



This is another occasional electronic newsletter for all members of CCA MD. It is designed to deliver important information quickly. We also encourage you to seek information on the chapter website, www.ccamd.org.

CCA MD calls for more action to promote catch and release

The Executive Board last week in an electronic vote adopted a position calling for greater attention to catch and release fishing and more scientific research to determine its value throughout the Bay. That position, which is available on the CCA MD website, is being mailed to Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Secretary John Griffin today and a news release was disseminated last night. The statement asks DNR to be more aggressive in communicating proper release techniques to anglers and seeks more research “on the sub lethal effect of hooking and hooking mortality.”

“While not all anglers practice catch and release fishing, it has been demonstrated to be a sustainable approach to the fishery,” said Andy Hughes, CCA MD chair. “We don’t expect that all members will adopt this approach, but it’s important that we all know the best ways to carefully release fish that are undersized. When released properly, small fish will mature into the larger fish we all value.” Hughes also pointed out that there have been rumors regarding a push to close the catch and release season currently in place between the end of gill net season in February and the opening of the catch and kill season.

“We don’t know if this will seriously be brought forward, but we need to watch its progress,” Hughes said. “Many of our members participate in this early season, especially on the Susquehanna Flats.” More information can be obtained on catch and release fishing on the new website that CCA MD was influential in establishing, www.carefulcatchmaryland.com. It includes tips in how to release fish and catch and release research.

The catch and release position statement, as well as other position statements can be seen on the CCA MD website, www.ccamd.org, by selecting "position statements" under the "advocacy" tab.

Learn more about CCA MD at www.ccamd.org