

Calendar

April 2026

4 LEO qual on Piston Range

7&12, DH 1 Class

9 Members Meeting, meeting starts at 7.30PM, bar open 6PM

11 Pond Cleanup Day, 8am – 2PM , Pistol Rnge closed 9-2

18 Trout Derby #1 , 7.30 setup, 8AM-12N, Pistol Range closed 9-1

23 Exec Committee Meeting, 7:30PM

24&25, Tactical Shotgun Class

26 Bowling Pin Shoot 12-2

May 2026

9 Trout Derby #2 , 7.30 setup, 8AM-12N, Pistol Range closed 9-1

10 Mothers Day

14 Members Meeting, meeting starts at 7.30PM, bar open 6PM

15 & 17 Monty Tech LTC Class

16 & 17 Metal Recycle Days

16 Clubhouse and Lawn Cleanup Day

22&23 DH1 Class

25 Memorial Day

28 Exec Committee Meeting, 7:30PM

29 & 31 Monty Tech LTC Class

31 Bowling Pin Shoot 12-2

Upcoming Scheduled Range closures (Dec- Jan):

Pistol Range: 4/10 10-12; 4/11 9-2; 4/12 12-6; 4/18 9-2; 4/26 12-2; 5/9 9-1; 5/17 12-3; 5/23 9-6; 5/31 12-3

Rifle Range: 9am-11am, every Monday available for long distance pistol shooters 25-50 yard

Rifle Range: 4/11 9-2; 4/18 9-1; 4/25 9-6; 5/9 9-1;

Trap/Skeet: (do check website when there are weather events and holidays for being closed),

Trap/Skeet: none

Archery Target Course: Lawn, 3D Trail, and Elevated Stand: closed until Spring – all targets in storage

NEWS

Members meeting will be on April , at 7.30PM. New applicants should arrive at 7.15PM to meetup with the Membership secretary. There is a meal available before the meeting, at 6PM for a nominal fee.

Norco spring schedule heats up quickly. First is the focus on fishing. On April 11th, there is a pond cleanup day, 8a-2pm at the pond/fish shed. Volunteers are needed with garden rakes, brush blade saws, weedwhackers, loppers, etc. Work detail is to clean the perimeter of the pond for the following weekend's Trout Derby. Coffee, donuts and lunch provided for volunteers. Note the ranges will be closed during the 9-2pm timeperiod.

Norco Trout Derby #1, will be on Saturday April 18th. The derby is for members and friends of the family. The focus is with kids, to ensure they have a great outing and catch fish. We'll need volunteers to help kids with casting, baiting hooks, untangling lines, and learning to dress out a trout. Norco stocks plenty of fish for the day – all trout – rainbow, brown, and brook. All kids go to the prize table, plus prizes for the longest fish and first fish. Club is accepting donations of cash or brand new fishing gear for the prizes – lures, tackle, rod/reel, etc. Derby setup starts at 7am. No lines in the water until 8am, and derby runs until 12N. Coffee, donuts, breakfast eggs, lunchtime burgers and dogs available for purchased during the derby. Creel limit is 3 per person. No catch and release; catch it-keep it – eat it. All youth are encouraged to bring a friend.

The state governor is requesting the legislature to move forward on three bills to increase hunting opportunities – Sunday Hunting, cross bows for anyone/any age/no medical condition, and archery setback reduction from 500 feet to 250 feet. The setback reduction opens up over 800,000 more acres to hunt. Parts of the state are over-poulated with deer and the tick borne diseases. The state has added extended deer season through mid-February 2027 for zones 9,10,11 and the islands ; plus there is an additional day for youth deer hunting. WCLSC and MCA will be making outreach to have sportsmen contact their legislators to pass these bills. And MCA and CRC will be amplifying the Repeal 135 – Vote No in November campaigns to remove onerous and unnecessary firearm laws. Email wayne@norco.club if you want to volunteer in upcoming programs and events.

This past month, two well attended programs took place. Basic Hunter Education and Beaver Pelt Fleshing workshop. Thanks to Kelly and Chris for their leadership hosting a class at Norco each year. For those missing the class, there will be classes offered in June at the Leominster Sportsman's Association. Email chris@norco.club or kelly@norco.club for details. The Norco hosted beaver workshop was put on by Mass Trappers Association. If you missed this year's Norco session, a similar session will be held at the Mansfield Sportsman's Club in April; if interested email wayne@norco.club.

Club rentals are booking up for graduations and birthdays. Contact Wayne if you want to schedule a private event or an educational program, wayne@norco.club . <https://www.norco.club/about-us/norco-clubhouse-and-grounds-rental/>

Rifle and pistol ranges are heating up in April and May with classes – defensive handgun classes, defensive shotgun class, LTC classes....look over the club calendar; during these classes ranges will be closed ; do lookover the calendar and this newsletter for range closures. All shooters are expected to keep the ranges clean and in order – do rake up your brass and shells ; do rehang/repair target screens with supplies in the rifle range shed. Both of these ranges are member only ranges with their guests – these are not public ranges. A few volunteers keep the ranges in good shape, many of our members can step it up and put in some helping hands too. Too often we find shells on the pavilion floor, shot-out target screens, and disallowed targets/target placement.

Norco raffle tickets for 2026 June drawing are also for sale at the bar. 5 prizes, 5 gift cards each one value is \$500. \$5 for 1, \$20 for 5. Everyone should be purchasing at least a pack of 5 ; many club members go the extra mile with family, friends, co-workers, and special event – see Kelly for extra tickets to sell outside of Norco, kelly@norco.club .

Firearm training classes start in April covering defensive pistol, shotgun, and patrol rifle firearms. Plus LTC signups through Monty Tech are ongoing for the spring classes held at Norco. For the training classes, please reach out to instructor Joe Picariello, at wachusettfirearmstraining@yahoo.com . For the May LTC classes , register through <https://www.montytechnites.com/> . The Norco website calendar is up to date for programs now until December. Firearm classes held through April through October.

Norco Gun Parlor Program will run until June 2026, please see website for the details to obtain a loaner pass. <https://www.norco.club/2026/02/11/norco-2026-gun-parlor-member-pass-program-2026/>

Other Raffle tickets on now sale at Norco bar or by emailing wayne@norco.club – MCA (>\$5000 sporting goods merchandise, \$5 ea, 5 for \$20, drawing in June)

Mass Conservation Alliance bumper stickers for sale \$1 each, “Restrict Criminals, Not Us”. Available to pickup a bumper sticker at the club on Thursdays when open.

<https://www.massconservationalliance.org/restrict-ciminals.html> .

Volunteers needed for the following programs, email chris@norco.club for more details:

- Work on your own time for a variety of club projects , email chris@norco.club ; indoor plumbing, first floor table top replacements, first floor baseboard strips.
- Become a WCLSC Norco delegate, attend 10 meetings a year representing Norco, meets the third Friday of each months Sept 2025 to June 2026, Sept 2026-June 2027, see www.wclsc.org
- Become a kitchen program leader and get ServSafe certified or a Norco Bartender and get TIPs certified, email wayne@norco.club

Recent events and volunteer thanks for completed programs and projects:

- Ongoing several times each month– Rifle/Pistol Range barrels and target hangers– Ed C
- Kelly and Chris for the Basic Hunter Ed class
- Wayne for the Beaver Pelt workshop