

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

Fall has come, and with it comes some of the area's best fishing. There have been large stripers caught all season long, and the run of Fall migratory fish will be coming soon. The bait will soon be leaving the rivers, and the surface will be alive with breaking fish. It's a great to be a fisherman on the Chesapeake Bay.

The Chapter will be heading to Harker's Island, NC for the "Tackle the Mackerel" fishing tournament. We will have 3 Calcutta's as well as the main tournament, which is the combined weight of 4 fish. The Calcuttas will be for the largest King Mackerel, largest Spanish Mackerel, and largest Amberjack weighed in. There will be 2 dinner's during the week. And as always, the raffle prizes will be amazing. There will be rod and reel combinations, bean bag chairs, and assorted tackle and gear, as well as hats, Costa sunglasses, and the list goes on. Our Chapter's raffle prizes are second to none!!

Unfortunately, with the number of members we have traveling, it is necessary to cancel our October meeting. We tried to reschedule for the following weeks, but the building was unavailable. We will be back meeting as usual in November.

And keep in mind, the MSSA Fall classic will be held in November, and the registrations are open now. Go to <http://mssa.net/fallclassic> to register now.

Tight lines,
Jim

Next Meeting

THERE WILL BE NO MEETING THIS MONTH DUE TO THE "TACKLE THE MACKEREL" TOURNAMENT IN HARKER'S ISLAND, NC.

Attendance at September Meeting: 32

Raffle Winners:

Bobby Hurt- Rod N Reel combo
Jim Bremer- King Mackerel baits
Chris Linetty- Ladies Camo Bag
Walt Shaw- Tool kit, scissors, gloves
Eddie Stubbies- Cooler

Rockfish lures donated by U.S.Blues

Chesapeake Charters:
Walt Shaw
Jim Lorditch

50/50 Raffle:

Eddie Stubbies- \$53
Eddie donated his winnings to the club.
Thanks Eddie!!!!

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

Important New Chapter Policy

As many of you know, the MSSA Frederick Chapter is host to a number of events and tournaments. The Chapter does not use any of these events as fundraisers. As a matter of fact, the exact opposite is true. During our tournament series, the Chapter does not keep a single cent of the registration fees. And while the Crab Feast and the Dinner Dance are paid events, the entry fees do not cover the costs of these events. Instead, the MSSA Frederick Chapter adds significant funds to each of these events, to enhance their value to our members.

The extra funds for these events come from our fundraisers. Consider these numbers... Our Chapter has 225 registered members, of which there are over 100 active members at any time. During our most recent fundraiser, we requested every member sell 5 tickets. We should have easily sold out of tickets. But that did not happen. And after the final tally was reached, the tickets that WERE sold were sold by a total of 33 members. That means less than 1/3 of all active members participated in supporting the Chapter.

So the Board has adopted a new policy. In November, we will begin the next Fundraiser for the Chapter. It will again be a Raffle. The raffle fundraiser will end in February, and at that time all ticket sales will be tallied. Here is the important part. In order to register as Captain for any of the Chapter tournaments, or attend either the Dinner Dance, or Crab Feast, you **MUST** sell/buy 5 raffle tickets OR donate \$100 to the Chapter in addition to the regular entry fees.

Every member of the MSSA Frederick Chapter is welcome to attend every regular Chapter meeting, and receive the benefit of our Guest Speakers, and Vendor's specials. But to participate in the events that the Chapter adds funds, we need to make sure everyone is doing their part.

Fishing Reports

Maryland DNR Fishing Report

Maryland Weekly Fishing Report Overview

September 20, 2017

Many would agree we are entering one of the most beautiful times of the year in Maryland. Mornings are cool and daytime temperatures are inviting for outdoor activities. Where I live crops are being harvested, wildlife is on the move, bait in the tidal rivers is beginning to feel the urge to move out into the bay, and fish such as striped bass are enjoying the cooler water temperatures and ready to intercept the schools of bait. Some vegetation is starting to show color and the daylight hours are decreasing by about two and a half minutes a day.

Marylanders are on the move also, family schedules have adjusted to school and the weekends present a precious time to be with family and friends in the great Maryland outdoors. This is a great time of the year to visit your favorite fishing hole whether it is a creek or pond in western Maryland or just fishing off a dock in the Chesapeake Bay.

Before we get into this week's fishing report, I wanted to remind everyone that they can submit their own fishing reports and photos to the Maryland Angler's Log. To post a report, please email your name, hometown, photos, location information and additional

content for your report. All information is optional, but encouraged. New reports are posted daily during the busy fishing seasons. You can see our most recent Angler's Log here.

The striped bass action continues to be good this week in the upper bay. As water temperatures begin to cool entering the fall months, the fishing situation is going to change. Right now, live lining spot along channel edges is the most popular game in town. The spot are readily available at the shallower hard-bottomed areas; the shallower ends of the Bay Bridge off Sandy Point State Park and the Magothy River are just a few places to catch spot on bloodworms. The striped bass have been holding along the channel edges at Love and Podickory points and to a lesser degree at Swan Point. It pays to slowly check other edges with a depth finder to locate suspended fish.

Trolling can be a good option with spoons, bucktails and surge tube lures behind planers and inline weights to get them down close to the bottom, where the fish are holding. Single and tandem lures will usually hold behind a planer without tripping them but umbrella rigs will need a lot of weight to get them down. More and more surface action is being encountered out in the bay as bait starts to get the hint to leave the tidal rivers. This exodus of bait will really increase next month as water temperatures fall and the best fishing will switch to vertical jigging.

The water levels in the lower Susquehanna River have been highly variable recently; at times the power generation gates do not open for a day or so making for very low water levels. A few striped bass are being caught at the dam pool and the lower parts of the river along with some impressive smallmouth bass. Near the flats some undersized striped bass are being caught on topwater lures along with some largemouth bass in the morning and evening hours.

The tidal rivers in the upper bay region are providing some wonderful white perch fishing this week. Cooler water temperatures have the perch more active in deep as well as shallower

areas. Many of the same areas that are holding spot are also holding white perch, especially at the Bay Bridge piers.

Fishing for striped bass at the Bay Bridge has been good on the eastern side of the bridge along the 25-foot drop off; this has been a great place to live line spot or jig near the pier bases. The cement abutments out near the main channel as well as the rock piles are holding striped bass also. There tends to be a greater percentage of undersized fish at times but enough larger fish to make things worthwhile.

Middle bay region water temperatures are holding around 75 degrees this week and slightly cooler in the tidal rivers. There is a lot of bait moving around in the region and being swept along by currents near channel edges. Fall jigging is just starting to show signs of a developing fishery but for now live lining spot is taking center stage. The spot are easy to find in the tidal rivers and bay shores in shallow hard-bottom areas. The striped bass are eagerly waiting along channel edges, suspended at approximately 35-foot depths close to the bottom. Tolley and Thomas points have been good places to live line as has the False Channel and the Diamonds at the mouth of the Choptank River. Some are also finding action at the outside edge of Hackett's Bar and off Poplar Island at times. Bluefish are present so they will extract their due. Elvin Phillip caught a nice striped bass near Thomas Point, seen in the adjacent photo.

Trolling a mixed spread of small Drone or Clark spoons behind No. 2 planers is a great way to target the Spanish mackerel in the region and placing small surge tube lures and bucktails behind inline weights or planers can also entice striped bass and bluefish. Some have found that it can provide some rousing catch and release entertainment to place a large spoon or two in a trolling spread for the large red drum that have been visiting the eastern side of the bay recently.

The shallow water fishery for striped bass and white perch is bouncing back due to cooler water temperatures. This is a topwater fishery for striped bass

and although there are a fair percentage of sub-legal striped bass there is plenty of action and fun. In slightly deeper areas where grass is not such a problem, white perch are being caught on small spinnerbaits and spinners. Fishing with grass shrimp near structure has also been very successful.

There tends to be a lot of bluefish and Spanish mackerel dominating the fishing scene in the lower bay region this week in the main channel areas of the bay, most are trolling a mixed spread of small Drone or Clark spoons and small-surge tube lures behind. The deadly duo has been chasing schools of bay anchovies and when the bait gets swept along swift currents near the shipping channel edges mayhem tends to take place. At times there are small striped bass joining in and there is always hope there might be a few larger striped bass lurking deep underneath so jigging can be an option.

Large red drum are still being found in the general area between the Middle Grounds to the Target Ship area. At times they can be spotted by slicks and caught by jigging large spoons or soft plastic jigs. Other times they can be caught by trolling large spoons behind inline weights. Most are 40" or better so will qualify for a catch and release certificate from the Maryland Fishing Challenge and most of the Spanish mackerel being caught in the region exceed the 22-inch minimum for an Angler Award.

Speckled trout continue to entertain on the eastern side of the bay along marsh edges, stump fields and small creeks flowing out of the marshes. Casting soft plastics like Gulp white mullets or drifting pieces of soft crab are great ways to catch them. There will be some small striped bass also mixed in.

Bottom fishing for a mix of species that reads more like a menu continues to provide a lot of fun and good eating. Large spot, white perch, croaker, kingfish, speckled trout, northern blowfish and slot size red drum tend to round out quite a variety. In the middle to upper Patuxent and Potomac rivers blue catfish tend to dominate and the smaller ones provide excellent eating.

While we are on the topic of bottom fishing in the Chesapeake Bay, I wanted to give everybody a heads-up that staffers Mike Malpezzi, the Maryland Artificial Reef Initiative coordinator and Erik Zlokovitz, with recreational fisheries outreach will be working at the dockside check-in and awards ceremony for the Rod and Reef Slam Tournament Oct. 7 at Lowes Wharf Marina Inn in Sherwood. The tournament anglers will fish on three constructed and restored reefs, including the reef ball site at Cook's Point built by Maryland Artificial Reef Initiative partners. All anglers from the public and their children and families are invited to attend. Fishing will start at 6:45 a.m. and the after-party and awards ceremony will begin at 3 p.m.. For more info and registration, please [click here](#).

Before we get into the crabbing, freshwater sand ocean sections of the report, here is another bay conditions update and fishing forecast from the team at **Click Before You Cast**.

Recreational crabbing has been very good this week and should continue in the middle and lower bay regions and relatively good in the upper bay. Recreational crabbers are seeing a lot of sooks as these girls migrate towards the mouth of the bay for the winter. Many of the jimmy crabs being caught are large and heavy. It doesn't take many of these to fill a bushel basket and even if you can't catch a full bushel these large and heavy crabs satisfy an appetite fairly quick. Most are reporting that chicken necks are doing just fine for bait.

Deep Creek Lake is starting to settle down from a busy summer season and providing good and peaceful fishing once again. A mix of large yellow perch and walleye can be found along deep grass. Slow trolling crankbaits is a good tactic for walleye and drifting live minnows can catch both yellow perch and walleye and everything else that likes to eat minnows. Fisheries biologist Kenny Wampler mentioned that he recently had good luck catching a mix of yellow perch and walleye by drifting along deep grass edges and jigging slowly with a 1/8 ounce jig tipped with half a nightcrawler.

A mix of largemouth and smallmouth bass can be found near shoreline structure such as fallen treetops, floating docks and thick grass. It is pretty hard to beat a whacky rigged stick worm flipped into one of these spots but with cooler water temperatures white spinnerbaits worked along the outside edges of these spots can work well also.

Western Region fisheries biologist Alan Klotz, loves to fish the Youghiogheny River and sent us this short report from his last fishing trip. "As the aquatic insect hatches dwindle down to a trickle, early fall is the time to break out the terrestrial fly patterns. Grasshoppers, crickets, caterpillars, and flying ants are at their peak abundance, and trout are eagerly feeding on this high-protein diet before the onset of cold weather. Bright sunny days in September can trigger swarms of flying ants, and if you see the ants swarming – drop everything and head to the nearest trout stream! I had some amazing fishing in the Youghiogheny River Catch and Return Trout Fishing Area earlier this week. Flying ants were everywhere, and it seemed every trout in the river was on a feeding frenzy. The best rivers to fish for trout in Western Maryland during the latter part of September are the Youghiogheny River Catch and Return Trout Fishing Area, the Savage River Trophy Trout Fishing Areas, and the North Branch Potomac River Catch and Return Trout Fishing Areas."

Fisheries biologist John Mullican sent us a short report from the upper Potomac this week. "The river is low and clear with abundant vegetation. Vegetation fragments are making many presentations frustratingly difficult. Small tubes and worms on very light jig heads bounced over the bottom in slightly deeper areas with boulders or in pockets in the vegetation have produced smallmouth bass and walleye. Channel catfish also hide in the vegetation and can be caught from the same pockets or by anchoring just upstream and waiting."

Many put and take trout fishermen are eagerly anticipating the traditional fall trout stocking that is planned to begin the second week of October and continue through the month. Hatchery

crews have been working hard to provide everyone with a chance to get out in the wonderful fall outdoors and enjoy some trout fishing. Water temperatures are cooling down and trout in most cases will be able to survive. One factor that we cannot control is stream flows, often in the fall due to lack of rain some creeks will not be suitable for stocking trout at the time crews wish to stock them. These situations can cause trout to be reallocated to a nearby trout management area that does have good water flows or in some cases only a partial stocking takes place since there just isn't enough water to support the full stocking. For these reasons the stocking crews cannot always guarantee an anticipated stocking. The notice to anglers that a body of water has been stocked will be posted on the trout stocking website and by the email service as soon as possible after the stocking takes place.

All who are involved in the trout hatchery program have worked long and difficult hours to bring you a fall trout fishing experience and we hope you enjoy the fall weather and colors as well as some fun trout fishing.

The many reservoirs, lakes and ponds throughout Maryland are starting to show increased fish activity as cooler water temperatures prevail. In general things have become more comfortable for all species of fish and they can now move more freely throughout their aquatic environment in search of food. Better fishing now lasts longer into the day. Casting spinnerbaits and small crankbaits near edges of grass and wood is a good tactic for largemouth bass and jigs and soft plastics are a good thing to try tight to structure. In many areas grass is starting to break up due to shorter daylight hours so sunken wood offers bass some structure.

In the tidal rivers largemouth bass are being found in transition areas such as drop offs and structure such as fallen tree tops and sunken wood in slightly deeper waters. Small crankbaits, jigs and spinnerbaits can be good choices. A falling tide will help push largemouth bass out of grass and spatterdock fields, so working these edges is a good idea. Northern snakeheads will be part

of the mix in the tidal Potomac, Patuxent and Nanticoke rivers as well as the small creek areas in Dorchester County. Noisy topwater lures are hard to beat when fishing for them.

The Ocean City area will be buckling down for some rough sea conditions this weekend as Jose pushes ground swells towards our Maryland shores. This may make it tough for surf fishing and boats clearing the inlet for offshore waters. A good thing may be that our offshore waters will get stirred up a bit making for some new and exciting fishing opportunities.

It will no doubt take a lot of lead to hold bottom while surf fishing this weekend but there is a mix of kingfish, northern blowfish, small black drum and bluefish out there. At the inlet area, there has been some exciting fishing for sheepshead at the inlet, the Route 50 Bridge and particularly the south jetty. Sand fleas is the bait of choice but clams will work also. There is also a mix of red drum that often are falling in the 18-inch to 27-inch slot as well as small black drum, sea trout, triggerfish and flounder. In the evenings bluefish and a few striped bass are being caught on cut bait, live spot and by casting lures.

Flounder fishing in the back bay area channels continues to be good and this week's success will depend on wind conditions and whether the bay gets churned up. Many that are looking for larger flounder are drifting live spot in the channels leading towards the inlet or using large baits such as white Gulp baits on a jig. It has not started yet for the most part, but cooler water temperatures later on this month and next will urge flounder to pour out of the back bay waters and out the inlet. There have also been some slot size red drum being caught in the channels also this week.

The Maryland sea bass season closes Sept. 21 and will not open again until Oct. 22. There are tautog and triggerfish at many of the wreck and reef sites and perhaps one of the biggest draws to these sites are the impressive flounder that are being caught.

The offshore fishing scene has been focused on a mixed bag of wahoo, dolphin, yellowfin tuna and white and blue marlin catches. Some of the better catches have been coming from the Baltimore and Poorman's canyons. When the seas calm down we may well experience the traditional blitz of white marlin that often occurs in late September.

Virginia Beach Action

Weekly Sportfishing Rundown
15 Sep 2017

With a watchful eye on tropical developments to the southeast, local anglers continue to enjoy the developing fall fisheries along the Mid-Atlantic. But, don't dismiss the summer faves just yet. Intercepting these fish as they prepare to depart the area can provide some good opportunities for anglers.

Cobia are on the move as they prepare to head south, igniting some outstanding top water action for this last week of cobia season. Several boats reported hooking up to a dozen fish per day recently, with several cobia exceeding 50-pounds. Until next year.

Big red drum are still roaming about the lower Bay shoals and barrier islands, and it is also time for reds to begin showing more activity around the artificial islands of the CBBT. Fresh cut bait and live bait work well for this area. Big bull reds can debut in the surflines along Sandbridge and the Wildlife Preserve at any time. A northerly blow can jump start some good drum surf fishing action.

Spanish mackerel are still chasing trolled spoons in the clearer water off the Virginia Beach ocean front and Cape Henry, with some nice Spanish to show this season. But the most exciting news on the ocean front is the incredible king mackerel run, which is the best this area has seen in years. True smoker kings are crashing both live and trolled baits, with several kings

hitting the docks weighing over 50-pounds, or more.

Anglers are finding some respectable flatfish as they continue to gather at the mouth of the Bay in preparation for migrating to deeper water. Boats working Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets are finding scattered catches of decent sized keepers. Offshore and inshore wreck flounder action is very good, with nice flatties averaging to around 23-inches taking fresh strip bait. Expect sea bass as a by-catch, along with triggerfish on these wrecks, but keep in mind that seabass season closes on the 21st this month.

Big sheepshead will continue to linger on the structure of the Bay Bridge-Tunnel over the next few weeks, along with decent triggerfish. Tautog action is rekindling for the fall trend, with the season reopening on the 19th this month. Remember you can keep up to three fish stretching to at least 16-inches.

Improving speckled trout catches are drawing more attention from anglers. If you can sneak your offerings past the hungry puppy drum, good numbers of specks are biting in areas such as Hungar's Creek, the Poquoson Flats, and Mobjack Bay. Also, Lynnhaven, Rudee, and Little Creek Inlets, along with the Elizabeth River are also giving up some fish, with some specks weighing in at over 4-pounds.

Some big yellow belly spot are hitting in Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlet, and around the lower Bay. Fish pushing to ¾-pound are also coming from around Little Creek. The lower Bay Rivers, the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel, Ocean View, and along the Virginia Beach oceanfront are also holding nice spot lately. Local piers are reporting good action, especially after a stiff north or easterly blow. Large croaker are lurking in deeper areas along channels, inlets, the Bay Bridge Tunnel, the Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel, and the Concrete Ships off Kiptopeke. Both spot and small to medium sized croaker are also responding inside Magothy Bay near buoy 262, and out of Oyster.

Amberjack are still active at the Southern Towers through October.

Deep droppers are having good luck near the Canyon edges with limits of nice blueline and golden tilefish and jumbo seabass. Grouper and barrelfish are also adding to the deep-water variety.

Offshore, billfish are still providing good action. Even though the bite varies from day to day, white marlin along with scattered blue marlin, and good numbers of bailer and gaffer dolphin are the main event. A few tuna are around, but they are scattered.

<http://www.drjball.com>

Delaware Fishing Report

Updated: Sept. 28, 2017

DELAWARE BAY With the ocean pretty much shut down due to the big seas kicked up by the hurricanes, the bay is seeing more fishermen and they are catching more fish. This is not to say bay fishing is great, it's just better than not fishing at all.

Boats running out of Bowers Beach are catching a mixed bag of trout, flounder, croakers and bluefish. We had reports that shore based anglers fishing from Bowers are catching some big croakers along with a few trout and blues. Flounder have been caught as far north as the fishing pier at Woodland Beach.

In the Upper Bay white perch and catfish remain the best bet. Peeler crab, bloodworms and bunker chunks have been the best baits. A very few keeper rockfish have been caught along with the catfish and perch.

Mid-Bay reef sites provide trout, flounder and croaker plus the return of some kingfish. Peeler crab will catch all of these fish as will bloodworms or cut mullet.

Sheepshead are being caught from the Inner and Outer walls as well as the Ice Breakers. Sand fleas and

green crab have been the top baits. Toggling off the rocks can be very dangerous on good days and even more so when big seas are running in the ocean.

The fishing pier on Cape Henlopen State Park has seen keeper flounder caught almost every day. Right now live lining mullet is the top technique. One day last week the flounder were feeding in the first slough right off the beach. While keepers are still hard to come by, flounder to 4.5 pounds have been taken. Croaker, spot and small blues are available most of the day with high tide still the most productive time to fish.

Croaker have been caught out of the Lewes and Rehoboth Canal along with a very rare flounder.

- **ADVISORY: Summer Flounder Regulations:** As of April 1, the minimum size for summer flounder in Delaware is 17 inches. The bag limit remains at four fish per day and the season runs for 365 days.

INSHORE OCEAN I fear the Coast Guard will run out of small craft advisory flags since they have been flying for most of the month. Boats that ran off the beach on the last day of sea bass season returned with limit catches, but since then it has been tough to put a catch together. The long range forecast indicates light winds, but big seas through the weekend.

OFFSHORE OCEAN I had reports from New Jersey and Ocean City, Md. that said tuna fishing in the canyons is much improved. Dolphin and wahoo were also caught on the one or two days when the long run was possible.

INDIAN RIVER INLET The only good report from the inlet has been the continuing run of small blues. Metal lures work best on these fish.

Once in a while a keeper flounder is caught from the inlet and the Back

Bays. Massey’s Ditch is one location that provides access during rough weather.

SURF FISHING The surf tournament last weekend saw 262 anglers fish for two days and catch a grand total of 45 blues and kingfish large enough to score. All 45 fish were caught by 19 fishermen.

The upper reaches of the tidal rivers and creeks hold white perch and catfish. A few small rock have also been caught. Peeler crab, bloodworms and bunker have been the best baits.

GET OFFSHORE I have had good reports from the offshore grounds and fall can be a great time to get out to the canyons. The best news from my reports is the number of big yellowfin tuna caught out of Ocean City. Tuna had been hard to find before the series of hurricanes, but they seem to be here now.

The main problem with fishing offshore in the fall is the number of storms we get at this time of year. The coming week does look good from here, but that is subject to change without notice. Most charter boats are not booked up during the week and some may be open on the weekend. Unless you have a boat capable of running out 60 miles or more a charter will be your best bet.

There is nothing like ending the season with plenty of tuna and dolphin to get you through the winter.

By Eric Burnley Sr.* from the Delaware DNR website

DNR in the News

Oyster Season Starts October 2

October 2, 2017

Opening Month Reserved for Divers and Tongers



Photo by Eugene Byers

Maryland’s 2017-2018 public oyster harvest season kicks off Oct. 2 and runs through March 31, 2018. The opening month is reserved for divers and watermen using patent and shaft tongs, as well as recreational oystering.

The recreational harvest of oysters in Maryland is open to any resident during the season. Each harvester may take up to one bushel of oysters per day as long as they are only for personal, noncommercial use.

“Oysters are ingrained in Maryland’s culture, diet and heritage,” Maryland Department of Natural Resources Secretary Mark Belton said. “Since the time of Captain John Smith and the skipjacks of yesteryear, these beloved bivalves have been intrinsically linked to the brackish bay, as well as to the state’s economy and environment. This iconic species’ management is vitally important to industry, stakeholders, our state and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.”

Last season, 1,086 licensed watermen harvested 224,609 bushels of oysters with a dockside value of about \$9 million. The oyster industry provides funding to invest in its own future – oyster seed and shell plantings – through the state’s license surcharge and oyster tax revenue, as well as

through funding from the Maryland Department of Transportation.

New this oyster season, the department has established the Commercial Shellfish Harvester Closure Area Information Portal. This interactive, online tool assures that harvesters have access to maps showing where leases are located as well as the corner coordinates so these areas can be avoided when harvesting oysters. More information about the portal is included in the Shellfish Closure Book that harvesters receive when purchasing their oyster authorization.

Throughout the season, the Maryland Natural Resources Police is activating its oyster enforcement plan to protect the species, aquaculture leases, public fishery areas or sanctuaries. Officers on patrol boats and along the shoreline will monitor harvest activity, conduct aerial sweeps with radar from the agency’s reacquired helicopter, Natural 1, as well as inspect seafood buyers and sellers.

The busiest portion of the oyster season will kick off Nov. 1, when harvest methods expand to include power and sail dredging in designated areas of Calvert, Dorchester, Somerset, St. Mary’s, Talbot and Wicomico counties.

Commercial watermen may work Monday through Friday from sunrise to 3 p.m. in October, and again from January through March. In November and December oysters may be harvested from sunrise to sunset. The minimum harvest size is 3 inches. The daily limit is 15 bushels per person, not to exceed 30 bushels per boat for divers and tongers. For power dredging the limit is 12 bushels per person, not to exceed 24 bushels per boat.

2017 Chapter Officers

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FREDERICK MSSA CHAPTER – 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

www.mssafrederick.com

JANUARY	11	- Frederick Meeting
	14	- Frederick Chapter Fishing Expo – Frederick Fair Grounds
	18	- Frederick Board Meeting
	26-29	- Baltimore Boat Show – Baltimore Convention Center
	28-29	- Kent Island Chapter Fishing Flea Market
FEBRUARY	8	- Frederick Meeting
	11	- Tri State Marine Flea Market – Deale Md
	15	- Frederick Board Meeting
	17-18	- Pasadena Flea Market – Earleigh Heights Fire Co, Pasadena, MD
	18	- Dorchester County Flea Market – American Legion Cambridge, MD
	25	- Saltwater Fishing Expo Annapolis Elks #622 – Edgewater MD
25	- Dinner Dance - Frederick Moose Club	
MARCH	8	- Frederick Meeting
	15	- Frederick Board Meeting
	18-19	- Essex/Middle River Flea Market
APRIL	1-2	- Southern MD Fishing Fair – Solomons Fire Hall
	8	- Frederick Chapter Shakedown Cruise/ Catch & Release Tournament
	12	- Frederick Meeting
	15	- Opening Day - Striped Bass Season
	19	- Frederick Board Meeting
MAY	5-7	- Frederick Chapter Spring Rockfish Tournament- Solomons
	5-7	- 33rd Annual MSSA Spring Tournament
	10	- Frederick Meeting
	17	- Frederick Board Meeting
	19-21	- Frederick Chapter Flounder Tournament – Chincoteague
JUNE	14	- Frederick Meeting
	21	- Frederick Board Meeting
	16-18	- 27th Annual MSSA Tunament – Ocean City & Wachapreague
JULY	12	- Frederick Meeting
	19	- Frederick Board Meeting
AUGUST	9	- Frederick Meeting
	16	- Frederick Board Meeting
SEPTEMBER	9	- Chapter Crab Feast and Picnic
	13	- Frederick Meeting
	16-18	- 6 th Annual Mid Atlantic Flounder Tournament – OC, Chincoteague, DE
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
OCTOBER	7-14	- Frederick Chapter North Carolina King Mackerel Tournament
	11	- NO MEETING!!!!!!
	18	- Frederick Board Meeting
NOVEMBER	8	- Frederick Meeting
	15	- Frederick Board Meeting
	17-19	- 24 th Annual MSSA Fall Tournament - Fish 2 of 3
DECEMBER	13	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting

FREDERICK MSSA CHAPTER – 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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