

## March 2019 Ravenna Conservation Club Newsletter

If you watched the Thursday, February 28 or Sunday, March 3 Michigan Out of Doors broadcast, you would have seen coverage of our rabbit derby. Close to 150 people took part in the derby and they made a serious dent in the rabbit population. Judging by the size of the bunnies brought in, it doesn't look like the winter has been too hard on them. There were quite a few young hunters that took part as well which is good for the future of our sport. Thanks to Chad and his crew for putting on a great event.

March is still a busy time at the club with several events going on.

CCW Class took place on Saturday, March 9. There were over 80 people signed up for the event. Thanks to Andy Snoeyink for organizing, Muskegon CPL and all others who helped out this day.

Sunday, March 10 was the Squirrel Derby. There were 53 teams and a total of 215 squirrels harvested. Great time and thanks for all who helped and participated.

Hunter Safety is Tuesday thru Thursday and Saturday morning, March 26, 27, 28, and 30. There is no cost for the class and Roger, Cliff, and crew put on arguably the best hunter safety class in the state. If you need to get your certificate or know of someone who does, here is your chance. Volunteers are needed Saturday, March 30 to help guiding the kids around the course and in the kitchen as well. Contact Roger, Cliff, or one of the board members if you have questions.

Saturday, March 23 is the Annual Steelhead tournament at the club. Cost is \$30 per team. Sign up is Friday, March 22 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Weigh in is at 4:00 p.m. sharp on Saturday. You can weigh in 3 fish. With winter starting break up, fishing should be good with several pushes of fresh fish in the next week.

Annual Club memberships are due in April. Cost is \$30 for seniors, \$35 for non-seniors, and, if you renew for 3 years, you get a \$5 per year break on the cost of the membership. You can pay the dues at the April meeting or contact Andy Snoeyink. If you would like the print publication of the MUCC magazine include an extra \$18.

The Wildlife Banquet planning is in full swing. Invitations have gone out and donations are coming in.

Date of the event is April 13. There are several very unique prizes that you will not see at any other banquet so be sure to sign up for it soon as it fills up quickly. One thing to note is that the banquet is on a Saturday this year and the doors open at 4:00 p.m. which is an hour earlier than normal. The committee is looking for volunteers to help pick up donations at this time so if you are willing, please contact Brian Bonter or Ken Borgman. They also will be looking for volunteers to help clean up the next morning.

The club will be planting trout in May but is asking those to help to deliver the fish to the drop off spots to attend the May Club meeting. If you plan on stocking your local stream, please attend this meeting.

New to the club is a membership only raffle. Earn tickets for this by attending club meetings and volunteering at club events. The winning raffle ticket will be drawn at the December meeting for a \$1,000 gift card. With this in mind, check your calendar to see if you can help out with the current planned events. Highway cleanup details will be coming shortly.

If you haven't yet, check out our new website [ravennaconservationclub.org](http://ravennaconservationclub.org). We ask for your patience as we are still adding features and working on better ways to communicate with our members via email. Keeping up with technology will prove to be beneficial to the life of the club.

### Coming Events:

Hunter Safety – Tuesday thru Thursday, and Saturday, March 26, 27, 28, and 30

Club Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m Tuesday, April 2

General Club Meeting – 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 2

Wildlife Banquet – Saturday, April 13. Doors open at 4:00 p.m.