

HINTS FOR SUCCESSFUL FISHING

- This is small stream fishing so use equipment that is appropriate.
- Tippet should be small - 5X if the water is off color and 6X (or smaller) if the water is clear. Consider fluorocarbon, if not dry fly fishing.
- As a general rule, the lower and clearer the water the smaller the tippet and fly.
- The shot and indicator technique is usually best if not dry fly fishing. You must fish near the bottom unless the fish are up in the water column. Move the indicator.
- Drag free presentations are usually best. However, a slight occasional twitch of the fly can produce results.
- Let the fly complete the entire drift. At the end of the drift let the fly linger briefly downstream. Sometimes a fish will strike as the fly rises to the top.
- Fish the top of a riffle or pool in the morning and the lower part in the afternoon.
- Look for underwater holding lies such as rocks or logs that will break the current. Fish structures by casting above and letting the fly drift from above and around the structure.
- Although sometimes impossible, avoid fishing in a crowd. Fish are spooky enough without having multiple flies thrown over them.
- Become proficient with tying knots. Check the knot after catching a fish.
- Try different waters. If fishing a riffle try a flat.
- Change flies or presentation method. Switch from a dry to nymph or nymph to an emerger.
- Fish slow and cover the entire hole of water before moving on to the next hole. The first cast should be close and lengthened with each additional casting allowing all water to be covered.
- Often fish will follow the fly, but refuse to strike. Try fishing a smaller tippet or a smaller fly.
- If fish are rising, but refuse the dry fly, try using an emerger.
- If you observe another fisherman catching fish, observe what he is doing that is making him successful. How deep is he fishing? What technique is he using? Is he using a nymph or an emerger or dry fly? Is he presenting the fly up stream or downstream.
- Keep sun screen, bug spray, oil, foreign smells off your hands and the fly.
- Don't wade blindly into a hole. The best fish in the hole maybe lying along the bank. Fish close before trying to fish the other side of the stream.
- Draw upon past knowledge and experience and observe not only the water, but also the bank and air.

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