



FREE

Issue 309

July/August 2023



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Crappie**

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Cover Photo

Experienced fisherman, Dannie Wardon, caught a 10 pound hybrid bass at Kanawha Falls. He lives in Fayetteville.

The New River meets the Gualley River around a mile above Kanawha Falls. Once the two rivers go over the falls, the river is now the Kanawha. Technically, the Kanawha River is still the New River. I never did think that the New River should end there.

Summer Crappie Fishing

For those resilient anglers who can tolerate the sweltering heat, mosquitoes and sunburn that often are part of summer fishing, this season provides excellent opportunities for hooking lots of big crappie.

Unfortunately, many hot-weather crappie outings end in failure. Why?

Mainly because anglers insist on using the same fishing methods they use during the crappie's spring spawning season, and these methods rarely entice slabs when the water is as hot as a jacuzzi. Success comes only to those anglers who know specific

tactics for catching summer's finicky fish.

Toward that end, here are 9 seldom-used tips to help you nab hot-water crappie this time of year. Study them, employ them and enjoy the bounty.

Attract Minnows, Attract Crappie
When fishing is slow during daylight hours, try an approach that duplicates the use of a crappie light at night. A light attracts insects, which in turn attracts minnows. But minnows also are attracted by chumming with dry dog food, bread crumbs or similar offerings. Scatter the chum by handfuls in several shallow-water areas, then move back to the first place you put chum and drop in a minnow. Fish each consecutive

continue to the next page



Trent Mullenex has an 8 pound-tiger trout. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.*



Devin Bokey caught an 8 lb., 4 oz. tiger trout in Pendelton County.

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Charles Lilly Jr. and DNR officer are shown with a 9 lb., 12 oz. golden trout state record fish. *Photo courtesy of Kountry Korner in Crab Orchard*

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spot and see if your catch rate doesn't improve. Often, it will.

When you scale crappie to prepare them for eating, save some of the scales, which work like chum to stimulate hot-weather crappie feeding activity. (Photo: Keith Sutton)

When you scale crappie to prepare them for eating, save some of the scales, which work like chum to stimulate feeding activity.

Scale Drop

Here's another "chumming" method to try when fishing is slow. Save some scales from the next crappie you dress. Rinse

them and store inside a sealable container filled with water. Carry the container on your outings, and if things get slow, drop a few scales in the water above inundated cover. As the scales fall, they flicker and catch the eye of crappie, which often will move toward them to investigate. A jig or minnow presented on a tight line in the vicinity may get hit.

Stump Knocking

A double-hook, bottom-bouncing rig provides an excellent means for waylaying summer crappie holding near stumps on flats adjacent bottom channels. A 1-ounce bell sinker tied at line's end allows the angler to feel the bottom and find the stumps. Above the sinker are tied two 6-inch drop loops 18

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Chaz Hayhurst, from Salem, hooked a 9 lb., 10 oz. largemouth.



Johnny Richards and Gary Ross got 2nd place with a 19 lb. bag at the Bass Sportsman tournament on June 25th at Stonewall Jackson Lake. Their big bass weighed 4 lbs., 14 oz. Next one there is July 23.



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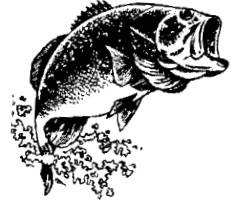
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inches apart, and a crappie hook is tied to each dropper. The rig is baited with live minnows or jig/minnow combos.

While wind drifting or slow trolling with an electric motor, work the rig in a lift-drop fashion. When you feel the rig bump against a stump, lift it up and over. Strikes often come just as the rig is lowered behind woody cover. Go With the Flow

If you know some areas where waterfalls tumble into the main body of a lake or stream during summer, head straight for them on your next hot-weather outings. These may be naturally occurring waterfalls or man-made structures of concrete, steel or rocks that create drop-offs with running water. These spots oxygenate water that might otherwise get stale

and lifeless when temperatures are bumping 100. Reeling a small deep-diving minnow-imitation crankbait through the bubbling water is an excellent way to en-
continue to the next page



Tyler Davis caught big bass with a 5 lb. 14 oz. at Stonewall.



John Karakiozis, from Bridgeport, reeled in a large rainbow.

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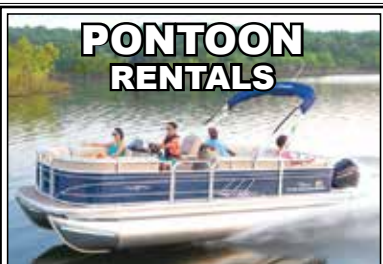
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cellent way to entice slabs hiding here, or try a jig or minnow beneath a bobber.

On the Surface

Near dawn or dusk, summer crappie schools may surface to feed on minnows and shad. The attentive angler can zero in on such schools by watching for rough patches on an otherwise smooth lake surface.

Use a trolling motor or paddle to approach barely within casting range. A long rod (6 feet plus) and small spinning reel spooled with 2- to 4-pound-test line allow longer casts with shad imitations such as jigs, spinners or live minnows. Suspend the lure or bait a

few inches below a bobber, and get ready for action.

Dock Walk

Summer crappie may move fairly shallow, even on sunny days, if they can find overhead cover that shades them from bright rays. Boat docks, fishing piers and swimming platforms provide such cover, but anglers in
continue to page 10



13 year old Bo Hollen knows bass. Nice smallmouths.
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Mitch Dobbins, from Mt. Zion, shot a great gobbler. Photo courtesy of Superior Toyota in Parkersburg.

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boats may fail to get bites because crappie can see the fishermen. These same fish may bite, however, when the angler walks on the structure and fishes from above.

Crappie get used to foot traffic on these structures and seldom spook, so the quiet overhead approach often works when a bait presented from a boat won't. Let the wind drift a minnow or jig suspended under a bobber into the shade beneath the structure. Or try fishing vertically through wide cracks in boards that lie over the shadiest water.

Side-trolling

When trolling for deep summer crappie, try mounting your trolling motor on the side of the boat instead of the front. This allows you to move in a very slow, controlled fashion so you can mine deep structures more efficiently.

Hordes of hatching mayflies attract ravenous crappie and other panfish. (Photo: Keith Sutton)

Hordes of hatching mayflies attract ravenous crappie and other panfish. (Photo: Keith Sutton)

Glow-in-the-Dark Tactics

Many jigs now are available with glow-in-the-dark bodies and/or heads. Do they work? Sometimes yes, sometimes no, in my experience. But at times, when conventional jigs aren't producing, I've rigged with a luminescent version and started catching crappie after crappie. Rigging a small cyalume (light) stick a foot or so ahead of the jig often improves effectiveness.

Crickets and Mayflies

Summer mayfly hatches are common on many crappie lakes,

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and when they occur, crappie move shallow to gorge on mayfly larvae and emerging adults. If you see numerous mayflies, dispense with lures and minnows, and try fishing an unweighted cricket instead. Although a cricket hardly resembles a mayfly, hungry crappie filling their bellies on insects won't refuse one. Hook the cricket through the collar to keep it lively, then flip it on top of the water and wait for the hit.



Paige Powers used a compound bow for her buck. Avid hunter.



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DNR Stocks Catfish

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.V.A. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources has stocked 28 waters around the state with catfish, the agency announced on Friday. Between May 31 and June 2, the following waters were stocked:

Anawalt Lake
 Anderson Lake
 Babcock State Park Lake
 Barboursville Lake
 Berwind Lake
 Cedar Creek State Park Lake

Charles Fork Lake
 Chief Logan S.P. Pond
 Conaway Run Lake
 Coonskin Park Pond
 Coopers Rock Lake
 Deegan Lake
 Frozen Camp (Right Fork)
 Hinkle Lake
 Hurricane Lake
 Laurel Lake
 Little Beaver State Park Lake
 Logan County Airport Pond
 Mason Lake
 Moncove Lake
 Mountwood Lake
 North Bend State Park Pond
 Pendleton Lake
 Plum Orchard Lake
 Rollins Lake



Cole Huff, from Looneyville, used a kayak for this nice smallmouth.



Gabe Dixon, from Layland, reeled in a quality largemouth bass.

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In addition to the above catfish stockings, trout were stocked in North Fork South Branch, Shavers Fork (Upper Section) and South Branch (Catch and Release). Trout stocking will resume for two weeks during the weeks of Oct. 16 and Oct. 23. A trout stamp is needed

while fishing for trout.

To learn more about fishing oppor-

tunities and stockings in West Virginia, visit WVdnr.gov/fishing.



Dobbins & Smarr came in 4th at the recent Bass Sportsman tournament at Stonewall Jackson. They had 16 lbs., 7oz. plus they had the lunker bass that weighed 5 lbs., 1 oz. July 23rd is the next one.

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Largest Spring Turkey Harvest In 5 Years

FARMINGTON, W.VA. — According to preliminary data released by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources on Wednesday, hunters in the Mountain State harvested 12,217 bearded turkeys during the spring gob-

bler season.

The harvest is 30.4 percent above last year's harvest of 9,366 birds, 12.6 percent above the five-year average of 10,850 birds and 14.6 percent above the ten-year average of 10,661. It is also the

largest harvest since 2018, when 12,287 birds were taken.

"The increased harvest is a testament to the dedicated efforts of our hunters and the successful management of our turkey populations and we're thrilled to see such encouraging harvest numbers for the spring gobbler season in West Virginia," said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion. "It's especially exciting to note that this year's harvest surpasses both the five-year and ten-year averages, indicating a positive trend in the turkey population. The WVD-

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Emily Gist got her 1st wild gobbler. Photo courtesy of Tyler Outdoor Supply in Middlebourne.

DNR remains committed to maintaining sustainable wildlife management practices to ensure the long-term health and abundance of turkeys in our state.”

Harvest increases were reported in every WVDNR District except District 4, which had a slight decrease. Hunters in District 1 harvested the most birds (2,563), followed by District 6 (2,206), District 5 (2,148), District 4 (1,871), District 2 (1,766) and District 3 (1,663). The top five counties with the highest turkey harvests were Mason (559), Jackson (416), Preston (390), Harrison (357) and Hampshire (347) counties.

“I want to congratulate all of our successful hunters who helped make this year’s spring gobbler harvest the best it’s been in five years,” said West Virginia Department of Commerce Secretary James Bailey. “Our state’s hunting seasons play a vital role in bolstering our economy and supporting local businesses and communities. Together, we will continue to foster a thriving outdoor



Brandon Marks had gobbler success this spring.





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During the spring 2023 season, youth hunters harvested 781 turkeys, 490 of which were taken on continue to the next page



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River Otter Survey

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources announced today the start of a new citizen science project to identify the distribution of river otters across the state and is asking members of the public to report sightings through an online survey.

The survey can be completed online or by using the Survey123 mobile application. To learn more about participating in the survey, visit WVdnr.gov/surveys and continue to page 18



John Stewart, from Fairmont, got a bass on the Monongahela.

Saturday and 291 on Sunday. This was the fourth year the youth season has been two days. The youth harvest made up approximately 6.4 percent of the season's total harvest and is included with county totals in the table below.

West Virginia experienced a similar increase in turkey harvests during the fall 2022 season,

during which hunters brought in almost 46 percent more birds than the fall 2021 season. To learn more about hunting in West Virginia or to buy a hunting license, visit WVdnr.gov.

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scroll down to River Otters.

As part of the survey, participants will be asked to report river otter sightings and provide details about the otter's location, the number of otters observed and what the otter was doing. Submitting a photo of the otter is encouraged.

The survey, which is similar to

the box turtle and rattlesnake citizen science surveys the WVDNR have conducted, will provide updated information about the bodies of water river otters currently occupy. Data collected during the survey will help the WVDNR better manage river otter populations across West Virginia.

River otters, which were once

extirpated in West Virginia, were reintroduced to the state by the WVDNR in the 1980s. Since then, river otter populations have stabilized and are increasing in certain areas.

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Christian Smith hooked a Stone-wall Jackson musky bass fishing.



Austin Day hooked a 7 lb. 15 oz tiger trout. Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.

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Tiger Trout Information

One of the most vividly-decorated and least-encountered trout in the water is the tiger trout. As its scientific name, *Salmo trutta* × *Salvelinus fontinalis* suggests, the tiger trout is a sterile hybrid between the brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) and the brown trout (*Salmo trutta*). They're known for having very distinct vermiculation, the same pattern that's more subtly seen on the backs of brook trout.

Tiger trout are found across much of the country, as they are almost entirely a stocked fish. While they can occasionally occur naturally in areas with brook and brown trout, they aren't nearly as easy to produce as other hybrids, like cutbows. Brook trout have two more pairs of chromosomes than brown trout, making it much harder for these two species to produce viable offspring in the wild.

However, using a method called heat shocking, scientists can

quite easily create tiger trout for stocking. They're stocked for a variety of reasons, from being a sport fishery to controlling other fish populations (tigers are both sterile and piscivorous, so they can control the populations of other species without becoming a problem themselves). They're found in many of the same types of habitat as other species and are

frequently accompanied by other trout species like brooks, browns, and rainbows.

Tiger trout are aggressive, and although they have similar diets to other trout species when they're small, most switch to a diet of baitfish once they grow larger. Because of this, they can get fairly large. Tigers of two to five pounds are commonly caught, and the record is over 20 pounds.

So how do tiger trout stack up against their parent species, the brook and brown trout? In my opinion, they take more of their looks from brook trout but definitely have a personality closer to that of a brown.

The deep, vivid vermiculation across their sides and back is reminiscent of the brook trout's patterns. They also sometimes have a duller version of the red belly and fins of a brookie. However, they're easy to tell apart from a

continue to the next page



Logan Collins landed a 7 lb., 3 oz. tiger trout. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.*



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brook trout, as the red generally isn't as vivid, and they lack the iconic blue halo spots.

The color scheme of tigers is similar to a brown in that they often have a tan background coloration, but their size, aggression, and diet are what really give away their relation to the brown trout.

Luckily for the tiger trout angler, the hardest part of catching tiger trout is actually finding them, since they mostly exist only where they've been stocked. Once you're into them, though, getting them to take a fly isn't any more complicated than fishing for any other species of trout, and many would argue that they're easier to catch than other species due to their aggressive nature.

When tiger trout are small, their diet is similar to other trout species, and insects will be on the menu. Most standard nymphs or dry flies work great. Beadhead nymphs, generic dries, and any

continue to page 23



Paisley Casto got a big gobbler in Pleasants Co. *Photo courtesy of Tyler Outdoor Supply in Middlebourne.*

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Freshwater Fish Species

One of the most important steps you can take to become a more successful freshwater angler is to learn about the types of freshwater fish species you want to catch. Whether your goal is to catch a largemouth bass or take your kids fishing, these freshwater tips and tricks will help you.

The more knowledge you have about the different types of freshwater fish habitats and feeding habits, the better an angler you can become, and you will be better equipped to follow the state fishing laws and regulations for each species.

WARMWATER, COLDWATER, AND COOLWATER SPECIES

Freshwater fish species are generally separated into one of three different categories (warmwater, coldwater or coolwater) based on water temperature and the associated amount of oxygen in the wa-

ter at each temperature range. For example, cold water holds more oxygen than warm water, which means coldwater fish will require higher oxygen levels in order to survive.

Warmwater fish species: These fish can live in a wide range of conditions. Largemouth bass, bluegill, catfish, crappies and sunfish are all considered warmwater species. Although they can survive cold winters in the northern states and can be found throughout most of the U.S., warmwater species will thrive best when water temperatures are around 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

Coldwater fish species: The second category of freshwater fish is the coldwater species category. As you might imagine, coldwater fish species require cold water temperatures in order to survive. Trout, Salmon, and Smelt are

some of the most common coldwater game fish species. These types of freshwater fish prefer water temperatures between 50 and 60 degrees. Because these species grow best in colder temperatures they are most often found in the northern states or states with higher elevation and cold wind temperatures.

Coolwater fish species: The third category of freshwater fish is the coolwater species category. Muskellunge, northern pike, walleye, and yellow perch are among the most common coolwater game fish species. These types of freshwater fish prefer water temperatures in-between the other two categories. Because these species grow best in water temperatures that range in the 60's and 70's,

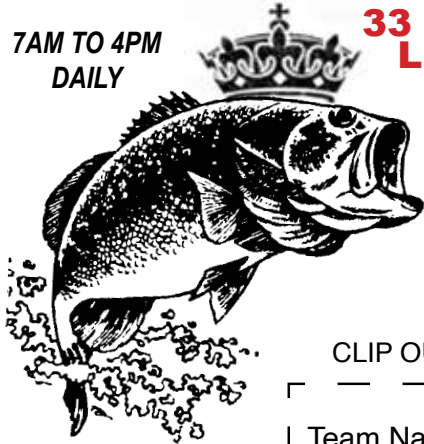
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“match-the-hatch” flies are a go-to.

Once they start to put on some size, they can still be caught on typical dries and nymphs, but many start to target larger prey items like baitfish. At this point, it's time to switch to streamers to match that change.

Once again, fishing streamers for tiger trout isn't rocket science. Don't fall into the trap of choosing flies that catch anglers instead of fish. Woolly buggers, sculpins, and other large, fishy flies with some action should be enough to trigger a tiger to feed.

Encountering a tiger trout by chance happens, but it's rare. If your strategy for catching one is to just keep fishing where there are brooks and browns and hoping for the best, you're fighting a losing battle.

Luckily, because they're easy to create and stock, it's often not hard to look to your state's fish and game agency to find out where they live. And often, because they're stocked in large batches, if you go to a place that has tiger trout, you're likely to find many. Many lakes and ponds contain primarily tiger trout.

Tiger trout are a classic example of hybrid vigor or heterosis. In a nutshell, it means the tiger trout is continue to the next page



Justin Wray reeled in a huge rainbow trout.

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Antlerless Limited Permit Areas

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.VA. — Applications to hunt in 12 limited permit areas during the 2023 antlerless deer season are now available, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources announced today. Applications for the lottery hunt are available at WVhunt.com. Hunters have until Aug. 11 to submit their application.

Limited permit areas provide antlerless deer hunting opportunities in counties or areas of the state where wildlife biologists have determined that issuing a limited number of antlerless deer permits will help the WVDNR meet its deer management objectives. The following wildlife management

areas, state forests and counties are open for this drawing:
Camp Creek State Forest
Greenbrier State Forest
Hillcrest WMA
National Forest Land (Pocahontas County)
National Forest Land (Randolph County)
Boone County
Clay County (South Portion)
Greenbrier County (North Portion)
Kanawha County (North Portion)
Nicholas County
Raleigh County (East Portion)
Webster County

After Aug. 20, all applicants will be able to see whether they received a permit by logging into
July/Aug 2023 ~ Page 24

their DNR account. Applicants who are selected will be notified by mail by the first week of October.

A limited number of Class N stamps for resident hunters and Class NN stamps for nonresident hunters will be available. Successful applicants may hunt antlerless deer on private and public land this year on the following dates: Oct. 26–29, Nov. 20–Dec. 3, Dec. 7–10 and Dec. 28–31, 2023.

Hunters who want to enter as a group must know the other hunters' DNR ID numbers to enter the lottery. Hunters also may call their local WVDNR district office.

To purchase a hunting license and stamps, visit WVhunt.com. For more information about antlerless deer season dates, bag limits and split county maps, hunters should consult the 2023-24 West Virginia Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary, available to download at WVdnr.gov/hunting-regulations.



Brad Stens caught & released a 23 1/2" largemouth at North Bend.

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Large Trout Stocking This Year

CHARLESTON, W.VA. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources announced on Wednesday that the agency has stocked nearly 130,000 more trout in 2023 compared to the previous year.

Between January and May 2023, the WVDNR stocked 802,481 trout in lakes and streams around the state, which is a 19 percent increase over the 673,148 trout that were stocked during the same period in 2022.

“Our hatchery program plays a crucial role in creating an ex-

ceptional fishing experience for anglers across West Virginia,” said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion. “This significant increase in trout going into our lakes and streams can be attributed to investments in our hatchery infrastructure and the dedicated work of our staff.”

One of the most significant investments was the expansion of the Bowden Hatchery from 40 fish rearing units to 60, which will allow the WVDNR to produce an additional 100,000 pounds of trout. Other improvements have been made to the Eday, Reed’s Creek and Tate Lohr hatcheries



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to shore up fish production in the future.

In addition to hatchery facility improvements, the increase in trout production can be attributed to warmer weather during the

continue to the next page



Debi Gibson caught a 27 1/2” channel catfish on the Kanawaha.



Catching catfish on the Saturday eve tournament. Photo courtesy of Sure Catch Fish Farm in Elkins.



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Brayden Beachler, from Franklin, caught & released a big musky.

the winter months, which created ideal conditions for trout to thrive.

“As we look ahead to fall trout stocking, we are optimistic that we will be able to achieve record-breaking stocking numbers this year,” McMillion said. “With more fish in the water, I want to encourage anglers all across West Virginia and beyond to get out there and enjoy a trout fishing trip this year.”

It is important to note that the long-term growth of the trout population is dependent on various factors, including habitat, weather

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patterns and other environmental elements. The WVDNR remains dedicated to preserving and enhancing West Virginia’s natural resources to ensure sustainable fishing opportunities for generations to come.

All anglers 15 years and older are required to have a West Virginia fishing license, trout stamp and valid form of identification while fishing for trout. To purchase a li-

cense and stamp or to learn more about trout stocking and fishing regulations in West Virginia, visit WVdnr.gov/fishing.

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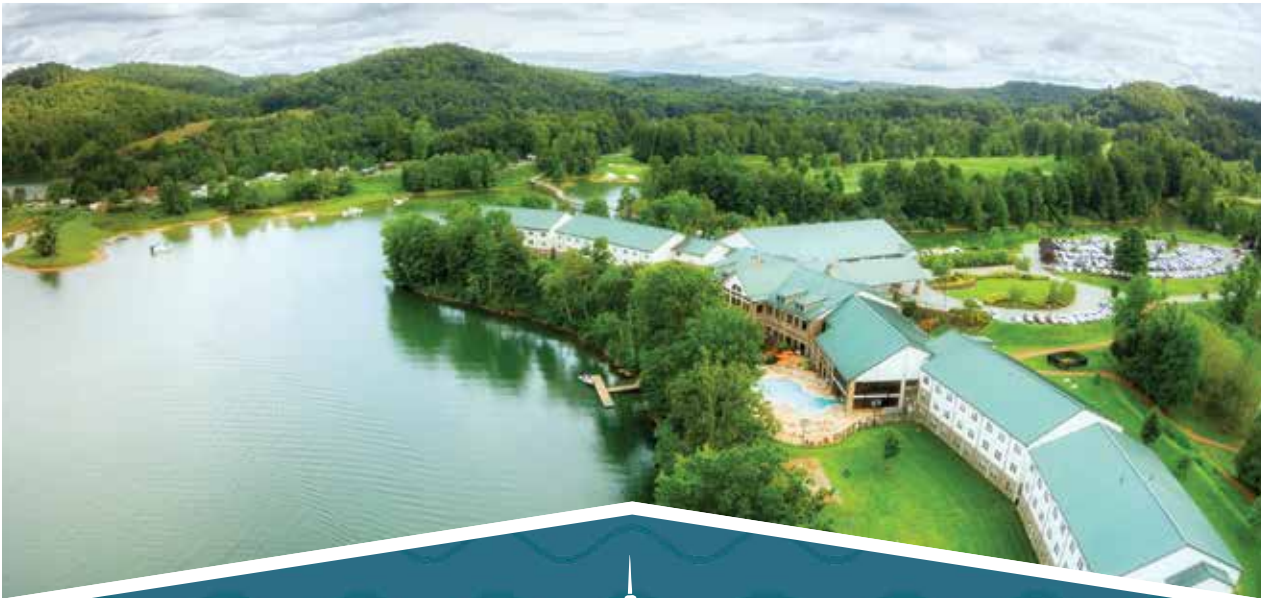
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Once logged in, click on the tile labeled Purchase a license, tag, or permit. Scroll through the list of products and add products to your cart by clicking the Add button.



Brett Beckley landed a 23" tiger trout at Spruce Knob Lake.



Jerod McCloy hooked a 23" rainbow at Smoke Hole.

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Summer Bass Fishing Pro Tips

Summer can be a challenging time of year in the South, but you can definitely catch fish, if you get the timing right. Between guiding and my sponsor/media work, I spend a lot of time on the water, but it's actually the opposite of what you might think I do.

I know a lot of people like to fish early and late because it's cool-

er, but I actually don't start until about 11 o'clock this time of year. Where I live in east Texas, they bite really good in the middle of the afternoon when it's hot and the sun's the highest.

I prefer this period because I'm catching the deeper schools offshore, and they set up the best when the sun's hottest and when the thermocline gets down the farthest. It just sets them up right when it's hot and sunny like that.

I catch these fish on a variety of baits — big worms, big jigs, big crankbaits, big spoons. Every

spot's a little different, but they're best during that midday heat.

You can catch shallow fish better during the early morning and late afternoon hours, but this time of year, I'm fishing the midday period just to catch fish deep offshore. It's really a matter of personal preference.

If you prefer that shallow game, start early, take a break, and then go back out in the late afternoon.

You can catch them a lot of different ways, but a big topwater like
continue to the next page

By Lee Livesay



Jeremy Stewart caught a nice Stonewall Jackson Lake bass.

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the 6th Sense Catwalk can produce some pretty exciting strikes. Just recently, a buddy of mine caught an 11-pounder on a topwater on O.H. Ivey.

Another one that's hard to beat this time of year is a big worm. I always have a Texas-rigged 11-inch, plum colored Netbait C-Mac tied on, whether I'm fishing early in the morning, late in the afternoon or in the middle of the day.

I really like to hop my big worm down here, kind of like stroking a big football jig. I like to drag it 4 to 5 feet, then I'll hop it way



Donminic Greathouse landed a nice channel catfish.

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up off the bottom to get those fish to react and get a fish in a school to see it and come over there and check it out.

If I had to choose a personal favorite summertime bait, it would be a 6th Sense Hybrid Jig with a Netbait Paca Craw. I always keep that jig tied on this time of year — I used that same setup when I won the 2022 Elite on Lake Fork.

I'll fish that jig in a variety of places, but a lot of them are little hard spots, like a road bed or a point with timber on it. You can throw that jig on any type of

continue to the next page



Hunter Thompson, from Reedy, landed a huge flathead catfish.

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any type of structure and catch fish.

Whatever you choose to fish during the summertime, I always advise people to take the heat seriously. I wear Huk clothing and with the Waypoint Hoodie and fishing pants, the sun gloves, facemask and a big hat. I keep my body completely covered.

Along with the proper clothing and polarized glasses, you'll want to drink plenty of water, use your sunscreen and pay attention to the weather. When a storm comes through, the fish might go to biting, but if there's a lot of lighting, the bite can turn off.

When that happens, I'm already off the water anyway.

Good luck on your fishing trips this year.

Reel-y Funny Fishing Jokes

Why are fish so smart?

Because they swim in schools!

One day, two guys Frank, and Bob, were out fishing. A funeral service passes over the bridge they're fishing by, and Bob takes off his hat and puts it over his heart. He does this until the funeral service passes by.

Frank said, "Gee, Bob, I didn't know you had it in you!" Bob replied, "It's the least I could do. After all, I was married to her for 30 years."

What do you call a fish that won't shut up?

A big-mouthed bass!

Why did the Vegan go fishing? Just for the halibut.

Three fishermen were fishing when they came upon a mermaid. The mermaid offered them one wish each. The first fisherman said, "Double my I.Q."

So, the mermaid did it and to his surprise, he started reciting Shakespeare. Then the second

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fisherman said, "Triple my I.Q." And sure enough, the mermaid did it and amazingly he started doing math problems he didn't know existed. The third fisherman was so impressed he asked the mermaid to quadruple his I.Q. and the mermaid said, "Are you sure about this? It will change your
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WV WILD OUTDOORS

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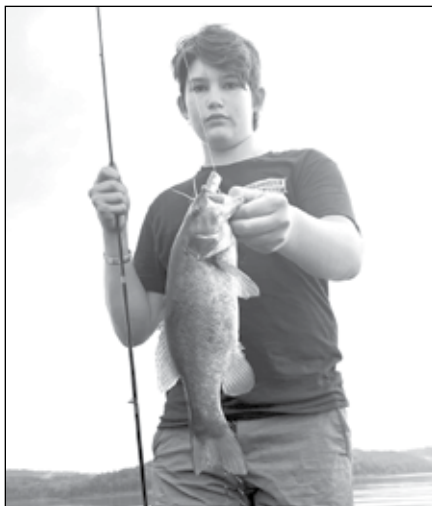
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Josh Sommerville caught a nice holidays largemouth bass.

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whole life!" The fisherman said "Yes" So, the mermaid turned him into a woman.

Why are fish so gullible? They fall for things hook, line and sinker!

Why is it so easy to weigh fish? Because they have their own scales!

Where does a fisherman go to get his hair cut? The bobber shop.

One day a rather inebriated ice fisherman drilled a hole in the ice and peered into the hole and a loud voice from above said, "There are no fish down there."

He walked several yards away and drilled another hole and peered into the hole and again the voice said, "There's no fish down there." He then walked about 50 yards away and drilled another hole and again the voice said, "There's no fish down there." He looked up into the sky and asked,

"God, is that you?" "No, you idiot," the voice said, "it's the rink manager."

What is the fastest fish in the water?

A motopike.

What you get when four men go fishing and one comes back not catching anything.

Three men and a baby.

I caught a trout so big, the picture of it was three pounds. The negative was a pound. We went into the lake to eat it rather than bring it home.

Why did the husband go fishing on Valentine's Day?

To catch his wife a bouquet of flounders!

What kind of music should you listen to while fishing?

Something catchy!

Why did Batman and Robin quit going fishing together?

Because Robin ate all the worms!

continue to page 36

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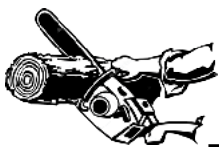
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Why didn't Noah do much fishing on the ark?

He had only two worms.

Game warden: "Didn't you see the no-fishing sign, son?"

Boy: "I'm not fishing, sir. I'm teaching these worms how to swim!"

Two guys are talking about fishing. One says to the other, "I am NEVER going to take my wife fishing with me, ever again!"

"That bad, huh," his friend responded. "She did everything wrong! She talked too much, made the boat rock constantly, tried to stand up in the boat, baited the hook wrong, used the wrong lures, and WORST of all she caught more fish than me!"

How do fish get from place to place while playing golf?

By golf carp.

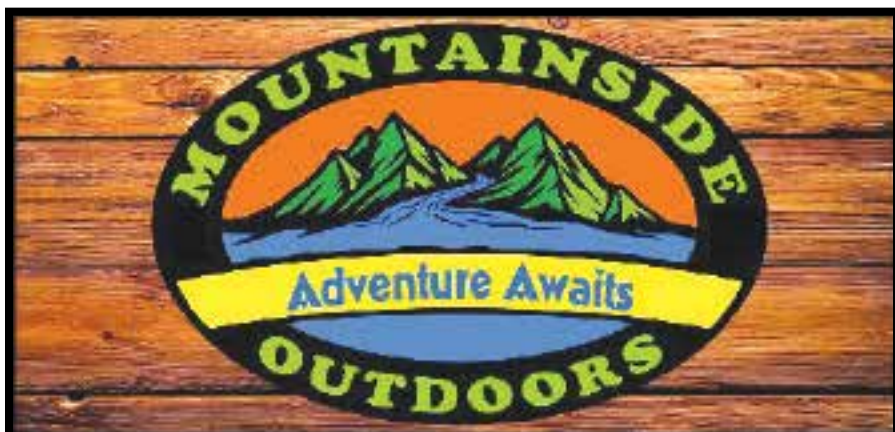
Why do fish swim in schools?

Because they can't walk!

Where do fish keep their money?

In a riverbank.

continue to the next page



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Josh Compton shot a 24 lb., 11 oz. gobbler in Ritchie County.

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The first priest turned to the second priest and asked, "Should we have told him where the rocks were?"

How do you communicate with a fish?

Drop it a line!

A monastery is in financial trouble, so it goes into the fish-and-chips business to raise money. One night a customer knocks on its door. A monk answers.

The customer asks, "Are you the fish friar?" "No," he replies. "I'm the chip monk."



Ryan Friend landed a Burnsville Lake 28" channel catfish.



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