

# MSSA FREDERICK CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Working to Provide a Unified Voice to Preserve and Protect the  
Rights, Tradition and the Future of Recreational Fishing!  
No Unity, No Voice, No Fish



The Official MSSA Frederick Chapter VHF Channel is 71

## President's Message

October is gone, November is here, days just got shorter and pretty soon the snow will be flying. It's time to gear up for some late fall big striper action that will certainly start in the next couple of weeks. Plenty of fish are beginning to school up, birds are working, so, its time to gear back up and hit the water in search of BUBBA. There is nothing as exciting than to hear line peeling off your reel, rod bent over and the feel of a nice fish on the end of your line.

To kick off this season we will be having Charlie Sisson, who runs the Backdraft out of Deale, one of the areas top captains, school us on falling trolling tactics, techniques and hopefully, a few of his hot spots. If you're looking for a great day on the bay, visit his website at [www.backdraftcharters.com](http://www.backdraftcharters.com). Gary Ritchie from Spankin' Stripers will be our vendor this month and he will bring along his top notch fish catching lures. First hand, His baits catch fish and if you want to see his products, visit his website at [www.spankinstripers.com](http://www.spankinstripers.com). Should be a great meeting and hope to see you there.

The Chapter has some super upcoming events planned for January of next year. Our annual dinner dance once again will be held at the Frederick Moose with an upgraded menu, new band and plenty of top notch raffle prizes on January 11<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will be on sale beginning at November's meeting. We will also be having our Fishing Expo on January 18<sup>th</sup> at the Frederick Fairgrounds. This years Expo will be bigger and better, with more boats, new speakers and many new vendors showcasing their products or services. So, make plans to attend these chapter events.

Fish Hard.....and often!

## Next Meeting

**Wednesday, November 13, 2013**

Food Service begins at 6:15 PM  
Meeting at 7:00 PM

### **Speaker:**

Charlie Sisson – Back Draft Charters



### **Vendor:**

Gary Richie



### **Menu:**

Fried Chicken  
Scalloped potatoes  
Corn  
Hush Puppies  
Cake

### **October Raffle Winners:**

Line Counter – Ron Jenkins  
Okuma Trolling Reel – Dave King  
Diawa Spinning Reel – Emory Conner  
Misc. Tackle Assortment – Bach Vu  
Bait and Tackle Package – John Travers  
Bait and Tackle Package – Tom King

### **50/50 Raffle**

\$70 – Jim Stewart

### **Attendance at October Meeting:**

**39**

### **Directions To Meeting at the Frederick Moose Lodge: - [Map](#)**

From Frederick, take **I-70** east to **exit 56** (Rt. 144W). Turn slight right onto MD-144. Go 0.8 miles to 828 E. Patrick St. on the left.

## Chapter News

### **Reminder for the MSSA Fall Tournament Nov 23-24.**

The last two years have brought a huge number of anglers and prize money. Sign up online at [www.mssa.net](http://www.mssa.net) or at a Captain's Meeting. See the tournament book or Tidelines for details.

### **Elections for Officers and Board of Directors**

The Membership will vote upon all persons nominated for office at the regularly scheduled November meeting.

The Officers and Directors shall be elected by a simple majority of those members voting at the regularly scheduled November meeting.

### **Partners Program**

#### **Don't have a boat? Want to fish?**

Many of us who have boats go fishing and have vacancies. Get your name on the list and we will give you a call when we are going fishing if we have vacancies.

Stan Mordensky - 301-639-8584

To get your name on the list, send your contact information to Clyde Hunt at [clyde.hunt@verizon.net](mailto:clyde.hunt@verizon.net)

### **Do not forget the Saltwater Fishing Expo on January 18**

This is going to be a huge event and we need everyone to step up. We need people to spread the "word". We need volunteers to help set up and break down along with just general help. Please everyone, offer a couple of hours to make this a successful event.

Contact Ed, Rob or one of the Board of Directors to volunteer.

**Fishing Reports**

**Chincoteague Action**

By Charlie Koski

Fishing action on flounder slowed even more as the summer season waned for tourism but other fish have invaded the waters again such as Sea Mullet (aka Kingfish) and Red Drum in the 18 - 26 inch range (keeper size). The Kingfish have been caught anywhere leading to the inlet from buoys 11 out, off the point of Assateague even some in the back bays. Using pink fish bites on #6 Pacific Bass long shank hooks in any flavor does the trick on these tasty little morsels. Some old timers on Chincoteague would rather eat a half dozen of these fillets vs one small fillet of flounder. My customers are averaging about 30 - 40 keepers per trip at 10" and up and should last through October if the weather holds. A few flounder are being caught but very few and you got to put the time in to get one in the box.

Puppy drum have been in the back creeks for about three weeks but with this NE blow moving in it could force them farther south. I never really fished for these guys until this year and what a blast they are to hook. Sort of like a small croaker on steroids. Course we have seen croaker up to 23" in the past here as one of my customers (a 12 yr old first time fishing saltwater Washingtonian) landed a citation croaker at 3.8 lbs and 23" a few years back on a two hour trip! But now back to the Spot Tails, you can catch them on the high tide at ebb and outgoing by casting any color 1/4 - 3/8 oz jighead tipped 4"-6" gulp swimming mullet, Bass Assassin paddle tails or any Z-Man rubber baits. Start in 4' or less water by sending it to the tall grass and letting it hit the bottom and then just give it a few twitches and you will feel a tap tap, hold on cause they are fighters. If you haven't tried the Z-Man rubbers you got to cause they are like the old cartoon man Mr Rubber. They are hard for any other fish to bite off cause they stretch to about your arm length without breaking, maybe further but I hate to waste any bait, rubber or real. You can also bottom fish for them with slider rigs using cut bait or peeler crabs on the low tides in the creeks or right at the tip of Wallops Island right outside the breakers. This requires using the anchor and being vewy vewy quiet. Redfish spook real easily!

The inshore wrecks are still holding trigger fish and tog just opened Sept 20th but the water needs to cool down before they get feisty. The rail cars aka Blackfish Banks may still hold some flounder but their migration to the continental shelf has begun and as the water cools more the fish are off to their spawning grounds.

Va bay striper opened Oct 4 and there are plenty of schoolies around off Onancock and south just look for the birds. The big ones will wait till around the end of November through December 31st around the Kiptopeake and CBBT area. They should show in the suds soon as the puppy drum bite dwindles. But with the government shut down Assateague is closed to everyone.

Offshore action has heated up somewhat with bigeye, white marlin and a few yellowfin still being boated. Soon the big Bluefin moving south from up north will begin. Deep dropping has been getting popular for Golden and Blueline tiles and grouper but you need a real nice day and a lot of arm strength (or electric reels) to bring these from the deep they are caught in (600' - 1000') at the edges of the canyons. Sea bass has heated up and limits are being caught but again you need the weather and may take all day to get your limit of 20 at 12.5" fish after weeding through the smaller ones. Sea Bass season closes from Oct 15 through 31st. Fishing season does not end in the south but the crowds are a lot smaller and less pressure so keep that boat fueled and wait till it get below 40 degrees before you winterize it!

Tight lines.....

**Ocean City Action**

By Sue Foster

Oct 28th 2013

Water Temp: 61.5

The tautog bite is on! Flounder still in the bay. The Bay Bee had its best day since 1995 on keeper flounder this Sunday when they caught 34 keepers in the bay! Puppy drum, short stripers, and some small blues in the surf. Indian River saw a lot of short stripers with a few keepers mixed in. A few keeper stripers from the Route 50 Bridge at night.

**Chesapeake Bay Action**

October 30, 2013

In the upper bay region fishermen are trolling a mix of bucktails, spoons and sassy shads in tandem or behind umbrella rigs along channel edges with good success on a nice grade of Striped Bass. Most fishermen are using planers or inline weights to get lures down to where fish are holding. Traditional steep channel edges where swift currents are present have been some of the better places to troll or to vertical jig with metal or soft plastics over suspended fish. Breaking fish can be found along these same channel edges and fishermen are finding that most of the fish on top tend to be sub-legal sized Striped Bass but have been jigging up larger fish from underneath.

Fishermen are also enjoying casting along shoreline and channel edges in many of the tidal rivers and bay fronts throughout the upper bay region.

The Bay Bridge piers continue to attract fishermen to the Striped Bass that are holding at the bases of the piers. Fishermen are jigging or drifting cut bait or live Spot back towards the piers. Fishermen are still able to find Spot in the shallower portions of Hackett's Bar and in the tidal rivers. Water temperatures are dropping fast and have dipped below 60-degrees for the first time. There are still some Bluefish around but they are steadily heading south.

The outside channel edge near the Hill at the mouth of Eastern Bay continues to be a productive place to live line Spot as is Stone Rock, Thomas Point and the False Channel. As water temperatures drop it is an unsure proposition how much longer fishermen will be able to find live Spot in the shallower areas. A large portion of fishermen are opting to troll for their Striped Bass along channel edges. Bucktails and spoons tend to be the most popular offerings in a trolling spread since Bluefish are still in the region. Planers are being used for tandem rigged bucktails and spoons, inline weights for umbrella rigs. Bait in the form of juvenile Menhaden and Bay Anchovies that have left the tidal rivers are being swept along in the swift currents of the shipping channel where Striped Bass are holding along channel edges to intercept them. Fishermen are enjoying jigging to suspended fish or casting to breaking fish on the surface in the lower sections of the regions tidal rivers and out in the bay channel areas.

White perch continue to offer good fishing opportunities in the deeper sections of the lower tidal rivers often over oyster reefs or similar bottom structure. Fishermen are either using a metal jig with a dropper fly and jigging or employing two hook bottom rigs baited with pieces of bloodworm.

There are always a few die-hard recreational crabbers who will make the effort to give it one more try before storing their gear away for the season and those who have made the effort have been rewarded with some impressive crabs. Blue crabs are at their fullest this time of the year and if you can find them in a 10' to 18' channel area in the lower sections of the bays tidal rivers you might find yourself looking at some of the heaviest and largest crabs of the season. Fishermen in the lower bay region are finding excellent trolling and jigging opportunities for Striped Bass all along the western side of the shipping channel and around St. Clements Bay, Tall Timbers and Piney Point on the lower Potomac River. Most fishermen that are trolling are using

spoons and bucktails in tandem behind planers. Those jigging are using metal since there are still Bluefish in the region. There are still Spot to be found in some of the tidal rivers and creeks and fishermen continue to use them for live lining along channel edges. The western channel edge of the shipping channel from the Gas Docks to the Targets has been an excellent place recently to find Striped Bass. Chumming is still a viable option for catching a mix of Bluefish and Striped Bass in the lower Potomac and locations in the bay such as Buoy 72 and the Middle Grounds.

The tidal rivers on both sides of the bay continue to still offer some bottom fishing for White Perch, Spot, Sea Trout, Red Drum and Striped Bass. Most fishermen are using bloodworms and soft crab baits on a two hook bottom rig. Fishermen are also using fresh cut Spot to fish for Red Drum, Bluefish and Striped Bass from shore and boats.

### Virginia Beach Action

By Dr. Julie Ball

November 1, 2013

As the coastal and Bay water temperatures approach the lower sixties, it is more evident the cold water fishery is settling in. And with limited days available to get out on open water, anglers continue to maximize the inshore bite.

Most interest is still focused on the emerging speckled trout activity. It is not difficult to find obliging fish; they are available in most any protected and shallow water area adjoining the lower Bay. Specks are also responding around some deeper Bay locations, such as the 3rd island of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, where fish are pushing to around 20-inches. The lower Bay inlets are the most popular locations for trout anglers, with Rudee, Lynnhaven, and Little Creek Inlets hosting a variety of willing fish. Some days are better than others, and this week Lynnhaven gave up more small fish averaging under 18-inches, with a few bigger fish in the mix. Rudee Inlet's action is steady, with the larger fish responding further inside the inlet, especially near the Marine Science Museum, where fish are averaging to around 20 to 22-inches. The most consistent action with the larger fish is still coming from the Elizabeth River, where anglers are reckoning with some nicer fish pushing to over 6-pounds lately. The Poquoson Flats are also giving up good numbers of trout recently. Mirrolures, grubs, and Gulp Minnows are still working well.

No one can ignore the masses of healthy puppy drum competing with speckled trout in most of the same protected areas. Anglers are engaging nice pups within Rudee Inlet,

Long Creek, the Bayside and seaside creeks on the Eastern Shore, the Bay Bridge Tunnel, and the Elizabeth River, with the average fish measuring around 23-inches. Live bait is working very well, but pups are also taking cut bait, peeler crabs, and lures intended for trout. Nice pups are also still entertaining surf anglers along lower Bay shorelines, and the oceanfront. A few lingering big red drum are also still a possibility along the surf lines off Sandbridge and near the CBBT.

As the water cools, the rockfish bite continues to pick up in the lower Bay, with mostly schoolies ruling the scene. But if boats can't make it out onto the Bay, plenty of striped action is available within inlets and rivers, under dock lights and along bulkheads. Anglers working the Bay Bridge Tunnel structure are enticing decent fish while casting Storm lures and poppers at the rocks at the first and third islands and chunking with bunker. Some fish are pushing to around 36-inches this week. Folks trolling Stretch 25's and working 4-inch Storms and grubs along the light lines of the HRBT and the MMBT are resulting in fish averaging to around 18 to 24-inches. Snapper bluefish pushing to around 5-pounds are also competing for these same lures.

Tautog action is good in Bay waters when boats can reach them. Most any structure is housing nice sized tog averaging anywhere from 3 to 8-pounds. Fiddler crabs are becoming harder to come by, but blue crabs are working while you can find them. A few sheephead and triggerfish are still hitting in the same vicinities. Tautog are also becoming more active on inshore and offshore wrecks, along with keeper flounder and jumbo seabass. Anglers can now keep up to twenty legal sized seabass, which is 12.5-inches, until December 31st. Big chopper bluefish are also a possibility in these same areas.

In the Bay, some flounder are still coming from the channel edges and the CBBT structure. Drifting strip baits along the Baltimore Channel near buoy 11, along Cape Henry, and the small boat channel are good places to try. Working bait and jigs around the CBBT structure can also prove effective for big flatties this time of year. Scattered keeper sized flatfish are also coming from within Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets. More reliable catches are also coming from deeper water wrecks lately.

With fewer species now available in Virginia waters, deep dropping action will escalate. Good hauls of tilefish, grouper, seabass, and black bellied rosefish are available to boats willing to make the long run to deeper water.

Offshore activity off Virginia is a disappointment lately. Boats looking for tuna and wahoo are finding bleak results, with only scattered fish to show. Bailer mahi are taking up most of the slack when boats can get out. Swordfish are also possibility, especially at night.

### Delaware Action

By Eric Burnley Sr.\*

Updated: November 1, 2013

**DELAWARE BAY** Tog remain the mainstay of the bay with good catches reported from reef sites, the Ice Breakers and the Outer Wall. Green crab remains the most popular bait with white leggers and box crabs finding favor with some anglers. A few triggerfish have been caught along with the tog.

On Wednesday "Yul" Brenner caught a 20-pound tog while fishing over a bay reef site on the head boat Angler out of Angler's Marina. Who said there were no big tog in the bay?

Spot and croaker seem to be over for the year as only a few were caught last week from the Cape Henlopen Fishing Pier. The next shot of cold weather will chase these stragglers on out of the bay.

Red drum have been caught at the Inner and Outer walls on crab and sand fleas. Most of these fish have been in the slot giving anglers some to take home.

The upper bay has seen a few keeper rockfish caught on bunker chunks out of Collins Beach near the power plant. We had reports from last week of excellent numbers of small rock with larger fish to 37 inches mixed in the catch. This is where the fall run usually begins and we hope it will soon develop as far south as the rips at the mouth of the bay. Further up the bay a few keeper rock were caught on bloodworms and bunker at Green's Beach, Dobbinsville and Battery Park.

White perch fishing has been very good in the tidal creeks and along the shore of the Delaware River and the upper bay. Bloodworms produce the best results. Big catfish have been caught in the same locations on bunker chunks and chicken liver.

**INDIAN RIVER INLET** Still not much in the way of rockfish here. Shorts have become a bit more plentiful while keepers are still at a premium. White bucktails with a white plastic worm, shads, long-lined flies and live spot remain the top rockfish attractors.

Larger blues are moving in on high tides. Still nothing great, but perhaps some of those big choppers they are catching to our north will pay a visit before winter sets in.

Tog fishing in the rocks has been fair. Green crabs and lots of patience are required to catch a keeper.

If you hit it right there are plenty of hickory shad available. Look for diving birds and cast small jigs or spoons for best results.

**INSHORE OCEAN** High winds and seas kept boats close to the beach over the weekend, but tog were caught over reef sites and wrecks. Better togging will occur when the boats can reach structure further out.

Sea bass reopens on the Friday and will continue until December 31. After that the season will close until sometime in the spring. If you want to catch some of these tasty fish to freeze for the winter now is the time to go..

**OFFSHORE OCEAN** No reports from offshore this week, so that season may be over.

**SURF FISHING** Rockfish remain to our north, but should be here soon. (I hope) Until then it is small blues and the occasional red drum. Cut mullet or bunker will take the blues.

## Tips and Tackle

### **Braided Line: Truths and Deceptions**

By Duane Richards

This is one of the most confusing little known areas of fishing, that I have ever came across. Everytime I read what others are saying about braided lines, it makes me cringe first, then it enrages me to see all the misinformation thats out there for anglers wanting to learn. We are going to clear up some of that as you read on today.

I began using braided lines several years back upon their introduction to popularity. I quickly found out there are many types of the so called "superlines". There are braided ones, fused ones, and others melded together in strands. Each of these handle differently on reel and rod, but the outcome is still basically the same in makeup, thus the term "superline".

Horror storys began to ring throughout the fishing industry. Storys of rod breakage, guide wear and replacment, reel faults and so on. The list grew like a hot potatoe in a microwave oven. Everytime I'd hear of such abuse to tackle, my eyes would roll back into my head about 3 inches. How could this be?? I've been using superline on outfits priced from \$25.00 right on up to \$350.00 with no problems at all. What makes me so different? I'll tell you what makes me so different-I am using them properly and not abusing the equipment -thats why. The newer braids aren't troublesome on equipptment, people are. It is possible to destroy equipment, any equipment, we

must remember "proper use" is the words to live by here.

Braided line does not break rods, it does not ruin guides, or harm reels. Anyone telling you different needs some education, or has something to gain in the indusrtly by placing these rampid rumors. That last part will get you to thinking, will it not? Just how much capitol has been gained in the guide industry since braids hit the market? Rod guides were pennies, now the rod guide alone, can take the price of a rod from one level, way up to the top of the line models. What of the loss of the nylon makers if the industry suddenly weighed heavily on braids?

Lets put a few generic names in place, we'll call braided lines "superlines" and all fluorocarbon, co-polymers and monofilaments "nylon". Now, there are many difference between superlines and nylons. Lets start with nylon.

Nylon has about as many "quirks" as does any superline. We have came to forgive these quirks by learning them and dealing with their troubles and problems. Nylon degrades, and must be changed very often. It devolops memory and coils at the worst possible times. Twisting is a major trouble as well, and lets not leave out lack or strength and that stretch factor. These are all just normal things we deal with in using nylon as a fishing line. We have, over the years become educated in how to, and not to, treat nylon. This has became second nature to us fisherman, and we dont think twice about it.

Along comes the superline, and we dont know squat about it. We hear the horror stories along with all the good things and wonder what its really like. Here's what its really like: Superline has no stretch, or very little of it depending upon brand. This promotes a "feel" like no nylon ever has had, or ever will. It is thin and very strong, has no memory, lasts forever, can be used for years on end without degradation-which makes it very economical to the enviroment and the angler. Doesn't twist, curl, and blow off the reel, and gives the angler confidence when fighting larger fish.

Superline, like nylon, also has quirks, most of which is angler error. Here are a few: air knotting, most superlines float, pulling against a snag improperly will cause the line to "dig in" upon itself, being light-the wind is more a factor with blowing or skating the line. Superline is not forgiving to the occasional angler as nylon can be. I once said: "try a braid for a day and like it, use it for a month and hate it, stay with it a few more months and fall in love with it forever" this still holds true. Sight-this line is very visable to the angler and the fish, this can hurt the anglers confidence by him thinking

the Bass can see his line and will deter from his lures. I believe this to be more of a human factor than a fish factor, meaning: we care more of line visabilty than our quarry does! Some species are line shy, Bass I have found in my waters are not. The simple addition of a leader for these anglers will suffice in that confidence level, but I surely dont reccomend one for Bass fishing. It's a hassle of knots and weak points that are simply not needed in any way. Lesser abraision resistance than nlyon is another factor-diameter is the largest part of the pie of-abrasion resistance-and superlines being so thin, do not excell at this conception unless one compares diameter to diameter, then the two lines are basically equal.

Slick-superlines are just that, thin and slick, and they will "spin" on many of todays reel spools when trying to load them and when fishing them, this can be easily avoided by using a nlyon backing-which I dont recommend unless larger reel spools are at hand-or by simply placing a piece of rough tape onto the spool, thus giving the line something to grad onto. I personally use what is called a "double backed tape". It's a clear, extremely thin, 1/2" wide tape(available at any office store or x-mart) that is sticky on both sides, one side grabs the spool, and the other grabs the line, its a win-win situation. Plus, with not having a line backing, there are no knots to impede casting or create a weak point should a fishing excursion place you fishing near that knot-for one reason or another. An added bonus of this technique is, once the line is worn and you feel the need to change it, all you have to do is reverse it on the reel spool and you have brand new superline to fish with, and all the worn out stuff is at the bottom of your spool. Its a very cost effective way to use a line, and use it all.

Rod tip wrap-this happens mostly when the line is brand new. It will wrap around the tip of the rod, or a guide when slack is thrown into the line. The newer braids have helped with this lesser feature, but I think the angler is the most at fault here, by him or her not paying attention to what the line and rod are doing at a given time. Nylon will also do this, but due to its memory and springy nature, its evil is much lesser.

Snags. Thats another beast of words that have spilled onto the pits of superline non-users. Unless one is using a thick wire hook most superlines will bend hooks out and reward the angler with a returned bait. I have lost 90% less lures since my change over to a superline. 90%... couple that with the ease of snag removal because of the no stretch properties of superlines and you can see the saved dollar signs, cant you??

Dont pull back with your rod and reel on a snag while using braids, this will cause a

digging in problem. If you need to pull back with spinning gear, one only has to grab and hold the reel spool to keep it from slipping drag, point the rod tip at the snagged lure and pull straight back. One of two things will happen: you will get your lure back, or the line will break at the knot of the lure 95% of the time (always get as close to the snag as possible). With casting gear, one must pull back by wrapping an object in the line above the reel, pointing the rod at the snagged lure and pulling back with the object only. There are many objects you can use to do this, my favorite is a pair of pliers with coated handles, these I always carry anyway and it adds nothing to my terminal tackle selection. A glove or towel of any kind is my 2nd choice, and even a stick or piece of wood does well too. Never pull lines of any kind with the bare hands.

Cutting superlines. Here is where we surely have to delve differently from nylon. Superlines cannot be cut with your teeth, nail clippers, or the usual used nylon cutters. Some use scissors, and these work well about any brand will do-but my tool of choice, again, is that same pair of pliers we spoke of earlier. I use a pair of what is known commonly as "side cutters". These are the basic wire cutters as most know them, cheeper pairs normally dont last long or do very well. If you bought a pair for around \$10.00, chances are they will be just fine for cutting braid and pulling snags. These side cutters also enable the fisherman to cut braid against and close to the line tie of the lure, leaving the lure empty of line and ready for re-use when needed without added trimming that the scissors sometimes require.

Superlines are all different, some pose troubles others dont, and the reverse is true also. If you're planing on trying a superline anytime soon, use this guide to "read between the lines" of the poor unfactual rumors out there today, to help make your choice easier.

There was a time when the world was thought of as being "flat" and we burned witches at the stake. With time and education, we've done a lot better than that. I feel superlines will be no different. Give one a chance, a real chance, not just a day or two of fishing, and I think you'll like what you feel in time.

### DNR in the News

#### **NR Releases 2013 Young-of-the-Year Striped Bass Survey**

***Spawning success increases over last year but remains below average***

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources today announced that the 2013 Striped Bass juvenile index – a measure of

Striped Bass spawning success in Chesapeake Bay – is 5.8, a substantial increase over last year's results of 0.9, but below the 60-year average of 11.7. The survey is conducted to track the reproductive success of Maryland's State Fish, which is known to be highly variable from year to year.

"Several years of average reproduction mixed with large and small year-classes are typical for Striped Bass," said DNR Fisheries Director Tom O'Connell. "For example, as recently as 2011, we saw the fourth-highest spawning success in the survey's history."

Striped Bass spawn in the spring when individual females produce millions of eggs. The survival of eggs and larvae is largely influenced by environmental factors such as water temperature, salinity and flow rates.

Through the Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission, Maryland works with state and federal partners to protect and manage the Striped Bass population. Each year, the Commission assesses Striped Bass spawning success by evaluating juvenile index survey results conducted along the Atlantic coast. Three continuous years of poor recruitment, as defined by the Commission, would trigger a review of management actions. Maryland's 2013 Striped Bass juvenile index did not fall below the poor recruitment line. Three consecutive years of poor recruitment has not been experienced in Maryland since the mid-1980s due to the success of coastal management efforts.

The Commission also conducts a comprehensive assessment of the entire stock every 1-2 years to determine whether changes in management strategies are needed to ensure a healthy population and fishery. The most recent stock assessment will be reviewed by the Commission later this month.

During this year's survey of juveniles, biologists counted more than 34,000 fish of 51 different species, including 759 juvenile Striped Bass, at 22 major sites in the four major spawning systems – the Choptank, Potomac, and Nanticoke rivers, and the Upper Bay. DNR biologists visited each site monthly from July through September, collecting fish samples with two sweeps of a 100-foot beach seine. Juvenile indices are calculated as the average catch of young-of-year fish per sample.

The agency uses these data to assess spawning success of other important species. American Shad reproduction was very successful – approximately four times the long-term average – particularly in the Potomac River and White Perch experienced near-average reproduction. DNR has monitored the reproductive success of Striped Bass and other species in Maryland's

portion of the Chesapeake Bay annually since 1954.

### Fishing Regulations

#### 2013 Md. Flounder Season

Minimum Size - 16" Creel - 4 fish Season – March 28th – Dec 31st

#### 2013 Va. Flounder Season

Minimum Size - 16" Creel - 4 fish per day  
No closed season

### Tournament News

### Classified Ads

#### Charter Services

##### **Island Queen Inland Charters**

Bay and Sound Fishing & Cruises  
Chincoteague Island, VA

**Captain Charlie Koski - 757-990-2404**

[www.islandqueeninlandcharters.com](http://www.islandqueeninlandcharters.com)

#### Fishing Equipment

### Commercial Supporters



**Highway and Safety Services, Inc.**  
18960 Woodfield Road,  
Gaithersburg, MD 20879

**Richard Briggs**  
Vice President, Chief of Operations

Office: 301-948-4970 x 103 Cell: 301-252-3496  
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**2013 Chapter Officers**

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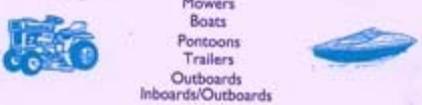


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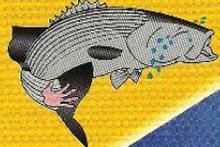


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**FREDERICK MSSA CHAPTER - 2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
www.mssafrederick.com

<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>11</b>	- <b>Dinner Dance</b> - Frederick Moose Club
	<b>17</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>
	<b>18</b>	- <b>Frederick Chapter Fishing Expo – Frederick Fair Grounds</b>
	25-26	- Kent Island Chapter Flea Market
	23-26	- Baltimore Boat Show – Baltimore Convention Center
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	1-3	- MSSA Convention, Annapolis, MD
	1	- Tri State Marine Flea Market – Free in Deale MD
	<b>12</b>	- <b>Frederick Meeting -</b>
	<b>19</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>
	15-16	- Pasadena Flea Market – Earleigh Heights Fire Co, Pasadena, MD
	22	- Dorchester County Flea Market – American Legion Post 91 – Cambridge, MD
22	- Saltwater Fishing Expo Annapolis Elks #622 – Edgewater MD	
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>12</b>	- <b>Frederick Meeting</b>
	<b>19</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>
	15-16	- Essex/Middle River Flea Market
	22-23	- Southern MD Fishing Fair – Solomons Fire Hall
<b>APRIL</b>	<b>6</b>	- <b>Frederick Shakedown Cruise/Brunch</b> – Sandy Point
	<b>9</b>	- <b>Frederick Meeting</b>
	<b>16</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>
	19	- Opening Day - Striped Bass Season
<b>MAY</b>	2-4	- 30th Annual MSSA Spring Tournament – Solomons
	<b>7</b>	- <b>Frederick Meeting</b>
	<b>14</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>
	<b>15-18</b>	- <b>Chapter Flounder Tournament</b> – Chincoteague
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>11</b>	- <b>Frederick Meeting</b>
	<b>18</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>
	20-22	- 21th Annual MSSA Tunament – Ocean City & Wachapreague
<b>JULY</b>	<b>9</b>	- <b>Frederick Meeting</b>
	<b>16</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>
<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>13</b>	- <b>Frederick Meeting</b>
	<b>20</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>
	23	- 4rd Annual MSSA Beach N Boat Flounder Tournament – Ocean City
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>10</b>	- <b>Frederick Meeting</b>
	<b>13</b>	- <b>Chapter Crab Feast and Picnic</b>
	<b>17</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	4-11	- <b>Chapter North Carolina King Mackerel Tournament</b>
	<b>15</b>	- <b>Frederick Meeting</b>
	<b>22</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>12</b>	- <b>Frederick Meeting</b>
	<b>19</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>
	22-23	- 19 <sup>th</sup> Annual MSSA Fall Tournament
<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>10</b>	- <b>Frederick Meeting</b>
	<b>17</b>	- <b>Frederick Board Meeting</b>