



NSFAH Journal

February 2012

2012 Annual General Meeting

82nd Annual Convention & Meetings
of the
Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters

Anglers & Hunters – The Building Blocks of Sustainable Wildlife

March 23, 24, 25, 2012
Days Inn & Conference Centre
50 North Street, Bridgewater, NS

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- Federation AGM
- Free Fishing
- Catch The Rainbow

...and a whole lot
more.

*To receive a copy of
the NSFAH monthly
E-Newsletter simply
fill out the contact
form at the Federation
website, include your
name and email
address...it really is
that simple!*

The 82nd annual convention and meetings of the Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters will be held on March 23-25, 2012 in Bridgewater, NS.

Every club president is encouraged to attend these very informative meetings along with any club delegates that are planning to be on hand. Registration is required by March 09, 2012.

Please remember that all delegates who wish to stay overnight in Bridgewater are responsible for booking their own rooms. A block of rooms has been set aside for the convention. To reserve rooms at the hotel, call toll free 1-877-543-7131. Don't delay, book today.

If you require any assistance or AGM information, please contact the NSFAH at 902-477-8898.

Notice of Emergency Meeting

The Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters has been asked by several affiliate clubs to convene an emergency meeting in accordance with Section 8.4.1 of the Bylaws.

The purpose of the meeting is to formulate alternative positions to the proposed changes to moose hunting in the Polletts Cove / Aspy Fault Wilderness Area. The meeting will be held on February 04, 2012 at the Shubenacadie Training Centre, starting at 10 AM.

Given the importance of this special

meeting, it is important that each club director make every effort possible to attend or send another club member or representative. Proxy forms have been mailed to each club director as an alternate form to submit your vote.

If you require any further information, contact Tony at 902-477-8898 or by email at tonyroddgers@eastlink.ca.

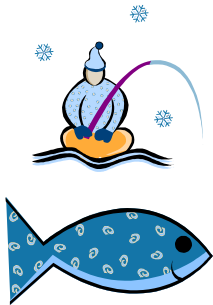
See you on the 4th!

Nova Scotia Free Sport Fishing Weekend - 2012

Nova Scotia Free Winter Sport fishing Weekend

February 18-19, 2012

Give Winter Sport fishing a Try



Family, friends, beginners, fishing enthusiasts and especially young anglers are encouraged to come out for the fishing on February 18-19, 2012. On those days Nova Scotia residents and non-residents may fish without a general licence. Sport fishing weekend provides a great opportunity to try winter sport fishing and promote family togetherness and healthy, outdoor living.

This weekend is a perfect time for anyone who has ever wanted to fish to come out and see what Nova Scotia offers for winter angling.

The main objective of this Free Winter Sport fishing Weekend is to encourage everyone to give winter outdoor recreation a try. Many people may not think of angling during the winter months, but as long as you are dressed for it and keep safety in mind, this outdoor activity can be fun and rewarding. Studies show

that when people get involved in the outdoors they are more aware of their natural surroundings and are more likely to take an active role in protecting and enhancing the resource.

Please keep in mind that bag limits and all other sport fishing regulations will still apply.

The species available for angling during the winter fishery are rainbow trout (bag limit of two fish), white perch (bag limit of 25 fish), yellow perch (bag limit of 25 fish), chain pickerel (bag limit of 25 fish), and speckled trout (bag limit of 10 fish – only two of which may be 10 in or 25.4 cm total length or longer), in 5 lakes in the Cape Breton Highlands.

Fishing licenses for 2011 are valid until March 31, 2012. If you are looking to purchase a fishing license, visit your local DNR field office or Access Nova Scotia.

Hants West Wildlife Association

Directions

Travel along hwy #101 to exit #5.

Turn toward Brooklyn at bottom of ramp, hwy #14.

Parking approx. 1km from hwy #101, then a short walk through the woods to the pond.

Do not park anywhere along hwy #101.

Watch for updates and ice conditions or contact HWWA directly.

The 9th annual Everett Wile Memorial Catch the Rainbow ice fishing event will take place on Meadow Pond, Hants County on Saturday, February 18th, 2012.

This annual event is hosted / organized by the Hants West Wildlife Association. The theme of the day is to come on out and have some fun while trying to catch some of the rainbow trout that are stocked in the pond both in the Spring and Fall.

HWWA will have a tent set up with free coffee, tea, hot chocolate and of course - hot dogs with all the fixins. Registering for the event gives you a chance at the many prizes. There is a 1st, 2nd & 3rd adult prize category plus an under 16 yrs old 1st, 2nd & 3rd category - all prizes are supplied by local businesses & HWWA.

All prizes are drawn - in other words, you do not need to catch a fish to win a prize.

There is also a 50/50 draw. Proceeds from this fundraising event are used by HWWA to assist in expenses incurred for delivery of the Inland Fisheries Learn 2 Fish Program.

Registration is \$ 20 per person, \$ 25 for a family. Registration begins at first light. Prizes will be drawn between 2pm & 3pm depending on weather conditions.

You do not need a fishing license, for this event, as it is being held on the Free Fishing Weekend announced by the NS Department Inland Fisheries.

Please be advised that all other fishing regulations apply.

Trappers Association of Nova Scotia

Annual Workshop & Convention
at the
Royal Canadian Legion
River Street, Kentville, NS
March 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 2012

Workshops on Thursday March 1st and Friday March 2nd
NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
\$10 fee for both days.

Workshops on Thursday and Friday run from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM and will cover topics and hands-on demonstrations for pelt preparation, proper care and storage of trapping gear and equipment and humane trapping demos. Bring your knife and apron just in case!

Skinning, pelting, boarding and putting furs out to dry will be demonstrated on Thursday, with a focus on trap sets, and prepping furs for auction on Friday.

The Ladies Auxiliary will have meals available for purchase on both days.



*Workshops and
Convention open to
both trappers and non-
trappers.
You are invited!"*

Saturday TANS Convention

8:00AM	Breakfast and registration for pelt contest entries
9:00AM	Meet & Greet Pelting & Trapping Demos Membership renewals
10:00AM	Deadline for pelt competition entries Pelt Judging
11:00AM	Sportsman's Auction (<i>looking for donations</i>)
12:00PM	Dinner – Sponsored by Kentville Legion Ladies Auxiliary
1:00 PM	Winners announced, present awards Guest Speaker
2:30PM	Annual General Business Meeting of TANS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Minutes of Previous AGM ✓ Resolutions ✓ Election of Officers ✓ Presidents Report ✓ Financials ✓ Committee Reports ✓ New Business ✓ Meeting & Convention Adjourned

Contact Valerie at 902-689-2528 or aldon.lenihan@ns.sympatico.ca if more information required.



Founded in 1989 CASA (Canadian Association of Smallmouth Anglers) is a fishing association that promotes fishing for Smallmouth bass as fun for the whole family. CASA's major goal is to enhance the popularity of Smallmouth bass fishing in Nova Scotia with emphasis on conservation, appropriate management of and increased access to this valued renewable resource.

Canadian Association of Smallmouth Anglers

2nd Annual CASA Ice Fishing Tournament
Sunday February 19th 2012
 7:30 am to 1:00 pm

Fish Lake - Oakfield, NS

Registration to take place the day of the event commencing at 07:00
 Open to all anglers - CASA membership not required.

Prizes for the following categories:

1. Longest three chain pickerel \$150 + Prizes
2. Longest single chain pickerel (Lunker) \$100 + Prizes

50/50, draws and even more prizes than last year!!!

Entry fee is **\$25 per adult, youth are FREE** (under 16 years old)
 Refreshments and BBQ foods available.

Basic Rules

All baits permitted *EXCEPT* live minnows
 Only one rod / tip-up per angler at any one time
 No unauthorized motorized vehicles on the ice
 Anglers releasing their fish must have a bin for holding fish in water

Visit www.casa-website.com after Feb15th to confirm ice conditions

Contact: Eddie Halfyard president@casa-website.com 252 - 0636

Shubenacadie Provincial Wildlife Park

March 09, 2012
7:30 PM – 9:00PM

Friday Night Tour

Join park staff for an easy, guided night time walk of the Shubenacadie Provincial Wildlife Park. Bring a flashlight and get a nocturnal view of the park and its inhabitants. Dress for the weather. The fee is \$6.00 per person. Cash only. All ages welcome. If bad weather or roads are anticipated, those registered will be contacted about cancellation by 4:00 pm on March 9th. Pre- registration required. You must receive a confirmation to be eligible for this event.

2012 March Break Open Hours

The park will be open the week of March 12 to 16 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM for activities and animal viewing. As part of our regular winter season, the park will also be open on the weekends of March 10, 11, and 17, 18 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Park admission is: \$2.75 for adults, \$1.50 for youth (age 6-17), children 5 and under are free!

For more information on these events. please contact the park at 902-758-5316 or, Email: legacycentre@gov.ns.ca

12 Whitetail Deer Hunting Tips

They may seem obvious, but a lot of hunters forget the basics. Year after year, the guys (and gals) who keep the fundamentals top of mind have the best luck. Focusing on these basic rules will greatly enhance your chance of a successful hunt.

1. Scout All Year Long Frequently scouting your hunting areas through the winter in the post season will show activity of deer that survived the hunt. Keep checking the area frequently all year long. A really cold winter can result in many whitetails not surviving. Scouting through spring will give you further evidence of active deer that survived the winter. Summer / fall scouting helps you keep tabs on activity. If hunting with an outfitter, ask him about his scouting endeavours.

2. Hang Your Stand Well Before The Hunt At least a month + to ensure the deer don't pick up recent changes in activity in their environment. Make sure you take care of any cutting, for camo or sightline clearing then as well. If you go out packing your stand the day of the hunt it's pretty easy to spook a deer out of the area - especially an older, big buck.

3. Hang Your Stand High At least 14' up if not 18' - 20'+, to keep out of a big bucks natural sightline.

4. Hang Your Stand In A Tree With Some Natural Cover A nice, straight, bare poplar may give you an easy climb, but you'll stick out like a sore thumb. Use camouflage gear, and, unless you have to by law, don't wear hunter orange on your arms & legs or your body parts that move.

5. Look For Telltale Signs Rubs, scrapes, tracks. A rub 4" > in diameter means a big buck. Big bucks put big rubs high on big trees. Tracks don't lie - they give you an idea of the directional movement, recent activity and the size of a deer. (big tracks = big deer).

An area that looks like a "stomping ground" likely is - usually a higher elevation with loads of tracks, scrapes and dung with some natural ground cover for bedding and good sight lines and a densely covered "escape route" will indicate a bucks HQ & bedding area. Scrapes on or near doe trails are often revisited by bucks. Don't place a stand right on the scrapes, but downwind, as far from the scrape as you can get while still being in good shooting range.. No signs = no deer.

6. Think Like A Buck Look for areas that feature the key things a buck needs and wants - does, water, food, ground cover for bedding, . Find all these features and you'll find bucks. My favourite areas are swampy, marshy areas with a nearby densely, wooded area (especially cedars) which allow the bucks the escape route they're always looking for. Scout thoroughly in these areas looking for the deer runs and activity (rubs, scrapes, droppings etc).

7. Don't Hunt An Area On Back To Back Days It's good to let things settle and work a "circle route" over the course of your hunt. This is especially true when you are out for a still hunt, which can stir up & unsettle an area.

8. Think About The Wind, And Your Scent Read the directions of the movement of the deer by their tracks. Stay downwind from the approaching deer. They've got an amazing sense of smell and are very easily spooked - the bigger the buck, the more cautious he'll be. Make sure you neutralize your scent. There's lots of products to help you with that, plus little tricks like baking soda in your hat. Take your time, do research and get it right.

9. Rain, Rain Go Away Or maybe not. Light drizzle usually doesn't hurt your hunt - often it helps by muffling sounds. Heavy rain usually results in big time inactivity in deer. Watch the forecasts - the deer know when a storm is coming and tend to feed like crazy before & after the storm. Focus your hunting near food sources before & after a heavy rain. During the rain is a good time to do some extra scouting as your scent should be washed away fairly quickly.

Continued on page 6...

Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters

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The NSFah Journal is published monthly, except during hunting season. If you or your club has an article to submit, send along before the 25th of each month to ensure your information is inserted.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.nsfah.ca

What you may want to do during a rain storm is some "still hunting" near the bedding areas of bucks (which you've found during your year 'round scouting). Bucks will usually bed down during a storm, so you'll find them waiting for you in those great buck HQ areas you've found.

10. Be Prepared Never go into the woods without a map and compass - especially if you're stalking or still hunting. Even the most experienced woodsmen can easily get disoriented when focusing on tracking or stalking a wild animal. Make sure you have food, water, matches and / or a lighter, toilet paper (for obvious reasons, plus there's nothing worse than a runny nose in the stand). How long will you be out for? Make sure you're prepared in all aspects for that length of time and then some. A checklist may seem like overkill, but it's really not a bad idea.

11. Get out early Before daylight, and plan to stay out until after dark.

12. Make a plan Start out during your scouting - make maps and sketches of your hunting territories. Note observations and thoughts. Closer to the date of your hunt keep tabs on forecasted wind directions and inclement weather. Internet weather sites are a great tool for hunters. Plan your (rotating) hunting territory using the weather info and what you've learned in your scouting.

And have fun!



Contact the Natural Resources Education Centre at 902-384-3420 or nrec@gov.ns.ca to request a registration package.

Still a few seats left!

Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters Affiliate Club Listing

All Terrain Vehicle Association of Nova Scotia
Archery Association of Nova Scotia
Bowhunters Association of Nova Scotia
Bowhunters Instructors Association of Nova Scotia
Bras D'or Wildlife Association
Cape Breton Wildlife Association
Conservation Enforcement Officers Association of Nova Scotia
Delta Waterfowl Association
Digby East Fish & Game Association
Halifax Wildlife Association
Hants West Wildlife Association
Kings County Fish & Game Association
Canadian Association of Smallmouth Anglers

Lunenburg County Wildlife Association
Nova Scotia Association of Crossbow Hunters
Nova Scotia Guides Association
Nova Scotia Houndsmen Association
Port Morien Wildlife Association
Queens County Fish and Game Association
Shelburne County Fish & Game Association
South Shore Wildlife Association
The Big Game Society of Nova Scotia
Traditional Archers Association of Nova Scotia
Trappers Association of Nova Scotia
West Pictou Wildlife Association
Nova Scotia Bear Hunters Association