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**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Chagrin River Cleanup**

**May 8, 2004 from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

*Co-Sponsored by: North Coast Fly Fishers, Chagrin River Salmon Association, Grand River Tackle, Lake Metroparks & the City of Willoughby.*

Once again we will be cleaning the public access banks of the Chagrin River from Daniels Park in Willoughby, downstream to Lakeshore Blvd in Eastlake. All trash will be brought back to Daniels Park and will be removed by the City of Willoughby, except for the trash gathered at Chagrin River Park, which will be removed by the Lake Metroparks. We will have hot dogs, chips and cold soft drinks for all volunteers beginning at 12:30 at Daniels Park. Please bring gloves and boots for your comfort & protection. Daniels Park is located on State Route 84 (Johnnycake Ridge Road) along the banks of the Chagrin River. Grand River Tackle will supply trash bags, as well as lunch for all volunteers consisting of hot dogs, chips and soft drinks.

Let us know if you have a truck that can be used to transport trash from the various pickup points along the river back to the main drop zone at Daniels Park. Volunteers will all assemble at Daniels Park between 8:30 and 9:00 to be assigned into groups to clean specific stretches of the river, and we will begin cleanup activities promptly at 9:00.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Grand River Cleanup**

**May 15, 2004 from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

*Co-Sponsored by: North Coast Fly Fishers, Grand River Tackle, Lake Metroparks & the City of Painesville*

For the third year in a row we will be cleaning the public access banks and stream edges of the Grand River from Helen Hazen Wyman Park downstream to Painesville Recreation Park in the City of Painesville. All trash will be brought back to a designated area in Recreation Park and will be removed by the City of Painesville, except for trash gathered at Helen Hazen Wyman Park, which will be removed by the Lake Metroparks. We will have a lunch for all volunteers beginning at 12:30 at the Natureworks Pavilion at the North end of the park. Please bring gloves and boots for your comfort & protection. Recreation Park is located on Latimore Street off of Main Street along the banks of the Grand River. Grand River Tackle will provide lunch of hot dogs, pop and chips.

Let us know if you have a truck that can be used to transport trash from the various pickup points along the river back to the main drop zone at Recreation Park. Volunteers will all assemble at the Natureworks Pavilion between 8:30 and 9:00 to be assigned into groups to clean specific stretches of the river, and we will begin cleanup activities promptly at 9:00.

**Signup sheets for both the Chagrin & Grand River Cleanups will be available at:**

- Grand River Tackle, 1250 High Street in Fairport Harbor (440) 352-7222
- At the May 5th Member Meetings of the North Coast Fly Fishers
- Or via E-Mail at [cleanrivers@ncff.net](mailto:cleanrivers@ncff.net)

Club members, Scout troops and private citizens are all invited to participate, but we ask that you pre-register so we have a count for the hot dogs and drinks. In the event of high water situations, we will limit our efforts to high bank cleanup only. A parent or guardian must accompany children under 16, and we reserve the right to cancel or reschedule the event(s) due to unsafe water or streamside conditions. Scout troops must supply adequate adult supervision for their troops.



The Taut Line Newsletter is a publication of the North Coast Fly Fishers, Inc (NCFF) who is solely responsible for its content. The Taut Line is published ten times yearly from September through June, under the direction of the Director of Communications, NCFF. All inquiries should be addressed to: Taut Line Newsletter  
P.O. Box 312  
Painesville, Ohio 44077  
Attn: Dir. Of Communications

The North Coast Fly Fishers (NCFF) is a 100% Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF). Its purpose is to promote fly fishing as the most enjoyable and sporting method of fishing. We are committed to provide education in the best practices and techniques of the sport, including fly tying, fly casting and fish and water conservation. Our members are committed to maintaining a current membership in the FFF



**2003-2004 NCFF  
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Director:  
Lenny Jagoda . . . . .(440) 259-5382

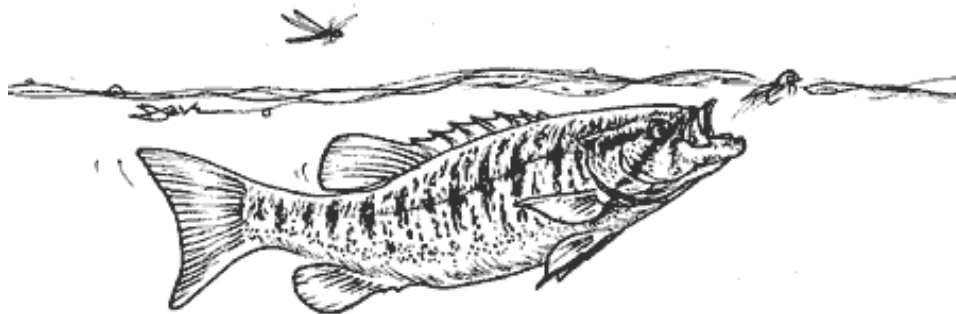
Clip art courtesy Dave Whitlock,  
[www.davewhitlock.com](http://www.davewhitlock.com).

## May Membership Meeting

*Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> 2004  
Penitentiary Glen Nature Center  
8668 Kirtland-Chardon Rd.  
Kirtland, Ohio*

*Beginner Fly Tying, Favorite Fly  
6:30 - 7:45 PM*

*Jerry Drake  
8:00 - 10:00 PM*



1250 HIGH STREET  
FAIRPORT HARBOR, OHIO 44077

BRUCE & TERRY  
DICKERSON

# Grand River Tackle

LET US TACKLE  
ALL YOUR FISHING NEEDS

440-352-7222  
[grantac@ncweb.com](mailto:grantac@ncweb.com)  
FAX 440-352-7901

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# Pennsylvania Trout Outing at Camp Hunter Sunrise

*Directed by: Andy Setlock & Adam Pawlowski*

**Saturday, May 15, 2004, 7:00 a.m. till Dark  
Titusville, PA (Map to follow)**

- NCFE Members & Guests can fish Caldwell, Pine, Oil, Thompson Run and Sugar Creek.
- The streams will be stocked the week before and the week of the outing.
- Coffee & Doughnuts for breakfast (7 AM) followed by lunch (after 11 AM) over an open fire. Cost will be \$7 to help offset the cost of food.
- Members and their guests wishing to attend this outing can sign up at the regular monthly meetings.

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## Kids Fish!!!

On June 12, 2004 there will be a Kids fishing day held at a private pond on the Estate of George Klein, a friend of the club. This is located near Bath, OH.

We will meet at the Klein's at 11:00 in morning. Directions (and a map) to the Klein's will be furnished at the June Members Meeting.

The first 10 children aged 8 to 14 who sign up for the event will be eligible to enjoy a days fly fishing for Bluegills and Bass (B&B). They will be able to be coached by their parent or Grandparent (who should not be an active fisherman). Sign up sheets will be available at the May Members Meeting. Lunch will be furnished at the site. A parent or grandparent will have to accompany each child at the event. No parent or grandparent no child!

A fly-casting clinic will be held at the May and June meeting for those wishing to attend the B & B fishing day. George Vosmik, a Registered Casting Instructor of the Federation of Fly fishers, will hold the clinic at 6:30 on May 5th and again at the June Picnic after dinner. Some rods will be available for the clinic, but your own or your parent's rod would be preferred.

Questions? Call George Vosmik at **440.503.8993**.

## Nominations for Board of Directors 2004-2005

### Annual Membership Meeting

Pursuant to the North Coast Fly Fishers, Inc., (NCFE) By Laws, and as determined by the Board of Directors, the Annual Membership Meeting of the NCFE will be held on Wednesday May 5, 2004 at:

Penitentiary Glen Reservation  
8668 Kirtland-Chardon Road  
Kirtland, Ohio

The business meeting will begin promptly at 8:00 p.m. following the scheduled Education programs. The annual election of NCFE Directors will take place during this meeting and any member in good standing is eligible for election to the Board.

The Nominating Committee presents the following names for election to the 2004-2005 Board: Doug Crouch; Dick Erickson; Jim Gavacs; Connie Hodge; Eric Nakanishi; George Shuffert; Joe Valencic; Don Van Buren. Don Van Buren will serve as Past President and is automatically elected to the Board. Since there is no limit to the number of members that may sit on the Board, all may be elected. Nominations may also be presented from the floor at this time.

### Annual Board of Directors Meeting

Pursuant to the North Coast Fly Fishers, Inc., (NCFE) By Laws, and as determined by the Board of Directors, the Annual Board of Directors Meeting of the NCFE will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday May 12, 2004 at:

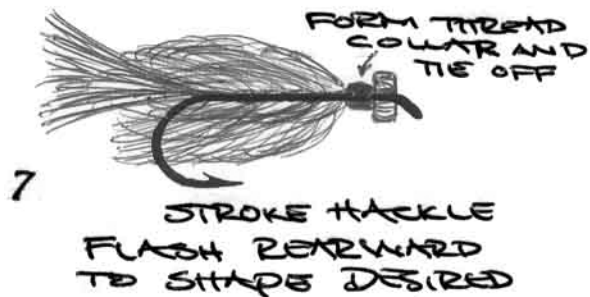
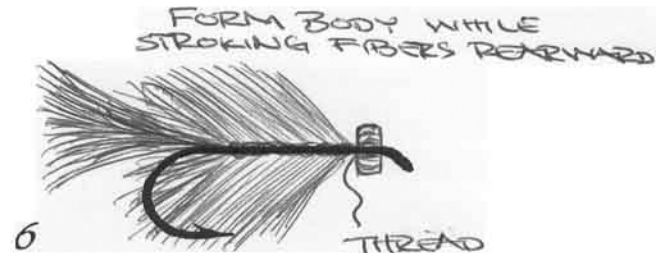
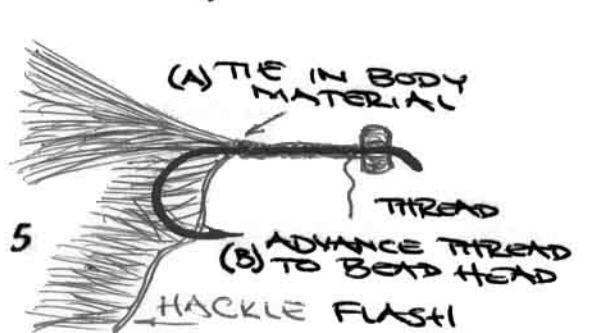
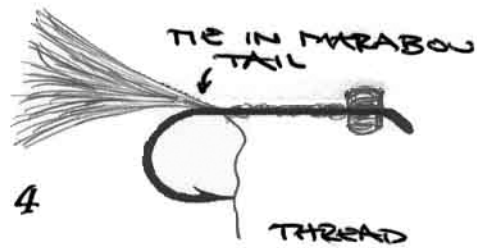
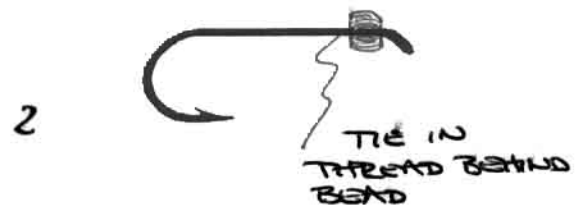
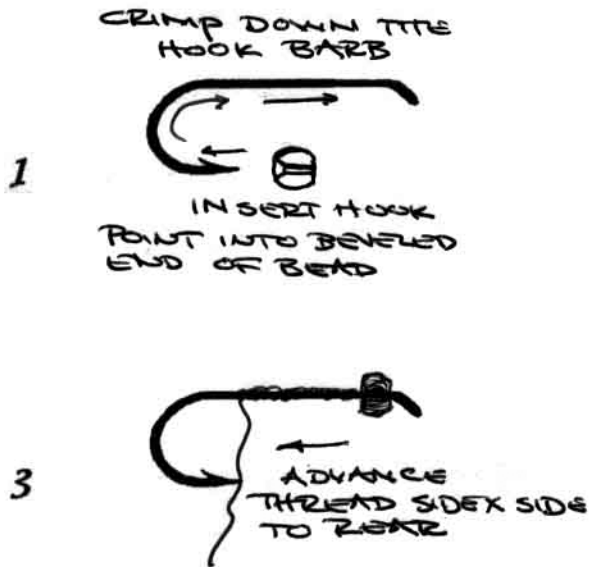
Penitentiary Glen Reservation  
8668 Kirtland-Chardon Road  
Kirtland, Ohio

At this meeting the Board will elect the Officers for the 2004-2005 club year from a slate presented by the Nominating Committee subsequent to the election of NCFE Directors on May 5, 2004. Officers will be announced in the June Taut Line and introduced at the NCFE June 2, 2004 picnic.

# NCFE Favorite Fly

## "Skip's BH Hackle Flash Bugger" Tied By Howard "Skip" Nieberding

|      |                       |        |  |
|------|-----------------------|--------|--|
| Hook | Mustad 9671 Size 6-10 | Thread | Red 6/0  |
| Head | Brass Bead            | Tail   | Marabou  |
| Body | Hackle Flash          | Collar | Several side by side wraps of thread behind bead |



Donald R. Van Buren

## FFF Supports Fish Passage Program

*courtesy the FFF ClubWire*

The Federation of Fly Fishers has renewed their support of the Federal Fish Passage Program. In a letter that was sent to the Interior and Related Agencies Subcommittee, the FFF joined the organizations listed below in thanking the committee for their support and recommending the strongest possible investment in the fish passage program for fiscal year 2005.

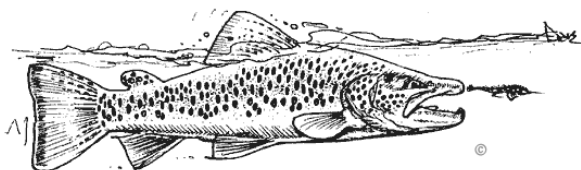
### From the Fish Passage Program Website

<http://fisheries.fws.gov/FWSMA/fishpassage/>

“Early in our history, rivers ran wild, and fish followed them according to their needs. In the ensuing years, America fueled the Industrial Revolution with resources of water, timber, minerals and wildlife. Early American innovation and progress was generally oblivious to its dependence on the fragile natural world. American resources seemed abundant without end. Then the fish began to disappear.

Millions of culverts, dikes, water diversions, dams, and other artificial barriers were constructed to impound and redirect water for irrigation, flood control, electricity, drinking water, and transportation--all changing natural features of rivers and streams. more than two centuries of building dams and other barriers on rivers and streams, many Americans are increasingly concerned about their effects on fish and other aquatic species. Many dams are obsolete and no longer serve their original purpose. Culverts that funnel water beneath roads and train tracks often pose insurmountable barriers to fish. It is a fundamental fact: fish need to move. It is a fundamental fact: fish need to move. All river fish migrate between feeding and spawning areas and make other seasonal movements to important habitats. Barriers prevent natural fish migrations, keeping them from important habitats. As a result, some populations of native fish are gone and others are on the brink of disappearing.

Restoring fish passage benefits people, fish and other animals. Fish passage projects increase habitat available for fish spawning and growth. Anglers, and commercial and subsistence fishers benefit from larger fish populations, which are distributed across more available habitats. Natural flows and temperature have been restored for salmon, trout, sturgeon, striped bass, herring and shad, paddlefish, and many more native and declining forage and game species. Fish-eating birds such as eagles, ospreys and kingfishers have more forage, and bears, otters and mink benefit from larger fish populations.”



## Am I A Real Fisherman?

*by G.P. Thurlow – courtesy the FFF ClubWire*

Returning through the office lobby with my fly rod, I am always asked for the score — “Catch anything?” The implication is that catching is what separates real fisherman from the daydreamers who flail a stick overhead while trying to avoid the passing hook. I wonder — what is a real fisherman? Do I fish enough and catch enough fish to qualify? Or is there some other magic measurement of a real fisherman — like, fish caught per hour spent.

Fishing is the act of seeking an elusive quarry. You don't have to catch fish to be fishing, since even the best efforts do not always generate bites. Sometimes the satisfaction of knowing you have chosen the right piece of water, the correct rod, the right size, color, and type of fly has to be enough. No points are awarded for color coordination of hat, shirt, vest, sunglasses strap, and the thread on a custom rod. Points are only awarded for seeking.

If fishing is the act of seeking, where does prep time fall? I am constantly tying flies, building rods, reading and scheming about fishing. Most of this activity will help me when I am on the water — but involve neither seeking nor catching. By reading about habitat, biology, travel adventures, or how to catch the quarry, I am increasing my knowledge and chances of catching fish on my next trip.

There is no magic measurement of being a fisherman — being a fisherman is not an act it's making a connection. A real fisherman has a sporting attitude and the ability to connect with fish, people, places and nature. Activities that build an understanding and knowledge of that connection build real fisherman. For me, it is the preparation time of fly tying, rod building, or reading about the quarry. However, there is no substitute for time spent on the water and yelling “fish-on, Capt'n” even if it is just another four inch bream on the office pond. So get out there while you still can!

## NCCF Cloisonné Pins

The Board of Directors had commissioned a cloisonne NCCF lapel pin as an ongoing fundraiser project and for a way for members to display their affiliation with the club. These four-color pins are 1” round and are now available at the monthly meetings for \$5 each, or by mail order for an additional \$1.50 to cover shipping and handling. The pins are pictured on the website home page at [www.ncf.net](http://www.ncf.net), and there is a link to the Order Form that anyone can print out and mail with their check to the club's P.O. Box. Delivery is expected to take 1-2 weeks from when we receive your check.

The pins came in a couple of days before the April meeting, and quite a few people bought them that evening. They look great and you'll want more than one for your fishing caps and vests. See anyone at the membership desk to purchase these beautiful pins.

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## Keep it Simple!

by Leon Chandler – courtesy the FFF ClubWire

I am bothered with the knowledge that a lot of folks out there are not fishing with a fly rod because of the perception that the skills required to cast a fly line are too complex for them to possibly learn. I think this unfortunate atmosphere has been created by well-meaning "experts" who are oftentimes inclined to get carried away with their own expertise and talk and write in a manner that has a way of intimidating the novice beginner. As FFF Certified Casting Instructors, oftentimes the first important step is to put the student at ease by explaining that all the experts once began as novices and developing casting skills is a learning process - one step at a time. If the student is a golfer, it is unlikely he or she shot par the first time out. Neither can they expect to become expert fly fishers at the very beginning. But for many of us, hitting a golf ball straight and long is a heck of a lot more difficult than casting a fly line far enough to catch fish.

My experience has been that most beginning fly fishing students already have some angling experience, probably as a result of fishing with either an open-face or closed-face spinning reel. Therefore, I feel my first obligation is to make certain they understand the differences in the technique of casting a weighted spinning lure versus that of casting an almost weightless artificial fly. They should comprehend that with a spinning rod, the weight and momentum of the lure pulls the line off the spool of the reel. However, because the almost weightless artificial fly is not heavy enough to cast with a spinning rod - in fly casting, we use a completely different principle, and that is to cast the line. Wherever we cast the line, the fly is sure to follow. Forget about the fly - concentrate on what the line is doing.

To help them better understand, I emphasize that the line is, in effect, an elongated weight and in order to cast the elongated weight, we must do things substantially different than when we are casting the concentrated weight of a spinning

lure. The similarity is we are still casting weight and this leads to emphasizing the importance of the backcast and how vital it is to make the back-cast with enough force to allow it to straighten out behind - thus getting the weight of the line in position to load or 'cock' the rod. When the back cast is in proper position to load the rod, then it is only a matter of timing to make the forward thrust and to deliver the fly to the imaginary target.

I have found that at this point, the most difficult thing is to get the student to understand the importance of making the rod tip control the line - both on the back cast and the forward thrust. Most have a tendency to want to wave the entire rod, resulting in a wide loop that doesn't go anywhere. I ask them to imagine there is an apple impaled on the rod tip and to imagine they are trying to "flip" it off - both to the back and to the front. I will place my hand over theirs on the rod grip and emphasize making the rod tip "flip" the line back then forward. Once they get the feel of this action, they are well on their way.

Don't let beginners try to handle too much line. Forty feet is enough. Secure the line around the reel so they can't strip out more. Too much line really messes up their timing. I prefer the first basic instruction to be on grass - away from the distraction of attempting to pick line off water. And at this point, I want them to merely pick up, throw a straight back cast, then lay down. Turn students sideways, tell them to look back at the back cast - if it is high, straight and level, fine. If not, they must correct something in their stroke. They must learn to get the back cast in position to use the weight of the line against the rod.

If water is available, the next step is to teach the roll cast. Because it is easy, it gives them a sense of accomplishment and diverts attention from the tension of trying to make the line behave in the air. For the roll cast, the line must be drawn back slowly until it drapes behind the rod - then with a

sharp, tip-action thrust, the line will roll out. And they are so pleased they were able to do it - usually on the first, second or third try. Then I like to have them alternate upon command - a few pick up and lay downs, then a few roll casts, a few more pick-ups, then a few more roll casts until they feel comfortable and fully understand the importance of making the rod tip direct the line where they want it to go.

These are the first easy steps in introducing a novice to the intriguing world of fly fishing. Everything else follows these very basic principles. Make sure the student is comfortable with these basics before moving on to the more complicated maneuvers, such as false casting, line control, picking line off the water, smooth presentation, etc. I usually recommend to beginners that they practice on still water for bluegill or other panfish. With just the pick up and lay down, and the roll cast, they can present small cork popping bugs or simple wet flies far enough and well enough to catch fish. With panfish, they will improve casting skills, learn hook setting, landing fish - even small ones. But the most important of all, they will have fun. And that's what our sport is all about!

Remember - KEEP IT SIMPLE!

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FFF ClubWire Editor's Note: The following article by the late Leon Chandler was originally published in the Tailing Loop (the FFF Certified Instructors Newsletter) in 1995. Leon was a true ambassador of our sport, his fly fishing instruction touched people all around the world.

Leon frequently told people that he thought he was one of the luckiest men alive being able to spend most of a lifetime involved in manufacturing, selling and using fishing tackle products that only give pleasure to people. Leon was once quoted as saying - "I can't help but feel a bit sorry for those who have never fished with a fly rod."

I met Leon for the first time last August at conclave and feel lucky to have had the pleasure. He will be loved and missed by all who knew him May he Rest in Peace.

Leon's Memorial celebration will be held at the Holiday Inn, 2 River St, Cortland, NY 13045 on April 27, 2004 at 7PM.

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# Monofilament Recycling Program

by W. Boone Fields, the Austin Fly Fishers Newsletter – courtesy the FFF ClubWire

Monofilament line is another name for single-strand, high-density, nylon fishing line that is used on fishing reels and in the manufacturing of fishing nets.

The Monofilament Recovery & Recycling Program (MRRP) is a statewide effort to educate the public on the problems caused by Monofilament line left in the environment, to encourage recycling through a network of recycling bins and drop-off locations, and to conduct volunteer monofilament line cleanup events.

## Frequently Asked Questions

Question: What is monofilament? Answer: Most fishing line that you can buy today is made of monofilament—a single-strand, strong, flexible plastic that is clear or tinted blue, pink or green.

Question: Why is monofilament a problem in the environment? Answer: Most monofilament is non-biodegradable—it lasts about 600 years. Because it is thin and often clear, it is very difficult for birds and animals to see and they can easily brush up against it and become entangled in it. Once entangled, they may become injured, may drown, may become strangled, or may starve to death. Many animals also ingest fishing line. One recovered sea turtle was found to have consumed 590 feet of heavy-duty fishing line.

Question: How does monofilament end up in the environment? Answer: Much of the fishing line that ends up in the water gets there when someone's hook gets snagged on something underwater and the line breaks when pulled. Sometimes the line will rub against a sharp shell (like an oyster shell) and will break. Large fish can sometimes pull hard enough to break lines. Sometimes fishing lines get caught in trees and break off there. Even fishing line that is thrown in the garbage can end up in the environment—either by blowing out of the garbage can or landfill, or by being taken out by birds or animals.

Question: Can all fishing line be recycled? Answer: No, only fishing line that is a single filament, nylon product. Fishing line that is braided or contains wire can not be recycled. Fishing line that has a lot of growth on it or plant material mixed up with it may not be recyclable.

Question: Who does the recycling? Answer: The Pure Fishing Company (Berkley) in Iowa, 1900 18th Street, Spirit Lake, IA 51360-1041

Question: How is monofilament recycled? Answer: The monofilament is collected from recycling bins and cleaned of hooks, leaders, weights, and trash by volunteers. It is then shipped to the Berkley Pure Fishing Company in Iowa. Berkley melts the line down into raw plastic pellets that can be made into other plastic products including tackle boxes, spools for line, fish habitats, and toys. It is not made into more monofilament line.

Question: How do I recycle my monofilament? Answer: You can mail it directly to Berkley (call 1-800-BERKLEY), deposit it in cardboard recycling boxes which can be found in some tackle shops, or deposit it in an outdoor monofilament recycling container.

Question: I always throw my line in the trash, is that ok? Answer: If you throw out monofilament you are still keeping it out of the environment, but be sure to cut the line into short lengths (6" to 12"), because once it goes to the landfill it can be scavenged there by animals trying to use it to build nests, or eat it. These animals will get entangled, entangle their young, and will bring the line right back out into the environment.

Question: Can I put fishing line in my recycling bin at home? Answer: No. Fishing line is a high density plastic and requires a

special recycling process. It cannot go into the most regular household recycling bins. Instead it can be brought to an outdoor recycling bin or to a participating tackle shop. (Lists of locations on separate sheets.) If you spool line at home save it up in a box or bag and bring it to a drop off location.

Question: What kinds of animals are harmed by monofilament? Answer: There are many types of wildlife harmed by discarded fishing line. They most frequently include birds, turtles, manatee, fish, and dolphin, however these are not the only ones affected. Almost any type of animal you can imagine can be entangled in line, or will try to consume it. A turtle in New York State was found with 560 feet of heavy-duty monofilament in its gut.

## Monofilament Recycling Program

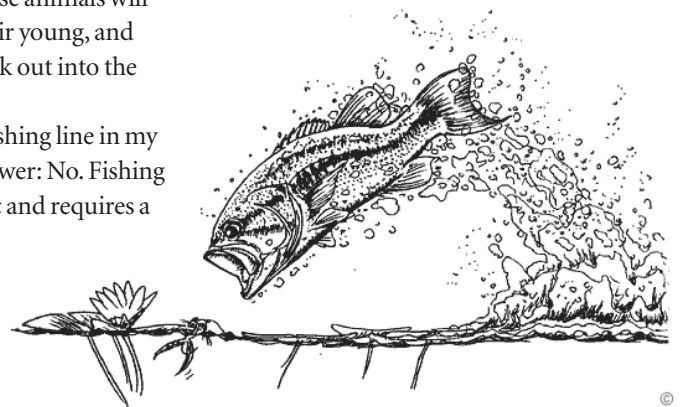
[www.fishinglinerecycling.org/index.asp](http://www.fishinglinerecycling.org/index.asp)

## From the EPA about the Monofilament Recycling Program

[www.epa.gov/nep/coastlines/apr02/fla\\_recycling.html](http://www.epa.gov/nep/coastlines/apr02/fla_recycling.html)

## Berkley Pure Fishing Company - This one tells about what they do with the monofilament

[www.berkleyfishing.com/new/story.cfm?WhatsNewId=75&Position=1](http://www.berkleyfishing.com/new/story.cfm?WhatsNewId=75&Position=1)



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## Schedule of Upcoming NCFE Events

|             |   |  |
|-------------|---|--|
| May 5       | Membership Meeting<br>Beginner Fly Tying & Favorite Fly<br>Guest Speaker: Jerry Drake     | Penitentiary Glen<br>6:30 - 7:45 PM<br>8:00 - 10:00 PM |
| May 12      | Board Meeting   | Penitentiary Glen<br>7:00 - 9:00 PM                    |
| May 15      | Trout Outing  | Titusville, PA   |
| June 2      | Picnic & Introduction<br>of New Officers  | Helen Hazen Park<br>5:30 PM - Dark                     |
| June 9      | Board Meeting   | Penitentiary Glen<br>7:00 - 9:00 PM                    |
| August 11   | Board Meeting   | Penitentiary Glen<br>7:00 - 9:00 PM                    |
| September 1 | Membership Meeting<br>Beginner Fly Tying & Favorite Fly<br>Guest Speaker to be determined | Penitentiary Glen<br>6:30 - 7:45 PM<br>8:00 - 10:00 PM |



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