



March 2007

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Salmo Pond Reflections

It is a special thing when a micro-sized body of water offers accessible fun, a shore fishing strategy challenge, a good dose of danger, and near poetic beauty. Unassuming Salmo Pond is all of that, and that is why it is a popular and at times busy place. Located on the south side of U.S. Highway 14, one and one-half miles west of the Village of Cross Plains, Salmo Pond is situated along Black Earth Creek and is within a cast from the main road that takes you to this Dane County Parks Department facility.

Salmo Pond is just four acres in total area. The Pond has a maximum water depth of 15 feet, and it is classified as a deep spring pond. There is a fishing pier that is easily accessible to the disabled; a picnic area; seasonal restrooms; and a modest paved parking lot. In addition, the Pond is encircled by a footpath that makes for a great walk any time of year.

Salmo Pond is considered a "put and take fishery" and it is typically stocked each year by the DNR with rainbow trout fingerlings, yearlings and some adult trout, among other fish. The fish population includes panfish that are most often bluegills, small mouth bass, some large mouth bass, as well as

the rainbow trout. I have heard that brown trout have been hooked in the pond, and that some game fish may be present.

It is not unusual to see a fly fishing course being taught at Salmo Pond, and you can almost always see supervised kids making a catch, some for the first time. Black Earth Creek runs right along the Pond, and receives a great deal of pressure at these easy

What's Inside —

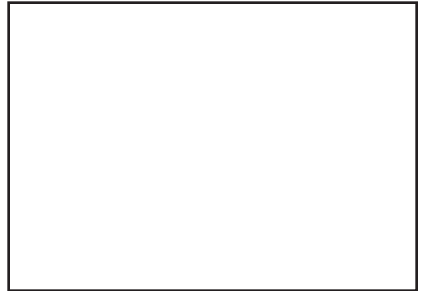
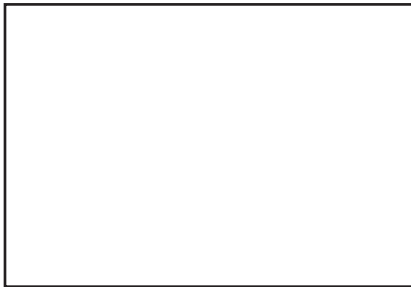
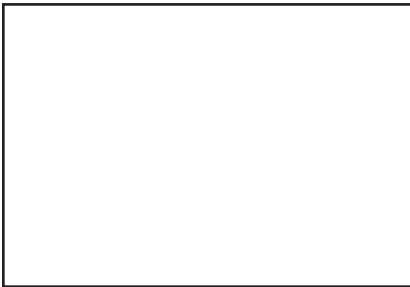
- **New! Fishing tips from a local guide.** Read Gary Engberg's tips for March. Page 2.
- Club Calendar for 2007. Schedule the outings in your calendar. Page 3.

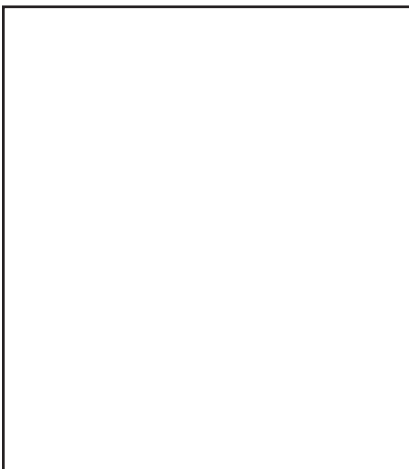
access points. Lately, some banks were nearly clear-cut for this and other purposes. What then is the allure of Salmo Pond, and what do you need to know? There is nature at its best, great sunrises and sunsets, and plenty of birds. And, you will see snapping turtles in the water. There is more; you will need your

By Jim Zegers

"A Game" to catch the nice sized fish, but it can be done if you are smart, patient and careful. Also, watch out for what is underfoot out of the water; a few years ago, a rare swamp rattler was seen here, not once but twice, with one bite verified. Second, watch out for the countless deep springs in the pond itself. Do not wade out far if you try during the regular season, and do not attempt to ice fish this small tempting pond due to unsafe and unseen active springs —really. Now, a few thoughts on the fishing strategy. From the bank you can catch the rainbows using crawlers or red worms, fished right off the bottom. I have caught and released a nice rainbow on a weighted wet fly. Some folks have used crappie minnows successfully. Two artificial baits that have been used with success are the Panther Martin spinner, or a very small bodied Rapala including the countdown model. And of course, an array of flies are used in the spring by the hopeful fly fisher. There are some big fish in this little pond, and in general, the area and habitat have been nurtured by a number of fish and wildlife partners. We should all hope and help to enjoy Salmo Pond now and for decades to come.









Yahara Fishing Club Membership Application

P.O. Box 3271
Madison, WI 53704

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Annual Dues:

Individual.....\$25

Family.....\$35

Youth Member.....Free
(with paid membership)

**Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the
second Tuesday of each month at the
Lakeside VFW Hall, John Nolan Dr, &
Lakeside St. in Madison, WI**

*An Organization to Educate, Protect and Propagate the Interests of All Fishermen in the Yahara Basin Area
Including all of Madison's Lakes*

The next meeting is on **Tuesday, ,** at the Lakeside VFW Hall (John Nolen Dr. & Lakeside St.).

Speaker:

Calendar of Upcoming Events

March 13, 2006, Monthly meeting @ 7:30 pm

Speaker:

April 10, 2006, Monthly meeting @ 7:30 pm

Speaker:

The Yahara Fishing Club's doors are open **EVERYONE**, so invite a friend to the meeting!

President - Larry Kopf.....849-7245
Vice President - Jeff Western831-1092
Treasurer - Rick Lane.....873-5228
Secretary - Jim Zegers/Paul Marunich

Director - Bonnie Miller.....824-9792
Director - Paul Marunich.....219-4449
Director - Eric Uram.....233-9022
Director - Ken Worden.....836-8904

Director - Jim Zegers.....848-6299
Director - Jayne Meyer.....662-9374

Check out our web page at:
www.yaharafishingclub.org

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