

# LINES & LEADERS

*Newsletter of the Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association*

## *April Meeting*

*Subject:* THE HENRYVILLE FISHING CLUB  
by JOE D'ADDARIO

*Place:* VETERAN'S MEMORIAL, SUNSET RIDGE  
EAST HARTFORD

*Date:* WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 1990

*Time:* FLY TYING 7:00 PM  
PROGRAM 7:30 PM

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REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR CFFA MEMBERSHIP!  
THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST LINES & LEADERS!  
FINAL NOTICES ARE BEING MAILED THIS MONTH

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## *"From the Vest of the President"*

If the warm March weather didn't switch your vision from skiing to fishing, the panel of speakers at our March meeting certainly did. Especially after the news that there are 1800 new fish in the Willi Trout Management Area including one fish of 6 to 7 pounds! I have often felt that I didn't get out fishing as much as a lot of members do, and felt a little guilty about it. Now that I need some fishing stories for the "Vest" I intend to do something about it. I have the opportunity to fish in CT and Vermont, and would like to try my hand at river fishing for smallmouth bass. I will definitely let you all know how things turn out, and I hope that you will return the effort with some stories of your own for Lines and Leaders.

One other aspect of Spring to keep in mind is our annual Fly Fishing School. We have some 30 eager students, some of whom have fly fished before and some of whom have not. They need your help at our casting practise on Saturday, April 7 and our on-stream instruction on the Willi on Saturday, May 5. You don't have to be an "expert" caster or fly fisher to help out. We'll be dealing with the basics, and if you know the basic casts, knots, and techniques you know enough to help our students apply their classroom instruction on their own. If you can give us a hand on either day, please call education chairman Wally Murray at 632-1449.

We have several openings on the Board of Directors, and one position has just become more open than we thought. A former Board member was interested in the position of Secretary, but just received word that all of his first weeks of the month are taken from now to Christmas! We're sorry he won't be rejoining us, but this presents an opportunity for someone else to get involved with the running of CFFA. The Board meets the first wednesday of each month except July, and the Secretary records the main points of reports, discussions, and votes of the Board; types or has someone type minutes; and presents copies of the minutes at the next meeting. Being Secretary takes a minimal amount of time, gives you an exposure to other activities you may want to become involved in, and is important to the operation of our club. If this is your job, please call me at 246-0728. We would like to fill this position at the April Board meeting if possible.

Tight lines,

*Larry Johnson*

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CFFA HOTLINE IS NOW AVAILABLE

CALL 237-2010

## The Willimantic River TMA

On Friday, March 9, the Willimantic River TMA received it's annual stocking of trout. Once again, the weather cooperated and provided us with a warm, sunny day. Everything went pretty much as planned. The river was stocked mostly by live cart, so the fish were spread out fairly evenly. This is a great idea. I couldn't help but feel good every time I released a trout from the cart. It is nice knowing that there are fish throughout the TMA area and not just in a few easily accessible spots in the river. I have been fishing this TMA area for about four years now and every year my appreciation of this TMA increases. It is not a Housatonic or Farmington but it has a few unique features of its own.

I feel that this river is passed over by many fly-fishermen (unfortunately, it is not overlooked by a few poaching spin/bait fishermen). This river can provide many a day's excellent fishing. Many agree that this river is good for early season only. Generally speaking, this is true. Last year I was able to fish this TMA area until the end of July. As a matter of fact, there were many times I had difficulty wading due to high water. But overall, I would say it has decent hatches, along with some nice pools and runs.

I admit, last year's flows were the exception and not the rule. This is not to say that the TMA area won't support holdover trout. I believe it already does. With some help, it would probably hold more. The river now has some low water trout structures. This is one way of improving the river. There are other ways of improving trout habitat. One way is to increase water flows during the summer months. I am aware of several dams and a sewage treatment plant upstream in Stafford. If we could get the cooperation of the owners of these dams to release more water when needed, the trout would most likely have a better chance of surviving the summer. I don't know if this next piece of information is true, but I heard that the sewage treatment plant doesn't release all the water that it diverts from the river. I also heard that the waste water can be very warm, thus increasing the chances of more stress on the trout. If both of these claims are true, then there are some more options.

If the water can be kept clean and cool, we could then release this water back into the river. Now some of you must think I am dreaming, and that this would be an expensive task. Maybe it would be. But then again, maybe it wouldn't be. I have a few more ideas, and I'll bet many of you do, too. We really need to protect and enhance this fine river. I don't have all the answers, but if anyone can help, please call me on the NEW CFFA HOT LINE: 237-2010. Regards, Dave Harduby

# WILLIMANTIC RIVER FLY FISHING ONLY & NO-KILL



TOLLAND

WILLINGTON

TO MASS  
STATE LINE

GAS

WILLIMANTIC RIVER  
CONTROLLED AREA  
AUGUST, 1983

TO HARTFORD

41 PRIVATE SAND &  
GRAVEL PIT  
42 VERMONT CENTRAL RR

- 1 THE POND
- 2 ROARING BROOK
- 3 JUNCTION POOL & BEGINNING OF FLY FISHING ONLY & NO-KILL
- 4 ROARING BROOK POOL
- 5 LAUREL FLATS
- 6 CORNER POOL
- 7 TARTAN POOL
- 8 THE ISLAND
- 9 THE FLATS
- 10 ABUTMENT POOL
- 11 BOULDER POOL
- 12 UPPER BRIDGE POOL
- 13 LOWER BRIDGE POOL
- 14 TALL PINES POOL
- 15 FOREST RUN
- 16 DEER RUN
- 17 SECOND ISLAND
- 18 SAND PIT RUN
- 19 GRAPE VINE POOL
- 20 ELBOW POOL
- 21 DOVE HOLLOW POOL & THIRD ISLAND
- 22 BANK POOL
- 23 HORSESHOE POOL
- 24 END FLY FISHING ONLY & NO-KILL
- 25 SECOND ABUTMENT
- 26 LABONTE BROOK
- 27 THE CULVERT
- 28 SCHOOLHOUSE BROOK
- 29 COMMUTER PARKING LOT DRAIN SEDIMENT OVERFLOW
- 30 COMMUTER PARKING LOT
- 31 GATE OPENING
- 32 ROUTE 74
- 33 ROUTE 32
- 34 NYE HOLMAN STATE FOREST
- 35 ROUTE 86 EXIT 100
- 36 ROUTE 86 EXIT 101
- 37 EASTBOUND REST-STOP
- 38 WESTBOUND REST-STOP
- 39 PARKING
- 40 RIVER ROAD

MAP BY LIONEL R. MACDONALD

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BRUSH CLEARING ON THE WILLIMANTIC

SATURDAY APRIL 7, 1990

MEET AT 9 AM AT NYE HOLMAN

CONTACT Kurt Jagielow for further details  
Phone: 870-9496

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COME HELP US AT THE BOY SCOUTS JAMBOREE

SATURDAY MAY 19, 1990

HEBRON FAIR GROUNDS

CONTACT Bruce Cole for more info  
Phone: 693-2250

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RIVERS SURVEY

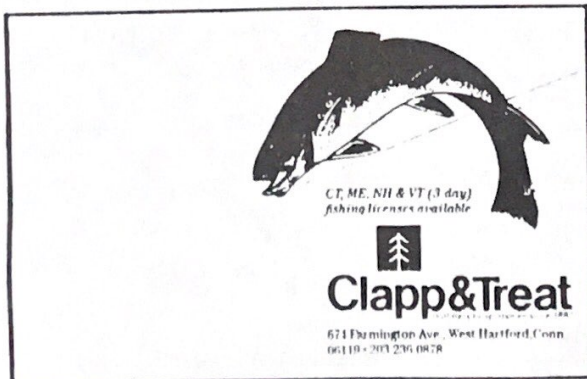
In an attempt to determine the needs and wants of sportsmen across Connecticut, the Department of Environmental Protection is sending out the enclosed surveys.

Everyone is always COMPLAINING about the conditions and quality of our natural fisheries. This is a golden opportunity for the club members to influence the direction our fisheries will take. If every club member takes a few minutes to fill out the survey, perhaps the proposed \$3 million budget cut will not take place. The DEP budget is a mere one half of one percent of the State's annual general fund.

We need to have concerns and interests heard so please take the time to fill these surveys out and send them in. THEY ARE YOUR RIVERS AND STREAMS!!!

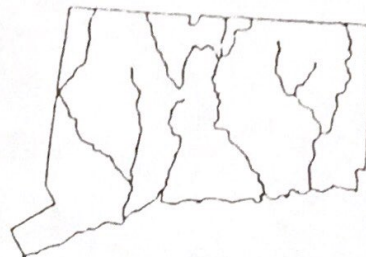
SEND IN YOUR SURVEY

Kurt Jagielow



# Rivers

Survey



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## RIVERS SURVEY

The current demand for use of Connecticut's rivers is unprecedented in the state's history. Our rivers and streams support public water supply, recreation, waste assimilation, power generation, agriculture, transportation, fisheries, wildlife and plant habitat, and a variety of other uses. These uses are increasingly in conflict with each other. The challenge facing Connecticut is to balance the competing and conflicting demands made upon our river resources.

The Department of Environmental Protection is in the process of developing a river management program to address this challenge and implement a priority issue of Connecticut's Environmental Plan Environment/2000 (see Connecticut Environment, June 1989). As part of this effort, the Department is conducting a statewide assessment in cooperation with the National Park Service to compile information about the state's rivers as a basis for improved management decisions. The assessment is an intensive effort to gather information about the resource categories, as listed below, related to rivers.

In an assessment as large as this one, we need your help to insure that we do not overlook any important river areas, uses and values. Please take a moment to complete the following questions, attaching additional information, if necessary, and return by April 15, 1990:

Rivers Program  
DEP-Natural Resources Center  
165 Capitol Avenue, Room 553  
Hartford, CT 06106

Please indicate which activities you or your organization are involved in and which Connecticut rivers you use.

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe your frequency of use. \_\_\_\_\_

Please tell us a little about your favorite river or rivers. Use a separate sheet for each river.

River Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Segment (indicate town location and any major landmark nearby)

from: \_\_\_\_\_

to: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle any uses and values which you feel are especially important for this river.

fisheries and wildlife  
critical natural resources  
scenic resources  
historic & archeologic resources  
public water supply  
power generation  
industrial, commercial &  
agricultural use

waste assimilation  
transportation  
land use  
recreational use  
other \_\_\_\_\_

Please identify any documents, persons or organizations that you know of that have additional information about the river or any of the resources listed above:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe activities or conditions that are detrimental to the river or adjacent lands, in your opinion.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you aware of any competing or conflicting uses or interests?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How effective have the existing local regulations (wetlands, zoning) been in helping to assure the protection of this resource?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What actions could be taken to better manage and protect this area?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Any other comments?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

May we put you on our mailing list to receive further information about the Rivers Program? If yes, please provide your name and address below:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

"CATCH OF A LIFETIME"

Condensed from Minneapolis Star Tribune

James P. Lenfestey

Reprinted with permission from the February 1989 Reader's Digest.

He was 11 years old, and went fishing every chance he got from the dock at his family's cabin on an island in the middle of a New Hampshire lake.

On the day before the bass season opened, he and his father were fishing early in the evening, catching sunfish and perch with worms. Then he tied on a small silver lure and practiced casting. The lure struck the water and caused colored ripples in the sunset, then silver ripples as the moon rose over the lake.

When his pole doubled over, he knew something huge was on the other end. His father watched with admiration as the boy skillfully worked the fish alongside the dock.

Finally he very gingerly lifted the exhausted fish from the water. It was the largest one he had ever seen, but it was a bass.

The boy and his father looked at the handsome fish, gills playing back and forth in the moonlight. The father lit a match and looked at his watch. It was 10 p.m. - two hours before the season opened. He looked at the fish, then at the boy.

"You'll have to put it back, son," he said.

"Dad!" cried the boy.

"There will be other fish," said his father.

"Not as big as this one," cried the boy.

He looked around the lake. No other fishermen or boats were anywhere around in the moonlight. He looked again at his father.

Even though no one had seen them, nor could anyone ever know what time he caught the fish, the boy could tell by the clarity of his father's voice that the decision was not negotiable. He slowly worked the hook out of the lip of the huge bass, and lowered it into the black water.

The creature swished its powerful body and disappeared. The boy suspected that he would never again see such a great fish.

That was 34 years ago. Today, the boy is a successful architect in New York City. His father's cabin is still there on the island in the middle of the lake. He takes his own son and daughters fishing from the same dock.

And he was right. He has never again caught such a magnificent fish as the one he landed that night long ago. But he does see that same fish - again and again - every time he comes up against a question of ethics.

For, as his father taught him, ethics are simple matters of right and wrong. It is only the practice of ethics that is difficult. Do we do right when no one is looking? Do we refuse to cut corners to get the design in on time? Or refuse to trade stocks based on information that we know we aren't supposed to have?

We would if we were taught to put the fish back when we were young. For we would have learned the truth.

The decision to do right lives fresh and fragrant in our memory. It is a story we will proudly tell our friends and grandchildren.

Not about how we had a chance to beat the system and took it, but about how we did the right thing and were forever strengthened.



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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### CFFA FLY FISHING SCHOOL

MARCH	2, 1990	
MARCH	9, 1990	
MARCH	16, 1990	
APRIL	7, 1990	
MAY	1990	(TBA)

The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association, Inc., is organized to "Preserve and Promote the Pleasures and Tradition of Fly Fishing and to Conserve Gamefish Waters." CFFA membership meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. September through May. Meetings are held at the Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, Sunset Ridge Dr., East Hartford, CT. "Lines & Leaders" is the official publication of the Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association, Inc. and is distributed to its membership and allies of conservation. Business card ads may be placed at the cost of \$5 per ad or \$40 for 9 months. CFFA member may place for sale or want ads of a noncommercial nature without charge. Newsletter correspondence should be sent to: Pam Hurrey, 34 Northwoods Lane, Middletown, CT 06457. Change of address notices and other correspondence should be sent to CFFA, P.O. Box 18268, Silver Lane, East Hartford, CT 06118.

Copy deadline: second Wednesday of month previous to publication



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