

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

Saturdays Forecast....Rain. Sundays Forecast....rain...winds 15-20 knots. Man, Can't remember such terrible weather right in the middle of quality live lining and crabbing times. With the fishing in the middle bay on fire with the spot, croaker, rockfish, specks and even some 6-8lb sea trout being caught it's been almost impossible to get out between the thunderstorms, rain or wind to have a decent day on the water. When you can, fishing is good, although, crabbing has been slow for many. The first taste of succulent crab meat just seems to get more rewarding every year.

Our chapter has a full scale of upcoming events that I would encourage each of you to participate in. For those of you who crab, Dan from Bay Country Crabbing Supplies will be giving a top notch trot lining outdoor demonstration at our July meeting. For the novices, this will be educational and he will have all the gear and/or supplies to put a bushel on the table. Click his link on our website to view his products. Upcoming will be chapter live lining trip, a crabbing trip on the Wye River, the Main's Beach -N-Boat tournament in August and of course, our dynamite crab feast in September.

Finally, the DC MSSA will have it's first annual Rockfish shootout on July 13th with a shotgun start out of Thomas Point. The entry fee is only \$50.00 per person. Personally knowing the fellas at the DC Chapter they will put on one helluva fun tournament.

Fish hard!

Next Meeting

July 10, 2013

**Dinner served at 6:00 PM
Meeting begin ~7:00 PM**

Speaker:

Dan Mallonee

Bay Country Crabbing Supplies

Dan has been crabbing for over 15 years. He started at the bottom and worked our way up. He has taken courses with the Coast Guard, worked with experienced boat captains as well as run his own trotlines and crab pots. He has learned through our own trial and error what works and what does not and will share his experience with us at the meeting

Vendor:



June Meeting Raffle Winners:

Reel Draggin Trolling Reel - Rick Thompson

Offshore "Bird" Lure - Jim Bremer

Bait Runner Reel - Kelly Rippon

"Squid Nation" Daisy Chain - Jeff Townsend

Cedar Plugs - Justin Fleming

"Squid Nation" Squids - Mike Luzier

Reel Draggin Offshore 'Plastic' - Alan Dission

Offshore Lures - Tom Fouche

50/50 Raffle

\$100 - Rick Thompson

Attendance at the June Meeting:

49

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

MSSA Scholarship Foundation

They had 45 applicants, which is a record number and went from 12 recipients last year to 16 this year. They gave \$30,000 away to eight High School Seniors and eight College students. The prize raffle was a huge boost to their efforts and there were 31 winners. Some of the people that donated prizes also won others. For a complete list see www.mssascholarships.org under raffles

1st Annual DC MSSA Shootout

Date: July 13th, 2013

Where & When: Thomas Point, 8:00 AM

Entry Fee: \$50/person, includes free T-shirt if you sign up before July 4th

\$500 Guaranteed Prize Money!

Tournament Rules:

This will be an individual angler tournament. This will be a rockfish tournament. Anglers have the option of fishing from shore, kayaks, and boats. Entrants may fish together, but only one angler may claim fish and prize money. Rockfish will be judged according to Length. A CLEAR picture of the WHOLE fish next to a ruler will need to be taken and sent to samklausner@gmail.com prior to 2:00 PM. We encourage Catch and Release fishing, a \$50 bonus will be included in the first place prize if the winning fish is released. Prize payout schedule as follows: first place 60%, second place 30%, third place 10%. Tournament will be limited to MSSA members only. Tournament will run rain or shine.

Registration by email to Sam Klausner: samklausner@gmail.com. No entry is complete until payment received. All entry fees must be received by 5pm July 11. Send checks payable to DCMSSA to: Sam Klausner 4550 Montgomery Ave, Suite 351N, Bethesda, MD 20814.

For more information, please contact DC MSSA Tournament Director Sam Klausner at samklausner@gmail.com

King Mackerel T-Shirts, Long Sleeve and Sweat Shirts

These will only be available as a prepaid item. We will not have extras. Purchase at the July and August meetings for delivery at the September meeting.

Chapter Crab Feast in September

The Frederick Chapter will be hosting an all-you-can-eat crab feast on Saturday, September 14 at the Pine cliff Parks in Frederick MD.

This event will be FREE, yes, I said FREE, to anyone who sells ten (10) raffle tickets for the chapter fundraiser. For each ten (10) tickets you sell, you will receive one free ticket to the crab feast.

The menu will feature fresh steamed blue crabs, corn on the cob, fries, and Cole slaw. Soft drinks. Potatoes chips and hot dogs will be will be provided free of charge; feel free to bring your own beer.

For those that didn't sell ten (10) raffle tickets, purchase your tickets no later than August 8th and pay only \$25 per person. After that, tickets are \$30 each, advance purchase only. There will be no tickets sold after the September 11 meeting. Friends and family are welcome as well.

More information about the crab feast will follow in subsequent newsletters. For now, get out there and sell those tickets

Fishing Reports

Chincoteague Action

By Charlie Koski
Tightlines.....

Ocean City Action

By Sue Foster
Water Temp: 68.9
Flounder fishing in the bay was up and down. We sure had a lot of wind to mess things up again. The best fishing was around the Inlet, main East Channel, and some were caught in the West Channel. Oceanic Pier had good luck with flounder and trout. Quite a few spot in the bay but most are large. Good eating, but not small enough to use for flounder bait. Surf saw kingfish, spot, and croaker with sharks at night. Sea bass fishing was respectable. Further offshore fishing fell off. Hopefully we'll get some better weather!

Chesapeake Bay Action

July 2, 2013

In the upper most parts of the bay near the lower Susquehanna River and near by tidal rivers and channels fishermen are going to see cloudy water conditions this week due to storm water runoff. Along shoreline structure White Perch are being caught by light tackle fishermen casting a variety of small lures such as spinners and jigs; hopefully the cloudy water will not affect fishing too much. Sometimes using noisy lures such as spinners and small crankbaits will help fish detect your lure when visual sight is poor. There are plenty of Channel Catfish in the region and cut bait on a bottom rig tends to be a favorite method for catching them in the channel areas. There are Striped Bass in the tidal rivers and the early morning and late evening hours tend to offer the best action whether casting in the shallows or jigging along channel edges. At the Conowingo Dam late day power generation water releases often spur the Striped Bass into a feeding mood. Fishermen have been generally using medium sized spin casting rods for long casts into the dam pool with swim shads and crankbaits. Fishermen should keep an eye on the water releases this week for they may be large enough to curtail effective and safe fishing.

White Perch are being found on many of the reefs and knolls in the upper bay near Baltimore such as Man-O-War Shoals, the 9' Knoll and the Snake Reefs. Most fishermen are slowly motoring over prospective structure and spotting fish holding before sending bottom rigs baited with bloodworms to the bottom. Boats continue to anchor up at traditional chumming locations such as Love and Swan Points, the Triple Buoys area and Podickory Point or Sandy Point Light. There are a lot of small undersized Striped Bass in the chum slicks but plenty of legal sized fish also. Trolling along the channel edges of these areas with spoons and bucktails has been a slow pick and jigging over suspended fish when found is offering plenty of action. Jim Thompson and Jason Haney found schools of suspended Striped Bass near the Bay Bridge and stayed with them for several hours catching and releasing fish. Jim holds up a nice one for the camera and also took a picture of what the school looked like on his depth finder.

The middle bay region around Thomas Point to the mouth of Eastern Bay and south to Breezy Point and the False Channel continues to provide excellent Striped Bass fishing opportunities for fishermen this week. A very nice grade of Striped Bass is stacked up on the 25' to 35' slopes of the channel areas such as the Hill and waiting for fishermen to either drop a delectable live

Spot down to them or troll a spoon by. There are plenty of Spot to be found in the shallower portions of the bay and the tidal rivers although fishermen are beginning to report that some of the Spot they are catching are a bit too large to live line. Trolling spoons and bucktails with inline weight to get them down to the fish are working well along channel edges and ballast stone piles. Chumming has been popular on the outside edge of Hackett's Bar and Thomas and Tolley's Points. Light tackle jigging can also be very productive along channel edges where fish are suspended.

Striped Bass fishing in the lower bay region has been a bit slow the past couple of weeks and a lot of boats are making the run up the bay to locations such as the Hill. Chumming at the Middle Grounds, the Mud Leads and near the mouth of the Potomac River has been fair. Fishermen do report though that there is a high number of sub-legal Striped Bass in their chum slicks. Striped Bass fishing in the lower bay is being reported to be good in the Patuxent River and around Cedar Point for light tackle fishermen casting or jigging a variety of lures.

The shallow water fishery for a mix of Striped Bass, Red Drum and Speckled Trout continues to be very good in the lower and middle bay areas. As water temperatures creep into the low 80's the best fishing will become earlier in the mornings and later at night. Gulp white mullet swim shads have been a favorite for working the shallows especially for Speckled Trout and fishermen are also catching some very large Speckled Trout by fishing soft crab baits in some of the gut and channel areas. White Perch are also in the mix if fishermen downsize to smaller lures such as spinners, spinnerbaits and small jigs. Michael Rosa sent in this picture of a 25" Speckled Trout he caught and released in the Honga River while fishing in his kayak. This is definitely an interesting camera angle and if you notice on the starboard side of the kayak under Michael's leg is the Speckled Trout secret weapon.

Fishermen are finding good fishing for a mix of croakers, Spot, White Perch and the occasional flounder in many of the tidal rivers in the lower bay. The Patuxent, Potomac, Honga and Nanticoke Rivers are providing especially good fishing for croakers. In the middle bay region the West and Choptank Rivers have been providing good croaker fishing. Shore bound anglers have been finding good croaker fishing at the Bill Burton Fishing Pier especially at dark about half way out on the pier on the north side of the Choptank. Hard bottomed shoal areas adjacent to channels in the bay are also good places to fish for croakers in the evenings; a few traditional locations include

the Buoy 72 area in the lower bay and the Sharps Island Flats in the middle bay region.

Recreational crabbers will be out in force this holiday and remember it is legal to crab July 3rd. Crabbing continues to be described as fair to good depending on your opinion on what is acceptable table fare. If you've been put in the unfortunate position of providing a crab feast may luck shine on you. Most crabbers are reporting that the bulk of the legal sized crabs they are catching are between 5" and 5-3/4" point to point and at that size they are trying to make sure they are heavy. The tidal rivers from Kent Island south tend to be providing the best crabbing and any river that receives a big dose of runoff may see crabs move into deeper channels and lower sections of the river to find saltier water.

Virginia Beach Action

By Dr. Julie Ball

04 July 2013

The fishing scene is on track, and should complement the decent weather forecast for the long Independence Day weekend.

Most anglers are still chasing the man in the brown suit. Cobia action is still on the upswing, with decent numbers of fish responding to a variety of techniques this week. Sight casters are content with quantity, although the much larger fish continue to elude the hunt. Both live bait and lures are working for most fish, and conditions should be good for visibility this weekend. Chummers are also having good luck with nice fish hitting in-between critter bites, which is common for this time of year. Using live bait on a float can help reduce this nuisance, but the chum slick always attracts uninvited dinner guests. The Inner Middle grounds and Latimer Shoal are providing good results with some larger fish on live croakers, eels, and cut bait.

Big red drum continue to school around the Eastern side of the Bay, where a few reds are taking bait intended for cobia. Black drum continue to hit around the artificial islands of the CBBT, where anglers are hooking an occasional fish while casting grubs and shads.

Flounder action is more solid this week, with limits of keeper flounder becoming more common. The folks at **Ocean's East 2** report that drifters are scoring with nice flatties along the lower Bay channels and off Ocean View using strip baits and gudgeons. Those jigging along the Bay Bridge Tunnel and other lower Bay structures are finding larger flatfish on average, with many ranging over 5-pounds this week. Live spot is working well near structure, while 2-ounce jig heads adorned with plastics are a good

choice for jigging around the piling bases and along the tubes. Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets are also giving up some good catches of keeper flatfish this recently.

The Spanish mackerel scene is on a roll lately, with plenty of big fish available for boats trolling the lower Bay, the CBBT, and the ocean front shorelines. Limits of big fish ranging up to 24-inches are delighting inshore trollers, with plenty of Taylor bluefish mixed in. The largest fish are coming from off Cape Henry this week.

The CBBT structure is offering some decent catches of big sheepshead, where clams and fiddlers are working well, especially near the 3rd and 4th islands this week. Big triggerfish are also biting in the same areas. Spadefish are pretty much everywhere right now. The Chesapeake Light Tower and the CBBT are giving up good numbers of fish, with most spades averaging around 4 to 5-pounds lately.

Puppy drum are becoming more active within Lynnhaven Inlet, with reports of some fish measuring up to 28-inches lately. The Virginia Beach Fishing Center reports that spot showed up inside Rudee Inlet and speckled trout are also still a good possibility. Croaker are an easy target throughout the lower Bay, with some fish pushing to over a pound near the Bay Bridge Tunnel, the Cell, and the Concrete Ships. Smaller hardheads have shown in Oyster, but the larger fish should debut any day. Tarpon are making a stealthy showing in the backwaters of Oyster, where sightings have been verified, but no word of any hook-ups yet. Nice sea mullet are hitting in the southern small boat channel at the CBBT, and within the inlet to Magothy Bay.

Amberjack are a good bet at the southern towers and some offshore wrecks such as the Triangles, Ricks and Hanks. Deep droppers are still finding nice blue line and golden tilefish, wreckfish, and blackbellied rosefish. Some nice seabass are available on the nearshore wrecks as well as structures to around 30-miles out. Seabass are also scattered among the schools of blueline tilefish in deeper water.

Offshore patterns are still scattered lately, but can be awesome once the bite is pinned. Some decent water appears to be heading this way, which could change things up a bit. Some huge scattered yellowfin tuna are still rewarding boats putting in their time, with some of these fish weighing over 90-pounds lately. Some bailer mahi are around, along with an occasional shot at a billfish. The action out of Carolina is still very good, and should be heading this way!

www.drjball.com.

Delaware Action

By Eric Burnley Sr.*

July 4, 2013

DELAWARE BAY The weather has hampered fishing in Delaware Bay as continuous rain and wind have made the water rough and dirty. The holiday weekend looks much better and there are plenty of fish to be caught.

Croaker have moved as far up the bay as Woodland Beach where anglers soaking bloodworms from the pier are catching all they want. The pier at Cape Henlopen State Park has also seen excellent croaker fishing on the same bait. In addition to the croaker, anglers fishing on this pier are catching spot and kingfish on bloods, flounder on live minnows and Gulp! along with the occasional bluefish and trout.

Better trout fishing is available in the Broadkill River, the Inner and Outer walls, the beach at Broadkill and the jetties at Broadkill Beach. The jetties at Roosevelt Inlet have also produced some trout as have the Ferry Jetty. The top technique to catch trout has been casting a piece of peeler crab on a ¼-ounce jig head to the structure. Using a bucktail with a purple worm or Gulp! swimming mullet has also been effective.

In spite of the dirty water, flounder fishing in the Broadkill River and the Lewes and Rehoboth Canal is pretty good. Speck Rigs tipped with a Gulp! swimming mullet or live minnow remains the top attractor. Flounder have been caught over reef sites, at Ship John and in the Broadkill Slough. Peeler crab is hard to beat in Delaware Bay with a live minnow and strip of squid a good second choice.

The bottomfish are beginning to spread out and have been caught at the Shears, the Broadkill Slough and at the mouths of creeks in Kent and New Castle counties. Peeler crab and bloodworms will bring the croaker, spot and kings on the run.

INDIAN RIVER INLET Live spot have become the bait of choice for rockfish and flounder. It is possible to catch keepers of both species, but even with spot they are not in great supply.

Night time has become the best time for rockfish. Spot, eels and plugs or bucktails are the top baits.

Flounder have been caught at the southside of the inlet, at Massey's Ditch and the VFW Slough. While live spot will produce a bigger class of fish, keepers may also be caught on live minnows, squid, smelt, shiners and Speck Rigs decorated with minnows or Gulp!

Croaker and spot are available throughout the Indian River and Rehoboth bays with

bloodworms, clams, Gulp! and Fishbites producing most of these fish. The minimum size for croaker is eight inches and very few of the fish here meet that requirement.

We are hearing about a few sheepshead and red drum showing up at the inlet. Drifting sand fleas is the top technique for these fish and you may also encounter a few rockfish while using this bait.

INSHORE OCEAN The weather has just been too nasty for most boats to venture more than a few miles to the east. Fortunately, the water has warmed on the bottom and fishing has been decent close to the beach.

Trigger and spadefish are hovering over inshore wrecks with a few keeper sea bass mixed in the catch. To catch triggers and spades requires a small hook and small piece of clam. They may be tight to the bottom, but once you hook one or two the rest will come to the surface. Deploy a small chum bag filled with clam guts and give it shake to hold the fish on the top. At this point use a small, unweighted hook and a small bit of clam to catch all you can handle. If the wind or current are strong you may need a split shot to keep the baited hook in the water.

Flounder fishing has improved at the Old Grounds where keepers have been caught on strips of clam or cut bait. The sea bass action has also improved although keepers are hard to come by.

OFFSHORE OCEAN As of Tuesday I only had one report from offshore as the sea conditions have made any thought of venturing to the canyons out of the question. One boat ran out on Saturday returning early with an 80-pound bluefin and two dolphin. Once again we are hoping for better weather the rest of the week and over the weekend.

SURF FISHING Small hooks and small pieces of bait are the best bet for connecting with the spot, croaker and kings in the surf. If you cut up a spot to replace the bloodworm or clam on your hook you might attract a trout or bluefish.

Serious surf fishermen will greet the sun or greet throngs of sunbathers if they wait until after 10:00 am to begin their fishing day. This will remain the case until September.

Fly fishermen and light tackle anglers are finding plenty of action with croaker and flounder along Lewes Beach. The best time to fish here is late evening into night on a rising tide.

Tips and Tackle Fine tuning your Drag

by George Poveromo

Don't touch that drag!" admonishment heard on charter boats around the country when the captain or mate notices a customer - usually one who's exhausted after fighting a stubborn fish - attempting to increase the drag pressure on his reel to end the fight. In many cases, the angler gets his wish, albeit not in the way he had hoped.

Adjusting a reel's finely tuned drag in the middle of a fish fight is a time-honored taboo, and for good reason. However, there are situations when increasing the drag with your fingers is acceptable, even advisable.

Anyone who has tangled with a big bull dolphin or tuna knows how these fish can thwart all attempts to dredge them out of the depths once they have sounded. The reel's drag will eventually wear the fish out, but it can take a long time, especially on light tackle. In the meantime, the hook may work free or the line may be stretched or abraded to its breaking point.

The Feel Factor

To break the spirit of a fish that has turned the fight into a standoff, you need to apply extra pressure at opportune moments, and this can be best accomplished with your fingers. If the fish makes a sudden run, you can quickly remove your fingers and let the reel's drag take over. It's a balancing act, one that can be mastered only through experience.

When I'm fighting a stubborn fish on spinning tackle, for example, I often cup the reel spool with my left hand and use the fingers of my right hand to pinch the fishing line. In addition to creating more drag pressure, "fingering" the line lets me monitor the tension level - I can feel when the line is nearing its breaking point and immediately reduce the strain by releasing my grip.

To gain line and pump the fish toward the surface, I release my grip on the line and spool, then reel as I lower the rod. After pausing just a split second to see if the fish is gearing up for another run, I re-apply extra pressure with my fingers. Whenever the fish surges, I let go of the line and spool and let the reel take over.

Of course, the key to all this is developing a feel for your line, knowing just how much pressure it can be subjected to, and anticipating the movements of the fish.

Setting the Drag

When setting your reel's drag, the general rule is to go with 20 to 25 percent of the line's rated breaking strength. For example, with eight-, 12- and 20-pound-test line, the

drag should be set at two, three and five pounds of pressure, respectively. These settings, which should be set with a scale and with the rod held at a fighting angle, are usually enough to set the hook and wear down a fish.

Once the drag on a light-tackle outfit has been set, it shouldn't be adjusted during the fight. The one exception is when a substantial amount of line has been pulled off the reel, since the decreasing diameter of the spool will increase the amount of pull it takes to turn the spool. This, plus the strain created by water resistance, makes it necessary to "back off" the drag to prevent a broken line.

Striking the Fish

Monofilament line stretches as much as 25 percent when submerged. Therefore, it's important to eliminate that stretch when setting the hook. When trolling or drifting with 20- and 30-pound-class tackle, for instance, I set the hook by reeling rapidly until the fish begins pulling line off the reel. As the fish takes off, I'll stop winding and make a few quick rod strokes to ensure the hook set. If I feel that more hook-setting pressure is needed, I'll thumb the spool as I rear back on the rod.

With eight-, 12- or 20-pound-class tackle, extra force is often needed to set the hook, especially when fishing for hard-jawed species like tarpon. In this case I'll either thumb the spool (with a conventional reel) or cup the spool (spinning reel) for a second or two when striking the fish. However, this maneuver needs to be executed as soon as you come tight to the fish; increase the drag when the fish takes off and the line is sure to break.

This light-tackle strategy works well when fishing from a stationary boat, where there's no forward momentum to help set the hook. It's also effective when you can see the fish take the bait or lure.

Thumbs Down

As mentioned, holding the line between your fingers and/or cupping the reel spool are two effective ways of applying additional drag with a spinning outfit. The same applies to conventional tackle. Take my recent trip with kingfish ace Dave Workman, Jr., off Louisiana. Although our high-speed conventional reels were spooled with 20-pound line, the drags were set at a mere three pounds to prevent the kings from straightening or pulling the light treble hooks commonly used in this fishery.

The object was to let the fish take off on its long initial run and expend most of its energy. When the fish stopped, we'd start to slowly gain line. Because of the ultra-light drag setting, we applied extra pressure by thumbing the reel spool and occasionally

pressing the line against the rod's foregrip. We also used slow, steady pumps with the special light-tipped rods to avoid any pulled hooks.

We were careful to apply just enough pressure to slowly raise the fish, and reacted immediately to any surges, no matter how slight. When the fish would run, we'd lift our thumb from the spool or foregrip and let the light drag do its job.

Near the end of the battle we'd apply light thumb pressure to the spool as the king swam off, further wearing down the already tired fish. Maintaining a light drag and applying thumb pressure when needed allowed us to land kings up to 40 pounds.

Big-Game Strategy

Fishermen who pursue tuna, marlin and other big-game species can also use thumb pressure to their advantage. When a big fish sounds and sulks, I'll often apply extra pressure by pressing my thumb(s) against the side of the reel spool or pressing the line against the rod's foregrip.

The technique came in handy this past summer on a tuna-chunking trip off Ocean City, Maryland. Using 30- and 50-pound-class stand-up tackle from an anchored boat, we beat stubborn tuna up to 150 pounds by using short pumps of the rod and pressing the line against the foregrip. During some of the shorter runs, we applied extra pressure by thumbing the sides of the reel spool.

Boatside Tactics

We all know that most fish are capable of making last-ditch runs next to the boat that can easily result in broken lines or pulled hooks. When leading a fish alongside, I back off the reel drag and maintain pressure by squeezing the line between my fingers and either thumbing or cupping the reel spool. Should a large fish go wild at the boat, forcing the mate to release the leader, the light drag setting reduces the chance of the hook pulling loose or the line parting when it suddenly comes tight. When the fish stops, I simply advance the drag and fight it back to the boat.

Applying extra drag without adjusting the setting on your reel requires a feel for your line and the ability to anticipate the fish's next move. However, once you get the knack of it, you'll be amazed by how quickly and easily you can step up the pressure and make short work of a stubborn game fish.

DNR in the News

Pennsylvania Angler Catches Maryland Record Cod

7/2/2013

Fred Brungart of York, Pennsylvania caught a Maryland record 38-inch, 24-pound Atlantic Cod on May 31 out of Ocean City. Brungart hooked the fish aboard the 80-foot headboat *Ocean Princess* captained by Victor Bunting.

After recognizing that the Maryland State record fish list did not include cod, Captain Bunting encouraged Brungart to have his catch weighed on the Ocean City Fishing Center's scale. Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Fisheries Service biologist Steve Doctor certified the fish and launched the State process to determine if Atlantic Cod would qualify as a State record species.

Keith Lockwood of DNR Fisheries said the Atlantic Cod is a coldwater fish that can be abundant in the Mid-Atlantic region with recreational catches up to 50 pounds.

"Since the collapse of the cod population in the 1960s forceful Atlantic coast fisheries management action has produced a slow recovery, with small fish in the six- to eight-pound range occasionally being caught in Maryland waters," said Lockwood. "While this 24-pound fish is not particularly large in the history of cod, it is a significant catch at this time and worth recognizing as a State Record and a sign of hope for more, and bigger, fish to come."

Delaware's record cod is a 44-pounder caught in 1975; New Jersey lists an 81-pound record fish caught in 1967; and Massachusetts features the cod as its state symbol, with a 92 pound record fish caught in 1987.

The Atlantic Cod may join the list of qualifying fish for the 2014 Maryland Fishing Challenge pending input from the Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission and final DNR approval.

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

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FREDERICK MSSA CHAPTER - 2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS
www.mssafrederick.com

JANUARY	12	- Dinner Dance - Frederick Moose Club
	16	- Frederick Board Meeting
	19	- Frederick Chapter Fishing Expo – Frederick Fair Grounds
	26-27	- Kent Island Chapter Flea Market
FEBRUARY	1-3	- MSSA Convention, Annapolis, MD
	2	- Tri State Marine Flea Market – Free in Deale MD
	13	- Frederick Meeting -
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
	16-17	- Pasadena Flea Market – Earleigh Heights Fire Co, Pasadena, MD
	23	- Dorchester County Flea Market – American Legion Post 91 – Cambridge, MD
	23	- Saltwater Fishing Expo Annapolis Elks #622 – Edgewater MD
28	- Baltimore Boat Show – Baltimore Convention Center	
MARCH	1-3	- Baltimore Boat Show – Baltimore Convention Center
	13	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
	16-17	- Essex/Middle River Flea Market
	23-24	- Southern MD Fishing Fair – Solomons Fire Hall
APRIL	6	- Frederick Shakedown Cruise/Brunch – Sandy Point
	10	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Opening Day - Striped Bass Season
	17	- Frederick Board Meeting
MAY	3-5	- 29th Annual MSSA Spring Tournament – Solomons
	8	- Frederick Meeting
	15	- Frederick Board Meeting
	17-19	- Chapter Flounder Tournament – Chincoteague
JUNE	12	- Frederick Meeting
	19	- Frederick Board Meeting
	21-23	- 20th Annual MSSA Tunament – Ocean City & Wachapreague
JULY	10	- Frederick Meeting
	17	- Frederick Board Meeting
AUGUST	14	- Frederick Meeting
	21	- Frederick Board Meeting
	17	- Chapter Lower Bay Charter Trip
	24	- 3rd Annual MSSA Beach N Boat Flounder Tournament – Ocean City
SEPTEMBER	11	- Frederick Meeting
	14	- Chapter Crab Feast and Picnic
	18	- Frederick Board Meeting
OCTOBER	5-12	- Chapter North Carolina King Mackerel Tournament
	16	- Frederick Meeting
	23	- Frederick Board Meeting
NOVEMBER	13	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
	23-24	- 19 th Annual MSSA Fall Tournament
DECEMBER	11	- Frederick Meeting
	18	- Frederick Board Meeting