

2026

Angling

Standing at the banks of a small pond stocked with trout ready to nip and tug at your line is every child's dream. Outdoor recreation fosters a healthy mindset, body and spirit-creating lasting memories and a deep connection to nature.

Ponds and Streams



Members of the Bethesda Chevy Chase Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA) in Poolesville, Maryland are deeply grateful for the support received from the IWLA Endowment.

In today's world of instant digital entertainment, many seek meaningful human connection and inner peace. Supporting traditional outdoor fishing recreation helps preserve the proud heritage of angling for food and sport. Angling builds patience, focus, skill, and resilience. Moments on the water are peaceful, delightful, and idyllic.

During the chapter's Family Fish Derby, excitement fills the air as youth and adults fish side by side. The camaraderie that develops along the pond banks—catching and releasing trout, bluegills, redears, and largemouth bass—brings pure joy and strengthens community bonds. A new charcoal grill, EZ-UP tent for shade, and commemorative tee shirts given as prizes further enhance these family-friendly events.

Endowment Funding Success

Thanks to a $10,000 grant from the IWLA Endowment, the chapter is able to maintain excellent water quality in both the small and large ponds, ensuring healthy, vibrant fish populations for years to come.

The grant funded two new TRACKER GRIZZLY 1436 Jon Boats used to inspect platforms and monitor pond conditions. Life rings enhance safety on the water, while solar-powered Keeton Industries aerators help prevent algae buildup. The small pond has been stocked with Maryland DNR-certified, disease-free trout, allowing youth and their families to enjoy the thrill of catch-and-release fishing.





Photos courtesy of Suzanne Novak

Prosperity through Conservation

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