

Cruising for Shad

Now that we know what gear to use. How do we catch them? Shad fishing is best done from a boat. Here are three techniques:

Trolling

Drag lures behind the boat as it travels slowly upriver. This is a great way to cover more water and locate shad.

Deadsticking

Rig a shad dart one or two feet below splitshot weights and cast downstream of an anchored boat. Place the rod in a holder and wait for a strike. Some anglers will twitch the rod occasionally to attract fish.

Downrigging

A downrigger controls the depth of lures using a cable and a heavy weight. Shad schools will often travel at a similar depth. When the fish bites the lure, your fishing line releases from the downrigger, and the fight is on.



**Water too high?
Don't have a boat?
Consider fishing from shore!**

Use a wading staff and wear a life jacket. Cast out lures and reel them in over spots where the channel flows close to shore or in pools where they may be resting.

