

**VIRGINIA RECREATIONAL FISHING DEVELOPMENT FUND  
SUMMARY PROJECT APPLICATION\***

<b>NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:</b>  The Newport News Rotary Club & The Coastal Conservation Association	<b>PROJECT LEADER (name, phone, e-mail):</b>  Robert T. Cowling						
<b>PRIORITY AREA OF CONCERN:</b>  Providing at-risk children the opportunity to learn about local marine life/species, marine safety, environmental issues facing the bay and provide hands on fishing instruction by experienced anglers.	<b>PROJECT LOCATION:</b>  James River Fishing Pier Huntington Park Newport News, VA						
<b>DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF PROJECT:</b>  <p align="center"><b><u>2007 Children's Fishing Clinic</u></b></p>							
<b>PROJECT SUMMARY:</b>  <p>For the past <u>eleven</u> years the objective of this project is to identify and educate at-risk children of Virginia by exposing and instructing them in the recreational aspects of saltwater fishing. Our intent is to educate approximately 250 at-risk children between the ages of 8-12 on conservation ethics, local saltwater aquatic habitats/species and the art and technique of saltwater fishing with the result expectation of lifelong knowledge and participation. The primary plan is for each child and chaperone pass through a series of educational stations before being escorted to the pier where they will be given hands on instruction by a team of experienced anglers. Each child will be given a rod/reel, all tackle &amp; bait, t-shirt, lunch and handouts to take with the. The event is free to participants and all equipment is for them to keep</p>							
<b>EXPECTED BENEFITS:</b>  <p>The purpose of this project is to educate children as well as provide them tools that can be used over and over. Keeping the rods &amp; reels by the children is expected to enhance recreational opportunities among the at-risk children as well as promote marine safety, environmental program involvement, and identification of edible and non-edible fish species. Not only does this project impact the lives of the 250 children invited, but it also educates the approximate 75 chaperones and over 100 other volunteers that make this event possible. Many adults see the educational booths for the first time and they also leave with a greater knowledge and appreciation of the recreational value of taking a child fishing. These are the future anglers of our community and now is the time to teach them.</p>							
<b>COSTS:</b>  <table border="1" data-bbox="181 1697 815 1816"> <tr> <td><b>VMRC Funding:</b></td> <td>\$ 6,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Recipient Funding:</b></td> <td>\$ 7,300</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total Costs:</b></td> <td>\$13,300</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Detailed budget must be included with proposal.</b></p>		<b>VMRC Funding:</b>	\$ 6,000	<b>Recipient Funding:</b>	\$ 7,300	<b>Total Costs:</b>	\$13,300
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Updated 6/1/05

\*This form alone does not constitute a complete application, see application instructions or contact Sonya Davis at 757-247-8155 or [sonya.davis@mrc.virginia.gov](mailto:sonya.davis@mrc.virginia.gov) : Due dates are June 15 (Jul. – Nov. Cycle) and December 15 (Jan. – May Cycle)

## **Children's Fishing Clinic**

Robert Cowling-Co-Chairman  
125 Keith Road  
Newport News, VA 23606

June 7, 2006

Virginia Marine Resources Commission  
RFAB Grant request  
2600 Washington Ave, Third Floor  
Newport News, VA 23607-0756

Re: **2007 Children's Fishing Clinic**

Dear Sonya:

Attached you will find the request for funding of the 2007 Children's Fishing Clinic. We will be conducting the 2006 Children's Clinic on July 15, 2006. I have used the same budget figures as this year and do not anticipate any significant changes.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call at Old Point Trust & Financial Services, 757-599-2207 or my cell, 757-344-0659.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rob".

Robert Cowling, Co-Chairman

**125 Keith Road Newport News, VA 23606 (757) 599-2207**

## **Project Proposal-Virginia Recreational Fishing Development Fund**

### **2007 Children's Fishing Clinic**

**A. Need:** A program for educating at-risk children in recreational opportunities which exist locally and yet are unexplored with the resultant expectation of lifelong knowledge and continued participation.

**B. Objective:** The objective of this project is to identify and educate at-risk children of the Virginia Peninsula by exposing and instructing them in the recreational aspects of saltwater fishing.

**C. Expected Results or Benefits:** As the purpose of this project is to educate children concerning conservation ethics, local saltwater aquatic habitats and species, and the art and technique of salt water angling; this project is expected to enhance recreational opportunities among the at-risk children as well as promote marine safety, environmental program involvement, and identification of edible and non-edible and non-edible fish species.

**D. Approach:** For the last eleven years (1996-2006) the Children's Fishing Clinic was acclaimed as extremely successful. The plan calls for each child and adult volunteer to proceed through a series of educational stations where marine educational demonstrations will be done. The success of the past eleven years is attributed to two primary factors, which occur simultaneously. They are:

- ❖ **The Newport News Rotary Club and The Coastal Conservation Association** together provides the general management of the event as well as the hands on fishing experience. The coordination and formation of a diversified committee is instrumental in identifying the needs and resultant solutions to a common Virginia problem. That is, educating at-risk children in recreational opportunities that exist locally and yet, are unexplored with the resultant expectation of lifelong knowledge and participation.

- ❖ Administration functions are jointly managed by the Newport News Rotary Club and The Coastal Conservation Association. The selection of the children is handled by the Newport News Office on Youth Development. They coordinate with many different groups to select and arrange for children and adult volunteers. The day of the event, the two groups (Rotary & CCA) including about 175 volunteers, manage the registration and on site fishing instruction. Each child receives a rod & Reel, tackle, T-shirt and a full lunch. The children will keep the equipment provided so they can continue fishing in the future.

Beyond the actual fishing experience, educational booths are set up in a manner that requires each participating child and adult volunteer to pass through them and stop for a presentation. A sample of the educational booths would be as follows:

- a. **Virginia Marine Science Museum:** Museum staff brings a mobile touch tank for hands on learning featuring aquatic life encountered in the Chesapeake Bay.
- b. **Virginia Marine Resources Commission:** Claude Bain, Director of the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament, will display local bay species they may encounter.
- b. **Emergency Response Stranding Team:** Booth will show how team responds when a sea mammal is stranded on a beach in Virginia.
- c. **VIMMS (Virginia Institute of Marine Science)** A booth showing how fish tagging can help gather valuable research data
- d. **Newport News Parks & Recreation:** Lifeguards will do a display on water safety.
- e. **Chesapeake Bay Foundation** volunteers set-up a booth to show participants the importance of the Chesapeake Bay to the environment and why it is important to do our part in protecting the bay.

It is proposed that the 2007 Children's Fishing Clinic be held similarly in nature as year's prior. **The request for funding from the Recreational License Fund is \$6,000.** The balance of funds will come from other community sources.

E. **Location:** The location of the event is the James River Fishing Pier, Newport News, VA. The pier is made available to us at **no charge**.

F. **Estimated Cost:**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Equipment	300 rod/reel (tackle, bait, chum, etc)	\$4,900
Food	hot dogs/chips/water (600 @ \$2.00 each)	\$1,200
Shirts	with logo & sponsors (500 @ \$6.00)	\$3,000
Rental Equipment	potties, tables/chairs, dumpster, Golf cars, etc.	\$ 900
Exhibits	display booth fees	\$ 400
Misc.	printing, postage, site supplies Office supplies, etc.	\$1,400
	Multi-Year Equipment/repairs	<u>\$1,500</u>
	<b>Total Estimated Expenses</b>	<b>\$13,300</b>
	<b>Outside solicited contributions</b>	<b><u>- \$ 7,300</u></b>
	<b>Requested funds from Virginia Recreational Fishing Development Fund</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>