

Environmental Stewardship Plan for Mainville Sportsmen’s Club

As approved at the October 5. 2023 Board meeting



October 5, 2023

911 emergency location: 2310 Fire Hall Lane, Bloomsburg, PA 17815

P.O. Box 567, Mifflinville, PA 18631

Mission Statement:

The Mainville Sportsmen’s Club is a non-profit, social membership organization founded in 1965 to promote good sportsmanship and safety in all forms of archery, pistol, and rifle shooting.  In addition, we aim to provide a place for the social and athletic recreation of our members and to promote protection, preservation and propagation of wildlife. To this end, we sponsor many types of competitive shooting events to raise money for the operation of the Club.  The Club gives back to the community through such things as donations to the local volunteer fire company, local 4H rifle team to promote youth gun safety, and similar civic organizations.

Our facility consists of a covered, forty bench rifle range, a six lane Cowboy Action Shooting area, pistol range, skeet and trap ranges, and an indoor clubhouse facility for meetings and other occasions. The rifle range has targets set at 25, 50, 75, 100, 200, and 300 yards.

We have various events throughout the year for our different shooters: Cowboy Action Shoots, Buffalo Shoots, Practical Pistol, Steel, Steel Plate Trials, Steel Challenge, PC3C, Skeet, Trap, and other scheduled events, which are open to all Club members as well as the public.  The Club website at [www.mainvillesportsmensclub.org](http://www.mainvillesportsmensclub.org) contains for more information about each of these competitive events. The Club also hosts the International Bench Rest competition each year, bringing in competitors from all over the world.

Purpose:

The purpose of this Environmental Stewardship Plan is to

* identify potential environmental concerns that may exist
* identify, evaluate and prioritize appropriate actions to manage lead shot and bullets
* list short- and long-term steps needed for implementation
* develop an implementation schedule
* evaluate annual progress made towards achieving environmental stewardship goals

**Goal of this Plan:**

* Adopt and implement best management practices for managing lead
* Recycle a finite natural resource
* Minimize the release of lead into the environment

**Phase one of Plan:**

When lead is exposed to air and water, it may oxidize and form one of several different compounds. The specific compounds created and the rate of their migration are greatly influenced by soil characteristics such as pH. Ideal pH level is 6.5 to 8.5.

We will therefore do the following:

1. Manage soil pH level
   1. Test soil pH on various parts of the range. Adjust pH as needed by spreading lime as required. (50 to 100 pounds of lime per 1000 square feet will raise pH by approximately 1 unit for a period of 1 to 4 years.)
   2. Recheck soil pH annually.
   3. Record results of tests before and after pH adjusting.
   4. Maintain records in the Clubhouse file cabinet for the life of the Club.
2. Control lead migration on trap and skeet range
   1. Phosphate spreading is recommended for sporting clay ranges that are not easily accessible by reclamation equipment. Phosphate binds to lead and limits lead migration.
   2. Spread rock phosphate at rate of 15 to 20 pounds per 1000 square feet once every few years.
   3. Record date of rock phosphate spreading, quantity, location, etc. and maintain records in the Clubhouse file cabinet for the life of the Club.
3. Test well water and run-off water for lead
   1. Maintain a record of results for life of the club
   2. Repeat tests every few years

**Phase two of Plan:**

1. Budget for professional lead reclamation company to reclaim lead on rifle range and pistol pits
   1. Club treasurer will set aside $50 per month, earmarked for lead reclamation. Additional monies may be added to the fund by the Board of Directors at their discretion.
   2. Any refurbishing of berms that is deemed necessary should only be done with the input from a professional lead reclamation company to make sure that lead is not improperly buried, making lead reclamation more difficult and less profitable for the Club.
   3. Reclamation is most effective when there is at least 20 pounds of lead per cubic foot of back stop. To determine if it is a good time to call for lead reclamation, dig out a cubic foot of backstop in a few places, sift out the lead and weigh it.
   4. Keep a record of how much lead on average is in a cubic foot of backstop.
   5. Arrange for a professional lead reclamation company to come in once we have enough budget set aside and once we believe we have enough lead to make it viable.
2. Develop a brass collection process
   1. Obtain input from shoot committee chairmen on logistics
   2. Create a brass collection committee
   3. Design signage directing brass collection
   4. Collection committee to record amount of brass collected (one pound of brass means that 1.7 pounds of lead was shot)
   5. Covered 55 gallon drums to collect brass is recommended (Lead reclamation companies currently pay $1000 per 55 gallon drum of brass)
   6. Put brass collection committee reports on agenda of monthly membership meetings