

NDG&F May 27th Newsletter

Put Garbage Where it Belongs

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department reminds outdoor recreationists to keep public use areas, including state wildlife management areas, clean this summer by packing out all trash.

All garbage should be placed in a proper trash receptacle. If trash cans aren't available, or are full, take the trash and dispose of it at home.

It is not uncommon to see garbage piling up around trash containers after they become full. Styrofoam containers are not biodegradable, but yet are often found wedged in cattails, drifting or washed up on shore.

Worn tires, old mattresses and kitchen appliances have found their way to public use areas. This illegal dumping is costly to clean up and takes a significant toll on the environment. Not only does it spoil the beauty of the land, it destroys habitat, has the potential to pollute North Dakota waters and can injure wildlife.

In addition, possession of glass bottles is prohibited on state wildlife management areas and sovereign lands. Therefore, it is illegal for outdoor recreationists to possess glass containers on sandbars along the Missouri River System.

Littering violations should be reported by calling the Report All Poachers telephone number at 800-472-2121.

A complete list of [WMA regulations](#) is available on the Game and Fish website, [gf.nd.gov](#).

Family Fishing Days at Bismarck OWLS

Family fishing days return June 4 to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's Outdoor Wildlife Learning Site.

The catch-and-release only fishery is stocked with trout, bluegill, largemouth bass and other species.

Family fishing days are Wednesdays and Saturdays through the end of August. Fishing equipment can be checked out at the OWLS Pond, located adjacent to the department's Bismarck office, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Fishing rods, basic tackle and bait are available for use free of charge.

Trained volunteers or Game and Fish staff are available to answer questions and check out equipment, but there is little or no direct supervision. Children who aren't old enough to get to the pond on their own should be accompanied by an adult.

The OWLS area is fairly primitive, but includes a picnic shelter and benches upon entering the site, and a portable restroom. The area has no running water. Users should bring water, sunscreen, folding chairs and appropriate clothing.

The Game and Fish Department is seeking volunteer instructors to assist with the program. Individuals at least age 18 with an interest in teaching kids to fish can contact the department at 701-328-6300.

The OWLS pond is open to fishing year-round during daylight hours. Larger groups are encouraged to make arrangements with Game and Fish to visit the area on days other than Wednesdays and Saturdays. There are no bait restrictions and anglers must practice catch-and-release. The area is designed for wheel chair accessibility. Pets, glass bottles and alcohol are not permitted on the site.