



BC'S FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

18th BC's Family Fishing Weekend June 16th – 18th, 2017

What is BC's Family Fishing Weekend?

BC's Family Fishing Weekend is a celebration of the great sport of fishing and getting outdoors. 2017 marks the 18th annual event weekend.

Each event is organized by dedicated groups in each community with help from the Family Fishing Society of BC. As well as encouraging youngsters to come out and fish the events are an excellent opportunity to share the importance of fish and their fragile habitat. The goals of the Society and of the event are to increase angler participation, promote BC's world-class freshwater and tidal (saltwater) sport fishery plus develop greater public respect and awareness for our outdoor resources.

The Family Fishing Society was awarded the National Recreational Fisheries Award by Fisheries and Oceans Canada in recognition of the long lasting and positive impacts of (re)introducing thousands of kids and families to recreational fishing in British Columbia. The Family Fishing Society of British Columbia was created in 1999 to encourage all British Columbians to take up recreational angling as a pastime and to enjoy British Columbia's world-class sport fishing opportunities.

The program offers two great opportunities to the public:

Try Fishing for Free: British Columbians are invited to try fishing on June 16 - 18, 2017, Father's Day Weekend, anywhere in the province or get reacquainted with a great sport. Freshwater fishing is **FREE** during the Family Fishing Weekend (June 17, 18 and 19, 2016 only) in many of the province's lakes and streams. BC residents can try angling within the rules and do not need to buy or carry a freshwater or tidal fishing license. The BC Government offers a complimentary 3-day basic freshwater licence valid only for June 16, 17 and 18, 2017. And, Fisheries and Oceans Canada encourages BC residents to try their hand at tidal (saltwater) fishing with a free tidal water fishing licence (certain regulations apply).

Special Community Fishing Events: During the Father's Day weekend BC residents can have fun by attending our popular community fishing events around the province. These events are **FREE** to attend and help people, particularly kids, learn about fishing, fish and conservation in a fun and relaxed environment. Expert volunteers on site help take the mystery out of the "how to" of fishing. Time and materials are provided by volunteers and companies that recognize the value of introducing young people and families to fishing and the outdoors. As mentioned, all the events are free and offer great opportunities to fish with loaner equipment or give-aways. For a complete list of the community fishing events visit www.bcfamilyfishing.com website events pages.

Annually this program attracts an estimated 40,000 people who go fishing in the province during the Family Fishing Weekend around BC, approximately 15,000 people visit one of the 50 popular community fishing events. Over the years, BC's Family Fishing Weekend has developed into a well-liked and much anticipated annual event. Please visit our **website** at www.bcfamilyfishing.com, **like** us on **Facebook** or follow us on **Twitter** @bcffw for lots of helpful information, free contests and prizes!

The Family Fishing Society of BC

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