to assist chapters in the planning, design, construction and maintenance of shooting range facilities.

This CD-ROM was mailed to each chapter's Shooting Sports Coordinator (SSC) or President (for chapters without a designated SSC). This valuable source document

- Discusses methods and technologies that may result in a fuller use of range operations.
- Is designed to provide technical guidance and typical examples of physical layout and equipment used on shooting ranges for various firearms, ammunition types, and shooting activities.
- Categorizes ranges by the type of construction, shooting activity, target, firearms and ammunition to be used on the facility.
- Is divided into two chapters: General and technical. General chapters deal with information necessary for any shooting facility, while the technical chapters concern specific shooting activities.



A hard copy of the *The NRA Range Source Book*, produced in a large 3-ring binder, is available for purchase (\$60) from NRA Sales Department.

To order a binder, call (800) 336-7402 and request item #AR14840 or order online at [www.nrahq.org/shootingrange/sourcebook.asp](http://www.nrahq.org/shootingrange/sourcebook.asp).

## Grant Funding For Your Ranges

Through the hard work of like-minded volunteers and the funds they raise through *Friends of NRA* banquets, The NRA Foundation, Inc. has been able to provide critical funding to firearm programs on the local, state, and national levels.

Any IWLA Chapter with an IRS 501(c)(3) determination – independent or group coverage – is eligible to apply for such grants.

Friends of NRA State Fund Committees have been established in 49 states and are responsible for making grant funding recommendations to the NRA Foundation's Board of Trustees. These grants benefit a variety of constituencies, including youth, women, individuals with physical disabilities, gun collectors, law enforcement officers, hunters, and competitive teams.

State Fund Committees meet annually to review and recommend eligible projects for funding. Final approval rests with The NRA Foundation's Board of Trustees.

Application submission deadlines and meeting dates are determined independently within the respective state. More details on the NRA Foundation, Friends of NRA, and State Fund Committees are found online at [www.nrafoundation.org](http://www.nrafoundation.org).

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Check out [www.iwla.org/shootingsports](http://www.iwla.org/shootingsports) today!



September 22, 2012 • [www.NHFDay.org](http://www.NHFDay.org)



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