



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

Keeping Pennsylvania anglers safe and informed.



Make It a Safe Day on the Water

Always wear your life jacket. More than 80% of boating fatalities happen to boaters who are not wearing a life jacket. Create a float plan to let someone know where you are planning to boat and when you expect to return, take a basic boating safety course, and have the proper registrations and launch permits. Never boat under the influence of alcohol. Go to www.fishandboat.com for more information or the FishBoatPA mobile app "Near Me" feature to find boat access points. Watch our online safe boating videos.

Use Best Boating Practices

Continue practicing social distancing and maintaining extra distance from other boats. Keep a minimum distance of 6 feet between anglers or paddlers—about the length of a fishing rod, or a canoe or kayak paddle. If boating and fishing, do not share fishing gear. Only boat with members of your immediate household unit. Refrain from carpooling and bring your own food. Continue to follow CDC guidelines, which include washing your hands or using hand sanitizer frequently, and not touching your face. If you do not feel well, stay home.

Purchase Your Boat Registration Renewal, Launch Permit, Get in Gear or Fishing License Online

To reduce unnecessary travel and social contact amid health concerns, boaters and anglers are able to buy their boat registration renewal, launch permit, or fishing license online at www.fishandboat.com or by using the FishBoatPA mobile app and display it digitally on a phone or other mobile device as proof of possession.

With each boating related transaction, customers will receive a digital receipt that serves as a temporary registration or permit valid for immediate use. Upon purchase of a fishing license, a .pdf file containing an image of your license is provided and can be saved to a mobile device or computer.

If approached by a Waterways Conservation Officer in the field, the boater or angler can produce the digital image of the registration, permit, or license on their phone or mobile device. A digital copy of the pdf, photo, or screenshot of your boat registration, launch permit, or fishing license on your phone or mobile device will all be accepted as proof of possession.

Take A Basic Boating Safety Course Man on Jetski

All boaters born after December 31, 1981 who operate boats powered by motors greater than 25 horsepower must have a Pennsylvania Boating Safety Certificate. A certificate is also required for anyone who operates a personal watercraft (such as a jet ski), regardless of age. Online and classroom-based courses can be found at www.fishandboat.com. Due to public health concerns related to COVID-19, classroom-based courses may be limited.

Fish Pennsylvania's Plentiful Panfish

PanfishStart the summer off right! Get out and fish for Pennsylvania's plentiful panfish. Click here for the best panfish waters near you and here for an introduction to panfish fishing. For an introduction to crappie fishing, watch our online video.

Visit the Activities and Education PortalTwo female anglers

Looking for some fun, educational summer activities? Click here for great information on aquatic resources, fish, amphibians, reptiles, fishing, water safety, and paddle sports. Each category includes coloring pages, crafts, skill-building activities, videos, publications, and more. Interested in learning how to fish or tie flies? Check out our fishing videos or fly tying videos.

Participate in a Trout In the Classroom Basic Teacher Workshop

Trout In the Classroom fishThe Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission and Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited are offering a virtual Trout In the Classroom (TIC) workshop for new and interested TIC teachers and program partners on Tuesday, June 23, 2020. Pre-registration is required. Click here to register online by Monday, June 15, 2020. For more information on TIC, visit www.patrountheclassroom.org.

Lend a Helping Hand to Pennsylvania TurtlesWood Turtle

If you see a turtle crossing a road and want to lend a helping hand, check carefully to make sure it is safe to enter the roadway, and then move the turtle across the road in the direction it was traveling. Placing a turtle on the side of the road it was coming from will only cause it to re-enter the roadway. Turtles have strong homing instincts and will continue to cross the road. Go to www.fishandboat.com for more information.



#hereforgoodpa

#HereForGood PA

By Michael Ortoski / Slate Belt Chamber Board Member

Tee shirts available now! Fund raised through this program will help to produce and provide more face masks to those in need & supports the Slate Belt Chamber of Commerce that supports our Slate Belt businesses.

Get yours today by going to this link : <https://stores.inksoft.com/hereforgoodpa>

when you click the link above scroll to the very bottom of the tee shirts to see the three styles available that support your local chamber!

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HOW TO MAKE A HOMEMADE MASK OUT OF FABRIC OR CLOTH



MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Fabric (100% cotton is most effective)
- Fabric ties
- Scissors
- Sewing machine or a needle and thread

INSTRUCTIONS:



- Measure and cut two pieces of fabric in a rectangle pattern to fit snugly around the face (size 12 inches by 6 inches is standard for adults)
- Tightly sew both layers together on all edges
- Cut fabric ties to fit around the ears
- Sew the ties to the insides of the mask on the smaller edge, repeat on both sides
- Resew the sides to ensure a tight seal between both pieces of fabric and the earpiece

State Fop Issues Statement On Pennsylvania Policing

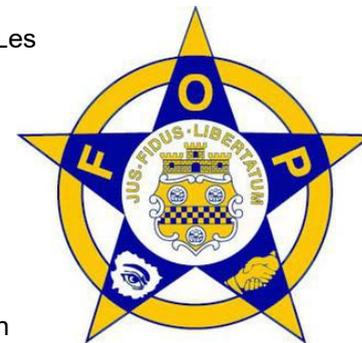
By Jill Helsel Gingrich

HARRISBURG – Fraternal Order of Police State Lodge President Les Neri today issued the following statement:

“Although the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd is very troubling, we do not believe that it should define the dedicated men and women in law enforcement who risk their lives every day to protect everyone. The involved officers have been criminally charged and will be held accountable for their actions as prescribed by law.”

“There is no place for racism in our profession or our society. Every person is created equal and thereby entitled to the exact same application and protection under the law. The 40,000 men and women of the PA FOP have taken an oath to uphold the Constitution, as well as to protect and serve the citizens of this commonwealth.”

“The PA FOP is fully aware that this incident in Minneapolis has diminished the trust and respect that many in our communities have for the men and women of law enforcement. We are firmly committed to working with stakeholders to create an environment of healing, understanding and trust.”



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FRAUD WATCH NETWORK

Spring Break Vacation Scams

Despite what the Groundhog says, winter isn't going away anytime soon. That fact has many of us looking for a warm getaway this spring, but beware scammers could be lurking on the other end of that sweetheart spring break deal. These three tips will help you spot a potential travel scam. First, be wary of any deal that is dramatically lower than what else is available at your destination. Next, verify the legitimacy of online travel sites by looking closely at the web address – scammers often “spoof” legitimate hotels and third party booking sites. Finally, don't trust anyone who requests a wire transfer or prepaid gift card to pay for your getaway – these are the payment forms preferred by today's scammers.

Don't get left out in the cold this spring, be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

Report scams to local law enforcement.



Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline at 1-877-908-3360 to report a scam or get help if you've fallen victim.

