

Susquehanna Ripples

Newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited #044

April 2013

Mission

Working to conserve, protect and restore Central Pennsylvania's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds

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*Good Luck to everyone this fishing season.
Please send us your photo's, stories, and opening day
memories so that we can share them with others*

Unassessed Waters Initiative Pilot Program to be officially launched

We will be officially launching the Unassessed Waters Initiative pilot program at the April 10, 2013 Chapter meeting. Under this program, anglers will go out and fish the streams that are currently unassessed by the fish and boat commission and report back on what they caught or observed using a form supplied by the PFBC. This information will then be used by the PFBC to prioritize sampling efforts by their partners for the upcoming field season. The PFBC will be bringing large paper maps of where all the unassessed waters are for Lycoming and Sullivan counties. Joe Radley and Carey Entz have agreed to be the coordinators for the Chapter.

The PFBC plans to launch the program state-wide in 2014 and the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited is only one of two organizations selected for this pilot program. We would like to invite all local trout fisherman, watershed groups, and others who would like to assist in this program to attend the meeting and consider helping out with this monumental effort to get wild trout streams protected.

A Special Thank You

The Chapter would like to thank Don Neyhart for his generous donation of fishing equipment and accessories. This collection was quite large and extensive and will help the Chapter raise funds for future projects. The items donated were from a lifetime of fishing and we are truly grateful for Don's generosity. Don has been a member of TU for over 25 years.



Fish Outing and Campout



The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be having a campout and fishing on Antes Creek for May 3 and 4. Andy Lyons, President of the Nippenose Valley Watershed Association, has offered to let us use his property for this event. This is open to members only and registration is required with a deadline of April 26, 2013. No Registrations will be accepted after this date.

The times for this event are 12 noon on May 3 until 1 pm May 4. Lunch is on your own Friday and Mr. Lyons will be hosting a pig roast Friday evening free of charge and camping is available on the property if you wish to camp. You can come for any part of the event, or the entire event.

There are accessible areas of Antes Creek available for those individuals who have mobility issues and there will be individuals available to assist in guiding and basic instruction in fly fishing. This is a fly fishing only event and no bait is allowed. Additionally we will be practicing catch and release only during this event.

We are working on plans for a breakfast on Saturday morning and there may be a small fee for this but more information about this will be given in the future.

To register for this event, or if you have any questions, please call Joe Radley at 570-326-1851. There is an answering machine on this line to leave a message if Joe is not available to take your call.

In the March 2013 edition of the Susquehanna Ripples we mistakenly said Ed Lyons was the President of the Nippenose Valley Watershed Association and whose property will be used and we apologize for this.



Red Quill

Materials list:

Hook: 14-16
Thread: Brown or Rust
Body: Stripped Brown Hackle stem
Tail: Brown Hackle fibers
Wing: Medium Dun Mallard
Hackle: Brown

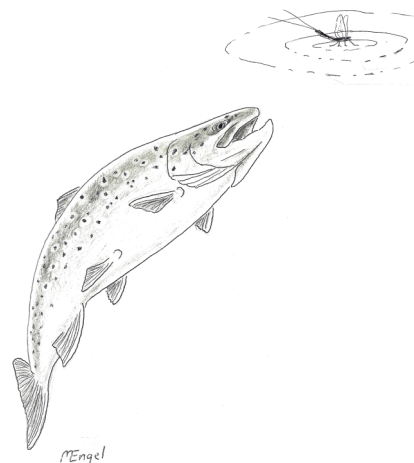
We Want Your old fishing equipment and accessories

Please consider donating your fishing equipment and accessories that you no longer use or want to the Chapter. A receipt will be given to you showing your donation and fair market value of the items so that you can use your donations toward your taxes.

We will recycle the items by using them in our programs, donating them to others who may need them, or selling them to raise funds for the chapter. Please contact Joe Radley at (570) 326-1851 or Bob Baker at 3 2 1 - 7 8 0 6 o r rlbaker@earthlink.net to arrange for pickup or items can be brought to any meeting or event of the Chapter. We want to thank the members who have donated

Fishing Ethics

1. Respect other anglers' rights
2. Respect the rights of others who use the resource.
3. Keep only the fish you want and can use
4. Never waste fish
5. Release unwanted fish carefully and unharmed
6. Never litter or pollute the waters or the land
7. Know and follow angling and boating regulations
8. Continually seek new knowledge and skill
9. Share knowledge with others



Thank you Again Mike

We would like to thank member Mike Engel who continues to submit drawings for use in the Susquehanna Ripples and website. You are a fantastic artist and we appreciate you sending us these drawings.



COME SEE US AT THE PENNSYLVANIA OUTDOOR LIFE EXPO APRIL 4 – 7, 2013 AT THE LYCOMING MALL



This event will be the Chapters main fundraiser for this year as we will be selling fishing accessories that have been donated to the Chapter. Please spread the word and come out and support us during this event. Our booth will be located in the hallway between Center Court and the Bon Ton. We are in need of people to help man the booth and we are hoping for at least 3 people to be there at all times. Our list of things that we will have for sale include:

Fishing Rods of all kinds

Fly Tying Supplies and tools

Rod Cases

Lure Making Equipment

Fishing Reels

Rod building materials and equipment

Lures

Books

And Much More!!!!

**BIG
SALE**

**BIG
SALE**

The event is free of charge and show hours are Thursday – Saturday 10am to 9pm and Sunday 11am to 5pm. We are still looking for items to sell so please consider donating to the Chapter. Stock up on those fishing accessories at great prices. Please call Dave Craig with any questions or if you can help out! Any amount of time you can give will be appreciated.

Memories of Opening Day

Opening day of trout season is the first day of the new fishing season to many people. Just like hunters wait for the first day of deer, we fishermen wait in anticipation for the first day of trout.

Over the course of the winter, we dream about the upcoming season and count down the days on a calendar.

Many of us watch the few fishing shows that may be on TV and read or re read, the various outdoor magazines hoping to calm that itch that is ever-growing inside us.

As the second week of April approaches, we start going through our fishing equipment and making any repairs that may be needed. We make imaginary casts as we grip our poles and go through casting motions and think about how to land that fish that eluded us last year.

As opening day gets closer, our nerves grow stronger and we become more restless and have a harder time thinking about anything other than fishing.

The big day finally arrives and we have been awake most of the night. We try to sleep but can't so we get an early breakfast and head out to our favorite stream.

One thing that I remember is that more times than not, the weather was cold and wet. Whether it is snowing or raining, it would not be opening day without bad weather. We have been lucky and had some terrific weather but these days are few.

I have had many successful trips but the memories of those trips are what are important to me. Growing up I spent my opening days with my friends learning the art and skills of fishing.

During those years, Mill Creek was our spot and we spent days walking the length of that stream fishing every spot we could. I learned a lot about stream fishing and where to find the trout and could not get enough of it.

As I grew older and met my future wife, I started fishing with my father in law, Craig Rowles. I was still a novice in my fishing and looked to him for guidance. He showed me how to fish the many conditions found on the mountain streams and where to find the trout that no one else could. He also took me to the many great streams around me: the upper parts of Loyalsock Creek, Rock Run, Pleasant Stream, Grays Run, and Lycoming Creek.

Although we caught our limit on many occasions and released just as many, it was the time I spent on the water with him that I remember. We told stories and stretched the truth just as any fisherman does, and our bond grew stronger. We shared many things over the years and those times will always be remembered.

It was always a great time going to our cabin the night before opening day and sharing stories and memories from past trips and the fish in our stories got bigger each year.

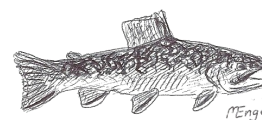
Saturday morning finally arrived and we would head out and fish together. We would start out on grays run, then head to pleasant stream and end up at rock run or Lycoming creek. We would be out the entire day and had a great time and would repeat the whole thing the next day at different streams.

Catching fish is certainly a great reward, but it is not the biggest. Now that I have kids, my

opening days are spent with them and occasionally my father in law.

At only 10 years old, my kids, Cheyenne and Dakota are already great anglers. Although trout fishing is a different experience and more difficult than fishing for sunfish at the lake, they still enjoy it and want to learn.

Yes we do a lot of fishing but more time is spent untangling our lines from the trees and exploring the stream banks. We have a great time and as we all know, there is so much more than catching fish. I am creating memories that will last a life time and sharing these times with my best friends.



Recipe of the Month

Healthy Steamed Fish with Veggies

- fish fillets
- small potatoes
- 1 medium Vidalia or any Sweet onion, sliced thin
- 2 stalks of celery, chopped
- 1 medium tomato, chopped
- salt and pepper
- 1 tsp Mrs. Dash garlic and herb seasoning
- salad dressing (optional)

Place fish fillets on top of heavy-duty tin foil. Pile vegetables on fish and season with the salt and pepper. Place a salad dressing on fish and vegetables. Italian is best, but Ranch, Raspberry, or some other favorite will work also. Wrap tightly and cook over a campfire for 15 to 20 minutes.

Marcellus drilling will raise pollution levels

Resources for the Future recently released their findings from a study they conducted that state shale gas development can increase "the downstream concentrations of two pollutants, chloride and total suspended solids."

The results showed "statistically significant water quality impacts from wastewater sent to treatment plants and runoff from well pad development."

The report states that the upstream treatment and release of shale gas wastewater by treatment plants raised chloride concentrations in surface water.

They estimate that the release from one upstream waste treatment facility raises the downstream chloride concentrations by 7%.

Well pads increased the TSS levels and 18 well pads upstream raised the TSS concentrations 5%. Well pads were not found to have any affect on the chloride levels.

For a copy of the study conducted by Resources for the Future, please go to our website under documents.



Study Of Game and Fish & Boat Commissions Merger (Again)

Rep. Martin Causer (R-Cameron), Majority Chair of the House Game and Fisheries Committee, has introduced House Resolution 129 calling for a study to assess the pros and cons of merging the Game Commis-

sion and the Fish and Boat Commission.

"Pennsylvania is the only state in the nation where management and oversight of fishing, boating and wildlife activities are managed by two separate, independent agencies," Rep. Causer said. "In these challenging economic times, it's appropriate to study the commissions' operations and see if we might be able to do things better and more efficiently with one organization rather than two."

Last month, the executive directors of both commissions appeared before the House Game and Fisheries Committee to present their annual reports. While a number of issues were covered in both presentations, financial concerns were a significant point of discussion from both agencies.

A similar study was conducted 10 years ago, and it showed a merger was feasible and would save money. But no legislative action was taken as a result.

Proposed Special Regulation Designations and Redesignations

At the next PFBC Meeting, to be held on April 15 - 16, 2013, the Commissioners will consider adding the following waters to its list of Approved Trout Waters Open to Year Round fishing.

Pine Creek from SR 414 Bridge in Blackwell (350 meters upstream of the confluence with Babb Creek) downstream to the confluence with Slate Run (upper limit of the 1.2-mile-long Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only reach), a distance of 11.1 miles

Pine Creek from 150 meters upstream of the confluence with Naval Run (lower limit of the Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only reach) downstream to the confluence with Little Pine Creek in Waterville, a distance of 15.1 miles

The public comment period ends

on April 8, 2013 and if this change is approved, it will become effective on January 1, 2014.



Acid Mine Drainage and Fracking

Senator Rich Kasunic (D - Somerset) has introduced legislation that would encourage the use of mine water for Marcellus shale well development and industrial use.

Senate bill 411 would provide liability protections for the development of treatment systems for acid mine water used for oil and gas well development under the already existing Environmental Good Samaritan Act.

DEP estimates that 300 million gallons of mine polluted water flow into the States rivers and streams everyday and that 4 million gallons of water is used to fracture (frac) one well each day.

By reclaiming the acid mine drainage and using it in the Marcellus shale industry, many benefits would come about that would include: it reduces the amount of higher quality water from being withdrawn from our streams / rivers and reduce the amount of acid mine drainage entering our waterways thus starting the long term process of recovery of those streams.

There remains to be a great deal of discussion needed on this issue but it is a step in the right direction to help deal with the acid mine drainage problems that we have in the State. See our website under the document section for the DEP white paper **Utilization of Mine Influenced Water for Natural Gas Extraction Activities**

Angler Award Program

Did you know that the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission has a program to award fishermen for their catches? Please see the chart for the minimum sizes as well as the current state record size of the fish. There are five awards that can be obtained: Senior Angler Award given to anglers 16 years old and older; Junior Angler Award is given to those anglers under 16 years old; the Husky Musky Club is given to anglers who land a musky that is a minimum of 50 inches; the Catch and Release Award is given to anglers who practice catch and release with the minimum size of the specified fish; and the First Fish Award is given to a new angler who catches their first fish. The awards are a certificate and a patch and are free. An application needs to be submitted to the PFBC and if the fish is going to be kept, it is required to be weighed at an approved measuring stations. More information about this program can be obtained from the PFBC website. At the present time, there are only 4 approved measuring stations in Lycoming County: Andy's Taxidermy, Bass Pro Shop, Poust Taxidermy, and Wertman's Bait and Tackle; Clinton County has one approved station at the Kettle Creek Tackle Shop; and Sullivan County has a station at Bill's Ace Hardware in Dushore. There are many more approved stations listed on the PFBC website but these are the closest to our area.

Qualifying Minimum Weights and State Records

Species	Catch & Release		Sr.		Jr.		State Record	
	Inches	Pounds Ounces	Pounds Ounces	Pounds Ounces	Pounds Ounces	Pounds Ounces	Pounds Ounces	Pounds Ounces
Bass, Largemouth	20	5 0	4 0	11 3				
Bass, Rock	8	0 12	0 8	3 2				
Bass, Smallmouth	19	4 0	3 8	8 8				
Bass, Striped (includes hybrid)								
Marine	30	23 0	21 0	53 13				
Landlocked Lake	23	10 0	7 8	53 12				
Bass, White	14	2 0	1 8	3 16				
Bluegill	8	0 12	0 8	2 9				
Carp	28	14 0	11 8	52 0				
Catfish, Bullhead	11	1 8	1 0	4 4				
Catfish, Channel & White	24	10 8	8 0	35 2				
Catfish, Flathead	34	20 0	16 0	48 6				
Crappie	10	1 4	1 0	4 3				
Drum, Freshwater	21	5 0	4 0	19 14				
Muskellunge (includes tiger)	40	28 0	20 0	54 3				
Perch, White	9	0 12	0 8	1 12				
Perch, Yellow	11	1 4	0 12	2 11				
Pickering, Chain	20	4 0	3 0	8 15				
Pike, Northern	27	11 0	8 0	35 0				
Salmon, Atlantic	21	5 8	4 0	17 2				
Salmon, Chinook	30	14 0	11 8	28 15				
Salmon, Coho	24	8 0	6 8	15 5				
Salmon, Pink	17	3 0	2 8	4 8				
Sauger	18	2 0	1 8	4 0				
Shad, American	22	6 0	4 8	9 9				
Sucker	17	2 12	2 0	12 14				
Trout, Brook	15	2 0	1 8	7 0				
Trout, Brown	21	5 8	4 0	19 10				
Trout, Lake	30	15 0	12 0	27 13				
Trout, Golden	20	5 0	3 8	13 8				
Trout, Rainbow	20	5 0	3 8	15 6				
Trout, Steelhead	24	10 0	8 0	20 3				
Walleye	23	8 0	6 0	17 9				

The Fishing License

Prior to 1919, anyone could fish in Pennsylvania without having to have obtained a license. In 1919, the Fish Commission required non residents to purchase a fishing license at a cost of \$5. In 1921, the Resident Fish Law was passed and this required that, effective in 1922, all residents over 21 years old would be required to purchase a fishing license. The cost of the new resident fishing license was \$1. In 1923 the State Legislature decreased the resident fishing license age requirement to 18 years old and in 1926, it was reduced to 16 years old where it remains today.

Buttons were used as the fishing licenses in 1923 and continued until 1960 when they were discontinued due to the high cost of making them. Paper licenses replaced the buttons until the Commission attempted to use buttons again in 1974. Paper licenses returned in 1976 and remain in effect until today.

1976 was the first time that any artwork was placed on the paper license. At that time a large blue liberty bell was found on the license and each year after that, a fish was found. Artwork continued on the licenses until 2007 when the point of sale licenses debuted.

License fees have increased only a small percentage over the last 91 years. The original cost was \$1 and they are now \$22.70 for a resident and \$52.70 for non resident.

In 1991, the Commission required all anglers who pursue

Table 2. Resident Fishing License and Trout Stamp Fees

Year	License Cost	Trout Stamp Cost
1922	\$1.00	None
1928	\$1.50	None
1948	\$2.00	None
1954	\$2.50	None
1957	\$3.25	None
1964	\$5.00	None
1974	\$7.50	None
1979	\$9.00	None
1983	\$12.00	None
1991	\$12.00	\$5.00
1996	\$17.00	\$5.00
2005	\$22.00	\$9.00

trout or salmon to have a trout/salmon stamp. The initial cost of the stamp was \$5 and has increased to \$9.70 today. Actual stamps were discontinued after 2006 and a trout/salmon permit is required and is part of the fishing license.



Have You Tried Tenkara?

Tenkara, a form of fly fishing, was developed in Japan centuries ago and made its debut in America around 2009. Tenkara, when translated means from heaven or from the skies, is the simplest form of fly fishing and was developed by anglers so that they could fish in the wild mountain streams of Japan.

Tenkara is focused on fishing and catching fish whereas traditional fly fishing is focused on equipment and casting. So what is the difference?

First and most noticeable is that Tenkara rods do not have any reels. The rods are traditionally longer rods (11 feet long and above), are very flexible and the tip is much thinner than the traditional fly rod. Another advantage is that they are telescopic so they can be packed in to those remote spots without any difficulty.

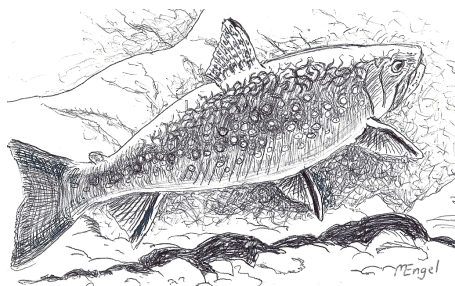
The appeal of Tenkara is its elegant simplicity. There are also other advantages of using the long Tenkara rods when fishing in mountain streams, primarily the lightness of the line and delicate presentation. A long rod allows for precise placement of the fly on small pools and allows for holding the fly in place on the other side of a current. The other main advantage of using the long Tenkara rod is precise control for manipulation of the fly.

Attached to the rod is a Tenkara line which is different than the traditional fly line. The line used is a tapered furlled line (twisted monofilament) that is usually the same length as the rod. The line acts like traditional fly line but its design promotes less drag on the water and more stretch. It is tied to the end of the rod by a braided line with a girth hitch knot and up to 3 feet of tippet is then attached to the line.

A trout can be caught on any fly if presented the right way and present day anglers spend too much time identifying what hatch is occurring and trying to match the right fly with a specific insect. Traditional Tenkara

anglers only take one or two flies with them when they fish as compared to a whole box of different flies that present day anglers take. It does not matter what the fly is, what matters is how it is presented.

Tenkara fishing can be compared to the old cane pole of years ago but with a modern twist. If you haven't tried it, why not? People who have tried this form of fishing swear by it and there have been many converts from the traditional form of fly fishing



The PA State Fish

Why is the brook trout the official state fish? On March 9, 1970, the State Legislature deemed this to be the state fish by saying "The Brook Trout is the only trout native of Pennsylvania waters. A choice of most epicures, it is the most beautiful and widely distributed member of the salmon family in the State and is found in the small, cold mountain streams and lakes and in the spring-fed limestone streams of valleys. The Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) is hereby selected, designated and adopted as the official State fish of Pennsylvania."



Casting for Recovery was founded in 1996 in Manchester, Vermont, the unique brainchild of a breast cancer reconstructive surgeon and a professional fly fisher Dr.

Benita Walton. CFR began as a local grassroots group with a big heart and an original national vision, and quickly received endorsements from medical and psycho-social experts for its innovative healing program model while at the same time provoking intense interest by national media.

Casting for Recovery was founded on the principles that the natural world is a healing force and that cancer survivors deserve one weekend — free of charge and free of the stresses from medical treatment, home, or workplace — to experience something new and challenging while enjoying beautiful surroundings within an intimate, safe, and nurturing structure.

CFR provides an opportunity for women whose lives have been profoundly affected by the disease to gather in a natural setting and learn the sport of fly fishing. Just as importantly, the retreats offer an opportunity to meet new friends, network, exchange information, and have fun.

The above information was taken from the CFR website located at <http://castingforrecovery.org/wordpress/home/>

The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited has held Casting for Recovery class's in the past and consisted of fly tying and then going out and fly fishing. The Women who participated always had a great time as did our members who assisted with this program.

Did You Know

The PFBC does not stock trout each year to spawn or provide any contribution to the wild trout populations. The trout are stocked so anglers can catch them!

A First Day Thrill

It was April 15, the first day of the 1938 trout season in Pennsylvania. The three of us arrived at the stream just as the silvery moonlit shadows blended into the gray shades of approaching dawn. Our tackle hurriedly assembled, we scrambled down the steep embankment to the stream, full of early season enthusiasm augmented with a hope of catching one of the "old timers" we were sure the stream contained.

As a lure I selected a live minnow carefully threaded on a leader loop and held in place with a double hook. I had fished for about a half hour with no success when finally a nine inch Brown decided to have breakfast on the minnow I offered; to his disappointment he landed in my creel. Casting into every part of the stream as I moved along I came to a deep blue pool at the foot of a small waterfall. My first cast into the pool brought no result, but the second was the inauguration of my supreme thrill of the day. As my line and minnow drifted with the swift current through the center of the pool it suddenly stopped, I tightened the line thinking it might be fast on a submerged log, but as the line became taught it began to move across the pool toward an overhanging ledge of rock. Thinking I had another trout about the size of the one I had just caught, I decided to "heave" him out on an adjacent sand bar. Such a foolish move really put that trout into action and before I could release any line my rod, being bent double, was drawn for half its length into the water. I maneuvered him across the pool into a position where I could get a good look at him, and would estimate his length to be at least twenty inches. Holding him at bay for a short while as he charged back and forth across the pool, I tried to bring him close enough to slip my net under him, but with no success. Finally, Mr. Trout decided to try his luck on a long flat riffle below the pool. Feeding him line as he dashed madly down the stream I stumbled after him, as I knew he would never come back into the pool. He seemed to be almost played out as I held him steady with a taut line while I tried to get on the downstream side, but with a last final effort in a desperate attempt to escape, he churned the water madly, leaped clear of the water and shook his head with determination, and then - VICTORY - for the trout, as in his last attempt, after several minutes of ferocious battling, he seemed to unfasten the double hook from the leader loop.

My hat is off to that big boy for his gallant fight and victory. Even though bringing him home would have been an added thrill, I'm glad he's still there to thrill some other angler's heart and perhaps mine, as I'm going back to the same pool to challenge him again.

By Ralph E. Barnett
Pennsylvania Angler, April 1939

Daily Creel Limit for Trout

<u>Year</u>	<u>Limit</u>
1925	25
1933	20
1937	15
1938	10
1952	8
2000	5

Opening Day

The Fish Law of 1959 established the opening day of Trout season to be April 12 or the first Saturday after. Sometime after this, the wording of the Fish Law was changed to read the Saturday closest to April 15.

The Law also stated that there could be no fishing between March 14 and 5 a.m., April 15, except in rivers, ponds and lakes not stocked with trout by the Commission. The also prohibited any fishing in streams stocked with trout for one month prior to the start of trout season.

Starting time was set at 5 am until 1969 when the Commission changed the time to 8 am. According to the April 1969 Pennsylvania Angler magazine, "The new opening hour was set by the Commission when numerous complaints were filed by property owners after fishermen camped, built fires, and littered private grounds throughout the night as they awaited the 5 a.m. opening last year. It is hoped the later starting hour will discourage overnight waits along the waterways by fishermen - and ultimately keep some of that ground open to public use which, with another pre-opener night of abuse, might be closed."

Why is April the start of Trout Season? First, experience has shown that weather and water conditions are usually conducive to trout fishing by mid-April. Second, the opening day in mid-April allows the Commission about six weeks to stock trout in approved trout waters during the closed season, which extends from March 1 to opening day. This time is needed to complete the pre-season stocking of the millions of adult legal-size trout in Pennsylvania waters. (information taken from the PFBC website)

A Boy's First Fish

By Arthur B. Troup, Jr

Tall white clouds stood motionless in the blue sky. Not a leaf stirred on the shoreline. The whole scene was done over again, upside-down, on the surface of Wallenpau-pak. A boy and his dad were trolling, and nothing broke the stillness except the steady murmur of the motor ...and the boy.

"Dad?"

"Yes?"

"How many fish do you think almost bite my line?"

"I don't know, son, but I'll bet a lot almost did."

"Do you think ten maybe?"

"Yes, I think ten maybe."

"Wow, ten of 'em!"

A hitch-hiking dragonfly zig-zagged in to perch nervously on an oarlock, and a squirrel, startled at the water's edge, scampered away through the woods. The reflections in the water alternately jiggled out of focus in the boat's wake and then came together again farther back.

"Dad?"

"Yes?"

"When will I catch a fish?"

"Pretty soon probably." To himself the man wished that the boy would catch one right now, or half an hour ago, or yesterday; a whopping big fish that the boy would always...

"Dad?"

"Yes?"

"Is my hook stuck in the bottom?"

The man turned in time to see a good fish thrash the surface in a shower of spray.

"I got fish, Dad!"

"Keep the rod tip up."

"I got 'im, Dad!"

"Reel easy, boy."

"I really got 'im, Dad!"

"Keep the tip up."

"Look at 'im, look at 'im. I really got one!"

Netted, the boy's prize lay wet and glistening at his feet. The man carefully removed the hooks and held the fish up for the boy to admire. It was a beautiful fish, an abso-

lutely beautiful fish.

"What kind is he Dad?"

"He's a crappie bass, son."

"I think he's neat."

"You bet son, he's the neatest crappie I ever saw."

"Aw, I bet you've caught lots bigger."

"Never son."

"Never?"

"Never!"

"Honest?"

"Honest."

"Gee . . ."

Then the man measured the fish and the tape read 13 and 3/4 inches. Then he weighed the fish, and the scale said 1 pound 8 ounces.

"Yessir, son, the man said, that's a beautiful crappie."

"What'll we call him Dad?"

"Why I told you; we call him a crappie."

"I know, but what'll we name him?"

"Name him?" Suddenly the years slipped away and the man remembered being seven years old; he remembered when everything had a name and when everything was something. He remembered that hoppy horses at cookies and that Santa Claus drank milk; he remembered that his first fish had a name.

"Son, I think you should name him."

"I did."

"Already? What's his name?"

"Spot!"

"That what it'll be then. Spot it is."

Back at the dock the boy lifted a lively, thrashing Spot out of the water, and a bystander queried.

"Say little man, that's a nice fish. Who caught him?"

"I did, the little man answered."

"How big is he asked the bystander."

"I don't know but his name is spot said the little man."

After a long period of inspection, questions, and admiration, the boy asked, of his own accord, that the crappie be returned to the lake. They did this, the boy and his dad together,

and "Spot" eased away into the deeper, clear water until they thought they could still see him but really couldn't.

That evening there was a small campfire before bedtime. The boy had been quieter than usual.

"Dad?" he finally ask

"What is it Robby?"

"Do you think Spot will remember me?"

"I'm sure he will son."

"I'll remember him."

"I'm sure you will son."

The Pennsylvania Angler

April 1968

Anglers First Aid Kit

Every angler should carry a First Aid Kit with them because you never know what the day may hold for you. It is better to be prepared than to have an accident and not be prepared. The kit should also be easily accessible as well as waterproof.

A First Aid Kit should contain the at least the following items:

roll 1" cloth tape
4" x 4", or 3" x 3" general gauze pads
band-aids
stretch roller gauze
triangular bandages
1 - splinter tweezers
Alcohol wipes
Antibiotic ointment
whistle

You may also want to bring along a Leatherman or pair of wire cutters just in case you have a run in with a hook. You can keep a larger more stocked kit in your vehicle.

One last thing to remember is that you need to let someone know you will be fishing for the day. This is very important so that if something happens, they will have a starting point in looking for you.



Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited
PO Box 1132
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Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Williamsport, PA 17701
Permit No. 159

Upcoming Events

See our webpage for more local events

April 4 - 7, 2013

We will be at the Pennsylvania Outdoor Life Expo at the Lycoming Mall

April 5 - 6, 2013

PFFMA Open House

April 10, 2013

Monthly Meeting - Launching Unassessed Waters Pilot Program

April 13, 2013

Statewide Trout Season

April 15 - 16, 2013

PFBC Meeting

May 3 and 4, 2013

Fish outing and Campout on Antes Creek
(Members Only)

May 8, 2013

Monthly Meeting

Elections will be held at the April 10, 2013 Meeting. Please consider coming out and filling one of the many positions open. Your help is greatly needed to keep our Chapter successful

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Burton Adams
Roger Fenstermacher
Kenneth Kish
John Magagna
John Martin
Walter North
Bill Williamson

The above members recently transferred to our Chapter from another Chapter. Welcome!

Chapter meetings

Held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and are open to the public and begin at 7:30 pm. Meetings are held at the First Presbyterian Church of Williamsport in the Fellowship Hall, 102 East 3rd Street, Williamsport. Parking is in the rear of the Church along Mulberry Street.

No meetings are held in June, July, August or December