

ODFW to host youth angling event at Canby Pond

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

CANBY, Ore. – The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife invites young anglers to take part in the Youth Angling Enhancement Program Saturday, April 4 at Canby Pond from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event is free and ODFW staff and volunteers will be on hand to help youngsters discover the joys of fishing.

ODFW will stock the pond with more than 1,000 rainbow trout, including more than 200 fish weighing 1-4 pounds. ODFW will provide equipment including rods, reels and bait. Angling Education Instructors will also be on hand to answer questions and offer assistance to less experienced youth anglers.

“This is a great opportunity for kids to discover fishing,” said Todd Alsbury, district fish biologist for the North Willamette Watershed. “We have plenty of experienced staff and anglers on hand to answer any questions the families might have and provide instruction for beginners.”

In addition to giving youth anglers quality fishing time, the event will give the public an opportunity to see how conditions at Canby Pond have improved over the past year through support from the City of Canby along with stewardship efforts of ODFW volunteers and staff. Those efforts were instrumental in gaining Mitch Webb, an ODFW volunteer fishing instructor from Canby, a national award through the Anglers Legacy program. Webb spearheaded a cooperative effort between ODFW and the City of Canby to restore the pond and turn it into a popular trout fishery for youths and persons with disabilities. Last year he put in more than 250 volunteer hours at the pond teaching hundreds of kids how to fish.

Last year, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted rules making Canby Pond one of Oregon’s only youth-only fishing venues. The new regulation was developed as part of a public proposal from the Association of Northwest Steelheaders to increase opportunities for local youth and disabled anglers. It is open to youngsters ages 17 and under as well as persons with disabilities who possess an Oregon Disabled Angler’s license. The new rules make it illegal for adults to fish in Canby Pond.

Under Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations, anglers ages 13 and under can fish for free while those 14-17 will need to have a juvenile angling license. All fishing regulations continue to apply during this event.

Canby Pond is 1-acre in size and located at Canby Community Park in the southwest portion of Canby. Access the park by traveling south from Highway 99E on SW Berg Parkway.

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