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FAMILY FISHING PROGRAM BRINGS FUN TO FAYETTE COUNTY

Uniontown, PA – The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) will kick off summer with a Family Fishing Program at Dunlap Creek Park in Menallen Township.

The free program is designed for families and individuals with limited or no fishing experience. No fishing license is required. Fishing rods, bait and tackle will be provided.

PFBC Southwest Region Education Specialist Miranda Smith said the program is an opportunity for citizens to learn and practice basic skills in a hands-on setting.

"PFBC staff will introduce participants to the basics of how to be safe, cast, bait a hook and go fishing," Smith said. "This program is perfect for citizens to attend if they are new to fishing because our goal is to teach them everything they need to know to go fishing on their own. They'll learn how to rig a fishing rod with basic tackle. We'll also touch on regulations and identification of popular sportfish."

Smith said participants learn to be SMART anglers by completing the program. SMART stands for safety, manners, appreciating clean water, (acting responsibly with) releasing fish and teaching others.

"It's important for anglers to learn proper fishing practices so that they keep themselves and others safe; and are good stewards of our aquatic resources," Smith said.

The Family Fishing Program takes place 6 to 9 p.m. June 30 at Dunlap Creek Park's Pavilion No. 5.

Pre-registration is required. Visit <u>www.register-ed.com/events/view/200116</u> to register.

For more information about the PFBC Family Fishing Program, contact Miranda Smith at 814-443-9841. The regional branch of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is located at 236 Lake Road, Somerset, Pa., 15501.

"By attending this program, I hope that participants learn that fishing is a fun activity that can be enjoyed by all ages, and that fishing doesn't have to be expensive or complicated," Smith said.

To learn more about the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, visit <u>www.fishandboat.com</u>.

To learn more about Fayette County, visit <u>www.fayettecountypa.org</u>.

This communication is part of the Fayette County PR Initiative, which is funded through the Fayette County Local Share Account (LSA) and Hotel Tax Grants in cooperation with the Fayette County Board of Commissioners, Fayette Chamber of Commerce, The Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, The Redstone Foundation and other partners. This funding has been designated for the continued promotion and marketing of Fayette County, PA.

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