

Arlington Anglers Fishing Club

Right in Our Backyards



By Bob Diebold

With the price of gas quickly approaching \$4 per gallon and out-of-state Wisconsin fishing licenses requiring home equity loans, fishing close to home is starting to sound much better. The Cook County Forest Preserve District manages over 40 lakes for sport fishing. Last month, FPD Fisheries Biologist Jim Phillips presented some facts and pictures that clearly showed the fishing opportunities right down the road.

In 2010, the following fish were stocked:

- Channel Cats (27,415)
- Bluegill (6,058)
- Sunfish (5,520)
- Musky (820)
- Pike (3,294)
- Rainbows (13,000)
- Smallmouth Bass (3,000)

Rainbow trout are stocked twice a year. The spring season opens April 2nd. Fish samples are taken annually on most of the lakes via nets and shocking to determine populations, health, and stocking success rates. The FPD website can be found at www.fpdcc.com.



Jim Phillips, Fisheries Biologist for the Cook County Forest Preserves, shows the new FPD lake maps to AA member Vic Skuren at the 3/15 meeting.
PHOTO BY: ARLINGTON ANGLERS

On the Fishing page of their site, many helpful items can be found including the FPDCC Fishing Guide that includes lake maps, directions, and species. New hydrographic maps will soon be available with much greater detail and depth graduations.

The FPD spends a great deal on shoreline reconstruction to avoid bank erosion and provide fishing spots.

Electric trolling motors can be used at most of the bigger lakes, but gas powered motors can only be used on the lower Des Plaines and Calumet Rivers.

Nearly all State rules and regulations hold true for fishing in the preserves. One exception is that **bow and arrow fishing for rough fish is not permitted in the preserves**. Also all waters in the forest preserves are designated **FISH PRESERVES**. Fishermen are limited to **two lines with no more than two hooks per line and no trolley lines**. A valid Illinois hook and line fishing license is required except for persons that are under 16, disabled or blind. Ice fishing is permitted on designated District lakes on a FISH AT YOUR OWN RISK basis. Ice conditions are not monitored by the District.

This is a great time of year to seek out and try out a new fishing club after you hit the big fishing shows. You have a no-risk opportunity to see first hand what a club can do for you.

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Attend our Arlington Angler's meeting on April 19th at 7 PM. Jim Kopje, The Crappie Professor, will be putting on a hands-on Crappie and Panfish Techniques Seminar. The Seminar will be held at the Harper College Reservoir (Algonquin Road, east of Roselle Road).

Upcoming dates to remember:

Apr 16 – Outing – Chain of Lakes, State Park
Apr 19 – Meeting – Crappie and Panfish Tactics, Jim Kopjo
Apr 23 – Outing – Lake Delavan WI, County Launch
Apr 27 – Outing – Lake Michigan Perch/Coho, Waukegan
Apr 28-May 1 Outing – Lake Shelbyville, Eagle Creek SP
May 5-7 – Outing – Wolf River White Bass, Fremont, WI
May 12-15 – Outing – Clinton Lake, Camp Quest
May 17 – Meeting – Fly Tying and Fishing Demo
May 19 – Outing – Lake Beulah WI
May 21 – Outing – Lake Geneva, Wms Bay
May 28 – Outing - Lake Delavan WI

Come to one of our meetings to find out more about our club, activities and outings. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. We meet at Dick's Sporting Goods (lower level) in the Streets of Woodfield Shopping Center, Schaumburg, IL. Door prizes, speaker, raffles, fishing reports: Give it a try!

For further information contact our President, Tom Curtin at 312-560-9876 or visit our website at <http://www.arlingtonanglers.com>



Staff Machas and Rich Rosenwinkel answer questions at the AA Club Booth at the Rolling Meadows Fishing Flea Market on 3/12
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