Ch-ch-ch-changes ... As you may be aware, the Angler Education Program has undergone some staff changes since this past summer.

On December 9, I was offered and accepted the position of Aquatic Education Manager. By early spring we hope to fill the Houston Aquatic Education Specialist position vacated by Kevin Cunningham. We would like to bid a warm farewell to Kevin, who shared his passion and knowledge of fishing with the Aquatic Education Program and volunteers. We wish him the best of luck in his new position with the Boater Education Program, and are grateful he will remain a part of the TPWD family.

In September, we welcomed our newest Aquatic Education staff member, Cappy Smith. You may have known her when she worked with Co-Op grants or with State Parks. Read more about what she is doing on page 9.

The numbers are in! In spite of the economic downturn, state budget cuts, and declining fishing license sales, the Aquatic Education program experienced an exceptional year. Read more about that on page 20. Thank YOU for making our program a great success and for sharing your passion of fishing with others.

Seek and Find: Five instructor ID#s are buried in the newsletter! If it’s your number let us know and we’ll send you a surprise! Contact any of the Aquatic Education staff if you find your number!!!

(Continued on page 2)

Fishing Memories

KAREN MARKS – Aquatic Education Manager

Recently there has been a string of Facebook posts on the Angler Education wall about creating fishing memories for young and old alike. At the beginning of each Angler Education instructor classes I teach, I always ask, “Do you remember when you caught your first fish?”

I caught my first fish, a perch, (okay, Steve! I know it’s really a sunfish) at my Great Uncle Smitty’s lake house near Jonestown, Texas. I was probably about five or six years old and oh so proud of that catch. My Uncle Otto used to take my brother and me fishing, too. I remember one time when he took us to this big covered dock on the lake with a big square opening in the center where you would lean against the railing and drop your line straight down.

My mom occasionally took us to Port Aransas for summer vacation. We fished off the public piers, and once we went out on the Scat Cat, a charter fishing party boat. On one of those trips to the coast we stayed at the Tarpon Inn. I’m currently reading Glory of the Silver King: The Golden Age of Tarpon Fishing, by Hart Stilwell, and learned that President Franklin D. Roosevelt stayed there in 1937 when he was visiting Port Aransas on a fishing trip.

When our kids were young, my husband and I took family vacations with our good friends to their vacation home in El Tordo, Mexico (on the Gulf of Mexico coast just north of Tampico). The 16-hour drive from Austin was rewarded with relaxing days spent fishing or hanging out on the beach. Some days we would boat upstream on the river; other days, we would boat over to the beach and fish in the surf or off the new jetty. We fished and feasted on reds, specks and snook. In the spring, the families would put on an Easter egg hunt and a fishing tournament for all the kids. 17005

When I went back to school I knew that I wanted to study biology, but was undecided about what field. I looked at the course catalog and picked out the biology electives that interested me. The majority of the courses fell under the Aquatic Biology degree plant. My favorite courses were Aquatic Biology – learning about and collecting macroinvertebrates;
New & Noteworthy

Need a new Aquatic Education Program nametag? Or how about a handful of Invasive Species wallet cards to hand out at your next angler education event? Contact Genevieve at genevieve.lung@tpwd.state.tx.us to order these free items.

It’s trout fishing time! Check out the latest trout stockings and tips for catching them at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/fish/management/stocking/trout_stocking.phtml

Earlier this fall, our Puerto Rican colleague Vilmarie Roman visited Texas and Florida to work on her English skills and swap teaching techniques. In Puerto Rico she is the Project WILD and Aquatic Education Program Manager. While visiting Texas, she sat in on Area Chief Larry Condra’s fishing class at the Becoming an Outdoors-Woman workshop in Navasota, and she helped staff teach at Project WILD and Angler Ed classes throughout the state.

Please help us support fishing and TPWD. State Parks were especially hard hit with drought, wildfires and decreased visitation. There are three simple things you can do – visit a state park, buy and encourage others to purchase a fishing license, or look for the new $5 donation opportunity when you renew your automobile license tags. For more information and to help spread the word visit www.texasstateparks.org/spreadtheword.

Remember, Life’s better outside.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Fishing Memories, continued

Ornithology – I became a “birder,” and Icthyology (the study of fish).

Much to my dismay, on the first day of the Icthyology class, the professor announced “you will not learn about fishing in this class.” What? This class proved to be one of my most challenging courses. Maybe it was because I was taking 17 hours that semester or maybe it was trying to learn to identify fish by looking at 30-year-old specimens in formaldehyde. Although it was challenging, it was fun, and I learned a lot. The most memorable field trip was an all-night trip electrofishing on Canyon Lake – where my group sat in a leaking, sinking, metal boat during a thunderstorm? (hmmm, is it safe to be in a metal boat, on the water, during a thunderstorm?).

Every once in a while, I’ll borrow my niece or nephew and take them fishing. But these days my stringer is mostly filled with plastic Backyard Bass, as I help others learn to teach fishing.

While working at TPWD, I’ve learned even more including how to tie a proper Palomar knot, and how to fly fish (with the help of the Fredericksburg Fly Fishing club.) Ann taught me how to write up lesson plans. Steve taught me the “Art of Squigglies” and Kevin (“we’re not leaving until you catch a fish, Karen!”) taught me how to rig for saltwater fishing off the jetty. He also taught me about the angler’s tradition of kissing fish for good luck!

Fishing is one of the top three gateway activities to connect people to the outdoors. So looking back, I guess fishing has always been part of my life and was a gateway to my love of the outdoors, and to my education and career. I am honored to accept the position of Aquatic Education Manager and look forward to maintaining the program momentum.

More than just teaching fishing, we are helping others to make memories. I look forward to making many new fishing memories with our staff and with all of you, our volunteers.

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT
“To manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas and to provide hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.”

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Legalization of Handfishing in Texas

KEN KURZAWSKI – TPWD Inland Fisheries

Have you ever had the urge to wrestle a fish? Are you a devotee of cable TV shows, such as “Hillbilly Hand Fishin’” or “Okie Noodling”? If you answered yes to one or both of those questions, you are probably excited about the newly passed law legalizing handfishing for catfish (channels, blues, and flatheads) in Texas as of June 17, 2011.

Handfishing is known by numerous, colorful names such as “noodling,” “grabbling,” and “hogging.” While legal in most of the southern U.S., this activity was not legal in Texas prior to this year. Handfishers say it’s an exciting and challenging way to catch fish. They say it’s a great social activity as numerous people can participate at the same time.

Catfish are the second most popular fish among Texas’ freshwater anglers, so TPWD biologists are always vigilant to ensure the continued health of these populations. Anglers have always prized catfish as a food fish, but more and more anglers are becoming interested in the challenge of catching larger blue and flathead catfish.

Few negative impacts of handfishing on catfish have been noted in other states, but biologists have expressed some concerns about this activity. Hand fishers tend to target large fish. Smaller stream and rivers may only harbor a few large, breeding-sized flathead or blue catfish. If a substantial number of these fish are harvested by hand fishers or by other anglers, the population in that limited area could suffer. The abundance of big catfish available for others anglers to catch could go down.

Obtaining the information needed to manage catfish populations in these localized areas would be extremely time consuming and labor intensive. However, biologists will continue to monitor catfish populations statewide for impacts and could decide to implement additional restrictions on handfishing, if needed.

Catching some fish and keeping some for a fish fry will always be an important part of fishing. As always, we ask that anglers know the rules, and the length and bag limits, so fish populations can thrive and continue to provide angling opportunities well into the future.
Partner Spotlight

Catching a Fish a Day

Keith Miller is closing in on his year-long goal to catch at least one fish a day using only artificial lures. He started this adventure as a way to promote youth programs. As of January he will have less than 100 days remaining on his challenge. This summer, he did not let the drought, heat, broken rods or illness deter his daily pursuit. Keith says, “I love fishing and am willing to go through this exhausting feat both mentally and physically because our youth are important to me and it should be to all of us.” To find out more about his project or where he’ll be fishing next, check out his Facebook page or this website, www.jraha.com/FISHATHON.html

Junior Anglers and Hunters of America

JrAHA held multiple three-day fishing camps this summer for youth and their families. In spite of the record heat that forced the camps to start as early as 6:30 a.m., the enthusiasm of the youth and their parents carried them through the end of the camp day around noon. At least one parent was required to attend the camp with their child. On day one, campers spent five to six hours of “classroom” time learning about fishing using TPWD Angler Ed resources and activities followed by a short 30-minute fishing activity. Day two, campers went fishing at a freshwater site and on day three, campers went saltwater wade-fishing in Galveston Bay. The group also visited a site to see shrimping activities. One hundred percent of the adults purchased fishing licenses (either one-day or full year) to participate in the fishing activities.

JrAHA hopes to create an alumni group, where participants will be invited out to occasional fishing trips (maybe quarterly). For more information contact Angler Ed Area Chief Ed Gerhardt, ELG3@JRAHA.com or visit their Facebook page or website, www.jraha.com

S.K.I.F.F.

The S.K.I.F.F. (Soldiers’ Kids Involved in Fishing Fun) Program exists to take the children of deployed or deceased soldiers on fishing trips at no charge to the soldiers’ families as a way of showing our support for our troops and providing a respite for their spouses. Sign up to receive inspiring stories and photos of the outings by contacting Bob Maindelle at Bob@HoldingTheLineGuideService.com

Fishing’s Future

Fishing’s Future is thrilled to be working with TPWD and us with them! Their model consists of setting up chapters and family fish camps to share the joys of fishing with new communities.

To date they have 14 chapters across the state of Texas and hope to expand beyond the borders of Texas. Thanks to a TPWD Co-Op grant, Fishing’s Future is able to assist chapters with equipment needs, provide Angler Education instruction and help to successfully run a Family Fish Camp® (FFC). For more information, contact Angler Ed Area Chief Shane Wilson at shane@fishingsfuture.org or visit their Facebook page or website, www.fishingsfuture.org

“THIS ORGANIZATION’S PASSION IS TO TEACH KIDS TO FISH. I WAS A “POSTER CHILD” FOR THEM BECAUSE I HAD CHILDREN WHO WANTED TO FISH, BUT I DIDN’T KNOW HOW. WE HAD A GREAT TIME. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THIS.
ED PAUL, PARTICIPANT

“SINCE YOUR FAMILY FISH CAMP, MY GRANDSON’S INTEREST HAS BLOSSOMED TO NEW LEVELS AND INTEREST IN FISHING. JAMES IS NOW AN AVID FISHERMAN AND WE GO EVERY WEEKEND. HIS RECORD CATCH TO DATE IS A 32” RED DRUM. HE SAID TO ME, “GRANDMA I HAVEN’T PLAYED MY X-BOX IN A LONG TIME.” I SAID, “THAT’S GREAT!” I CAN’T THANK YOU AND FISHING’S FUTURE ENOUGH FOR HAVING THESE CAMPS FOR KIDS.
ROXANE, CORPUS CHRISTI

S.K.I.F.F.
Partner Spotlight, continued

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

The PHWFF program is very rewarding for those involved. In Lufkin, fly fishing classes are taught at the local VA Clinic every other Friday and help disabled veterans learn the sport as a way to aid in their recovery. Presently they are building fly rods but have also been tying flies and learning to cast since November 2010. And yes, they go fishing, too! Chapters in Shreveport and San Antonio serve VA and military hospitals and may differ slightly. To get involved, visit www.projecthealingwaters.org/html/programs.html and click on How You Can Help, or contact Angler Ed Area Chief Walter McLendon at waltermcl@suddenlink.net for more information.

Angling for Aquatic Stewardship

The Texas Tech University Department of Biological Sciences and the Llano River Field Station are conducting a study on angling and educational pedagogy involving sciences and natural resources.

Teachers are needed for a pilot program, using activities in the classroom that will connect angling to a larger environmental context.

The goal is to improve academic achievement, and a deeper understanding of science and aquatic resource stewardship among K–12 students.

For more information contact Zach Thomas, Doctoral Graduate Research Assistant, Texas Tech University at Junction, Llano River Field Station, email: zachary.thomas@ttu.edu or call (325) 446-2301, ext. 254.

CURRICULUM TOPICS:

- WATER CYCLE
- AQUATIC PLANTS
- WATERSHEDS
- WATER QUALITY
- HUMAN IMPACTS ON AQUATIC RESOURCES
- INVASIVE SPECIES

Finding Your Inner Martha Stewart

Did you decorate for the holidays? We did that, too, and sometimes it got a little fishy. Share your fishy decorations with us on our Angler Ed Facebook page.
New Fishing Buddies:
A collaboration between the Dallas Flyfishers and Cabela’s

JERE ANDERSON – Angler Education Area Chief (Plano)

In the few short months that the new Cabela’s has been open in Allen, Texas, a suburb north of Dallas, members of the Dallas Flyfishers club have taught three Angler Education classes in their conference room. The first was a Basic Flyfishing Certification class, we have just completed a Fly Fishing Instructors Certification class and we are presently teaching a six-week Fly Tying class there.

While we of the Dallas Flyfishers have enjoyed their hospitality for allowing us to fly tie there twice a week and meet the public, the best opportunity has been to borrow their big conference room and do Angler Education classes. They configure the room as a classroom and we come in early to set up our materials. As soon as the door opens, our attendees arrive. The chance to certify 21 more fly fishing instructors in one class is too good to pass up. These classes take several months to prepare for and get all the pieces together. However, when they are in session and the crowd is positive and engaged in the discussions, it all is worth it.

The attendees came from four groups: The Dallas Flyfishers club, The Red River Fly Fishers (RRFF) club, staff of Cabela’s that desire to prepare to give their own classes, and youth group leaders that want to provide fishing at their events. All were there on time and ready to go. It was a really great group. The motivated teaching team consisted of Jerry Hamon, Angler Ed Area Chief assisting Richard Johnson, a new Area Chief teaching his first group of fly fishing instructors, and myself. Cabela’s, who brings ice water and an occasional plastic barrel of pretzel sticks to the fly tying on Wednesday and Saturday, served some very welcomed coffee and ice water to the participants.

Above is a group photo of the class. I hope that they all will be able to take part in future scout training and public outreach events like our fly tying at Cabela’s and Bass Pro Shops. I am also grateful to the seven members of the Red River Fly Fishers who attended, all of whom have lots of chances to help with the programs that RRFF conducts at Eisenhower State Park.

We will have another certification class, probably in the spring, as we meet the public and are able to pick up interested people that are already in youth programs and want to know how to get fishing into the mix of offerings they have. This is the whole point of Angler Education – to get more of the public in more places actively promoting the wonderful opportunities in the Texas outdoors. I am excited about our ability to utilize the Cabela’s location to reach out to the interested citizens of our part of North Texas and offer better outdoor experiences.

“THIS IS THE WHOLE POINT OF ANGLER EDUCATION – TO GET MORE OF THE PUBLIC IN MORE PLACES ACTIVELY PROMOTING THE WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES IN THE TEXAS OUTDOORS.”
Top Ten Tackle Maintenance Tips

OSCAR MARTINEZ – Angler Education Area Chief (Deer Park)

The trees have changed colors and cold fronts are on the way down from up North. This marks the end of fishing for most recreational anglers. Winter does indeed chill out everything. Having fished fresh and salt water all my life, I would like to share some tackle storage tips with you. These have never failed me yet.

1. Remove all used line from your reels and recycle the line when possible. Most major sporting good stores have recycling bins for used line.

2. Clean your reels thoroughly and lubricate them. If you are not adept at this sort of thing, then take them to a reputable tackle repair shop. Have everything cleaned, and broken or missing parts replaced and lubricated. Leave the reels off the rods until ready for use. Tip: Need to keep the reels dirt and dust free? Cut the top stretchy part off a used tube sock and hot glue the cut end together—problem solved. Spraying a light coat of WD40 on the sock cover will keep out moisture too. Going fishing again? Spool on new line.

3. Clean and inspect all rod line guides and tips that have broken/missing ceramic inserts. Have these replaced. Failure to replace these can cause you to wear or break your line. Some repairs are costlier that the price of the rod being repaired. Replacing the unit with a new one is more cost effective.

4. Pay special attention to the rod reel seat area. I use dish soap and a tooth brush to keep the threads clean. Use Q-tips to clean the top and bottom of the reel seat. It gets dirty down there!

5. Fishing line should be stored in a cool dry area (not next to the water heater!). If any old partial spools are discolored, recycle them and purchase new line. When that fish of a lifetime bites, you will be glad you did.

6. Clean out your tackle box(es) of rusty hooks, damaged lures and other trash. Trying to find a worthwhile hook in a rusty tackle box is pointless! Tackle boxes with dividers that separate your tackle are certainly helpful. Organization and neatness do matter. There are dozens of tackle boxes to fit your fishing needs in the stores. Tip: Keep saltwater and freshwater tackle separate to avoid rusting everything.

7. Remove batteries from your bait aerator and wipe down the inside. If the contacts are rusted and the unit barely runs, buy a new one. I would rather fish with a quart of live shrimp than a quart of dead shrimp. Always carry spare batteries with you.

8. Check your accessories, too. Using a wire brush, clean any tools or pliers and coat generously with WD40. If any tools are rusted shut replace them preferably with stainless steel ones that will last. Another good investment includes replacing landing nets that have been torn or damaged by toothy critters.

9. Check your cooler for any repairs. Most major outdoor retailers carry cooler replacement parts. Everything from drain spouts to hinges are available.

10. Here is a tip of my own: In a zippered bank bag (cost $2.00), I carry small sized needle nose pliers, side cut pliers, channel lock pliers, Phillips and flat screwdrivers for emergency repairs. I also include a rod tip, and a glue stick with a box of matches for emergency repairs.

I hope you find these helpful tips provide you with more enjoyable trips. Remember: A dry hook never caught a fish!

Tackle Loaner: Reelin’ in the Big One

STEVE CAMPBELL – Aquatic Education Training Specialist

Tackle Loaner is a program designed to give Texans access to basic fishing. The program loans fishing equipment just like a library loans books. Individuals can borrow rods, reels and tackle boxes with hooks, sinkers and bobbers.

There are 36 Tackle Loaner sites across the state with 29 sites located at state parks. At these sites, visitors may borrow fishing tackle to fish during their visit. The bonus at state parks is that no fishing license is needed as long as you are fishing from state park property. All the visitor needs then is the bait!

During the past six years, more than 11,000 people have utilized Tackle Loaner equipment; over 7,000 of them were youth. Eighteen percent of these anglers fished for the first time in their life.

Does it work? Proof is in the pudding, as the old adage goes. On May 5, Jason Aquirre caught a 9 lb. 3 oz. largemouth bass at Copper Breaks State Park, using a basic spin casting reel borrowed from the park’s Tackle Loaner program.

To find out where you can borrow equipment, visit www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/angler_education/tackloan.phtml

Check with each location for their specific borrowing policy.
Follow the Money

STEVE CAMPBELL – Aquatic Education Training Specialist

Most Texans have little to no idea how TPWD and its programs are funded. Do you?

If you said taxes, well, you’re almost there. The vast majority of our funding comes from taxes on sporting equipment such as handguns, rifles, ammunition and accessories, as well as bows, arrows and their components. Taxes paid on fishing tackle, from rods to artificial baits, flies and terminal tackle support TPWD.

Now you may be asking, “Tax? What tax? It wasn’t on my receipt with my last purchase of lures.” The tax is paid by the manufacturer or importer and is then incorporated into the price of merchandise. What’s this tax called? The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Act (WSFR). In 2012, WSFR will celebrate its 75th anniversary.

The Sport Fish Restoration Program is a partnership among anglers, boaters, the fishing and boating industry, TPWD and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Annual funding received from the Sport Fish Restoration program is utilized by TPWD to support activities that directly benefit anglers and Angler Education programs. Use the chart below in your Angler Education workshops to demonstrate the importance of this money cycle. 13855

Help yourself! When the giving of a gift is required, expected or desired, don’t buy the missus that new chain saw. Forget that ugly tie you give Dad every birthday. Instead purchase items in the categories listed that help to fund TPWD’s efforts.

For a specific list of WSFR materials, visit the link below:

For more information about WSFR go to:
http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/

CYCLE OF SUCCESS IN SPORT FISH AND WILDLIFE RESTORATION PROGRAMS

Anglers, Boaters, Hunters & Shooters

BENEFITS TO USERS:
- Improved Boating, fishing, hunting and shooting opportunities
- Protection of critical fish and wildlife habitat
- Opportunities for other types of wildlife-associated recreation

PROJECTS:
- Restoration of fish and wildlife species and habitat
- Boating and fishing access
- Land acquisition
- Habitat Management
- Facilities construction
- Operation and maintenance

PURCHASES OF EQUIPMENT AND BOAT FUEL:
- Excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment
- Motorboat and small engine fuels taxes
- Import duties
- Interest on deposits

STATE FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES

SPORT FISH & WILDLIFE RESTORATION TRUST FUNDS
Greetings Friends!

I am delighted to join the ranks of the aquatic education team that includes a fabulous staff and an incredible cadre of volunteers. I have had the pleasure of working with many of you in my previous positions with TPWD. For those of you that I don’t know, I can’t wait to meet you!

I have worked for TPWD for almost nine years in a variety of capacities including Project WILD Coordinator, State Parks Regional Interpretive Specialist, and CO-OP Program Coordinator. I have over 25 years of experience working in conservation education—working for the City of Austin Wildland Conservation Division, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center and the Austin Nature and Science Center. A childhood spent in river bottoms shaped my passion for water and all things related to water. My new position is a dream job allowing me to share my love of aquatic habitats and wildlife and educate others about this precious, life-giving resource.

My position, Aquatic Resource Education Specialist, is new to the agency. The focus of the position is to educate the public about the water needs for wildlife and aquatic habitats. I will be working in collaboration with our resource divisions, communications staff and external partners about priority aquatic habitat issues across Texas. We will develop resources and educational activities as well as utilizing existing ones to accomplish this important task. I will certainly keep you updated about new developments like our future movie nights featuring TPWD’s “The State of Water” documentary films.

As angler education instructors, you are already performing the crucial role of educating Texans about the importance of caring for our aquatic resources as well as introducing young and old alike to the joy of fishing. Kudos to you for the thousands of lives that you touch each year with your generous volunteer service. I’m proud to join your team and look forward to working with you!

Save water for wildlife!

State-Fish Art Contest Promotes Conservation

Entry Deadline: March 31

The State-Fish Art Contest is part of a conservation education program designed to spark the imaginations of students while providing valuable lessons about fish and the importance of conserving Texas’ aquatic resources. Students in grades 4 through 12 in public, private or home schools are invited to submit a drawing of an officially recognized state fish and a one-page essay on its behavior, habitat or conservation. Students in K-3 may also submit a drawing; the essay is not required for this age group.

A free lesson plan is available for assisting students who wish to enter the contest. An official entry form must accompany all entries. For more information, watch this contest video: www.youtube.com/TexasParksWildlife#p/c/0/i0rPPgaBJdA.


Wildlife Forever is a conservation organization whose mission is to conserve America’s wildlife heritage through conservation education, preservation of habitat and management of fish and wildlife. Learn more at www.wildlifeforever.org.
While we all welcome the recent rainfall, unfortunately, Texas is not out of the preverbal “woods” with this record drought. In fact, state climatologist, Dr. John Nielsen-Gammon, reports that a second year of drought is likely. That’s hard news to take given the drastic effects that we’ve experienced in the last year. The drought has taken its toll on everything from your favorite fishing hole to water bills and that has many people seeking new ways of coping with nature. In an effort to help, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department added an online Drought Survival Kit.

The new resource comes in three sets of web pages focused on wildlife, your backyard, and your wallet.

The “Help Wildlife” section explains how Texas critters handle drought and advises when and whether to intervene with Mother Nature. For example, as water levels drop dangerously low during a drought, fish congregate in areas with available habitat. It may be tempting to rescue fish and move them to another public water body but resist the urge. Moving fish is illegal since it can create problems for aquatic ecosystems. It also increases the risk of an accidental introduction of invasive species or diseases. However, if you notice a large number of dead fish and/or pollution in a public water body, contact the Texas Parks and Wildlife Kills and Spills hotline at (512) 389-4848 or learn more about the Kills and Spills program by visiting the TPWD website.

The “Save Your Yard” web section recognizes that trying to keep St. Augustine grass and other non-native “water hogs” alive during the drought can be expensive and frustrating. It suggests how, as weather conditions improve, it’s time to think about replacing drought-stricken yards with native “Wildscapes” that are better suited for surviving Texas weather. These are colorful, require little water or care, and attract birds, butterflies and other native wildlife.

The “Cut Your Water Bill” section covers a few simple ways to save water and money, and links to more information on the Texas Water Development Board’s Water IQ website. Conserving water ultimately means more water flowing in our rivers, streams, and springs and that’s good for wildlife and your favorite fishing hole.

TPWD’s Drought Survival Kit also links to several other useful resources including current stream flow conditions from the U.S. Geological Survey and current reservoir levels from the Texas Water Development Board.

The survival kit can be found on TPWD’s special water website, www.texasthestateofwater.org

The site includes links to Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine water resource special issues from the past 10 years. It also showcases online award-winning video documentaries TPWD has produced in partnership with Texas PBS stations.
The Bully Spider

GUY HARRISON – Angler Education Area Chief (Kerrville)
SOURCE: Terry and Roxanne Wilson

MATERIALS

Hook: Mustad 94840 dry-fly hook
Thread: appropriate size for hook, color to match body
Underbody: lead wire of appropriate size for hook
Body: medium chenille, crystal chenille or woolly bugger chenille
Wings: two pieces of medium round rubber trimmed to equal lengths after fly is completed
Head: taper and whip-finished

TYING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place hook in vice, attach thread at bend of hook, wind forward to slightly behind eye and back to starting point.
2. Lay a short length of the lead wire over the top and parallel to the shank of the hook. Wrap the thread forward over the length of the lead wire and back to the bend securing the wire to the shank. About 2 inches of wire should extend out behind the bend of the hook.
3. Pick up the lead wire and make three or four wraps at bend of the hook just in front of the last thread wrap. Make several spiral wraps forward (parmar style) ending up about 1/10th of an inch behind the eye. Cut lead wire at an angle. Make a tight wrap around the hook shank.
4. Pick up the chenille and strip 1/8th of an inch of the chenille end leaving exposed threads. Attach the chenille ends just behind the beginning of the lead wrap at the hook bend. Wrap forward in snug wraps around the hook to completely cover all the lead.
5. Take a look at the head of the fly to see if there is sufficient space to tie in the legs and head. If not enough space, then place your thumb and forefinger around the hook shank and push the chenille and lead wire back to give you the space to complete tying the fly.
6. Cut two pieces of rubber leg material to approximately 1-7/8 inches. Pick up one of the legs and make a loop and even up the ends of the leg. Place the apex of the loop on top of the hook shank directly in front of the body and secure the legs to the hook with loose wraps. Now position the legs so they are sticking up perpendicular to the hook shank. Pushing them up against the body may help you achieve this. Now secure the legs to the hook shank with several tight wraps. Take the other rubber leg material and make a loop and even up the ends. Tie on the apex of the loop to the shank of the hook with the legs pointing forward of the eye of the hook. The legs should form a “V” so you have a leg on each side of the hook eye. Position the legs like you wish and secure the legs to the hook with several tight wraps.
7. Make a nice cone shaped head in front of the legs, whip-finish and cement the head.

The Sinking Fly was certainly designed to be an attractive imitation of a dead insect sinking in the water. As it falls in a vertical free fall manner with the legs wiggling seductively, what fish can refuse to inhale this attractive morsel?

I have taken many species of sunfish, both largemouth and Guadalupe bass and occasionally a channel catfish, in the rivers and ponds in the hill country. All it takes is allowing the fly to sink to an appropriate depth then applying two inch strips with various lengths of pauses causing the rubber legs to wave seductively. The take usually comes after a strip, as the fly falls during the pause.

Suggested colors for the body and leg material

peacock body with black legs
brown body with brown legs
chartreuse body with yellow or chartreuse legs
black body with white legs
And You Thought They Were Just Worms

LARRY M. CONDRA – Angler Education Area Chief (Abilene)

Of all the baits available to fisher persons today, none, in this writer’s humble opinion, is more versatile than soft plastics. You can fish them in fresh or salt water for just about any species of game fish and a number of species of nongame fish. They come in virtually every color of the rainbow plus some and in nearly any scent you can imagine. They come in so many sizes and shapes (from 1” to over 14” in length) there is no way to cover them all in a single article. Here are the high spots. Soft plastic baits come in worms, snakes, lizards, tubes, baits with wiggly tails … well, you get the picture.

Though I personally have many sizes, shapes and colors of baits (my wife just showed me a box of about 75 pounds of new soft plastics still in their packages that I had forgotten about) and use many different scents, by no means do I have them all. I use them mainly for bass fishing. Do you know how many worms 75 pounds is by the way? I also use soft plastics when chasing crappie or bluegill (perch, if you please, Mr. Steve) and for striper, hybrids and white bass. Some soft plastic baits have the scent cooked into them and others are added in the package or you can add them yourself. There are also scents with dyes in them. One of my all time favorites is a chartreuse-colored dip scented with garlic. It is dynamite on the right soft plastic at the right time!

Soft plastic tubes or wigglers can be fished on small jig heads for panfish such as crappie and bluegill. Some soft plastics can be fished on larger jigs for largemouth/smallsouth bass, white bass, stripers, or hybrid bass, walleye, pike or muskies. They can be fished with a slip sinker for various species, especially largemouth bass. They can even be fished with no weight such as flakes or even Senko type (stick) baits. There are many saltwater applications as well, such as tout tails for reds, flounder, and speckled trout. 15857

The Carolina Rig is a fun way to fish soft plastics. Around humps in a lake this type of presentation can be deadly, especially on finicky fish. The Carolina Rig is assembled by putting on a fairly heavy sinker, usually egg shaped but others work too, ahead of a swivel (towards the reel). Then a leader of appropriate length (often determined by the height of vegetation to be fished) is tied on and a hook at the end of the leader. The leader can be from a foot or so to several feet long, but the longer the leader the more difficult it is to cast. I really like lizards, Texas rigged, for this presentation. The presentation it to make a long cast, allow the bait to settle to the bottom, the bait will often float (if it is a floating soft plastic bait) above the vegetation and the rig is slowly reeled in. Crawling the sinker along the bottom stirs it up to call attention to the goings-on and helps the fish find the bait. When a fish attacks this bait it generally will feel as though it has just gotten heavy. A quick hook set will often net the lucky angler a big bass. It is fun and fairly easy to learn. Make sure to use good knots since there will be three; one to tie on the swivel to the standing line, one to affix the leader to the swivel and another to the hook. Each knot can degrade the pound test of the line. Also, the main reason a fairly heavy sinker, often from ½ to 1 oz., is used is to keep the rig on the bottom so it works as intended. A lighter sinker might allow the rig to rise making it less effective.

There are so many different soft plastics I, no doubt, have left a few off this listing. Personally, I use them often. In fact, soft plastics, such as lizards and worms are my go-to-baits for largemouths. I have my favorite colors, sizes, scents and weights to use with them, as well as hook sizes, but always carry a number of different ones just in case old bucket mouth does not respond to MY preference that day. Several of my largest bass have come on soft plastics. I also have caught very small bass on 12- to 14-inch worms! Typically brighter colored baits will be used in clearer water while darker baits will be used in more stained or deeper water. Black, dark blues, purples and such are great in winter, while watermelon, reds and natural colors seem to work better in spring. Some of my very favorite colors the past few years have been green with red flakes, June bug worms and lizards, and when fishing flukes – white with chartreuse tails or again green with red flakes. I have my own favorite brands but this article is not about advertising so do the experimentation on your own to find your favorites. Hook sizes and styles as well as sinker weights will be determined by factors such as the size of bait (usually length), depth of water, how tightly I want the bait to be to cover or the bottom and such.

I favor small tubes fished on 16- or 32-oz. jigs for crappie, especially when they are not interested in natural bait. Fished slowly and deliberately, these will often out-fish natural baits such as minnows, their main forage. The jigs can be painted or the lead head left as poured. Even catfish persons often use soft plastics rolled in, punched into or filled with baits that entice cats to bite. Stink baits, punch baits or tube baits all fall into this category.

There are many variations of presentation, as well. They can be pitched, cast and drug, dead stuck, hopped on the bottom, swum on top, drop shot rigged, as well as flipped. These are just presentation styles for Texas rigged worms (where the hook is inserted through the worm head then stuck back into the worm to make as weed less as possible). With some jigs, the soft plastics can be cast and retrieved at various levels in the water column depending upon where the fish are, from very shallow to very deep. There are probably other presentations as well. Soft plastics can even be used to tip baits such as safety-pin baits or fished on weedless spoons over thick grass or lily pads.

(Continued on the next page)
Squiggles Revisited

I first introduced the concept of squiggles in the January 2004 Reel Lines, in an article entitled “Squiggles and the Art of Squiggliness” (Issue 5, page 6). At the time I was writing the article, I was under the impression that I had thought the entire process through to its conclusion. Little did I realize that squiggles were merely in their infancy and still had a lot of room for growth. A number of volunteers offered some creative solutions.

In the original article I had cautioned readers not to eat while making squiggles due to the oils that coat them. This oil has a peculiar and rather strong odor. I began to wonder if it might stain clothes.

Through trial and error, I discovered that cold water combined with Dawn® dishwashing liquid worked best at reducing the lubricant. I also discovered that one cannot remove all of the oil and certainly not the smell, but I believe that washing them is better than nothing. It also takes repeated baths of soapy water and cold water rinses.

Initially I used sinks and buckets; I’ve even used hotel bathtubs when away from my home. Once I tried to wash squiggles in my washing machine. This works, but leaves a residual stench of squiggly juice in the drum, so I recommend visiting a coin-operated laundromat — especially all you married men out there. One might also think about visiting laundromats on the other side of town, or better yet in towns other than one in which you reside. The employment of a disguise may also be prudent if these foreign laundromats are few or difficult to come by. 21598

While washing machines may be the fastest means of degreasing a squiggly, it does come with a few inherent dangers. Primarily the complicated round up of squiggles from the drum. They are especially fond of hiding beneath the agitator. This could thwart any attempt at a hasty retreat should one draw the unwanted curiosity of the laundromat attendant.

A friend of mine suggested enclosing squiggles in a mesh bag, like those used to wash delicates, such as women’s unmentionables. This does work, but after my first attempt I realized that the bag’s zipper has to be secured, otherwise one has to mine for squiggles when the wash load is completed.

Another early problem I encountered was finding affordable safety pins in suitable quantities. I was visiting the various blank-marts, buying 25 safety pins for $5.00 or more. At the time I concluded that the advent of disposable diapers had made safety pins virtually extinct, if not an endangered, species. El Paso Area Chief Toni Van De Putte suggested dollar stores as a source of inexpensive safety pins. She was too right to be wrong, but I was still spending close to $2.00 on a package of 50. I knew, that somehow, this deal could be sweetened.

Then one spring I had to drive from DFW to Austin, and from there to Huntsville State Park, and of course eventually back to DFW. During this prolonged road trip, I stopped at every dollar store I could find and bought each supply as I encountered it. Later, while driving up Interstate 45, I had an epiphany. What if safety pins could be purchased in bulk?

Once back at my office, I fired up the computer, and logged onto Google. I was immediately rewarded with a cornucopia of sites offering bulk prices for safety pins. Eureka! Excelsior! Huzzah!!

I still buy my own pins, but from time to time, I bring up ordering in bulk. Try it, you’ll like it! Squiggles rule!!

Worms, continued

One more killer presentation using plastic worms for bass is the wacky style rig. Take a worm, 4 inches or longer, and insert the hook through the egg sack (or middle of the worm) so the two halves of the worm flop on either side of the hook. Fish it weightless or with a light weight near the bottom. A small movement of the rod tip will give this bait an undulation like nothing else and it often drives bass wild. There is even a hook made especially for “wacky style” presentations. With a weightless rig you can fish for suspended fish, too.

Suffice it to say, soft plastics in an angler’s arsenal can be used to fill the creel on days when nothing else seems to work. There are some things to keep in mind when fishing soft plastics, such as speed and feel, but mostly you have to learn that on your own. It is difficult to tell someone how a strike on a plastic worm feels. Become a line-watcher because sometimes the fish simply picks up the bait and begins to swim away. Stay in touch with your bait as best you can and success should be forthcoming.

I’ll never forget the first bass I caught on a soft plastic while fishing Lone Star Lake in East Texas ... but that is fodder for another article another day. Oh, but it was exciting and hooked me for life! No pun intended.

Keep your lines wet and tight. Keep what you can use and release the rest.
Aquarium and Hatchery Tours
Daily, see saltwater aquariums showcasing the diversity of the Texas coast and tour the redfish hatchery. For more information, www.tpwd.state.tx.us/seacenter

Youth Catch & Release Fishing Events by Reservation
Reservations for group events are available the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month in the mornings. Reservations must be made at least three weeks in advance and require a $50 refundable deposit. Only groups with 10 to 20 participants between the ages of 7 and 16 are eligible to schedule an event. Sea Center Texas will provide the rods, reels, equipment and volunteers to assist the group. To inquire about available dates contact Patty Cardoza at (979) 292-0100 ext 21, or by email at seacenter@tpwd.state.tx.us.

March 3, 2012 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Nature Day
This fun family event will offer a variety of educational programs and activities that introduce children to the wonders of nature offered by various nature-based organizations.

March 3, 2012 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Nature Day Youth Fishing
Catch and release fishing. Open to guests 16 years old and younger accompanied by an adult. Anglers must bring their own gear and bait with barb-less hooks. No artificial bait, corks or treble hooks. Volunteers and staff will be on hand to assist first-time anglers.

April 14, 2012 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Fly Fishing Workshop
Free. Preregistration is required. Sponsored by the Sea Center Fly Fishers, is open to anyone (ages 9 and above) interested in fly fishing. Basic elements of the program will include Fly Tying, Fly Casting, Aquatic Ecology, Regulations/Ethics, Saltwater Fishing Tactics, and Actual Fishing Practice. To register, contact Sea Center at seacenter@tpwd.state.tx.us or (979) 292-0100.

June 2, 2012 8 a.m until 10 a.m.
National Fishing Day Youth Fishing
Catch and release fishing. Open to guests 16 years old and younger accompanied by an adult. Anglers must bring their own gear and bait with barb-less hooks. No artificial bait, corks or treble hooks. Volunteers and staff will be on hand to assist first-time anglers.

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/seacenter
UPCOMING EVENTS

TEXAS FRESHWATER FISHERIES CENTER

March 10, 2012 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Fly Fish Texas
Aimed at the novice fly fisher, this event is designed to teach you how to tie a fly, cast it and catch a fish with it — all in the same day.

April 7, 2012 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Outdoor Fools Day
Learn a variety of outdoor skills and engage in activities such as archery, fishing and kayaking with members of various divisions of TPWD and representatives of conservation groups.

May 5, 2012 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Cinco de Mayo
Celebrate the joint history of Texas and Mexico with dance, music, food and outdoor activities.

May 12, 2012 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Green Eggs and Ham...burgers
Join us for our second annual Green Eggs and Hamburgers event featuring gastric delights and the incredible Green Egg outdoor ceramic cooker.

June 2, 2012 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
National Fishing Day
Kick off summer with free hot dogs and soft drinks, games and fishing!

July 4, 2012 5 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Fireworks at the Fishery
One of the biggest fireworks displays in East Texas will light up the skies over TFFC and adjacent Lake Athens.

September 29, 2012 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Bluegill Family Fishing Tournament
Join us for a fun-filled day of trying to catch the biggest Bluegill here at our center and on Lake Athens.

October 25, 2012 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Halloween at the Hatchery
Local businesses and organizations will hand out free candy, and the center will be decorated throughout with a Halloween theme.

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/tffc
# Angler Education Volunteer Opportunities

We’re seeking volunteers!!!
Contact your local Aquatic Education Staff for more information on how you can help at these events.

## Go Fish Events
Have fun teaching youth and families to fish at various Angler Education stations, including knot-tying, safety, fish ID, casting, and more.

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<th>Month</th>
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<td>Neighborhood Fishin' Park, College Station</td>
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<td>Neighborhood Fishin' Park, Katy</td>
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<td>February 11</td>
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<td>McKinney Falls State Park</td>
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<td>Eisenhower State Park – Texoma on Fly</td>
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<td>April 21</td>
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ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

These events typically include helping schools with fishing events or helping TPWD staff with the Take Me Fishing Trailer exhibit or Backyard Bass casting activities.

February 4  Family Outdoor Expo  Victoria
February 10  Coastal EXPO  Edinburg
February 15–16  High School Fishing Event  Sea Center, Lake Jackson
February 29–March 4  Life’s Better Outside Experience  Houston Rodeo, Houston
March 8  Elementary School Fishing Event  Corpus Christi
March 9–11  Life’s Better Outside Experience  Austin Rodeo, Austin
March 24  Sheriff’s Dept. Family Fishing  Manor (northeast of Austin)
March 24  Wildlife & Woods Expo  Conroe
April 7  Outdoor Fools Day  TFFC, Athens
April 21  Coastal EXPO: Bay Day  Corpus Christi
April 27–30  Life’s Better Outside Experience  Corpus Christi
May 3–6  Mayfest  Fort Worth
May 19–20  Creekside Hunting & Fishing Show  Needville (south of Houston)
July 4  Coastal EXPO  Freeport

ANGLER EDUCATION CONTACT INFORMATION

General Information and Records
GENEVIEVE LUNG  (800) 792-1112 # 8183 #
(512) 389-8183  Fax (512) 389-8673
genevieve.lung@tpwd.state.tx.us

Supplies
ROBERT RAMIREZ  (800) 792-1112 # 4528 #
(512) 389-4528
robert2.ramirez@tpwd.state.tx.us

Aquatic Education Manager
KAREN MARKS  (800) 792-1112 # 4732 #
(512) 389-4732  Fax (512) 389-8673
Mobile (512) 913-7615
karen.marks@tpwd.state.tx.us

Aquatic Education – Dallas/Fort Worth
STEVE CAMPBELL  Office (972) 263-0427
Mobile (469) 644-2705
steve.campbell@tpwd.state.tx.us

Aquatic Education – Houston
VACANT

Aquatic Resources
CAPPY SMITH  (512) 389-8060  Fax (512) 389-8673
cappy.smith@tpwd.state.tx.us

Outreach and Education Director
NANCY HERRON  (512) 389-4362
nancy.herron@tpwd.state.tx.us

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/anglered/
www.facebook.com/texasanglereducators
Welcome, New Instructors!

June – December, 2011

We encourage you to team up to teach. It’s fun, easy, and a great way to support each other. Call the Austin office for contact information if you would like to team up with one of these new instructors. If we have accidentally left someone off, please let us know.

JIMMY SCHAEFFER  ABILENE
TEVYAN CONDRA  ABILENE
NIKKI GRISHAM  ABILENE
JASON ANDERSON  ALLEN
QUENTIN OUIPHANT  ALLEN
DUKE MALCOLM  ALLEN
EDWARD SWEENEY  ALLEN
JOHN DILL  ALLEN
WILLIAM MCMILLIAN  ANGLETON
MARY HILL  ANGLETON
DAVID RAYNOR  ANGLETON
AUDREY PAUL  ANGLETON
ROBBIE MARTIN  ANGLETON
LAWRENCE MCBRIDE  ANGLETON
BRANDY PILLAR  ARANAS PASS
JULIEN JASERME  AUSTIN
JOSEPH OLAGUE  AUSTIN
TAL COWAN, JR.  BEAUMONT
JONATHAN COBB  BEDFORD
ELIZABETH POOL  BELTON
DONALD WYATT  BELTON
KATHLEEN CANTU  BELTON
KRISTI HOLLINGSWORTH  BELTON
CINDY BOLCH  BELTON
BARBARA CROMWELL  BROWNSVILLE
RICHARD CROMWELL  BROWNSVILLE
TERESA STILLS  BROWNSVILLE
NORMA BENAVIDEZ  BROWNSVILLE
JERRY SESSUMS  CLEBURNE
SEAN GARDNER  CLEBURNE
KRISTLE KERSTEN  CLUTE
MADELINE BIRDSONG  CLUTE
AMANDA TRAYLOR  CONROE
JACK WORD  CONVERSE
STACY BRADLEY  COPPERAS COVE
DANNY VELARDE  COPPERAS COVE
MICHELLE CHAMPLIN  COPPERAS COVE
MICHAEL DEWEEES  COPPERAS COVE
MINGA JOSEPH  CORPUS CHRISTI
JERRY JOHNSON  CORPUS CHRISTI
SABRA ROCK  CORPUS CHRISTI
STEVEN BROWN  CORPUS CHRISTI
TRAVIS FARST  CORPUS CHRISTI
LARRY MORROW  CORPUS CHRISTI
MICHAEL YONTS  CORPUS CHRISTI
BLANE RUSH  CORPUS CHRISTI
THOMAS KLAASEN  CORPUS CHRISTI
KRYSTAL ROGERS  CORPUS CHRISTI
CALEB HARRIS  CORPUS CHRISTI
WAYNE BLOUNT  CORPUS CHRISTI
CAROLINE RENFRO  CORPUS CHRISTI
ROBIN WHEELUS  CORPUS CHRISTI
CHRISTOPHER MORDECAI  CORPUS CHRISTI
APRIL HOOKER  CORPUS CHRISTI
DALILA RABAGO  CORPUS CHRISTI
JESSE RABAGO  CORPUS CHRISTI
SOON TOH  CORPUS CHRISTI
SHELLY CABRERA  CORPUS CHRISTI
BRUCE KIRBY  CORPUS CHRISTI
JON MURSE  CORPUS CHRISTI
CHARLES “KEITH” HOLDER  CORPUS CHRISTI
PATRICK HOLLIS  CORPUS CHRISTI
RICHARD TURNER  CORPUS CHRISTI
SUSAN MILLARD  CORPUS CHRISTI
HELENA GOENSE  CORPUS CHRISTI
JENNIFER CRON  CORPUS CHRISTI
LYNN COOPER  CORPUS CHRISTI
GARRY COUCHMAN  CORPUS CHRISTI
JESSICA HALFMANN  CORPUS CHRISTI
JENNIFER MARTIN  CORPUS CHRISTI
JOSE GARCIA  CORPUS CHRISTI
URNSULA NANNA  CORPUS CHRISTI
ARNOLD ISAAC  CORPUS CHRISTI
GINA LOPEZ  CORPUS CHRISTI
HEATHER WELCH  CORPUS CHRISTI
DEBORAH MCKELVY  CORPUS CHRISTI
STARLA JORDAN  CORPUS CHRISTI
DAWN FLADAGHER  CORPUS CHRISTI
VIVIAN SAYRE  CORPUS CHRISTI
ANGELA SMITH  CORPUS CHRISTI
MARCUS BONEY  HOUSTON
JAMES NORMAN, JR.  HOUSTON
MARJORIE BRADEN  HOUSTON
KIMBERLY GILES  HOUSTON
GRETTA CASTILLE  HOUSTON
MICHAEL LO  HOUSTON
CONNIE ANGLIN  HOUSTON
JASON RAINY  HOUSTON
LAVERNE RATCLIFF  HOUSTON
LOUISE MADISON  HOUSTON
JOSEPH RICHARD  HOUSTON
GERTRUDE KENNEDY  HOUSTON
BETTY CRAFT  HOUSTON
CHRISTOPHER HALL  HOUSTON
MADIE JACKSON  HOUSTON
LEWIS ALEXANDER  HOUSTON
KEMON GUITON  HOUSTON
CAROLYN MATA  HOUSTON
PETRA ORTEGA  HOUSTON
HOLLI SWICK  HOUSTON
GLORIA ALARCON  HOUSTON
THERESIA JOURNET  HOUSTON
JIMMY MOORE, JR.  HOUSTON
LORIGENE YOUNG  HOUSTON
KEVIN PHLEGAN  HOUSTON
JARVIS REED  HOUSTON
MELISSA GARRETT  INGLESIDE
DON HARRIS  INGRAM
MARIA DEVINCENTIS  KATY
MARIA OQUEJDO  KATY
ALMA ECHEVERZ  KATY
JEFFREY VAN HAL  KATY
JEAN PABON  KATY
MICHAELE TOLLESON  KATY
JENNIFER VAN HAL  KATY
CLAUDIA DELGADO  KATY
JULI LESTER  KATY
MADEL CANCELO  KATY
CHRISTINE VASQUEZ  KATY
TANYA PANQUEEN  KATY
LINDA THOMEN  KATY
LETICIA MARINO  KATY
LORELEY PEREZ  KATY
WAFA ALKHRAWI  KATY
TINA SANDERS  KAUFMAN
DAVID NALLS, JR  KAUFMAN
JUDD LEWIS  KEMP
MARGARET CHRISTIAN  KEMP
GAIL HUGHLIN  KILLEEN
JERRY LEWIS  KILLEEN
DALE HUGHLIN  KILLEEN
JACKIE BROWN  KILLEEN
State Parks need your help, now more than ever.

Record drought and wildfires have created a critical situation for Texas State Parks. Please help keep state parks open!

Let your friends and family know how they can help.

texasstateparks.org/spreadtheword
Angler Education

Year in Review

SEPTEMBER 2010 – AUGUST 2011

Classes and outreach events held
49 Go Fish ~ Learn-to-Fish at State Park events
76 Fly Fishing classes and events

People reached
34,063 Youth
15,134 Adults (615 new instructors trained)

Volunteer hours

TOP LURES – over 100 hours!

RICHARD JOHNSON, 554 hrs
JERE ANDERSON, 412 hrs
CHARLES DUCOTTE, 260 hrs
KEITH MARTZ, 250 hrs
BOBBIE DROWN, 222 hrs
SHERI RUTLEDGE, 213 hrs
MELANIE SIMMS-JUSTICE, 201 hrs
DESIREE SUTTON, 201 hrs
LAUREN EDMONDS, 201 hrs
ED GERHARDT, 192 hrs
SHANE WILSON, 188 hrs
BILL SARGEANT, 156 hrs
HAROLD STEARNS, 148 hrs
ELLIE CROCKER, 137 hrs
LARRY CONDRA, 130 hrs
KEVIN REICH, 127 hrs
GREGORY JACKS, 126 hrs
WALTER McLENDON, 126 hrs
JOSEPH PETERSON, 126 hrs
MICHAEL HOWES, 120 hrs
AARON JAMES, 120 hrs
RAUL ALMANZAR, 118 hrs
CHUCK GANZE, 107 hrs
MARK FOBIAN, 106 hrs
STEPHEN COBB, 105 hrs
Katy HAMMON, 102 hrs

Thank you, volunteers, for another great year!
We sincerely appreciate your dedication and support.