

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

News Release

Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Block Island NWR □ John H. Chafee NWR at Pettaquamscutt Cove □ Ninigret NWR □ Sachuest Point NWR □ Trustum Pond NWR

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For Immediate Release

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Cinder Worm Fly Tying Workshop

Observe one of nature's fascinating spring rituals. Witness thousands of cinder worms as they wiggle their way to the surface performing their spring mating dance. Quietly wade the protected coves of Ninigret Pond on a warm spring evening. See the beauty of a sunset over tranquil water. Now listen to the sound of silence as it is interrupted by dozens of surface feeding stripers. Finally, fish for those stripers using the tiny cinder worm flies you tied yourself. This isn't some kind of fisherman's dream, it's reality and it can happen to you. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in partnership with RI D.E.M., is organizing a Cinder Worm Workshop. There will be two weekday evening classes in fly tying instruction on cinder worm patterns and one weekend evening of fly fishing. "We would like to have everyone attend both workshops," said David Pollack, one of the organizers of the program, "but you also have the option to pick just one. Introduction to practical rigging and casting instruction will be covered for those that need additional assistance. Fly fishers will then fish the coves of Grassy Point area of Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge. "We don't guarantee the weather or the fish," said Pollack, "but past experiences have shown that this is prime time for the worm mating season." The program is open to any adult or child over the age of 10, regardless of skill level--40 maximum. Instruction and guidance will be provided by some of the area's most knowledgeable worm fishermen. New this year will be an opportunity for kayak fishing - limited to experienced kayakers who have their own kayaks, equipped with required safety equipment and lights for kayaking after dark. Dave Pollack will lead that group.



For more information or to register, please contact Janis Nepshinsky 401-364-9124, extension 28 or email at Janis_Nepshinsky@fws.gov.

All fly tying materials will be provided. Participants are encouraged to use their personal equipment, but RI Division of Fish & Wildlife's Aquatic Resource Education program will also provide the necessary fishing and fly tying equipment (other than waders) for beginners and entry level registrants.

Tuesday, April 29th, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Fly Tying
Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown, RI

Monday May 5th, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Fly Tying

Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown, RI

Saturday, May 10th, 4:00 PM to dark

Fishing from Shore and Kayaks

Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge, Charlestown, RI

Ray Stachelek, USFWS Volunteer

Dave Pollack, USFWS Volunteer