

Kayak Fly Fishing in Tidal Rivers, Creeks & Millponds

^
Local

Presentation
for



by
Mark Bange

17 February 2024



My Goals Today

To show you that:



Kayaks and flyrods make a great pairing

Kayak fly fishing is a simple, effective and relaxing way to fish

Local waters are great venues to pursue this kind of fishing

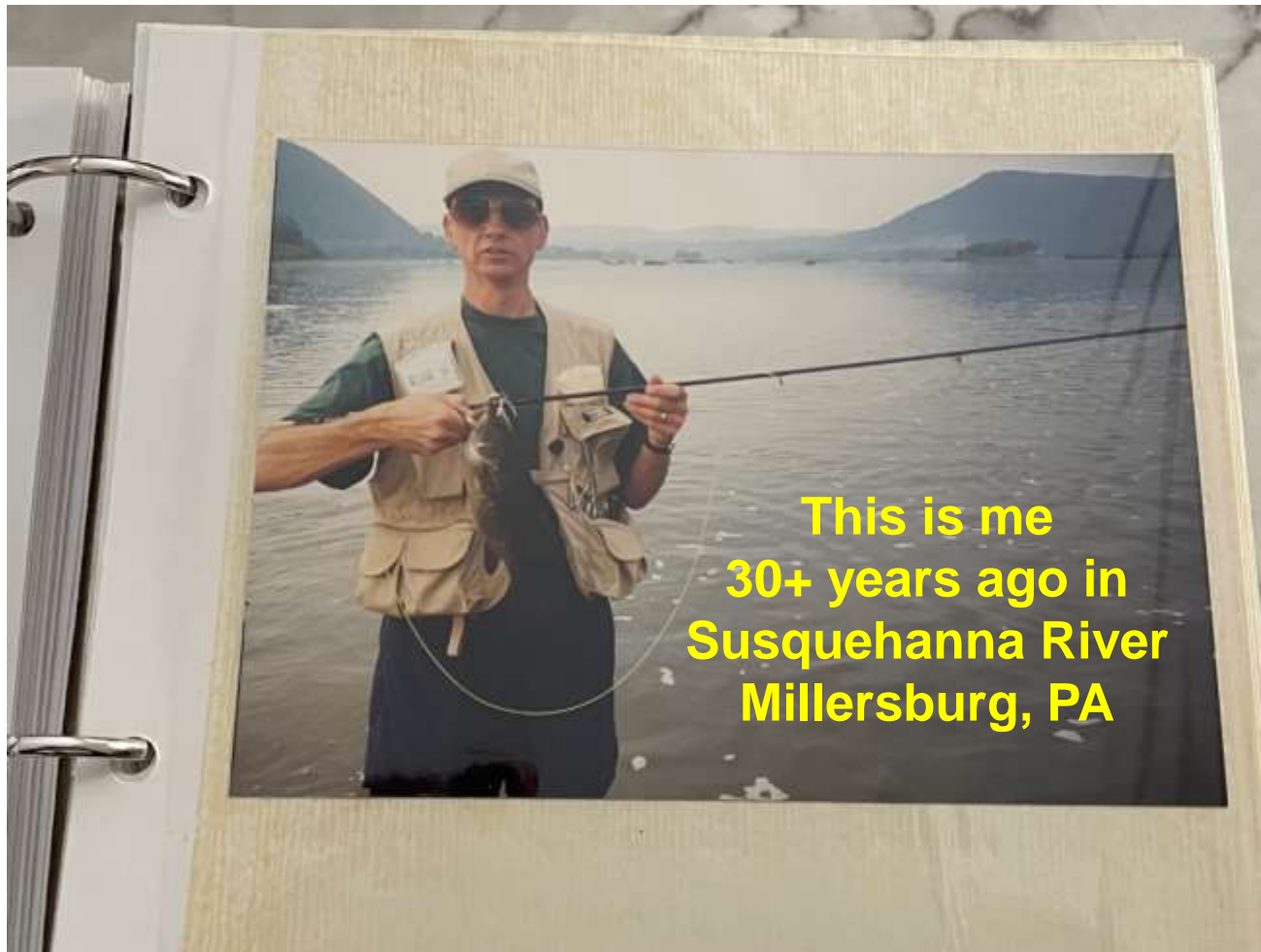


Agenda

1. Why fly fish from a kayak
2. Kayak choices and ancillary gear
3. Fly fishing rods, reels, lines, leaders, flies, etc.
4. Fly casting and line management
 **LUNCH** 
5. The species you'll catch – when, where and how
6. Strategies
(Observation, Common Sense Safety, Pre-Trip Planning)
7. Local kayak fly fishing launch sites



A little background for context



This is me
30+ years ago in
Susquehanna River
Millersburg, PA

I learned to:

- Adapt to environment
- Fish shallow water
- Read the water
- Cast with accuracy
- Vary fly retrievals
- Set the hook
- Land the fish

Everything I needed to learn for fly fishing in my kayak came from wading in the Upper Potomac and Susquehanna for smallmouth bass!

Why Fly Fish From a Kayak

- Takes us to where the fish are
- Prolongs outings
- Good exercise
- A year-round activity
- Many local launch sites
- Scenic



December sunset on Ingrams Pond



June sunset on the Magothy

Why Fly Fish From a Kayak?



It works!

Gear -- The Boat

Kayak Choices



Sit on Top



Sit Inside



Pedal



Hybrid

Gear -- The Boat

My Preferred Fly Fishing Kayak

Length

- 12 feet for good tracking
- Yet easy to turn

Width/Beam

- 31 inches for ample stability
- Narrow enough for easy paddling

Seating

- Chair back seat for comfort
- Raised seat for dryness

Open/Clear Deck

- No pedals
- Eases casting & line management



Hull Weight
56 pounds

Native Ultimate FX 12

Kayak Choices

Hull Weight – An important consideration

- Storage – Ease of storage and removal for use
- Transporting – To, at and from the launch
- Trailers – Good, but...



FACT: If your kayak is too heavy it will deter you from using it.

Kayak Fishing Gear

Carts

Necessary when:

- Kayak is heavy
- No ramp
- No vehicle access
- Long/Hilly path

Multiple cart styles

Stern wheels

Bottom line:

Wheels enhance access to the water for most kayak launches you will encounter



Kayak Fishing Gear

Paddle

- Length – depends on your height and your boat's beam
- 240 cm is common length
- Shaft -- Carbon vs. Fiberglass vs. Aluminum
- Blade – Plastic or Carbon (Adjustment of blade angle)
- Weight – generally, the lighter the paddle the more it costs
- 37 ounces to 21.5 ounces -- Lightweight is good!
- May cost from under \$100 to \$400 plus
- Ideal paddle design is stroke dependent



Horizontal stroke



Upright stroke



Buy the best paddle you can afford.

Gear – In the kayak

- Rod(s) – 4 wt. to 8 wt.
(More to come on rods)
- Bag and Box(es) for flies
- Measuring Board
- Anchor -- rarely used
- Fish grips/Clippers/Forceps
- File
- Leader wallet
- Rod Holder(s)
- Net



Kayak Fishing Gear

Handheld VHF Radio



Keeping in touch with fishing buddies on the water via public channels – 68, 69, 71...short transmissions only.

A cell phone can serve same purpose, but a VHF radio is more convenient. However...remember your radio etiquette!

Kayak Fishing Gear

Fish Finders

- They offer the following info:
 - Maps
 - Depth
 - Structure
 - Temperature
 - Distance
 - Trails and Waypoints
 - Speed
- Require wiring and battery
- Some kayaks are installation-ready



Bottom Line: I NO LONGER USE ONE.

Rods & Reels

Basic outfit:

- 8 to 9-foot rod with a fast or moderately fast action (4 thru 8 wt.)
- Matching reel
- 6-weight is a good choice if you are going to carry only one rod
- A quality rod but no need to spend a lot of money

I use rods from these companies:



Rods & Reels

Match gear for:

- Fly/Wind/Species
- Proper line weight and backing capacity
- For overall balance

Large Arbor for higher line weights



Drag Systems:

- Click and Pawl is fine on small reels (4 & 5)
- Disc drag for larger reels (6 – 8)
- Sealed is nice but not necessary for upper bay waters.

Backing and Line



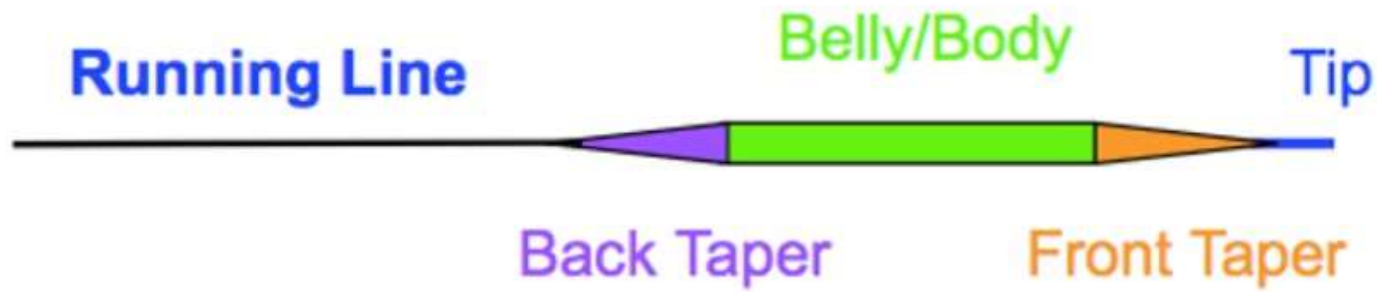
- **Dacron line – 20# to 30#**
- **Tied directly onto spool**
- **Fills space on spool – 100 to 200 yards**
- **Then connects to backend of fly line**

Many kinds of fly lines

- **Various weights**
- **Various tapers**
- **Floating**
- **Intermediate**
- **Sinking/Sinktips**
- **Cold water**
- **Warm water (Tropical)**

My Fly Line Preferences

Weight Forward matched to rod



No need for specialty tapers
or temperature sensitive line

You get what you pay for in fly lines. Cheap lines will not last nor will they cast well. A good line will drastically improve the performance of a fly rod and you as a caster.

Important – Keep it clean

- Floating
- Intermediate
- Floating with changeable sinktip
- Loops



Kayak Fly Fishing

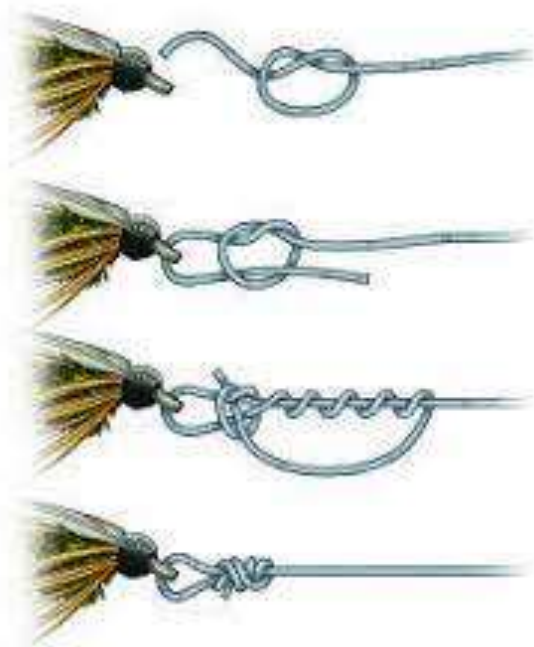
Tapered Leaders and Tippets



Unnecessary
Expense

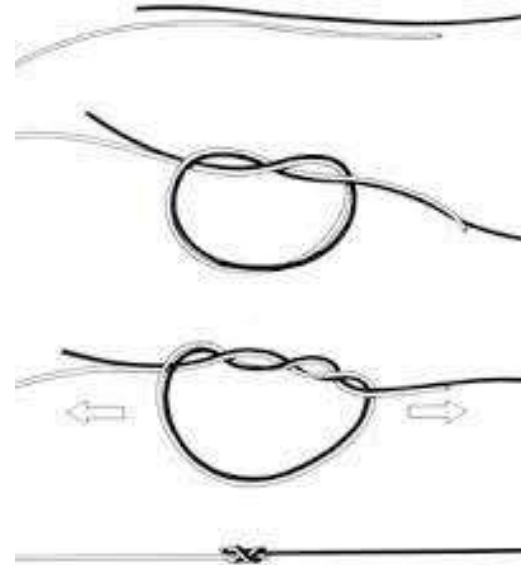
Two Essential Knots

Loop



To construct leaders and
to connect flies to tippets

Double Surgeons



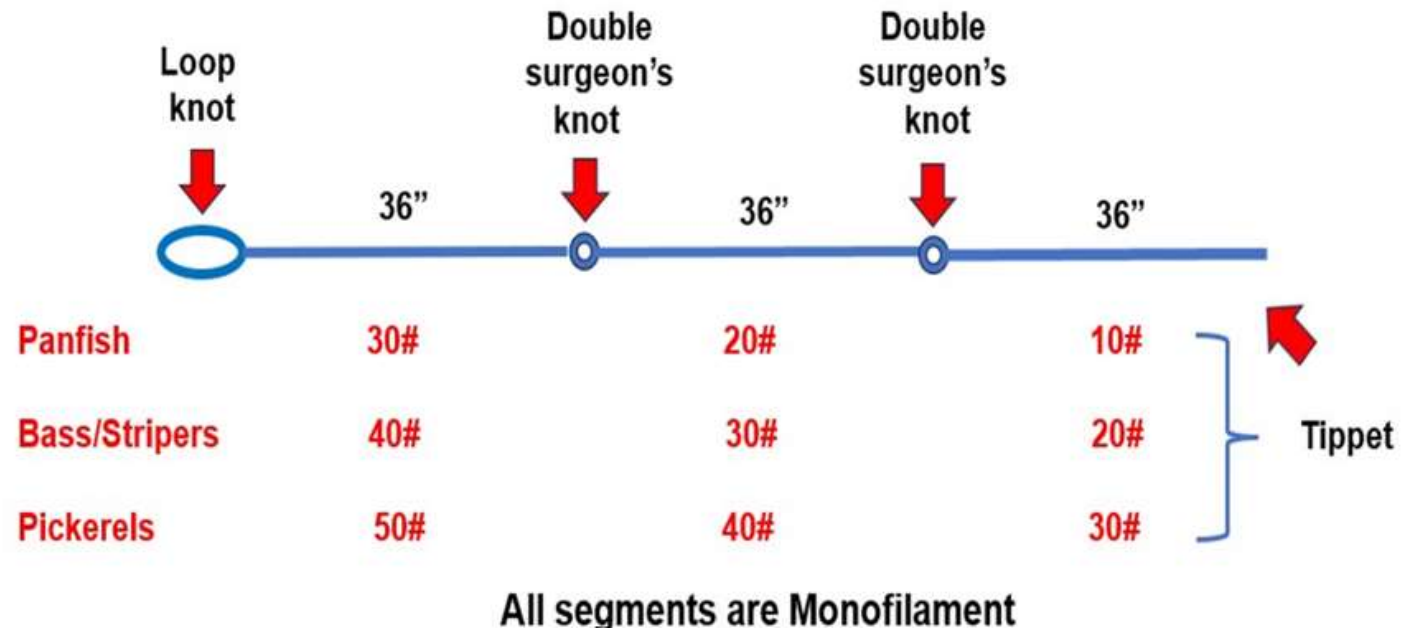
To construct tapered leaders
and to lengthen tippet

Kayak Fly Fishing

Hand-Tied Tapered Leaders for Floating Line (Two Styles)



Easy 9 ft. Tapered Leader



**These leaders will turn over any of the flies I discuss in this presentation.
They are entirely mono – no need for fluorocarbon tippet.**

Kayak Fly Fishing

Monofilament Leader for Intermediate and Sink Tips

There is no need for a tapered leader, nor a long leader.

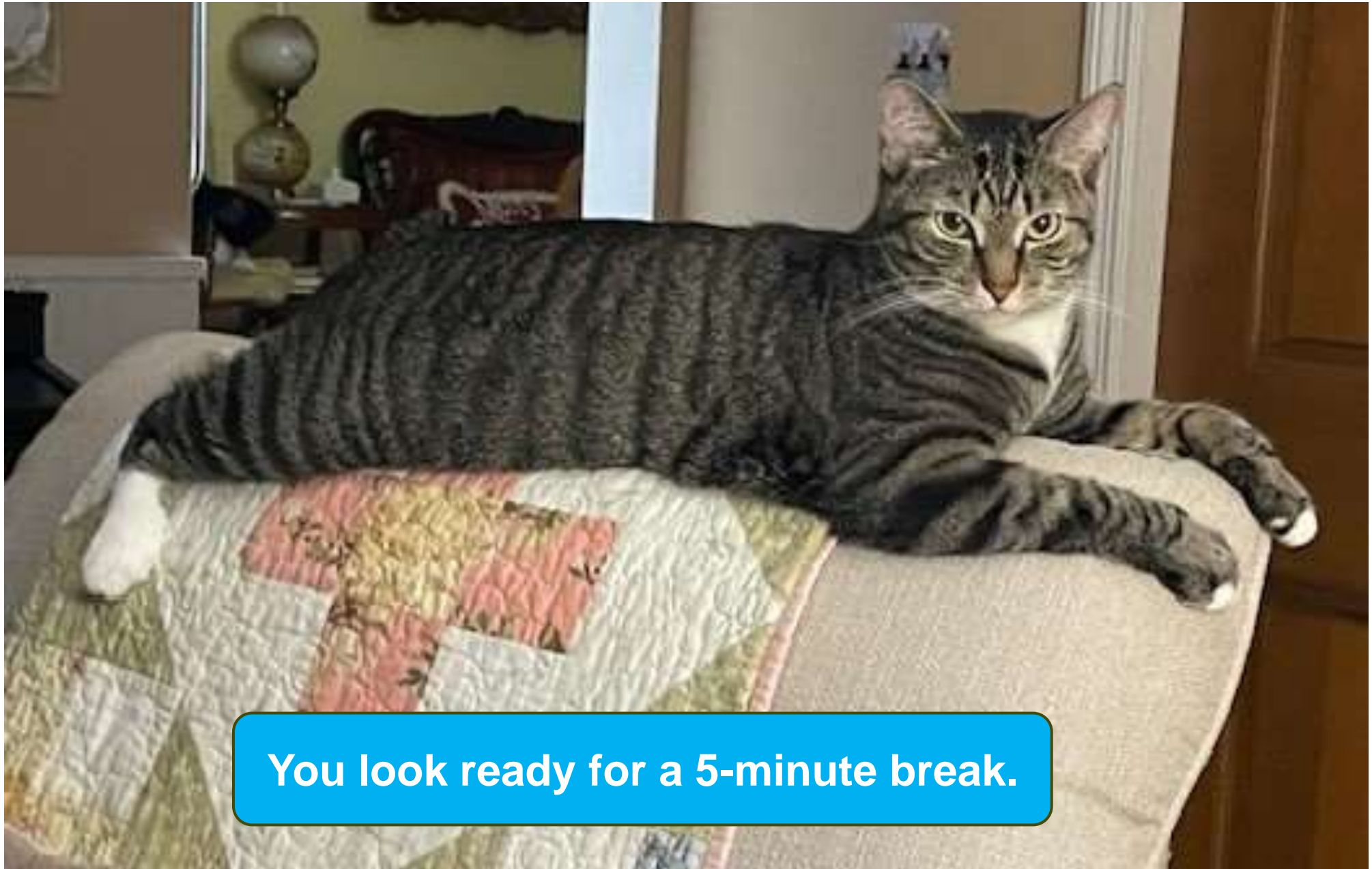
A straight piece of mono of 3 to 5 feet long:

- * 30 to 40# for pickerels or toothy fish
- * 10 to 20# for stripers and bass
- * 10# or less for panfish

All leaders have a loop knot to connect to fly line or sink tip.

**Note: The fish we are pursuing are not leader shy.
Save your pricey fluorocarbon for finicky trout.**





You look ready for a 5-minute break.

Flies



- Shape and size important
- Color sometimes matters
- Different kinds of retrieves will alter effectiveness
- Learn to use a few flies well in lieu of trying many kinds
- No magic fly
- The fish we pursue in our kayaks are (generally) not finicky
- Usually no need to match a hatch

My preferred flies

Will catch any of the target fish in our local waters

- Poppers/Sliders
- Clouser Minnows
- Woolly Buggers
- Crystal Buggers
- Articulated (CBs)
- Bendback Minnows

Again:
Learn to use a few flies well.
You'll gain confidence and
catch fish.



Hook Sizes: 6 to 2/0

Panfish Flies



Fly Retrieval Strategies

Poppers/Sliders

- Seasonal – Generally not effective in winter
- Usually better in low light or shady areas
(Blitzing stripers are exceptions to that.)
- Find the right rhythm
- Sometimes subtle is best -- slider time



Streamers

- Slow down retrieve significantly in cold water
- Pause -- especially for pickerels and perch
- Change direction
- Speed up in summer
- Go weightless



A Final Thought About Flies

- **Keep your hooks sharp with hook file**
Hint: Sharpen often while you are on the water!
 - **Before first cast**
 - **After several catches**
 - **After hitting hard structure**
 - **After a miss**
- **Offsetting hook point will improve hookups**
Works especially well on streamers for picks!



Kayak Fly Casting Myths

1. You'll **"TURTLE"**
 - * Let rod do the work
 - * Very smooth motion
 - * Hardly a ripple on the water
2. You must cast far
 - * You can get close to fish
 - * 30 to 40 feet is plenty
3. You must stand to cast
 - * You'll eventually fall
 - * You may spook fish



Kayak Fly Casting

Backcasting Basics

Line Speed is Key

1. Make sure line is straight and slack free in the water before you begin cast.
2. Secure line in left hand and lift rod tip slightly to begin backcast.
3. Raising tip will create more line speed on backcast by reducing water resistance.
4. Should hear no sound of line ripping from water.



Kayak Fly Casting

Backcasting Basics

Bring Rod Back Sharply

1. Use arm, not wrist.
2. Speed up line to load rod with single haul as you bring rod back.
3. Keep rod tip high and casting arm low.
(Sidearmed.)
4. Allow line to fully extend behind boat
(No back slap.)



Note: No pressure waves emanating from kayak_

Kayak Fly Casting

Forecasting Basics

Bring Rod Forward Sharply

1. Use arm, not wrist.
2. Stop rod tip suddenly with tip high
(Aim for tree tops.)
3. Release line from left hand as line projects forward.
4. Gradually drop rod tip to follow line to water.



Kayak Fly Casting

Retrieving Line

1. Rod tip low pointed directly at fly.
2. Right hand on handle with line looped over index finger under handle.
3. Left hand ready to retrieve line.
4. Action to fly is given with left hand.
(Keep tight connection to fly.)
5. I drop line over the left gunwale.
(There are options. More to come on that.)



Kayak Fly Casting

Setting Hook



1. Most of the fish I'll address in this presentation hook themselves as long as you keep tight connection to the fly and your **hook is sharp.**
2. Upon a strike, clamp line to handle with your casting hand index finger and lift rod tip.
(You'll do this automatically in time.)
3. Pickerels often require a strip strike.
4. Point rod at fish and sharply pull back line with retrieving hand.
(This also will become automatic.)

Kayak Fly Casting

Playing and Releasing Fish

- Kayak creates resistance
 - Big fish will pull you
- Keep your weight centered in seat at all times
- As fish tires, retrieve line, lift rod high
 - Fish will come to side of boat
 - Run hand down leader
 - Lip fish, use grips or net
- Handle it gently, photograph quickly and return it to water



Kayak Fly Casting

Line Management Options



Drop on Deck

- Must keep deck clear
- Good for distance on subsequent cast



Drop Overboard

- Easy to do
- May impede casting distance
- Not ideal for sinking lines
- May tangle in vegetation or rudder



Spool in Hand

- Requires dexterity
- Situationally dependent
- Toss line into water immediately prior to cast

An ergonomic choice – Do what is most comfortable and what situation requires.

Kayak Fly Casting

Target Areas

- Position boat not your body
- Stow paddle
- Cast left of bow (Righties)
 - Stops flying elbow
 - Prevents shoulder fatigue
 - More natural motion
 - Good for working shorelines
 - Enables side-armed casts into wind, under cover
 - Avoids stored vertical rods behind seat



Kayak Fly Casting

Heavy Streamers/Big Poppers/Sink Tips

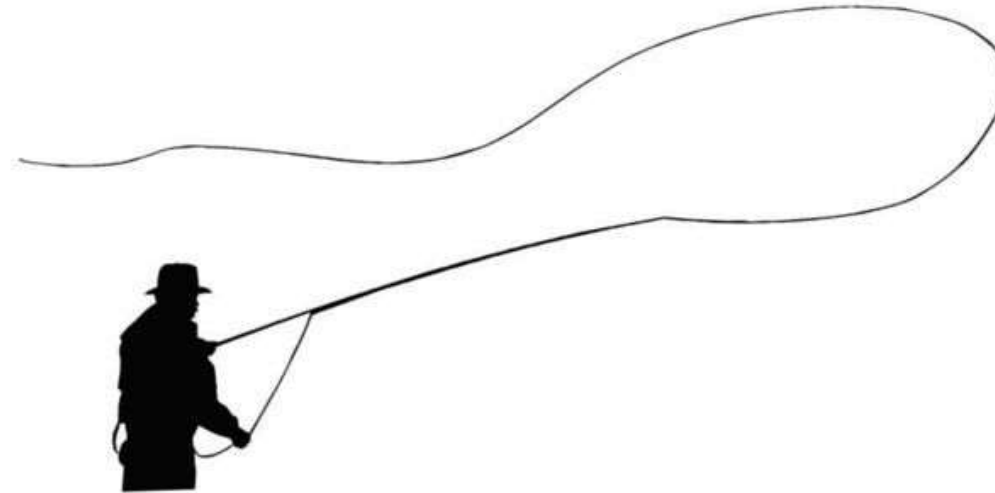


- **Line up -- Use appropriate rod – there’s no shame in that**
 - **Save the 4/5 wt. for bluegills and perch**
 - **5/6/7 wts. are my most common kayak fly rods**
 - **Shorten tippet**
- **Poppers may “dig in” at sudden start of back cast creating unwanted water disturbance**
 - **Don’t “rip” fly from water**
 - **Pull popper forward slowly as you lift line**
 - **This will allow you to lift it quietly from water**
- **Sinktips -- Added weight is noticeable**
 - **Forget aesthetics of pretty cast**
 - **Open loop**

Kayak Fly Casting

Keep false casts to a minimum

- Remember, you do not have to cast far.
- Often you can pick up line and lay it down in one cast.
- Two or three false casts at the most.



You will not catch fish with your line in the air...and you may scare a few away!



Did someone say
LUNCH?

Tidal Creek Fly Fishing Catches




Millpond Fly Fishing Catches



Striped Bass



- MD state fish 
- Anadromous
- Spawns in spring
- Fattens up in tidal creeks in fall
- Most kayakers troll for them
- Good flyrod fish

Flies: Streamers/Surface



Striped Bass

These are the areas where they hang out...



They are a **shallow water** fish. But, they like to be near deeper water.



Striped Bass

- Hyper aggressive – when tide is moving
 - They'll hit any streamer
 - When breaking, they'll hit any popper
 - No need for subtle fly presentations
 - Keep flies moving
- Found in schools

But:

- Getting harder to catch legal fish
- YOY Index has been below normal 6 of last 10 years and last 5 years in a row
- C&R can lead to high mortality in summer
- Be mindful of ever changing DNR striper regulations

Just a thought: Consider other species to target until population rebounds, especially in summer.



It can take 4 years for them to reach 20 to 21 inches

White Perch

- Great summertime fish to pursue
- Ideal flyrod fish
- Cousins to stripers
- Enter creeks in numbers in June
- Leave creeks for deeper water in Sep./Oct.
- Haunts shorelines and structure
- Loves shade on a hot day
- Most are between 6 and 9 inches
- MD citation size is 13 inches
- Pause retrieves

Flies: Streamers/Droppers



Note: Numbers were down in 2023.

White Perch

- Will hit small dropper flies
- Suspend dropper three feet under float
- Cast and let it sit or twitch it slightly
- When float disappears, lift rod tip



I have also caught pickerels and stripers doing this – lots of fun on a 5 wt. rod!

Chain Pickerel



- A year-round pursuit, but...
- Tidal Creeks and Millponds
- Like shorelines and structure
- Like vegetation
- Will move to deeper water in winter
- Do not like wind-rippled water
- Pause retrieve after hit
- Beware of teeth
- Surface flies in spring and fall

Flies: Streamers/poppers/sliders



Winter Pickerel Hints

- Limited visible vegetation but...
- Clear water
- Try deeper water
- Intermediate line is helpful
- Even deeper in tidal water (Sink Tips)
- Move a lot to find them
- No need to fish at daybreak



Sleep in. Let water warm up!



Two More Simple Pickerel Hints



A net is helpful to control them boat-side

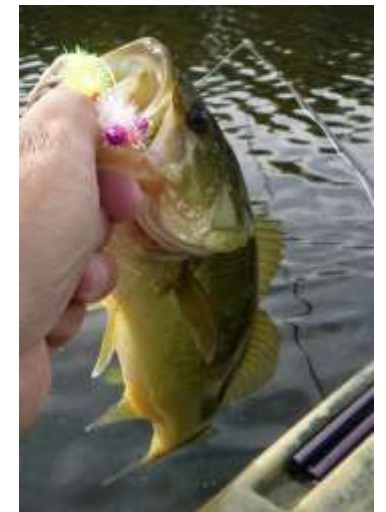


**No need for wire tippets.
30 to 40# test mono suffices.**

Check tippets for nicks after frequent catches

Largemouth Bass

- Freshwater Ponds
- Tidal Creeks (Magothy)
- Great fun in April and May
- Like shorelines and structure
- Like vegetation
- Will cruise flats a.m & p.m.
- Like shade and low light
- Feeding frenzy in fall
- Topwater favorite
- Will hit small flies
- Deeper in winter



Flies: Streamers/Sliders/Poppers



Bluegills

- Fly rod favorite
- Great fun in April - June
- Millponds
- Tidal creeks
- Subtle fly retrieves are best
- Topwater aggressive
- Will hit bass poppers
- Generally slightly off shoreline
- Prefers quiet water coves
- Surface vegetation

Flies: Topwater, streamers



Common Bycatches

CHANNEL CATS

Tidal Creeks
Caught while
striper/pickereel fishing
Limited head shake
Streamers

YELLOW PERCH

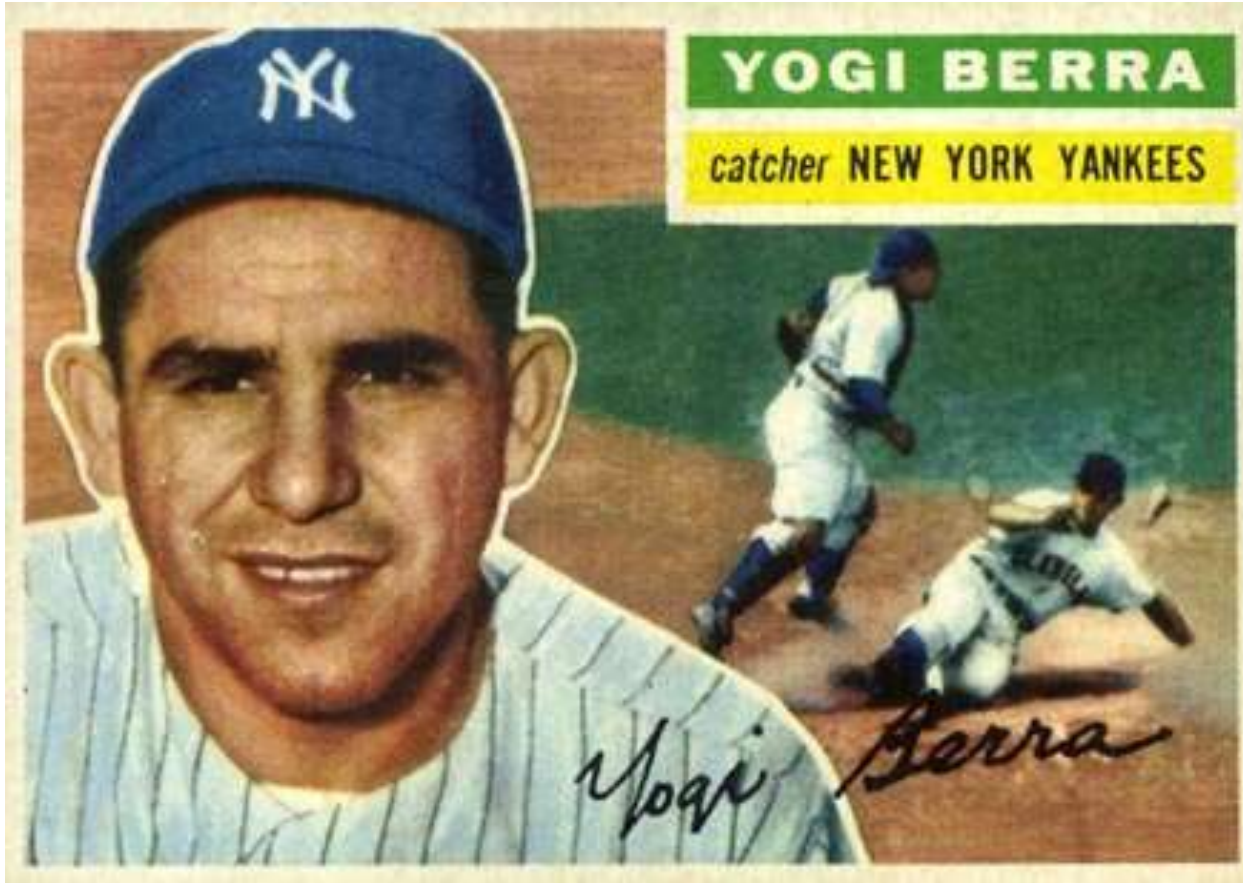
Tidal Creeks and Ponds
Spring run in Magothy
Streamers

CRAPPIE

Freshwater Ponds
Early spring bite
Late fall bite
Soft mouth
Bass/Pickereel flies
Bluegill flies



Strategies



“ You can observe a lot
by watching.”

This is great advice for kayak fly fishing

Strategies

Observation



Working Birds



Sun vs. Shade

Wildlife activity and the degree of sunlight may predict your success.

Strategies

Observation



Structure & Tide



Current

Fish react predictably to structure, tide and current.

Strategies

Observation



Flat bank – Shallow water



Steep bank – Deeper water

A good depth estimation technique.

Strategies

Observation



Structure attracts fish. It will attract you if you want to become a better angler.

Techniques and Strategies

Observation

Lily Pads and Spatterdock

- Produce Oxygen during daylight
- Produce CO₂ at night
- Fish react accordingly
- Target edges during low light
- Or, draw them out with parallel casts on edges
- Target gaps in pads during day
- Bendbacks are a good fly choice for for fly fishing in and near vegetation

Hint: Do not try to pound an area into submission. It won't work!

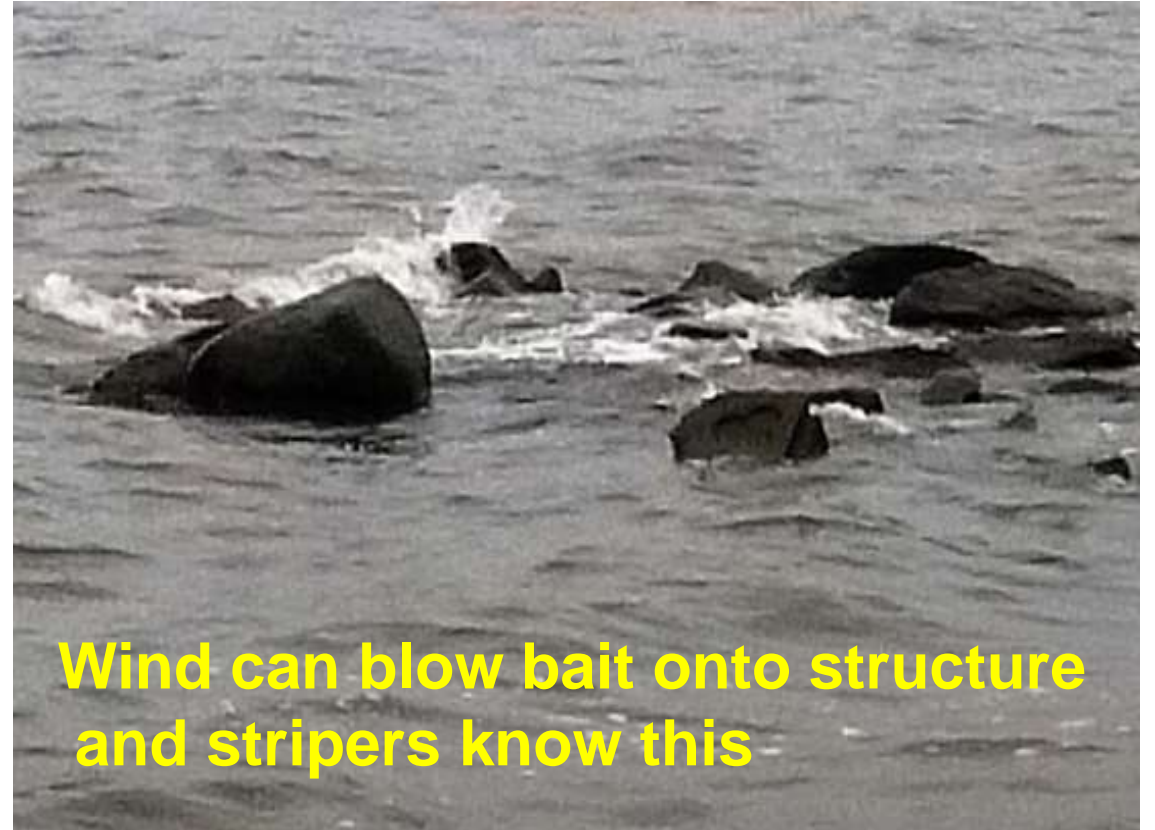


Techniques and Strategies

Observation



**Pickerel and white perch
prefer calm surfaces**



**Wind can blow bait onto structure
and stripers know this**

Different fish species have different wind tolerances.

Strategies

Common Sense for Safety



Will Rogers

“Common sense ain’t common.”

Indeed, some kayak anglers prove his point

Strategies

Common Sense for Safety



Wear your PFD

Required by MD law to be onboard

Common sense dictates to wear it

Invariably, kayak fatality victims chose not to wear it

Strategies

Common Sense for Safety



**Rule of Thumb:
Load to only 70% of stated capacity**

Do not overload your kayak:
Adhere to its weight capacity
Check specs for rating

Leave room so you can:
Fish freely
Re-enter in an emergency

Carry only what you need
Reassess your “need” often
Think less gear, not more

Strategies

Common Sense for Safety



Maintaining stability turbulent water

Face waves head-on or at an angle
Reach out paddle blade to stabilize

Keep weight centered in boat. (Butt in seat!)

When Paddling
When reaching back to rods or milkcrate
When landing fish

Check weather forecast prior to launch

Postpone launch if necessary
More to come on this

Strategies

Common Sense for Safety

In big water:

You may be invisible to boaters

- You sit low to water
- You may disappear in waves

Be vigilant – Look around

Avoid channels

Yield – You cannot outrun a boat

Fish during weekdays if possible



Strategies

Common Sense for Safety



COLD WATER

- Dress the part
- Again -- Wear your PFD!
- Fish calm freshwater ponds or tidal creeks, not big water
- Be critically selective of weather conditions
- Do not fish alone
- Know YOUR physical capabilities

Hypothermia Chart		
If the Water Temp is (F):	Exhaustion or Unconsciousness:	Expected Time of survival is:
32.5	Under 15 Minutes	Under 15 - 45 Minutes
32.5 - 40.0	15 - 30 Minutes	30 - 90 Minutes
40.0 - 50.0	30 - 60 Minutes	1 - 3 Hours
50.0 - 60.0	1 -2 Hours	1 - 6 Hours

Strategies

Pre-Trip Planning



Benjamin Franklin

**“By failing to prepare,
you are preparing to fail.”**

Ben would have been a good kayak fly angler.

Strategies

Pre-Trip Planning



Great for trip planning to:

- Scope out an new area
- Determine geographical orientation
- Assess impact of projected wind
- Measure distances
- Contours and depth



You'll see Google Earth and Navionics images when we discuss launch sites.

Strategies

Pre-Trip Planning for the Wind

Local date	Friday, Feb 16								Saturday, Feb 17							
Local time	1 AM	4 AM	7 AM	10 AM	1 PM	4 PM	7 PM	10 PM	1 AM	4 AM	7 AM	10 AM	1 PM	4 PM	7 PM	10 PM
Wind direction	↗	↗	↖	↖	↖	↗	↖	↗	↗	↘	↖	↖	↖	↗	↗	↗
Wind speed (mph)	17	17	15	15	13	8	2	5	3	1	9	15	17	15	9	12
Wind gusts (max mph)	32	36	30	22	17	12	3	6	5	2	15	21	23	26	21	21
Cloud cover	☾	☾	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁☀	☁	☁☀	☁☀	☁
Precipitation type									**	***	*					
Precipitation (in / 3h)									0.09	0.21	0.02					
Air temperature (°F)	45	39	36	37	39	41	39	39	34	34	34	37	37	39	36	34
Air pressure (inHg)	29.91	29.97	30.03	30.09	30.06	29.97	29.97	29.91	29.83	29.83	29.83	29.85	29.85	29.85	29.91	29.94
Tide type ⓘ	↘	↘	↗	↗	↘	↘	↘	↗	↘	↘	↗	↗	↗	↘	↘	↗
Time ⓘ		3:38		10:24			5:33	10:15		4:29			11:31		6:47	11:15
Tide height (ft) ⓘ	0	-0.3	0.3	1	0.7	0	0	0.7	0	-0.3	0	0.7	1	0.3	0	0.3

www.windfinder.com

Strategies

Pre-Trip Planning for Tides



www.tides4fishing.com

Creek tides are subtle

Wind can impact tides

Moving water is better

- **Stripers**
- **White perch**

High tide = More Targets

Low Tide = Less Targets

Go when you can!

Strategies

Pre-Trip Planning for Loading Kayak and Gear

FISHING KAYAK CHECKLIST

KAYAK

Paddle
Seat
Mirage Drive (Hobie)

SAFETY/COMFORT

PFD (with whistle, camera)
VHS Radio
Bug Spray
Sunscreen
Snacks
Water/Thermos

BACK OF SEAT STORAGE

BLACKPAK(Hobie)
Milkcrate (Native)
Dry Box
Anchor

TRANSPORT

Scupper Cart (Hobie)
Trail-Trekker (Native)
Tie-down straps

FISHING TOOLS

Fish Grips
Clippers
Forceps/Pliers
Hook File
Rods/Reels
Measurement Board

DRY BOX

Licenses
First Aid Kit

TACKLE BAG

Flies/Lures in Boxes
Leader Wallet
Stripee Finger Guard
Licenses

Checklist -- A simple technique to prevent launch site frustration

Posted on my kayak rack

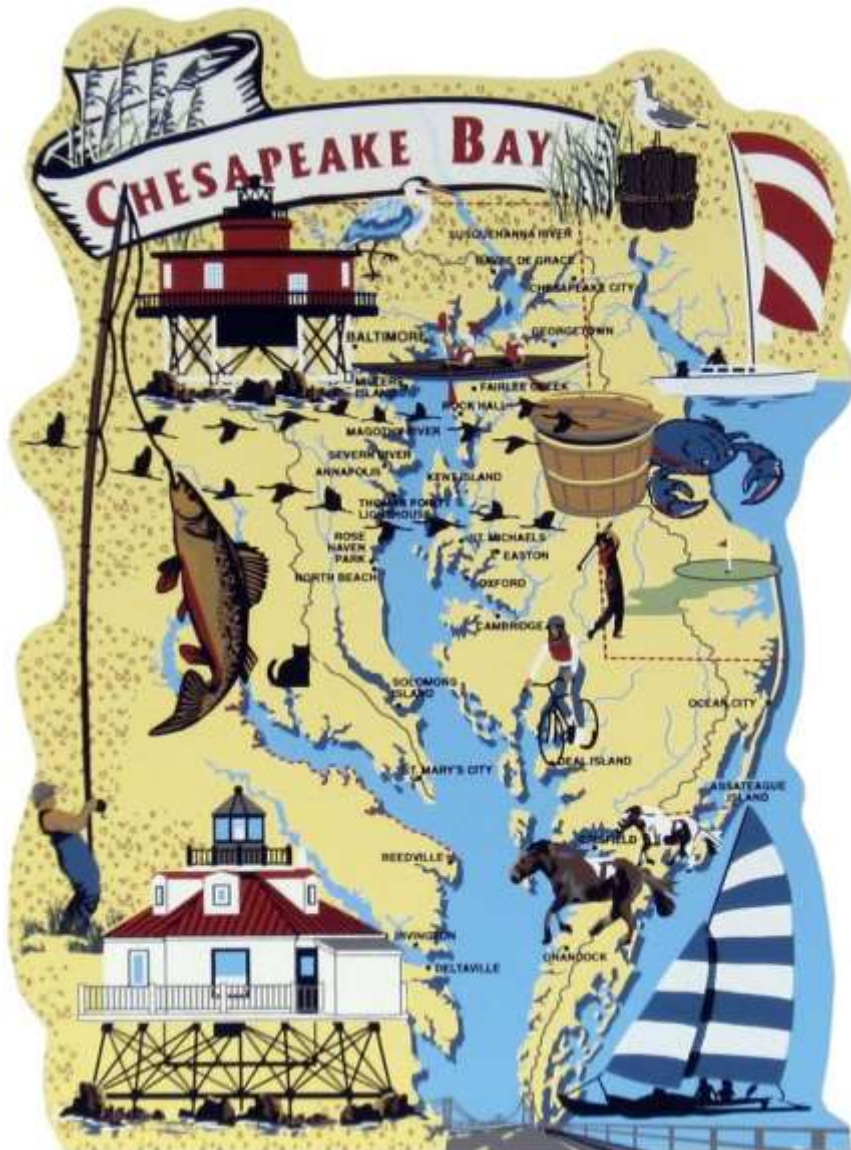
Foolproof if used





**Getting a little sleepy here.
Time for final 5-minute break.**

Local Kayak Fly Fishing Areas




A Kayak Angler's Paradise

- 200 miles long
- 11,684 miles of shoreline
- 4,480 square miles of surface water
- 24% of that surface area is less than 6 feet deep
- 150 rivers and creeks feed the Bay
- Over 50 Eastern Shore millponds on Bay tributaries

Website of County Canoe and Kayak Launches

Tidal Locations

News Events Jobs Maps OpenArundel Translate

 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY MARYLAND


Services Government Departments Search

Home > Recreation and Parks > Parks & Trails > Popular Park Activities

Cartop Boat Launch

Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks provides cartop boat launch sites at many community and regional parks. Cartop boat refers to a canoe or kayak.

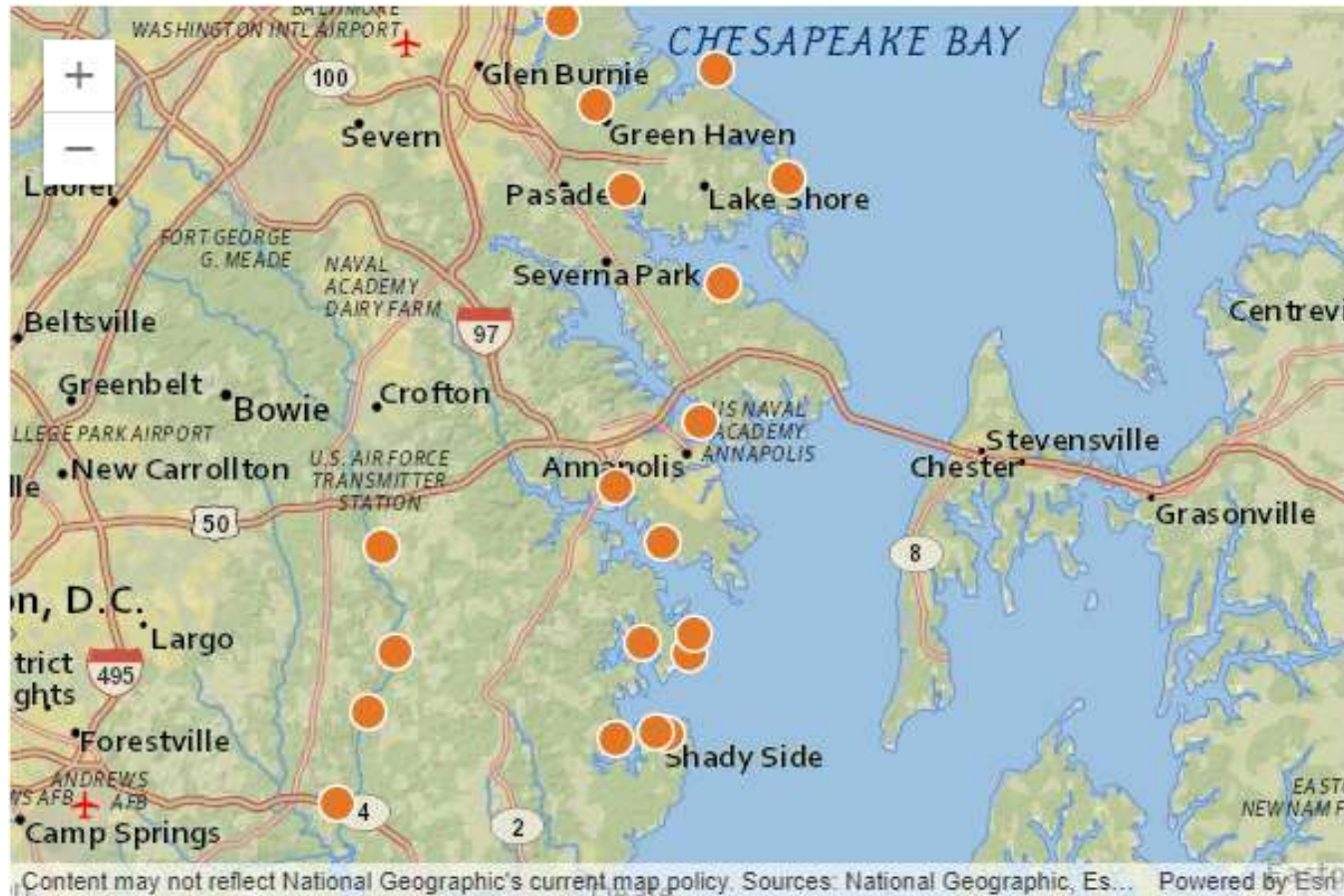
18 Launches
Access to the Bay and 7 Rivers
533 miles of shoreline



Google: "Anne Arundel County Cartop Boat Launch"

Where to Kayak Fly Fish

Eighteen Anne Arundel county kayak launch sites:



Five Tidal Favorites

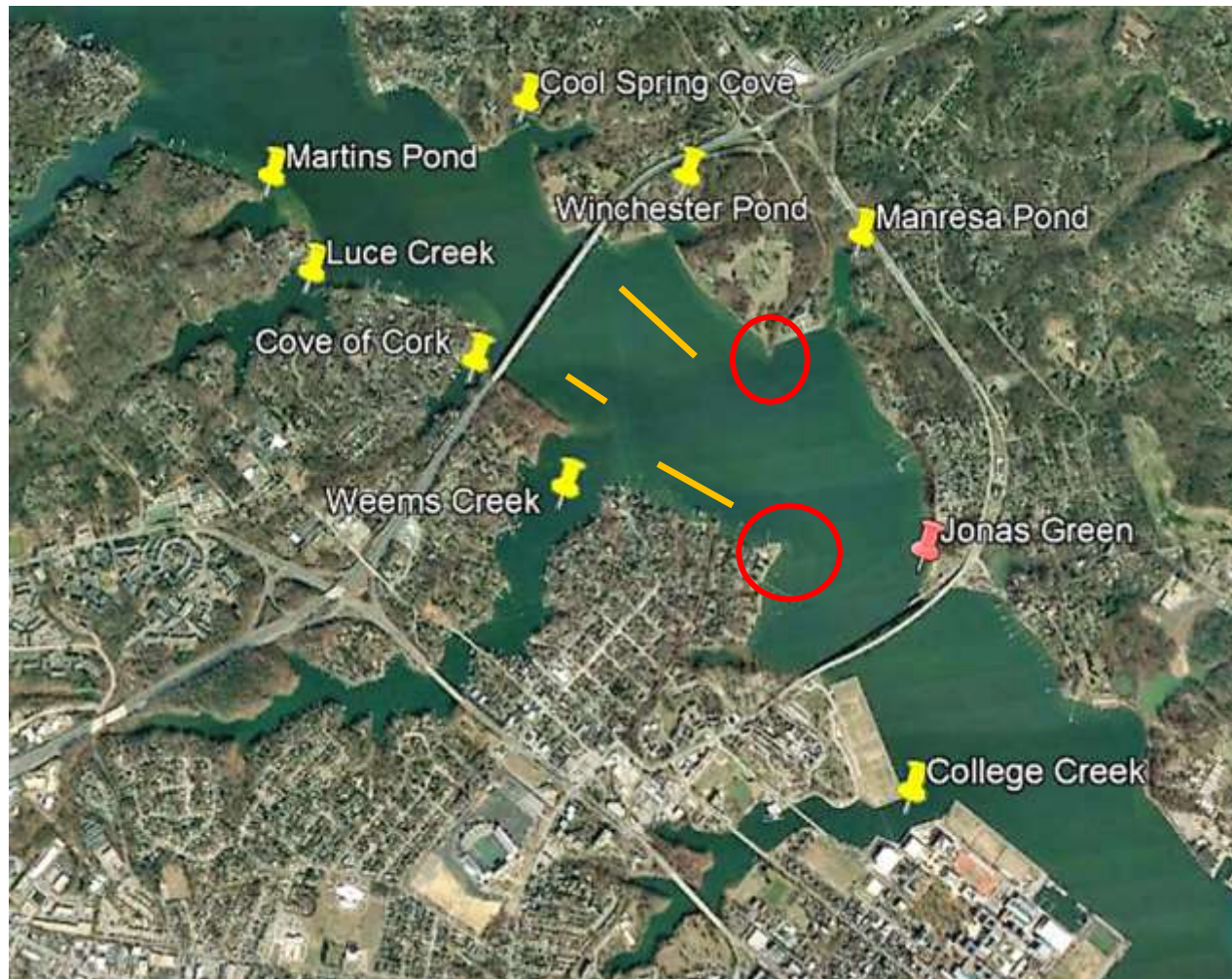
- Jonas & Catharine Green Park
- Tucker Street
- Beachwood Park
- Ft. Smallwood Park
- Downs Park Locust Cove

3 Rivers:

Severn, Magothy, Patapsco

Jonas and Anne Catharine Green Park

Severn River, Annapolis



**Big water with access to
creeks and tidal ponds
or to Bay itself**

**Stripers
White Perch
Pickerels
Channel catfish**

Jonas and Anne Catharine Green Park

2001 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd
Annapolis, MD 21409



Weems Creek

Tucker Street

Annapolis, MD



- **Convenient launch**
 - Access to other Severn sites
- **Protection from NW wind**
- **Long and varied shorelines**
 - Natural & Manmade
- **1.5 miles long**
- **White perch and pickerel**
- **Stripers in fall**



Weems Creek

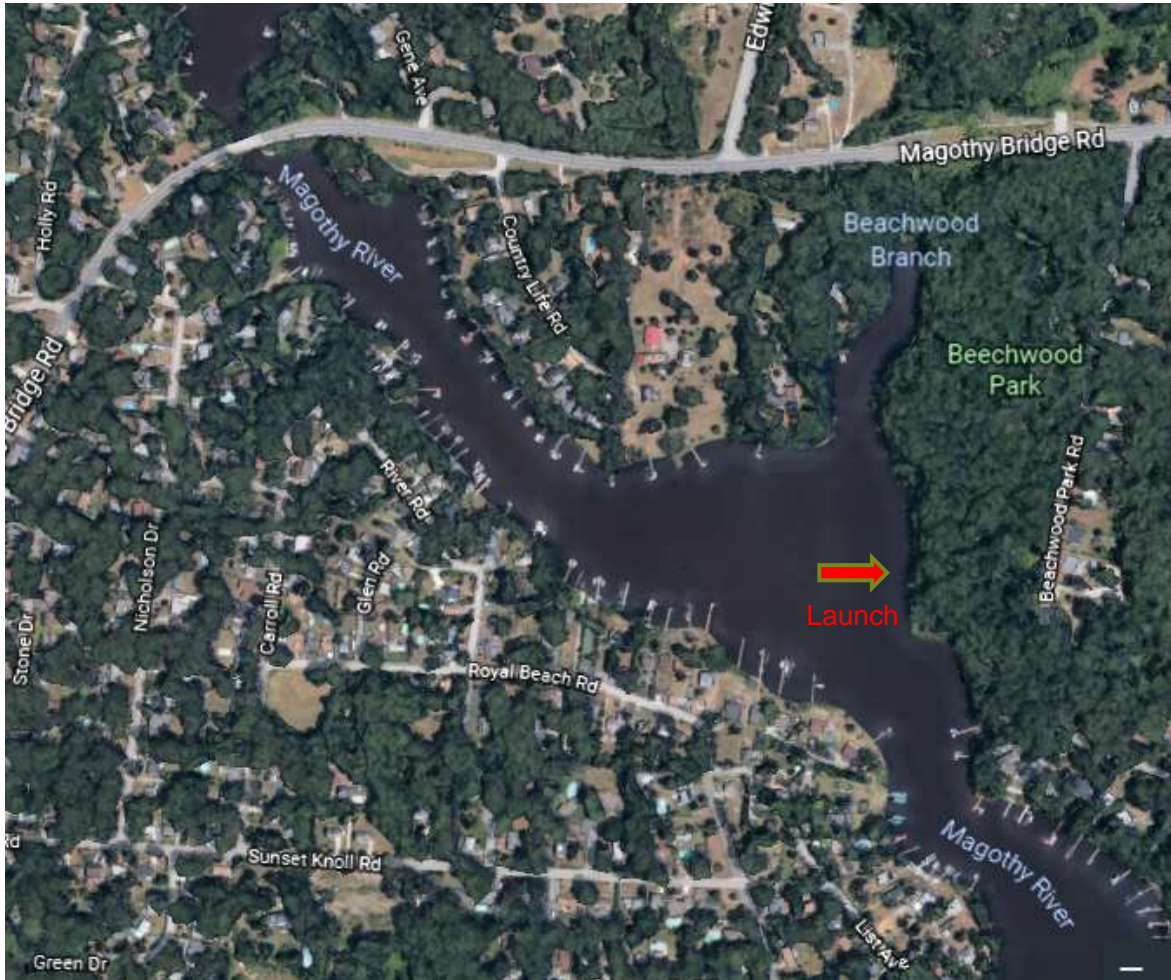
Tucker Street

Annapolis, MD



Beachwood Park

Magothy River, Pasadena



- Upper end of Magothy
- Freezes quickly
- Largely protected from wind
- Tremendous species variety
- Long hilly path to water

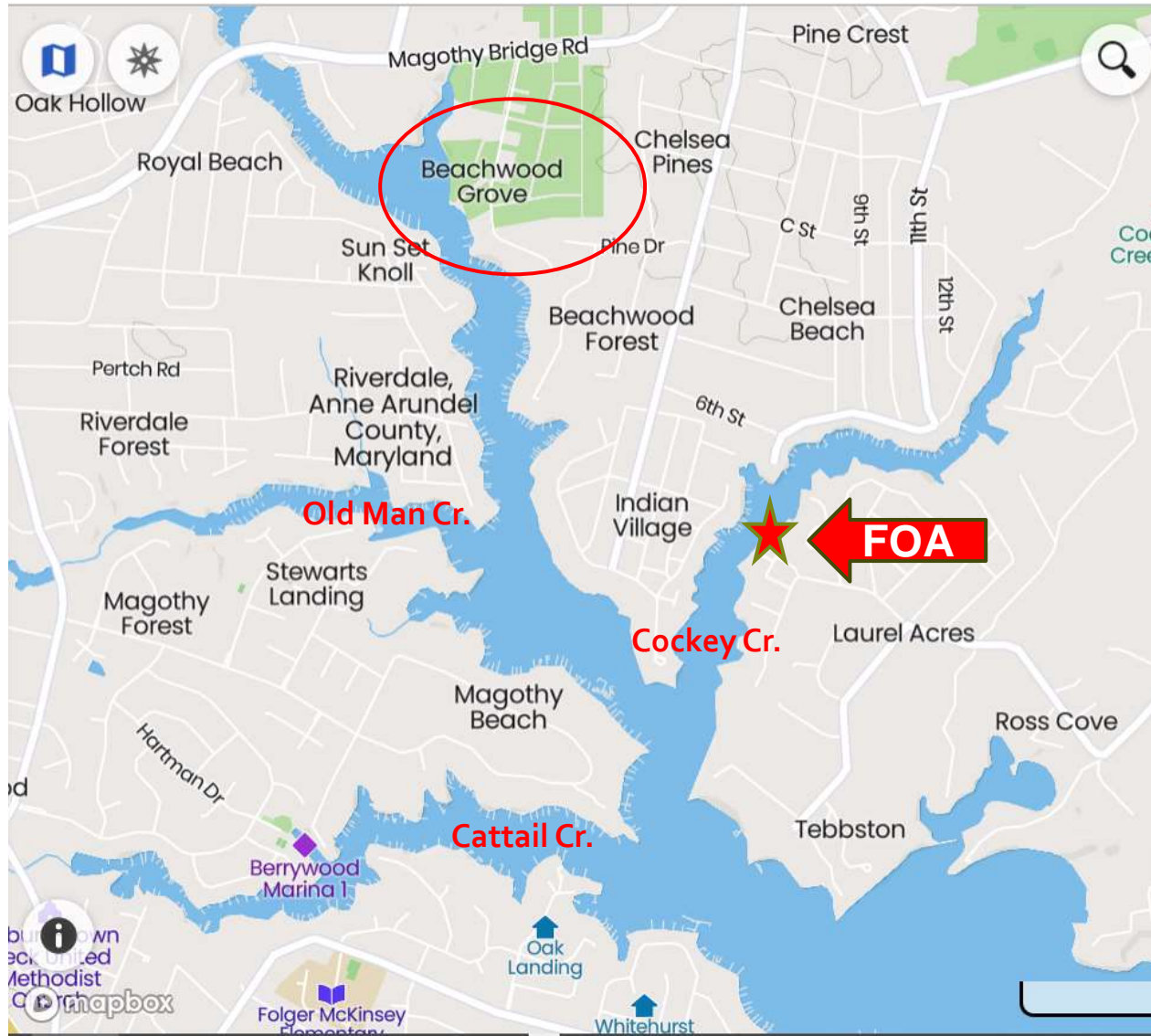


Beachwood Park

8320 Beachwood Park Road
Pasadena, MD 21122

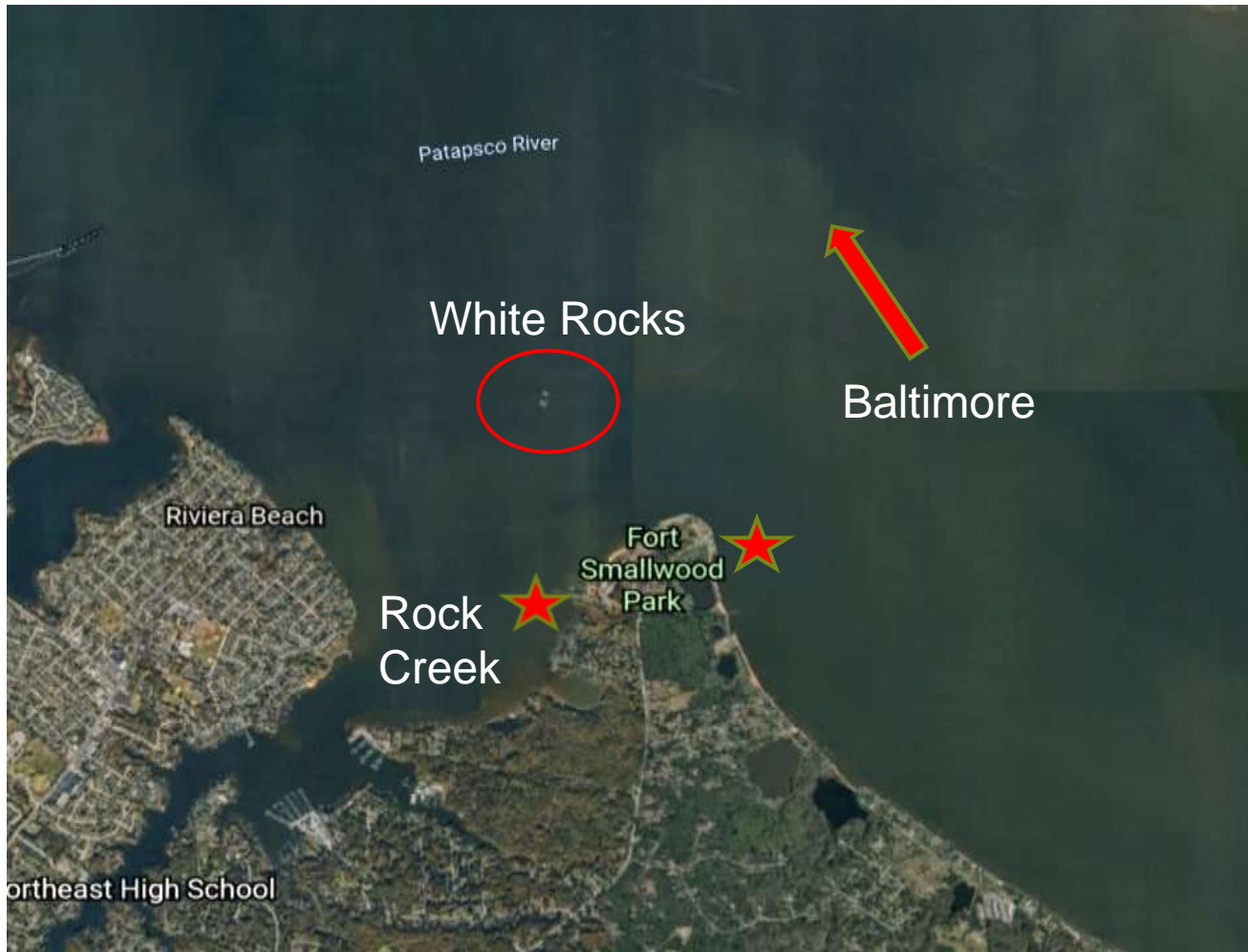


Beachwood Park/Upper Magothy



Fort Smallwood Park

Patapsco River, Pasadena

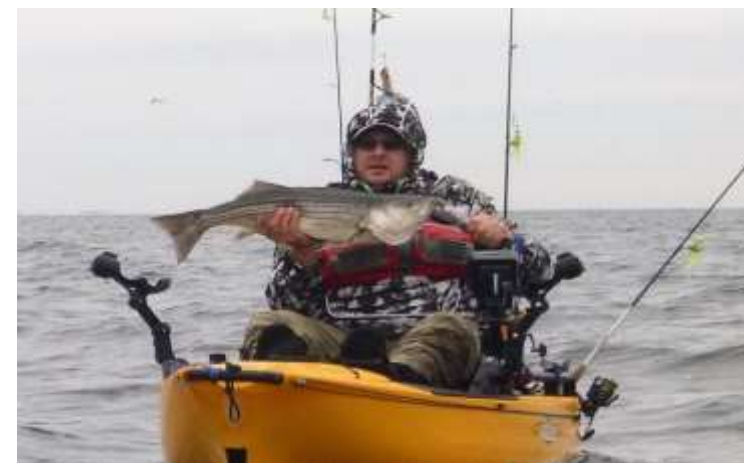


- **Big and Small Water Access**
- **Two Launches**
- **Subject to winds**
- **Relatively shallow**
- **Good Striper, White Perch site**
- **Rock Creek - Excellent for Picks**
- **White Rocks**



Fort Smallwood Park

9500 Fort Smallwood Road
Pasadena, MD 21122

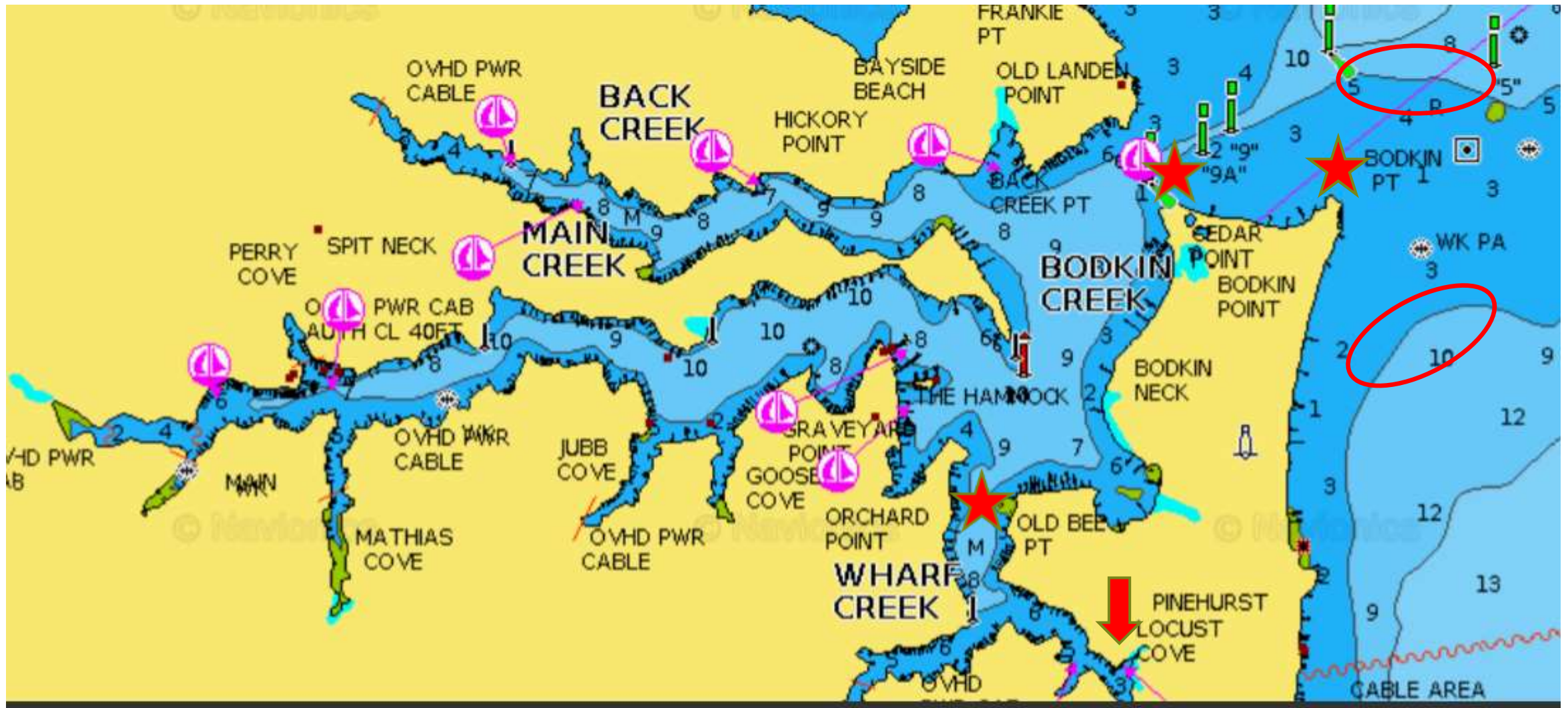


Downs Park Locust Cove Patapsco River

- **Access to 4 creeks + Bay and Patapsco**
- **Protected from wind**
- **Multiple environments**
 - High density to natural
- **Scenic**
- **Flat walk to launch**
- **Good species variety**
 - Channel cats
 - Yellow perch
 - White perch
 - Pickerel
 - Stripers
 - Snakeheads



A Navionics Look at Bodkin Creek



Downs Park (Locust Cove)

8311 John Downs Loop, Pasadena, MD 21122



Where to Kayak Fish

Eastern Shore Millponds



Species

- Bass
- Chain Pickerel
- Bluegill
- Crappie

Hint: Reverse paddle blades when paddling through heavy vegetation in millponds.



Eastern Shore Millponds Maryland

Search for Eastern Region “hotspots” on MD DNR site.



Launch at Smithville

Eastern region

Caroline county

- **Smithville Lake** - Located in Federalsburg, this 30 acre lake offers anglers a wide variety of fish species including large and smallmouth bass, bluegill, white and black crappie, pumpkinseed sunfish, chain pickerel, brown bullhead catfish, gizzard shad, golden shiners and chub suckers.

Cecil county

- **Rising Sun Pond** - This one-acre pond in Rising Sun is a popular fishing spot. It has a good variety of species including bass, bluegill, white and black crappie, pumpkinseed sunfish, common carp and seasonal stocked spring trout.

Dorchester county

- **Tranquaking River** - Dorchester County; largemouth bass, striped bass, chain pickerel, crappie, channel catfish, yellow and white perch, bluegill, and carp. For information - [410-228-2926](tel:410-228-2926).

Kent county

- **Urleville Lake** - Kent County, In Kennedyville, Maryland; 35 acres; bass, bluegill, pumpkinseed sunfish, brown bullhead catfish, golden shiners, and common carp. [410-928-3643](tel:410-928-3643).

Queen Anne's county

- **Tuckahoe Lake** - Queen Anne and Caroline County; in Tuckahoe State Park near Hillsboro, Maryland; 19 acres; bass, bluegill, chain pickerel, white and black crappie, pumpkinseed sunfish, yellow perch, brown bullhead, carp, golden shiners, and chub suckers. [410-928-3643](tel:410-928-3643).
- **Uniloom Lake** - Queen Anne's County in Millington, Maryland; 43 acres; largemouth bass, bluegill, chain pickerel, pumpkinseed sunfish, green sunfish, channel catfish, brown bullhead catfish, black crappie, yellow perch, white perch, American eel, creek chubsucker, margined madtom, eastern mudminnow, pirata perch, and blacknose dace. The Unicorn dam tailrace provides excellent spring fishing for bluegill, white perch, blueback herring, and yellow perch.
- **Wye Mills Lake** - 50 acres; in Wye Mills, Maryland; largemouth bass, bluegill, white and black crappie, pumpkinseed sunfish, brown bullhead catfish, common carp, yellow perch, gizzard shad and golden shiners. [410-928-3643](tel:410-928-3643).

Wicomico county

- **Adkins Mill Pond** - Near Fowlerville this 4 acre-pond offers anglers a variety of species including; bass, bluegill, pumpkinseed sunfish, brown bullhead catfish, golden shiners, creek chubsucker, black crappie, chain pickerel and common carp, bluespotted sunfish, and American eel.
- **Johnson's Pond** - The largest freshwater impoundment on the eastern shore, this 104-acre lake near Salisbury is a Special Bass Management Area. Anglers can fish for; largemouth bass, chain pickerel, crappie, bluegill sunfish, yellow and white perch. Special regulations do apply.
- **Leonard's Mill Pond** - A 30-acre Special Bass Management Area outside of Salisbury, Leonard's Mill Pond offers excellent largemouth bass fishing. Other species such as; pumpkinseed sunfish, yellow bullhead catfish, golden shiners, creek chubsucker, black crappie, chain pickerel and common carp are also found here. For more information call [410-928-3643](tel:410-928-3643).

<http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/Pages/hotspots/index.aspx>



Eastern Shore Millponds Delaware

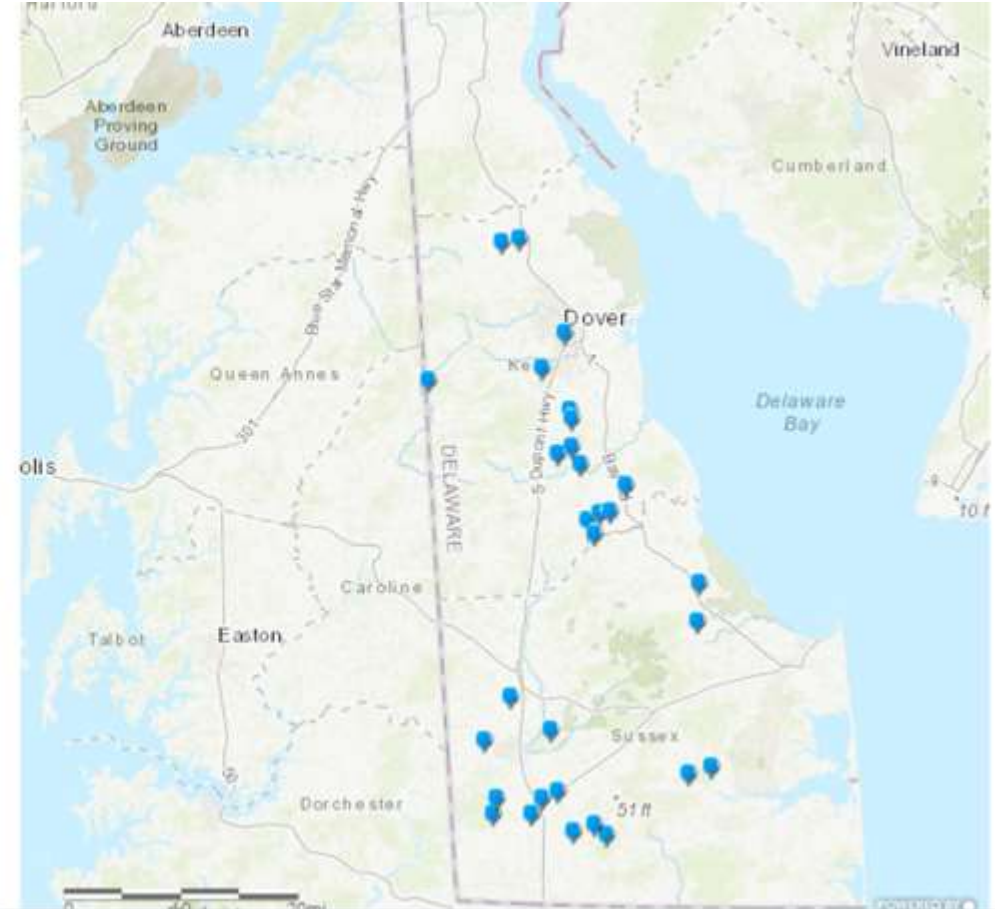
Google: Delaware Fishing Ponds



Trap Pond

FSFF Picnic at Trap – 18 May
Please join us!

- Sussex County**
- [Abbotts Pond](#)
 - [Blairs Pond](#)
 - [Chipman Pond](#)
 - [Concord Pond](#)
 - [Craigs Pond](#)
 - [Griffith Lake](#)
 - [Haven Lake](#)
 - [Hearns Pond](#)
 - [Horsey Pond](#)
 - [Ingrams Pond](#)
 - [Millsboro Pond](#)
 - [Portsville Pond](#)
 - [Raccoon Pond](#)
 - [Records Pond](#)
 - [Trap Pond](#)
 - [Trussum Pond](#)
 - [Tussock Pond](#)
 - [Wagamons Pond](#)
 - [Waples Pond](#)



<https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/fish-wildlife/fishing-ponds/>

Where to Kayak Fish

Favorite Eastern Shore Millponds



Unicorn (52) (43)
Smithville (54) (30)

Concord (70) (78)

Trap (78) (90)

Millsboro (85) (100)

Ingrams (85) (24)

Blairs (60) (23)



Red = Miles from Annapolis
Blue = Acres

Where to Kayak Fish

Eastern Shore Millpond Scenes



Kayak Fly Fishing Throughout the Year

Tidal

Winter/Early Spring -- Pickerels, Yellow Perch

Spring to Summer -- White Perch and *Stripers

Fall -- Bigger Stripers; Perch depart, Pickerels reactivate

Millponds

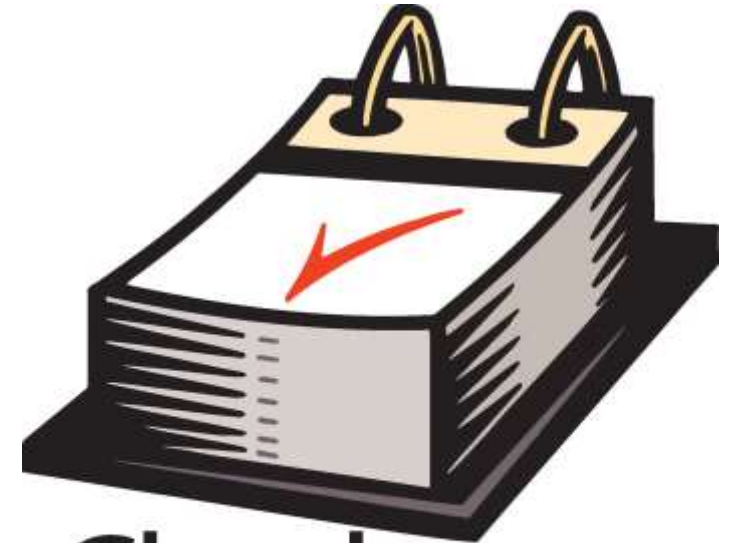
Winter/Early Spring -- Crappie, Pickerels

Spring to Summer -- Bass, Bluegills

Late Summer – Algae & SAV



Fall -- Bass Feeding Frenzy; Pickerel fun starts



Check Your
Calendar

* Adhere to ever changing striper regs

More Information

mbange54@gmail.com or 410-591-5254

Class handout

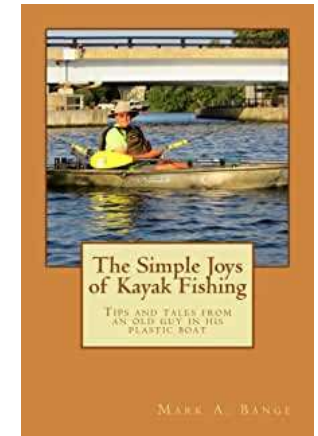
Fellow club members

(Time on the Water!)



Shameless self promotion...

available at
amazon





Show's over.
Time to nap.

Thank you for your attention.