



July "On The Water" Milwaukee River at Lime Kiln Park in Grafton

After being unsure of the afternoon weather due to a fast moving thunderstorm in the area, about a dozen of our members made the trip up to Grafton to tease the smallmouth bass.

The river was running clear, even after the rain, and you could see a couple of carp splashing their way around through some of the pools. While none of them were tempted to attack the flies being offered, there were a number of smallmouth that cooperated!



Top: Ken Zielinski and Joe Valkoun

Above: Colin Campbell

Right: Dale Koniecki

Rt. from L-R: Frank Stetzer, Dick Dragiewicz, Joe Valkoun, Ken Zielinski, Virgil Meeks, Steve Krakow, and Dale Koniecki



Left: They weren't all large, but they were all feisty!

Below from L-R: Lisa Campbell and Al Carlson



August Meeting on the Water:

Milwaukee River at Newburg

This month's meeting will be at Firemen's Park in Newburg. With everyone's cooperation we can try a different approach to our bass fishing. I'd like to have everyone fish their favorite places on the river either alone or with only one other person. This small group approach should produce more fish because we won't be spooking them with our normal group style of fishing. With cautious, careful, and quiet wading we should be able to catch more fish. Are you ready for a change?

See you there around 4:00 or 5:00 P.M. To find out if this approach works we should meet back at the park around 8:00 or 8:30 and talk about our results.

See you at Firemen's Park, Newburg, on Tuesday, August 14th.

August Outing:

Milwaukee River at Goeden Park

For August we're going to continue our hunt for smallmouth bass — and this time we're working our way **upstream** on the Milwaukee River

The outing will held on Saturday, the 25th at Goeden Park just west of Newburg. The park is located at the intersection of Highway 33 and County M.



If you want to carpool or caravan to the river, meet Ken Zielinski in the Pettit Center parking lot at 7:00 am. Be prompt as he'll leave at 7:15!

Don't forget your favorite smallmouth flies, your waders and bring a lunch!!



Smallmouth Bass Fishing Tips

When fishing rivers for smallmouth bass look for them in locations that provide protection from predators, access to food sources, and in places that usually have slower current speed. Examples are:

1. Along the shoreline
2. Shady places
3. In front or behind big rocks
4. Alongside fallen tree trunks
5. In deeper water
6. Around bridge abutments
7. Next to boat docks
8. Adjacent to current seams
9. In foam lines
10. Undercut river banks

Don't spook the fish. Wade softly.
Don't fish in big groups.
Minimize false casting.
Use a leader that has an OX or 1X tippet.

Be as sneaky as a heron.
Make accurate casts.
Use streamers, poppers, and big nymphs.
Bring along a short steel leader in case you find some hungry pike.

Tips for Spotting Fish

by Tom Rosenbauer



Sight fishing--whether you're chasing bonefish on coral flats, stripers on sand bars, rainbow trout in a shallow tailwater, or brook trout in a small stream--does not require superhuman vision. It's more of a practiced skill, learning to recognize patterns in the water, aided by a good pair of polarized sunglasses and some height above the water if possible. Here are some tips I've learned over the years:

- Spotting fish from a boat is always easier because you can see into deep water better. Take a cue from this when wading saltwater flats or ocean beaches—it's better to stand on shore and get a couple of feet more of altitude than it is to wade deeper to get a little closer to the fish. Some wading fishermen actually carry lightweight ladders or step stools for this reason. (You don't want to do this in a trout stream because you'll spook the fish!)
- High sunlight gives you better resolution on underwater objects, but even more important is that it illuminates a fish's shadow. A shadow is more distinct than the fish itself, and you'll often see a shadow long before you see the fish.
- Don't look for the entire fish. For some reason, it's easier for your brain to sort out a tail or pelvic fin from bottom clutter. Once you spot part of a fish you'll see the rest of it.
- The way to distinguish a barely perceptible fish from a rock or log on the bottom is that game fish are hardly ever motionless. Bonefish and striped bass are constantly on the move, and trout feeding in streams sway from side to side. It's very hard to detect movement in an object when you are wading or in a moving boat. If you think you see a fish, stop walking or stop the boat.
- Spotting fish is a practiced way of recognizing objects, not a skill people are born with. If you catch a fish, release it carefully and watch it as it swims away. You'll discover what kind of patterns you should be looking for.
- Polarized lenses remove surface glare from the water. Not all polarizing lenses are created equal. The very best sunglasses use optically ground glass with superior anti-reflective coatings. Poor coatings or no coatings at all can detract greatly from the polarizing properties of your lenses.
- In deeper water or on days when you don't have bright sunlight, spotting fish is often more a



Note how this large brown trout's shadow is more distinct than the fish itself



It's easier to spot this brown trout on the bottom by looking for fins than by looking for the entire fish.



Learn to search for the fish's color signature underwater, like the bluish green tint of this rainbow.

matter of looking for particular splotches of color. In lower light, bonefish are gray, striped bass are light blue, rainbow trout are bluish green, brown trout are pale amber, and redfish are reddish brown. (These are generalizations and a lot depends upon the fish, the bottom color, and surrounding foliage.)

When looking for these colors the Orvis Tri-Spectrum Polarized sunglasses are a huge advantage because they accentuate contrast across all areas of the spectrum, not just in the blue colors at the high frequency side of the spectrum as ordinary amber sunglasses do.

- In general, amber or rose lenses are better for darker-bottomed trout streams, copper or orange for saltwater flats fishing or light-colored trout streams, and gray or brown lenses are best over deeper water, such as off-shore saltwater or lakes.



MY FAVORITE FLY FISHING WEBSITES — Dick Dragiewicz

Many of us explore the internet looking for new fly fishing websites. We look for websites that can help us improve our fishing skills or maybe to just entertain us. After several years of sporadic searching I've found several sites that I really like. I'd like to share them with you. And, hopefully you'll share some of your favorite websites with us in the future.

Here is my list of favorite websites and a description of them.

This one provides audio interviews with skilled fisherman on a wide range of topics. For example, they've had two programs with Jason Berger on casting skills needed for stream fishing, Kelly Galloup on fishing streamers for trophy trout, Brad Befus on carp fishing, and many other famous names, including several fly fishing book authors. Check out this site and listen to the interviews with these speakers while you tie flies or sip a cold beer. The site offers great entertainment and a place to learn new fishing skills. The website address is: <http://www.askaboutflyfishing.com/index.cfm>

When you go to West Yellowstone, Montana you'll probably visit the Blue Ribbon Flies shop. It's probably the best known fly shop in the area and maybe the country. They offer a weekly newsletter that's entertaining and descriptive of the fishing lifestyle in this part of Montana. The website offers articles and stories of fishing and hunting trips, environmental projects, the creation of new fly patterns, and many other topics relevant to our fly fishing interests. And, they always have great photographs on their site that make me want to go fishing out there. <http://blueribbonflies.com/>

Close to home is the Wisconsin Trout Unlimited site. The best part of this site is the online access to Wisconsin Trout. Each quarter Wisconsin Trout provides descriptions of relevant political issues, descriptions of TU Chapter activities, fly tying information, etc. It's a great paper to read. <http://www.wisconsintu.org/>

The USGS site is invaluable. If you want to know what the water level is or the water flow on your favorite river you probably can find it here. By checking out water levels/flows you'll know whether or not your favorite river is fishable. At this time water flows on 222 sites are reported. <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/wi/nwis/current/?type=flow>

Last year the guest speaker at the Badger Fly Fishers Opener was Ian Colin James. This Canadian

fishing guide gave a great presentation. His website is just like him, a no holds barred character that likes to laugh and enjoy life. Reading this site is pure entertainment. Although sometimes its thought provoking. For example, his description of fly fishing leaders takes up a lot of space, but he just uses one leader for everything. And, it's a real simple leader to make. <http://www3.sympatico.ca/ianjames/index.html>

If you have an interest in fishing big water in Michigan check this site out. Kevin Feenstra is a fishing guide on the Muskegon River. He has some great photos of clients, always holding big steelhead, salmon, or trout. Look at the gaudy fly patterns he uses and maybe tie a couple for your next trip. <http://www.feenstraguideservice.com/index.html>

If you have an interest in making furred leaders this is the website with all the information you need. The site requires a registration/sign in process which is annoying but its worth it. <http://furredleaders.proboards26.com/index.cgi>

That's it so far. Hope you enjoy these websites and that you'll share yours with us in the future.

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MILWAUKEE LAKE & STREAM FLY FISHERS 2007 CALENDAR

	August	September	October
Meeting	14th "On the Water"	11th	9th
Outing	25th	22nd	Salmon on the Sheboygan! 20th
Fly Tying	None! It's time to fish!	12th and 26th	10th and 24th
Notes:			

	November	December	January
Meeting	13th	11th	8th
Outing	Weekend in Iowa! Tent. 16th-19th	None	1st * Paradise Springs "Opener"
Fly Tying	14th and 28th	12th only	9th and 23rd
Notes:		"Holiday Brunch" date& location tba	* Paradise Springs annual Wine & Cheese Fest

Meeting:	Summer meetings are on the water! See you indoors again in September!
Outing:	Meet at 6:30 am at Park & Rides lots. See Hatch for details.
Fly Tying:	Sportsmen's Warehouse (I-43 & Mooreland Rd.) from 6:00 - 8:30 pm.
Event:	*

The Hatch is the monthly newsletter of the Milwaukee Lake & Stream Fly Fishers, an incorporated nonprofit organization affiliated with the Federation of Fly Fishers.

Milwaukee Lake & Stream Fly Fishers meets the **2nd Tuesday** of each month at **7 p.m.** at **YesterYears Pub & Grill, 9427 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis, WI**

Meetings **May through August** are on the water. Read **The Hatch** for locations or go to our website

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Submit contributions for **The Hatch** by the 25th of the month to:

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