

FISHING REPORTS

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EAST END REPORT

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THIS WEEK'S BEST BET

The recent spell of mild weather has really sparked spring fever among anglers. And while most fishermen are opting to wait for the start of porgy and fluke season, those with itchy feet are opting for some holdover stripers from the Peconic River or some freshwater fishing from the local lakes and ponds. Bunker and alewives continue to move into the Peconic Estuary. A handful of flounder pounders did line the banks of the Shinnecock Canal on opening day, however no one reported back. Keep in mind that the spring run of weakfish passing through the Shinnecock Canal and into the Peconic Bays are due to show up within the next couple of weeks.

MONTAUK

Over at **Star Island Yacht Club**, John reports the shop is open every day from 7 A.M. to 5 P.M. Fishing remains quiet on the eastern front this week. John did have one boat out when I called on Sunday,

however the fishermen were still out fishing. Don't forget that the 33rd Annual Star Island Shark Tournament is slated for Friday and Saturday June 14 and 15 with the Captains Meeting Thursday June 13. Anyone signing up for the tournament before April 15th are automatically entered for a chance to win a \$500 credit to the ship store. For more info, call (631) 668-5052.

Tonya over at **Westlake Marina** reports the shop will be fully operational by May 2nd with all baits and tackle needed to slam those big stripers and fluke.

Capt. Pete Casale of the **My Mate** reports is now booking inshore and offshore trips for the 2019 season and Capt. Pete does have availability for prime dates and can be reached at (917) 543-3115 to book a great trip.

Capt. Ron Onorato, of the **Captain Ron** reports the boat will be back fishing off Montauk mid-May for stripers and fluke. The captain will also be chartering trips for cod and sharks on Saturday's during July, August and September, while the other days will be devoted to stripers and bottom fishing. Book early at (516) 835-4910 before the prime dates are all filled.

Capt. Steve of **Top Hook Fishing Charters** reports he will begin by the start of fluke season and is now accepting reservations for the 2019 fishing season, specializing in inshore striped and bottom

fishing as well as offshore shark trips. Now is the time to give a call at (516) 658-6812 and secure your dates before they become booked.

Capt. Tom of the **Sea Wife IV** did not sail this week, but Capt. Tom and Capt. Vern are ready to go and have upcoming dates available for cod and ling on weekends during April as well as weekday's. The captain is also accepting bookings for the 2019 season. Give him a call at 1-800-308-8969.

Capt. Kenny of the **My Joyce III** reports he is excited and optimistic that the start of some dynamite action is just weeks away. Capt. Ken is now accepting reservations for the 2019 season specializing in both inshore and offshore fishing. A call at (516) 641-2138 will seal the deal or visit www.myjoycefishing.com for details and up to the date reports.

Capt. Sal of **Moondance Charters** is back from Florida and getting ready for the season. People have started calling and booking choice dates. Check out Capt. Sal's website MoondanceCharters.com, or even better, like them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MoondanceCharters. For reservations call Capt. Sal at 917-601-4548

Captain Jill and Capt. Steve of **November Rain Charters** are accepting bookings for 2019 where the boat can sail with up to 20 passengers and the

ONLINE NOW at thefisherman.com

RIGS FOR WRECKS

With the spring kickoff on blackfish along the Atlantic Coast, these time-tested rigs will work magic on tautog in April, as well as porgy and black sea bass when those seasons and species are active. Finally, we're back in blackfish for 2019 – check out TheFisherman.com for more tips & tactics



MARINE REGULATIONS

Rules and regulations seem to change with the tide these days, varying greatly from state to state. Before heading out, check online for regional restrictions to ensure you're in compliance no matter how, when or where you fish. State size, season and bag restrictions change quickly this time of year, stay on top of it at TheFisherman.com.

