

# FISH TALES



## BLUEWATER ANGLERS NEWSLETTER

[bluewateranglers.com](http://bluewateranglers.com)

[facebook.com/groups/1513538452226134](https://facebook.com/groups/1513538452226134)

## SUMMER 2020

### CLUB ACTIVITY CALENDAR For June - September 2020

June 9	General Membership Meeting
June 13	Shoreline Cleanup
July 4 (tentative)	Family Fun Fishing Day
August 7-8	Walleye Derby
September 15	General Membership Meeting

Check the Bluewater Anglers website or FACEBOOK for current information on upcoming club events

[bluewateranglers.com/events.html](http://bluewateranglers.com/events.html)  
[facebook.com/groups/1513538452226134](https://facebook.com/groups/1513538452226134).

### SPECIAL STATEMENT REGARDING EVENTS

For the protection of our members and the public, the Bluewater Anglers have decided to cancel the upcoming General Membership Meeting and Shoreline Cleanup events. The remaining upcoming events are tentative and we will continue to monitor the situation.

These decisions are based on the current and forecast COVID-19 situation, health advisories for isolation and physical distancing and the Ontario government restrictions on group sizes.

Thank you for understanding and we look forward to continuing activities when it is safe to do so.

## HATCHERY REPORT

The hatchery crew has once again performed above and beyond the normal. As we were confronted with Covid-19 it forced us to make some changes to the hatchery operations. The crews set up operations with minimal staff and employed all disinfecting protocols available. The fish continued to grow and were well cared for over their remaining time in the hatchery.

Stocking started on April 20<sup>th</sup> with 91,000 fingerlings being released between Port Franks, Hickory Creek and Cow Creek. The fish were in excellent condition and we had one tank that weighed in at over 7.4 grams on average. The School Hatchery fish were released with the main hatchery fish. Normally the children would have assisted with the release of their fish, which was unfortunately not possible this year.

The next part of the stocking was the Rainbow trout, which was started on April 21<sup>st</sup> and completed on May 12<sup>th</sup> after the river was warm enough for release. Over the 5 days of stocking, we made 18 individual trips to the stocking sites, totalling close to 1,000 kilometers of travel.

With stocking completed we now have 18,000 Brown trout at about 1 gram on average and 50,000 Rainbows at 0.5 grams to be cared for over the summer.

Our attention now turns to major maintenance at the hatchery. We have a fairly heavy work load coming up. The aeration towers are badly fouled with iron and need to be cleaned and repacked. The well pumps need to be serviced and rebuilt again due to iron fouling. We will also try and recover some of our well capacity and clear the suction screen.

It sounds easy in a couple of lines in this report but it is dirty work that needs to be completed to keep your hatchery in top condition and to ready for the next crop of Salmon in the fall.

Special thanks to the hatchery crews for your hard work and dedication.

- Jake



### SCHOOL MINI-HATCHERY PROGRAM

This year's school mini-hatchery program came to a successful early conclusion at March break. The school fish were all brought to the hatchery for March break as planned. Coincidentally, the school closures were announced, and all school fish were ultimately released along with the bulk hatchery fish.

The mini-hatcheries were supplied by the **Lake Huron Fishing Club** in Kincardine and funded by donations from **Bruce Power**.

This year there were 12 participating schools, up from 9 last year and 7 the year before. It's great to see a growing interest in this program and all of the current schools plan to participate next year as well.

Seeing the education and enjoyment of the students has been very fulfilling for all of the BWA volunteers involved.

## BLUEWATER ANGLERS FAMILY FUN FISHING DAY Saturday, July 4, 2020

This event has not been cancelled at time of writing; however the Ontario government has extended emergency measure related to Covid-19 to June 30<sup>th</sup> which includes continued restrictions for social gatherings of more than five people. We will continue to monitor the situation and if a decision is made to cancel, we will let everyone know through the website and social media channels.

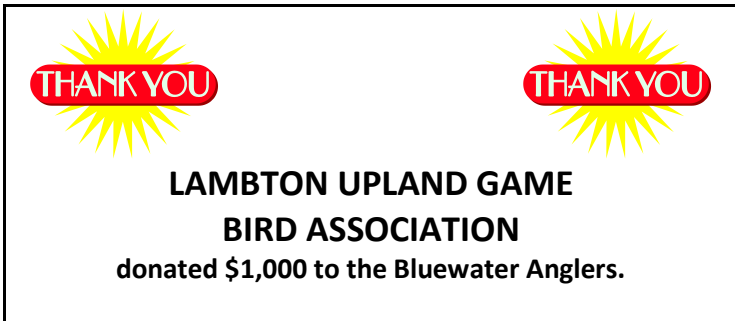
This is a FREE activity for families. You do not need an Ontario fishing licence during the **Ontario Family Fishing Week** (July 4 – 12). Sign-in will be at a booth set up by the Bluewater Anglers in Centennial Park near the fishy fountain in the parking lot just south of the end of London Road at Front Street. Everybody must sign in to receive a bucket to be used to collect your gobies and get your ticket for a free hot dog & pop back at the weigh-in. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. A limited number of fishing rods and bait will be available at the sign-in booth.

You will fish as a family. If your children have brought friends, they will count as part of your family for the derby. Boundaries are from Ferry Dock Hill to the Government Docks. Bluewater Angler volunteers will be located in the fishing area and will be able to assist you as well as measure any fish over 8 inches. This will allow you to live release the fish you do not want to keep.

The weigh-in is at the Hatchery (north of the Bluewater bridges in Pt. Edward) between 11:00 AM and 11:30 AM. Bring your bucket of gobies to be weighed-in and redeem your ticket for a hot dog & pop. There are prizes for the most gobies caught. The number of gobies caught divided by the number of people fishing in your group gives you your total score. There will be a variety of prizes in the biggest fish category. NOTE: The \$100 member big fish prize does not apply to this family event.

The event will still occur if it is raining. If there is thunder and lightning in the area, the event will be cancelled.

Contestants compete in this event at their own risk and agree to hold the Bluewater Anglers and members harmless from any liability, claims and/or cost of any nature whatsoever.



## VILLAGE OF POINT EDWARD AND THE BLUEWATER ANGLERS WALLEYE DERBY

6:00 PM August 7, 2020 to  
9:30 AM August 8, 2020

Any person is eligible to enter the Walleye Derby provided they have a valid fishing license and have purchased a \$10.00 entry ticket. This is a BOAT and SHORE event. If fishing in a group, everybody in the group must have a ticket. Tickets will be available at **Bucks Baits** and **The Outdoorsman** until 4:30 PM on Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. Any money raised will go to support the Bluewater Anglers.

Start time is 6:00 PM Friday, August 7, 2020. Weigh-in will be at the Hatchery from 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM on Saturday, August 8. You **MUST** be in line by 9:30 AM to have your entries qualify. This is a single fish event ... you can only weigh in **one** (your largest) walleye. The Bluewater Anglers Salmon Derby boundaries apply: in the St. Clair River, South to the South end of Fawn Island; in Lake Huron, North to latitude 43'20" (from the water treatment plant at Grand Bend, West to North of trailer park North of Lexington, Michigan).

Prizes will be awarded for the 10 heaviest walleye.

1 <sup>st</sup>	\$500.00	6 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$250.00	7 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$125.00	8 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00
4 <sup>th</sup>	\$100.00	9 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00
5 <sup>th</sup>	\$50.00	10 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00

**PLUS** ... \$100.00 for the biggest fish (by weight) entered by a Bluewater Angler member.

Winners will be announced immediately after completion of the weigh-in. There will be a minimum of 5 draw prizes with winners drawn from all Walleye Derby entrants present. You must be present to win a draw prize. Come out and participate in the event.

Special thanks again to the

## VILLAGE of POINT EDWARD

*Progressively Independent Since 1878*



for their generous donation of the \$500 first place prize.

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

### FISHING COMMUNITY

A total of \$500 has been donated back to the hatchery in lieu of refunds for Salmon Derby tickets purchased

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

### ANONYMOUS

donated \$1,020.20 to the Bluewater Anglers.

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

### GORD MCNEILL

donated \$40 to the Bluewater Anglers.



## 44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL 2020 SALMON DERBY HATS & T-SHIRTS

Remember the Salmon Derby that never happened! We have some **44<sup>th</sup> Annual 2020 Salmon Derby** hats and T-shirts available for purchase. The costs are Hats \$20, T-shirts \$25, Hat + T-shirt \$40. Contact Paul Heckley (519-869-2593 or [pheckley@outlook.com](mailto:pheckley@outlook.com)) if you would like to purchase a 2020 Salmon Derby hat or T-shirt.

# 44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL 2020 SALMON DERBY

May 1 – 10, 2020

**CANCELLED**

Unfortunately, the 2020 Salmon Derby had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and government guidelines. While this was very disappointing, the safety of our members, derby participants and the public was most important.

The Salmon Derby will be back next year. The **45<sup>th</sup> Annual Salmon Derby** is tentatively scheduled for Friday, April 30, 2021 – Sunday, May 9, 2021. Planning for next spring's Salmon Derby will start in early October.

We would like to thank the many generous 2020 Salmon Derby sponsors. All our sponsors have decided to let us keep their 2020 Salmon Derby cash or merchandise donations for next year's Salmon Derby. **THANK YOU!!**

## 2020 SALMON DERBY SPONSORS

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR MANY GENEROUS SPONSORS**

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### THANK YOU Derby Sponsors

The Bluewater Anglers would like to pay **SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OUR SPONSORS**, many of whom have been with us since 1980 when we first took over the derby. They, like all of you, realize that every dollar raised by the Bluewater Anglers Salmon Derby goes right back into the fish hatchery account to cover operating expenses. So take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with our many derby sponsors. This event would not be possible without their much-appreciated support.

- 3 Phase Electrical
- A1 Security
- ALL SEASONS Trophies & Signs
- ARLANXEO CANADA Inc.
- B&B Taps & Grill
- Bayview Chrysler Dodge Ltd.
- Bluewater Industrial Coatings
- CAA Auto Club and Travel Agency (Chatham)
- CAA Auto Club and Travel Agency (Sarnia)
- Cameron Canada Inc.
- COPPER BLUES Fishing Charters
- Crabby Joe's Restaurant, Petrolia
- Cross Works Physiotherapy
- Cuda Sinks Inc.
- Dowler-Karn
- Dreamweaver Lures
- Fenwick Motors
- Forest Golf Club & Inn
- Four Star Painting
- Grog's Pub & Grill
- Hana Japanese Restaurant
- Iron Works Gym
- MacKenzie Oil Limited
- MacPherson's Restaurant
- Mellon Inc.
- Mettler Toledo Inc.
- Northpoint Technical Services
- Ontario Sportfishing Guides Association
- Play It Again Sports
- Purdy Fisheries
- Ranger Nets
- Raymond Blondin
- Refined Fool Brewing Company
- Rock's Custom Embroidery and Apparel
- RONA Wilson Plumbing & Hardware
- Salvatore's Restaurant
- Sandhill Golf Course, Port Franks
- Sarnia Heating & Cooling
- Sim Propane Limited
- Shelley Machine & Marine
- Suncor Energy
- Sylvain's Marine
- T.J. McCarthy Ltd.
- Tomlinson Enterprize
- The Wharf Restaurant
- Wesco Electrical Wholesaler
- Widder Station Golf and Country Club

*Our sponsors are the reason that the Salmon Derby is so successful each year. We appreciate the continued generous support. Please support our sponsors when you make your purchases.*

Also, a huge THANK YOU TO the following 2020 Salmon Derby sponsors decided to donate their 2020 Salmon Derby sponsorship to this year's Bluewater Anglers operations:



The **Village of Point Edward** donated their \$5,000 Salmon Derby sponsorship to the Bluewater Anglers hatchery program.



The **International Association of Heat & Frost Insulators Allied Workers Local 95** donated their \$1,005 Salmon Derby sponsorship to the Bluewater Anglers hatchery program.



The **Point Edward Optimist Club** donated their \$500 Salmon Derby sponsorship to the Bluewater Anglers kid's program.



Mr. **Richard Sansom** donated the \$800 Salmon Derby sponsorship to the Bluewater Anglers hatchery program.



Tourism Sarnia-Lambton donated their Salmon Derby sponsorship (\$1,000 in gift certificates) to the 2020 Bluewater Anglers program

### Ask an expert: Can fish transmit COVID-19?

Source: [oodmag.com/news/ask-an-expert-can-fish-transmit-covid-19/](https://oodmag.com/news/ask-an-expert-can-fish-transmit-covid-19/)

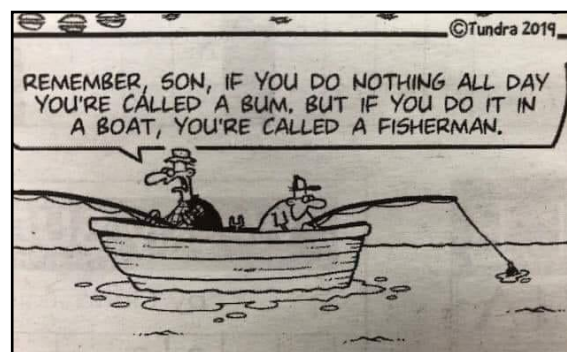
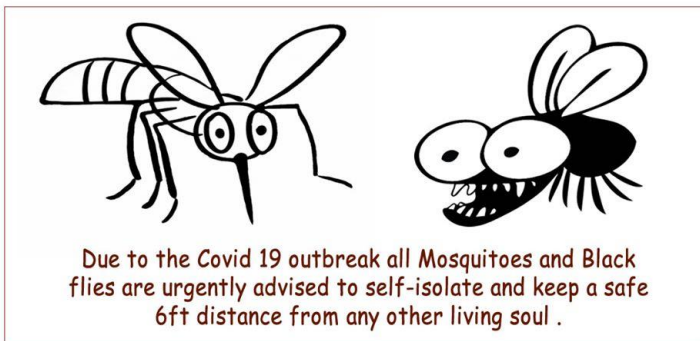
COVID-19 is hypothesized to have originally come from an animal source, however current research is not able to confirm the exact source nor how it was transmitted to humans. While some animals have tested positive for COVID-19, with the information that we have to date, it is thought that the risk of transmission from animals to humans is very low. Furthermore, all species of animal that have tested positive for COVID-19 have been mammals.

The important distinction here is the structure of the respiratory system; composed of lungs, a trachea, etc. in mammals, whereas fish have gills. Since COVID-19 is currently thought to be spread through respiratory droplets, the disparity in the respiratory system structure, in my opinion, would further lessen the likelihood of fish being infected with COVID-19.

Fish would carry a greater risk of behaving like a fomite, that is, once a fish has been caught or harvested, humans come into contact with it and run the risk of shedding viral particles onto its surface, then transmitting the virus to other humans however, this risk is also thought to be very low.

In summary, I believe the risk of fish transmitting COVID-19 to be extremely low, and that when fish are passed along from one human to another, we should take the same precautions as with anything else that changes hands from one human to another..

by Véronique LePage  
BSc DVM MSc, LePage Aquatic Veterinary Services  
Associate Veterinarian, Ripley's Aquarium of Canada  
(via Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Fisheries Biologist Adam Weir)



## BLUEWATER ANGLERS AND OFAH MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The **Bluewater Anglers** are an affiliated club of the **Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters (OFAH)**. Membership in the Bluewater Anglers includes membership in **Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters (OFAH)** since all members of an affiliated club must also be members of OFAH ([www.ofah.org](http://www.ofah.org)). Members can choose between an “affiliated” OFAH membership which includes the personal insurance and OFAH benefits but not the **Ontario OUT OF DOORS (OOD)** magazine or the “full” OFAH membership which includes the personal insurance and OFAH benefits plus the **Ontario OUT OF DOORS (OOD)** magazine. You can join the **Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters (OFAH)** at a discount rate through the Bluewater Anglers. If you have a current **Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters (OFAH)** membership through another club or organization, then you only need to pay for your regular Bluewater Anglers membership.

Complete the form below to become a Bluewater Anglers member or to renew your current membership. More information about membership benefits can be found at [www.bluewateranglers.com/membership.html](http://www.bluewateranglers.com/membership.html) and [www.ofah.org](http://www.ofah.org). Contact Ralph & Jo-Anne Eves (519-383-0873 or [r\\_gary\\_1217@outlook.com](mailto:r_gary_1217@outlook.com)) for more information.

### BLUEWATER ANGLERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2020

Membership:    New \_\_\_\_\_    Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

(A) With a current OFAH Membership through another club Bluewater Anglers Membership ONLY	OFAH Membership #		OFAH Expiry Date	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Junior: \$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Single: \$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Family: \$30.00
(B) Without a current OFAH Membership Combined Bluewater Anglers AND OFAH Memberships	No Ontario Out of Doors magazine	With Ontario Out of Doors magazine	With digital Ontario Out of Doors magazine	With digital Ontario Out of Doors magazine + Fishing & Hunting Annuals
Single Adult	<input type="checkbox"/> \$37.50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$63.50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$53.00
Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$58.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$84.00	Not available	Not available
Junior (under 25 yr. of age)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49.00	Not available	Not available
BWA Life Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$17.50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$43.50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$33.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 Province/State \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Postal/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ (\*\*\*) Mandatory for digital OOD magazine)

Make cheque payable to **BLUEWATER ANGLERS** and send the completed form to **Bluewater Anglers, c/o Membership Chairman, P.O. Box 174, Sarnia Ontario N7T 7H9.**