



Angler's Notebook

by Jerry Bush



photo-Jerry Bush

Kayaks, canoes and other manually operated watercrafts require minimal maintenance. However, they may show signs of wear. Manually operated crafts can be restored with a few basic tasks. A properly adjusted pressure washer can restore the outer shell. Turn down the pressure and control the distance the spray wand is held from the hull. An improperly adjusted pressure washer can damage smooth plastic or composite materials. If the spray is too strong, some pressurized nozzles may pierce the hull. After the exterior is clean, spray the inside with a garden hose and use a vacuum cleaner to complete the task.

Many anglers mistakenly believe large diameter fishing lines have no detrimental effect when fishing for Northern Pike and Muskellunge. This misconception stems from the use of a wire leader necessary to combat these toothy fish. However, it's helpful to use the smallest diameter line to deceive fish, even if a wire leader is attached. Braided line, rated for 20-pounds, and the lightest wire leaders will survive most battles with Pennsylvania's Northern Pike and Muskellunge.

In most Pennsylvania lakes, sunfish including Pumpkinseeds and Bluegills can be caught within casting distance of shoreline. Most lake waters 5- to 6-feet deep will hold good numbers. Begin

by suspending a red worm on a small hook about 2 feet below the smallest bobber that will support it. You may find adding a small splitshot weight helpful. Walk around the shoreline or maneuver a boat just offshore, searching for submerged structures. Long tree trunks that fell into the lake can be productive. While a greater quantity of fish may be found within the tree branches, it isn't always worth the risk of snags. Often, the largest of these fish are acquired by dangling bait along the tree trunk, closer to shore and free of the tree branches.

Many Pennsylvania fly anglers believe that the green drake mayfly is the go-to imitation. The Green Drake is particularly popular during the weeks prior to and after Memorial Day. It's a great time to witness trout rising to the surface to eat an abundance of emerging insects, such as the green drake. Eastern United States green drakes are fairly large and can be tied using a size 8 hook. However, trout may be difficult to deceive without smaller imitations tied with hooks as small as size 14.

National Fishing & Boating Week occurs annually during the first week of June. It's a great reason to travel to a Pennsylvania fishery. Encourage children to research Pennsylvania's lakes and surrounding areas before sitting down as a family to finalize plans for a fishing weekend or vacation.

Fishin' from the Kitchen

Corn Flake Crusted Shad Fillets with a Creamy Tomato Sauce

by Wayne Phillips

After waiting anxiously for the shad run, celebrate their flavor with this zesty, easy to prepare recipe.

Shad fillet ingredients for four servings:

- 4 to 6 boneless, skinless shad fillets
- 1 cup oil
- Salt and black pepper

Breading ingredients for four servings:

- 1 cup flour, seasoned with salt and black pepper
- 2 eggs, well beaten
- 3 cups crushed corn flakes
- 2 Tbsp. dried oregano

Creamy tomato sauce ingredients for four servings:

- 3 cups of your favourite tomato sauce
- ½ cup half and half or whipping cream
- 2 Tbsp. fresh basil, coarsely chopped

Procedure

Cut the fillets into 2- by 4-inch strips. Season with salt and pepper. Coat with flour, dip in beaten egg and coat

with crushed corn flakes and dried oregano. Fry a few at a time in oil until golden brown. Keep warm in a 250-degree F oven while frying the remaining fillets. Combine ingredients for tomato sauce and heat through.

Serve

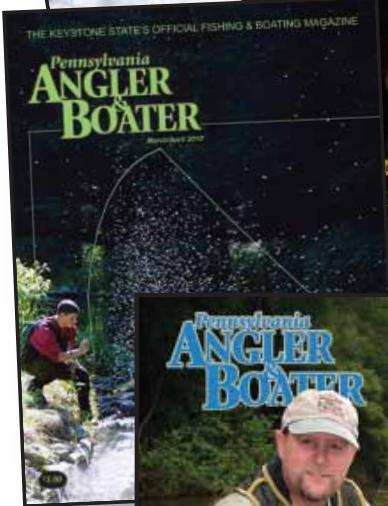
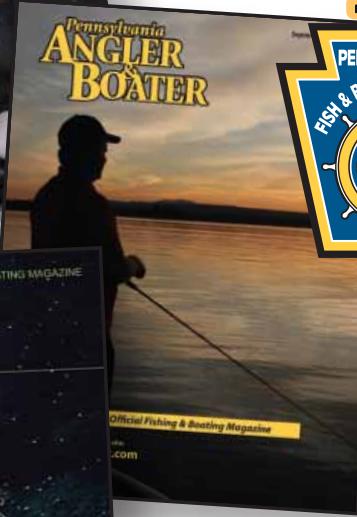
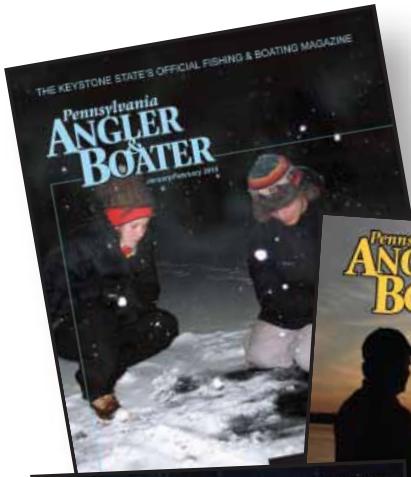
Ladle sauce over fillets. Dill mashed potatoes and peas are excellent sides.

Tips

Larger corn flake pieces add texture to the fish. Breakfast cereals are ideal for coating fish. They add crunch. Other flaked cereals such as bran or rice are also tasty. Oatmeal, which adds a nutty quality to the fish, is another coating option.



photo-Wayne Phillips



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