

SAFETY

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A crude oil spill would create a big problem is the oil got into the water, Olson said, and if it happened above stream of the water treatment plant, it would negatively impact that. Emergency staff would first contain the spill as much as possible to keep it from spreading, he said, and then use skimmers to skim the oil off the top of the water.

“A spill in the water could cost up in the millions of dollars to clean up if it was bad enough,” Olson said. “It depends on the extent of the damage.”

The Federal Railroad Administration keeps track of railroad accident and incident data. Since 2004 to July 2014, the latest data is available, there have been 50 derailments by all operators on Canadian National-North America railways in Minnesota, or an average of five per year.

From 2004 to 2013, according to FRA statistics, there were 331 cars carrying hazardous materials by all operators on CN railways in Minnesota, with 13 instances of those hazmat cars being damaged or derailed.

Patrick Waldron, CN spokesman, said CN is committed to safety based on a comprehensive, integrated safety plan encompassing people, process, technology, and investment.

“That commitment is continuous and it starts with our culture, training and daily engagement with employees,” Waldron said via email.

CN also devotes resources and investment into safety technology, Waldron said, and has “the densest network of wayside detectors in the rail industry.” The company also uses ultrasonic testing devices to inspect its rail infrastructure at a higher rate than other railroads.



TRAP

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this. And it’s coed. That’s one of the nice things — it’s for all and that’s neat.”

Norstad said the team does not travel, instead shooting at its home club with scores entered online. The team competes with other school teams of similar sizes.

In his second season on the team, eighth grader Robert Sweney said he joined the team because it sounded cool and he thought he could improve his skills as a duck hunter. He wants to letter in the sport and plans to stay on the team throughout his school career.

“It sounded fun to do,” Sweney said. “One other thing is that it’s a school sport and you get to shoot guns for it and that’s pretty cool.”

He said the scoring shows his improvement, which helps his confidence. “This is my second time shooting, and the first time I got 12, so I think this year will be somewhat better than last year,” Sweney said.

Sidney Norstad, ninth grade, said he and his dad, Coach Norstad, were shooting trap a year ago last summer and wondered if local kids would want to be involved in a league.



STAFF PHOTO BY LAUREL BEAGER

The team looks at its scores, kept by one of the parents, as Coach Norstad, at left, looks on.

He said after meeting with school officials, the team was formed.

He said his dad is attempting to secure funding for items to help the team.

Coach Norstad said he’s applied for a state grant for a new clay thrower. Now, two throwers are used at the Falls Trap Club. A recent news report said there’s so much interest in the sport that about 1,800 were turned away last year because of a capacity shortage at ranges. A \$2 million legislative grant program is intended to help alleviate the deficiency.

Coach Norstad is also looking for a place to house an indoor shooting simulator that a company has agreed to allow the team to use during the winter in an attempt to improve its scores. In turn, the team

would spread the word about the simulator to other teams and then seek funding to purchase it. But Norstad said he’s having difficulty finding a room about 25-feet by 25-feet. The simulator involves placing a laser scope in the barrel of a gun.

Norstad said safety is top priority for the team and league. He said this sport involves no concussions or body injuries, and he said team members have strong discipline when it comes to safety: the first safety violation causes a team member to leave and the second violation brings termination from the team.

A grant from the Purple Pride group will allow for the construction of a shelter at the club that will allow the students to warm themselves during Border-

land’s often cold spring and fall seasons.

Sidney Norstad said he got involved in the team because “it’s really fun and cuts down on stress. You get to shoot and have fun with your friends and family.”

A grouse hunter, Norstad said he may be a better shot of birds on the fly as he improves his skills as result of the team experience.

“I was shooting like 10s, 12s, now I am shooting like 20s, 18s every time,” he said.

Norstad said he wants to be on the varsity team now, and hopes to go to the state competition held in the spring. He encouraged other Falls students to get involved. He said all that’s needed is a gun and a gun safety certificate. Another benefit is that the one-day per week afternoon shooting competition doesn’t interfere with other sports practices, he said.

Five students are on the same team, which is at novice, junior varsity and varsity levels based on skill. Each five-member team, after shooting five times each from each of the five stations, is finished and the next team takes its turn. Shooting is done from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Mondays. Each team shoots two rounds, with 25 clays in one round. The team members are scored each round on

how many clays they hit. He estimated two rounds takes about 45 minutes.

Mary Dahl, ninth grade, is in her first season on the team.

“I really like shooting guns and stuff,” she said. “I’ve never shot clay pigeons before but I thought I would try it and it’s fun. With practice I think I have gotten a little bit better, but not a lot.”

She said she hasn’t decided whether she will continue on the team throughout her school years, but for now, she giggled, “I really like it.”

“I just love the outdoors and hunting and shooting,” ninth grader Nathan McRoberts said. “And I get some practice in for hunting.”

Cole Mann, 10th grade, said he likes the competition of the sport and being able to go out and shoot. “It’s something to do after school.”

McRoberts and Mann said the sport isn’t just for people who are into hunting, but instead for people who want to learn to shoot better and have fun.

Because many of the students are not yet drivers, parents gather behind the shooting stations to watch. “You can tell when they break one or two or more,” Coach Norstad said. “They turn around and smile at their parents.”

ASSUALT

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land for about two months when the assault occurred.

“For reasons that still no one is entirely sure, Mr. Garrison got horribly, horribly violent on the night of Nov. 28,” described Naglosky of the assault. Garrison physically beat the woman for an extended period of time, “after hours and hours of physical abuse, he made her get in the shower to wash off the blood. And then after she was clean, he physically bound her with yellow nylon rope, and proceeded to ... rape her for an extended period of time. When he completed that, he untied the rope, and pulled out a

large kitchen knife.”

Naglosky said Garrison told the victim the reason he had done what he did was so she would kill Garrison. He then stabbed the knife into a dresser and went into the bathroom to clean himself.

The woman ran from the residence a short distance to her brother’s house. At that time Garrison took the woman’s vehicle and left, Naglosky said.

Naglosky said he asked the brother how he restrained himself from taking action against Garrison. “He basically said, ‘I knew the right thing to do,’” Naglosky said.

After leaving the house, Garrison called the Koochiching County Law Enforcement Center a couple times

asking if they were looking for him, Naglosky said, who surmises Garrison was attempting to identify where police would be at the time. When invited to turn himself in, the man said he did not know where the courthouse was located and provided police misinformation about his location.

Garrison was located while driving and arrested. Naglosky credited the work of the International Falls police officers in the case, as did Chief Mike Musich during a recent International Falls City Council meeting.

Naglosky said the victim took the right actions to bring the case to court, and he said, the jury “absolutely got it right.” He said testimony in the case was

difficult to hear.

The defense case involved “excuses, tried to minimize his behavior, questioned her behavior and we had 12 good residents of Koochiching County who weighed the evidence carefully and decided beyond a reasonable doubt Billy Ray Garrison was guilty of all five of the alleged counts,” Naglosky said.

Garrison will likely serve two-thirds of the sentence in prison and, if he follows all the rules and requirements, the other one-third will likely be served on parole with intensive supervision. This level of sex offense carries with it 10 years probation and long-term monitoring. He will be required to register as a sex offender for the rest of his

life, and the community he resides in will receive state mandated notifications, Naglosky said, who doubted Garrison would return to Borderland because of his lack of ties to it.

Naglosky said the system worked well in this case.

“First, the brother didn’t take justice into his own hands; we had a prompt report by the victim; an exam by Cory Whitman, the sexual assault nurse at the clinic preserved evidence; Mr. Garrison was apprehended by law enforcement quickly and taken into custody; he remained in custody from Nov. 28 to Aug. 28 sentencing and the victim and citizens of this community were safe from him that entire time,” Naglosky said.



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