

MO Fishing

April 2011

Volume 4 No. 4

There will not be a meeting at the Nature Center this month as the MSU class is on April 7th.

See you in May. Good fishing and remember, your help with the classes is always appreciated.

Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association - Springfield Chapter Activities for April 2011

April 7	MSU Class 6 PM
April 14	MSU Class 6 PM
April 28	MSU Class 6 PM
April 30	MSU Class Roaring River 9am - 4:30pm

Greetings from Ralph:

I thought spring was here, but it sure turned cold again yesterday (March 24). At the first MSU Fly-fishing class, several of our students and instructors cut the casting short because of the cold. We had 20 students enrolled, but only 16 were there for the first class. We had about 18 or 19 helpers present. Thanks to all of those helpers and to all those who will help in the next few weeks. **Remember we will not have an April meeting due to the class being taught.** Everyone seemed to like our new location, very spacious and it looks like it will be ideal for videos. I thought the students all were enthusiastic about the class.

March was busy, with the Sowbug and the MSU classes beginning and it looks like April will be the same. We had 4 or 5 tyers from MTFA at the Sowbug and I ran into several other friends. Fished the Norfolk Friday morning and Saturday evening and the White Sunday morning. Landed nothing of great size, but those I did land on my new TFO 4 weight proved lots of fun. I fooled them all with my soft hackles! The upper White, just below Bull Shoals Dam was covered with whitish algae that I confirmed was didymo.

On March 21, I went to the "open house" on didymo at Bennett Spring. I was disappointed in the format; there were a few areas set up with information, several people from the state to answer questions, and a survey they wanted us to complete. There was not any presentation of any type. They did have two vials of alga, one algae was white (didymo) and the other was green (false didymo). This is where I became sure that what I saw below Bull Shoals was didymo. My comment on the survey was that cleaning equipment was more important than eliminating felt soles. I usually wear rubber soles, but I don't believe everyone should have to go out and buy new boots now. It does look like when you buy new boots in the future, felt may not be an option because of the manufacturers.

There is a pre-derby meeting March 26 and I'll put information about the derby somewhere else in the newsletter. I'll also have the didymo "fact sheet" either here in the newsletter or if there isn't room, I'll have several copies at the May meeting.

Events coming up are MSU classes April 7, 14, and 28 with our trip to Roaring River April 30. Also, remember to visit us online at mtfa-springfield.org or on Facebook: MTFA-Springfield. Kim has put some pictures on Facebook from various "events".

Did you know? By Ralph Eichholz

When the Federal Convention, meeting in Philadelphia in 1787 took a break from July 26 until August 6, to allow a detail committee to report back with a draft that George Washington, president of the convention went fishing. On four days during that time his diary entry talked about his fishing on those days. But his big success in fishing was his commercial fishing. It was the consistently the most profitable of his commercial endeavors in Fairfax County.

Three presidents, Jimmy Carter (*An Outdoor Journal*), Grover Cleveland, (*Fishing and Shooting Sketches*) and Herbert Hoover (*Fishing for Fun*) wrote books about fishing.

When the president goes to Camp David, the press is allowed in for the landing and the departure of the helicopter, but then must leave immediately. When Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter flew in, they would often wait for the press to depart and then they would get back on the copter and fly to the farm of Wayne Harpster in Pennsylvania to fish for the weekend. According to Mrs. Carter, the press never knew they left the compound.

When Carter lost the 1980 election to Ronald Reagan and returned to Plains, Georgia he discovered two prized bamboo rods had been stolen. When he went fishing with Wayne Harpster on Spruce Creek, he and his friends commiserated more on the loss of the rods than on the election.

George Bush, his son Jeb and Prime Minister of Canada, Brian Mulroney where fishing for blues and having a great day catching. Jeb's bail was not working properly and Jeb made a bad cast. His Rapala plug pierced his father's ear, the barb going all the way through. The Prime Minister said "Gosh, we'd better go in and get that attended to." President Bush replied "Jeez, we don't get fishing like this very often; we're not going in now." One of the secret service men clipped the barb, pulled the hook back through and they kept fishing.

These came from the book *Fishing with the Presidents* by Bill Mares. The book is a collection of anecdotes, political cartoons from the president's time, and lots of photographs of the president's fishing experiences. It was published in 1999, so the most recent presidents aren't included. I thought the book was humorous, and gave another aspect of many of our leaders. I really enjoyed the pictures. If you like history, I believe you would enjoy this book. Although the author is a fly fisherman, he wasn't prejudiced by his preference. There are several quotes from the presidents and the work is well documented (I just ignored most of the footnotes). Most of you history buffs will recognize the name Steven E. Ambrose; author and presidential historian. His simple review was "Bill Mares has written a unique book about the fishing habits of the United States presidents-good, bad, or indifferent. A fly fisherman himself, he writes with vigor and perception, When you read his book, you too will be hooked."

This is another book in my collection that if you would like to read and can't find, I could probably be persuaded to lend out. I've also a copy of *An Outdoor Journal*, but I think that could be found in most community libraries.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ralph".

The Federal Fish Hatchery in Neosho is the Oldest Still Operational within the U.S. Fisheries Division, established in 1888. Stocking 250,000 trout annually to Taneycomo in Branson.

Here is Neosho's link and contact information to the Hatchery Manager David Hendrix:
<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/News/release.cfm?rid=303>

Here is a larger overview of data for the fisheries system: <http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/nfhs/rainbowtrout.htm>

For those who do not want to re-invent the wheel the Friends of the Norfolk have letters to appropriate offices in a generic format that is printer friendly. You can just fill in your legislators info as well as the senders information- below is the link to it: www.norforkhatcheryfriends.org

Also there is a petition online that goes directly to the Department of the Interior and also the House of Representatives in DC.

Here is that Link: <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/save-National-Fish-Hacheries/>

Lastly "snail Mail" is the most effective and sent individually can make a real impression on our elected officials.

Below you will find all of the Missouri Legislators-

Senators: Missouri 112th Congress Roy Blunt, (R) B4 DC Dirksen Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510 DC Ph: 202-224-5721	Claire McCaskill, (D) 505 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510 DC Ph: 202-224-6154
Missouri House of Representatives- Congress Distr. 1- William Lacy Clay, Jr. (D) U.S. House of Representatives 2418 Rayburn House Office Bldg Washington, DC 20515-2501 DC Ph: 202-225-2406 DC Fax: 202-226-3717	District 2- Todd W. Atkins (R) U.S. House of Representatives 117 Cannon House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515-2502 DC Ph:202-225-2561 DC Fax: 202-225-2563
District 3- Russ Carnahan (D) U.S. House of Representatives 1710 Longworth House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515-2503 DC Ph: 202-225-2671 DC Fax: 202-225-7452	District 4- Vicky Hartzler (R) U.S. House of Representatives 1023 Longworth House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515-2504 DC Ph: 202-225-2504 DC Fax: 202-225-0148

District 5- Emanuel Cleaver, II (D) U.S. House of Representatives 1433 Longworth House Office Bldg Washington, DC 20515-2505 DC Ph: 202-225-4535 DC Fax: 202-225-4403	District 6- Sam Graves (R) U.S. House of Representatives 1415 Longworth House Office Bldg Washington, DC 20515-2506 DC Ph: 202-225-7041 DC Fax: 202-225-8221
District 7- Billy Long (R) U.S. House of Representatives 1541 Longworth House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515-2507 DC Ph: 202-225-6536 DC Fax: 202-225-5604	District 8- Jo Ann Emerson (R) U.S. House of Representatives 2230 Rayburn House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515-2508 DC Ph: 202-225-4404 DC Fax: 202-226-0326
District 9- Blaine Luetkemeyer (R) U.S. House of Representatives 1740 Longworth House Office Bldg Washington, DC 20515-2509 DC Ph: 202-225-2956 DC Fax: 202-225-5712	

Hope this is enough to get you going, and as always contact me with further questions that you might have.

My contact information is below.

Teresa VanWinkle

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From MCDonline

Rock Snot Prevention

The latest invader to threaten Missouri sounds awful, and it could be even worse than its name. *Didymosphenia geminata*, commonly known as “didymo” or “rock snot,” is a type of algae that forms dense mats on stream bottoms. It has gained footholds in streams worldwide, including some of the most revered trout waters on Earth. The infestation nearest to Missouri is in the White River just south of the Missouri-Arkansas border.

The jury is still out concerning didymo’s possible ecological effects. It definitely is bad news for anglers, though. Stringy algae threads catch on hooks from dry flies to crankbaits, making fishing nearly impossible.

MDC has been holding public open-house forums to help educate anglers and boaters about rock snot. The last of these will take place at 6 p.m. April 7 at the Emory Melton Inn and Conference Center at Roaring River State Park and at 6 p.m. April 11 at the James Memorial Library, 300 W. Scioto St., St. James.

Contamination of recreational equipment, such as boats, life jackets and fishing gear, particularly waders, is the most common way for didymo to spread. MDC is considering regulation changes to reduce this risk, but Missourians can take preventive action on their own right now.

To avoid spreading rock snot, remember: “**Check. Clean. Dry.**”

- Check all gear and equipment and remove any visible algae. Do not dispose of algae by putting it down a drain or into bodies of water.

- Clean all gear and equipment with a solution of 2-percent bleach, 5-percent saltwater or dish detergent. Allow all equipment to stay in contact with the solution for at least one minute. Soak all soft items, such as felt-soled waders and life jackets, in the solution for at least 20 minutes.
- Dry all gear and equipment in the sun for at least 48 hours.
- Replacing felt-soled waders with rubber-soled models also reduces the risk of spreading rock snot and other invasive species.



Didymosphenia geminata, commonly known as “didymo” or “rock snot

(What we don’t want in our streams. Ish.

The Editor states an opinion.) Please wash everything and then wash it again.

Editor’s Note: *This letter was sent to Larry Wegmann It should be of great interest to our members. I have had to do a touch of editing to get as much information in as possible.*

The information below is geared toward re-instating the funds from the FY2012 Presidents Budget Cut. The \$6.3 Million dollar cut will be devastating not only to the luxury of fishing but to the substantial income throughout the U.S. of \$325 million and 3,500 jobs and all through the resource of only 9 Hatcheries.

2011 MTFA -Springfield Chapter Officers

President	Ralph Eichholz	581-6456
President Elect	Bill Huyett	343-2591
Secretary	Dorothy Prugger	862-9972
Treasurer	Connie Erickson	890-7243
3 Year Executive Committee Member	Lezley Chastain, Dick Deerfield	
2 Year Executive Committee Member	Russ Doughty John Richerson	
1 Year Executive Committee Member	Warren Wilkerson Joe Simecek	

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.

Committee Chairs

Program Chair – Kim Schultz
Education Chair – Ralph Eichholz
Social Chair - Connie Erickson
Newsletter Editor – Eve Krit-Anderson,
Newsletter Advisory Editor - Kim Shultz
Librarian – Kevin Smith
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