


[HOME](#) | [RENTALS/RATES](#) | [FISHING REPORT](#) | [USEFUL LINKS](#) | [TACKLE SHACK](#) | [EMPLOYMENT](#)


FISHING REPORT

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July 20, 2013 - Mid-SUMMER Report

A lush blanket of summer green has spread over Fletcher's Cove. As the seasons roll by, "Fletcher's Cove" inexorably is morphing into "Fletcher's Marsh." Our view of the dock is blocked by a myriad of plant species, both invasive and native. The warm, nutrient-rich mud and daily cycles of tide create an ideal environment for rapid growth. The vegetation traps ever more of the silt that moves down the river with each high water. And so on...

From eyes that have watched this for decades, I find it both wondrous and depressing. At some point in the not too distant future, there will be no safe place for a dock to hold canoes, kayaks and tie-up rowboats. The situation has been studied, photographed, talked about; there have even been attempts to keep the cove a safe harbor. Those operations were valiant and helped for a time. But Fletcher's is a little spot on a big map. For now, we do what we can and welcome each new day.

The "dog-days of summer" unfold with quiet, humid mornings and warm, placid waters at the cove. Mid-day brings the squeals and shouts of summer-camp kids piercing the air at Fletcher's. Washingtonians have always come down to the river in the summer to escape from the heat and enjoy a moment of rest and relaxation. We appreciate those who break out of the air conditioning to find a different kind of cool along the Potomac.

While the river water is quite warm, the flow has been steady and that has helped keep fishing surprisingly productive. Catfish, walleyes and especially small mouth bass have been caught in higher than expected numbers. This week's heat wave is not helping, but a few cooling downpours can revive any slump caused by the torrid spell of days.

I will populate this report with more pictures than usual and let them do the talking! Thanks for checking up on Fletcher's...happy late summer and see you at The Cove.

That's all for now. Remember, more frequent updates on fishing are now available on our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) tabs as well as the T.U. report and [interactive map](#) connections.

See you at The Cove,

Dan



"Noah Ezickson with a 35 pound Catfish caught mid-June shore fishing at Fletcher's"



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[Check out Dan's article on Fletcher's Cove in the March 2012 issue of The Buzz](#)
(pages 6-7)

[March 2011 issue of The Buzz](#)
(pages 11-12)

[Rowin' on the River at Fletcher's Cove](#)
article in *KidFriendly DC*
July 2013

[Click here](#) for a great interactive map
of the area around Fletcher's
(opens in new window)

CHAPTER SHAD REPORTS



During the shad run (usually April thru mid-June), our chapter sends out reports of fishing conditions at Fletcher's Cove and elsewhere as we receive information. If you know someone who might want to receive these reports, [email NCC-TU](#) with "SHAD" in the subject line and provide your name and email address. If you received shad reports last year, you don't need to resubscribe to get them in 2013.

[Click here](#) for a great interactive map of The Boathouse at Fletcher's Cove Area Fishing and Outdoor Fun (opens in new window)



"Travis Young with a June snakehead caught at Fletcher's"



"Resident expert Alex Binsted with a pretty smallmouth" (photo by Prescott Martin)



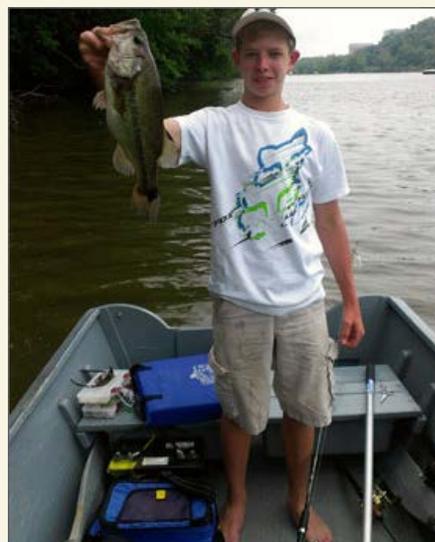
"Walleye caught June 26" (photo by Dan Ward)



"Two beauties, (and the fish are nice, too!) Sandy and Mamie with walleyes caught June 26" (photo by Dan Ward)



"A July 4th smallmouth caught by fisherman Ken"



"Young expert angler Declan Rogers with a classic largemouth bass"

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