

Free State Fly Fishers Blairs Pond, Delaware

When: Tuesday, April 9, 2019

Where: Blairs Pond, Milford, Delaware

Outing Coordinator: Mike Mattia (mmmattia2013@yahoo.com or 443-570-4735)

Meeting Time/Location: Everyone should plan to meet at Mill Park in Milton, Delaware at 10:00 AM. If you want to carpool/caravan, plan to meet at 8:00 AM at the parking lot of the Bay 50 Shopping Center, 1544 Whitehall Road Annapolis, MD 21409. The shopping center is just off eastbound Route 50 prior to the Bay Bridge and is east of Angler's Sport Center on Whitehall Road. The caravan will leave promptly at 8:30 AM.

Directions to Blairs Pond: Blairs Pond is about a 1 hour 15 minute drive from Annapolis, located in Milford, DE. There is a boat ramp into Blairs Pond located on Williamsville Road, Rt. 443, about 4 miles West of Milford, DE. For the GPS: If you type "Blairs Pond" into Google Maps, the Blairs Pond boat ramp will come right up. In general, take Rt. 50 across the Bay Bridge to Rt. 404 to Denton, MD. In Denton, take Rt. 313 North to 317 East to Delaware. In Delaware, 317 becomes Rt. 14. Take Rt. 14 to Hammondtown Rd to Rt. 116/Williamsville Rd. The Blairs Pond boat ramp is on Williamsville Rd, about 4 miles East of Milford.

Species of Interest: Bluegill, Crappie, Pickerel.

Equipment Needed: Recommend a 4-6 weight fly rod. Recommend you include an ultra-light to medium spinning rod in your equipment as well.

Rods: Fly Rods from 4-6 wt with floating line as we will be fishing in 2-5' depths

Recommended Flies: Blairs Pond features excellent bluegill fishing in April, so our favorite Bluegill flies/poppers apply here. Streamers such as Clouser Minnows, Bullethead Darters, Woolly Buggers and Crystal Buggers in hook sizes 2 through 1/0 for targeting pickerel. For anyone using Spinning gear and small spinners or spinner/fly combinations work well here as will very small minnow type lures.

License Required: Delaware license. A license is available on-line with credit card purchase. A seven day tourist (non-resident) license costs \$12.50 + \$1 handling, or \$20 for the whole year. The following is the link to website to acquire your Delaware fishing license:

<https://egov.dnrec.delaware.gov/egovpublic/dnrec/disp?doc=publicsubmenu&op=fwlicense&dept=5>

Follow instructions from this page forward, including printing of sample license, then proceed to link under step 3.

Safety Equipment: Please remember that if you are planning to fish from any type of water craft—boat, kayak, canoe, float tube—be sure you have a PFD that fits. And remember it is not a cushion for you to sit on—it's made to wear. In the Winter and Spring when water is below 60 degrees it presents an acute, rapid onset hypothermia threat if you fall in; be sure you have a plan to keep yourself safe such as immersion protection clothing or some other strategy. We recommend you also bringing some type of signaling device—a loud whistle works well or VHF radio. A first aid kit in your vehicle is always a good idea. And hand sanitizer is always useful if for nothing but to get the fish smell off your hands.

Please do be safe out there as it is your responsibility to stay within your capabilities and practice water safety at all time.

On all FSFF sponsored outings, please do be safe out there as it is your responsibility to stay within your capabilities and practice water safety at all time. Check with the above listed outing coordinator for more information on the fishing conditions if you have any concerns or questions. Most importantly, enjoy the fellowship of your fellow members through fly fishing and tight lines!