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Issue 235

February/March 2014



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Cover Photo

A huge Boone County buck was taken in gun season. John Henderson's buck had 21 points and scored in the 200 B&C range.

Stonewll Jackson Lake will be open to bass fishing tournaments this season. Look for an entry form in this issue.

This magazine is now being printed every six weeks. It is also offered online for FREE each issue.

Photo courtesy of Old & New Sports in Ravenswood.

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Deer Hunting Totals WV

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Preliminary counts of game checking tags indicate West Virginia hunters harvested a total of 150,268 white-tailed deer during the recently completed bucks-only, antlerless, muzzleloader, archery and Youth/Class O/Class XS deer seasons, according to Division of Natural Resources Director Frank Jezioro. This year's total harvest was 14 percent above the 2012 deer harvest of 132,261.

Antlerless Deer Season

The 2013 antlerless deer season harvest of 57,350, which includes the Youth/Class Q/Class XS deer season, was 28 percent above 2012 and 24 percent above the five-year average of 46,105. "It is important to note that the antlerless harvest is the key component to any deer management strategy, as it controls the future deer population," said Jezioro.

Antlerless hunting seasons were liberalized in many counties in 2013, with all or portions of 51 of the 55 counties open to antlerless firearms season. Hunters could harvest one to three antlerless deer. depending on the county. "This increase in hunting opportunity led to an increase in the harvest," Jezioro said.

The top 10 counties are: Mason continue to the next page



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Justin Bunner brought in a 10 point buck. Photo courtesy of Holbert's Store in Big Bend.



Mike Dial, from Fayettevielle, bagged a great buck.

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(2,526), Jackson (2,523), Preston (2,335), Wood (2,220), Roane (2,150), Ritchie (1,990), Lewis (1,982), Upshur (1,771), Monroe (1,698) and Wetzel (1,658).

Muzzleloader Deer Season

The 2013 muzzleloader harvest of 7,316 was 37 percent more than the 2012 harvest of 5,345, but was 2.5 percent below the five-year average of 7,507. "The muzzleloader season harvest appears to have rebounded from the effects of the change in season dates first made in 2012," Jezioro said.

The top 10 counties are: Randolph (322), Braxton (312), Preston (249), Nicholas (247), Lewis (235), Fayette (232), Greenbrier



A black coyote was caught. *Photo* courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.

(219), Upshur (212), Mason (209) and Ritchie (208).

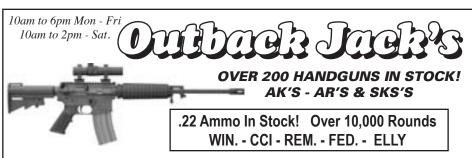
Archery Deer Season

The bow hunters take of 28,574 deer was 11 percent above the 2012 harvest of 25,714, and 6 percent above the five-year average harvest of 26,994. Archery harvests are correlated to hard mast crops and the below-average acorn crop was a significant factor for the higher harvest in 2013.

The top 10 counties are: Preston (1,040), Kanawha (1,031), Wyoming (953), Raleigh (875), Wood (872), Logan (840), Fayette (796), Randolph (768), Monongalia (741), and Nicholas (738).



Young Elijah Boston was in on a black bear hunt.



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Feb./March. 2014 ~ Page 5

Sunday Hunting Vote Support

By Cory Boothe Sunday hunting on private land only with written permission will be on the ballot May 13th in Braxton, Calhoun, Gilmer, Lewis, Nicholas, Webster, and Wirt Counties, It is imperative that sportsmen show up to vote to gain this right. If you are not registered to vote, go ahead and register in order to vote on this important issue.

Here are ten facts about Sunday hunting.

1. Sunday hunting is for private land only and only with written permission. If you do not want to hunt on Sunday, you simply choose not to do so or allow so on your



Renee Grey brought in a nice buck. Photo courtesy of Holbert's Store in Big Bend.

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own land. 43 of 50 states currently allow Sunday hunting.

2. Fourteen counties in West Virginia have had Sunday hunting since 2001 without any negatives. Those counties are Boone, Brooke, Clay, Hancock, Jefferson, Lincoln, Logan, Marshall, McDowell, Mingo, Ohio, Wayne, Wetzel, and Wyoming.

3. According to records kept by the WV DNR, in the last ten years, over four million licensed hunters have participated in hunting without a single nonhunter being shot by a hunter. Farmers, hikers, and landowners being safe from hunt-

continue to the next page

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Partner 5/18 Mail In \$20 To Reserve Boat Number Pay The CASH Balance At The Ramp rs is a fact.

- 4. Sunday hunting would add three days to spring turkey hunting and thirteen days in the fall hunting seasons. It would only add one day to deer rifle season and zero days to muzzleloader or doe seasons. So Sunday hunting only adds one day for hunting deer with a high-powered rifle.
- 5. Target shooting is already legal on Sunday and laws are in place that no firearm can be discharged within 500 feet of a church.
- 6. Sunday hunting was legal in 2001. The entire state had 264 arrests for trespassing during that year, only four of which occurred on Sunday. As a percentage, that would be under two percent. Sunday hunting will NOT increase trespassing.
- 7. Rural economies would benefit from hunters having two days a

weekend to hunt. Otherwise, we are missing out on revenue from people that refuse to come to West Virginia to hunt for one day a weekend. The total economic input of allowing Sunday hunting in the state is estimated at over one-hundred and fifty five million dollars according to an economic impact study by the National Shooting Sports Foundation.

http://sundayhunting.org/PDF/ SundayHunting_EconomicImpact. pdf

- 8. It is wrong to tell a landowner who pays taxes what he or she cannot do after church on their own land.
- 9. Sunday hunting does not change harvest limits and has been proven to not have any negative effects in the forty-three states where it is permitted.
- 10. The only blue laws left in West

Virginia are hunting on Sunday and purchasing liquor. Gambling, alcohol sales after one o'clock, and full nudity bars are all legal on Sunday, but taking your child hunting on your own land is not.



Craig Malcolm, from Moorefield, brought in a nice 10 point buck.



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Fall Turkey Totals

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Preliminary figures for the West Virginia 2013 fall turkey hunting season show a harvest of 1,013 turkeys, according to Curtis I. Taylor, chief of the Division of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Section. The 2013 statewide harvest was 20 percent lower than 2012 and 12 percent below the five-year average.

Only District 2 in the Eastern Panhandle showed an increase (29 percent) in harvest while the other districts experienced declines. The decline in harvest occurred despite more counties being open for fall hunting than in 2012.

"Fall wild turkey harvests are highly influenced by hunter participation, annual turkey poult recruitment, and hard mast conditions." said Taylor. "Turkey brood observations this past summer were down slightly from 2012 and considerably below the five-year average. This was expected due to the high amount of rainfall in June and July which resulted in lower poult survival."

Top counties for 2013 were Preston (77), Monroe (71), Randolph (69), Greenbrier (58) and Pocahontas (55). Despite an increase in the number of counties open to fall hunting, the traditional fall hunt counties including Preston County, the Eastern Panhandle, and Mountain regions of the state, accounted for 63 percent of the total fall kill.

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Shawn Stidham bagged an 8 point in Putnam County.

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Snowy weather did not stop Bobby Collins from using a bow for this drop tine buck. *Photo courtesy of Uncle Tom's Loans in Oceanna*.

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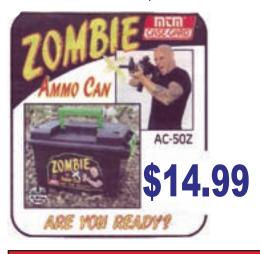


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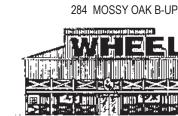




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Darrell Ballengee shot a big 10 point. *Photo courtesy of Cross-roads General Store near Newark*.

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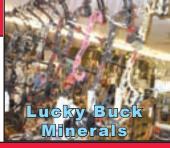
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Steve Caron, from Bolt, used a bow for a piebald 3 point.



Danny Schreckengost, from Palestine, bagged a nice 10 point.





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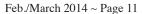
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Rainbow Trout Fishing Tips

Rainbow trout is a close relative of the salmon and belongs to the family of Salmonidae. It is native to tributaries of the Pacific ocean in Asia and North America. This fish is angled for both food and sport. There are a number of popular fishing techniques, but not all techniques may work to catch just about any fish. Fishing tips and techniques for catching rainbow trout are peculiar and effective for catching this highly esteemed fish.

The tips I am about to give in this article are mostly useful to increase your catch of rainbow trout in flow-

ing water, say, a river or a stream. However, with some alterations and customization, these pointers may be used as tips for fishing rainbow trout in lakes as well.

Rainbow Trout Fishing Tips

Don't Cast Shadows: No, no, you don't need to turn into a vampire to catch rainbow trout! When I say don't cast shadow, I mean be careful not to cast shadow on the hole or run which you intend to fish. The rainbow trout is a wise guy and you won't get any bites if you cast a shadow where you fish.

Serve Live Bait in a Natural Way:

"Worm balls" don't work with rainbow trout. Use gang hooks when continue to the next page



Mark McGranahan landed a Niagara River trout.



fishing for this fish as rainbow trouts bite only when they assume the bait to have appeared naturally and not custom-made.

Efficiency Counts: This is the most important of all rainbow trout fishing tips. You must have your line and bait ready if you ever wish to catch rainbow trout. The line must be in the water at all times as more the time the line spends in the water, sever the chances you have of getting bites from rainbow trouts. Also, carrying bait bags is a great idea as this will enable you to have your baits ready at hand at all times. Remember, fumbling when fishing for rainbow trout is a big showdown. Being prepared is essential and one of the most important rainbow trout fishing tips in rivers and streams.

Take Your Hands Seriously: Pay attention to how your hands smell. The scent of your hands can get transferred to the bait and rainbow trouts have a very keen sense of smell. They can smell you on the bait! Say, for instance, if you are a smoker, then the smell of tobacco can drive the trout away. One way to counter this problem is to grab a handful of dirt and rub it into your hands before you go fishing. This neutralizes the smell of your hand and erases the scent of any foreign substance held by you before fish-

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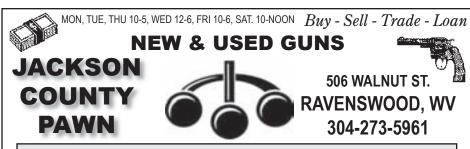
John Brant tagged an 8 point buck. Photo courtesy of Uncle Tom's Loans in Oceanna.



John Bryant tagged an 8 point buck. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.

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Fishing Techniques to Catch Rainbow Trout

First of all, make a note of all the things you must have to go trout fishing. You are going to need small barrel swivels, split shot sinkers, gang hooks, and live worms.

Once you arrive at the fishing spot, tie the end of your line on a small barrel swivel and tie on a set of size 8 nor size 10 gang hooks. Include sufficient split shots so that you get to the bottom, starting with two, to get a hang of the appropriate weight. Add a worm now. The aim is to bounce your live worm off the bottom so that it flows naturally downstream and for this, you would need to cast the fishing rig parallel to yourself and allow it to flow naturally with the current as it bounces off the bottom. You will get snagged a lot of times, and it is a sign that you are fishing at the right place!

The gang hook technique works



for still water trout fishing, with some modification. One of the most practical tips for catching rainbow trout in lakes and ponds is using the same rig mentioned above but replacing the split shot with an egg sinker. This way, the gang hook lets you offer the worm in the most natural way and arouse no suspicion in the rainbow trout.

Rigs for Fishing Rainbow Trout

The most important thing to consider when going fishing for rainbow trout is to make your bait look as natural as possible, especially continue to the next page



Jerry Bowie bagged a fine buck. Feb/March 2014 ~ Page 15





Tom Fluharty brought in a nice 11 point buck..

if you are using live bait. A set of gang hooks, which is a pair of small hooks tied in tandem, is the most efficient rig for this presenting live bait as well as for fishing in still water with Powerbait or other floating artificial bait.

Hope the above tips and techniques on fishing for rainbow trout would be of some assistance, especially to aspiring anglers. Happy fishing!

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Bernard Snider tagged a bobcat. *Photo courtesy of Holbert's Store in Big Bend.*



Sophi & Terry Shank harvested two, ten pointers. *Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk*.

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Black Bear Totals For 2013

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. - West Virginia hunters harvested 2,682 black bears during the combined 2013 archery and firearms seasons, according to Paul Johansen, assistant chief in charge of game management for the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. The preliminary harvest data for the combined 2013 seasons were nearly identical to the 2012 harvest of 2,691 bears. The black bear harvest of 2013 marks the fourth time in the past five years that the harvest has topped 2,000 and is the second highest harvest on record.

"As always, mast conditions had a tremendous influence on the distribution of this year's bear harvest," said Johansen. "The 2013 Mast Survey and Hunting Outlook documented the lowest statewide oak index in the survey's history. However, oak mast was present in continue to the next page



Makeisha Henline brought in a black bear.

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James Canterbury bagged a buck.

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localized areas and was reported as most common in the higher elevations of the eastern mountains. An abundant beech and hickory crop statewide allowed the index for all hard mast to fall just 16 percent below the 42-year average.

"Decreased mast conditions statewide allowed archers to pattern bears effectively and led to an increased archery harvest. Decreased mast conditions also led to a decline in the December firearms season harvest. The combined effects of firearms hunting with or without

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Becky Stalnaker, from Elizabeth, used a muzzleloader for this nice 8 point.

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hounds in September and October and the concurrent bear and deer hunting seasons in 29 counties helped offset the decline in harvest during the December season."

Hunters took 851 bears during the 2013 archery season. The top five counties were Wyoming (75), Fayette (61), Raleigh (58), Logan (52) and Randolph (52).

Firearms hunters harvested 1,831 bears during 2013. Hunters took 679 bears in September and October, 361 during the concurrent buck/bear season, and 791 during the traditional December season. The top five counties were Randolph (245), Pendleton (201), Greenbrier (151), Webster (134) and Pocahontas (131).

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Hunter Starett, age 7, got his 1st buck in Lewis County.



Jane McGraw used a muzzleloader for a nice 9 pt.. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.



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Dalton Holcomb landed a 51" musky this February in Clay County.



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Jeff Church, from Orma, shot an 8 point with real long brow tines.



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Dustin Allen, from Spencer, used a bow for a 10" bearded gobbler.



A great southern county bow buck was harvested. *Photo courtesy of Uncle Tom's Loans in Oceanna*.



Jordan Horrocks took an albino deer in Nicholas County.

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Young Ethan Abbot used a bow for a fine buck *Photo courtesy of Uncle Tom's Loans in Oceanna*.



Jeremy Whitlach trapped a real large beaver. *Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk*.



A long tined buck was taken with a bow. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins*.

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If you're like most modern bass anglers — and especially if you're smart — you start each fishing day by lathering on a heaping helping of sunscreen to protect your skin from the sun's harmful rays. The tans that we all coveted not so long ago have been mostly replaced by the desire to avoid skin cancer.

But your skin isn't the only thing that needs protection from the sun. What about your boat? What are you doing to protect it from the sun ... to preserve its showroom luster



Tom Frame, from Bridgeport, harvested a nice 9 point buck.



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Patrick Pierce is a Bassmaster Opens pro and pro staffer for Star brite, a marine industry leader in waxes, polishes and cleaners for your boat. Like most of us, Pierce puts on his sunscreen before he launches each morning, but that's after he's made sure his Triton is ready for the rigors of the sun.

"For most of us, our boat is one of the biggest investments of our lives and almost certainly the biggest investment in our fishing," Pierce explains. "And whether you plan to to keep your boat for 10 more years or trade it in this winter, it makes sense to take care of it and keep it looking good."

Pierce's boat sun care plan is an easy three-step process that anyone



can follow (plus a fourth step to avoid).

Step #1: Get a clean start

Whether you're putting sunscreen on your face or protectant on your boat, it's important to start continue to the next page



Perry Adkins, from Elizabeth, tagged a nice 10 point.



with a clean surface. Pierce takes that to heart by making sure to give his boat a thorough cleaning with one of Star brite's boat washes. His favorite is the Super Orange Citrus Boat Wash. That takes care of the gel coat.

"The protectant can't be properly absorbed into the boat or its components unless the surface is clean," he says, comparing the process to cleaning your skin so pores can better receive sunscreen. "That applies not just to the gel coat, but to other surfaces as well, especially vinyl."

For the vinyl, Pierce gives the seats and dash components a thorough going over with Star brite's Vinyl Cleaner & Polish. It not only protects these elements from the



David Ray has a nice Raleigh County buck.

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sun, but keeps the vinyl soft and flexible, which ultimately prevents cracking, flaking and the need for expensive replacement.

Step #2: Add protectant

Once the boat's clean, it's time to add protectant to the gel coat. Pierce uses Star brite's Premium One Step Heavy Duty Cleaner Wax. It not only makes the boat shiny, it removes the oxidation that can cause the boat surface to appear hazy. Polymers in the wax seal the finish and guard against UV rays.

This step is the most time-consuming and labor-intensive. Applying the wax and buffing it requires some elbow grease, but the results are worth it to protect your boat.

"I'll do this a couple of times a year," Pierce says.

The more often you use your boat,

Chad Tefft has a high racked buck. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.

Feb./March 2014 ~ Page 25

the more often it demands waxing. Carnauba wax — popular with car care aficionados — will make your boat's surface shine, but it lacks the polymers that protect the gel coat from the sun.

Step #3: Maintenance

Once your boat is clean and protected, keep it looking good and safe from the damage of the sun with some basic maintenance. For that, Pierce uses Star brite Boat Guard.

"Boat Guard does three things," he explains. "First of all, it's a light duty cleaner that will remove the dirt and grime buildup that occurs when we go fishing. Second, it's continue to the next page





a light wax that replaces what you lose on the water. Finally, it has polymers that bind to fiberglass, plastic, rubber, vinyl and other surfaces to protect them from the sun. It's really easy to use, too. Just spray it on and buff it off. I use it after every trip — usually right after I pull my boat out of the water — and I use it on everything except my electronics screens."

There's actually another thing Pierce likes about Boat Guard: "It smells just like blueberries." Step #4: Never do this!

"A lot of guys wash their boats with dishwashing liquid instead of a true boat wash," Pierce notes, "but that's a big mistake. Dish soaps are made to cut through grease and wax. After you've gone to all the trouble of waxing your boat, the last thing you want to do is strip it all off with dish soap."



Mary Brown bagged a Gilmer County Buck.

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Reptile And Amphibians

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. -The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources has a new Reptile and Amphibian Regulations brochure available, according to DNR Director Frank Jezioro.

The brochure can be viewed by clicking on the publication image under regulations at www.wvdnr. gov/wf. It also can be found on the DNR home page under "Wildlife Diversity." Paper copies are available in limited quantities at DNR district offices, the state headquarters in South Charleston, and the Elkins Operations Center.

"Reptiles and amphibians are a valuable wildlife resource. The

DNR established these regulations to provide opportunities for people to study, appreciate, and use the state's natural heritage without harming reptile and amphibian populations," Jezioro said. "The scientific community and conservation-minded individuals have been asking for these regulations, and we are pleased to be able to provide protections in this way."

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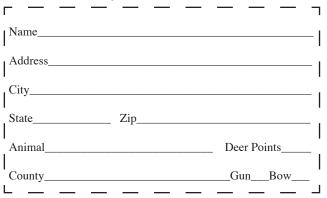
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Waterfowl Survey Results

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Wildlife biologists in West Virginia counted 8,797 ducks and 6,709 Canada geese during the annual mid-winter waterfowl survey conducted in early January, according to Steve Wilson, waterfowl biologist for the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Section.

"Duck numbers were the highest since 2001, 67 percent higher than 2013 and 123 percent above the 10-year average," Wilson said. "Canada goose numbers were up 7 percent from the previous year and their numbers were 40 percent above the long-term average."

The increase was not unexpected due to the weather that occurred in December. Canada geese, mallards and black ducks, as usual, were the most commonly observed species in the 2014 survey. Many other waterfowl species were also

observed, including canvasback, green-winged teal, pintail, widgeon, ring-necked duck, redhead, bufflehead, wood duck, gadwall,

mergansers, snow geese and tundra swans. Five adult and five juvenile bald eagles and three golden eagles also were observed.

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Feb./March 2014 ~ Page 27



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Emma Lipps went on a black bear hunt. *Photo courtesy of Anderson Outdoors in Buckhannon*.



Kelli Berry harvested a nice buck. *Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton.*



Justin Bunner brought in a nice buck. *Photo courtesy of Holbert's Store in Big Bend*.



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Tyler Shreve enjoyed bagging this buck. *Photo courtesy of Anderson Outdoors in Buckhannon*.



Jason Meadows landed a small-mouth over 5 pounds. *Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton*.



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This coyote contest stops at the end of February. Call for details - ad on right. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins*.

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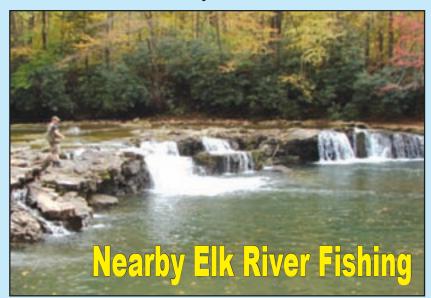
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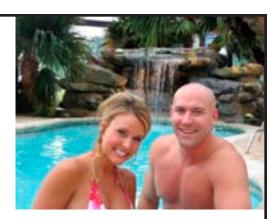
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Tim Murray brought in a great 8 point. *Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.*

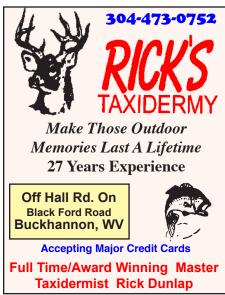


Wendall Walker bagged a 13 point buck. *Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk*.



Joe Ferrell took a nice 9 point buck. *Photo courtesy of Hobert's Store in Big Bend.*







Justin Gillman used a bow in Mingo County for a fine buck.



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Trevor Robinson, from Buckhannon, is with a 292 pound black bear. Feb./March 2014 ~ Page 32



Kevin Lunceford bagged an 11 point in Braxton County.

Fly Fishing Tips

Fly fishing can be done anywhere, be it freshwater or saltwater bodies. Even freshwater can be divided into three categories; cold water, cool water and warm water. There are many types of fish that you can target while fly fishing. They are trout, salmon, pike, perch, steelhead, etc. But every type of fishing requires some kind of bait. So your effort should always begin with the bait. For this purpose, artificial flies are used. While choosing an artificial bait for fly fishing, many factors have to be considered. Therefore, here are some tips on fly fishing for beginners.



Amy Bowling enjoyed deer season. *Photo courtesy of PC Bait&Tackle in Hinton*.

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Tricks and Tips for Fly Fishing

The following tips will definitely help an angler to catch a fly fish. Artificial Flies: The nature of artificial flies have to be understood properly. It is very important to know whether your targeted fish will be lured by your bait. If you end up catching the wrong fish, your efforts will only be wasted. You also need to understand the underwater movement of the bait. Only the right kind of movement of the bait will lure the fish.

continue to the next page

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Jasmine Given enjoyed black bear hunting.

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Mark Goudy 304-482-7217 wvasport@gmail.com Feeding Characteristics: Gather as much information as you can about the feeding habits of a fly fish. If the fish only feeds in deep water and never in shallow water, then what's the point of setting up a bait in the shallow waters? Knowledge about feeding tips are very important.

Fish Selection: Well, you need to have knowledge about the fish that would suit you the best. Doesn't it make sense to catch those fish which you like the most and are



Reagan Lynch, from Arnoldsburg, harvested a quality buck.

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very easy for you to catch too! Fish for salmon if you like salmon, fish for trout if you like trout, and likewise.

Camouflage in the Surroundings: If you are easy to spot, how would you lure the fish? Try not to look very different from your surroundings. Even the color of the line should be similar to the surroundings. Nothing should have a feel of being out-of-the-ordinary. This way, you are most likely to lure the fly fish into the trap.

No Noise: Be very quiet while you are fishing. Again, as dark colors can attract attention, so can the noise. Fly fish can be alarmed by the tiniest of sounds. Be prepared to sit quiet for long periods of time.

Location for Fishing: Select the locations in such a way that the probability of catching fish is very high.

continue to the next page



Andrew D'Angelo set a trapline for these coyotes.

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If the local lake doesn't have any salmon, then go for the streams. Half of your work is done if you select the right location for fishing. This is the foremost tip given to a beginner while he / she learns how to fish.

Holding the Rod: You have to learn how to hold the rod firmly, yet have a relaxed grip. Too much of a tight grip will eventually wear your hands out, you don't want tired hands when the fish has actually taken the bait.

Practice: Learning how to fish will all become a waste if you don't practice hard. Chances that you may forget fly fishing are very high, if you do not practice regularly. If there's a big gap, then you might have to learn how to fish all over again.

The above were just a few of the important fly fishing basics that one should know. But the most important of all the fly fishing tips for beginners would be to carry a lifejacket at all times while fishing. A life-jacket can be the difference between life and death. You can also ask a friend to accompany you whenever you go fishing. So, have fun fly fishing with your friends.

Mail or Email Your BIG GAME Photos From 2013 Form On Page 27

Interactive Map Online

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. - A new online interactive map which provides valuable information on all aspects of hunting and fishing adventures in the Mountain State is now available, according to Frank Jezioro, director of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources.

"I'm sure hunters and anglers will find this impressive mapping tool an indispensable aid in planning their trips," Jezioro said. "While similar to the interactive trout stream map which we have had for the past five years, this also includes information on warmwater fishing and hunting."

Outdoor recreationists can find instructions for using the interactive map on the landing page, choose whether they want to explore infor-

mation related to hunting or fishing, and then click the appropriate box. Once on the appropriate map continue to the next page

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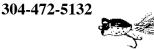
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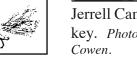
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Jerrell Canfield harvested a fall turkey. Photo courtesy of Trappers Den in

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of West Virginia, they will find a variety of tools.

On the hunting map, hunters can find the location of license agents, check stations, public shooting ranges, wildlife management areas, Class Q hunter access roads, and hiking trails throughout the state. A search option allows the user to focus on a specific county, wildlife management area or state forest.

If a person wants to check on fishing information while on the hunt-



James Dickens shot a buck. Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton.

ing page, a click reveals fishing and boating access sites, trout stocked streams, public fishing lakes and float trips. A tool allows users to measure the length of a stream section they wish to float. An option allows users to search for a specific body of water or county.



Scottie Booth has a massive bow buck.. Photo courtesy of Uncle Tom's Loans in Oceanna.

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The mapping tool can be found at www.wvdnr.gov under either the Hunting or Fishing headings, or by clicking on the bear icon. A high-speed Internet connection is required to access the maps.

DNR Wildlife Resources Section personnel gathered and provided all the necessary data and contracted with the West Virginia State GIS Technical Center to develop the tool.



Ben Smith, from Cairo, enjoyed his deer hunt...

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Dalton Queen used a bow for this quality 11 point buck.



This hunter harvested a big buck.



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