

## Friends of the Arboretum Fly Fishing Class

June 20, 2012

Gassman Family Pond

### Schedule

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM     Introductions and Ground Rules

8:45 – 8:55     Session One

9:00 – 9:10     Session Two

9:15 – 9:25     Session Three

9:30 – 9:40     Session Four

9:45 – 9:55     Session Five

10:00 – 10:10    Session Six

10:15 – 10:30    Set Up for Fishing

10:35 – 11:15    Fishing

11:15 – 11:30    Gather Fishing Materials

11:30             Dismissal

### Curriculum

Lesson One – Equipment

Lesson Two – Knot Tying

Lesson Three - Fish Identification

Lesson Four – Fly Identification

Lesson Five – Casting a Fly

Lesson Six – Being a Responsible Fisher

## Session One - Equipment

Goal: To familiarize students with equipment necessary for stream fishing.

Concept: When stream fishing you need to have everything that you'll need with you since you may be walking a long way from your vehicle.

Discussion Points: The presenter should be dressed in their fishing gear and point out the following:

- Some way of carrying your flies – vest, bag, shirt with lots of pockets

- Waders or hip boots

- Tools required – hemostat, nippers, knife, tape measure, thermometer etc.

- Hat

### Materials

- Standard fishing gear with as many examples of different options as possible.

## Session Two – Knot tying

Goal: To become aware of three different knots that are used while stream fishing.

Concept: To realize there are specific knots for specific tasks.

Discussion points:

To form a loop a perfection loop may be used

To connect two pieces of monofilament a surgeon's knot may be used

To tie on a lure or fly an improved clinch knot may be used

The instructor should demonstrate the perfection loop and surgeon's knot but the students should learn and practice the improved clinch knot.

Materials:

Two different colored lines.

Saw horse with three screw eyes on each side so students can practice the improved clinch knot.

### Session Three – Fish Identification

Goal: To have students realize different species occupy different habitat.

Concept: Fish are cold blooded and select habitat based several factors, one of which is water temperature.

Discussion Points:

Show pictures of different species based on water temperatures:

Cold Water (less than 75 F)

Warm Water (greater than 75 F)

Brown trout

Bluegill

Rainbow trout

Bass

Brook trout

Carp

White sucker

Crappie

Materials: Flash cards from DNR. If possible give each child a set to keep.

## Session Four - Fly identification

Goal: To learn what fish eat.

Concept: To realize artificial flies replicate actual insects found in the fish's environment.

### Discussion Points

Show each of the following and also either a picture or an actual sample of the insect it's imitating.

Dry Fly

Nymph

Streamer

Terrestrial

Materials: Representative flies and either pictures or samples of the insect the fly is imitating.

## Session Five - Casting a fly rod and a spinning rod

Goal: To understand the difference between a fly rod and a casting rod

Concept: Casting involves weight, in the case of spinning gear the line is light and the lure is heavy, in the case of fly fishing the fly is light and the line is the weight.

### Discussion Points:

Demonstrate fly casting briefly.

Ask how we might cast a little fly with the spinning rig? We need to add weight so show the bubble float as the weight. Demonstrate how to rig.

Show the students how to cast the spin cast rig. Let them practice.

Materials: A fly rod for demonstration purposes.

Spin cast rigs with bubble floats, swivel, and mono to tie the fly to.

## Session Six – Being a responsible fisher

Goal: To fish safely and legally.

Concept: You need to be responsible and in control of yourself at all times.

Discussion Points:

Always know where you are and who owns the land. If necessary ask for permission.

Always know the regulations for the body of water you're fishing on. Tell students the rules for the particular body of water we'll be fishing.

Show pictures of plants to be careful of:

Poison Ivy

Wild parsnip

Nettles

Show pictures of insects to be careful of:

Ticks

Mosquitos and Flies

Sun damage and falling down

Show pictures of domestic animals to be careful of:

Dogs

Cattle – cows with calves and bulls

Materials: Pictures as required for instruction.