



# PERCH TALES

A Periodic Newsletter of the  
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection  
Justin Wiggins, Writer      George Babey, Editor

Volume 22

Number 5

City Fishing 2008

## City Fishing Summer



CARE's City Fishing team teaches kids in day camps about water, fish and fishing. Here TONY NORTON introduces the day's program to students in Meriden. New this year, kids bring invitations home to their parents asking to join them for some after-work fishing fun together, and a reminder to buy a fishing license.

Summer is time for family fishing. Summer is also time for **City Fishing!** For many kids in day camps across the State, the arrival of **ELIZA JOHNSON, SARAH LIBEN, JOHN MASTRIANNI, TONY NORTON** and **MARTIN VITO** is a cause for celebration. They are going fishing! Following interactive lessons on water and fish they then get to try their luck in local waters with our experts on hand to help. Students and youth group leaders report that **City Fishing** day is often the highlight of the summer.

This year, **TOM** has gained us access to youth served by many of our tried-and-true partners in Bridgeport, New London, Torrington, New Haven, Hartford, Stamford, Norwalk and Middletown. New groups, like a Boys & Girls Club and Winchester Youth Services have been added to the list of youth groups served. Others have dropped away, unable to get their groups to local waters to take advantage of a free education program and fishing with our experts. It is a demanding job, getting 50 kids, their counselors and our **City Fishing** team all in one place!

Because we've learned that many kids report fishing only once per year (with us!), we are trying something new to involve their parents for 2008. **Bring A Kid Fishing** nights will have daycampers invite their parents to fish right along with them. Events in Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven and Norwich are scheduled after work to enable families to fish together. **RAIN OR SHINE. This is where we need your help!**

We are not sure how successful we will be at luring families out for an evening of fishing. It may be 10 families per site or it may be 100. Please call **JUSTIN** at the CARE Center (**860-663-1656**) and volunteer to join us at one or more locations to help families get started in the sport of fishing. It is no coincidence that the four locations are all Urban Fishing areas. **TIM BARRY** and several of his staff will also be on hand to assist any or all families that arrive. We are all trying to establish fishing clientele at these Urban Fishing sites to catch the trout and catfish DEP has stocked there!

=====  
*We need your help! **Bring A Kid Fishing** events are listed inside on page 5.*  
=====

A copy of the invitation that City Fishing students brought home is enclosed in this edition. Do a MapQuest or Yahoo directions search to find the location(s) of your choice and join us there. It should be a blast, especially if the fish are cooperating. This is a fun event and an easy way to satisfy your volunteer commitment to the CARE program at the same time!

**Check out the other summer courses scheduled by staff and your peers inside! Please call, and then come out and help where you can. You will be happy that you did! We hope to see you soon!**  
<"}}}}}>{

## *Recent and Upcoming Classes*

<i>Status</i>	<i>Class Dates</i>	<i>Chief Instructor</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Class Times</i>	<i>Instructor #</i>
OPEN	JUN 19, 2008	TOM BOURRET	FARMINGTON	9:00AM TO 3:00PM	(860) 663-1656
OPEN	JUN 25, JUL 3, AUG 5, 2008	DOREEN ABUBAKAR	HAMDEN	11:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	(203) 891-5360
FULL	JUN 26, 2008	MARTIN VITO	NEW BRITAIN	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	JUN 26, 2008	TONY NORTON	NEW BRITAIN	12:15 PM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 940-8289
FULL	JUN 27, 2008	MARTIN VITO	MERIDEN	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	JUN 27, 2008	SARAH LIBEN	MERIDEN	12:30 PM TO 3:15 PM	
FULL	JUN 27, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM	(860) 875-7549
FULL	JUN 30, 2008	TONY NORTON	BRISTOL	12:15 PM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 940-8289
OPEN	JUN 20, 2008	DORIS JOHNSON	HARTFORD	10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM	(860) 490-3258
FULL	JUN 30 - JUL 4, 2008	JOHN RYAN	BRISTOL	9:00AM TO 12:00PM	(860) 582-1020
FULL	JUN 30, 2008	MARTIN VITO	BRISTOL	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	JUL 1, 2008	ELIZA JOHNSON	KILLINGWORTH	9:15 AM TO 12:00 PM	
FULL	JUL 1, 2008	SARAH LIBEN	KILLINGWORTH	12:30 PM TO 3:15 PM	
OPEN	JUL 2, 2008	DORIS JOHNSON	HARTFORD	10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM	(860) 490-3258
FULL	JUL 2, 2008	JOHN MASTRIANNI	NEW BRITAIN	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	
FULL	JUL 3, 2008	MARTIN VITO	STAMFORD	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	JUL 3, 2008	TONY NORTON	STAMFORD	12:15 PM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 940-8289
FULL	JUL 7, 2008	ELIZA JOHNSON	TORRINGTON	9:15 AM TO 12:00 PM	
FULL	JUL 7, 8, 9, 10, 11	GRACE JACOBSON	POMFRET	9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 974-2773
OPEN	JUL 7-11, 2008	GRACE JACOBSON	POMFRET	8:00AM TO 3:00PM	(860) 974-2773
FULL	JUL 7-11, 2008	JOHN RYAN	BRISTOL	9:00AM TO 12:00PM	(860) 582-1020
OPEN	JUL 7, 9, 2008	NINA MILLER	DARIEN	9:00 AM TO 12:30 PM	(203) 655-7459
FULL	JUL 7, 2008	SARAH LIBEN	TORRINGTON	12:30 PM TO 3:15 PM	
OPEN	JUL 7-11, 2008	DAVID CASKO	OLD LYME	8:30AM TO 3:30PM	(860) 739-8438
FULL	JUL 8, 2008	TONY NORTON	HAMDEN	12:15 PM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 940-8289
FULL	JUL 8, 2008	JOHN MASTRIANNI	HAMDEN	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	
FULL	JUL 9, 2008	MARTIN VITO	MERIDEN	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	JUL 9, 2008	SARAH LIBEN	MERIDEN	12:30 PM TO 3:15 PM	

<i>Status</i>	<i>Class Dates</i>	<i>Chief Instructor</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Class Times</i>	<i>Instructor #</i>
FULL	JUL 10, 2008	ELIZA JOHNSON	HAMDEN	9:15 AM TO 12:00 PM	
OPEN	JUL 10, 11, 17, 26, AUG 5, 2008	LOREEN LAWRENCE	NEW HAVEN	1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM	(203) 415-5923
FULL	JUL 10, 2008	TONY NORTON	HAMDEN	12:15 PM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 940-8289
FULL	JUL 11, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM	(860) 875-7549
FULL	JUL 11, 2008	JOHN MASTRIANNI	TORRINGTON	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	
FULL	JUL 11, 2008	SARAH LIBEN	TORRINGTON	12:30 PM TO 3:15 PM	
FULL	JUL 12, 2008	GRACE JACOBSON	MANSFIELD	10:00AM TO 3:30PM	(860) 974-2773
FULL	JUL 14-18, 2008	JOHN RYAN	BRISTOL	9:00AM TO 12:00PM	(860) 582-1020
FULL	JUL 14, 2008	TONY NORTON	BRISTOL	12:15 PM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 940-8289
FULL	JUL 14, 2008	MARTIN VITO	BRISTOL	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	JUL 15, 2008	ELIZA JOHNSON	BRIDGEPORT	9:15 AM TO 12:00 PM	
FULL	JUL 17, 2008	MARTIN VITO	NORWALK	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	JUL 17, 18, 2008	SUE QUINCY	BETHLEHEM	9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 736-6067
OPEN	JUL 21, 23, 26, 29, AUG 5, 2008	LOREEN LAWRENCE	NEW HAVEN	1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM	(203) 415-5923
OPEN	JUL 21-25, 2008	DAVID CASCO	OLD LYME	8:30AM TO 3:00PM	(860) 739-8438
FULL	JUL 21, 2008	JOHN MASTRIANNI	NEW LONDON	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	
FULL	JUL 21, 2008	TONY NORTON	NEW LONDON	12:15 PM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 940-8289
FULL	JUL 22, 2008	MARTIN VITO	WEST HAVEN	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	JUL 22, 24, 2008	MAUREEN SCINTO	FAIRFIELD	1:00PM TO 3:00PM	(203) 255-2834
FULL	JUL 22, 2008	SARAH LIBEN	WEST HAVEN	12:30 PM TO 3:15 PM	
FULL	JUL 24, 25, 2008	SUE QUINCY	FAIRFIELD	9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 736-6067
FULL	JUL 24, 2008	JOHN MASTRIANNI	HAMDEN	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	
FULL	JUL 24, 2008	SARAH LIBEN	HAMDEN	12:30 PM TO 3:15 PM	
FULL	JUL 25, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM	(860) 875-7549
FULL	JUL 28, 29, 30, 31, AUG 1	GRACE JACOBSON	POMFRET	9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 974-2773
FULL	JUL 28, 30 2008	MAUREEN SCINTO	FAIRFIELD	1:00PM TO 3:00PM	(203) 255-2834
FULL	JUL 28, 2008	TONY NORTON	KILLINGWORTH	12:15 PM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 940-8289
FULL	JUL 28, 2008	MARTIN VITO	KILLINGWORTH	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	JUL 29, 2008	JOHN MASTRIANNI	WEST HAVEN	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	
FULL	JUL 30, 2008	ELIZA JOHNSON	BRIDGEPORT	9:15 AM TO 12:00 PM	

<i>Status</i>	<i>Class Dates</i>	<i>Chief Instructor</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Class Times</i>	<i>Instructor #</i>
FULL	JUL 31, 2008	TONY NORTON	HAMDEN	12:15 PM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 940-8289
FULL	JUL 31, 2008	MARTIN VITO	HAMDEN	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	AUG 1, 2008	JOHN MASTRIANNI	NORWALK	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	
FULL	AUG 2, 2008	NORM ROBERTS	NEW HAVEN	10:00AM TO 3:30PM	(203) 732-0872
FULL	AUG 2, 2008	SUE QUINCY	DERBY	9:00AM TO 12:00PM	(860) 736-6067
FULL	AUG 4, 2008	ELIZA JOHNSON	HAMDEN	9:15 AM TO 12:00 PM	
FULL	AUG 4, 2008	TONY NORTON	HAMDEN	12:15 PM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 940-8289
FULL	AUG 5, 2008	JUSTIN WIGGINS	HAMDEN	6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM	(860) 663-1656
FULL	AUG 5, 2008	SARAH LIBEN	HAMDEN	12:30 PM TO 3:15 PM	
FULL	AUG 5, 2008	MARTIN VITO	HAMDEN	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	AUG 7, 2008	JUSTIN WIGGINS	HARTFORD	6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM	(860) 663-1656
FULL	AUG 8, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM	(860) 875-7549
FULL	AUG 8, 2008	ELIZA JOHNSON	KILLINGWORTH	9:15 AM TO 12:00 PM	
FULL	AUG 8, 2008	JOHN MASTRIANNI	NORWICH	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	
FULL	AUG 11, 2008	MARTIN VITO	KILLINGWORTH	9:30 AM TO 11:45 AM	(860) 669-3737
FULL	AUG 12, 2008	JUSTIN WIGGINS	NORWICH	6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM	(860) 663-1656
FULL	AUG 14, 2008	JUSTIN WIGGINS	BRIDGEPORT	6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM	(860) 663-1656
OPEN	AUG 28, 30 2008	RAY POTKAY	STRATFORD	6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM	(203) 395-8371

*Your Child Has Recently Completed a  
DEP Fishing Course*

**YOU ARE NOW INVITED TO**



# *Bring a Kid Fishing*

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. RAIN OR SHINE

*Connecticut Aquatic Resources Education Program*  
DEP Inland Fisheries Division

**Bring your own bait and tackle or use ours.  
Instruction provided by the DEP.  
All children must be accompanied by an adult.  
Everyone age 16 and over  
must possess a 2008 fishing license.**

Lake Wintergreen – Main St, Hamden	August 5
Keney Park Pond – Edgewood St, Hartford	August 7
Mohegan Park Pond – Mohegan Park Rd, Norwich	August 12
Beardsley Park Pond - Noble Ave, Bridgeport	August 14

# Meet the 2008 *City Fishing* Crew



(Left to Right) Tony Norton, Martin Vito, Sarah Liben, and Eliza Johnson (missing is John Mastriani) at a class on the City of New London fishing pier. This crew taught over 70 kids about water, salt water fish, and salt water fishing on July 21, 2008.

The CARE program is very lucky and unique in the sense that our summer staff has returned year after year. The great benefits include these folks require very little training, and work so well together. They maintain a close friendship throughout the entire year. Thanks so much for the many years of hard work and long hours they put in during the hot summer months. **TONY NORTON** and **JOHN MASTRIANI** teach middle school science during the school year, and have each devoted over 5 summers to the CARE program! **ELIZA JOHNSON** just received her graduate degree, and has already landed a high school science teaching position in Bethel! Congratulations Eliza, and thanks for returning this summer for the fourth straight year. **SARAH LIBEN** just graduated with her bachelor's degree from UCONN and is heading to Central America this fall with the Peace Corps. Sarah has returned for her second summer of *City Fishing*, and will be missed next year. **MARTIN VITO** brings his enthusiasm and passion for water, fish, and fishing back to the CARE program after a three year hiatus while working in the environmental education field in Maryland. Martin is now a published author, and brings a lot of experience back to our program. He is truly a "fan favorite". This is a very educated and highly qualified team. **TOM** works very hard to schedule these classes, and to maintain such a fantastic staff year after year.



A typical City Fishing class is about 2.5 hours in duration. The crew does two of these classes a day. Half of the class time is spent educating students on water and fish. **ELIZA** is shown above demonstrating an interactive lesson on pollution and water quality.



Above you can see **SARAH** cutting up squid prior to the recent New London class. There is a ton of prep work required for every class. Bait has to be bought, materials for the “pollution game” must be put together, all tackle and bait buckets are washed and organized after every class, and every used rod is casted to make sure they that are in working order for the next class.



The salt water taxidermy display is being explained by an extremely enthusiastic and entertaining **MARTIN**. During this class students managed to catch scup, cunner, and even a blackfish using sandworms and squid!



After an hour or so of education, students get to go fishing for the rest of the class. **TONY** helps this youngster catch a nibbling cunner. Saltwater classes are carefully scheduled so there is an incoming tide for the morning class, and an outgoing tide for the afternoon class.



A 32 inch Atlantic salmon (left) and a 30 inch walleye (right) were sampled by electrofishing this past spring at Beach Pond by the DEP. The salmon was stocked early last fall when the Shetucket River water flows were too low to stock fish. Looks like it survived the winter just fine! The walleye was stocked many years ago as a 5 inch fingerling. Just a sample of the great angling opportunities Connecticut has to offer!

Constituent Services-CARE Program  
CT DEP-Fisheries Division  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

