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# MO Fishing

The Newsletter of the Springfield Chapter of the  
Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association  
Formed in 1972 to serve all fishermen in the Springfield area

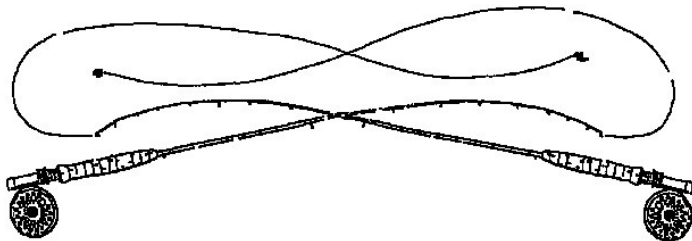
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## The August Meeting is Cancelled

*From the Springfield Conservation Nature Center website:*

**BUILDING TEMPORARILY CLOSED: Springfield Conservation Nature Center remains temporarily closed as we work on a reopening plan to accommodate social distancing in our facilities to keep visitors and staff safe.**



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### Reviews and articles

#### *Gear Reviews:*

8 weight, 5 weight, 4 weight rod reviews

<https://www.yellowstoneangler.com/gear-review/>

#### *Flourocarbon:*

Articles claim that fluorocarbon line/tippet is no better than nylon and that the claims we hear are marketing hype. One responder who seemed to be a representative of a "better" brand pointed out that some cheaper fluorocarbon brands use a nylon core and coat the outside with fluorocarbon, thus, negating any advantage of fluorocarbon.

<http://www.theflyfishingforum.com/forums/general-discussion/367586-fluorocarbon-fact-fiction.html#post802811>

<https://activeanglingnz.com/2016/01/04/the-fluorocarbon-myth/?fbclid=IwAR2Qu54IrbWU7UVEg5wXqkp5Yo9mlyKEWWP88FBNqZLMyeDqyHwllwFlnA8>

### *Chapter News:*

## **The Missouri State University has cancelled the 2020 Fall Beginning Fly Fishing Class**

#### Fishing Reports:

Montauk: Mike Kidd caught a bunch of trout at Montauk on hoppers with a size 14 purple zebra midge dropper size 14 and more on the wispy of course.

Bennett Spring, Dick Solomon and Keith Coffee: fished Zone 1 and the Gut Hole, caught lots of fish but mostly in Zone 1. Caught the majority on Giant Slayer, (mock version of the Mega Worm), a shammy fly, wooly buggers and mop worms.

Continued next page

*Fishing Reports continued from previous page:*

*6/29, Bennett Spring, written by Dick Solomon.* "Keith Coffee and I fished Bennet today. The water is the lowest I have seen it in months. Fishing started out slow, started with a Root Beer and Top Secret, fished half way up the outlet stream without any success, switched to a Hares Ear special of mine and hit the Mother Load. Later before lunch I switched to my Shammy jig caught several in the deep water. We stopped for lunch and sat and watched a young lady fly casting from shore to shore. She was left handed and had the best casting strokes I have ever seen. We moved up to zone 1 in what I call the Upper Gut Hole, beside the handicap pier. I tied on another Shammy jig and caught another dozen and my arm started to ache so I quit and watched Keith land some more. Over all we caught over 40 fish. Had a great time. "

*7/1, Taneycomo, written by Mike Kidd.* "Ron Ward and Mike Kidd caught a bunch of fish over 18 inches on Taneycomo last night"

*7/2, Bennett Spring, a note from Hatchery Manager Ben Havens:* "We've stocked over 120 lunkers during the season in the park so far this year... We did move out as well as release some of our brood stock earlier in the season due to changes in operations since the removal of our hatchery intake screen in January. We are authorized to stock at least 230 lunkers in the park for this season and we intend to do so. The Niangua River is slated to get around 30 as well."

The Tablerock Dam generation schedules show that they have been running 2 or more generators daily. The only good way to fish it would be by boat.

I have not been able to fish this month due to an injury. I have tried to keep up with the Bennett Spring fishing through the Facebook page for Friends of Bennett Spring. Early in the month there were a number of posts indicating slow fishing in certain places and times. Later in the month, the posts indicated much better fishing. Bob Randall

Roaring River State Park: John Bush tested these waters for a "decent, but not spectacular" fishing day. He says, "I ... had a new 4 weight rod that I wanted to try out ... . I started the day with a Guide's choice hare's ear and top secret midge, and did manage to catch a couple of fish and get a few takes, but it was very slow. Finally, as I was bringing my line in to check for knots, I noticed a fish chasing the fly as it was being stripped, but they were pretty much ignoring it dead drift. I tried switching to a root beer midge, and pretty much the same thing.

Finally, I put the 4 weight up and got out my 7 weight with a sink tip line, and switched to a wispy and while it wasn't a fish every cast, it was a lot more consistent than on the nymphs that day. I should have switched sooner as I knew that was a clue when they chased the nymph as I was pulling it in. I hooked and landed several fish on the wispy before deciding to call it a day ... . Long story short, the fish wanted streamers that day."



## ***Fishing Pics***

**A trip to Alaska is incredible. Always salmon coming into creeks to spawn and rainbows and char following the salmon to eat the salmon eggs.**

***Mike Kidd and Ron Ward went to Alaska***

***Mike Kidd***



***Ron Ward***



## Grasshopper, Because it's that time of year.

### Materials:

Hook: #10 – 14

Thread: UTC Ultra 140 or 70 brown

Body: 2 mm foam – tan color

Wing: Tan zelon or antron

Legs: Yellow square foam

Post: 2 mm foam – yellow

Attach thread and position at 50% mark on hook shank.

Cut foam into 2" long length. Width is gap of hook. Trim foam strip to taper – about ½ length of hook.

Build thread base on front ½ of hook. Build layer with three thread passes.

Foam body should be length of shank. Measure foam starting at "tail" end and place hole in foam using bodkin. Remove hook and slide foam onto hook. Tie in foam at 50% mark with 3 – 4 thread wraps.

Pull foam up and create indentation with hook eye. Use bodkin to make hole.

Tie in zelon and fold back tag end over wing to create double fullness. Place superglue on foam. Bring foam over hook eye using hole created in step 8 and tie down with 2 – 3 thread wraps. Trim foam.

Create wide thread base. Prepare legs with overhand knot. Tie in legs parallel to body.

Attach foam post. Whip finish. John Kreft, River Keeper Flies <https://www.johnkreft.com/terrestrial-fly-patterns/improved-chaos-hopper/>



Grasshopper season is like the Christmas season. It comes once a year.

1. *Let the river warm up.* Often, the trout won't start hitting hoppers until mid to late morning, when the vegetation along the banks warms up.
2. *Big is not bad.* Select a bigger hopper just because you can. Go for a size #4 or #6. Make sure you have 3X or 4X tippet to handle the bigger bug. Then see what happens.
3. *Don't forget the relaxed sip.* I love the aggressive strikes that hoppers provoke. But not all hopper strikes are aggressive. Some fish prefer to mouth or toy with the hopper.
4. *Give it some action.* Real grasshoppers don't float passively on the water unless they are already dead. If the wind has blown a hopper into the water, then likely it is kicking for shore.
5. *Drop another terrestrial.* Drop a fat foam ant off the top hopper pattern.
6. *Pay attention to color.* Size and color are important, and every fly is local.
7. *Throw one on when nothing is rising.* It's just that time a year.
8. *Start with foam.* Most hopper patterns come in three styles: foam, natural, and parachute.

Dave Goetz: <https://2guysandariver.com/fly-fishing-grasshoppers/>

## ***Blue Ribbon Trout Slam***

MDC and [Trout Unlimited \(link is external\)](#) invite you to go out and test your skills against trout in the riffles and pools of Missouri's nine Blue Ribbon trout streams.

The Missouri Blue Ribbon Trout Slam honors anglers who can catch a trout in at least 5 of these 9 streams. Catch a trout in more than 5 Blue Ribbon streams and your level of achievement goes up. Participants who choose to, can have their successes listed on the MDC website. Here's how the Trout Slam works: Missouri's Blue Ribbon Trout Slam has been divided into three levels of accomplishment.

### ***Bronze***

Catch a trout from 5 of the 9 Blue Ribbon Trout Areas. Award – certificate and bronze pin.

### ***Silver***

Catch a trout from 7 of the 9 Blue Ribbon Trout Areas.  
Award – certificate and silver pin.

### ***Gold***

Catch a trout from all 9 Blue Ribbon Trout Areas.  
Award – certificate, gold pin, and medallion.

Trout of any size caught after January 1, 2020 will qualify for a Blue Ribbon Trout Slam, but trout under 18 inches must be released.

To see the list of achievers (including *Mike Kidd* on the list of Silver Medal achievers), to enter your catch, or see “bragging rights” photos go the following link: <https://huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/fishing/trophies-certificates/blue-ribbon-trout-slam>



Older newsletters through 2007 are archived here: <http://www.mtfa-springfield.org/news-events/newsletter/newsletter-archive/>

If you would like to submit an article for the MTFA newsletter, please put MTFA NL in the email subject line and send to Bob Randall: [bobbyleensandy@gmail.com](mailto:bobbyleensandy@gmail.com)

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