

Helpful Hints

I'm amazed at the number of clients I take fishing who end up either sweating buckets or freezing their tush off because they are not wearing the right attire.

Here are some helpful hints, along with your water and sun block, to make your fishing trip a more pleasurable experience. If you are new to fishing or boating in general, it could feel a lot colder on the water than on land. Vies versa, it could feel much warmer on the water than on land.

You may start out on spring or fall mornings when it is down right cold but as the day progresses, the sun comes out, the wind dies down, and you could feel like you are being baked. On the other hand, you may start the afternoon with just a pair of shorts and tee shirt, the clouds come in, the wind picks up, the sun starts setting and you are feeling down right cold again!

The simple trick is to dress in layers. Track pants and a hooded sweat shirt over your socks, tee and shorts. You can always remove clothes if you have something underneath but you can't put back on what you don't have. Long johns and gloves isn't being a sissy late fall or early spring.

Comfort is king, not fashion. You are not going to a running of The Queens Plate. So, if you mind getting fish blood, worm guts and muddy weeds on your good clothes – don't wear them.

A Tilley type hat is recommended to prevent a RED NECK and it can be doused in the lake to cool your head off.

If it is going to be a hot day, freeze your bottled water first. Potato salad and fried chicken are great on a picnic but not a fishing trip. Hopefully, you will be catching lots of fish so finger type food is the order of the day. For example: cut your sandwiches in fourths or eights, segment your orange before you leave, not while you are landing fish.

Don't forget about your bait on a hot day. Worms will sour extremely fast. You can purchase a special worm cooler pack but an old cooler bag with a freezer pack in it will do just as well.

Minnows in any kind of heat will die if they are not aerated. If your boat does not have an aerator, a portable one can be had very reasonably. I even drop a few trays of ice cubes in my minnow bucket at the start to make them last longer.

An old clean towel has a 1001 uses in your boat – keep one handy

On real cold days, a little Vaseline on your rod guides will help keep your line from freezing and jamming up.

If you are brave enough to fish in extremely cold weather, a survival suite is not suggested lightly. If you do fall in, chances are you are the only boat on the lake. In cold weather, without a survival suit, your survival goes from hours to minutes.

Happy Fishing - Rick

**Rick Daniels is owner / operator of Chemong Lake Fishing Charters
www.kawarthafishing.com, MuskyGuide@bell.net**