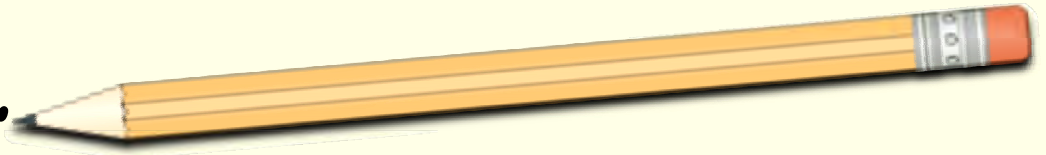


# Field Notes...



## Noteworthy news from the Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources

ISSUE 62: OCTOBER 07, 2011

### **In This Issue:**

- [Scup Recreational Fishing Season Extension.](#)
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### **Significant Notes**

#### **Scup Recreational Fishing Season Extension.**

The scup (porgy) recreational fishing season has been extended to remain open through December 25, 2011. Previous regulations were lifted that would have closed the season on September 27 for most anglers and October 12 for anglers fishing aboard party/charter boats. For [details on this recent change](#) view the DEC press release online.

#### **Keep Current with Division Monthly Highlights.**

In our [August Division Monthly Highlights \(PDF, 970 KB\)](#) you can stay up-to-date with the latest wildlife management and research plans, as well as outreach and other efforts occurring in our division.

*Highlights in this issue include:*

- *Feature article on Albany's Pine Bush Preserve with updates on Karner blue butterflies and prairie warblers;*
- *2011 evaluation of New York's warmwater and coldwater fisheries;*
- *New universally accessible fishing pier on Great Sacandaga Lake;*
- *Surveys on mourning doves, brook trout, sea lampreys and more;*
- *Donation of Canada goose meat to food pantries;*
- *Collaborative efforts to improve habitat for fish and wild turkeys; and*
- *Fishing programs at DEC campgrounds.*



*Don't miss the feature article highlighting recovering Karner blue butterfly populations and habitat in the Albany Pine Bush Preserve.*

*~Photo credit: Carly Voigt~*

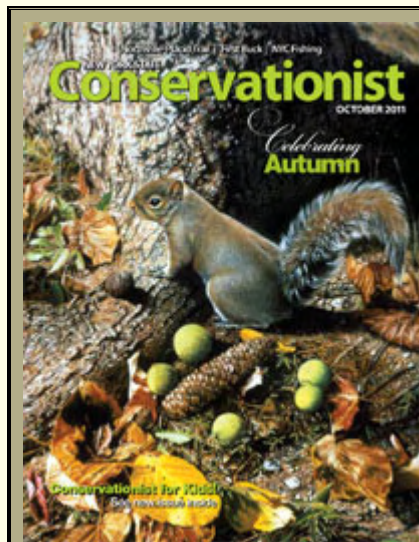
## Newly Renovated Rome Fish Hatchery Open to Visitors.

A ribbon cutting ceremony on September 23 celebrated the recent opening of the renewed Rome Fish Hatchery. The \$2.1 million state-of-the-art, energy-efficient facility now boasts a visitors' center, an early fish rearing area ("hatch house"), offices, a conference room, a workshop and storage areas. Its modern features will streamline production of the millions of brown and brook trout raised there each year. Located at 8306 Fish Hatchery Road in Rome, NY, visitors can stop by year-round from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for a fun-filled and educational experience of the fascinating world of fish culture. [Read more details](#) about the newly restored hatchery in the DEC press release.

## Noteworthy Events

### October 15. "Raptor Rapture" at the New York State Museum.

Learn about New York's birds of prey — owls, hawks, and falcons — by visiting "Raptor Rapture" at the museum on October 15. The event features live birds of prey, educational presentations, hands-on activities, workshops, informational displays and more for the entire family to enjoy. DEC Biologist Jed Hayden will be presenting our efforts to monitor and study winter raptors, like the threatened [northern harrier](#) and the endangered [short-eared owl](#). Details and a schedule of events can be found on the [winterraptorfest.com](http://winterraptorfest.com) website.



### **Get The Latest Conservationist!**

Don't miss the October 2011 issue of *Conservationist*! In this issue, readers can marvel at historic photos as they glimpse into DEC's past, learn how hunters help those less fortunate while pursuing their favorite pastime, follow along on a thru-hike of the Northville-Placid Trail or on a traverse-hike of the Rensselaer Plateau, and explore the world of nature and landscape painter, Mark Verna. Check out the new issue by visiting [www.TheConservationist.org](http://www.TheConservationist.org), and get your own copy by calling 1-800-678-6399.

## Upcoming Recreational Sporting Season Reminders

The recreational season reminders listed below include season dates that extend over the next two weeks. To view more season dates, visit the [Outdoor Activities](#) page of DEC's website.

### *Fishing (Freshwater)*

**For Trout (brown, rainbow, hybrids and splake), Lake Trout, Landlocked salmon, and Kokanee:**

- *October 15* - Final day to fish for these species statewide; however, some areas may remain open for trout. To find out which waters near you still have trout fishing opportunities, check the [special fishing regulations by County](#).

## **Hunting**

(Maps of hunting zones and areas can be found by clicking the links.)

### **Big Game Hunting**

#### **For Bear:**

- *October 14* - Final day of early bear hunting season in the Northern Zone.
- *October 15* - Opening day for muzzleloader hunting in the Northern Zone and bow hunting in the Southern Zone, including Westchester County
- *October 21* - Final day for bow hunting and muzzleloader hunting in the Northern Zone.
- *October 22* - Opening day for firearms hunting in the Northern Zone.

#### **For Deer:**

- *October 15* - Opening day for muzzleloader hunting in the Northern Zone and bow hunting in the Southern Zone, including Westchester County
- *October 21* - Final day for bow hunting and muzzleloader hunting in the Northern Zone.
- *October 22* - Opening day for firearms hunting in the Northern Zone.

### **Turkey Hunting**

- *October 21* - Final day for turkey hunting in northern areas of the state.
- *October 22* - Opening day for turkey hunting in central and western areas of the state.

### **Waterfowl Hunting**

#### **For Brant:**

- *October 12* - Opening day in the Lake Champlain Zone.

#### **For Duck, Coot, Merganser:**

- *October 10* - Final day in the Northeastern Zone.
- *October 12* - Opening day in the Lake Champlain Zone.
- *October 16* - Final day in the Southeastern and Lake Champlain Zones.
- *October 22* - Opening day in the Western and Northeast Zone.

#### **For Sea Duck:**

- *October 15* - Opening day in the special sea duck area on Long Island.

#### **For Canada Geese:**

- *October 20* - Opening day in the Lake Champlain Zone.
- *October 22* - Opening day in Northeastern, East Central, South, West Central, and Hudson Valley Zones.

#### **For Snow Geese:**

- *October 22* - Opening day in the Western Zone.

## ***Small Game Hunting***

### **For Pheasant:**

- *October 15* - Opening day in central and western areas of New York.

## **Awards and Recognition**

### **Theodore Gordon Flyfishers Presents Conservation Award to DEC Biologist.**

Jack Isaacs, recent retiree from the Division's Bureau of Habitat, will be honored with the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers prestigious Conservation Award. Before his retirement in 2010, Jack worked in DEC's New Paltz office where he managed the regional habitat protection program. During his more than 30-year career with DEC, he worked tirelessly to protect world-renowned trout streams like the Beaver Kill and Willowemoc Creek. The Conservation Award will be presented to Jack at the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers' Annual Conservation Dinner held on October 15 at the Rockland House near Roscoe, NY. See [www.theodoregordonflyfishers.org](http://www.theodoregordonflyfishers.org) for details.

## **Other News in the Press**

Below are additional links to noteworthy DEC press releases:

- [DEC Warns Motorists to be Alert for Moose in the Adirondacks.](#)
- [2011-2012 Waterfowl Hunting Season and Outlook.](#)
- [DEC Issues Draft Regulations for High-Volume Hydraulic Fracturing.](#)



### **Did You Know...?**

White-tailed deer shed and grow new antlers each year. Growing at half an inch each day during peak development and ranging in size based on the deer's age, nutrition and genetics, antlers are typically at full size during this time of year. In mid-winter, antlers are shed and provide a source of nourishment for rodents like mice, voles, porcupines and squirrels.

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