

# INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING May 9-12, 2026





## Little Qualicum Hall & Dashwood Park Field

26 Students  
14 Instructors

Instructors: Dave Farrar, Jeff Allen, Gord Armbruster, Bill Gouge, Ken Mackenzie, Antan Phillips, Lloyd Sargison, Tim Lothian, Pierre Drapeau, Darwin Burgess, Richard Gosling, Cormack Gates, Jonny Wigmore, Tom Gates.

Murray Coen: Club Quartermaster

Richard Gosling: Photographer

# Morning Lectures



The art and science of fly fishing (Cormack)



Introduction to Club activities (Dave & Jeff)



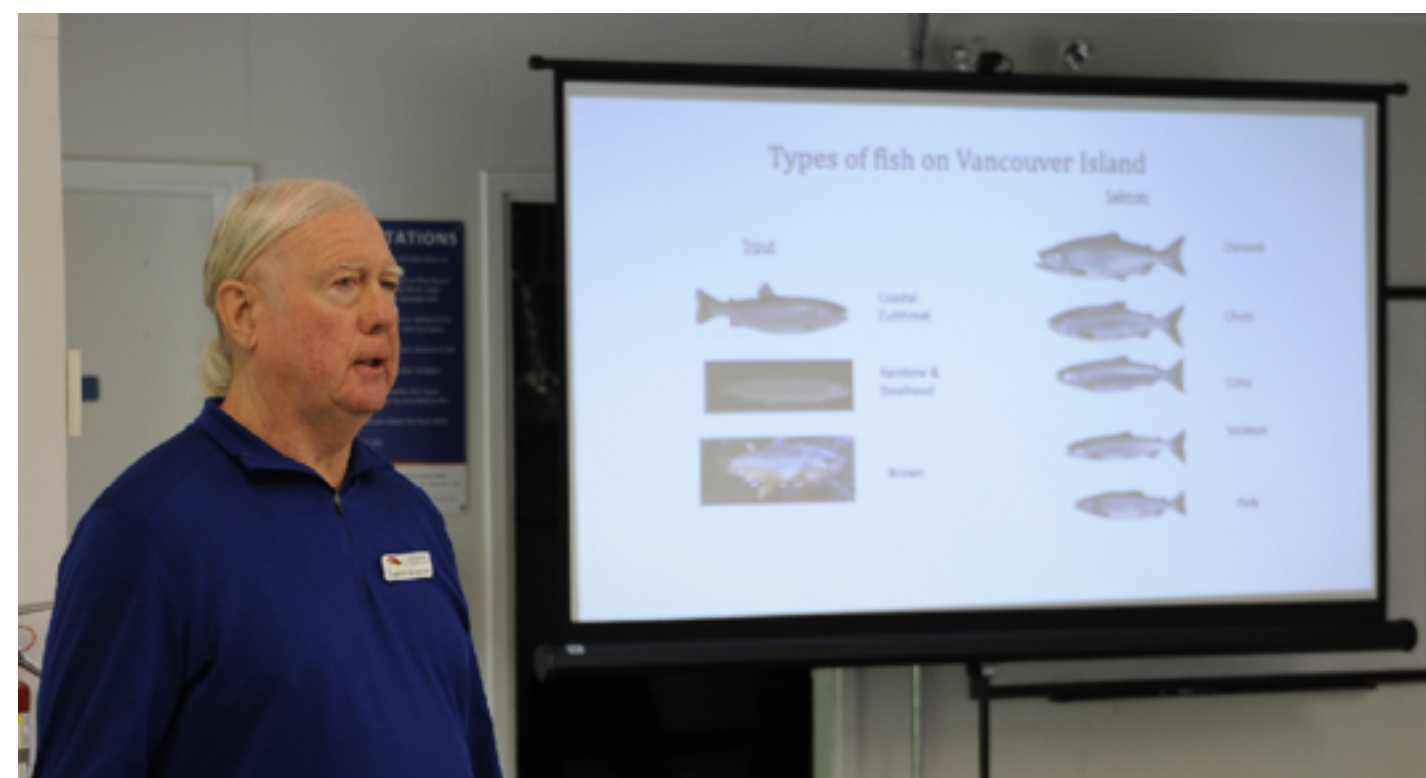
Fish food: How to fool a fish (Antan)



Essential flies to get started (Gord & Bill)



How to rig a fly rod (Gord, Ken & Bill)



Fish biology for the fly fisher (Darwin)

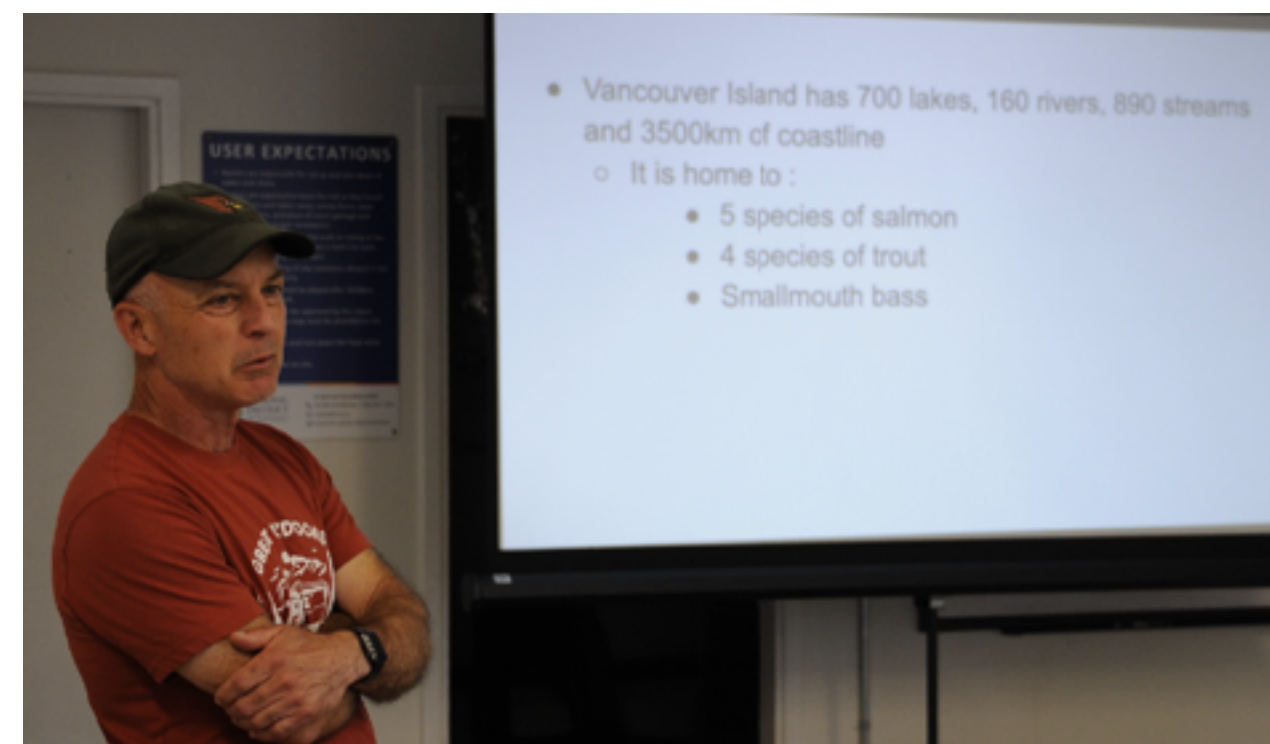


Tips on selecting fly rods, reels, lines (Cormack)

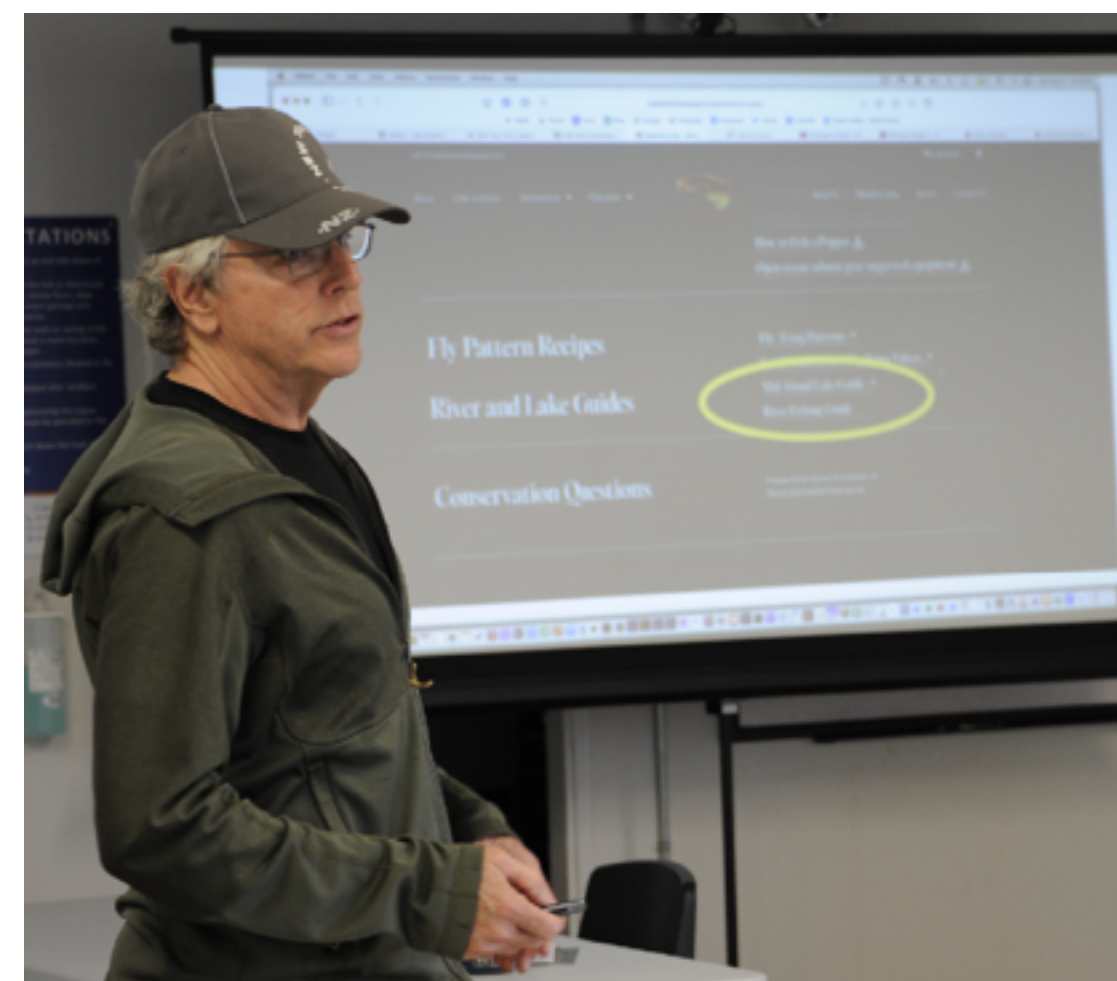
Ethics, regulations, catch & release (Cormack)



Fly fishing accessories and safety (Dave, Pierre & Ken)



Where to fish (Gord & Tim)



# Display Tables



Flies

Accessories & safety gear



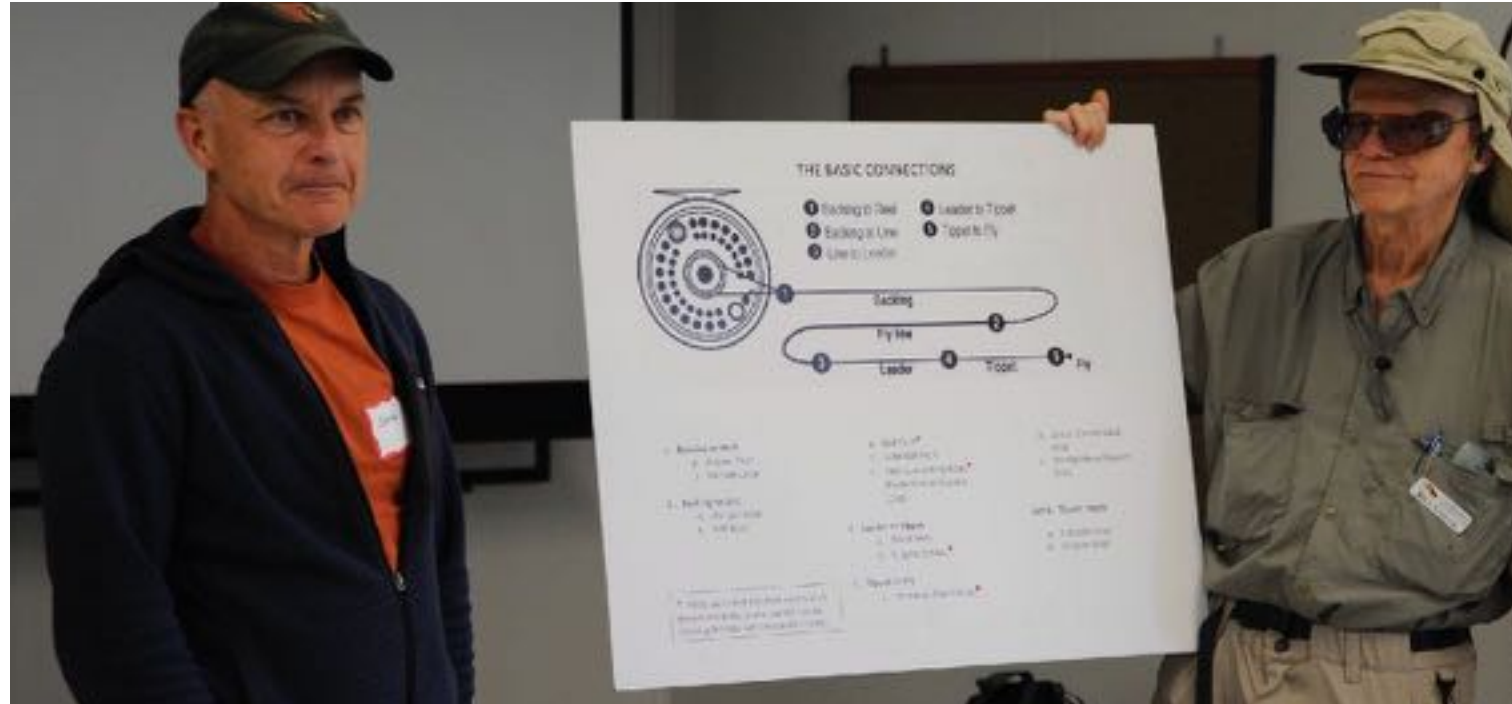
Library (Jeff)  
Club store (Lloyd)

Rods, reels & lines



# Afternoon casting and knot tying

## Anatomy of lines and knots



## Assembling club fly rods



# Casting fundamentals



- + Casting arc for line length
- + Speed up to a stop (force)
- + Pause for line to roll out
- + No slack
- = Tight loop



## Skill building drills:

- triangle drills
- horizontal drills
- climb the wall (changing planes)

# Pick-Up-Lay-Down & Roll Cast





# Knot tying

Tippet to fly: improved clinch, Pitzen, loop knot  
Leader sections: double surgeon's knot, loop-to-loop  
Leader to fly line: loop-loop, figure-8, sheet bend



# Monday Night: Stream Ecology



Caddis larva



Lamprey larva



11 taxa total



May 11  
IFF 2026 Taxa List @ L.Q. Hatchery

macroinvertebrates

- Ephemeroptera - 2 species - 1 green and 1 beige mayfly adults
- Plecoptera
- Decapoda - Crayfish
- Tricoptera - stone case builder caddis
- Water mites - free living caddis
- Tubificid Oligochaeta
- green (very small) chironomid ~ 6mm long
- Whirligig beetles coleoptera
- Riffle beetle - adult
- Freshwater mussels Bivalvia Pelecypoda
- Snails Gastropoda (spiral shell)
- Hemiptera Gerridae water striders

Fish

Lamprey (Pacifica?)

- weather Sunny
- stream flow high
- method D.net / stone sampling / dip nets  
kick samples
- Noted Spring high flows and large roots & tree removed wooden bench on concrete slab.

## Taxa List from Tom Gates

Two mayfly species  
Stonefly  
Crayfish  
Caddis larvae: cased and free-living  
Water mites  
Tubificid worms  
Chironomids  
Whirligig beetles  
Riffle beetle adult  
Freshwater mussels  
Snails  
Water striders  
Lamprey larvae

# Tuesday Night: Casting Clinic



Practice only makes permanent  
Perfect practice makes perfect!!

# INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING

## Manual 2026

**Mid-Island Castaways  
Fly Fishing Club**



<https://midislandcastaways.com>

Available to download from the members-only section of the club's web site.