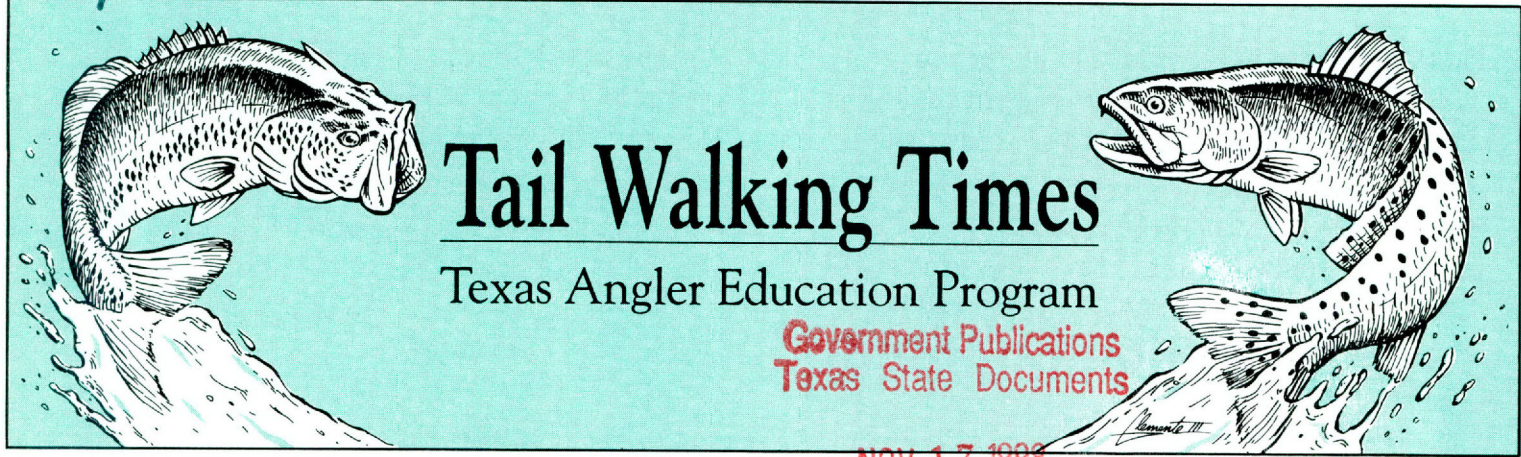


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Tail Walking Times

Texas Angler Education Program

Government Publications
Texas State Documents

NOV 17 1998

Issue Number 4

4200 Smith School Road • Austin, Texas 78744

Fall 1998

Depository
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Good news! I've got to tell you about the NEW Scantron forms we are distributing for use now.

We have done away with the yellow and pink copies of the student registration form. The new form is 8½" X 11" with two sides and has a perforated Temporary Student Card at the bottom. Upon successful completion of a course, each student will be issued this Temporary Card with their SS # as their temporary I.D. number. This new temporary card should be much easier for the student to keep up with. All information on the new temporary card must be printed for clarity.

We have taken some of the information off the new student registration and are now using both sides for data input. They are much easier to use and by just roll-folding them without a crease, they can easily be mailed in the current envelopes. Remember, if team-taught, mail all forms in one envelope.

Since there is no longer a yellow student copy for the instructor to keep, a new

continued on the next page

Anglers Feel the Weight of Sinker Situation

from The Washington Post

Lead and its problems have migrated from the field, where waterfowl hunters now must use steel shot, to the tips of anglers' poles. In November 1992, four conservation groups – the Environmental Defense Fund, North American Loon Fund, Federation of Fly Fishers and the Trumpeter Swan Society – petitioned the federal government to ban the use of lead sinkers in national parks, national wildlife refuges and in 14 northern states. The Environmental Protection Agency also has been asked to require that lead sinker packages carry warning labels describing dangers to waterfowl.

The groups point to studies showing that loons and trumpeter swans have been poisoned when the birds ingest lead sinkers while feeding. Populations of both species currently are far below historical levels.

In this issue...

- 1998 Texas Wildlife Expo
- Taking the Kids Fishing
- In the News...
- Tips, Tackle, & Tasty Tidbits
- Outdoor Ethics
- Welcome New Instructors



Editor's Corner . . . continued

Student Course Roster is available for use, and will be mailed to each instructor with supply orders. This is the only record of students for the instructor to keep. Please record only the students each instructor signs off on to each roster and keep it with the Final Report yellow copy. Continue to use the old forms and think about the new ones for later on.

Wishing and hoping everyone is taking care of themselves during this extreme heat wave. Staying hydrated and cool isn't just a precaution, it's a requirement! Get out on the water, but be safe doing it. Happy fishing!

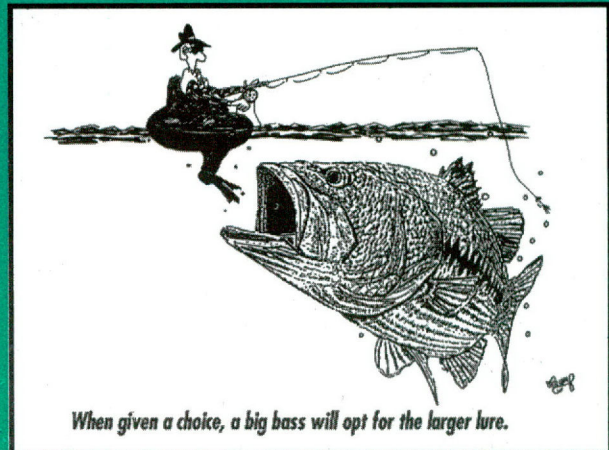
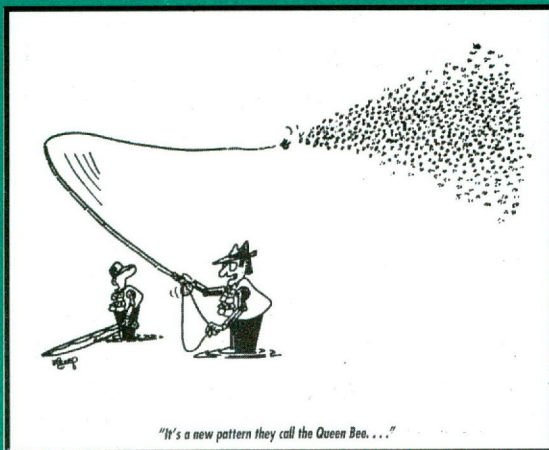
Chris Lena

1998 Wildlife Expo is just around the corner!



"Grounds for Outdoor Adventure" is the theme for the seventh annual Texas Wildlife Expo, held at Texas Parks and Wildlife headquarters in Austin on October 3 and 4. Last year over 41,000 visitors tried their hands at all manner of outdoor activities and pastimes. Among the most popular activities were those located in the Fishing and Aquatic area, including youth catfish and trout fishing, virtual fishing, fresh and saltwater touch tanks, fly fishing, fish prints and more.

If you'd like to volunteer for one of these activities, contact Chris Lena at 512-389-4755 or 1-800-792-1112 + 0, then ask for ext. 4755. For a four-hour shift, volunteers earn a 1998 Expo T-shirt!



From FIELD & STREAM

"Fishing: the art of casting, trolling, jigging, or spinning while freezing, sweating, swatting, or swearing."

Henry Beard and Roy McKie

Taking the Kids Fishing:

Top Ten Mistakes Adults Make

by Kathy Magers



Adult anglers are always eager to see their offspring enjoy the thrill of catching that first fish. But while the intentions might be good, parents sometimes go about it the wrong way and alienate a promising lifelong fishing partner. Here's what to avoid:

- ➔ **Don't Wait.** Some parents think a child needs to be twelve or older to take them fishing. Actually, you can start by taking babies for short walks outside, along the shore or on a dock. Feeling and sensing the outdoors is step one. By age one, you can show the child minnows darting around dock pilings or (watch the bird life). Age two is fine for a "Snoopy" rod and reel combo. Let the child learn to cast it. (Move onto children's rods once they master the skill.)
- ➔ **Don't Stay Too Long.** Kids wear out fast and have shorter attention spans than adults. Make a trip last about an hour per year of age. While a one-year-old has had all they want of fishing after an hour, the six-year-old might last half a day. For mixed ages, be prepared. Bring snacks and toys to occupy younger children once they become restless.
- ➔ **Avoid Hard-to-Catch Species.** Break the kids in on easy-to-catch, prolific species like bream (sunfish). They can be found along almost any shoreline, especially around fallen wood and docks.
- ➔ **Avoid Using Artificial Lures.** Most lures are only as good as the action they impart, and little children just don't have the skill to properly work lures. But, crickets and earthworms are simple to use and the most productive of all baits.
- ➔ **Don't Loan A Child An Adult's Rod & Reel.** There are so many affordable (\$12-\$15) children's rod and reel combos on the market. Zebco makes combos to fit the smallest of children, with Snoopy and Donald Duck outfits, just to name a few. As kids grow, they can get Johnny Quest or Spiderman and right up the line with 101's, 202's, 303's, etc. Think of fishing equipment as a gift for birthdays or Christmas. You can't beat a kid's combo with a tackle box full of tiny hooks, sinkers and bobbers to light up a child's eyes.
- ➔ **Don't Misinterpret "Success."** So what if you had a flat on the way to the lake or dropped your tackle box and spilled all the contents or the dog ate your catfish bait or the toddler fell in the mud puddle? If you spent the day together and had even one

continued on the next page

Taking Kids Fishing. . . continued

moment of laughter, you had a successful day. Never judge your success by the number or size of fish you caught, but by the memories you made that day.

➔ **Don't Forget the Camera.** Take pictures—and plenty of them. Get close-ups of a child who's got the giggles or even the one who's crying because a duck ate his cookie when he wasn't looking. One of my favorite photos of my grandson was taken when he was about 3 years old and had gotten the fishing line tangled, became impatient and started to cry. Rather than waiting for a smile, I took the photo, and every time I see it now, I laugh.

➔ **Don't Be Impatient.** Set time aside for the children and devote every minute of it to seeing that they are having fun. When a child makes a mistake, remember when you were in that same learning situation and how it felt.

➔ **Don't Stay TOO Long.** When the kids are having a great time, but you know "time is nearly up," go ahead and say, "Let's go." Leave before they ask to. Always leave them wanting more and they'll soon be begging to go again.

➔ **Don't Forget Safety.** Life vests that fit snugly. A loose life jacket will come up over a child's head. Always keep the vest on when underway in a boat. (Here in Texas, that applies to all children under thirteen and means anytime you're not anchored or tied to a dock!) Kids can burn fast in the summer sun, so go early (has your child ever watched the sun come up?) or go late, but avoid the heat of the day — 11:00 - 4:00. Safety is first in importance, but I purposely listed it last so it would be fresh on your mind when you finish this article.

Be safe, have fun, and enjoy fishing with your children!



Wardens Nab Poachers Taking Advantage of Dry Times

Panhandle Game Wardens Billy Hefley and Matt Marshall caught four men on the Canadian River in possession of 275 channel catfish, 20 softshell turtles, and uncounted minnows, sunfish, bullheads and carp. Because the river was so low, the men were able to just scoop the fish and turtles out with a seine net.

Recycle When You Respool Fishing Line *courtesy of Project Wild*

In 1990, Berkley (a fishing tackle manufacturer) asked America's anglers to "Recycle When You Respool" your fishing line. Retailers nationwide participated in this program by becoming official Berkley Line Recycling Centers and by displaying Berkley Recycling Bins in their stores. To date, more than 10,000 retailers have requested the free recycling bins for used fishing line.



The response from anglers has been outstanding. Anglers have shown their concern for the environment by helping Berkley recycle the nylon equivalent of more than 1,000,000 miles of fishing line. That's enough line to circle the earth 40 times. That's enough line to go to the moon five times. Most important, it's line that has been cast back to Berkley and recycled into other useful outdoor products instead of polluting our fisheries and harming wildlife. In addition, Berkley also will recycle empty line spools returned by fishing tackle retailers.

The Fisherman Knows Best

courtesy of Chad R. Tussing

One day a fisherman was lying on a beautiful beach, with his fishing pole propped up in the sand and his solitary line cast out into the sparkling blue surf. He was enjoying the warmth of the afternoon sun and the prospect of catching a fish. About that time, a businessman came walking down the beach, trying to relieve some of the stress of his workday. He noticed the fisherman sitting on the beach and decided to find out why this

fisherman was fishing instead of working harder to make a living for himself and his family.

"You aren't going to catch many fish that way," said the businessman to the fisherman, "you should be working rather than lying on the beach!" The fisherman looked up at the businessman, smiled and replied, "And what will my reward be?" "Well, you can get bigger nets and catch more

fish!" was the businessman's answer. And then what will my reward be?" asked the fisherman, still smiling. The businessman replied, "You will make money and you'll be able to buy a boat, which will then result in larger catches of fish!" "And then what will my reward be?" asked the fisherman again.

The businessman was beginning to get a little irritated with the fisherman's questions. "You can buy a bigger boat, and hire some people to work for you!" he said. "And then what will my reward be?" repeated the fisherman. The businessman was getting angry. "Don't you understand? You can build up a fleet of fishing boats, sail all over the world and let all your employees catch fish for you!" Once again the fisherman asked, "And then what will my reward be?" The businessman was red with rage and shouted at the fisherman, "Don't you understand that you can become so rich that you will never have to work for your living again! You can spend all the rest of your days sitting on this beach, looking at the sunset. You won't have a care in the world!"

The fisherman, still smiling, looked up and said, "And what do you think I'm doing right now?"



In the news . . .



The second annual "Youth Outdoor Days," sponsored by the Challenged Sportsmen of America, held in Greenville, was a huge success for all in attendance. Game Warden, Terri Potts, assisted Thatcher Killough during the fishing activities. Several Texas Parks and Wildlife employees along with numerous volunteers made the event a long-lasting impression with many youth.



Katie Lassiter shows off one of several fish that were caught during the two-day event. Hot temperatures, light wind and biting chiggers couldn't keep the thrill and excitement off the faces of the kids. KIDS + FISH = FUN



Everyone knows it doesn't take much to bring a smile to the face of a kid who's fishing and having a good time. Todd proved that without any trouble while fishing at the bass pond.



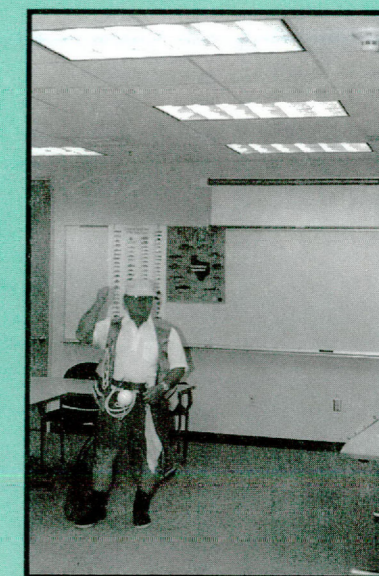
John W. Tarver, Jr., with rod in hand, received first-hand instruction on fly casting from instructor, Kevin Hutchison, during a July 18th instructor training held at Texas Parks and Wildlife headquarters in Austin.



In the months of June, July and August, groups of kids experienced the outdoors at the Parrie Haynes Youth Ranch, near Killeen. The kids completed the angler education course learning about aquatic ecology, conservation, ethics and "catching fish."



Patti Watkins gave fly-casting the old "one-two" while the rest looked on. After a little demonstration, the entire group tried their hand at the exercise. Everyone did a great job!



Angler Education instructor, Mike Dixon, gave a demonstration of the knowledge and "professionalism" it takes to become a saltwater wade angler during a Corpus Christi instructor training course. Nice get-up Mike!



Tips,



Tackle, &



Tasty Tidbits

A Few Tips about your Fishing Line

While there are some reliable rules-of-thumb regarding selection of fishing lines, it boils down to a matter of personal preference. Monofilament line deteriorates if left in direct sunlight or stored where it endures extreme changes of temperature or humidity. Stored properly, 25-year old monofilament will lose very little strength. Practice tying good knots. The best knots are those like the Palomar or Trilene knot, those that double the line through the eye of the hook or lure. Another proven knot is the improved clinch. Lubricate the knot with saliva before tightening it. Otherwise, the monofilament tends to grab on itself and weakens the line.

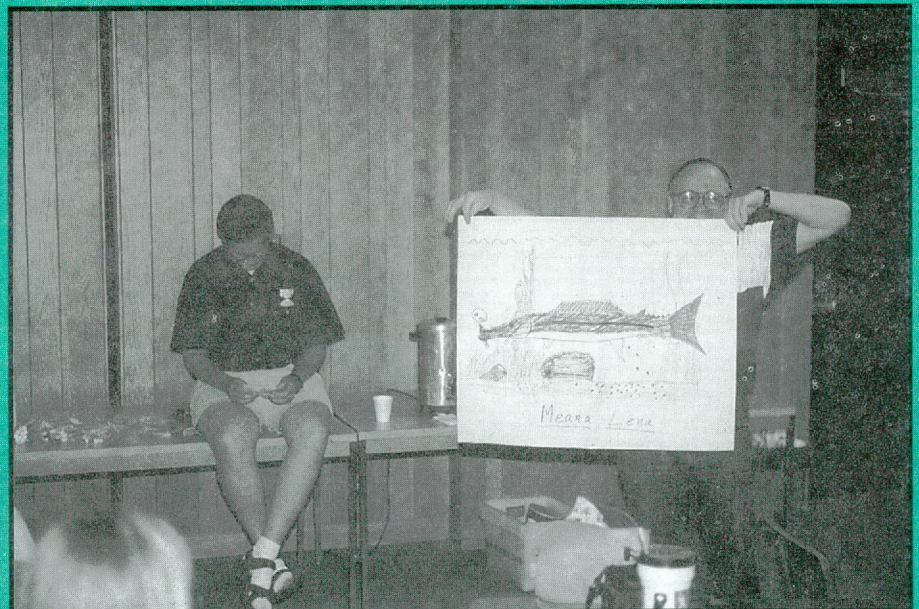
Cinch (clinch) the knot tightly and uniformly. Otherwise, you leave loops that bind under tension, weakening the line. You can tell when a knot has pulled loose because it leaves a telltale curly knot. Regularly remove the last five feet of your fishing line. This forces you to tie a fresh knot and also removes the section of line that's weakened by contact with fish or underwater obstructions and by the strain of casting lures. Select a fishing line that suits your fishing style. Generally speaking, lines that test 10 pounds or lighter work best on spinning reels. Lines testing 10 pounds or heavier are best for revolving spool reels. A spincasting reel handles a variety of line sizes, depending on the size of the reel.

While light lines allow a lure to work more freely and result in increased strikes, heavier lines are practical for forcing big fish out of dense cover.

-courtesy of Houston Chronicle

Tasty Tidbits on the next page!

"Fashion-a-Fish," an Aquatic WILD lesson, was the activity for the afternoon with each creation being one-of-a-kind. Mudcat was the common name for this fish. Laughing with head hung low, Kevin sure looked like a guilty party for naming the fish!



TRY OUT OUR

TROUT

Baked Trout

2 ½ lbs. of rainbow or brown trout, cleaned
½ cup dry white wine or dry vermouth
1 tsp. dry mustard
6 tbsp. margarine
2 tbsp. lemon juice

Place fish in an oiled roasting pan. Pour wine over it and allow it to marinate. After 15 minutes, turn the fish over, and let it sit for

another 15 minutes. Blend mustard into margarine and heat with lemon juice in a small saucepan. Baste the fish with the margarine mixture and place it in a preheated 400-degree oven. After 10 minutes, turn the fish over and baste again. Bake another 15 to 20 minutes, until the fish flakes when probed with a fork. Carefully remove the fish to a heated platter and strip off the top skin. Add pan juices to the rest of the basting sauce and serve with the fish. Serves 4 to 6.

Trout in Foil

4, 12 to 14-inch rainbow or brown trout, cleaned
6 green onions, finely chopped
1 celery stalk, finely chopped
2 carrots, finely chopped
¼ cup margarine
Lemon wedges
Salt and pepper

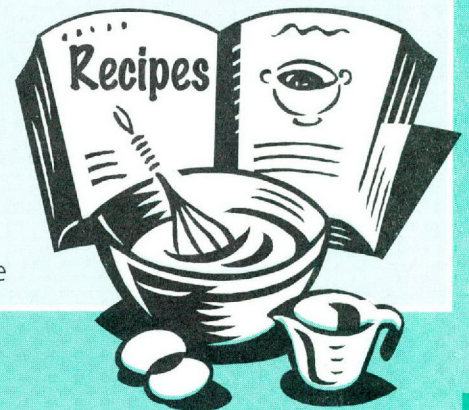
Fry the vegetables over medium heat in margarine until they are soft. Rub trout with soft butter or margarine. Place each trout on a sheet of foil that has been oiled. Add some vegetable mixture stuffing to the cavity of each fish. Put the open foil packages on a large cookie sheet. Place under the preheated broiler, about three inches from the heat. Broil for five minutes, until the skin is brown. Remove from broiler. Close each foil package and place in a 425-degree oven. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes. Open foil. Using spatulas, remove the trout to a heated platter and serve immediately with lemon wedges. Serves 4.

Trout Meredith

4, 11 to 12-inch rainbow or brown trout, cleaned
4 tbsp. butter or margarine
4 tbsp. olive or cooking oil
Flour, mixed with salt and pepper
1 egg beaten with a tbsp. water
1 cup Italian-flavored bread crumbs

Roll trout in flour. Dip each fish in the egg and roll in breadcrumbs. Let rest for five minutes. Heat butter and oil in a heavy frying pan. When it is sizzling hot, add trout. Brown for four minutes on each side. Cover pan, reduce heat to medium and cook for another three minutes. If the fish flakes, it is done. Serves 4.

-courtesy of
Outdoor Life



Outdoor Ethics: A Gift and An Investment

End-of-the-Line Ethics

A young girl stood on the bank of a wide, riffled stream and knew she was in trouble. She was about to enter the realm her father referred to, only half jokingly, as big trouble. Her father's last words to her as he set off upstream to fish were, "Don't cast out too far and snag that man's line. You just fish here in the shallows."

But after an hour of watching the old man on the rock pull in fish after fish, while she had never even gotten a bite, she slung her bait way out into the current. Sure enough, now her line was badly tangled with his.

"Just let your line spool out," the old man called. She had done so hurriedly, worried that her father would return and see the mess she had made of things. The old man finally took out his knife and cut her line. Now he was wading toward her, carrying a bird's nest of monofilament. She stifled an urge to run back to camp to her mother. "I had

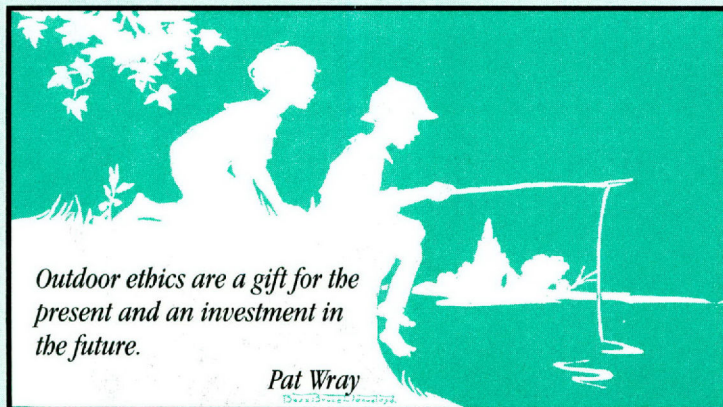
to cut the line," said the man. "I'm sorry," she started, but the old man cut her off. "Not having much luck here, are you?" "No," said the youngster. "But I didn't mean to..." "Why don't you come out to that rock with me?" he said. "I believe there are a couple fish out there calling your name." After a moment's hesitation, she had her arm around his neck. He hoisted her up and waded to the rock. With the girl safely placed on the rock, the old man tied a small, mottled spinner on her line. "Why don't you try one of these?" he asked. "Cast it right out there behind that eddy."

Nothing happened for several casts. Then the old man snapped his rod back suddenly, took two turns with the reel handle and handed it to her. "This is one of those that was calling you," he said. The girl was opened-mouthed with wonder at the power of the fish, and when she finally brought it to his waiting net, she had to take several deep breaths. She'd forgotten to

breathe during the fight. The old man took two more and let her bring them in before she felt a solid tug on her own line, even stronger than those before.

"Oh, it's a dandy!" he said. When the fish came in, it was much brighter than the others, full-bodied and muscular. "This one's a native," said the old man. "You can keep her if you want, but it would be a good idea to let her go." "Why? She's even bigger than the others, and prettier, too!" That's why," said the old man. "She was born in this stream, not like the others who were dumped from a truck. She was meant to live here and have her babies here. But like I said, it's legal to keep her if you want. Well, I know I caught her," said the girl. "And that's enough." Yes, it is," said the old man. "It truly is."

Together they slipped the hook out of the big trout's jaw and slid her back into the water.



Angling Ethics, Anyone?

The opportunity is here, and you shouldn't pass this one up. An offer has been presented to the program in creating a video on angler ethics. How about sending in any angling ethic situation you may have seen, read or heard of in the past. Why? For one reason, to share with one another. For another, to get the chance to have it filmed for an angler education video. That's right, the best angling ethic scenarios will be used for the video and you may have the chance of becoming an angling ethic star. Don't hesitate, send them in.

Welcome New Instructors!

JUNE

Mitchell Lockwood	College Station
Johnathan Davis	College Station
Amanda Wilcox	Highland Way
Hilary Higinbotham	Bryan
David Layne	Caldwell
David Lee, Assistant	Bryan
Randy Wilson	Bryan
Rebecca Hysmith	College Station

Gary Culpepper
Eldon Tietje
Eddie Greenfield
John W. Tarver, Jr.
April M. Lacy
Darryl Weisenbaugh
Joe Allen
Julia Gregory
Jim Brauch
Jo Ann Kugle
Patti Watkins
Roy A. Torrez
Michael J. Rivera
Kimberly Bottenfield
Amy Schieberile
Chris Thibodeaux
Darla Iley
Loy Weathersby
Carl Romero
Charles Ellis
Ira Higginbotham
Dianne Duke
Mike Cox
Emily Towers
Barry Bennett
Phil Miller

Pflugerville
Temple
Belton
Killen
LaCoste
Johnson City
Kingsland
Seguin
Austin
Austin
Austin
Austin
Arlington
Arlington
San Marcos
Palacios
Beeville
Marion
Jonestown
San Marcos
Kingsville
Corpus Christi
Corpus Christi
Corpus Christi
Corpus Christi
Corpus Christi

JULY

Terrie Ling	Beaumont
Terry Ling	Beaumont
Pat Spivey	Beaumont
Richard Parrish	Kountze
Jay White	Beaumont
Brian Triplett	Coldspring
Karla Barron	Port Arthur
Victor Stines	Beaumont
David Sosa	Nederland
Dennis White	Beaumont
Daniel Turner	Beaumont
David Fournerat	Beaumont
Bill Hammock	Beaumont



The Jefferson County Correctional Facility was the site of an instructor course for this group of smiling individuals. County extension agents, parks and recreation employees, local law enforcement and interested general public attended to spread the word, "fishing is fun"!

EDUCATION DIVISION PHONE NUMBERS

General Information

Sheri Harper 1-800-792-1112 + 0 ask for ext. 4942
(512) 389-4942
Fax (512) 389-8042

Records

Kathy Powell 1-800-792-1112 + 63
(512) 389-8142

Videos & Supplies

Jack Nasworthy 1-800-792-1112 + 61
(512) 389-4795
Fax (512) 389-4372

Aquatic Education Coordinator

Nancy Herron 1-800-792-1112 + 0 ask for ext. 4362
(512) 389-4362
Fax (512) 389-4372

Angler Education Coordinator

Chris Lena 1-800-792-1112 + 0 ask for ext. 4755
(512) 389-4755



Tips, Tackle, & Tasty Tidbits

Have a great fishing tip? How about an interesting article? Maybe you just want to pass on that mouth-watering recipe for all to enjoy. All information sent will be listed in upcoming issues of the newsletter and will be greatly appreciated.

PWD BR D0200-162 (8/98)

Texas Parks and Wildlife
Angler Education Program
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744



TAIL WALKING TIMES