



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Further Information Contact:
Cyndy Chanaca, (860) 424-4100
George Babey, (860) 424-3474
April 8, 2010

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Helen Street School Students and Connecticut DEP Deputy Commissioner Stock Trout in the Mill River, Hamden

*Buy your fishing licenses on-line now in preparation for opening day on Saturday, April 17 at
www.ct.gov/dep/fishinglicense*

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Deputy Commissioner Susan Frechette, Hamden's Mayor Scott Jackson, School Superintendent Fran Rabinowitz, Helen Street School Principal Lyn Kelleher and fifth graders from Helen Street School yesterday stocked adult rainbow trout at the Sleeping Giant Management Area on the Mill River within Sleeping Giant State Park in final preparation for **Opening Day** of trout fishing season on **Saturday, April 17.**

Deputy Commissioner Susan Frechette said "Fishing is a great outdoor activity that connects Connecticut's families to the outdoors and is easy and fun to do. An event like the one yesterday introduces children to something they may have never experienced before and fosters their sense of wonder about nature and the outdoors. The DEP encourages everyone to 'dust off your fishing rods' and take a child fishing during the upcoming season. Fishing has a way of bringing together experienced anglers with novices to enjoy the beautiful outdoors of our great state."

Opening Day of the Trout Fishing Season is Saturday, April 17 and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has the state's rivers, streams, lakes and ponds stocked and ready. Over 200 truckloads of trout are being distributed throughout the state in preparation for Opening Day. These trout are being released into 103 lakes and ponds and 200 rivers and streams throughout Connecticut. DEP's spring trout stocking effort began in early March and will continue through the end of May.

Deputy Commissioner Frechette added, "The Governor's *No Child Left Inside*[®] initiative continues to be one of the highlights for the DEP and fishing has become an integral part of this program. Fishing is a great experience for youngsters and gets them outdoors –away from computers and TV sets."

Instructors from the DEP's Connecticut Aquatic Resources Education (CARE) program have already taught 120,000 students about water, fish, and fishing. They taught the Helen Street School students last week in preparation for trout stocking. By combining classroom science with outdoor activities, CARE helps insure that these 5th graders will be stewards of our State's waters and fish for years to come.

Fishing licenses are available on-line at: www.ct.gov/dep/fishinglicense. Anglers should consult DEP's 2010 Angler's Connecticut Guide for the current fishing regulations that apply to the waters they plan to fish. Trout Management Areas and the many waters designated as Trout Parks, Trophy Trout Streams, Sea-Run Trout Streams and Wild Trout Management Areas each have special regulations.

The 2010 Connecticut Angler's Guide is available at all Town Clerks Offices, many DEP offices and at tackle stores selling fishing licenses. The Angler's Guide can also be accessed on the DEP web site at: www.ct.gov/dep/fishing

Opening Day Stocking at Trout Parks

Anglers, including children, are encouraged to help stock trout at the following locations on Opening Day. These areas have all been stocked once prior to Opening Day, so there is no need to wait until the truck arrives to start fishing. The schedule is tentative and may change.

Stratton Brook SP Pond	Simsbury	8:30 a.m.
Black Rock Pond	Thomaston	10:00 a.m.
Great Hollow Pond	Monroe	10:00 a.m.
Southford Falls	Oxford	8:30 a.m.
Wharton Brook SP Pond	Wallingford	8:30 a.m.
Valley Falls Park	Vernon	10:30 a.m.
Chatfield Hollow SP	Killingworth	10:00 a.m.
Mohegan Park Pond.	Norwich	8:15 a.m.

Additional Trout Parks, all stocked prior to Opening Day

Day Pond State Park	Colchester
Kent Falls State Park	Kent
Natchaug River	Eastford

Urban areas stocked prior to Opening Day

Keney Park Pond	Hartford
Lake Wintergreen	New Haven/Hamden
Upper Fulton Park Pond	Waterbury
Bunnells Pond	Bridgeport

#####