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FISHING REPORT

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March 20, 2014

Somewhere, over the rainbow (that we can't see because of the cold, grey sky) there is a springtime waiting to blossom over Washington. Does it seem like the movie "Groundhog Day" when just as the snow melts from one storm, another one hits and shrouds the earth in white? Are you wondering if brining a chicken in the Potomac River is possible after all the salt laid down on our streets and highways in recent weeks? Will the thought of a dogwood tree in full bloom wake you at night? Ahhh... winter 2013-2014. It's been a doozy.

As spring in Washington officially arrives on the calendar, I find myself fearful of listening to or reading a weather forecast. Yet sometime soon, I trust, we will be rewarded with the glorious sights and lung filling earthiness of the new season in the mid Atlantic region.



Fletcher's Cove and there will be days when rental boats cannot go out. Herring, white perch, strippers, hickory and white shad should all be starting their runs over the next couple of weeks. If you check the archived reports on this site from years past you will gain a sense of the angling opportunities during the hectic spring and early summer season. You may also want to sign up for email alerts from the shad hotline of the National Capital chapter of Trout Unlimited. They are up close and personal! Check their home page for instructions. And if you click on the icons at the upper right corner of the

The wooden rowboats at Fletcher's Cove are refurbished. Seventy oars sanded, painted and stenciled. Anchor ropes tied. Fishing tackle and shad darts on order. And, with a little benevolence from Mother Nature, warmth and sunshine will meet us at the door on opening day, which is now scheduled for Saturday, March 29.

As always, fishing will be our main menu item in the early days of business. The river is much too cold for kayak or canoe rentals to the general public until mid to late April. It is advisable to call for the latest conditions and offerings as the river (and weather) are notoriously fickle. Runoff from upstream produces considerable current out from



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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 Fletchers 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)

Fletcher's Cove home page you will link to other useful and informative sites including a map feature which provides many instructive links, photos and condensed information of the area. Thanks are due to Mark Binsted for producing the shad hotline content and to Mike (Animal) Bailey for the [multi-dimensional map feature](#).

Dust off your reels, check your shad dart supply and plan to get a little fever in a couple weeks or so. The fish will come. Will you?

We hope to see you soon at Fletcher's Cove.

Dan



A Canoe Pyramid
(photo by Dan Ward)

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