



FREE

"The where to and how to magazine for the outdoor enthusiast."

Vol. 1 Issue 180

June 2008



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Braxton
Trip**

**FLW
News**

**DNR
Updates**

Outdoor Photos

7th Annual Summer Bash 2008

Sponsored by & Profits to benefit the:

Ellenboro Volunteer Fire Department

Held at the Legendary Pennsboro Speedway in Pennsboro, West Virginia!

Great Food & Drinks provided at Noon on **Saturday**, July 26, 2008 at no charge to Ticket Holder & **One** Paid Guest - See Rules for Details.

Drawings held on **Saturday, July 26, 2008**
Gates open on **Thursday, July 24, 2008**

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EARLY BIRD 1: 20 Additional Chances of \$500.00 for 2008 Summer Bash stubs returned to the Ellenboro VFD by Noon on March 29th, 2008

EARLY BIRD 2: 16 Additional Chances of \$500.00 & 2 Chances of \$1,000.00 for 2008 Summer Bash stubs returned to the Ellenboro VFD by Noon on May 31st, 2008

Featuring **JOE DIFFIE** on Friday, July 25, 2008 at 9 PM. You must be a \$100.00 – 2008 Summer Bash ticket holder in order to attend. Joe Diffie's performance will be followed by fireworks, weather permitting. Ticket guest payment **ONLY** applies to Saturday's Summer Bash...**Not Friday's** performance. See Rules for Details. There will be entertainment on Saturday beginning at 9 PM.



You must be at least 18 years of age to be in the campground or on the drawing grounds **at any time. No Exceptions!**

JOE DIFFIE Summer Bash
Friday **Saturday**
July 25, 2008 **July 26, 2008**

Credit Card orders **ONLY** on our website through **PayPal** until sold out **or** Saturday, July 12, 2008 at 5 p.m. (whichever comes first). You **Do Not** have to be a member of PayPal in order to purchase our tickets through them. No Telephone Orders!

TIME PRIZE

- 3:45 - \$2,500.00
- 3:50 - Ruger Red Label
- 3:55 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion
- 4:00 - 2008 Ford Sport Trac 4x4
- 4:05 - Remington 870 12 ga
- 4:10 - Remington 700 CDL
- 4:15 - \$2,500.00
- 4:20 - Weatherby Orion Upland
- 4:25 - \$2,000.00
- 4:30 - 2008 G-3 188 Pontoon Boat
- 4:35 - Ruger Hawkeye
- 4:40 - Tikka T-3 Hunter
- 4:45 - \$1,500.00
- 4:50 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 4:55 - \$2,000.00
- 5:00 - 2008 Lincoln MKX AWD
- 5:05 - Remington 700 CDL
- 5:10 - Remington 870 12 ga
- 5:15 - \$2,000.00
- 5:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion
- 5:25 - \$1,500.00
- 5:30 - 2008 Harley-Davidson Fatboy
- 5:35 - \$2,000.00
- 5:40 - Weatherby Seven CDL
- 5:45 - \$1,500.00
- 5:50 - Ruger Hawkeye
- 5:55 - Remington 700 CDL
- 6:00 - 2008 Mercedes-Benz SLK 280
- 6:05 - Browning A-Bolt Micro Hunter
- 6:10 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 6:15 - \$2,000.00
- 6:20 - Remington 700 CDL
- 6:25 - \$1,500.00
- 6:30 - 2008 Glastron MX 175 Pleasure Boat
- 6:35 - \$1,500.00
- 6:40 - \$2,000.00
- 6:45 - \$1,500.00
- 6:50 - Cabelas Hunting Trip
- 6:55 - \$3,000.00
- 7:00 - 10-\$1,000.00 Winners
(Match WV Daily 3 Last Numbers)
- 7:00 - \$100,000.00 (Match WV Daily 4 Exactly)

Ticket #s 0000-1111-2222-3333-4444-5555-6666-7777-8888-9999 Instant Winners of \$1,000.00

TIME PRIZE

- NOON - 2008 Silverado Crew Cab 4x4
- 12:05 - \$2,000.00
- 12:10 - Ruger Red Label
- 12:15 - \$2,000.00
- 12:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion
- 12:25 - \$1,500.00
- 12:30 - 2008 Yamaha Grizzly 4x4
- 12:35 - Remington 700 CDL
- 12:40 - \$2,500.00
- 12:45 - \$2,500.00 LeRoy's Shopping Spree
- 12:50 - Tikka T-3 Laminated
- 12:55 - \$1,500.00
- 1:00 - 2008 Pontiac Solstice Conv
- 1:05 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 1:10 - Ruger Hawkeye
- 1:15 - 2008 Camper
- 1:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion
- 1:25 - \$2,000.00
- 1:30 - 2008 Ranger 170 VX Bass Boat
- 1:35 - Weatherby Orion Upland
- 1:40 - Remington 700 CDL
- 1:45 - \$1,500.00
- 1:50 - Ruger Red Label
- 1:55 - \$2,500.00
- 2:00 - 2008 Toyota Tundra 4x4
- 2:05 - Tikka T-3 Laminated
- 2:10 - \$1,500.00
- 2:15 - \$2,000.00
- 2:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion
- 2:25 - \$2,500.00
- 2:30 - 2008 Harley-Davidson Softail Heritage
- 2:35 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 2:40 - Remington 11-87 Prem Super Mag 12 ga
- 2:45 - 2008 Polaris 300 4 x 4
- 2:50 - Thompson/Center Encore Shotgun 12 ga
- 2:55 - Ruger Hawkeye
- 3:00 - 2008 GMC Acadia AWD
- 3:05 - Remington 700 CDL
- 3:10 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 3:15 - \$2,000.00
- 3:20 - Tikka T-3 Laminated
- 3:25 - Remington Seven CDL
- 3:30 - 2008 Yamaha Rhino 450 4x4
- 3:35 - \$2,000.00
- 3:40 - Ruger Hawkeye

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Magazine

Volume 1 Issue 180

Publisher and Editor
Mark A. Goudy

Contributing Editors
West Virginia Division Of
Natural Resources

No Subscriptions Offered

W.Va. Sportsman is a monthly publication.

W.Va. Sportsman

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Cover Photo

A huge 3 pound, 6 ounce crappie was landed by Jake McClelland. He was fishing at a Putnam County pond when he landed this fish in April.

Fishing around the state has been very productive this season. Enjoy the outdoors and take a fishing trip this year. There are many nice places to fish in WV.

Look for this magazine online.
www.wvasportsman.net
Photo courtesy of Justin's Fishing and Hunting in Huntington.

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Terminal Bass Tackle

Unlike the pros, who carry the entire Wal-Mart fishing aisle in their boat, co-anglers are limited to a tackle pack of their favorite baits. The problem arises when a pro begins to reel bass in on every cast, and the co-angler does not have that particular bait in his or her limited selection.

Fortunately, tournament bass anglers are a fairly decent lot. Most of the time a pro is more than happy to let a co-angler borrow a version of the hot bait, provided that the pro has a few extra in that miniature tackle shop under the deck.

Borrowing spinner baits, crankbaits and even soft plastics is usually not a problem. But co-anglers should not have to rely on pros for terminal tackle.

Terminal tackle is considered the nuts and bolts of bass-fishing tackle: hooks, weights, swivels, beads,

rattles, etc.

Most pros probably would not mind lending a co-angler terminal tackle, it's just expected that you will bring your own nuts and bolts to the project. Additionally, terminal tackle involves a great deal of personal taste and preference that translates into confidence.

A purple worm is a purple worm; however, a pro may like to rig his with a straight shank hook and a pegged bullet weight, and you may like yours with an offset hook and a screw-in weight.

Next to rods and reels, a terminal tackle box is one of the most important fishing items a co-angler carries. That box should be stocked with a complete selection of terminal tackle to handle any situation.

Over the years, I have developed
continue to the next page

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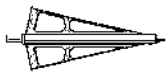
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Robert Lilly hooked a bass. Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.

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Game
Check



Shawn Ramme, Jim Carpenter and AJ Rhodes caught a lot of fish. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.

June 2008 ~ Page 4

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a terminal tackle box that can adapt to nearly any condition a pro can throw at me.

Hooks

Essentially, I use two Plano 3620 boxes for terminal tackle. These boxes are small, flat, compact and come with plenty of dividers to organize lots of small items.

I use one box for hooks and one box for weights. For hooks, I carry four different styles of worm hooks: offset, straight shank, extra wipe gap (EWG) and bait clip. For each hook style, I carry 1/0 through 5/0 sizes. Considering I have about seven to 10 of each style and size, I have between 150 and 200 hooks that must have some kind of order.

One trick I use to keep hooks organized is to use rubber bands to keep them bundled in groups. Normally, I use rubber bands on the hooks that I do not use as often.

I also carry plenty of extra treble hooks (Nos. 2, 4 and 6) and spinner-bait trailer hooks with keepers. If I borrow a hard bait or spinner bait from a pro with stock hooks or no trailer hook, I can customize the bait to my standards without bothering the pro for extra hooks.

Weights



Brad Berga and his son & nephew admire a bass.. Photo courtesy of Backwater Bait in Newport, Ohio.

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Hooks are the easy part; weights are more complex. These days it takes a degree in metallurgy to understand all the weights needed to bass fish.

Just in terms of weight styles, there are bullets, screw-in bullets, barrels, split shots, mojos, drop-shots, nails and even stick-on

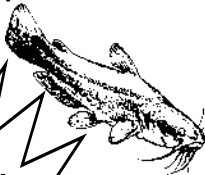


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weights. Each one of these styles has as many as 10 sizes. Then consider the new tungsten weights, and suddenly getting a worm to the bottom becomes an engineering project.

Managing such an assortment of weights need not be difficult. Simply use the dividers to make spaces for each size of weight: 1/16, 1/8, 3/16, 1/4, etc. I have two separate compartments for each weight size. For example in the 3/16-ounce slot, I have two compartments. I put bullets in one and screw-in bullets in the other.

Besides for bullets and barrels, the other types of weights I carry are drop-shot, split shot, nail and stick-on weights.

Nail weights are inserted into Flukes or Senkos for a faster fall. Stick-on weights, like Storm's SuspensStrips, are great for quickly modifying jerkbaits and crankbaits into "suspending" baits.

The most versatile weights I carry



Grayson Payne went to Mountain Meadows for this wild boar. Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers In Beckley.

are 1/8-ounce rubber-core sinkers. These clamp-on weights with a rubber core are a co-angler's best friend. The modifications that can be made with these sinkers are numerous. I remove the rubber core and clamp them on spinner baits, jigs and the hook shanks of soft jerkbaits for expedient weighting. I have also used them to make make-shift mojo rigs.

Toothpicks and rubber inserts, called "T-stops" by some anglers, are great for pegging weights. The stretchy rubber inserts that look like nails are pulled through the weight to snug the weight to the line.

Rattles are also a co-angler's best friend. A rattle stuffed inside a tube or lizard can add a little extra noise to the bait and a little extra confidence to the mind.

A good terminal box should also contain the beads, swivels and weights needed to make Carolina rigs. Film canisters make efficient containers for these tiny items.

With a well-stocked selection of terminal tackle, a co-angler can quickly adapt to changes in techniques without having to bug a pro.

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William Clinton, from Ripley, took a nice 8 point.

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Boating Course

To legally operate a motorboat in West Virginia, passing a mandatory boater education course is required for anyone born after December 31, 1986. This requirement became law in January 2001. West Virginia Division of Natural Resources law enforcement officers are scheduling boater education classes at numerous locations across the state. These classes have been sparsely attended in the past, despite numerous announcements, according to Lt. Tim Coleman, state coordinator for the DNR boating education program.

“Conservation officers, while on patrol or attending public meetings, have been advising the boating public of the requirement for the boater education class since the law became effective,” Lt. Coleman said. “With the increase in recreational motor boat traffic, personal watercraft use, numerous commercial watercraft on larger rivers and the increased use of vessels of all descriptions, it has become imperative that all boat operators become familiar with boating laws and safety rules. This will ensure that all of our boaters, fishermen, and swimmers enjoy a safe, enjoyable, accident free day on the water. We hope more of the public will take advantage of these classes before taking to the water this summer.”

Conservation officers have begun a statewide enforcement effort on the boater education requirement. Citations will be issued to individuals who do not meet the requirements of the boater education law and to the owner or the person in charge of a motorboat or personal watercraft (jet ski) who allows these vessels to be operated in violation of boating laws and regulations.

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Boater education classes cover general boating knowledge, what to do before you get underway, how to operate your boat safely, legal requirements of boating and what to do in case of a boating emergency. Classes are conducted by West Virginia conservation officers and volunteer boater education instructors. The Coast Guard Auxiliary also conducts boater education classes. Students who successfully complete these classes will be issued a boater education certificate which will allow them to operate a motorboat nationwide.

Find out about boater education classes in your area by contacting your local conservation officer or

a DNR district office, by calling 1-800-243-9968, or on the Web at www.wvhunterd.com. Online boater education courses which meet state law requirements may be accessed at www.boatus.org or by following the www.wvdnr.gov Web links.



Pete Kellar, from Creston, hooked a 47" musky.

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Michael DeFazio, from Nutter Fort, caught an 8 pound Stonewall Jackson bass.



Dylan Melrose hooked a 33" flat-head on a rubber worm. Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.



Bob Arthur, from Washington, landed a big Ohio River catfish.

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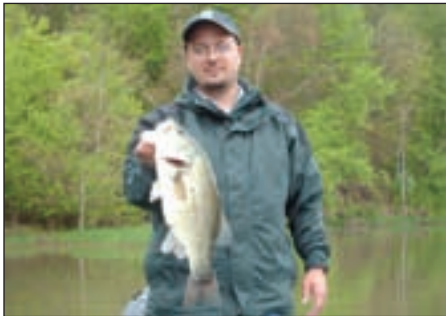
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Andrew Albert, from St. Albans, landed a 5 pound, 9 oz. bass.



Jason Toth, caught a nice Stonewall Jackson musky..

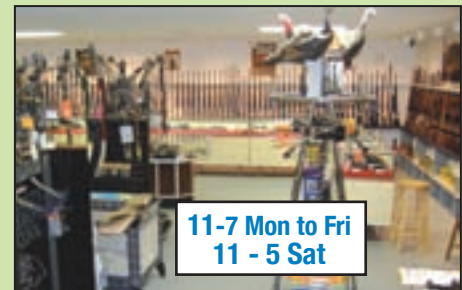


Garrett Albert, from St. Albans, hooked a 4 pound largemouth.

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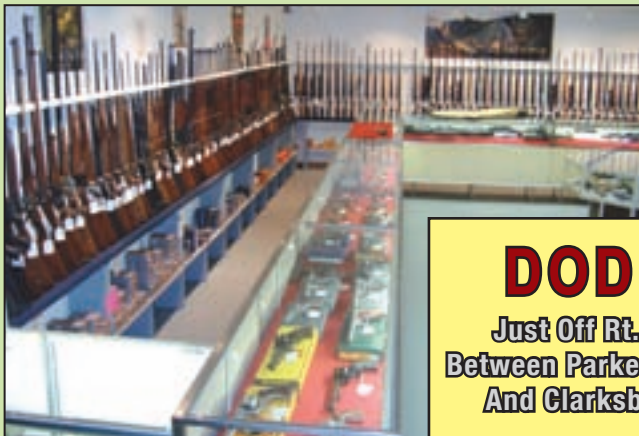
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Michell Lee, from Dunbar, hooked a 24" brown trout



Todd Tatterson caught a 48 pound flathead. Photo courtesy of Family Fishing in Grafton.



Josh Murray used a bow for this gobbler. Photo courtesy of Stacher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.

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Bob Harkness brought in a nice gobbler *Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.*



Donnel Keller landed a nice large-mouth bass. *Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.*



Dana Dean hooked a big small-mouth bass. *Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.*

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Hunters Helping The Hungry Benefits

The West Virginia Hunters Helping the Hungry (HHH) Program was recently presented a check for \$17,000 from the Governor's One-Shot Whitetail Hunt and Banquet, held December 2-3, 2007, with Stonewall Resort State Park serving as the home base, according to Division of Natural Resources Director Frank Jezioro.

The idea for this HHH fundraising event came from the top of West Virginia State government after W.Va. Governor Joe Manchin III and other governors participated in a One Shot Antelope event in Lander, Wyoming in early 2007. Because of the success of this hunt, he decided to bring that experience to West Virginia – where white-tail deer hunting opportunities are among the best in the East. It was thought the HHH Program, which relies solely on donations and not sportsmen's license dollars, would be a prime candidate for a fundraising event.

On the opening day of the 2007 antlerless deer season, Gov. Manchin; Wyoming Gov. Dave Freudenthal; West Virginia native Brig. Gen. Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager, USAF, retired; and DNR Director Frank Jezioro joined nine two-person teams to help raise funds for
continue to the next page

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Roger Randolph caught a 15 1/2" crappie. *Photo courtesy of River-Side Bait in Hockingport, Ohio.*



TC Freeman landed two nice small-mouth. *Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods.*



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the HHH Program through an organized hunt. During the hunt, 16 hunters bagged antlerless deer on participating private farms. Monies were raised for the HHH Program through sponsorships and an auction at the evening banquet.

“Proceeds from this hunt will go a long way in providing nutritious meals to the state’s less fortunate through our partnerships with the Mountaineer Food Bank, food pantries, and soup kitchens throughout West Virginia,” said Jezioro. “On behalf of the HHH Program, we are extremely grateful for the generosity shown by the Governor’s One-Shot Whitetail Hunt participants. Without the active participation of the West Virginia business and industrial community, elected government officials, and distinguished guests, this fund-raising event would not have been such a success. The 2008 event is being planned now and looks to be even bigger and better, which will further benefit the HHH Program.”

The upcoming 2008 season marks the 17th consecutive year that the Division of Natural Resources has sponsored the HHH program.



The big hybrid bass have been biting at the locks. Photo courtesy of Amish Country Store in Marmet.

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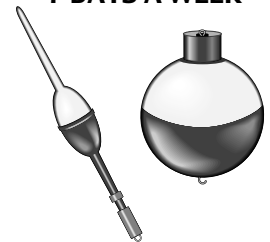
www.mountainmeadow.net

Because the HHH Program is in constant need of funds to offset processing, distribution and warehousing costs, monetary donations are accepted year-round. For more

information on the HHH Program or to make a donation, refer to the HHH Program Web site at: www.wvdnr.gov/Hunting/HHH.shtm or call 304-558-2771.

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Fall Women In The Outdoors Event

It's time to register for the fifth annual Women in the Outdoors Event to be held at Kanawha State Forest on July 26, according to Frank Jezioro, Director of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources.

"The focus of the event is to provide women an opportunity to learn outdoor activities with a hands-on experience," Jezioro said. "Although women make up half the population in West Virginia, they make up a much smaller percentage of those who take the time enjoy outdoor activities."

During this one day event, which is being co-sponsored by the National Wild Turkey Federation's Women in the Outdoors program, women will have the opportunity to participate in four 90 minute classes throughout the day: archery, birding, biking, camping, first aid, fishing, fly tying, outdoor cooking, outdoor crafts, outdoor survival, shooting, stream ecology, talkin' turkey, and what's in the woods.

If you've ever wanted to learn an outdoor skill, but were unsure of the equipment needed or what's all involved, this field day is a wonderful opportunity to explore these areas. Experienced volunteer instructors will provide hands-on training throughout the day. In ad-

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dition, women participating in the event will be eligible for door prizes, various raffles, and a silent auction that will include various items such as wildlife prints, sculptures and quilts.

A registration fee of \$40 (if post-marked by June 1) or \$45 is required to cover the cost of training, materials, lunch, one year subscription to the Women in the Outdoors Magazine, and a gift. Ages 14-17 must attend with a parent or legal guardian.

For more information concerning this event or to register, visit the DNR's Web site at www.wvdnr.gov, call 304-558-2771



Austin Stack caught a 31 1/2 pound flathead. Photo courtesy of River-Side Bait in Hockingport, Ohio.



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Archery In The Schools Program

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Section will be hosting its next training for the Archery in the Schools Program on July 8 - 9, 2008, at the Sportsman's Refuge at Cheat Lake near Morgantown, according to Jerry Westfall, Program Coordinator.

"Since its inception in 2004, more than 30,000 students have been introduced to archery as part of their physical education classes in 140 schools, making it one of DNR's largest and fastest growing educational programs," said Westfall. "Several schools from the Morgantown area have already been actively participating in the program for some time. However, with this training, DNR hopes to reach the remaining schools located in Monongalia and surrounding counties."



Preston Polombo landed a 8 1/4 pound rainbow. *Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.*

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"I'd like to encourage schools, especially the ones located in north-central West Virginia, to take advantage of this training and get involved in this program," said Don Chapman, State Physical Education Coordinator for the West Virginia Department of Education. "It's our mission as educators to introduce our students to activities going beyond the classroom. The Archery in the Schools Program has become the perfect model for this. In

fact, I have personally experienced our students' enthusiasm and have seen firsthand this program's success with hundreds in attendance at state archery tournaments."

Teachers interested in attending this free training have until June 15 to sign up. However, because of the hands-on training, classroom size is limited to only 25 teachers and slots are only available on a first-come first-serve basis. Teachers interested in receiving the required two-day training are encouraged to sign up early. In addition to the training being free, teachers attending the two-day class may also be eligible to receive a Continuing Education Credit.

For additional information on West Virginia's Archery in the Schools Program or to attend this training, please visit the DNR's Web site at www.wvdnr.gov or call (304) 558-2771.



Derrick George, from Winton, shot an Ohio 18 point buck.

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Blennerhassett Island Events

Visitors to Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park near Parkersburg in Wood County typically arrive during the daytime hours throughout the summer, but there are special evening cruises scheduled as well, according to Donna Smith, Park Superintendent.

“Island Frolic, Family Fireworks, Sunday Sundae, and the Mansion by Candlelight were well attended last year and we are pleased to offer these island experiences for everyone, including folks who live nearby but maybe have never visited the island,” Smith explains.

• Island Frolic is scheduled for June 14, 18, July 12, 26 and August 30 and rewards guests with a sternwheeler ride down the Ohio River to historic Blennerhassett Island at sunset. This evening event includes



Johnny Cobb landed a big smallmouth at the Marmet Locks. *Photo courtesy of Amish Country Store in Marmet.*

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a narrated horse-drawn wagon ride, 1/2 hour free bicycle ride for children (13 and under), and a picnic snack of a hot dog, chips and a drink. Other food items are available for purchase. The Friends of Blennerhassett Gift Shop will be open.

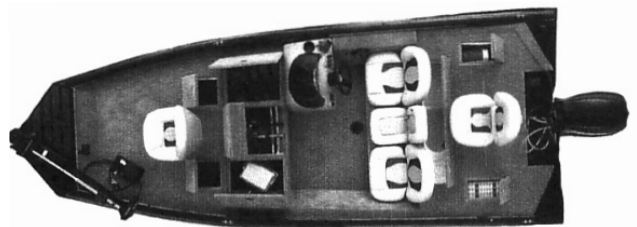
• The best seat for viewing Family Fireworks on August 16 is on Blennerhassett Island or while

floating nearby on the Ohio River. The Island snack stand will be open when passengers are island bound, and then it's onto the sternwheeler for river-front seating to view Parkersburg's Homecoming Fireworks display. There also is an option of watching the fireworks from the island. Family Fireworks boards at Civitan Park in Belpre, Ohio.

continue to the next page



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- The Sunday Sundae Cruise on July 20 and again on September 14 and 28 is a West Virginia three-hour tour that includes everyone's favorite, ice cream, plus a sunset cruise around the island! This trip includes an island stop for your Sunday Sundae treat, and then a Blennerhassett Island and Ohio River evening cruise.
- Mansion by Candlelight is scheduled for two nights only on October 10 and 11 and it is the high point



Gary Heflin Jr. caught a 42 pound catfish. *Photo courtesy of Family Fishing in Grafton.*

of summer ambience, according to Pam Salisbury of Blennerhassett Island State Park. "Sternwheeler rides transport our guests back to the year 1805, where the Blennerhassetts are hosting a party on the island," Salisbury explains. "On these two evenings the electricity is banished and the mansion and island are flame-lit, much like the early 19th century." Music, danc-



Tom Barnes caught a big Stonewall Jackson Lake largemouth. *Photo courtesy of River-side Bait in Hockingport, Ohio.*

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ing and a harvest dinner are some of the evening activities offered.

Reservations are required for evening events and available by phoning the park at (304) 420-4800. For additional information about the island, the Blennerhassett Mansion, activities, and museum and island hours, contact Blennerhassett Island State Park at (304) 420-4800 or go online to www.wvstateparks.com and click on Blennerhassett Island or Evening Cruises on the State Parks main page. A calendar of events at all WV State Park and Forests is available by mail or on the Web site and the special events at state parks and forests are also posted to the individual Web pages such as www.blennerhassettisland-statepark.com.

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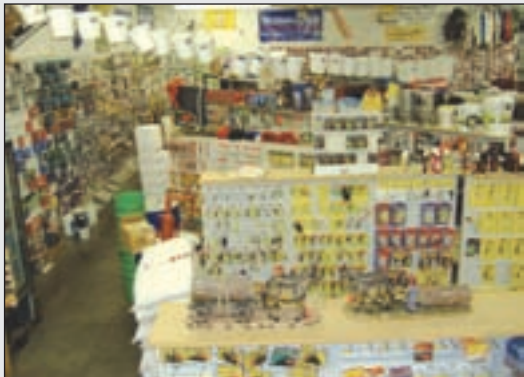
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Jeremy Hescht caught a 6 1/4 pound Stonewall bass. *Photo courtesy of Backwater Bait in Newport, Ohio.*



Jason Reed landed a 32 1/2 pound flathead. *Photo courtesy of River-side Bait in Hockingport, Ohio*

**Mail In Your BIG FISH Pictures
From The 2008 Season.
Form Is On Page 38**



Dave Starcher hooked a big large-mouth. *Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.*

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Justin Whited and Dusty Wolverton caught some large Little Kanawha flatheads. Photo courtesy of Hobert's Store in Big Bend.



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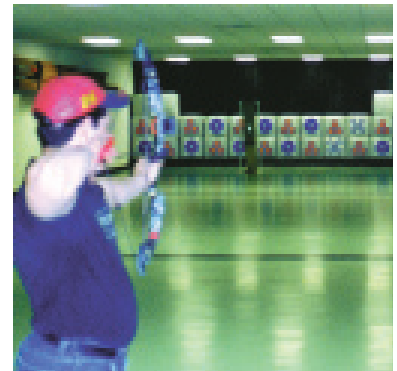
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Chris Kinsey completed her turkey grand slam with this bird. Photo courtesy Stacher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.



Scott Graham bagged a 24 1/2 pound gobbler. Photo courtesy Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.



Brad Berga landed a walleye in the Ohio River. Photo courtesy Backwater Bait in Newport, Ohio.

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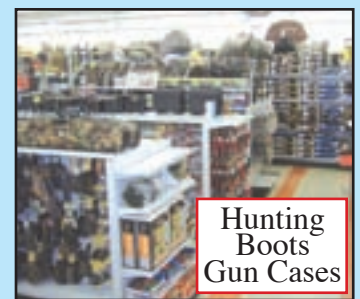


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Braxton County Fishing Trip

Looking for a great place to spend some vacation time without using a lot of gasoline? That seems to be a valid concern these days. There are many places in West Virginia that offer entertainment without having to travel long distances.

I recently took a fishing trip to Sutton and Burnsville lakes and had a very enjoyable trip. Outdoor writers Chris Lawrence, Metro News, Stephanie Coh, the Dominion Post, and I were invited by the Braxton County Convention and Visitors Bureau to visit their county.

Our group arrived at the Flatwoods Days Hotel to meet with the Braxton CVB representatives. Our plan was to have some fine dining



Andy Godwin caught two nice Sutton Lake bass along with others. Photo courtesy of Mid-State Marina in Sutton.

at the Cafe Cimino Country Inn to go over our plans for the upcoming fishing trip.

Cafe Cimino, located in the downtown Sutton Historic District, specializes in Southern Italian Cuisine and European dishes, using the finest ingredients - including some grown on the owners' farm. The restaurant surrounds its' visitors with charm - from the ornate original metal ceiling and the original American Chestnut floor, to the view of other historic buildings on Main Street from your seat in the dining room. 400 4th Street, Sutton, WV - 304-765-2913 877-9CIMINO www.cafecimino.com

Our dinner was excellent and the owner took us on a tour of their establishment. They have several rooms available in the main house and also in the Carriage House and Suite. The Main House was built in 1898 and features numerous stained glass windows. A gourmet style breakfast is included for occupants.

After spending the night at the Days Hotel, we met with the fishermen guides at the CVB office in the morning.

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Our plan was to spend around one-half day on Sutton Lake and the rest of the day on Burnsville Lake. Each writer was assigned to a local Ranger Pro from Mid-State Marina in Sutton (800)640-7329.

continue to the next page



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I was assigned to fish with Rob Grabow, from Bridgeport. Talk about riding in style - Rob, sponsored by Muninn Group, owns a 2008 Ranger Z520 Comanche, powered by a 250 HP Mercury. Other Ranger guides were Josh Querry, Mark and Andy Godwin.

We launched his boat and proceeded down the lake. Rob's plan was to fish with Zoom flukes

(pearl) for post spawn bass. Good choice! His first cast resulted in a 16" largemouth catch. Sutton Lake is very clear and you actually see the fish come up to hit your bait. I was fishing in the back of the boat, by choice, and watched Rob catch six keeper size (over 12") bass during our four hour trip. Not really a fluke fisherman myself, I was observing his fishing techniques on these baits.

We met back with our group at the ramp. Numerous bass were caught by the four boats with the biggest being around three pounds. Sutton Lake offers excellent fishing. Lots of rocks and lay-down trees provide excellent cover for the fish. If you enjoy bass fishing, try this deep and clear lake for spotted and



Rob Grabow, from Bridgeport, caught 6 keeper bass on the fishing trip. *Photo courtesy of the Muninn Group in Bridgeport.*

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largemouth bass.

Our next destination was Burnsville Lake. This lake is the beginning water for the Little Kanawha River. Lake clarity varies, based on the rainfall. We fished from noon to four o'clock. I did a little better on this lake. I prefer rubber
continue to the next page



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worms on these types of water. I managed to catch two nice keepers on a June bug and chartreuse laminated V&M worm. Rob had success on surface jerk baits.

Burnsville Lake still has lots of sunken and exposed trees for its main fish cover. Small bays jut out from the main stem. This lake is known for extra large largemouth bass. Some spotted bass are also present. Through the years, many large catfish have been featured on the cover of this magazine from this lake. Plus, monster size musky are very prevalent. If you like big fish, Burnsville Lake offers anglers the opportunity for trophy sized fish.


Our group had a good afternoon on this lake, too. Lots of nice bass were landed along with - guess what - a big musky. Mark Godwin was using a surface plug that was inhaled by a forty-two inch musky. Many bass fishermen inadvertently catch musky on this body of water. There was another boat that was crappie fishing that also hooked a forty plus musky that day as well.

Once again, West Virginia offers outstanding fishing nearby. Try out either Burnsville or Sutton Lakes this season.

Boat rentals are offered at both



Mark Godwin got hooked with a 42" musky while bass fishing at Burnsville Lake. Photo courtesy of Chris Lawrence - Metro News.

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lakes. Call Burnsville Docks - (304)853-2822. They offer gas powered jon boats and pontoon boats. Fishing guides for these two lakes can be obtained through them. Bee Run Docks at Sutton Lake - (304) 765-2120, has pontoon boats and overnight house boats for rent. They also provide evening dinner cruises on their sternwheel vessel.

For more information on Braxton County, go to their website for listings of accommodations and attractions - www.braxtonwv.org Or call Christa Shaver, executive

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Jimmy George, from Charleston, landed a 38 pound catfish.

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Deer Test Positive For CWD

Test results have detected the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) agent in a total of 11 white-tailed deer collected during the 2008 spring collections in Hampshire County, West Virginia, according to the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR). All of the deer testing positive for CWD were collected by Wildlife Resources Section personnel working in the Slanesville/Augusta area of the county. No new positive samples were detected in the Yellow Springs area of Hampshire County.

These collections have been designed to investigate and determine



Angie Piggot bagged a gobbler with a 10" beard. *Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.*

the prevalence and distribution of the disease in Hampshire County. In addition, wildlife biologists are carefully monitoring changes in the structure of the deer herd within the CWD containment area.

The first case of CWD in West Virginia was confirmed on September 2, 2005. Since that time, 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.

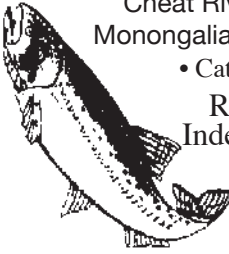
To date, CWD surveillance efforts continue to the next page

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Grayson Payne shot a big gobbler on the Youth Day. *Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawwnbrkers in Beckley.*

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conducted by DNR have resulted in a total of 31 deer being confirmed positive for CWD in Hampshire County. These include 30 deer in the Slanesville/Augusta area and one deer in the Yellow Springs area. Despite ongoing and extensive surveillance efforts being conducted by Wildlife Resources Section personnel throughout West Virginia, CWD has not been detected outside of Hampshire County.

CWD is a neurological disease found in deer and elk, and it belongs to a family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. The disease is thought to be caused by abnormal, proteinaceous particles called prions that slowly attack the brain of infected deer and elk, causing the animals to progressively become emaciated, display abnormal behavior and invariably results in the death of the infected animal.

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



Travis Carver hooked a 48 pound flathead. *Photo courtesy of Bowlistic Archery in Chelyan.*

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humans or domestic animals.

"Landowner and hunter cooperation throughout this entire CWD surveillance effort in Hampshire County has been excellent," noted DNR Director Frank Jezioro. "As we strive to meet this wildlife disease challenge and implement appropriate management strategies, the continued support and involvement of landowners and hunters will be essential." DNR remains committed to keeping the public informed and involved in these wildlife disease management actions. "We would especially like to thank all the cooperating landowners in Hampshire County for allowing our personnel to enter their property and collect deer for CWD testing," said Jezioro.

"Our well trained and professional wildlife biologists, wildlife managers and conservation officers are working diligently to fully implement the DNR's CWD Incident Response Plan, which is designed to effectively address this wildlife disease threat," said Jezioro. "Hunters, landowners and



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other members of the public should feel confident that we have some of the best wildlife biologists and veterinarians in the world, including those stationed at the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study in Athens, Georgia, working collaboratively on this situation."

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Winners based on the WV Daily Three for October, 2008. Guns on display at Wheeler's Sporting Goods. Proceeds to benefit the Randolph County Humane Society. One gun each lottery day. Winning tickets taken from the WV Daily Three Lottery. Winners pick up the guns at Wheeler's Sporting Goods, Rt. 33 East Elkins, WV 304-636-3430. Donation: 1 ticket for \$20.

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- 7 Crickett 22 Bolt Pink
- 8 Stevens 200 22-250 Bolt
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- 10 Mossberg Mod. 8-17 HMR Bolt
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- 21 Stoeger 12 Ga. Coach BBL
- 22 Stevens 200 7mm 08 Camo Bolt
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Andy Godwin was bass fishing at Burnsville Lake when he hooked this giant musky. *Photo courtesy of Mid-State Marina in Sutton.*



Don Ketterman, from Petersburg, hunted in Mason County for this 3 bearded turkey.



Larry Bradley landed a 41" Greenbrier River musky. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.*



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Don Salisbury caught this 40" musky on the Hughes River. *Photo courtesy of Ace Hardware in Pennsboro.*

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Jill Buckley landed a nice Ohio River catfish. Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.



Danny Frazier caught a 6 pound, 6 oz. smallmouth. Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.



The big smallmouth has been biting at the Marmet Locks. Photo courtesy of Amish Country Store in Marmet.

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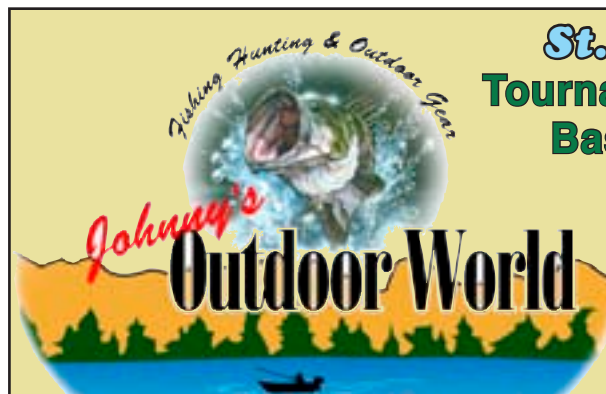
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Ryan Lester, 5 and from Bluefield, caught a bass on the New River.



Daniel McFee, from Wirt County, caught a musky.

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Young Justin Lovell hooked a big smallmouth. *Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.*



Jeremy Thompson landed two nice bass. *Photo courtesy of Backwater Bait in Newport, Ohio.*



Young Grayson Payne hooked a 7 1/2 pound rainbow. *Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.*

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Gerald Shoemaker, from Berkley Springs, hooked this 5 pound, 8 oz. Capon River smallmouth.

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2008 Turkey Harvest Down

Hunters in West Virginia harvested 9,895 turkeys during the 2008 spring gobbler season, according to Frank Jezioro, Director of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR). Preliminary harvest figures indicate this year's spring turkey harvest was about the same as last year's harvest (less than 1 percent lower than the 9,965 birds taken in 2007).

The top five counties this spring were Mason (396), Preston (371), Jackson (319), Wood (316) and Harrison (291). Thirty-five of the state's 55 counties had lower harvests this year. Three districts had lower harvests this year with District 2 (11 percent lower), District 6 (4 percent lower) and District 4 (2 percent lower) decreasing in harvest when compared to 2007. Three districts had higher harvests



Bubby Stoddard and Tom Creed caught a big stringer along with a 6 pound smallmouth. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.*



Bill Shawver bagged a 23 pound bird. *Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.*

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rates with District 5 having the largest increase at 5 percent. The highest harvests were reported in DNR District 1 (2,184), followed continue to the next page



Doug Belcher shot a 20 pound gobbler. *Photo courtesy of Bowlistic Archery in Chelyan.*

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by District 6 (1,944), District 4 (1,868), District 5 (1,705), District 3 (1,372) and District 2 (822).

“The reduced gobbling activity and a slightly lower harvest rate this past spring were the result of cold and wet rains, particularly during the first week of the season,” according to Curtis Taylor, DNR Wildlife Resources Section Chief.

Biologists had predicted a slightly higher spring gobbler harvest in 2008 than in 2007, based on better-than-average brood reports the past two years. Wildlife Biologists have

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determined the level of brood production accurately forecasts spring turkey harvests two years later, as these older birds tend to gobble more and are more susceptible to harvest. Field reports indicated that

hunting pressure in many areas of the state was lower than normal. Also, higher gas prices may have kept hunters from traveling to favorite hunting grounds. Hunters can look forward to better spring gobbler hunting next year, since brood production was good in 2007.



Braxton Cooper, 6 years old, and dad Kenny, brought in 2 turkeys. It was Braxton's 1st. *Photo courtesy of Bowlistic Archery in Chelyan.*



Boonie Gowans caught a 22 pound catfish. *Photo courtesy of Family Fishing in Grafton.*

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Catchable Channel Catfish

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources recently completed stocking of more than 2,600 catchable-size channel catfish, according to DNR Director Frank Jezioro. Stockings were conducted at 13 lakes throughout the state. Lakes stocked were: Bear Rocks (Ohio Co.); Castleman Run (Ohio Co.); Tomlinson Run (Hancock Co.); French Creek (Upshur Co.); Wallback (Clay Co.); Anawalt (McDowell Co.); Berwind (McDowell Co.); Barboursville (Cabell Co.); Laurel (Mingo Co.); and Cedar Creek (Gilmer Co.).

In addition, tagged catfish were stocked in lakes at North Bend State Park (Ritchie Co.), Pipestem State Park (Summers Co.) and Chief Logan State Park (Logan Co.).

Anglers who catch a tagged fish are asked to return the tag along with information on the date of capture, if the fish was kept or released, and the name and address of the angler to WVDNR, 2311 Ohio Ave, Parkersburg, WV 26101. Anglers can also call in the information (304-420-4550) or provide the information via e-mail (fishtags@wvdnr.gov).

During the week of June 2, additional catchable-size catfish are being stocked into lakes at the Cacapon State Park, Watoga State Park, and Blackwater Falls State Park, as well as North Bend, Pipestem, and Chief Logan state parks. These stockings will coincide with West Virginia Free Fishing Days (June 7-8).



Tom Bishop reeled in a 43.5 pound flathead. Photo courtesy of River-Side Bait in Hockingport, Ohio.

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1st Fish Certificate

Proud parents or relatives can now present a First Fish Certificate to a young angler to commemorate that memorable feat, according to Frank Jezioro, Director of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources.

“The First Fish Certificate is designed to recognize that special first catch by young anglers,” said Jezioro. The First Fish Certificate is available on the DNR Web site and can be completed by relatives or friends of the successful young angler.

“The certificate is easily completed with the angler’s name, species of fish, and date and place of catch,” said Jezioro. The certificate can then be printed at home at no cost. The First Fish Certificate can be found online at www.wvdnr.gov/Fishing/First_Fish.shtm.

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Send in \$25 For This Event
Along With This Clip Out Form.

Pay The CASH Balance At The Ramp.
This Secures Your Blast-off Number.
Late Team Numbers Follow Mail in.

- 6 Fish Limit per Team
- 6 oz. Dead Bass
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- No Off-Limits Before Event

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Sample Payout	1,000 2nd	
For 50 Teams	800 3rd	
	525 4th	Big Bass
	400 5th	\$500
Number Of Places Paid	300 6th	300
Based On Entered Teams	200 7th	200
Pro-rated Less Or More	150 8th	
Than 50 Teams	125 9th	

Clip Out & Mail 5 Days Prior To Event- Send \$25 Advance Fee

Boater _____

Partner _____

One Address _____

City _____

St _____ Zip _____ Phone# _____

July 16 _____

Send In \$25 This Event
To Pre-Register _____
Pay The CASH Balance
At The Ramp

Mail To:
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P.O. Box 5521
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T	D	M	U	R	D	O	T	N	O	R	T	H	E	R	N	I	B	B	F
B	R	O	K	L	L	I	Y	A	I	A	H	A	K	C	O	R	A	A	
B	S	O	R	A	T	E	S	B	G	P	G	E	N	S	A	O	O	R	L
R	A	D	U	E	U	R	H	E	K	I	P	K	H	O	W	E	O	I	L
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W	I	T	R	B	P	I	I	K	L	D	S	B	T	W	A	K	E	W	H
H	G	S	F	L	O	P	E	D	W	D	L	L	A	H	B	L	L	A	O
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E	H	T	U	O	M	L	L	A	M	S	W	C	H	A	I	N	R	L	C
Z	M	U	S	K	E	L	L	U	N	G	E	O	R	P	V	S	A	F	D

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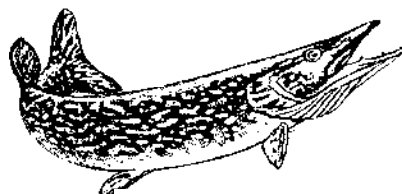
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