

Saturday, February 6, 2021 Free State Fly Fishers' Fly Tying Session



We will be tying three different flies, two shad fly patterns given shad season is coming up in March and one very effective fly pattern that is back due to popular demand (aka the new club President asked for this fly to be included). Below please find photos of each of the three flies and the list of materials you will need to have at hand to tie each pattern.

Bruce's Hickory Shad Fly and Bruce's White Shad Fly are both very simple yet very effective shad fly patterns. My shad fly fishing boxes (photo to the left) are filled with both patterns and slight versions of each one. You will also see some other shad patterns I use for American Shad and Hickory Shad. And yeah, you did see some shad darts I keep handy in case conditions are such that I need to reach for my spinning rod.

Bruce's Hickory Shad Fly

Materials List

Hook: Mustad #9672 Size 8
Thread: Fire-orange flat waxed nylon
Body: Wide flat silver or gold tinsel
Wing: Red and yellow marabou
Head: Fire-orange flat waxed nylon



Bruce's White Shad Fly

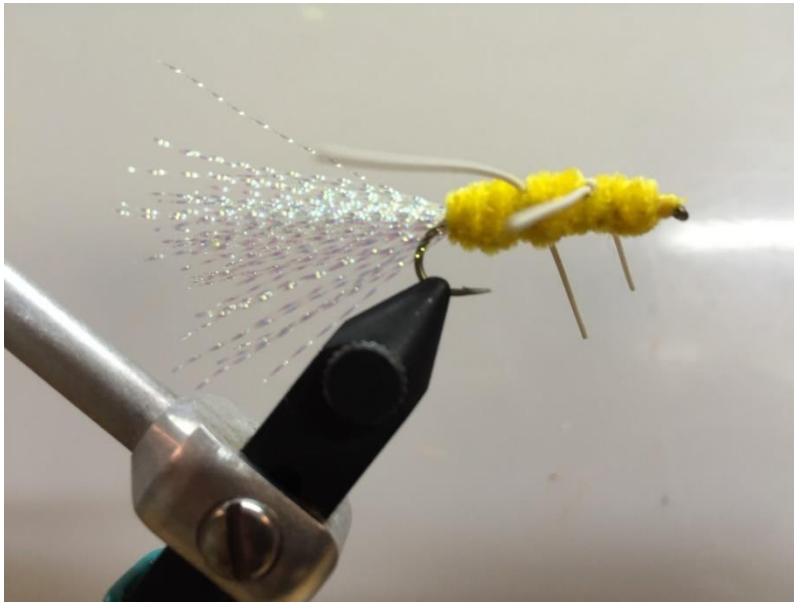
Materials List

Hook: Mustad #34001 Size 1/0
Thread: Fire-orange flat waxed nylon
Tail: Fire-orange flat waxed nylon
Body: Golden olive, pearl, or chartreuse flash chenille
Head: Red medium chenille



Modified Girdle Bug

I also refer to it as “Tom Gooding’s Shenandoah Smallmouth Bass Killer Fly” as Tom shared this pattern with me decades ago while on a float trip down the South Fork Shenandoah. It has caught A LOT of smallmouth bass over the years and over a dozen other species in creeks, rivers, ponds, lakes and Chesapeake Bay. When you find a fly like a woolly bugger which you can catch fish species from brown trout to bluegill to rockfish to yellow perch to small and largemouth bass, keep some in all your fly boxes!



Materials List

Hook: Mustad #9672 Size 6,8
Thread: Yellow flat waxed nylon
Tail: Pearl krystal flash, pearl flashabou
Weight: Non-lead wire
Body: Medium yellow chenille
Legs: Round white rubber legs
Head: Yellow flat waxed nylon

Tight lines, Rich Batiuk