

# Casting Around

## Early birds

This year, most of us have a chance to be early birds with the trout season. New regulations will open the trout season on March 31 in 18 southeastern counties, a few weeks before the traditional opening



French Creek, Chester County

day in the rest of the state. The traditional opening day this year in the rest of Pennsylvania is April 14. This issue's theme is "Time for Trout Fishing!" and items in this issue can help you be a successful early bird, whether you start at the new legal time in the 18 southeastern counties or on the regular opening day.

On **page 10**, regular contributor John Allen suggests which flies and lures to try on opening day and early in the season, and on **page 12**, regular contributor Linda Steiner proposes some places where you can get in on some really early trout fishing (like right now) and which tactics can help you be most successful. Be sure also to read this issue's "Cast Away" column on **page 7** for more information on where to find great early season trout fishing in southcentral and southeastern Pennsylvania. Furthermore, Sinnemahoning State Park, Cameron County, is deep in the middle of the Pennsylvania Wilds. Read about its fishing and boating opportunities in the article on **page 31** by Laurel Anders.

On **page 8**, Carl Haensel spells out some very basic information on how to select flies and how to use them. This material is great for new fly anglers and it provides a quick review for more experienced anglers. This issue's "Angler Profiles" column on **page 16** spotlights expert fly angler Dave Rothrock and reveals some of his success secrets for fishing nymphs.

For more on flies, regular contributor Charles R. Meck provides step-by-step details on how to tie a Hornberg Streamer on **page 18**, and on **page 19** in "Your Fishing Field Guide," Carl Haensel explains how to fish this classic fly.

If you keep trout, don't miss this issue's "Fishin' from the Kitchen" column on **page 58**. Author Wayne Phillips shows us how to make delicious smoked trout and scrambled egg crepes.

If you want to be an early bird shad angler this season, you're going to need George Magaro Sr. to help you steady your boat and fine-tune your boat positioning in the Delaware's swift flow. Read about his ingenious anchoring strategy on **page 15**.

Because spring will be here shortly, see the "Pennsylvania Amphibians & Reptiles" column on **page 20**. Author Andrew L. Shiels highlights one of Pennsylvania's harbingers of spring, the spring peeper.

Lastly, check out the "Cast & Caught" column in this issue on **page 64** to anticipate the kind of success you can have this season. See you on the water!—*Art Michaels, Editor.*



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Governor

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