

RIVERSIDE FISHING CLUB

Fishing Line Newsletter



June - Biologist Jim Phillips

Cook County Outdoors

Join us June 11th in LaGrange - Jim Phillips started working for the Forest Preserves of Cook County's Fisheries Section as a Fisheries Aid over 31 years ago. Over the past eighteen years he has been one of two Fisheries Biologists managing the Forest Preserves 40 plus fishing lakes. Some of his duties include conducting fish population surveys, aquatic vegetation management, fish stocking and public outreach. Jim's interests outside of work include birding, nature photography and traveling; especially canoeing and fishing northern Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

JOIN US at the American Legion Hall 900 S. La Grange Road, La Grange, IL 60525 for our monthly fishing seminars, meals and the best fishing social club in the Chicago area.

Due to the current situation the speaker(s) and/or the monthly meeting may or may not be available as planned, please Check RiversideFishingClub.com for updates.

RiversideFishingClub.com

2020 MEETING SCHEDULE

Jan 9	Feb 13	Mar 12	Apr 25
May 14	Jun 11 *	July 9	Aug 13
Sep 10	Oct 8	Nov 12	Dec 10

*Check website for meeting updates

Where to begin?

I usually have some idea or theme to start the newsletter. I am sure like many of you these past few months have been challenging. By June last year I had been fishing on Salmon charters, Crappie fishing in northern Wisconsin and spent a couple of days on a Mississippi fishing barge. All these trips included Riverside Fishing Club members. Not so this year. As I write this some additional state and county parks have started opening for fishing access. By June I am hoping I can make my annual family fishing trip to Lake Erie. Right now I can't even buy an Ohio non-resident fishing license. My sincere hope as we approach June is that our members and their families are in good health. I do believe that getting outside can help us feel better both physically and mentally. We can still enjoy the outdoors but we may have to wear masks and keep proper social distancing. As I've aged I might not be as active or mobile but I am more aware and appreciative of my immediate surroundings. Almost every day brings something new. I was even happy to see the bright yellow of dandelions dappling my yard. The fish are appreciating this warmer weather as well. I am fortunate to live next to a wetland with a small lake. When I see the carp starting to jump I know the bass are also active. Mother Nature has things planned out pretty well. The Walleyes, Northern and Musky spawn first. Their fry will have plenty to eat with the

Crappie, White Bass and Suckers spawning. Next the bass are on beds. About the time those baby bass need something to eat the Bluegills move into the shallows, generating thousands of snack size fry. What a great opportunity for us fisherman. Even if we are shore bound these spawning activities bring these fish in shallow. Perfect for the fisherman looking to scratch the fishing itch. One bright light in this mess is the growing realization that fishing is almost considered an essential activity that can be safely practiced with the requisite social distancing. The state, county and even the city are becoming more flexible regarding fishing activity. I reached out to Jim Phillips, Fisheries Biologist for Cook County to speak at our club's June meeting, if we are able to hold it. Like so many, Jim is working from home. This would normally be a very busy time for the fisheries department. Spawning and stocking thousands of fish for our enjoyment. I was happy that Jim agreed to speak but disappointed that he was only available because he had to cancel his June vacation plans.

By the time you are reading this I hope the fishing world is back to normal. On a positive note the fishing could be great. There should be successful spawns, more and larger fish available. Be safe! Hope to see you on the water soon!

Dan Carney
Lifetime Member

Upcoming Speaker Seminars at Riverside Fishing Club:
JUNE - Cook County Biologist Jim Phillip (check website please)
FUTURE - Lincoln Buchanon Fishing Guide

Board members have been conducting meetings and decisions via email.

PRESIDENT: Tony Novak, 708-447-8087 or tnovak2416@aol.com

COMMUNICATIONS: Johnny Wilkins, 630-235-2162 or johnny@chicagofishingschool.com