

# SHAD FISHING HINTS

## Dan Davala

### **Shad Fishing Podcast with Tom**

**Rosenbauer:** <http://www.orvis.com/news/fly-fishing/podcast-shad-bonus-dicount-code/>

## HELPFUL POTOMAC RIVER SHAD FISHING TOOLS:

**Gauge and Water Temp. (at Little Falls) 55 degrees and up is best:** <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/uv?01646500>

**Water Level Forecast (what to expect):** <http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=lwx&gage=brkm2>

**Tide:** <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noaatidepredictions/NOAATidesFacade.jsp?Stationid=8594900>

**Weather:** <http://www.weather.com/weather/tenday/USDC0001>

**Detailed Map of locations from Georgetown to Fletcher's (thanks Mike Bailey):** <http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=215985205281593198240.0004b9b1bc00cfd986f02&msa=0>

### **Tidal Potomac Fly Rodders**

**Forum:** <https://groups.google.com/forum/?fromgroups#!forum/tidal-potomac-fly-rodders>

**Fletcher's Cove Website:** <http://www.fletcherscove.com/index.htm>

## SHAD IDENTIFICATION AND FACTS (courtesy of Maryland DNR):

**Hickory Shad:** <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/fishfacts/hickoryshad.asp>

**American Shad:** <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/fishfacts/americanshad.asp>

## **Blueback Herring and**

**Alewife:** <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/fishfacts/herring.asp>

**Gizzard Shad:** <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/fishfacts/americangizzards had.asp>

## **OTHER USEFUL AND INTERESTING RESOURCES:**

**"SHAD FISHING" by C.Boyd Pfeiffer:** <http://www.amazon.com/Shad-Fishing-C-Boyd-Pfeiffer/dp/0811730670>

**"The Founding Fish" by John McPhee:** <http://www.amazon.com/The-Founding-Fish-John-McPhee/dp/0374104441>

**"Fly Fishing For Shad on the Rappahannock" - Beau Beasley:** <http://www.askaboutflyfishing.com/speakers/beau-beasley/fly-fishing-for-shad-on-the-rappahannock-river.cfm>

## **RECOMMENDED TACKLE:**

**Single Hand Rod** - 6 weight - 8 weight, 9'-10' long

**Double Hand Rod** - 6 weight - 9 weight, 11' - 14' long (I like long rods from the rocks)

**Standard Lines** - Fast, full sinking is best, fast sinking sink-tip lines with tips at least 10' long (15' is better). Multi-tip lines with a 15' type 6 tip works great too.

**Spey Lines** - Skagit lines with 12'-15' fast sinking tips

**Leader** - short (2' - 3'), level piece of 0X (approx. 16lb.), fluorocarbon is preferred for abrasion resistance around the rocks.

**Flies** - any small, flashy fly in sizes #4-#8. Many Shad Patterns are available, but a #6 Clouser tied short in Chart./White is all that is needed. Most bright bonefish flies work as well as do classic streamers like Mickey Finns.