

DNR UPDATE

From Dale J. Hochhausen,
Wisconsin Conservation Warden
To report violations or ask questions
call me at 262-878-5612

The rules regarding transportation of minnows have changed and took effect April 4, 2008. The revised rules, like earlier versions, seek to limit the movement of live fish and water to prevent the spread of VHS to new waters.

Individuals may not leave a lake, river bank or shore with any live fish or live fish eggs, except for minnows purchased from a Wisconsin bait dealer. Minnows can be transported under the following conditions:

- 1) Anglers may keep purchased minnows leftover after a fishing trip and use them on the same water; or they may take these leftover purchased minnows home and use them on another lake or river if the minnows were not exposed to any other fish or water from previously fished lakes or rivers.
- 2) Anglers must drain all water from boats and equipment when leaving any state waters. Anglers are allowed to take live purchased minnows home and may transport the minnows in up to 2 gallons of water. No other fish may be kept in the same container with the minnows. Containers of drinking water do not need to be drained.
- 3) Anglers may use dead fish, fish eggs, or fish parts for bait as follows: a) Fresh or frozen fish are okay to use as bait on Lake Michigan or Green Bay and their tributaries upstream to the first barrier impassable to fish or for use on the water from which it was harvested. b) Fish preserved by a method that does not require refrigeration or freezing are okay to use as bait on ANY water.

MINNOW HARVESTING

Anglers may not harvest minnows or fish for minnows for any purpose or use or operate any minnow harvesting gear in Lake Michigan, Green Bay, Lake Superior, the Mississippi River, Lake Winnebago, the Fox River from Lake Winnebago to Green Bay, or any bay, slough or backwater of these waters, and all connecting waters upstream or the first barrier impassible to fish, or in any other water where the department has determined that the Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia virus is present. A list of VHS waters can be found on the DNR's web site at dnr.wi.gov/fish/vhs.

On waters where minnow harvesting is not prohibited, anglers can harvest minnows for bait for their personal use only if they harvest the minnows from the water they will be fishing in. Live minnows harvested cannot be transported away from the water, bank or shore where harvested. Anglers can drain the water from their container carrying wild minnows and take them home for later use as dead bait in compliance with the dead fish as bait rules. Harvesting minnows for personal use does not require a bait dealer license or wild bait harvest permit as long as the total is less than 600 minnows.

People who live on a lake or are vacationing at a resort may keep live bait in floating or submerged containers tethered to a dock or boat. Any unattended containers holding minnows or fish must be labeled with the owner's name and address.

CLUB NEWS

Fisheree

Donation folders were available at the April meeting. Contact Joe Herda if you would like to help. Any donations you can solicit will be welcomed.

Bylaws

Dave Calamia has reviewed the bylaws and has several recommendations to revise them. Changes will be discussed and voted on at the May meeting. Major changes to Bylaws, not all changes listed.

Added: Sponsor membership - Working membership with all rights and privileges of Regular membership. Current cost - \$135 cash or \$270 merchandise.

Changes:

- Work details to be complete by December meeting - used to be September 30th.
- Pheasant membership- a non working Pheasant membership is no longer available.
- A club membership will include spouse and dependent children. It used to read spouse and children under the age of 18.

Fundraiser

ATA Raffle tickets are now available. They sell for \$5 and the club keeps \$3. The grand prize is a new pickup truck, with 4 other prizes available. The drawing is August 8th in Sparta. Please see Tom.

Donations

Donations were made to the youth fund, from Schuette Daniels, Powers Lake Sportsman Club, Pishtake Conservation Club and Wings over Wisconsin ...at this point. Ted Lewin worked with Johnsonville Bratts and got us a super deal on brats and hot dogs for our Invitational Shoot and the Kids Fisheree!

We still need VOLUNTEERS for the May 3rd BHS Invitational Shoot , especially trap range help! See Tom.

SUMMER LEAGUE

April 30th is the first night of summer league, lets try and get a few more teams out shooting at the club this summer. Its a lot of fun and good practice for the fall hunting season. If someone would like to shoot but doesnt have a team, please contact Tom. *There are several people looking for a team to shoot on!! Lets get out and support the club!*

KIDS STUFF

BHS Invitational – May 3
Kids Fisheree – May 18th/Echo Park
Parent/Child Shoot – Sunday, June 29th, 10am

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 30 Summer League Starts
May 3 BHS Invitational
May 13 Club Meeting @ 7:00pm
May 18 Kids Fisheree

The Club is open on Wednesdays at 3:30am and on Sunday from 10:00am - 4:00pm, except for Holidays.