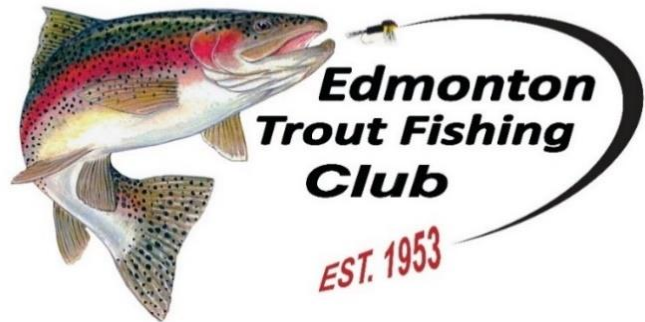


# FLYCASTER

OCTOBER 2024



**October Caddis** – rated by Gary Lafontaine as one of the four best aquatic insects for offering anglers the opportunity to catch a trophy trout.

## UPCOMING CLUB MEETINGS:

- **Tuesday Nov 12** - 7:00pm Business meeting followed by a presentation from Chuck Harvey and Steve Miller on their fall fishing adventures, including their trip to Sheridan Lake, home to some monster trout. Then the floor will be open for anyone who'd like to share their fishing stories (all true of course!) **Meeting Place: Jefferson Armouries 11630 109 St NW** (Located on the west side of NAIT). Due to the new LRT platform construction, all traffic must come from 107 St - turn west on 118 Ave then south on 109th. The armoury is on the right-hand side and parking is in front. Or, come by LRT as the NAIT platform is very close by.
- **Fly tying sessions** - we asked the Northern Lights Chapter of Trout Unlimited Canada if ETFC members could participate in that club's bi-weekly 'flytying by Zoom' sessions and were warmly welcomed. Meetings start at 7:30 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Weds evening of each month (except July and August) All are welcome to watch, tie along, demonstrate, join the chatter – whatever you feel like and for as long as you want. All informal! Click [this link](#) to start the meeting, or start your zoom client, click the "Join a meeting button" and enter the meeting id 668 142 7482. The meeting password is 306090.

## ETFC NEWS:

- **Property Gate Code change!!** - apparently a number of non-members have gained access to the gate code so it will be changed on the morning of October 1<sup>st</sup>. You should have received an email with the new code number from Jacqueline before that time. Contact her if you're going to the property but haven't received the new code at [communications@edmontontrout.ca](mailto:communications@edmontontrout.ca)
- **Lake Aeration** - the club has decided to install the aerators again for this winter and Oct 7 is the installation date. If you're able to help, please let us



know. However, as explained in the following letter to the Village mayor and councillors from Ken-Bodden, EFC Co-President, this may have to be the last time

Dear Mayor Shewchuk and Councillors,

I'm writing on behalf of the Edmonton Trout Fishing Club (ETFC) to update you on the aeration of Spring Lake for this winter and beyond. Aeration is becoming increasingly critical for fish survival and lake water quality as summer water temperatures and weed growth increase, so ETFC is willing to do what it can to provide the needed oxygen throughout the winter. Following the success of last winter's aeration we have been informed by ACA that it is willing to loan us the equipment again. We have the necessary government permit and are in the process of reconfirming insurance coverage which is critical to operation of an aeration system. We have knowledgeable volunteers available to install, monitor and take down equipment and fencing. Without the \$3,000 provided by the Village towards the cost of electrical power we would not have been able to even entertain the idea of aerating the lake again this year. Last winter's costs have virtually depleted the small savings we had. However, by virtue of fund-raising raffles and generous support of some members we have just enough to put towards the total power cost for the coming season (estimated at \$4,500 to \$5,000). Should electrical power rates increase this winter, however, we may be forced to turn off the aerators before ice cover starts to melt. If so, I will let you know as soon as possible. We hope to continue providing the aeration service for Spring Lake (to the benefit of the community and Edmonton anglers) for the foreseeable future (if ACA is willing to continue lending us its equipment). However, as we discussed with Council more than a year ago, the Village or another entity will need to assume full responsibility for providing the electrical power for winter aeration in 2025-26 and beyond. We just do not have the funds to continue donating towards that expense in addition to paying property taxes, operational costs and other aeration-related costs. The club is the Edmonton Trout Fishing Club with a focus on trout fishing in the Edmonton area and the rest of the province. We need to be more than only Spring Lake focussed if we are to meet the needs of our members. Please let us know your decision as soon as possible so that we and ACA can plan accordingly.

Sincerely, Ken Bodden

- **Spring Lake Fall Fair – Report by Randy Collins**

Ken Bodden and I represented the club at the Fair on Saturday, Sept 14. Rainy and blustery, but still there were 30 vendors present, and from what I heard over 300 in attendance. We passed out the Sept. Newsletter and an ETFC Fact Sheet, plus some ACA Discovery Guides. We spoke with many village residents and all were very interested and supported the ETFC. Our two neighbours at our gate entrance stopped by and we had some great discussions, One even cuts our grass!!! I made a point to give the head of the Spring Lake EAC a copy of the newsletter. No feedback received as of yet, but she did give us some leftover goodies that they were handing out and said we could have them for our club. On the whole, it was a great day and was also encouraging to



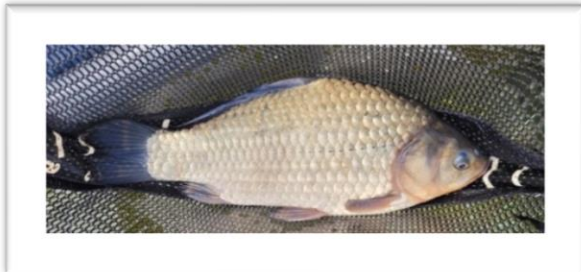
hear so many positive comments from all the residents we spoke too. We will probably have a few more new members sign up soon!

- **Property Clean Up** – should be fairly easy this year as local neighbours (new members) have helped out over the summer keeping the property tidy. However, the building, grass and area around the boats needs some attention if anyone's willing to help out there when the fish aren't biting.
- **Free public access to fish Spring Lake** – is there any, and if so, where? We're trying to clarify this as best we can. We know of none for boat access unless you can drag a boat through the gate near the Village office on Waters Crescent for about 100 yds to the lake shore. You can walk in there and maybe find a spot on the shoreline where you can cast a lure without hindrance into deep enough water. We would like to identify where else you can fish Spring Lake from shore without paying the campground or joining ETFC? Previous access near the campsite has been closed off. If you have recent knowledge of how the public can access the lake for fishing, please let us know at [etfcnews@gmail.com](mailto:etfcnews@gmail.com).

**ALBERTA WILDLIFE FEDERATION (AWF) NEWS:** AWF is running a silent auction from Sept 27 to 4:00pm on Dec 6 '24 and is looking for donations. All proceeds go towards AWF conservation efforts. More info at [AWF Auction](#)

## FISH and FISHING:

- **Prussian Carp** - one of our members caught five on the same day this past month in Spring Lake – all on a leech pattern. Not good news! The government's Nicole Kimmel tells us: "Prussian carp



are particularly concerning due to their prolific reproduction, resilience in adverse conditions, and ability to degrade water quality in infested areas. One of their unique reproductive strategies includes producing identical female copies by using sperm from other species to activate, but not fertilize, their eggs. This allows them to quickly dominate water bodies.

Furthermore, recent findings of hermaphrodite fish in two Alberta locations also underscore the species'

competitive edge."So please don't put back any you catch!"

But they don't need to go to waste as apparently **they can be good eating** if prepared in the right way and for that, check out Bonfire Bob's instructions - <https://bonfirebob.com/how-to-cook-carp/> - the most important thing being to clean and cook it asap. He'll also tell you how to gut, scale and clean the carp, including the critical part, how to remove the mud vein! He's got different recipes for you to try too!

- **Spring Lake Stocking** - by the time you read this, 5,000 rainbows, approx. 20cm in size should have joined their older relatives in Spring Lake. Tight lines
- **Fly of the Month** - *the **October Caddis*** - these big caddisflies are a fall favourite for fly fishers.

From ['Gink and Gasoline'](#) - using an adult dry fly with a pupa pattern dropped 24 inches off the back does a great job for both stages at the same time. By this time trout keyed in on this hatch have repositioned higher in the water column and are picking off both emerging pupae and egg laying

females. Because egg laying females will often flop around on the surface depositing eggs, experimenting with skating your dry fly on the surface can often trigger aggressive takes. There are varying patterns for this fly but for a video lesson on tying them, here's a couple:

[Tying the Pupa](#)

[Tying the Adult](#)

**Member Reports** - the objective of the club is 'to provide for a community in which members may develop their angling knowledge and skills' so please share information with all of us - what worked, what didn't etc – good and not so good! We won't use your name without your permission. Email us at [etfcnews@gmail.com](mailto:etfcnews@gmail.com). Here's a few:

Muir Lake: Water level "normal", clarity murky, launch area OK, no fish rising, one guy coming in had no action with either gear or fly, two others south of the island doing nothing, one guy marking fish but not catching.

Hasse Lake: Water level down, impossible to put anything in at the launch area so nobody on the water, clarity about the same as Muir, saw a few rises, two spin fishers on the dock had nothing, could possibly put in a canoe off the dock

Spring Lake – water level down. Very difficult to launch a boat. No rises seen One angler coming off had no luck. Just one vehicle parked by shelter

Star Lake: Packed with vehicles, water quality looked good, lots of small rises (perch?) launch area good but water level down . . .

Dolberg Sept. 24 – 3 of us met up there about 11:00am and fished till about 4:30. Fish were rising to a floating backswimmer the whole time we were there. Must have caught 30 or 40 each and they were strong, healthy fish. (cast too near the lily pads, however, and you'll hook up with plenty of perch!)



Figure 1 Star Lake

### **Need to borrow a boat?**

If so, Ken Bodden has left a pair of paddles and a life jacket with the blue grey canoe nearest the roller dock. The boat has a club sticker at the stern but no number. Please return to the same place.



### **Next Newsletter – coming on or before Nov 1, 2024.**

Suggestions, requests, questions NEEDED, and contributions for future monthly editions always welcomed at [etfcnews@gmail.com](mailto:etfcnews@gmail.com) - we won't use your name unless you indicate otherwise.

PSL/