



Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association

Springfield Chapter

www.MTFA-Springfield.org

MTFA_Springfield@yahoo.com

MO Fishing

June 2014

Volume 7 No. 6

Our June 5th meeting will be at the Springfield Nature Center beginning at 6 PM for fly tying and 7 PM for program and business meeting.

Our guest speaker for June is Jim Stouffer. Jim is part owner and manager of Plateau Fly Shop on South Campbell. I am sure most of you have spent time or talked with Jim while shopping for your fly fishing gear and favorite tying materials. Jim will provide a program describing his trips to Fellows Lake, just four miles north of Springfield. Fellow Lake is an 880 acre lake that is a water supply reservoir owned by City utility, but the lake is managed by the MDC with an agreement with the Community Assistance Program (CAP) to provide fishing opportunities near Springfield. He likes to target Muskie on a fly and has taken a few over the years. He will discuss fishing opportunities on Fellow Lake and provide information to get on the lake. Jim will spend some time tying his favorite Muskie fly. You will probably need more material from the shop to get this one right.



Jim Stouffer with a Muskie caught out of Fellows Lake.

Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association - Springfield Chapter Club Business

Calendar for June 2014

June 5	Monthly meeting 6-9 PM Speaker: Jim Stouffer
June 7	Annual Fish Fry
July 3	Monthly meeting 6-9 PM Speaker: Dave Wood
August 7	Monthly meeting 6-9 PM Speaker: TBA

Editor's Note:

Below is the schedule for the MSU class MTFA teaches. Check your schedules for the end of August and September and mark yourself down to volunteer. The help is greatly appreciative and benefits the club, the students and the volunteer.

To all our great teachers and mentors, thank you!

August 21	MSU Fly Fishing Class 6-9:50 PM
August 28	MSU Fly Fishing Class 6-9:50 PM
September 4	MSU Fly Fishing Class 6-9:50 PM No Monthly Meeting
September 11	MSU Fly Fishing Class 6-9:50 PM
September 18	MSU Fly Fishing Class 6-9:50 PM
September 20	MSU Fly Fishing Class to Roaring River SP 9 AM – 4 PM

Get hooked with MDC Free Fishing Days June 7-8

During Free Fishing Days, anyone can fish in the Show-Me State without having to buy a fishing permit, trout stamp, or trout park daily tag.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Get hooked on fishing with the Missouri Department of Conservation's (MDC) Free Fishing Days June 7 and 8. During Free Fishing Days, anyone can fish in the Show-Me State without having to buy a fishing permit, trout stamp, or trout park daily tag. Normal regulations remain in effect, such as limits on size and number of fish an angler can keep. Some private fishing areas may still require permits, and trespass laws remain in effect on private property.

Conservation makes Missouri a great place to fish, and Free Fishing Days encourages people to sample the state's abundant fishing opportunities. Missouri is blessed with more than a million acres of surface water, and most of it provides great fishing. According to MDC, more than 200 different fish species are found in Missouri, with 40 of them being game fish for the state's more than 1.1 million anglers.

Conservation also enriches Missouri's economy and Missourians' quality of life. Fishing in the state generates more than a billion dollars for local communities and the state's economy, and supports thousands of jobs.

Public fishing areas are available in every county in Missouri. Many state-owned fishing areas also have special facilities for anglers with disabilities. Contact your local MDC office for Free Fishing Days near you, or go online to mdc.mo.gov/node/3675.

For information on Missouri fishing regulations, permit requirements, fish identification and more, get a copy of MDC's "2014 Summary of Missouri Fishing Regulations" where permits are sold, at MDC offices, and online at mdc.mo.gov/node/6108.

MDC also offers a weekly fishing report and annual fishing prospects report for general fishing conditions at selected lakes, rivers, and trout parks across Missouri. Get the report online at fishing.mdc.mo.gov/newsletter and sign up to receive a weekly email update.

Anglers can also get weekly fishing reports and annual prospects, plus more, through MDC's "Find MO Fish" free app for mobile phones and other mobile devices. Find MO Fish has a geo-location feature to guide boats right up to fish-attractor locations. Find MO Fish also includes a "Best Bets" location feature for certain fish species. Anglers can also view regulations for specific fish species and locations, and get detailed information on various species through the included Fish Guide. The free app will even show you how to obtain fishing permits. Learn more and download Find MO Fish at mdc.mo.gov/node/15421.

MDC offers tips for avoiding tick-borne illnesses

A few simple precautions can dramatically reduce the potential for infection.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – summertime is hunting, fishing, camping, and hiking time. It also is tick time, and the Missouri Department of Conservation reminds those visiting conservation areas to take time to prevent tick bites.

Ticks can transmit diseases, including ehrlichiosis, tularemia, anaplasmosis, Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, and Southern tick-associated rash illness (STARI). The risk of contracting these illnesses is small but serious, so it is worth taking a few simple precautions to avoid them. Protective clothing is the first line of defense against ticks. When outdoors, wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and boots with pants tucked into socks or boots. Rubber bands, blousing bands, or tape can be used to secure the cuffs of your pants. Once indoors, conduct a thorough tick check and shower as soon as possible to remove any unattached ticks. Tumble clothes in a dryer on high heat to kill remaining ticks before washing your clothing. Insect repellents also reduce the risk of being bitten. Products containing DEET are most effective. Apply DEET-based repellent on exposed skin and clothing. Use a product with at least a 20-percent concentration. Lower concentrations do not repel lone-star ticks, Missouri's most common ticks. Essential oils and natural products are not registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for tick repellency. Be sure to follow label instructions to ensure safety and best results. Products containing permethrin can be applied to clothing and equipment but not directly to skin. Garments must be allowed to dry thoroughly before wearing. These products kill ticks rather than merely repelling them. Again, be sure to follow label directions. Most tick-transmitted diseases are not transferred to the host until the tick has been feeding for some time. The earlier the tick is located and removed, the less the chance of being infected with a tick-borne disease. When you are active outdoors, never allow more than a few hours to pass without a tick inspection. Remove any attached ticks immediately. Proper removal is important, because improper removal can increase the likelihood of infection. Follow these steps to remove a tick that is already attached.

Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible. If you use your fingers, cover them with tissue or rubber gloves. Use only as much pressure as necessary to avoid forcing the tick's stomach contents into the bite.

Remove the tick with a firm outward movement. Never jerk or twist the tick when removing it. After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine scrub, or soap and water. Watch for symptoms of tick-borne disease in the days and weeks following a tick bite. These include any unusual rash and unexplained flu-like symptoms, including fever, severe headaches, body aches, and dizziness.

Symptoms of tick-borne diseases often are mild, but they should not be ignored. If you know a tick has bitten you and any of the above symptoms appear, consult a doctor and mention the recent tick bite. Prompt treatment with antibiotics can prevent serious illness or even death. For more information about tick-borne diseases, visit cdc.gov/ticks/resources/Hunterfactsheet.pdf and cdc.gov/ticks/diseases/.



Turtle Alert!

Motorists can help these harmless, fascinating creatures survive another million years.

JEFFERSON CITY—Have you ever seen a turtle trying to cross a busy highway and wondered how many die under the wheels of automobiles each year? Jeff Briggler has, and as Missouri's state herpetologist, the answer worries him. Briggler and other workers at the Missouri Department of Conservation have made informal observations over the years, counting the number of dead turtles – especially box turtles – on stretches of highway. “We discovered that mortality rates are very high on high-traffic roads,” says Briggler, “whereas mortalities are much lower on less-traveled roads.” In just one day, Briggler counted 116 three-toed box turtles crossing Highway 63 between Jefferson City and Cabool. Of those, 104 had been hit by vehicles. Turtles are struck by cars throughout the warm months, but they are at special risk at this time of year, when they are moving around looking for mates and establishing home ranges. Young males are most at risk. Comfort is a factor, too. Like other reptiles, turtles are cold-blooded. Walking out onto warm asphalt and basking in the morning sun feels good on cool spring days. I did see a satellite pass over and researched it at home; it happened to be the International Space station (ISS). It was brighter than the planets flying over at 8:30 PM. Box turtles live a long time, and females continue laying eggs for most of their lives. They need lots of time to replace themselves, since snakes, raccoons, opossums, and other nest predators eat most of their eggs. A low reproductive rate was not a problem before roads crisscrossed their habitat. Animals that continue laying eggs past 60 years of age have plenty of time to replace themselves. But the unnatural mortality caused by speeding cars is a problem. “Box turtles did not evolve amid thousands of miles of busy highway,” says Briggler. “We don't know very much about how highway mortality will affect their long-term survival, but the implications of our casual observations are worrisome. Animals with low reproductive potential usually cannot sustain the sort of continuing mortality that we see on our roads.” To help, Briggler suggests that motorists slow down when they see a turtle in the road and check to be sure they can safely steer around it. Briggler also is troubled by the too-common practice of capturing box turtles for pets. He said the animals' nutritional needs are not easy to meet in captivity; so captive turtles are likely to die due to improper care. In most cases, that means slow starvation. He suggests keeping a turtle only for a day or two and then releasing it where it was captured. He said this last condition is very important, since turtles are intimately familiar with their home areas. If released in strange surroundings, they have trouble finding food and may wander across roads trying to meet their daily needs. The three-toed box turtle is the species most often seen crossing roads in Missouri. Primarily a woodland species, it is found everywhere but the extreme northern part of Missouri. The ornate box turtle is found in all but the southeastern corner of the state, but is more adapted to grassland and is most common in western Missouri. Young males make up most of the travelers as they search for territories of their own and for female turtles. Three-toed box turtles have three toes on each hind foot, unless they have lost a few appendages to predators or frostbite. Ornate box turtles usually have four toes per hind foot. In keeping with their name, ornate box turtles also have more vivid yellow stripes on a black background on the tops of their shells. The bottoms of their shells typically have streaks of black on a yellow background. For more information about box turtles, visit <http://mdc.mo.gov/node/987>. Automobiles are a significant cause of mortality for three-toed box turtles.



FISH FRY

When: Saturday June 7, 2014

Where: Living Memorial Park

Time: 6 pm



The club will furnish the fish and potatoes and tableware. If you are coming, please bring one of the following: salad, vegetable dish, fruit dish or dessert. This is a time to socialize, eat good food and just relax and get to know others in the club. Bring a lawn chair and plan to spend the evening.

Additional Information on Fellows Lake

Springfield City Utilities owns the Fellows Lake area and is responsible for all area facilities and maintenance. A staffed City Utilities office is located on the area. A City Utilities permit is required to launch a boat. A 40-HP motor size restriction applies. A well-marked buoy line limits access to the lower portion of the lake. Access to parking areas, the boat ramp and docks is limited to the time period between sunrise and sunset. All boats must be off the lake by sunset each day. Boat rentals are available at the marina. City Utilities maintains the picnic areas, playground equipment, pavilions, and hiking trails. For more information on facilities and boat permits call 417-863-9000. During waterfowl hunting season, fishing access to the south arm of the lake is allowed only after 1 PM. Fish attractors (brush piles) are periodically placed and replenished throughout the lake. -This information was obtained from the MDC web site:

<http://mdc4.mdc.mo.gov/Applications/MOATLAS/AreaSummaryPage.aspx?txtAreaID=9118>

Bennett Spring Mid-season meeting

You are invited to a Mid-season Meeting on Monday, June 16, 2014 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at the Bennett Room (formerly Gaston's Tackle). This invitation is not limited to you only. If you know of interested individuals who would benefit from the information being discussed, please invite them.

We will discuss projected numbers of fish and sizes for the rest of the season, an overview of the MDC Coldwater Hatchery system, trout fishing in Missouri, and the Discover Nature Fishing program. If you have any questions about the topics covered or would like another topic addressed please call me at 417-532-4418.

I look forward to seeing you on Monday, June 16, 2014. If you would like to discuss anything before the meeting, you can drop by the hatchery office, call the office at (417-532-4418), or email (Michael.Mitchell@mdc.mo.gov).

BENNETT SPRING TROUT PARK
MID-SEASON MEETING
THE BENNETT ROOM
MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2014
6:30-9:00 pm

6:30pm – 7:00pm

Welcome and Hatchery update – Mike Mitchell

7:00pm – 7:30pm

Coldwater Hatchery Overview- James Civiello

7:30pm – 8:00pm

Trout Fishing in Missouri – Craig Fuller

8:00pm – 8:30pm

Discover Nature Fishing – Dave Woods

8:30pm – 9:00pm

Questions and Answers – All

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If you would like to submit an article for the MTFA newsletter

Please put MTFA in the email subject line and send to

The Editor at the above email address

2014 MTFA -Springfield Chapter Officers

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2 Year Executive Committee Member	Warren Wilkerson / Mark Strothkamp	
1 Year Executive Committee Member	Charlie Erickson / John Prugger	
Monthly meetings at the Springfield Nature Center are the first Thursday of the month at 6 PM for Fly tying and 7 PM for programs and business meeting.		
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