

## OUTDOORS DIGEST

OF THE OUTDOORS | GARY HOWEY

## Nebraska Youth Conservation Program Begins June 25

LINCOLN, Neb. — A new program to teach life skills and introduce natural resources to young people across Nebraska will begin June 25, according to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

In the Nebraska Youth Conservation Program, people age 16-20 will complete work projects within state park areas and wildlife management areas. They will be provided with outdoor educational opportunities to enhance their experience.

There will be 16 crews across Nebraska, each having as many as 10 youth and two crew leaders. There will be six crews from Omaha, three from Lincoln and one each from Norfolk, Grand Island, Lexington, McCook, North Platte, Ogallala and Scottsbluff.

Each crew will have a facility maintenance leader teaching the youth the skills to complete the projects and one will be the counselor. The crews and leaders, which will be paid by Game and Parks, will meet in central locations in each community, and then be driven by van to work sites by the leaders. Outdoor education programs will take place on Thursdays.

Work projects will include such things as building picnic shelters, vault toilets and playgrounds. They also will work on campground electrical projects, shoreline restoration, fishing access, repairs to docks, painting, landscaping, fencing, trash removal, trail development and maintenance, and aquatic habitat.

Projects consist of playground installation at Fremont Lakes, Louisville SRA, Branched Oak and Lake Ogallala state recreation areas (SRA); campground electrical work at Lake Minatare, Lake Ogallala, Two Rivers, Summit, Branched Oak and Swanson; picnic shelter construction at Johnson Lake and Pawnee; and walkway construction at Schramm Park. Other projects include dock repair, vehicle maintenance, landscaping, painting, building repair, among others.

The program, which will run through Aug. 3, was created with the passage of LB 549 in 2011, identifying Game and Parks as the agency to administer the program. The bill was introduced by state Sen. Brenda Council of Omaha.

## GFP Finalizes West River and Black Hills Deer Hunting Seasons

PIERRE — The South Dakota Game Fish and Parks Commission has finalized several deer hunting seasons. The Commission reduced three-tag deer licenses for the West River Deer Season, but increased single-tag and double-tag licenses in some units.

Compared to 2011, there will be a reduction of 2,540 resident licenses and 11,630 tags this year. The Commission also modified hunting area WRD 27-L to add some public lands adjacent to the Cheyenne River and Angostura reservoir. For the 2012 West River Deer Season, only unfilled Antlerless Deer and Antlerless Whitetail Deer tags will be valid during the nine-day Antlerless Deer Season extension beginning the Saturday after Christmas.

In addition, West River Antlerless Deer Tags will not be valid during the firearms antelope season in their respective units. The West River Deer Hunting Season will run from Nov. 10-25 in most units, with the Antlerless Season extension running from Dec. 29, 2012-Jan. 6, 2013. Black Hills deer hunters will find 200 resident and 16 nonresident Any Deer licenses, 3,000 resident and 240 nonresident Any Whitetail Deer licenses and 150 resident and 12 nonresident Antlerless Whitetail Deer licenses for the 2012 Black Hills Deer Hunting Season. The Black Hills Deer Hunting Season will run from Nov. 1-30.

## Living History June 30-July 1 At Fort Atkinson SHP

LINCOLN, Neb. — Life at an 1820s military post will be depicted at Living History Weekend at Fort Atkinson State Historical Park on June 30-July 1. Military and civilian activities will highlight the weekend. Visit with the soldiers, laundresses, coopers, blacksmiths, butter makers and others.

The weekend includes a reading of the Declaration of Independence on June 30. On July 1, there will be dedication ceremonies for a new time-period correct flagpole and the Monument to the Deceased, which honors the more than 300 people who died on the Council Bluff between 1819-1827.

Fort Atkinson, the first military post west of the Missouri River, is seven blocks east of U.S. Highway 75 near Fort Calhoun. A park entry permit is required for all vehicles entering the park and may be purchased at the park.

Contact the park for more information at 402-468-5611 or [ngpc.fort.atkinson@nebraska.gov](mailto:ngpc.fort.atkinson@nebraska.gov).

## SD Takes Step To Prevent Spread Of Asian Carp

PIERRE (AP) — South Dakota's Game, Fish and Parks Commission has adopted an emergency rule on baitfish to help prevent the spread of troublesome Asian carp in the state.

The rule bans the taking of bait from the East Vermillion River, West Vermillion River and Firesteel Creek below Lake Mitchell. It applies to both anglers and commercial bait sellers.

The goal is to prevent bait dealers and anglers from inadvertently transporting young Asian carp to other waters.

Asian carp are in the Missouri River below Gavins Point Dam near Yankton and are spreading throughout the James, Big Sioux and Vermillion river basins in South Dakota. Spillways at Lake Mitchell and East Vermillion Lake act as barriers to upstream migration of the carp in Firesteel Creek and the East Vermillion River.

## Nebraska Program Sets Kayaking Clinic

WAHOO, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission has scheduled a clinic for women who want to learn about kayaking. The clinic is being organized by the commission's Becoming an Outdoors-Woman program and is open to females 16 and up.

The clinic is scheduled for July 7 at the Lake Wanhoo State Recreation Area north of Wahoo in eastern Nebraska.

No experience is necessary. Kayaking equipment will be provided.

The \$15 fee is due by July 2. Contact Julia Plugge at the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission at 402-471-6009, or [julia.plugge@nebraska.gov](mailto:julia.plugge@nebraska.gov).

BY GARY HOWEY

Hartington, Neb.

We've talked about locating fish by finding the structure they relate to. This article will deal with attracting and catching fish once you've located them.

Presentation is the way you present or deliver your bait, putting your bait right in their face. It's the key to catching fish because without correct presentation, you're simply anchoring your bait on or close to the bottom.

The way you present your bait is important, no matter what bait you're using! You need to make your bait smell, sound, taste and appear lifelike.

The key to this is the line, if you're using too heavy of test or weight of line, it can make your bait appear very unnatural as it will run through the water in circles or appear erratic.

Because heavier line has more memory or coiling effect than lighter line, when used with a lighter lure, it will run through the water in a circular motion. If the fish does grab your bait these coils or line or memory will create problems not only feeling the bite, but also in setting the hook as you have to deal with all that slack line.

Heavier line also has a larger diameter which means it is that the larger line has more resistance taking it longer to reach the bottom. This is especially important when trolling crankbaits as heavier line won't allow your crankbait to dive as deep as the lighter line will.

Another thing that will effect your presentation when using crankbaits, is the way your bait runs through the water, so the first thing you should do before trolling a crankbait is to run it along the side of the boat, making sure that it is tuned or runs correctly.

You want your crankbait to run straight not off to either side. If it runs off to one side or the other you need to bend the eye, the wire that comes out of the bait in the opposite direction the bait is running.

A slight bend is all that's needed to tune or make a crankbait run correctly, which allows your bait to appear more lifelike.

Livebait rigs such as the Lindy rig allow anglers to use a subtle approach. This method gives anglers a very simple



Submitted photo. No matter what species of fish you're after; bass, walleye or panfish, the way you present your bait will be the key to bringing fish into the boat. Joel Vasek of Geddes has presentation down to a science and because of this; he's able to consistently catch all species of fish.

yet effective way to present minnow's leeches or crawlers to finicky fish.

As I mentioned earlier the key to fishing these rigs and all rigs is to present the bait in a lifelike manner.

Live healthy bait hooked properly will appear more life like and catches more fish.

You'll want to hook your leeches through the sucker, allowing them to coil and uncoil, string your crawlers out so it flows through the water and hook your minnows through the front part of the lips or eyes, allowing them to last longer on the hook. If you're fishing heavy current or depths with a lot of snags, on minnows, you might want to run the hook through the mouth, out the gill and back into the back, allowing the bit to stay on better in rough fishing conditions.

When livebait fishing, you'll not have to worry about losing your bait as you would when jig fishing because once the

bite or tug on the line is felt, the angler releases line, allowing the fish to take the entire bait and hook into it's mouth.

Don't get caught in the trap where you think your worm, leech or minnows looks good enough as in order to consistently catch fish with this rig and any other you need to redo your bait often.

If your bait isn't moving or squirming or if you feel a bite, get hung up on weeds, rocks or other debris, replace your bait as fresh bait will out produce old bait 100% of the time.

When jig fishing, your presentation isn't quite as critical as you'll create the lifelike motion by jigging your rod up and down.

Again when using livebait on a jig, replace it often, keeping fresh bait in front of the fish as much as possible.

You'll always want to use a lighter line and the lightest weight possible as these two items allow your bait to move about

## TROPHY SPOTLIGHT



PHOTO: CAPTAIN NORM'S  
Rylie Andrus caught this walleye on June 20 below Gavins Point Dam on the Missouri River.



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Rylie Andrus caught this walleye on June 20 below Gavins Point Dam on the Missouri River.

## S.D. Antelope, East River Deer, Refuge Deer Seasons Proposed

PIERRE — The South Dakota Game Fish and Parks Commission is proposing significant changes to the 2012 Antelope Firearms Season. The Commission recommends that the 2012 season be open to South Dakota residents only.

A reduction of 165 one-tag and 1,015 two-tag licenses compared to 2011 is being considered. The proposed Antelope Firearms Season would run from Sept. 29-Oct. 14. The Custer State Park Firearms Antelope Season was finalized with no changes from 2011.

There will be three Any Antelope licenses available to residents. The season will run from Oct. 9-17. The Commission is proposing a total reduction of 16,360 tags for the 2012 East River Deer Season. Much of the reduction is from the elimination of three-tag licenses. Only unfilled Any Antlerless Deer and Antlerless Whitetail Deer tags are valid during the antlerless deer season extension, beginning on the Saturday after Christmas. The proposed East River Deer Season would run from Nov. 17-Dec. 2 and an antlerless extension from Dec. 29, 2012-Jan. 6, 2013.

The Commission is also proposing the following deer-hunting season changes for three National Wildlife Refuges in South Dakota:

- Issue zero licenses for the fourth deer season on the Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge
- Replace the 150 Any Deer plus Any Antlerless Deer licenses and the 50, two-tag Any Antlerless Deer licenses issued in 2011 with 80 Any Deer and 40 Any Antlerless Deer licenses for resident Sand Lake Refuge hunters.
- Replace the 15 Any Deer plus Any Antlerless Deer licenses and the five, two-tag Any Antlerless Deer licenses issued in 2011 with eight Any Deer and four Any Antlerless Deer licenses for non-resident Sand Lake Refuge hunters.
- Offer resident hunters 10 more two-tag Antlerless Whitetail Deer licenses for Lacreek Refuge hunters.

To comment on any of those proposals, send an email with your full name and city of residence to [wildinfo@state.sd.us](mailto:wildinfo@state.sd.us) or send a letter to the Game Fish and Parks Department, 523 E Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD 57501. Please include your full name and address for the public record. All letters and emails must be received by 5 p.m. CDT, July 6.

Testimony may be given in person at the Commission's monthly meeting on July 9 at the Pierre Ramkota. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. CDT, with the public hearing beginning at 10 a.m.

## Dead Carp Make Stinking Mess At 2 Nebraska Lakes

NORTH PLATTE, Neb. (AP) — Dead carp baking in the hot sun have made a stinking mess along the shorelines of Lake Maloney and Sutherland Reservoir in western Nebraska.

The problem began almost two weeks ago at the reservoir and started Monday at the lake. Jared Lorensen, fisheries biologist for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, told The North Platte Telegraph (<http://bit.ly/LGxQ3L>) that people have buried many of the rotting carcasses, "But there's just too many to get them all."

More than 1,000 dead fish have turned up on shore at Sutherland, and 240 have been counted at Lake Maloney, mostly in the northeast corner, he said.

So far only carp have been washing up on shore, and that has the experts puzzled that other fish have been spared.

"It's pretty rare for this to happen," Lorensen said. "There are a

## Independence Day Deadlines

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan will be closed Wednesday, July 4th, for the Independence Day holiday.

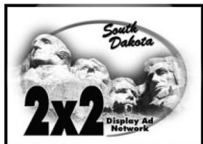
The following deadlines will apply:  
Thursday, July 5 newspaper 5 p.m., Friday, June 29th  
Friday, July 6 newspaper 5 p.m., Monday, July 2nd  
Saturday, July 7 newspaper 5 p.m., Tuesday, July 3rd

There will be no newspaper on Wednesday, July 4, 2012.

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