

Media release  
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### **Family Fun Fishing Event**

The second annual Family Fun Fishing Event will be held on Sunday, May 4 at Sweet Arrow Lake County Park thanks to major sponsors; Friends of Schuylkill Parks and Recreation and Pine Grove Fish and Game. Mark your calendars now to avoid missing a great annual activity for the entire family. The event is being coordinated by the Schuylkill County Sportsmen's Advisory Board (SAB) to the Schuylkill County Commissioners.

"We wish to continue to utilize fishing and other outdoor activities to establish a lasting outdoor family-fun bonding experience in addition to creating a greater awareness of Sweet Arrow Lake County Park and all its amenities", said Craig R. Morgan, SAB chairman. Partnering groups will have the opportunity to publicize their group, provide hands-on activities and host fundraising opportunities. One such group, the Schuylkill County Sportsmen's Association, will raise funds by selling breakfast and lunch at the Clubhouse.

Over 1500 people participated in last years event; the vast majority consisting of families. Over 2000 trout will be stocked thanks to the Friends of Schuylkill Parks and Recreation, the Pine Grove Fish and Game and Swatara Co-op trout nurseries. In addition, the PA Fish and Boat Commissions in-season stocking will be April 30th. Over 100 Lunker (18 plus inches) trout will also be stocked thanks to the Lake's Lunker committee. At this time there will over \$3,000 in prizes and a minimum 35 trout and 15 crappies with tags worth a minimum of \$25 each.

The registration fee prior to April 19th to enter is \$10 an individual or \$20 per family, which will include one \$5 individual and one \$10 family food voucher. The day of the event the fee will increase \$5 and \$10 respectively. The first 200 kids age 5-12 pre-registered will receive a prize which can be claimed at Clubhouse or PA Fish and Boat Access area on May 4<sup>th</sup> only. Also, the 2 heaviest carp (weighed between 1 and 1:30pm) caught May 4<sup>th</sup> will each receive a minimum \$50 gift to be awarded near the Clubhouse at 2pm. Tagged fish caught after May 4<sup>th</sup> can still be redeemed by registrant with a deadline of September 1 thanks to A&A Bait Shop. "So even if you have a conflict May 4, you have 5 months to land that big one", added Morgan, "so don't miss out on registering!" Also, everyone registered by May 4 will be eligible for many special prizes to be drawn at 2pm near Clubhouse.

Current partnering groups include: Friends of Schuylkill Parks and Recreation, Pine Grove Fish and Game and Swatara Co-op trout nurseries, Sweet Arrow Lake Trout Lunker Committee, Sweet Arrow Lake Park Board, Sweet Arrow Anglers, Schuylkill County Department of Parks and Recreation, Northern Swatara Creek Watershed Association, Sweet Arrow Lake Conservation

Association, Schuylkill Conservation District, Trout Unlimited, A&A Bait Shop and the PA Fish and Boat Commission.

In addition to the family fishing event canoe and kayaks will be available for rent and there will be crafters and other non-food vendors on hand.

Check-in and registration will begin at 6am at the clubhouse area and the PA Fish and Boat access area coordinated by the Sweet Arrow Anglers. All tug trout and Lunkers will be stocked beginning at 8am. (time to have breakfast in the Clubhouse and redeem your food coupons) Most Lunkers and tug fish will be float stocked to all areas of the lake. Absolutely no BASS may be kept as Bass are not in season. All PA Fish and Boat Commission rules and regulations including a fishing license for everyone 16 and older apply.

Anyone wishing to help may contribute cash, etc. which would be used for prizes. The event registration form is available on the Sweet Arrow Lake County Park website. Contact Craig R. Morgan at 570-739-2627 for more information.

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