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Vol. 1 Issue 199

August 2010



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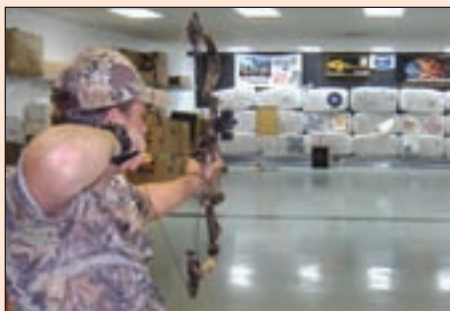
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Cover Photo

That's a lot of catfish. Kenny Bragg, from Hacker Valley, landed this huge Burnsville Lake flathead. If you are looking for a chance for big fish, Burnsville Lake offers musky, largemouth, catfish with great size.

This magazine is online for FREE each month. Look on the internet at:

www.wvasportsman.net. Back issues to 2006 are also offered. *Photo courtesy of Burnsville Docks on the lake.*

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Bass Cheating Scandal Out West

A professional angler found to have stuffed lead sinkers down the throats of fish he submitted for weigh-ins during a prestigious bass-fishing tournament has been banned for life from that and other competitions in a scandal that has rocked the tight-knit and passionate bass-fishing community.

Mike Hart, a successful Southern California pro whose career earnings total more than \$200,000, was accused of cheating in this manner during the recent \$100,000 U.S. Open held at sprawling Lake Mead on the Nevada-Arizona border. An official with the Western Outdoor News bass tour said Hart confessed after he was caught virtually red-handed.

WON Bass will not pursue criminal charges against Hart, but the episode has tournament organizers around the country speaking out

against cheating and seeking ways to prevent their events from being similarly tarnished.

“On the one hand it was a day of infamy for organized bass fishing in America,” said Harvey Naslund, director of the WON circuit. “But on the other hand it was a major victory for all who have long cared for, and taken steps to protect the integrity of bass-fishing tournaments.”

Catching a cheat is difficult because tournaments are catch-and-release, so bass are kept in aerated wells on the boats and weighed live at the end of each fishing day, then released.

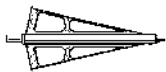
However, sometimes bass die after

being caught and Hart had offered three dead fish during the weigh-in on the second-to-last day of the U.S. Open. They were filleted so the meat could be delivered to a charity, and found to contain weights.

Officials waited until the final day to confront Hart, who turned in a full limit of five bass. All five were found to contain lead sinkers.

continue to the next page

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**Game
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Gregory Howerton, from Princeton, caught a 6 1/2 pound sallmouth on the New River.

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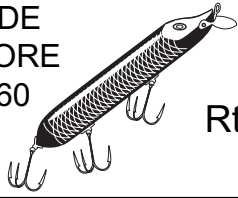
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In all, nine sinkers were removed from bass turned in by Hart. Naslund said each sinker was torpedo-shaped and weighed two ounces. Each was



Frances Hershman collected numerous mushrooms this season.
Photo courtesy of RRHAMCO in Grafton

attached to a short line and tied to a small treble hook, presumably to catch in the throat and hopefully keep the weights from entering the belly and being detected if the bass were cut open.

WON Bass determined that Hart acted alone, even though he had a lower-tier "Triple-A" fishing partner aboard his boat during each of the three days of the U.S. Open.

Naslund explained that the Triple-A partner fishes from the back of the boat while the pro stands at the bow, driving and steering with a foot-powered trolling motor.

On the third day of fishing, Naslund said, Hart was said to have asked his partner -- who had flown in from South Korea -- to change places while he rigged some tackle and checked on the fish in the live-well.

"The same scenario existed on Day 1 and Day 2 of the U.S. Open," Naslund said.

The South Korean angler, who would have shared part of whatever purse Hart had been entitled to after the third and final day, was given a refund for his entry fee.

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For what it's worth, the U.S. Open was won by Arizona pro Clifford Pirch, with a total weight of 31.44 pounds. He earned \$40,000, plus a new bass boat.



Steve Robinson bagged a large spring gobbler.

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Hunting Season Changes For 2010

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Several important changes in the state's fall hunting seasons for wild turkey and black bear, as well as the youth hunting seasons, are included in the new 2010-2011 West Virginia Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary brochure, according to Division of Natural Resources Director Frank Jezioro. The publication is now available at all West Virginia hunting and fishing license agents, DNR District Offices, Elkins Operation Center and South Charleston Headquarters.

Hunters and trappers are encouraged to carefully review these regulations due to the numerous changes in hunting seasons, especially turkey, bear and deer hunting, which will be in place this fall. The 2010-2011 West Virginia Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary is also available online at www.wvdnr.gov.

Major Changes for 2010-2011 Black bear hunting seasons have been expanded this year with 10



Heather Lunceford, from Flatwoods, got her 1st bow buck.


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counties open Sept. 27-29; nine counties open Sept. 27 – Oct. 2; 10 counties open Nov. 22 – Dec. 4 during the Buck Firearms Season, and all 55 counties open Dec. 6-31. The daily bag is one bear and the season limit is two bears, provided at least one bear comes from Boone, Fayette, Kanawha or Raleigh counties.




continue to the next page

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ies.

Fall wild turkey hunting season has been expanded this year with 13 counties open Oct. 23-30; 12 counties open Oct. 23 – Nov. 6; and 14 counties open Oct. 23 – Nov. 22.

A statewide Youth Small Game Season will be held on Oct. 2, 2010, open to all youth age 17 or younger for all small game species.

The participation age for the Youth Hunting Seasons (small game, antlerless deer and spring turkey) has been increased from less than 15 to less than 18 years of age. All licensing requirements remain in effect for ages 15-17.



Kenneth Meador landed a 24 pound striped bass from Blustone lake. *Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton.*

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Young Justin McCormick, from Quinwood, landed a native trout.

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1st Convictions Under New State Game Law

AURORA, W.Va. – A Preston County man and a Tucker County juvenile are the first persons charged and convicted with violating a wildlife law passed this year by the West Virginia Legislature. Division of Natural Resources Police Officers Sgt. Gary Johnson and Officer Josh Rhodes charged Mike A. Chapman, 22, from Aurora, W.Va. and an unnamed Tucker County juvenile in Preston County magistrate court in July, 2010. Both were charged and convicted of spotlighting, carrying loaded firearm in a vehicle and illegal killing of wildlife. The deer was killed in the Aurora area of Preston County and had antlers in velvet that measured almost 16 inches at the widest point. Fines, court costs and replacement costs totaled \$2,414.80.

In addition, the two are required to perform several hours of community service.

The new law, which went into effect in June, provides that additional replacement costs be collected from persons who are convicted of illegally killing wildlife, with the additional costs being based on the antler size of an illegally killed deer. The old law provided for a \$200 replacement cost for all deer that were illegally killed regardless of antler size. Persons who are convicted of illegally killing a deer are still assessed the \$200 replacement costs. If the deer has antlers in which the main beams measured at the widest point equals 14 inches but less than 16 inches, the replacement is \$1,000; 16 inches and less than 18 inches is \$1,500;

18 inches but less than 20 inches is \$2,000; and greater than 20 inches is \$2,500.

“The purpose of the enhanced replacement costs is to act as an additional deterrent to slow the illegal killing of deer that are considered to be trophies and that are a valuable natural resource of this state,” according to DNR Law Enforcement Section Chief David Murphy. “Many people come to West Virginia to hunt for trophy whitetails. They spend a lot of money in our state, purchasing licenses, eating in our restaurants, buying food, gasoline and other items at stores and staying in motels, and they have every right to expect that resource to be protected from poachers.”

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Brandon Blake hooked a huge drum. Photo courtesy of Burnsville Docks.



Owen McClelland landed two citation smallmouth on the New River. Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.

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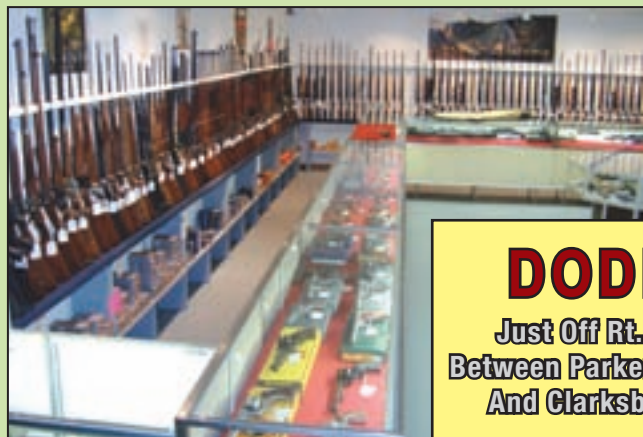
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Interested hunters who have

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Matt Summers hooked a large bass. Photo courtesy of Burnsville Docks on the lake.

qualifying head or antler mounts should contact Keith Krantz at 304-637-0245 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. for additional information or a registration form. Additional information and registration forms may also be found on the West Virginia Big Buck Display Web page at www.wvdnr.gov/hunting/wvbig-bucks.shtm.

bucks.shtm.

Participation will be limited to the first 30 qualifying trophy entries received. As an incentive for participation, hunters who display their trophy deer at the two-day event will be entered into an exclusive drawing for several valuable prizes.

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Ronnie Somerville hooked a 36 pound catfish. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.

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Controlled Deer Hunt Permits Offered

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. –Controlled deer hunts are scheduled to occur on two of West Virginia's state parks in 2010: Blennerhassett Island on Nov. 8 and 9, and Stonewall Resort on Nov. 15, 16 and 17. Monitoring of the deer population and consequent surveys conducted by Division of Natural Resources (DNR) wildlife and parks personnel reveal high deer density on both state park properties.

Controlled hunts held at Blennerhassett Island State Park in 2001, 2002 and 2007 and Stonewall Resort State Park in 2008 and 2009 have been successful and responsible resource management tools at both parks, according to DNR Director Frank Jezioro.

"We have been successful with the use of controlled hunts as a method of wildlife management in a public setting; however, history has shown that multiple successive hunts are necessary to reduce the population to sustainable levels." The scheduling of both controlled hunts on these state parks is good and responsible resource management, according to Jezioro.

The scheduled hunts will be by



Jim Stettler hooked a crappie. Photo courtesy of River-side Bait & Tackle in Hockingport, Ohio.

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permit only. Resident or non-resident hunters may apply for the Blennerhassett Island hunt. The Stonewall hunt permits will be for West Virginia residents and holders of West Virginia Lifetime Licenses only.

Full instructions and applications for both controlled hunt permits are continue to the next page



Ronald Lepley shot a nice gobbler.



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The Blennerhassett Island State Park Controlled Deer Hunt – Web address for the application and instructions for Blennerhassett Island hunt on Nov. 8 and 9, 2010, is: www.wvdnr.gov/Hunting/PDF-Files/BlennerhassettApplication10.pdf

The Stonewall Resort State Park Controlled Deer Hunt Application – Web address for the application and instruction for the Stonewall hunt on Nov. 15, 16, and 17, 2010, is: www.wvdnr.gov/Hunting/PDF-Files/2010_Stonewall_Application_Deer_Hunt.pdf

Applications also are available at all DNR district offices: DNR Operations Center, Elkins; DNR Offices in Building 74, 324 4th Avenue, South Charleston; W.Va. State Parks and Forests offices; the W.Va. Wildlife Center at French Creek; at Stonewall Resort State Park, Sam England, 304-269-0524; and at Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park, Donna Smith, 304-420-4800.

Applications are two-pages with an application and the detailed information page. Hunters also may complete the application printed from online, sign, date and send via U.S. mail. The information, procedures, and application for permits are different for each hunt.

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be completed and mailed and post-marked by August 28, 2010, to be eligible for the hunts. Successful applicants will be notified after October 1, 2010. The mailing address is: W.Va. Division of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241-0067.

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Kermit Ruble & Jim McClung caught some nice drum. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.

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New Access To Elk River Catch And Release Area

By Jim Wilson

On Saturday, June 26, a public access to the Elk River C & R area was dedicated in a ceremony headed up by Governor Joe Manchin and DNR Director Frank Jezioro.

This 80 ac. section is below Elk Springs and above the old railroad bridge near Monterville, in Randolph County. The parcel was donated to the WVDNR by the family of the late Jim Compton of Bridgeport as an honor to his memory. Mr. Compton founded Grafton Coal Co. in 1942 and was the inventor of the coal auger. He often fished this section and loved its remoteness and pristine beauty.

The ceremony was held at the location of the old Hickory Lick

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Tipple. The state has made a nice level gravel parking area for fisherpersons at this historical site. There is a huge rock placed on the site with a plaque affixed honoring Jim Compton.

Compton's daughter, Jennifer Compton Corton, spoke to the 50, or so, interested parties assembled by invitation for the dedication.

continue to the next page



Tiffina Stevens hooked an Ohio River drum in Middle Island Cr.



A large flathead catfish was brought in. *Photo courtesy of Burnsville Docks on the lake..*

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“My father was an environmentalist and I was so pleased when we got here everyone was already talking about how to maintain the watershed.”

A representative of Trout Unlimited presented the Silver Trout Award to the Compton Family. This award is the highest honor the association can bestow.

Governor Manchin had flown in by helicopter for the dedication. He addressed the assembly by saying much of West Virginia’s future lies with tourism. He said, “Tourism is one of the most stable businesses in the state--it is 12 million dollars a day and grows every year.

DNR Director Frank Jezioro also spoke to the group saying, “Now all West Virginians have an opportunity to access the best trout fishing in the East.



Dave Kaltenecker landed a 46” musky and released it. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.



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Head of Wildlife Resources, Curtis Taylor, and Steve Brown of DNR District 111 were also among the attendees as were several DNR Conservation Officers.

After the ceremonies were completed, several of those attending proceeded to Elk Springs Resort(just around the corner) for a fine trout dinner hosted by the owners, Daron and Lisa Dean.

Enjoy this new access.



Dignataries, including Gov. Manchin, dedicate the new access.

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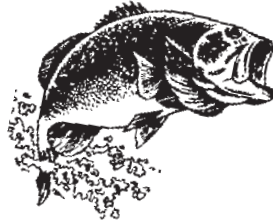
Advertising Details Are On Page 3

Ohio River Team Tournaments

All Events 7am to 4pm - Sign Up At The Ramp - All Numbers Assigned At The Ramp Only

Ohio River Events

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May 23	St. Marys
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Looking For Lunkers - Trophy Fish Mounts

ROANOKE, W.Va. – If you have a trophy fish caught from West Virginia waters, then maybe your fish will make the trophy fish display at West Virginia's National Hunting and Fishing Day event. There are some real lunkers swimming in Mountain State waters, and each year the West Virginia Wildlife Federation and the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources showcase trophy fish legally-caught from state waters at the National Hunting and Fishing Day event. This year's event is September 25-26, 2010, at Stonewall Resort State Park near

Weston in Lewis County.

“This will be the fourth year that a trophy fish display of mounted specimens has been exhibited at the event and every year the display has been a big attraction,” said DNR Fisheries Biologist Kevin Yokum, who is organizing the display.

Interested anglers who have qualifying fish mounts should contact Yokum at 304-924-6211 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. or e-mail kevinyokum@wvdnr.gov for additional information or a registration form. This information can also be found on the WVDNR website

at www.wvdnr.gov. Look under “Special Opportunities, National Hunting & Fishing Days.”

Participation will be limited to 25 qualifying trophy entries to be determined by the selection committee.. No more than five individuals of any species will be accepted. As an incentive for participation, each angler who displays a trophy fish mount at the two-day event will be eligible to win one of four randomly chosen \$200 gift certificates.

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Danny Frazier caught another large smallmouth bass. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.*

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Catch & Release Trout Stream

RUPERT, WV (June 15, 2010)
 – MeadWestvaco Corporation (MWV) and the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) announced today the implementation of voluntary catch-and-release for native brook trout on Laurel Creek above Jettsville. The waters involved are part of the first phase of MWV Trout Adventure -- a network of natural watercourses encompassing 146,000 acres of MWV-owned forestland in Greenbrier, Nicholas and Fayette Counties.

MWV and WVDNR have partnered to create MWV Trout Adventure which is expected to become one of the finest trout fisheries in the Appalachians. With essential cooperation from the agency, MWV biologists and foresters are actively working to enhance native brook trout habitat and populations, water quality and physical stream conditions within the landscape-scale program. Ultimately, the MWV Trout Adventure program will involve over 538 miles

of streams in the area.

Leadership from the WVDNR and MWV gathered to review progress and bring attention to the installation of permanent informational signs near the Laurel Creek Bridge, near Jettsville, WV. Signs at several access points identify the project area and request public cooperation in the catch-and-release initiative.

On hand for the announcement from WVDNR were Frank Jeziro, Agency director, as well as Mike Shingleton, assistant chief of Coldwater Fisheries for WVDNR, Steve Brown, acid stream restoration supervisor, and resource specialist John Rebinski.

MWV Forestry Division president Gene Hundley, and director of Forest Operations Trenor Hypes were joined by Sam Conly, manager of MWV forest lands in WV, and Aaron Plaughter, MWV Forester in charge of the Trout Adventure program.

“I can’t say enough about MeadWestvaco’s Trout Adventure program and their cooperative com-

mitment to sustaining native brook trout populations here in West Virginia,” said Jeziro. “This is a terrific example of a private/public partnership that will enhance the fishing opportunities here today and for future generations of our anglers.”

MWV began Trout Adventure with the construction of liming stations to improve stream pH and with strategic placement of native materials in stream courses to create pools to promote spawning and provide low water refuges. With the first phases of the MWV Trout Adventure program now well underway, the fishing public is being requested to honor the voluntary catch-and-release of native brook trout in Laurel Creek.

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 GAME & FISH PICS
 FORM ON PAGE 38**

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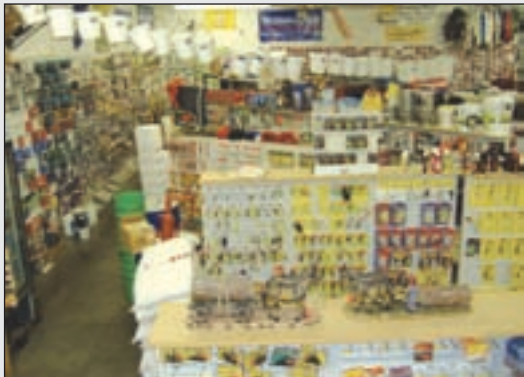
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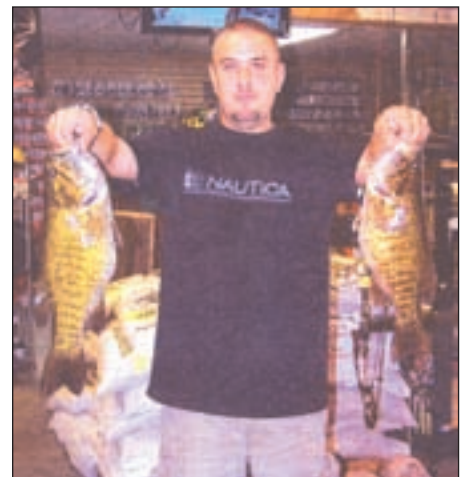
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Johnny Hart caught several nice sized drum. *Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.*



Danny Dodd hooked a 6 3/4 pound rainbow trout. *Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton.*



Shawn Bragg landed 2 nice smallmouth bass. *Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tacke in Hinton.*

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MAIL IN FISH PHOTOS **Form On Page 38**



Mike Fincham landed a 40 pound catfish at this popular pay lake in Gratton. Photo courtesy of Family Fishing and Camping in Gratton.

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Young Mr. Horton hooked a big golden trout. Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hnton.



Walter Bailey landed a 13 pound striper on the New River Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.



Wayne Dicky hooked 28 pound catfish. Photo courtesy of Family Fishing in Grafton.

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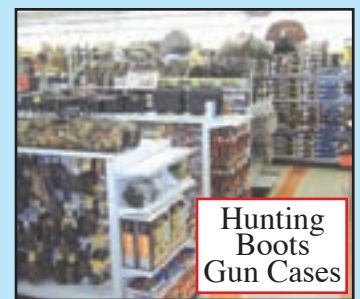
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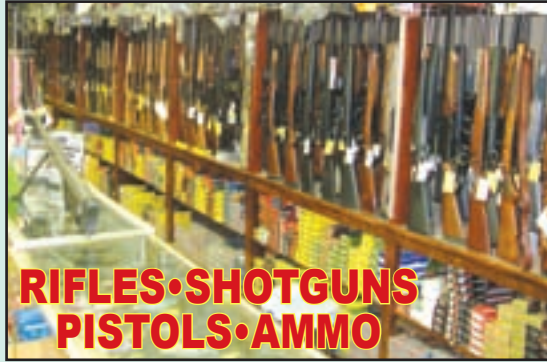
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This nice musky was caught & released. It was hooked on a yellow buck-tail spinner. *Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.*



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Turkey Hunting 2010

It all started on April 29, 2010 when I called a Gobbler in. It was twelve yards away, and I couldn't shoot because of poor set up and he stopped after seeing my strutting Gobbler decoy, it must have scared him. He must have saw it and stopped moving, and of course he stopped and locked up where I couldn't shoot. On April 30th I went back after him only this time leaving my strutting Gobbler decoy at home. I took a Jake and a Hen decoy placed them behind me, which I have always felt to be a good practice. I like to have a turkey so close I can see the hairs on their neck, what a rush! On this day

By Mike Marino

he came to me running at 6:27 am, I killed him at 6 yards!

The story doesn't end here, I hunt at this farm for two more days with no excitement and decided to search at another farm that was 45 minutes away. I arrived there at 7:45 am on May 3, 2010, I saw three gobblers strutting with 15 or more hens. At this point I hustled in the woods and set up to call these birds out of a field and out of their

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If you have called birds before,
continue to the next page



Tyler Kirk caught a rainbow trout.
Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton



Logan and Mike Marino had success on their 2010 turkey hunt.

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you know how difficult this can be. I called for two hours and had them working with me, but then they completely shut up. I thought they had moved on, so I got up walked 200 yards and there they were on someone else's fence line, exactly where I wanted them to be, but I couldn't get them to cross the fence.

I moved my set up and started calling them once more, I finally got them to move, but not to cross the fence. At noon I went home, exhausted from all the calling. I have hunted these birds every year for the past five years, but this year I was not letting them win, the season would have to end first.

Every day rain or shine, hot or cold, I was in the woods after these birds. After about the fifth day, I asked the property owner if I could move my set up to cross the fence, he said yes. I would now get them, and after that I believe the acoustics from the calls started bouncing off the hills behind me. It seemed like now when I called these birds

they would come in behind me with hens, and three to four gobblers every day on top of me. I felt like it was never going to happen, these birds were just too SMART.

We are now at the last week of school for my son, Logan who is a senior and he loves to hunt, last year killing his first tom a mature 3 year old bird was anxious to go out but he doesn't like getting up early. He loves to hunt though, so I got him up and he struggled to get ready. We went to our hunting place and for the first time in 12 days these turkeys did not gobble not even once, not even on the roost. I figured these birds would live to make a fool out of me another season, and the only person, at this point that knew these birds existed was Me.

I have always said, "if you like to Deer hunt you will either love to

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Turkey hunt or just plain HATE it." Well, I love it. I have to give thanks to my father-in-law who started me on turkey hunting 22 years ago, which now is my passion. I'm glad I have a loving, understanding wife, because the whole season all I do is Turkey hunt in the woods or practice calls in the house. Understand ,

continue to the next page



Madison Fields was in on catching this 11 pound hybrid.

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Chris Leppley bagged a 24 pound gobbler this season.

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I have an Anniversary on April 28th, my wife's birthday is May 13 and Mother's day is also in the mix, so like I said, I have a Great wife and family. I don't know how many others could tolerate what I do during turkey season, but my wife seems to understand me because we have been married for twenty years and she knows there will always be another Spring gobbler season and another deer season.

Back to the morning of May 19, 2010. I asked Logan where he wanted to hunt, because we have a few places to choose from. He decided not to go where I had been the last few weeks because at this point he thinks I've been telling stories about Ghost Turkeys, so we went where he wanted to go, and we had three birds gobbling but not moving just after 2 hours. I told him these birds are not going to work with us so lets go where I had been hunting and maybe the ghost gobblers will be talking back. I promised him if I could get these birds to answer me, I would get them right on top of him and he agreed to go. Understand, me and my boy have practiced for years on how to take a double kill and I decided a long time ago that the only persons I would loose a kill for, either turkey or deer would be my children and since my boy had been hunting turkeys with me for four years and

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only killing one bird, I told him if a single bird comes in, it is his. I also told him if more than one comes in I take the one on my side and you take the one on your side.

When we arrived at the hunting site my three ghost gobblers and nine hens were there. I thought to my self, I have been in this situation before and I knew it would be hard to call three old mature birds that I have hunted hard for most all season off of nine hens. So we ran and, I mean ran over 1000 yards to get to the top of this mountain and set up. Well it ends like this, two hours later after some of the hardest calling I have ever done, (you must understand why and how to use calls or your just wasting your time and educating your turkey) we picked up a fourth gobbler and we had to make a quick move to reset our position. Five minutes later without any hens, here comes four gobblers gobbling and our first double kill took place.

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son. The next day I ended up in the hospital, my heart was pounding out of my shirt for hours, they did every test possible and the doctor couldn't find anything. I told the doctor it was turkey season and we continue to the next page



Jacob Rice, from Friendly, took a nice gobbler.

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talked about the lack of sleep I had been getting. He now understood and sent me home to get some rest. I leave the hospital to go home that night and My son says “when are we going hunting in the morning”.

Last day my boy could hunt, so we saw the sunrise and had one bird in a distance answer us and we went after it climbing hills and he of course got totally silent . So at 11:00 am we decided to close the season. Turkey hunting was introduced to me by my father-in-law (Ron Southern) and I thank him for that.

I know we did not hunt together this season but I explained to him these turkeys have become personal to me and the only person that was going to be able to take one of these birds is my son so again, I apologize to my wife and my father-in-law for turkey season and by the way, my daughter that has been hunting deer since she was 6 asked me to go this year, but I said no to turkey season and explained that she needs to be a little older as she is only 13 and never sits still. She has a lot to say all the time but turkey and deer are so much different, that I think she should wait for another couple years and, she understood. Well, this season came to

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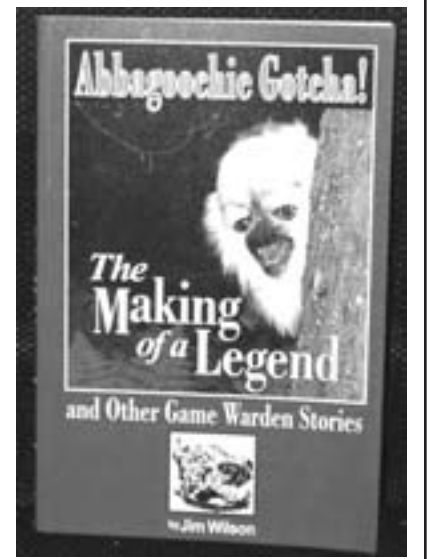
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a close and me and my son Logan are anxious for yet another year of hunting.

Let us all thank the Lord above for such miraculous animals he has given us, wild turkey and all things Big and small.



Amanda Roberts caught a big drum. Photo courtesy of jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.

CWD Update

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY, W.Va. – With the cooperation of local landowners, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR) tested 152 deer collected from within one to two miles of previously known locations of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) infected deer. Testing detected the CWD agent in a total of 12 white-tailed deer sampled during the 2010 spring collections in Hampshire County, according to the DNR.

The detection of 15 CWD positive deer during the fall 2009 hunting season, combined with this spring's testing results, has required the expansion of the CWD Containment Area to include all of Hampshire County. Within the CWD Containment Area, supplemental feeding and baiting of deer

continue to the next page

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is prohibited and there are transport restrictions for deer carcasses leaving the county.

The spring CWD monitoring of deer provides an incidence rate of infected CWD deer in the area of established infection and removes CWD positive deer from the landscape. In addition, wildlife biologists also use the information to monitor changes in age structure and reproduction in the deer herd within the established CWD infected area.

The first case of CWD in West Virginia was confirmed on September 2, 2005. Since that time, the DNR has been fully engaged in activities guided by its CWD Incident Response Plan, which is designed to accomplish the following objectives:

Determine the distribution and prevalence of CWD through enhanced surveillance efforts. Communicate and coordinate with the public and other appropriate agencies on issues relating to CWD and the steps being taken to respond to this disease.

Initiate appropriate management actions necessary to control the spread of this disease and prevent further introduction of the disease.

To date, CWD surveillance efforts conducted by the DNR have resulted in a total of 74 deer being confirmed positive for CWD in Hampshire County. Ongoing and extensive surveillance efforts being conducted by Wildlife Resources Section personnel throughout West Virginia has not detected CWD outside of Hampshire County.

CWD is a neurological disease found in deer and elk and belongs to a family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. The disease is currently accepted as being caused by abnor-


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mal, proteinaceous particles called prions that slowly attack the brain of infected deer and elk. Animals progressively become emaciated, display abnormal behavior and invariably die as a result of the disease. There is no known treatment for CWD and it is fatal for the infected deer or elk. It is important to note that currently, there is no evidence to suggest CWD poses a risk for humans or domestic animals.

“Landowner and hunter cooperation throughout this entire CWD response effort in Hampshire County continues to be excellent,” noted DNR Director Frank Jezioro. “As we strive to meet this wildlife

disease challenge and implement appropriate management strategies, the support and involvement of landowners and hunters remains essential. “



Laura McCauley, from Ravenswood, hooked several fish.

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Jerry Lantz caught a nice walleye.



John Stevens caught a drum.



Brandon Whetzel hooked a carp.

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Matthew Ciarapica hooked a bass .

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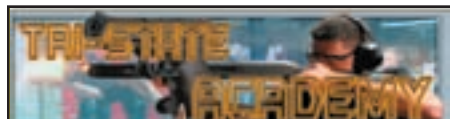
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Bodie Shockley - 8 years old - shot a 20 pound gobbler. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting in Elkins.*

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Bob Bumgardner, from Liberty, shot a near albino turkey.



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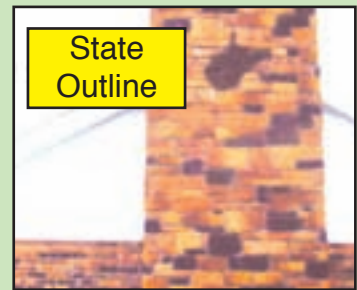
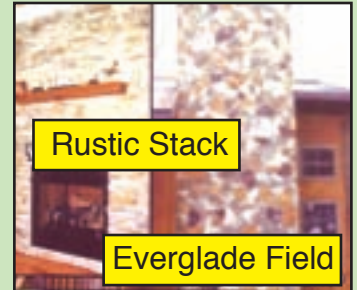
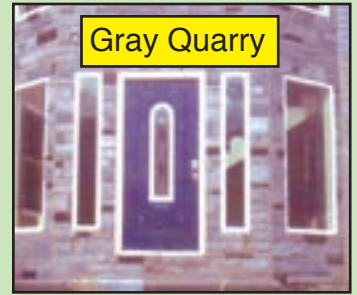
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A real large bass was hooked by-Doug Milgram. Photo courtesy of Burnsville Docks on the lake.

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Permits Available For East Bank Deer

GREEN BANK, W.Va. – The National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) in Green Bank, W.Va., has announced that applications are now available and are being accepted for the special resident-only controlled deer hunt at the NRAO site. This controlled hunt is organized and planned in cooperation with the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR).

Submitting an application enters the hunter in a drawing for a maximum of two (2) days on the NRAO site. Applications for the drawing must be received by NRAO on or before August 6, 2010. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and issued a special NRAO letter



Kevin Lunceford, from Flatwoods, killed a 355 pound black bear.

of authorization to deer hunt. Only hunters who have made application and have received a letter for a particular day or days can hunt. "Walk-ons" will not be permitted to hunt.

The controlled hunts, held for two days (October 8 and 9) under the auspices of the WVDNR, will take place on four delineated areas ranging in size from 132 acres to 1,000 acres. Each area is designated: BOW ONLY; or MUZZLE-LOADER & SHOTGUN WITH SLUGS; or MUZZLELOADER ONLY. Applicants must choose a bow or which type of firearm they wish to use during the hunt on the application.

The maximum bag limit during the NRAO hunt is two antlerless deer (one per day), except that an on-site lottery will be held each day of the hunt which will allow five hunters to hunt a deer of either sex. These are BONUS deer and do not count toward the hunter's annual licensed deer bag limit. However, participating hunters must possess appropriate West Virginia hunting licenses. All deer harvested must be checked at the official game checking station located on the NRAO site.

Due to the nature of the work at the Observatory, gasoline-powered vehicles are strictly controlled on the site. Hunters may park only in designated parking areas, and all

vehicles will be issued a "pass" for display on the windshield. Transportation from hunter check-in to some hunt areas is provided by the NRAO. For purposes of safety and biological study of harvested deer, all hunters must pass through the check-in station each morning before the day's hunt. At the end of

continue to the next page




Dave Waldron hooked a big smallmouth. Photo courtesy of Burnsville Docks on the lake.



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day's hunt, all hunters must exit through the check-out station.

Applications may be picked up at any WVDNR District Office, downloaded and printed off the DNR website www.wvdnr.gov or may be requested by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at P. O. Box 2, Green Bank, WV 24944, Attention: Hunt Coordinator. Applications are also available through email by requesting to dwirt@nrao.edu. An application and detailed instructions and regulations will be provided to each applicant. For information, call 304-456-2011 or 304-924-6211.



Mike Lawson hooked a bass. Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton.



Adam Barker & George Lambert went musky fishing. Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.

North Bend Offers Vacation Rates

North Bend State Park might hold the park system's record for the greatest number of packaged events and rates. "Our guests like shorter stays and a little something to do for a reasonable rate," says Kristi Steed, group coordinator at this Ritchie County Mecca. There are 13 packages posted on the North Bend State Park web page, not including the park's special events.

North Bend State Park features a 29-room lodge, nine vacation cabins, two campgrounds, a restaurant and outdoor attractions of a swimming pool, miniature golf, picnicking, and trails. The North Bend Rail Trail is accessible from the park. A 305-acre lake is part of the appeal for guests visiting the area.

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Packages at North Bend vary in types of accommodations and extras. The pricing for packages is always for two individuals and includes taxes and gratuities as appropriate and the total cost for continue to the next page



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the package, not a per person cost. "We get a lot of compliments on just saying what you get and the total price," says Steed. "People just want to know what they're getting and no surprises."

Some of the packaged fun at North Bend State Park includes:

"Fall" in Love with West Virginia, Sept. 12-30, is a cabin package for two nights and includes boxed lunches for two individuals and a Ritchie County welcome basket.

A "Sizzlin' Summer" package runs through Sept. 1 and includes one night at North Bend lodge plus dinner and breakfast for two and available on Sunday - Wednesday nights. For \$145 total, it is a nice summer evening getaway and the only other cost would be fuel to get you here, according to Steed.

The most popular package is "Fishing for a Deal" available from Sept. 13 - Oct. 31, 2010. It includes one night at North Bend State Park Lodge, breakfast for two at North Bend State Park Dining Room, and lure/bait for the type of fishing you want to do and specific

to the fishing conditions that day. Hess Fish and Tackle redeems the lure coupon and helps first-time anglers to North Bend find the fishing patterns on the lake. "We've made this package rate of \$99 to reel in bass fishermen and women to check out the lake," Steed says.

North Bend, like many of West Virginia's state parks, is a honeymoon destination. The Anniversary/Honeymoon package at North Bend includes lodging, breakfast with room service, a rose and other memorabilia. The Anniversary/Honeymoon package is available year-round.

History Traveler Packages combine vacation with area historical sites. "Voyage" combines a stay at North Bend with Blennerhassett Island's Regional Museum, stern-wheeler ride, Blennerhassett Mansion tours and horse-drawn wagon ride in Parkersburg. "Frontier" leads guests to Prickett's Fort State Park to experience fort history and the Job Prickett house. Both packages are based out of North Bend.

continue to the next page



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The package is for one night at North Bend lodge and entry passes for activities or facilities at the partner parks. "The package price is -- you guessed it -- \$99," Steed says. Voyage and Frontier are summer-into-fall packages and each coincides with operational hours at Blennerhassett Island Historical and Prickett's Fort state parks.

Other packages are: "Babymoon"; golf partner package with North Bend Golf Course in nearby Harrisville; Great Rates Falling; a mid-week lodge rate for "leaf peepers" in October; the Red, White and Blue packages; Country Christmas on Dec. 24-25; and, in 2011, the Great Getaway.

For more information about packages at North Bend, visit www.northbendsp.com (see "Events/Deals") or contact the park at northbend@wvdnr.gov or 304-643-2931.

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Form On Page 38



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Section Of
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POINT PLEASANT, W.Va. – Acting upon an ORDER OF CLOSURE issued by the West Virginia State Fire Marshal, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR) has closed the property know as the "McClintic Wildlife Management Area – Active Storage Area South of Potter Creek Road," in Mason County, W.Va. The West

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Virginia State Fire Marshal has ordered this area closed to public access because it constitutes a danger to life or property from the hazards

continue to the next page



Another nice musky was caught and released. *Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.*

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of fire or explosion. This Order shall remain in effect until further notice.

“Approximately 175 acres of the McClintic WMA will be affected by this closure,” said Curtis Taylor, Chief of the DNR’s Wildlife Resources Section. “The remainder of the 3,655-acre wildlife management area will continue to be open for public use.”

The closed area includes that portion of McClintic WMA South of Potter Creek Road where the active storage bunkers are located. These bunkers were originally built by the U.S. Army to store munitions during World War II. In 1949, these lands were deeded to the State of West Virginia by the U.S. Army for the purpose of fish and wildlife conservation. The DNR now leases several of these bunkers for storage purposes to private individuals and companies.

One of these leased bunkers on McClintic WMA exploded early in the morning on May 17, 2010. Fortunately, no injuries were reported as a result of this explosion. The incident is still under investigation by the West Virginia State Fire Marshal and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

According to the West Virginia State Fire Marshal, the ORDER OF CLOSURE will remain in effect until the Fire Marshal or other court or ruling body enters a future Order on this matter. For additional information, please contact the DNR’s McClintic District Office (304-675-0871) or the West Virginia State Fire Marshal’s office (304-558-2191).

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S	A	E	R	D	L	L	S	N	O	S	W	S	L	L	L	I	E	B	R
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D	D	O	B	A	E	R	B	E	A	R	A	E	A	U	R	L	R	O	T
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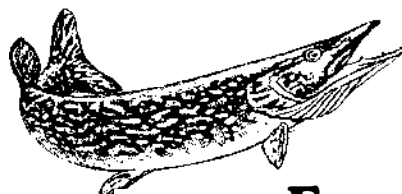
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