



Seneca County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc.

Affiliated with: PO Box 355 Waterloo, NY 13165-0355

NYS Conservation Council www.senecacountyfederation.com

FL Conservation Council

National Rifle Association

NYS Rifle & Pistol

NYS SCOPE

MEETING MINUTES

March 17, 2026: at Canoga Sportsmen's Club

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by President Greg Wadhams @ 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Members

Attendance: 13 members representing 8 clubs and two guests.

Minutes from February 17, 2026, Meeting

Read and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Deposits:

Annual dues from five clubs \$500.

Paid:

Quarterly WEB hosting Fingerlakes 1 \$109.99.

Report approved.

Treasurer reported that two more clubs paid their dues at this meeting. The following clubs have not paid their dues North Seneca Sportsmen's & Rifle Club, Finger Lakes Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Lodi Rod & Gun Club and Waterloo Sportsman & Conservation Club. He asked if anyone knew people in those clubs and could they contact them in person.

Guest speakers: ECO LT. Matt Lochner is supervisor of ECO's assigned to Seneca County spoke about the ongoing ECO academy and that Region 8 at present time has six vacancies he would expect to get three fills out of this academy. He is responsible for recruitment. There were NYSDEC ECO's at the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg, Pa to recruit people into becoming NYSDEC ECO's. He expects that a test will be coming up soon for this.

Matt spoke about market fishing and that the Canada goose season is being changed it looks like the 3-goose limit is back. There will be a five-day fisher season here in region 8 December 5th thru 10th 2026.

Hunting dogs on private land. In the past it was ok for dogs to enter posted land as they cannot read. The new guidance is that having a hunting dog off leash is a privilege. Now if your dog enters private property that you do not have permission to hunt. The landowner can have you charged with trespassing. Matt advises that you should get permission first and well ahead of the hunting season with any land owners on whose property your dogs may enter. This could be the start of banning the use of dogs for hunting.

There was some discussion on posting your property and that Cathrine creek is loaded with Rainbow trout more than what has been seen in years.

ECO Joshua Veloski stated that he is assigned to Seneca County and is back after family leave. He handed out his contact information and stated that the burn ban is now in effect should you see violations let him know.

Committee Reports: NONE

Delegate Reports: NONE

Old Business.

Seneca County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs (SCFSC) has a website www.senecacountyfederation.com . Should you need information about the SCFSC you should be able to find it listed there.

We are still looking to fill the vacant alternate delegate position to the NYSCC if interested contact the Secretary.

SCFSC has not received any response from Bruce Blakeman. He is running for Governor. We invited him to attend one of our meetings.

NYSDEC has reported that Oak Wilt is a major threat to oak trees. It can kill red oak trees in two weeks. **Spread the word to your club members that to prevent oak wilt spread; only prune, fell, or otherwise damage oak trees during the winter.** For more information on this visit the NYSDEC Website <https://dec.ny.gov/nature/forest-trees/forest-health/oak-wilt>

New Business:

It was discussed that the Lodi Rod & Gun Club will be voting on continuing their membership with the SCFSC at their monthly meeting April 2. One of their members who was present at this meeting has requested all the information we have as to why they should remain as members. He hopes to convince them to continue their membership. The Secretary and Treasurer will provide the information.

Ron Pesta the Chairman for the Seneca County SCOPE (Shooters Committee On Political Education) monthly meeting is tomorrow at the South Seneca Sportsmen's club. He let us know that Bruce Blakeman will be the guest speaker at the SCOPE Annual meeting on **Saturday, April 18, 2026, at 10:00 AM**. The meeting will take place at the [Montour Falls Moose Lodge #426](#) located at 2096 Route 14, Montour Falls, NY. Pre registration is required. SCFSC President Wadhams will attend the meeting.

UPDATE: The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) expects to close on the purchase the old boy scout camp Babcock-Hovey end of this April.

SCFSC Secretary and our delegate to the New York State Conservation Council will attend their Spring meeting April 17 -19th 2026.

Make sure your club is informed on what is happening as it pertains to our interest.
Read these minutes at your meetings and ask that your members attend the SCFSC meetings.

Motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned 8:05 pm.

NEXT meeting: Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at Lodi Rod & Gun Club 9382 Lodi Center Rd, Lodi. Food at 6:30 pm meeting at 7 PM.