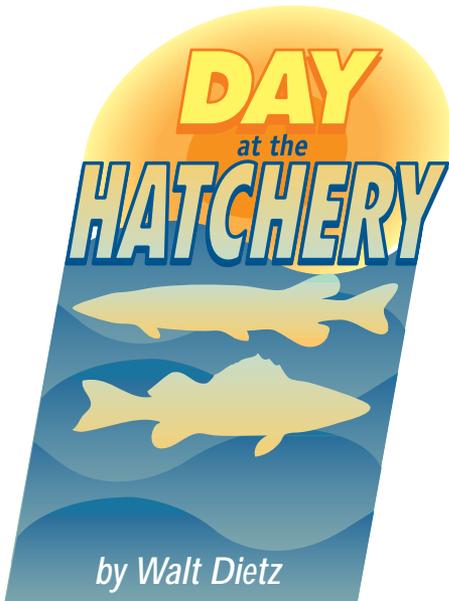


# DAY at the HATCHERY



by Walt Dietz

## Linesville Fish Hatchery March 28, 1999

An open house at the Commission Linesville Fish Hatchery, Crawford County, gave the Fish and Boat Commission an opportunity to show how it provides boating and fishing opportunities throughout the Commonwealth. Visitors were greeted with a beautiful spring day and plenty of displays on fish, reptiles, nearby attractions, and Commission-sponsored programs. The center of attention was a two-story aquarium filled with trophy-sized muskellunge, walleyes, bass, salmon, trout, panfish, and even a few paddlefish. Demonstrations included collection of spawning walleyes and muskellunge, fish egg collection, electrofishing, fish cleaning, fly tying, fish scale reading, and boating and water safety. The Commission also exhibited stocking trucks, patrol boats, and hatchery equipment. A popular activity was casting practice, where visitors could practice and hone their casting skills. Kids even got to take home a souvenir after making their own "fish print" posters and t-shirts. Organizations that assisted included the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of State Parks, the PA Game Commission, Crawford County Conservation District, Tamarack Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, American Legion, and the Ohio Division of Wildlife.



Aquatic Resources Program Specialist Keith Edwards (5th from right) stands with members of the Linesville Volunteer Fire Department (VFD), North Shenango VFD, and Hartstown VFD, who received Fish and Boat Commission trout stamp prints for their assistance during the open house.



Curious onlookers watch as Area 1 Fisheries Manager Craig Billingsley (forefront) and Fisheries Technician Freeman Johns demonstrate electrofishing techniques at a culture pond adjacent to the hatch house.



Kids of all ages practice their casting skills along the hatchery waterfront of Pymatuning Lake.



Commission Fisheries Technician Freeman Johns (waders, back to camera) explains boat electrofishing techniques used for lake studies.



Above, a family of anglers watches a working model of a fish egg incubation system, in which tiny walleye eggs will hatch into fry.



At left, Central Erie County Waterways Conservation Officer Anne Caretto exchanges information with open house visitors.