

Practices for Environmental Stewardship by Capitol City Rifle Club (CCRC)

Lead: Soils from the CCRC grounds were tested in 1991. No evidence of leaching or migration of lead from the backstops was found. No excessive levels were found, except in the ROW in the ditch along Germany Rd. from leaded gasoline used in automobiles until 1975. Soils were tested again in 1998. No excessive lead levels were found.

Lime was applied to the grounds in 1998, including the shot drop zone and backstops, to reduce soil acidity and possible leaching of oxidized lead into the ground. Lime is to be reapplied on CCRC grounds in all areas where lead may be present.

Water run off is controlled and nearly non-existent. Water will accumulate from the gravel parking lot area only during heavy rain. This runoff proceeds down the club driveway into the roadside ditch. This water does not originate from or pass through any area close to the backstop berms or shot drop zones. The backstop and shot drop zones are consisted of a porous, absorbent sandy soil that does not allow water run off.

Sound: CCRC built a shed lined with sound absorbing carpet over the high power rifle 200 yard and 100 yard firing points to prevent noise from directly impacting neighboring properties. A concrete dividing wall is covered with sound absorbing foam material.

The CCRC property was purchased in 1947 and immediately used as a shooting range. CCRC shooting hours were cut back by the club on a voluntary basis in 1992 from 9AM-8PM to 9AM-5PM on Saturday and Sunday. Weekday shooting hours have always been 9AM-8PM. This cutback allowed neighbors to enjoy quiet on weekend evenings. The weekend shooting hours were changed to 9AM-6PM in 2005 to allow greater use by CCRC members as it was determined by the club that the 5PM closing caused hardship for CCRC members. The traditional dinner hour begins at 6 PM. CCRC has voluntarily closed during several holidays (Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day, Thanksgiving and New Year's Day) and at the request of neighbors for special events such as open houses. CCRC is also closed on the first Saturday of April and October for grounds maintenance.

Safety: During 1998 CCRC brought in a consulting engineer from the National Rifle Association (NRA) to examine the facility and bring forth suggestions and guidelines for improvement. In 1998 CCRC members voted to suspend shooting by members for five months while the club refurbished the facility to adhere to generally accepted operation practices for shooting ranges. CCRC members must obey a rigid set of written safety rules in order to use the range. Members must sign in and sign out when using the range. Backstops were increased in height, eyebrows were repaired and additional backstops and side berms were installed at great expense to CCRC during 1998. A letter is on file from the Ingham County Drain Commissioner that states no soil erosion permit was required for grading work when the range was refurbished during 1998 to meet NRA standards.

CCRC maintains a sturdy security fence around the perimeter of the property. 40 signs are posted on the property line stating that no trespassing is allowed. CCRC is a leader in safe practices for shooting ranges and sets an example for other ranges to follow.