

# Mending Lines

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March 2013

## Club Auction!

It is that time of year again to clear out some stuff you might have in your collection that you no longer want. Maybe your thing is tying flies for the auction.

Either way bring all the fishing related items in for the next club meeting. It is our annual auction.

Bill Sweet will be back to generate some excitement and deals for great stuff. Bring your items and your cash that generates funds for programs at the club.

Do you have cabin fever with this cold winter? If so then there is no better cure for it than getting ready for the fishing season by buying what you need for this fishing season!

Here is another reminder! Fishing licenses end March 31st. Do not forget to purchase your new licenses!



## Rex's Reelings

By: Rex Lengacher, Club President

I do think Spring is finally here. All those summer birds are beginning to come back and the ice is disappearing. It won't be long until the fishing begins to heat up as the fish begin feeding up after the long winter and preparing for bedding.

This month's meeting is the annual club auction. We will have Bill Sweet as our auctioneer as usual and I know there will be plenty of great items to bid on. Please bring in any items you wish to donate to the club as this is our biggest source of income for the year. Now that the club is a non-profit organization your donations will be tax deductible.

I personally will not be at the auction as I will be visiting my youngest daughter during her spring break from college. One thing that made it an easy decision to visit her is the fact that she goes to the University of Central Arkansas, which is one of my favorite states and fishing destinations.

I hope to get a day or two with my daughter in the White river during the trip. I am sorry to have to miss the auction but fishing the White is a very good alternative.

The board has been discussing several ways to save money for our club and also to generate income. One of our expenses is the fee that we pay to the Federation of Fly Fishers for our affiliate status with them. While there are a few benefits for the club, over the years we have not received anything from the Federation in proportion to what we pay them in affiliate dues.

We are seeking comment from club members about withdrawing our affiliate status with the FFF. If you have any comments for us on this subject please talk to one of the board members about it. We value your opinions.

I hope all of you are able to make it to the auction and also hope you get to go fishing soon.

Rex

## Club Dues

It is that time of year again! Do not forget to pay your dues! See Derek Frederickson to get your dues paid!

Dues pay for speakers and the production of other activities that we like to enjoy. The dues are \$25 / year for individuals and \$35 / year for a family membership.

## Ice Remains on the Lakes

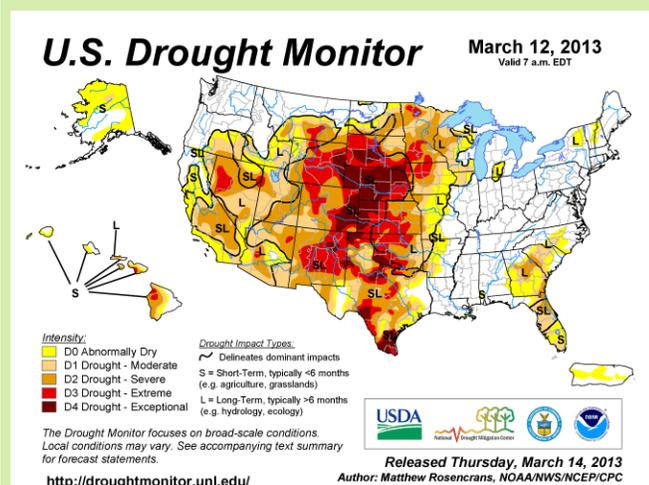
I have cabin fever bad this year! It is probably because last year we were able to get out earlier than the previous year.

Not so this year! Ice remains on most of the popular lakes including Oliver, Gage and Long Lake. Channels for launching boats are still frozen on Witmer, Adams, Otter, Crooked Lake and Lake James.

Let's hope we can get our boats out soon!

## Drought Improvements In Our Area

All the recent snow and rain we have had has significantly reduced the drought levels in our area. To the west of us it is a different story completely.



We are still abnormally dry in Dekalb, Noble, Lagrange and Steuben counties. Be aware that if precipitation is light, the situation could get worse.

## Michigan DNR Will Raise Prices for Licenses in 2014

In case you have not seen the Michigan DNR site, they are proposing a fee restructuring for 2014. The site can be found at [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Hunting\\_FishingLicenseFeeProposal\\_411653\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Hunting_FishingLicenseFeeProposal_411653_7.pdf)

Michigan's hunting and fishing license fees have not gone up in more than 15 years. In his 2013-14 budget, Governor Snyder outlined a restructured package of licenses that will generate vital revenue to better support our state's fishing and wildlife habitat programs, strengthen the ranks of our conservation officers, and ensure Michigan's long and proud traditions of hunting, trapping, fishing and outdoor recreation stay healthy for everyone.

The increases include raising the prices for personal, out of state licenses from \$42 to \$75. A 24 hour license goes from \$7 to \$15. This would put Michigan as the 11th highest out of state fishing license, just under what it costs in Pennsylvania.

They even calculate a loss of revenue due to this change for non resident licenses in the document in the link. So they expect us not to buy licenses!

With the new camping \$25 sticker charge and the new fishing licenses costs, this puts fishing in this state at a premium. Some of you will go anyway. Many of us who are on a budget will not be able to afford going up there.

An Indiana resident who fishes a lot on average only spends a total time of two weeks in Michigan a season fishing according to statistics on the Internet.

So for two weeks time fishing, it will cost you \$33 additional for a license and \$25 additional for camping. They raised the nightly camping fees at State Parks too. The Passport fee for entering the State Parks went up from \$10 to \$11.

As out of state fisherman, our voices will not carry much weight with legislators. Instead, talk with your sport shops in Michigan where their voices are more likely to be heard. A similar bill in 2006 was defeated due to complaints from these businesses.



Come check out our new store! We are located in the Tredway Pools Plus strip mall on Lima Road.

You will like the expanded fly fishing section. We have a separate clothing room too.

We have all of your fly fishing needs. If you do not see something, ask and we will see if we can order it for you.



Pro Tackle Outfitters – 8309 Lima Road - Fort Wayne, IN - (260) 747-4883

**Officers**

President: Rex Lengacher  
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Gary Sanders gsanders@3rff.org

**Calendar Of Events**

March 21 Auction—Bring your items in!

Please visit [www.3rff.org](http://www.3rff.org) to review old club newsletters, fly patterns, and the club calendar. Our meetings are every third Thursday of the month including January, February, March, April, May, August, September, October and November.

**Doors open: 6:30 PM Meeting Starts: 7:00 PM**

**Where:**

*Classic Café*  
4832 Hillegas Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46818  
(260) 458-2982  
(Right behind the American Legion)  
<http://goo.gl/maps/rFZA0>

**Join the FFF**

Did you know that the Three Fivers Fly Fishers is an affiliate Club of the Federation of Fly Fishers? The FFF is instrumental in promoting the sport of fly fishing and educating the public about conservation of our natural resources.

Complete the application form below. Bring your TRFF club dues and this form to our Club Treasurer Derek Frederickson at the next meeting. Derek will collect the membership fee and forward to the Federation.

**Membership Categories**

- Individual..... \$35
- Family..... \$45
- Youth under 18.....\$15
- Senior +65.....\$25
- Disabled Veterans are Free (Proof of 50% disability required)
- Life Individual.....\$500
- Life Couple.....\$750
- 3 Year Individual..... \$85
- 3 Year Family.....\$100
- Sustaining .....\$200 (Commercial & Mfg. business)
- Retail shops/Outfitter....\$75

Canadian Membership — add \$5 year postage  
International Membership — add \$10 year postage



Federation of Fly Fishers  
215 E. Lewis, Livingston, MT 59047  
*Apply online [www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org)*  
*Join by phone 406-222-9369*

**Yes, I want to invest in the future of all fish, all waters!**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP/COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_

HM PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE (for identification) \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRED BY \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ENCLOSED (checks payable to Federation of Fly Fishers - US funds)

Healing Waters Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (write "Project Healing Waters" on check)

VISA       MASTERCARD     DISCOVER       AMEX

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXP DATE \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not share my information with organizations outside the FFF

# MENDING LINES

## **THREE RIVERS FLY FISHERS**

P.O. Box 8548  
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## **PUBLISHER**

Three Rivers Fly Fishers

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