

April 2019



Fighting for Fisherman's Access to Beaches, Ponds, Rivers and Harbors

Falmouth Fishermen's Association
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2019 Board of Directors:

President: Keith Roberts	Newsletter: Steve Ferreira	Vice President : Kevin Downs
Beach Access: Don Hoffer	Secretary: Steve Ferreira	Merchandise: Kevin Griffin
Treasurer: Bruce Bumpus	Herring: Lou Turner	Membership: Open
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Barnstable County League: Rep. Open		Facebook and SM : Mitch Buck
		Freshwater and Tournament
		Director: Open
		Past President: John Dillon

Monthly Meetings:

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month. Social hour starts at 6:00 PM with food and beverages available for purchase from restaurant with meeting starting at 7:00 PM.

Location:

Bucatino Restaurant and Wine Bar
7 Nathan Ellis Hwy
North Falmouth, MA 02556

March Speakers:

Our March guest speaker was Ryan Collins, Host of My Fishing Cape Cod TV.

Bio: Ryan Collins grew up on the beach and has been fishing Cape Cod since kindergarten. He is the creator of My Fishing Cape Cod, an online membership site and community with resources and people to help make your time fishing on Cape Cod more productive and more fun. Ryan is also host of My Fishing Cape Cod TV, which airs Saturday and Sunday mornings on NBC

Sports BOSTON. Catching fish for Ryan is always a bonus - just being out there on the beach and on the water is what it's all about!

His Seminar Title: Secrets of Fishing On Cape Cod

Ryan took us month-by-month through a season of fishing on Cape Cod. Learn what species will be available from shore and boat. We discovered top locations and techniques for striped bass, blue fin tuna and more. Ryan shared with us high resolution photos and videos from Ryan's own Cape Cod fishing trips. Thank you for a very entertaining evening, Ryan!

Next Month's Speaker

Our April speaker will be Jimmy Fee from On The Water as he talks about king mackerel on Cape Cod, and how over the past couple seasons, they've been a viable target here in the late summer and early Fall. He will also show an episode on catching king mackerel, filmed last summer.

FFA Events

Licenses

Remember to purchase you 2019 fishing licenses, salt license is free for those members over 60 years of age.

Coonemessett River Trust Trout Tagging Program

The Coonemessett River Trust tagging program is raising funds for the 5th year. This to fund tagging and following of herring as they swim between the sea and spawning freshwater pond. Tracking herring helps the Town of Falmouth develop a restoration plan to return River herring, sea-run brook trout and river otters to the Coonamessett River! 1 herring \$12, 3 herring \$30.

Family fun day, June 9, 1 PM, 148 John Parker Road, E. Falmouth, follow the steep dirt road, opposite Clark St.

Shellfish Education Program

Please block out on your calendar Friday, April 26 at 10 AM at the Gus Canty Center for another Shellfish Education program. Preliminary plans are to have the Falmouth Marine & Environmental people do an education session on what equipment is needed to shellfish, how to shellfish, how to open/store/cook shellfish. We will try to have fresh shellfish on hand and ask

an expert from The Clam Man to demonstrate opening techniques. Shells will be consumed by those who volunteer.

Details to follow closer to the date.

Other FFA Upcoming Events

- April 13, 2019 Clamming, West Falmouth Harbor or Waquoit Bay
- May 18, 2019 - Haddock Fishing on Captain John Boat out of Plymouth, \$70 per person.
- June 18, 2019 Tuesday, (time and cost to be announced) FFA Canal picnic and striper fishing with Bill Prodouz, Buzzard's Bay Anglers will be fishing with us at Aptuxet Trading Post, Bourne.
- July 20, 2019 Fishing the beaches with Danya Mahota along lower Cape.
- August 24, 2019 FFA BBQ/picnic @ The Robert's House
- September 21, 2019 FFA Night Striper Fishing out of Sandwich Harbor on member boats.
- December 2019 Christmas Party
- January 2020 Jim Worthings Smelt Camp, Maine

Sportsmen's Shows

- North East Fishing and Hunting Show in Hartford, Conn. March 29-31, 2019
- Mass Striped Bass Sport Fishing Expo is March 30-31, 2019 contact Ernie Foster.
- Mass Sportsmen Council Banquet is April 13, 2019

Merchandise Prices

- Hooded sweatshirts \$25
- Long sleeve tees \$22
- Tee's \$20
- Hats \$20

Other Cape Fishing Information:

Barnstable County League Updates

Advisory: Seasonal Small Vessel Speed Limit in Cape Cod Bay

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has implemented a seasonal small vessel speed limit of 10 knots for certain waters of Cape Cod Bay. This speed limit will be in effect annually during the months of March and April within those waters of Cape Cod Bay south of 42° 08' north latitude, this includes those waters north of Cape Cod that are west of 70°10' west longitude (see map). The term small vessel refers to all vessels less than 65' overall length. A complementary federal speed limit applies to all vessels 65' overall length and greater. Small vessel traffic within the inshore waters of Plymouth, Duxbury, Kingston, Barnstable and Wellfleet Harbors are exempt from this speed limit. The speed limit also does not apply to emergency and enforcement personnel, including federal whale disentanglement teams.

This speed limit has been implemented to protect endangered right whales from ship strikes. During the late-winter and early-spring, right whales migrate into and aggregate in Cape Cod Bay where they feed on zooplankton. As we move from the winter into the spring they begin to surface feed. This behavior leaves them particularly susceptible to ship strikes. Ship strikes are a significant source of mortality to these endangered whales. However, the lethality of ship strikes is greatly reduced when vessels are operating at less than 10 knots speed.

For more information regarding the management of protected marine species in Massachusetts, please visit our website (www.mass.gov/marinefisheries) or call DMF at 617-626-1520.

MA Sportsmen Council Supper Raffle 2019 15 Great Prizes, tickets \$5.00 ea./ 4 for \$10.

Mass Wildlife

MassWildlife staff have begun to stock nearly 500,000 brook, brown, rainbow, and tiger trout into Massachusetts waters.

Get daily stocking updates at Mass.gov/Trout.

Report winter fish kills. Thick ice and heavy snow can decrease oxygen levels in ponds, leading to a natural winter fish kill. Learn the signs and how to report it.

During winter, thick ice and heavy snow cover can result in low dissolved oxygen levels in ponds. With increasing ice and snow packs, there is less light penetration through the water column. This alters chemical and biological processes, often resulting in a winter fish kill.

The vast majority of fish kills turn out to be caused by a natural event. However, it's important for biologists to rule out other causes including pollution. Natural fish kills are generally the result of low dissolved oxygen levels (anoxia), spawning stress or fish diseases. Dissolved oxygen depletion is one of the most common causes of natural fish kills. Weedy ponds that are less than 15 feet deep are particularly vulnerable. This can be the case at any time of the year but generally occurs during severe winters or late spring/early summer.

Ice anglers may encounter signs of a low oxygen environment when they drill through the ice and notice the smell of rotten egg or observe sluggish or dying shiners. The odor is hydrogen sulfide gas which is a natural byproduct of low dissolved oxygen environments, and is not likely the result of pollution. Oxygen levels will be return to normal shortly after the ice melts in the spring.

If you observe dead fish, contact the Environmental Police's 24-hour radio room at 1 (800) 632-8075. A MassWildlife biologist will review each situation to determine whether the kill is natural or requires a site investigation.