



CHESAPEAKE WOMEN ANGLERS

Code of Conduct

Fish legally

1. Abide by the fishing regulations
 - a. Make sure your fishing license is current and always carry it with you when on the water.
 - b. Comply with the relevant fishing regulations, which change between States.

Respect others

2. Respect the rights of other anglers and water users
 - a. Always show courtesy and consideration to other anglers and water users. Respect their right to be on the water and enjoy their activities.
3. Respect landowners' rights
 - a. Know where you can gain legal access to the water. Respect 'Posted' signs.
 - b. Use established access roads and tracks.
 - c. Park your vehicle considerately and safely.
 - d. Close gates you find closed. Leave open gates you find open.

Practice sustainable fishing

4. Follow sustainable fishing practices
 - a. Examples of sustainable fishing practices include: catch and release, 'keep 'm wet,' handle the catch properly, go lead-free, and 'leave no trace.'

Standards of Behavior

5. Standards of Behavior
 - a. Demonstrate acceptable Standards of Behavior when attending CWA events. Standards of Behavior include:
 - i. Be respectful to other CWA members. Vulgar, abusive, threatening, or discriminatory language or behavior is unacceptable.

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- ii. Comply with all CWA requirements, for example: sign the CWA waiver when attending an event.
- iii. Comply with all instructions given by the CWA Event Lead, or a Board member attending an event, for example: a call to stop fishing due to extreme weather, or any instruction relating to safety on the water.

6. Report a violation of Standards of Behavior

- a. Members may report any perceived violation of the above *Standards of Behavior* (as described in paragraph 5) to:
 - i. the CWA Event Lead or
 - ii. any Board member in attendance at the event or
 - iii. by email to the CWA President at pres@chesapeakewomenanglers.org

7. Managing a Standards of Behavior issue

- a. Failure to demonstrate acceptable Standards of Behavior (as described in paragraph 5) may result in:
 - i. being asked to leave a CWA event by the CWA Event Lead or a Board member present at the event
 - ii. having club privileges restricted by the Board
 - iii. in extreme cases, having club membership revoked by the Board and/or being barred from future CWA membership by the Board.

For the purposes of this Code of Conduct:

CWA member includes Current Members, Members-for-a-day and anyone else volunteering at or participating in a CWA event.

CWA event includes all CWA events, fishing outings, clinics and activities, as well as jointly hosted events or activities with other clubs or organizations.