



Newsletter November 2008

November Meeting on the 20th

The November meeting will be Thursday November 20th at 7:30 PM. This will be a dinner meeting with pizza as the main attraction, so come early for the best slices. We'll also be reviewing the fall

fishing. The annual raffle will be held with a special guest master of ceremonies. We need items for the raffle, so bring in that tackle you don't need any more and give it a chance to find a good home.

Fall Opening Day

Fall opening day was on Saturday, October 11th. A delicious breakfast was prepared by the cooks led by Dennis Martin. The clean-up crew of Richard Marashlian, Ed Van Sickle and Rollie Johnson also did an exceptional job. Fishing was good and quite a few fish were caught early. 200 Rainbow trout, 100 Brook trout and 35 Brown trout were stocked this season. Nineteen members signed in during the morning.

The event was covered by the Needham Times. A full-page story with photographs appeared in the newspaper's October 16th edition. You can see the story at:
<http://www.wickedlocal.com/needham/fun/x1157482301/Reeling-in-the-fun-at-Needhams-Trout-Pond>

Fiberglass Hooks Not Used

Doug Donaldson was quoted in the Needham Times story saying: "We use fiberglass hooks and pinch them down or remove the hooks. It's less damaging for the fish." After some ribbing at the October meeting, Doug wrote the following letter to the editor of the Times, which was published last week.

Your paper printed a very nice article about our fishing club in the Needham Life section of the October 16 edition of your newspaper. Unfortunately, I was

slightly misquoted in that article. I was quoted as saying we use fiberglass fishhooks, but what we use are steel BARBLESS hooks. Most hooks are manufactured with a little sharp backward-pointing barb behind the business end of the hook. The function of the barb is make it difficult for the fish to shake the hook out of its mouth once it has been caught but before it can be landed. We pinch down the barb of the hook so it is flush with the hook shaft to make it easier, and less damaging to the

fish, to remove the hook before we release the fish back into the water. Also, most fish won't be able to shake the barbless hook as long as there is tension in the fishing line throughout the landing process.

I was not offended by the misquote and have received some good-natured ribbing about it from some of my fellow fishermen.

October Meeting

The October meeting featured a discussion of opening day. There was general satisfaction with the results. Many members commented on the high quality of the fish that were stocked. We discussed maintenance of the buildings and grounds and pond.

We had a discussion about member participation in club activities, especially the clean-up days. We need to work on ideas to get more members involved in support activities for the club. We'd also like to see more people fishing the pond.

Fishing Report

Fishing has been good since opening day. The trout have been hitting a variety of flies. Among the successful patterns are gray ghosts, micky finns, midge emergers,

small hare's ears. There is not a lot of obvious surface feeding, just occasional rises to midges, but the fish are there just below surface.

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