

The Susquehanna Ripples



The Newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited #044

Annual Summer Issue

Welcome to the Summer 2022 issue of the Susquehanna Ripples. This is by far the biggest issue we have ever published and you will find a wide variety of information and stories.

First, we have three young anglers who have accepted the position of Youth Coordinators. Samantha Harvey, Wesley Harvey and Carter Hockenberry are three of the most outstanding young people you will ever meet.

They all excel in school, activities both in and out of school and of course fishing. Their parents are amazing people in their own right and are very supportive in everything they do and encourage them to pursue their dreams and their likes (hobbies).

Our Chapter has not had a Youth Coordinator in a number of years and between the 3 of them, they will co chair our youth committee (with their Parents guidance as well as from the Chapter). They will contribute articles, stories and pictures to the newsletter as well as helping the Chapter with activities geared toward youth with the goal of getting more kids involved in fishing and in conservation efforts. They will be able to provide valuable input into activities and issues as we adults do not see things through their eyes nor have the same perspective.

Next you will find a variety of articles on fishing. Thanks to member Steve Martin who wrote an article on "Another Kind of Fly Fishing." With the high water temperature, trout fishing has slowed down and in many cases is non existent. Steve shows us another great way to enjoy fishing and using flies that we may not be as familiar with.

We have also provided our regular content: where in the world?, fly of the month, recipe of the month and so much more. Everyone in the Chapter hopes your summer is going well and that you are able to do some fishing and enjoy the great outdoor with family and friends.

John Mosher

1/30/1933 - 4/9/1992

Member of our Chapter for over 50 years, Life TU Member, served as Chapter President, Vice President, and many years as Director; served on nominating, trout kick off and legislative committees and awarded Order of the Tie.

In Memoriam

Welcome New Members

Mark Dunlap	Doug Mellot
Nicholas Folker	Dale Nace
Samantha Harvey	Robert Peterson
Wesley Harvey	Brian Snyder
Mike Hill	Loren Thomas
R. George Hiller	Terry Waldman
Carter Hockenberry	Ronald Wilson
Robert Krick	Jerry Yancsek
James Lane	

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Joe Radley (2022)
(2023)
Bill Worobec (2023)
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John Kolb (2024)

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Our Official Newsletter

The ***Susquehanna Ripples*** is the official newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited. It is published 8 times a year: January, February, March, April, June/July, September, October, and November. Please consider submitting something of interest to our readers; a story, stream report, recipe, photograph, gear review, etc. Submissions received will be placed in the next available issue. All submissions can be sent to susquehannatu@gmail.com or bobl baker@comcast.net.

Chapter meetings held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and are open to the public and begin at 7:00 pm (unless otherwise noted). Meetings are held at the **Covenant Central Presbyterian Church, 807 W 4th St, Williamsport, PA 17701**, in the Fellowship Hall (unless otherwise noted). Parking is at the rear of the Church and enter off of Campbell Street.

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

The drawing at the top of page 1 was done by member Mike Engel. The picture is used with his permission and we thank Mike for submitting it and allowing us to use it. Many of the drawings that have been used in this newsletter have been drawn by Mike

If you have an event you would like us to post on our event calendar, please send information to susquehannatu@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

July 20 - 24, 2022

Trout Unlimited annual membership meeting in Portland, Maine.

Can be viewed online, go to tu.org/events to register and more information

July 25-26, 2022

PFBC Commissioners meeting

September 6, 2022

Extended Trout Season Begins

September 10, 2022

Fall Meeting of the Slate Run Sportsmen's slaterunsportsmen.com

September 14, 2022

Chapter Meeting

September 17, 2022

PA Council of TU Annual Membership Meeting in Bellefonte

October 12, 2022

Chapter Meeting

October 24-25, 2022

PFBC Commissioners to meeting

November 5, 2022

Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum Association banquet to be held in Carlisle at the Masonic Lodge

November 9, 2022

Chapter Meeting

December 1, 2022

2023 Fishing Licenses on sale

January 11, 2023

Chapter Meeting

February 8, 2023

Chapter Meeting

March 8, 2023

Chapter Meeting

April 12, 2023

Chapter Meeting

Chapter Notes

By Bob Baker

The Chapter does not hold any membership meetings from May through August and this has been a practice for many years. Why? It was felt that during these summer months, members and non members would prefer to spend time on vacation, fishing, picnicking or some other activity and not in a meeting. The decision was to not have any regular Chapter activities for this reason.

From the meeting in April until our next meeting in September, there was no activity or communication with the membership for many years. That is why I decided to start publishing a summer issue of this newsletter as we never had one. In 2015, I started publishing a summer issue. I wanted a way for the Chapter to maintain contact with the membership during the 4 + months of summer and this was the way to do it. Although there may not be a lot of specific chapter news, there is always something to report and things of interest to the readers.

In addition to the newsletter, I am kept busy with our Facebook page and webpage. There are many things posted on social media that is not posted in our newsletters and I am constantly updating them. Our Facebook page is more active and as of this writing, we have 1,146 likes and 1,219 people who follow us.

There are always meetings that someone is attending, usually the President and Vice President, and the non stop emails, phone calls, and letters that we receive. All have to be answered or followed up on.

We continue to stay abreast of the issues in our area that affect, or potentially affect, our waterways. This is done by meetings and communications with the interested parties.

We participate in activities with schools at the end of the school year: TIC release and casting instruction. There was field day at Lyter Elementary School, participated in the PFBC Family Fishing

Day program at Rose Valley Lake, and we participated in the Loy-alsock Creek Watershed Association's annual Cane Pole Derby.

Our fiscal year ends March 31 and as Treasurer, I have to file a tax return with the IRS. I also have to file annual activity with National TU that reports our finances, projects, hours spent in numerous areas and the amount of member participation we have.

There are reports and follow ups that must be submitted to State Council and communications with them are on going. The Secretary is responsible for this as well as any official correspondence from the Chapter.

We also pick up donations from time to time and these need to be evaluated, inventoried and organized.

Planning plays a big part during this time as we look forward to the coming year and plan our yearly budget and make goals of what we hope to accomplish.

One of the most difficult things we do is trying to come up with ideas for our monthly meetings. We have 7 regularly scheduled meetings a year and trying to come up with interesting speakers and topics that are of interest to our members is very difficult.

Another issue we face is the limited number of people that attend our meetings. We probably average 15 to 25 people on a good day and constantly struggle on how to bring more people in to our meetings and Chapter. With 298 members, very few attend our activities. For many chapter meetings, we have more non members than members.

Within the past few years, National TU as well as PATU, have initiated Diversity programs. These have the goal to increase the numbers of females, genders, ethnicities, ages and cultures within our membership.

There are training opportunities available on this topic and TU encourages diversity within our leadership and chapters.

As you can see, there is always something going on within our Chapter.

As I have mentioned in previous

issues of this newsletter, your help is needed. There is a very small group of individuals who do all the work for this chapter and we do not know how much longer this can continue.

With the size of our membership, there is no reason that more people can not step forward to give of their time. The amount of time is not an issue. You can give the amount of time that works for you and your schedule. If any of our leadership decide to step down, will there be anyone to take their place? This question is evident each year during annual election. Yes we have had some new faces in the last few years but we need many more new faces. Even if you do not want to serve in an elected position, there are many committees and roles that you can take.

There is a great deal that our Chapter can do but in order to do those things, we need people to step up and help.

I am always planning future issues of the newsletter and this never stops. I try to have the next several issues planned and this requires constant work.

This newsletter is facing the same problems. Putting each issue together is a long and difficult process. Although the actual chapter news is minimal as compared to the other news and stories in each issue, I want this to be the best newsletter and one that offers a wide variety of information to our readers.

Since becoming the editor of this newsletter in 2011, there have been fewer than a dozen people who have contributed. I can not express my gratitude to those members who have taken the time to contribute pictures, drawings or articles. Your contributions make my job a little easier.

Don't get me wrong, I very much enjoy putting together this newsletter and look forward to doing it. I am also grateful for all the comments and words of encouragement from many of you in regards to it. Doing the newsletter is my way of contributing to the chapter.

Continued on page 12

US Women's Fly Fishing Team

In the Spring of 2021, the United States Women's Fly Fishing team was formed with the goal of having a team to represent the United States in the first ever World Ladies Fly Fishing Championship in July 2022.

The United States Women's Fly Fishing Team (USWFFT), based out of State College, PA was approved by the Confederation Internationale de Pech Sportive (CIPS) in 2021. This group is the regulating body for competitive angling throughout the world and represents anglers from 78 different countries and a total of 50 million anglers.

The annual world fly fishing championships have been organized by the Federation Internationale de Peche Sportive Mouche (FIPS-Mouche) since 1981 and 2022 is the first year for a Women's fly fishing championship.

This years inaugural championship is being held in Stor-Elvdal and Rendalen, Norway July 4th – 10, 2022. The team left the United States in mid June and went to Norway to get familiar with the waters they will be fishing and fine tuning their fishing and their gear.

Ashley Wilmont, one of the three ladies on the team from Pennsylvania. Some of you may remember Ashley as she served as the PATU program director in the past.

Everyone at the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited wishes all the ladies the best of luck in the coming days as they represent the United States in Norway.



Front (L to R): Ashley Wilmont, PA, - Lyndsay Szofran, MT, Madoka Myers - Captain, CO
Back (L to R): Julie Mattson, OK, Jackie Burgunder, PA, - Tess Weigand, PA, Jenn Cordz, WA
Picture taken from the US Women's Fly Fishing team Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/uswfft>

PFBC BOARD GIVES PRELIMINARY APPROVAL TO PROPOSED FEE ADJUSTMENTS

During a special meeting held today, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) Board of Commissioners gave preliminary approval to a list of proposed fee adjustments for fishing licenses and various other licenses and permits for the 2023 license year.

If given final approval at a future meeting, this would be the first fishing license price increase since 2005.

"These modest fee adjustments would ensure that important infrastructure, services, and programs for anglers and boaters can continue and improve into the future while keeping prices reasonable," said Richard Kauffman, PFBC President and District 8 Commissioner. "While the price of a fishing license has remained the same for the past 17 years, operational expenses have continued to go up and it is time to bring our fees in line with our business needs."

Under the proposal, the price of the most common fishing license and permits, a Resident Annual Fishing License, Trout Permit, and Combination Trout/Lake Erie Permit, would increase by \$2.50 each. Separate increases would be applied to other license and permit categories for non-residents, seniors, and tourists. If approved, revenues from these fee increases are expected to generate an estimated \$2.5 million annually for the PFBC's Fish Fund to support fishing related programs.

In a separate action, the Board gave preliminary approval to fee adjustments associated with several categories of boat titles, licenses, and permits. Many of these administrative fees, such as those related to the issuing of title certificates, cast net permits, and penalties for uncollectable checks, have not been updated since the 1980s or 1990s. If approved, revenues from these fee increases are expected to generate an estimated \$30,000 annually for the Fish Fund and \$1.5 million for the PFBC's Boat Fund to support boating related programs.

In accordance with Act 56 of 2020, which provided the PFBC with the authorization to set fees, the proposed fee adjustments must be given preliminary approval by the Board, be presented during a public hearing, and given final approval by the Board. Also, in accordance with Act 56, after final Board approval, the fee adjustments will be shared with the Pennsylvania House and Senate Game and Fisheries Committees for their review.

The date for the public hearing has yet to be established and is expected to be announced in the coming weeks.

The above article was taken from
<https://www.media.pa.gov/pages/fish-and-boat-commission-details.aspx?newsid=452>

Veteran's Service Program

By: Charlie Knowlden

Our Veteran's Service Program this year consisted solely of fly rod building. We had five participants who each built 2 piece, 8 foot, 5-6 weight fly rods from kits. Each participant was able to somewhat customize their rods by selecting thread color from the vast array of threads that we have in our collection. They were taught how to find the spine of the blanks and how to space the guides so the line would flow freely when casting. We also have some rod handles and other parts they could select that we purchased from Bill O'Connor along with his fly tying supplies. Each rod was then fitted with a Martin Caddis Creek reel pre-spooled with an LT6F fly line with backing. When the rods were completed, Walt demonstrated various casting techniques and each participant was given the opportunity to hone their skills through practice casting. This program was funded with the proceeds from the fishing equipment raffle we held last year.

The participants included two recently retired Williamsport City Police Officers, one of which is an Air Force Veteran and the other a Navy Veteran. The two also serve currently as County Detectives. We had a retired PA State Police Officer who is also an Army Veteran. There was also a Warden from the PA Game Commission and a Retired Navy Surgeon who is a Gulf War Veteran. I have been able to schedule some fishing opportunities with the last two gentlemen in the near future. A sixth participant couldn't schedule the time and I may do one-on-one instruction with him at a future date.

Other members assisting with instruction were Walt Nicholson and Bob Spencer. We hope to conduct another rod building program this winter and resume the fly tying afterward.

Chapter President Walt Nicholson is demonstrating on how to tie a leader on the fly line (top photo) and participant Kris Krehbs is stringing his fly line on the rod he built (bottom). Photographs provided by Charles Knowlden.



How Clean Is Your Stream?

Integrated Water Quality Report – 2022

The 2022 Integrated Report continues the new digital and fully interactive format created in 2018. This offers the ability to convey tremendous amounts of information in a way that is much easier to understand. As a supplement to the Integrated Report, DEP has also created the 2022 Integrated Report Viewer, which provides enhanced search capabilities and export functions. The combination of these two tools should greatly facilitate the public's access to water quality assessment information and better inform the public on the steps DEP takes every day to protect Pennsylvania's waters.

DEP's [Interactive Report Viewer](https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/CleanWater/WaterQuality/IntegratedWatersReport/Pages/2022-Integrated-Water-Quality-Report.aspx) allows you to zoom in on your own stream or watershed to find out how clean your stream is or if it has impaired water quality using the latest information in the draft 2020 Water Quality Report.

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/CleanWater/WaterQuality/IntegratedWatersReport/Pages/2022-Integrated-Water-Quality-Report.aspx>



Trout In The Classroom

By: Charlie Knowlden



Two school districts had successful Trout In the Classroom Projects that the Susquehanna Chapter was able to support and participate with the release of the fingerlings. In May the Montgomery Area High School released about 50 fingerlings that they had raised in their aquarium over the last school year. Walt Nicholson, Jim Latini, and Charlie Knowlden participated with the students and their teachers in releasing the trout into White Deer Hole Creek west of Elimsport. We also gave demonstrations on fly casting to the students as well as information on the types of flies and their imitations that are commonly used to

catch fish. Jim Latini also participated in the TIC program in Wyalusing. The students released their trout into the Schrader Creek. With schools fully open next year, we hope to be able to resume and support more TIC programs throughout the area. Photographs provided by Charles Knowlden.



Recipe of the Month

Casserole a'la Bluegill

Ingredients:

- ~ 4 cups bluegill fillets
- ~ 3 tbsp butter
- ~ 1 cup soft bread crumbs
- ~ 3 tbsp parsley, chopped
- ~ 2 tbsp lemon juice
- ~ 1 can (10 oz.) cream of celery soup
- ~ 2/3 cup milk
- ~ 1 stick butter
- ~ 2 tsp grated onion
- ~ 1 tsp dry mustard
- ~ 1 tbsp pimento, chopped
- ~ 3 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- ~ 1 green pepper, chopped
- ~ 1 can (15 oz.) creamed corn
- ~ 1 1/2 cups crushed corn flakes
- ~ 1 cup grated cheddar cheese
- ~ salt and pepper to taste

Instructions:

- ◆ Gently cook the fish in the 3 tbsp. butter. Turn the fish once in 5 minutes
- ◆ Add enough water to cover the fish. Heat to boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer 5 minutes
- ◆ Drain off the water and set fish aside
- ◆ In a large bowl combine all ingredients except the corn flakes and the cheese. Mix well. Fold in the fish
- ◆ Place into a buttered casserole dish and evenly top with the corn flakes. Sprinkle on the cheese
- ◆ Cover and bake at 350 degrees

for 25 minutes

- ◆ Remove the cover and bake 5 more minutes or until the cheese is golden brown
- ◆ Serve and Enjoy!

<http://www.backwoodsbound.com/zfblueg01.html>



The Kindergarten classes at Montoursville's Lyter Elementary invited NPC, Lycoming Colleges Clean Water Institute, Lycoming Audubon, and Susquehanna Trout Unlimited to their field day! This photo is from a quiet period between set up and the kids arriving.

The photo shows Chapter President Walt Nicholson practicing his fishing skills to curious onlookers. Photo provided by Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy.



Where in the World?

This month's Where in the World is a Bass named Leroy Brown. The cement statue is a life size replica of largemouth bass caught on Eufaula Lake in 1973. The fish is a legend in this part of the United States and has an even more bizarre story after his death. Where am I? See Page 16

Chapter Pro Tip

Carry binoculars when out fishing (or hiking / other activity that requires exertion). When you make frequent stops to catch your breath, look through the binoculars and it looks like you're bird watching and appreciating nature and not catching your breath.

Eco-Friendly Fishing Gear

Looking to reduce your impact with sustainable fishing gear? Find out how to choose the best eco-friendly fishing lures, line and more

CAN YOU BE A SUSTAINABLE ANGLER?

While all fishing can have some degree of impact on the environment, you can lessen your footprint with these simple tips for selecting more sustainable fishing gear.

SUSTAINABLE FISHING GEAR

To ensure fisheries continue to thrive, many anglers are taking steps to preserve their favorite spots – and species – for future generations to enjoy. That may mean adhering to regulations to prevent overfishing like bag limits, avoiding specific species at certain times of year and using more sustainable fishing gear.

When it comes to eco-friendly fishing gear, there are more and more options available on the market today. Here are some popular choices to consider:

- **Eco-Friendly Fishing Lures:** One of the best ways to practice sustainable fishing is to use biodegradable fishing lures. Since rubber doesn't break down, in the water or in a fish's stomach, a good substitute is biodegradable plastic that will dissolve over time. An added perk to these eco-friendly options is that the soft lures can be made in all colors and designs to attract your target fish just as effectively as traditional lures.
- **Eco Fishing Weights:** Not only is lead toxic to humans, but it's dangerous for fish as well, causing both physical and behavioral changes. That's why many manufacturers today produce sinkers made from safer materials that will cause less damage if ingested or left in the water. Some common substitutes used in non-toxic weights are brass,

steel, tungsten or tin. You'll also want to make sure they're chip resistant to prevent paint loss in the water. And remember that while these variations may be a little more expensive than lead lures, the benefits outweigh the costs.

- **Eco Fishing Line:** Like lures, anglers today can opt for biodegradable monofilament line fishing line that breaks down faster yet still has the same performance characteristics as regular line. Even if you don't have biodegradable line, you can take steps to properly dispose of your traditional line to reduce your impact on the environment. For example, many bait shops, fishing access points, piers and other spots have designated collection bins for discarded monofilament and fluorocarbon fishing line.

- **Other Eco Fishing Tackle and Equipment:** Anglers have several other eco-friendly options nowadays. For example, when you're choosing hooks, opt for circle hooks instead of J-hooks to minimize internal damage if you're practicing catch and release. Look for rigs made of materials like glass beads. Pick knotless nets. Instead of using fresh bait collected from fish habitats, choose artificial. And when you're picking out other gear like waders, bags or boxes, look for those made from recycled materials.

ECO-FRIENDLY ANGLING

Beyond fishing gear, there are other ways to practice eco-friendly fishing. If you catch and release, in addition to choosing barbless circle hooks, be sure to use the right eco-friendly fishing lures for the species to avoid exhausting the fish, keep your catch wet and limit the time the fish stays out of the water to increase the chance of survival.

It's also important to pay attention to the area around you. Take your trash with you to prevent fish and other wildlife from eating or getting caught in your rubbish. If you're boating, con-

sider rowing or paddling a canoe rather than a motorized choice. If you do go in a power boat, be careful when you're navigating over fragile habitats and be careful to prevent fuel spills.

Above article taken from <https://www.takemefishing.org/how-to-fish/fishing-gear-and-tackle/sustainable-fishing-gear/>

The Great Debate, what Trout is it?

Since the start of trout season a few months ago, I found it very interesting to see the many posts on Facebook about what people are catching and the stories behind them. Beautiful trout are being caught with many being released to catch another day. Many of the anglers are labeling the bright orange fish as palomino's.

The comments are sometimes funny but most of the time they are rude and needless because of one's belief that the fish is being inappropriately identified.

We posted something on our website earlier in the year from the PA Fish and Boat Commission discussing the differences between Palomino and Golden Rainbows and I felt it was important to place an article in this issue of the Susquehanna Ripples. To me, it doesn't matter what you call them. They are both rainbow trout, beautiful, and catches of a lifetime.

On page 7, you will find an article from our friends at **Native Waters Outfitters** in Oklahoma titled Palomino vs. Rainbow Trout. They have given us permission to reprint the article they posted on their blog on January 7, 2021.

Visit their website and you will find a great website and blog that discusses many interesting topics related to fishing as well as many other features. Check them out at <https://nativewatersoutfitters.com/> and we want to thank them for allowing us to reprint this article from January 7, 2021.

For more information about them, feel free to contact them at info@nativewatersoutfitters.com.

Palomino vs. Golden Rainbow

There has been a lot of debate on the correct identification of the yellow trout that swim in the waters of Oklahoma. You have probably heard them referred to as Banana Trout, palomino or golden rainbows. This has sparked the interest of the NWO staff, so I decided to do some digging on how to correctly identify the yellow fish and educate all Oklahoma anglers. Growing up fly fishing and using the term palomino trout for all the yellow or golden rainbows I was pursuing, I was intrigued about the difference between the palomino and golden rainbows and wanted to investigate the matter further.

I wanted to get some truth data from sources outside a google search since you can't believe everything you read on the internet (except this article). The first step was to contact an authority figure in the state where golden rainbows first appeared...West Virginia. I contacted the West Virginia State Trout and Stream Habitat Biologist, David Thorne. David has his B.S. and M.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife Resources.

What is a palomino and what is a golden rainbow?

According to Thorne, they are the same fish. Specifically, mutated *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (Rainbow Trout). These mutated trout should not be confused with the Golden Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss aguabonita*) which is a separate subspecies found in specific high mountain lakes and streams in the west. Thorne stated that there are no differences between a palomino trout or a West Virginia golden rainbow, they are simply names that are used synonymously to describe the same fish, same subspecies, with the same mutation.

This mutation was discovered in the 1950's when one fish showed a light yellow color as a fry. This one fish was a female and the hatchery harvested her eggs and bred them. West Virginia's Division of Natural Resources then introduced the golden rainbow to the public in 1963 as part of West Virginia's Centennial celebration. After decades of selective breeding, West Virginia's version of the golden rainbow, or palomino, trout remains a popular sport fish throughout the state today.

Why call them palominos and not golden rainbows?

I reached out to Jim from Cedar Springs Hatchery in Pennsylvania to find out a little more information on the golden rainbow trout. Jim owns and runs one of PA's oldest and most notorious trout hatcheries. It was founded by his father after World War II. He filled me in on some history and how the trout got their name.

As I previously mentioned, upon discovery, these trout became a big hit in their home state of West Vir-

ginia, and the idea of creating a program that allowed their fishing program to excel surfaced. This caught the attention of the state of Pennsylvania. They wanted to reap the same benefits of this marketable opportunity. After a few years of denial from WV, Jim stated that Pennsylvania Fish & Boat finally worked a deal with the West Virginia DNR. They agreed to share some of the WV Golden Rainbow eggs, under the condition that the mutated rainbow's name be reserved for WV use only. He was unsure of the exact conditions, but due to this, the rise of various names for the trout arose. The name palomino trout surfaced and stuck. We ended the call with a confirming question, are there any differences in a palomino and golden rainbow? In accordance with our previous conversation with David Thorne, Jim stated that there is no difference between the two ("ONE") fish. The reason you see some palomino trout that are lighter in color and some brighter is due to the selective breeding for increased color, making the fish more aesthetically pleasing to the angler in pursuit. End of the day, same fish (two names).

How about Oklahoma's banana trout?

I reached out to Marvin from Crystal Trout Hatchery in Missouri (the facility that stocks the Blue River in Oklahoma) for just one more clarification. Amazingly enough, Marvin stated that the palomino and golden rainbows are just another name for the mutated rainbow. Now what makes Marvin's story different from Jim's story, is that Missouri did not use West Virginia's mutated trout, in fact they came across their own mutation by selectively breeding a 'tiger striped' rainbow with various females until the golden colored offspring were a bright gold. From there they selectively breed the pals/goldies with each other. Again...end of the day, same fish (two names).

What do I call them?

After reading it should be apparent that it doesn't matter what you call them. If you want to use the noun palomino because it sounds better and won't add any confusion with golden trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss aguabonita*), go ahead. Palomino has a nice ring to it, and sounds appealing, especially when you're in the Rockies chasing bananas on the South Platte River in Cheesmen Canyon or fishing for them in Oklahoma. If you want to call them golden rainbows, go ahead! To each their own.

At the end of the day it truly doesn't matter what you call them. If the West Virginia biologist and the hatchery experts say they are the same fish, then you too can call them whatever you like. As long as you are enjoying the outdoors and catching fish, that's all that matters.

Nate Satterelli of Native Waters Outfitters
<https://nativewatersoutfitters.com/>

Another Kind of Fly Fishing

By Steve Martin

Whether you prefer wet flies, dry flies, streamers or nymphs, fly fishing for trout is a lot of fun! Still, do you ever find yourself feeling like something different? Something new? Maybe even something a little less technical? How about fishing poppers for panfish or bass on a local stream or lake?

Rather than imitating a specific food item, it is most often the popping sound and the action you impart into the lure that elicits a strike. And those strikes are often quite savage! Any species of sunfish, as well as rock bass, smallmouth and largemouth bass will readily attack poppers, and the action can be fast and furious! On a nine-foot fly rod, an eight or a nine inch sunfish will surprise you when they turn that broad, thick body away from you and bulldog for deeper water! Hook up with a 10 incher and let me tell you, you'll have a fight on your hands! Likewise, any of the bass species will often break water and tail dance across the surface for added excitement and challenge!

Poppers come in many different sizes, shapes and colors, but they are generally all constructed with a floating head of cork or Styrofoam and a concave face to generate bubbles and a popping sound. The body is usually some mixture of feathers or hair with a couple of dangly, rubber legs for added action. It is easy to overthink color and pattern, but the reality is that the fish generally don't care. It is the bubbles, the popping and the imparted action that draws the strike and I have found that most colors and patterns work equally well, regardless of water clarity or time of day. I have also found that a size six or a size eight popper will draw strikes from all sizes of panfish on up to some very large bass and can be fished easily on a nine foot, 5 weight fly rod with a 3X leader. You will be surprised how may fish (even sunfish with their relatively small mouths) will inhale the popper to a point that you see nothing more than your leader sticking out of the fish's mouth. Don't forget a pair of forceps or you will be losing a lot of poppers! There's no sipping here!

Although the lower reaches of many local streams have an abundance of panfish and bass, a pond or lake will usually provide more opportunity. I have fished poppers on a fly rod from both a rowboat and a kayak, but by far I prefer to simply wade in hip boots 30 to 40 feet from shore and cast in all directions, including back toward the shoreline. Especially with overhanging tree branches and heavy shoreline vegetation, I of-

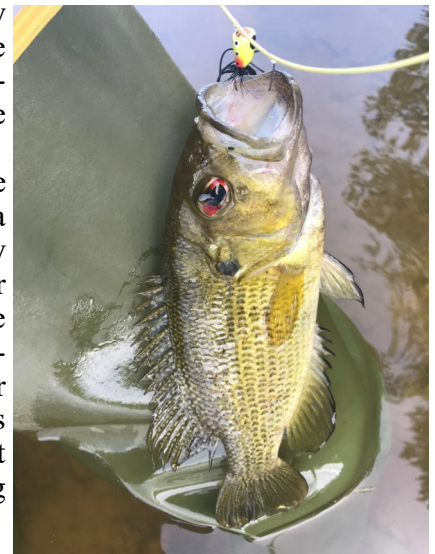


ten catch surprisingly large fish casting back within a foot or two of the shore line. If you move slowly and carefully, any fish that spook will generally come right back after you stop moving and stand still for a few moments. I like to wear natural, muted tones of clothing so as not to stand out too much and to blend in with my surroundings. I travel lite; put on my hip boots and fly fishing vest, grab my fly rod and strap on my creel. I have found that a standard wicker fishing creel works very well to bring a few fish home for the pan.

There is really no wrong way to fish a popper. Generally, I will cast the popper just like I would a dry fly and let it set for five or ten seconds before twitching the lure just hard enough to make a few bubbles and a pop. This can be done by stripping line as you would a streamer, or by twitching with the rod tip. As in any fly fishing, keep control of your line at all times and take up your slack to keep the line as straight as possible. Then just repeat the process and feel free to throw in any added action you think might work. Like I said, there's really no wrong way to fish a popper. Maybe that's part of the reason it's so much fun! Usually, if there is a fish nearby, strikes come fast. Oftentimes as soon as the fly hits the water, so be ready!

And as an added bonus, if you have never had the pleasure of eating panfish, then that is something you will just have to try! Although you can successfully fillet smaller panfish, I find seven or eight inches to be the minimum size to take for eating. A big, bull bluegill in the 10 inch range with that big hump behind his head will provide two remarkably large fillets, as will a ten or eleven inch rock bass. Just dip the fillets into a bowl of beaten egg batter, from the egg batter into a bowl of flower, then straight into a frying pan of sizzling butter. Just be careful not to cook with too much heat that the butter begins to burn. Be sure the flesh is flaky and the internal temperature is at least 145 degrees in the thickest portion of the fillet and they are ready to eat. They taste nothing like trout and in my personal opinion, are much better!

So, if you are looking for a change in your fly fishing routine, or just want to give the trout a break, fishing poppers for panfish and bass might be just what you were looking for!



About Me

Hello Fellow Fishers,

My name is Carter Hockenberry, I am 10 years old, and I live in Picture Rocks. My three favorite things are hunting, wrestling (folk style) and fly fishing. I enjoy fishing in Muncy Creek around the town of Picture Rocks as it is my home stream, but I always love going to other waterways like Penn, Spring, Lycoming, and the Sock. What got me into fly fishing is my dad and cousin Trevor Sones. I started out spin fishing and they both would out fish me using fly fishing equipment and techniques. So, I asked if I could try, I would say I have been hooked since. I was seven then and the rest has been the time of my life. My dad always tells me I am a walking fly shop. With how much stuff I have gotten in the last three years. Every birthday, Christmas, and Easter that is all I want is fishing or tying equipment. What I love about fly fishing is the fight of the fish and how sometimes you just do not know how big it is off the hook set. One of my dislikes of fishing is sometimes changing flies to see what they are taking; my dad always tells me its part of the game. I

just have to find a way to enjoy it. I never get disappointed fishing because of everything that happens around the stream, a funny story told, seeing an eagle fly over, or the guy that took one to many steps and is soaking wet. I hope you enjoyed reading some of the things about me and fishing. I look forward to writing more to help get more kids around my age into fishing. FYI its always fun to out fish someone older than you. No better feeling other than getting your hand raised on the mat or shooting a nice buck.

Tight lines,

Carter Hockenberry

The Mop Gurgler

Pattern Recipe:

Hook: Firehole 718 (10-4) base the hook size on the size of mop you are using

Thread: Semperfli Classic Waxed 6/0

Tail: Mop fiber in the color of choice

Underbody: Semperfli Straggle String, Legs or Chenille

Body: 1mm Laminated foam, 2mm Laminated Foam, 3mm or Semperfli Flat Foam (3.5mm or 4.5mm) in the color of choice

Legs: Silicon or Round Rubber in the color of choice

Eyes: 2mm-6mm Flymen Fishing Co. Dragon Eyes (optional)

This months fly pattern was taken from Panfish on the Fly - Fly Fishing for Americas Favorite Fish. Follow the link below to read about the mop gurgler and while you are there, look around the site because there are many more articles and a great deal of information available to you.

<https://www.panfishonthefly.com/blog/2022/1/25/the-mop-gurgler>





"My largest Trout ever caught"

By Wesley Harvey

Hi, My name is Wesley. And if my parents could drive me around every-day to fish, I would. Fishing is awesome because you can spend time in the outdoors while enjoying wildlife. Catching a trout big or small, lights up my world, no matter the size.

One day I went down to my local Creek just to cast a few lines. But then, as I looked under the brush, I seen the biggest trout that I have ever seen before! So I made myself a promise that day, to never leave that spot until I caught that trout. After two hours of trying every bait/ fly you could think of, he finally gave in to a Red silver mixed spinner. As I felt him bite, I was so nervous I did not want him to come off. As he came closer to the bank, my friend took no hesitation to jump in the water and net my biggest trout.

It was a female Rainbow trout that measured 25.5 inches. I was so excited and after taking a few pictures, I released her back exactly I caught her. So happy we live in Pennsylvania with such awesome fishing.

I really hope that other kids my age will go down to their local creek and enjoy fishing as much as I do.



My Greatest Memory

By Samantha Harvey

My name is Sam, I love fishing because of the never-ending excitement before each and every fishing trip. It is the hunt for the fish, the nature, and the joy you experience when you catch a fish that makes fishing so unique and special.

Fishing isn't just about catching a fish, but the opportunity to form special bonds with friends and family. One of my fondest memories was catching a 32 inch lake trout on Lake Ontario. The feeling of hauling that trout onto the boat is unforgettable.

I hope to see other kids experience that same feeling in the future.



The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy have teamed up to become a Fishing Tackle Loaner site with the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission and the American Sportfishing Association.

This program provides individuals, groups, and families fishing equipment to use free of charge. This is a great way for a family or individuals to try fishing be-

fore spending the money on the gear. The gear will also be available for groups and programs put on by the Northcentral PA Conservancy and our Chapter or by any group wishing to conduct a fishing program.

At this time, there are 2 dozen spinning rods/reels and a tackle box with hooks, sinkers and bobbers and swivels to go with rods and reels. We will have fly rods and associated fly fishing tackle in the future. You will have to supply the bait.

If you wish to sign out any gear, please contact the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy and they will set-up a time for you to pick up the equipment you need and return it. You can borrow it for a couple hours or a couple days. There is a form that needs filled out to initiate the loan. Give us a call at 570-323-6222.

Will you take the 70° pledge?

Over the years, we have heard stories, or may have even witnessed, what happens when the water temperature in fishing streams gets warm. Trout congregate in deeper pools or at the mouths of tributaries in an attempt to get to the cooler water and the needed oxygen to survive. It may be, or just seem to be, easier to catch these fish in such areas since large numbers of trout may collect there. Some Anglers know this but disregard the life and respect for trout and fish these areas anyway. Last year (2016), there are stories of people swimming in some of these areas on Pine Creek and grabbing the trout. Targeting the trout in these areas and in the warmer water temperature leads to higher mortality.

As water temperature rises, trout become more stressed due to their slowing metabolism. Additionally oxygen levels decrease as the water temperature increases. The fish exert more effort due to the increased water temp and less oxygen is getting to their muscles and heart. Because of this the trout can not regulate the effects of exertion without oxygen and death occurs.

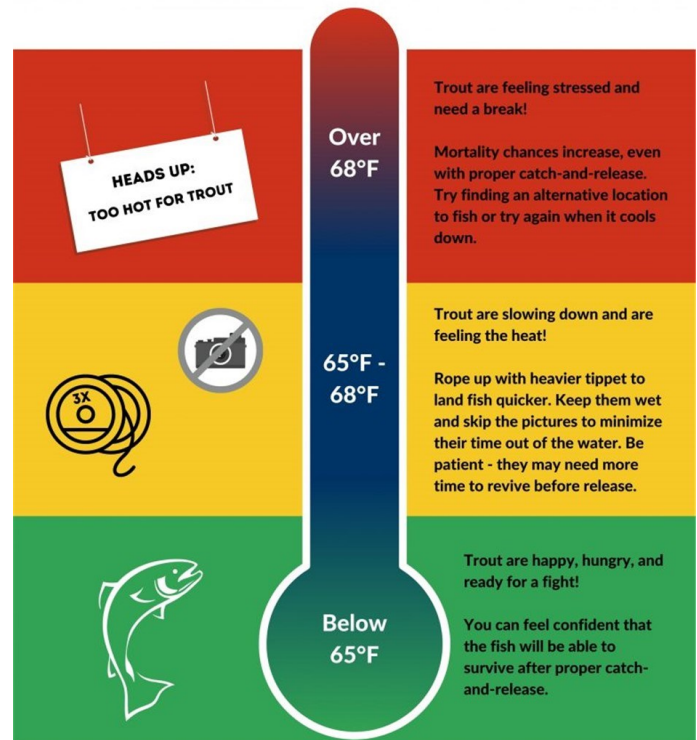
The website <http://www.70degreepledge.org/> states that a water temperature of 60 degrees is ideal for trout, and as the temperature rises, so does the mortality of those same trout. Some studies indicate that there is significant hook mortality when the water temperature is 65 – 68 degrees. “By 70 degrees the chances of surviving catch and release are very low” and when water temps reach 75 degrees, many more trout will die whether caught or not.”

How can you help reduce trout mortality?

1. Carry a thermometer with you and take water temp before fishing. If the water temp is 70 degrees or higher, choose not to fish that waterway. Consider fishing early in the morning or late evening when water temperature may be cooler. There are many warm water fish present in our streams that you can go after and they are just as fun to catch.
2. If you do catch trout in warm water, take your time in releasing it. Keep the fish in the water and hold it by its tail while facing the fish upstream. Move the fish in a

WATER THERMOMETER

TO FISH OR NOT TO FISH



The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Susquehannatu.com

swimming motion (side to side). Keep doing this until the fish begins to kick and try to get free from your grip. This is not a guarantee the fish will survive, but it's chances are increased.

Please don't fish for trout when the water temperature gets near 70° or higher. Fish in the mornings or later in the evening when the water temperatures drop or fish for another species of fish altogether. By taking and practicing this pledge, you are helping to maintain and protect the trout that we all love.

Chapter Notes from page 3

Please find your way to contribute to the chapter. Your time, no matter how small or how big, is very much appreciated and can help ease the workload of another member.

Remember, this is **YOUR CHAPTER**. The elected leaders want to provide you with the programs, classes and things that you want but we need to hear from you.

The possibilities are endless as to what we can do and if you want ideas, go on the internet and look at what some of the other TU Chapters are doing around the state and across the Country are doing.

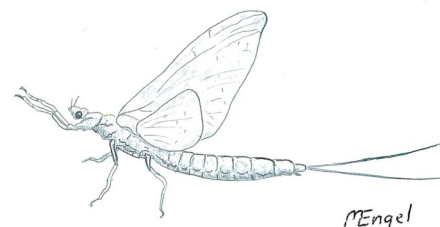
It is amazing the work that is being done, not only projects, but picnics, family gatherings, fish outings, presentations at meetings, etc.

The membership needs to guide and direct the Chapter, not having the elected positions guide. The elected

officer's are to take the chapter in the direction that you want and to work to accomplish the goals that you want. Without your input, the direction of the chapter is that of a small group of members.

We have a very rich history and have accomplished many great things in the past, but times have changed and we have to ask ourselves is the Chapter being the most productive and successful that we can be?

Bob Baker



Surf Fishing 101 – Tips and Techniques (Fishmasters.com)



Surf fishing is a popular form of fishing, with anglers flocking to the shoreline each year eager to make an exciting catch. This style of fishing requires different gear, equipped for saltwater conditions and rough waves and currents, as well as different techniques to find success.

Find everything you need to know about surf fishing, including the best gear, tips, techniques, and more.

What is Surf Fishing?

Surf fishing is the practice of fishing from the shoreline or in the surf of the ocean. Fishing in the ocean means that there is potential for larger catches compared to freshwater rivers and lakes, but also brings a whole new set of obstacles along with the opportunities. Many anglers surf fish because it is convenient, since you don't need a boat to cast from the shoreline. Surf fishing is often confused with or related to pier fishing; the two are similar, but not exactly the same. Generally, surf fishing includes all kinds of beach or shoreline fishing.

When surf fishing, you often have to cast long distances and face tough water conditions, which is why fishing gear is often made specifically for surf fishing: it has to be durable. Those surf fishing should always be careful when wading out into the surf, as strong currents and slippery surfaces can cause injury or allow them to get pulled out to sea.

Surf fishing is a fun and very popular form of fishing, and talented surf fishers reel in amazing catches from their favorite beaches.

What Fish Can I Catch Surf Fishing?



The opportunity to catch fish is huge when surf fishing: you have the whole ocean in front of you. Depending on where you're fishing and how far out you cast, you're likely to catch a varied range of fish. It really depends on where you are fishing as the species change from coast to coast.

Some commonly caught fish in the surf include striped bass, red drum, bluefish, pompano, flounder, snook, mackerel, tuna – even sharks.

Again, the type of fish you'll catch depends on various factors. Your location, the baits or lures you use, and casting distance and technique all come into play. The good news is that there are plenty of fish in the sea, so your chances of success are high.

How To Surf Fish

Surf fishing is fairly easy, but surf fishing well takes practice. You also want to be aware of any safety precautions you should take while surf fishing.

Successful surf fishing begins with the right gear; later, we'll break down the tackle you need to surf fish. After that, you just need to know how to cast and how to reel in a fish.

Basic Surf Fishing Techniques

A major difference between surf fishing and other forms of fishing is casting. When surf fishing, you'll need to cast further out to get past crashing waves, and cast accurately to hit an ideal spot.

Surf casting takes some practice. The most common way to do it is a classic overhand cast, with a focus on distance and control to ensure that your line goes to the right spot in the surf. To cast overhand, hold

your rod at a 90 degree angle and quickly extend the pole, straightening your arm.

If you've never cast a fishing rod before, it will take time and practice to perfect it. Get a feel for your equipment to better control distance and aim, and always be careful when casting with sharp hooks.



Drone Surf Fishing

Another way to drop your bait long distance is by using a drone. Drone fishing is a modern development in the world of fishing that uses a flying drone to fly out over the water, spot an area with fish through the drone's camera, and drop your bait. Learn more about drone fishing or invest in one of the best drones for fishing to try out this exciting new trend.

Surf Fishing Gear

The right gear is essential for any kind of fishing. Surf fishing requires sturdier gear to withstand stronger fish and currents, as well as corrosive saltwater. Find the best surf fishing gear on Fishmasters to improve your chances of a catch and to save your gear from damage.

In general, surf fishing equipment is geared towards longer casting and must be safe to use in and around saltwater. Rods tend to be longer, reels must be strong and protected from the elements, and lures must be safe to use in saltwater. Check out our reviews for the best surf fishing gear within each category to make your next great catch from the shore.

Continued on next page

Surf Fishing 101 – Tips and Techniques continued

Essential Surf Fishing Gear

These are the essentials you'll need for surf fishing:

- ◆ Surf Fishing Rods
- ◆ Surf Fishing Reels
- ◆ Surf Fishing Lures
- ◆ Surf Fishing Bait
- ◆ Surf Fishing Line
- ◆ Surf Fishing Rigs
- ◆ Surf Fishing Carts
- ◆ Surf Fishing Rod Holders

Other Surf Fishing Gear

While we've covered the basics, there is some other surf fishing gear you'll probably need. Go through this list and make sure you have any other necessary equipment before you go surf fishing:

- ◆ Fishing license (dependent on state/local laws)
- Hooks
- Weights
- Coolers
- Sand Spikes
- A knife or multi-tool
- Needle-nose pliers
- First aid kit

What to Wear When Surf Fishing

You've purchased the main gear and you're ready to head to the beach, but what do you wear? There isn't any set apparel for surf fishing, although there are some considerations you'll want to make while getting dressed.

Always dress for the weather when fishing. The temperature cools on the shoreline, with ocean winds blowing towards you. Water temperature is also a factor, as you may end up getting your feet, legs, or whole body in the surf when casting or fighting a tough fish. Check weather forecasts and dress accordingly.

Many anglers go barefoot to enjoy the sand between their toes, but it's a safer bet to wear fishing boots

or some other form of shoe. If you're on a popular fishing beach, chances are there may be a hook in the sand somewhere. Avoid injury by wearing shoes, and ideally by wearing water and slip-resistant boots.

Surf Fishing Apparel

If you're worried about getting wet, especially in cold waters, invest in a good pair of surf fishing waders. Waders will protect your body and any possessions on your person from getting soaked in the surf. There are plenty of options when it comes to waders, and more factors to consider than you may think. Check out our top picks for the [best surf fishing waders](#) to get the right choice for your needs.

If you're looking to protect your feet but don't feel the need for a full set of waders, invest in a good pair of fishing boots instead! Depending on where you're surf fishing, you may have to deal with more slippery rocks and other surfaces, and it's always best to be safe. Find the best wading boots to keep your feet dry.

Not every day on the beach is sunny, but you can get sunburn even on overcast days. Protect your face from the sun and shield your eyes with a quality fishing hat. We've reviewed the [best fishing hats](#) on the market, so you can find the right one for your next surf fishing trip.

Prepare for Your Next Surf Fishing Trip

Whether you're new to surf fishing or you're an old pro, there are always new tips and tricks to try out. Some common tips include researching your location and the fish found there to get a better idea of how to cast and what bait or lures to use. You can also research other things like tides and lunar cycles, or read the surf prior to fishing.

Pull up to your local beach to go surf fishing, or plan a trip to one of the best surf fishing destinations in

the world! Some locations are known for surf fishing, often due to abundant fish, trophy-sized catches, and more. Bonus: you get a beach vacation along with a surf fishing adventure.

We would like to thank Brian at Fishmasters for giving us permission to reprint his article and the following was taken from their website. We encourage you to check them out at fishmasters.com as there is a wealth of information on all types of fishing, gear and other relevant information to the fisherman.

Fishmasters was created on 2008 by father and son fishing duo Chuck and Brian. Together we combine over 100 years of fishing experience through countless trips both local to our home area of Philadelphia and traveling around the world.

We have our boat docked in Manasquan New Jersey for saltwater fishing the Atlantic Ocean and tributaries.

Freshwater fishing we have traveled the US from Philly to Colorado, California, Florida and internationally in countries like Russia, Canada, Bahamas, Costa Rica and more.

We have taken our passion for saltwater and freshwater fishing and turned it into this website full of content to help other anglers both old and new learn more about the sport.

We also encourage local fishing experts to join us and become a writer for our website if you want to share your tips and stories with our audience.



THROWING BUBBLES

by Wayne D. Lewis

Almost all wet-fly, nymph or streamer patterns work well for fishing with a fly-and-bubble rig.

It's not often that someone hates the title of your story before you write it, but that is the case with this piece. Last fall, while fishing with a good buddy (who prefers to remain nameless) we were discussing the merits of the angling method we'd been using for the last few trout-fishing expeditions — fly and bubble. He really liked how far he could throw a fly when the bubble was filled more than halfway with water which got me thinking. "Throwing Bubbles — that's what I'll call my article," I said.

My enthusiasm was met with much manly scorn. And he had a good point. Something that can, at times, be brutally effective shouldn't be described so frivolously. But it's my title, and I'm sticking with it.

Many people, like my buddy and I, can only afford so much equipment and devote only so much time to their recreational endeavors. Learning how to fly fish, and getting geared up to do so, is out of the question for many spin anglers. But when the fish are ignoring spoons and spinners, and hitting flies instead, then something must be done to level the playing field.

He had been frustrated by a fishing trip that yielded few bites and no fish, so he went to Bass Pro for some new lures and advice. He left with flies, bubbles, leader and a crude drawing that diagrammed the method of many future excursions. I still have a copy of that drawing somewhere. Since then I have asked others for fly-and-bubble advice, read some books and spent hours out on the water finding out what works best for me. People I have taught have caught their share of fish, so I think I'm on the right track.

For many anglers, the first question would be which pole to use, which would start a debate on lengths, weights, reels, etc. My answer is easy — use the pole you got.



The snap swivel should move freely in the larger end of the bub-

Buy a package of 2-inch bubble floats. While they are made of tough plastic, I seem to either break one on a rock or they crack after repeated whacks on the water, so having spares is a good idea. The bubbles come with a hollow stem that is tapered, which allows you to fill the bubble part way with water for added weight for casting.

Feed the line through the small end of the stem first, then tie it to a snap swivel. The snap swivel should be able to move freely in the larger end of the stem. I have found that a Palomar knot is easiest to tie to the snap swivel though many use an improved clinch knot. Then push on the small end of the stem and dip the bubble in the water and fill about two-thirds full of water, then push on the larger end to trap the water in the bubble.

Some people buy purpose-built, 6- to 9-foot, tapered leaders made for fly fishing. They're great. But I prefer to tie my own out of 4- or 6-pound monofilament line. My reasoning is that: A. I can adjust the length easily to the fishing conditions. B. I'm cheap. C. Yep, it's mostly because I'm cheap. For most conditions, I spool off a piece of line as long as my outstretched arms. On one end I tie a loop knot (SaltStrong.com did a comparison of four loop knots and the Kreh Loop Knot won) and I then secure to loop to the snap swivel. The other end of the line is for the flies, which I attach with a improved clinch knot.

Almost all wet-fly, nymph or streamer patterns work well for fishing with a fly-and-bubble rig. Some of the more popular choices include Renegade, Gray Ugly, Soft Hackle, Woolly Bugger, Muddler Minnow, Clouser Minnow, leeches, scuds, Pheasant Tail, damselfs, Gold-Ribbed Hare's Ear and Prince Nymphs. TIP: Add a small split-shot to the leader, 10 to 12 inches above nymphs, to reach fish that are suspended above moss beds or feeding near the bottom. My buddy's go-to fly is an olive Woolly Bugger, especially when fishing Georgetown Lake. My favorite is a Gray Ugly which has been hard to find in stores, so it pays to know someone who ties flies.

Casting (throwing bubbles) takes a little getting used to. I've lost a few flies (okay, more than a few) because I forgot to take the 6 feet or so of leader into account and got caught up in branches along the shore or on something in the back of the canoe. The more water you put in the bubble, the further you can chuck it, but it will also float lower and be harder to see to use as a strike indicator. I like to cast a bit past a spot that likely holds fish, and reel in until I see the bubble move and the leader get tight, then I do a fairly slow retrieve, taking a break now and then to jig the fly or let it settle down a bit.

Strikes can be subtle, so be ready to set the hook. I've mostly used this method on trout in lakes and ponds, but I've also had luck with bluegill, crappie and bass. Fly-and-bubble angling proves that flies aren't just for fly fishermen. And fish don't care what pole you use.

Article and photos by Wayne D. Lewis. Lewis is editor and art director of Colorado Outdoors magazine.



Where in the World?

This month's statue is tribute to a largemouth bass named Leroy Brown and can be found in Eufaula, Alabama.

In the heart of lovely Eufaula stands a statue like no other. About waist-high, under shady trees, it is a testament to a town hero, Leroy Brown. What's so unique about that, you ask?

Leroy Brown is a fish.

Leroy was a larger-than-life, livin' large, largemouth bass. This is the story, his legend, a fish tail – I mean tale.

On a sunny Eufaula Lake day in 1973, Tom Mann caught the bass that changed his life. "Dad knew something was different when the line yanked," said his daughter, Sharon Mann Dixon. "Leroy weighed less than 2 pounds but fought hard because he was a king and knew it."

Most fish caught in Eufaula – "Big Bass Capital of the World" – are destined either for the trophy case or a rendezvous with tartar sauce. In addition, the boisterous bass was not reeled in by an angling amateur. Tom Mann was an expert, owner of Mann's Bait Company and Tom Mann's Fish World, and a fishing lure inventor.

Typically, gamefish and fishermen are adversaries, but not this time. The little fish with the barracuda attitude went home with Mann and was placed in the family's cement pond. Later, Leroy Brown was transferred to Mann's Bait's 18,000-gallon aquarium. Dixon noted, "He instantly owned the tank."

The aqua-pet was hand-fed minnows. It was trained to jump through a hoop held over the aquarium's water surface. When Mann walked to another side of the massive aquarium, Leroy followed from the inside looking out.

"Its weakness was strawberry jelly worms – Dad's invention," Dixon said. "That's the bait Leroy was caught on." If other lures didn't interest Leroy, he allowed tankmates to eat them.

He was also a ladies' man," said Eufaula Mayor Jack Tibbs, who fondly recalled the fish's life and times. "Leroy had several girlfriends and shielded his love interests from would-be suitors."

But the gilled guy's heart belonged to Big Bertha, a 12-pound female tankmate. "They were inseparable," said Dixon, who relayed a bittersweet love story. "A critically ill fish typically floats near the water's surface when it is dying. In her last days, Bertha floated near the top and Leroy continuously attempted to push her back down, deeper in the water."

The Mann family named their pet after Jim Croce's popular 1970s song, "Bad, Bad, Leroy Brown." The name fit and word spread. Eufaula was seized by fish fame.

People came from everywhere to behold the bass.

He received fan mail from around the world. Leroy made the front page of The Atlanta Constitution. He was featured in Southern Living magazine and in news stories as far away as Africa and Australia.

In August 1980, Tom Mann discovered his prized pet floating. Silence had seized the fish that roared. Leroy Brown died of natural causes.

Tom's close friend Ray Scott, founder of the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (B.A.S.S.), was consulted. They agreed that Leroy deserved a funeral. Approximately \$4,000 was spent on a customized headstone. A casket was made from a satin-lined tackle box complete with strawberry jelly worms to accommodate Leroy in the hereafter.

At Lakepoint Lodge, about 800 people attended the funeral for a big mouth bass. Pallbearers included Roland Martin and other fishing celebrities. The Eufaula High School Marching Band played "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown" and Alabama Gov. Fob James declared a Day of Mourning for the fallen fish.

But at nightfall, something fishy happened. Leroy's casket was not buried the day of the funeral because of intense rain making the gravesite too wet. The casket was stored in a freezer. Thieves in the night stole the body and left a ransom note: 1 million jelly worms for Leroy's return.

Weeks later the remains were found at the Tulsa, Oklahoma, airport's lost baggage department. The fish carcass was never returned to Eufaula nor the grave-robbers ever found.

For years, Leroy's monument lay idle, to be discovered by Tibbs. "I was fishing at Ray Scott's fishing lodge in Pintlala and saw it on the property," Tibbs said. "I thought, 'Wow, that's Leroy Brown!'"

Tibbs met with Dixon to ask Ray Scott's permission to return the stone to Eufaula. Scott agreed.

On Oct. 13, 2016, the marble monument to Leroy Brown was dedicated on East Broad Street, where it remains today. Tom Mann died in 2005. But the legacy lives.



EATING FISH IS GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH. HERE ARE SOME TIPS ON HOW TO DO IT SAFELY IF YOU'RE CATCHING FISH IN PA WATERS

By: Gregory Lenahan, Deputy Digital Director

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/OurCommonWealth/Pages>

With warm weather finally here, going fishing is a great way to spend time outdoors. Many people find fishing the perfect escape from their stressful, everyday environments. Fishing can be a way to enjoy nature in solitude or while spending time with friends and family. And if you're lucky enough, you can pick up a healthy lunch or dinner at the same time. But if you plan to eat the fish that you catch, here are some important things to know so that you can enjoy the health benefits of eating fish while avoiding ingesting high levels of contaminants.

Health Benefits of Eating Fish

Fish are high in protein, low in fat and contain minerals and vitamins that are beneficial to human health. Fish are high in Vitamin D and Omega-3 fatty acids which are crucial for optimal body and brain function. The American Heart Association recommends eating fish at least two times per week as part of an overall healthy diet. With more than 85,000 miles of streams and rivers plus over 4,000 lakes, Pennsylvania offers anglers across the state ample opportunity to add this flavorful and healthy food to their diets.

But There's a Catch

While most recreationally caught sport fish in Pennsylvania are safe to eat, chemicals such as mercury and PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) have been found in some fish from certain waters in Pennsylvania. Eating fish that contain chemical pollutants can cause serious health problems if consumed in large amounts. Here's what you should know to enjoy the health benefits of eating fish while limiting your exposure to possible contaminants.

Fish Consumption Advisories

The Pennsylvania interagency Fish Consumption Advisory Technical Workgroup, of which the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is a member, issues fish consumption advisories to help protect the health of those who consume sport fish caught in Pennsylvania. An advisory is a recommendation to limit or avoid eating certain species of fish caught from specific water bodies due to contamination.

The Technical Workgroup issues two types of advisories:

a general statewide advisory and the more specific waterbody, species, or contaminant-based advisory. Each provides recommendations on suggested meal frequency and size to help limit potential exposure to contaminants that might be found in the fish you catch.

DEP collects fish from specific waters that represent the species and size of fish that are typically caught for consumption. Fish tissue samples are then analyzed by DEP's Bureau of Laboratories to determine the level of contaminants (metals, PCBs, and pesticide) in each fish sample.

The samples results are reviewed and compiled by DEP staff for evaluation by the interagency Technical Workgroup to determine the appropriate meal advise for each group of contaminants for the particular waterbody and fish species sampled.

The fish consumption advisories are reevaluated and updated on an annual basis. [More information and current advisories can be found here.](#)

Clean, Cook and Enjoy!

Proper cleaning and cooking techniques may reduce the levels of harmful chemicals that may be present in your fish. [DEP's guide to cleaning and cooking fish](#) provides helpful instructions on how to do this.

[The Fish Are Biting in PA](#) but before you bite into your catch, please consult the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's [fish consumption advisory](#) to know how much and which fish can be consumed safely.



Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited - Summer Issue 2022



Susquehanna Ripples
Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited
PO Box 1132
Williamsport, PA 17703 - 1132

Since 1964, the mission of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited is to work to conserve, protect and restore the Coldwater fisheries and the watersheds of North Central Pennsylvania.

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

TU does not make email addresses available to outside parties, for any reason, ever.
Please help us conserve resources by providing your email address.

SEND APPLICATION AND PAYMENT TO:



TROUT UNLIMITED
PO BOX 7400
WOOLLY BUGGER, WV 25438

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Members Only \$17.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> TU Teen (\$14) (13 - 18 y/o) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular (Renewal) \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership (\$1500) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family (\$55) | <input type="checkbox"/> TU Business (\$295) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stream Explorer (\$12)
12 years old and under | |

PAYMENT METHOD

- ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover
Make checks payable to Trout Unlimited

Card #: _____ Exp: _____

Name on card: _____

Membership contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law

To ensure correct New Member Rebate, enter Chapter/Council #:

#044