

Kids Fish Day Challenge

By Lori Sak

"Wow, look at this big fish on my line," a young child with a huge smile shouts as a rainbow trout squirms on the end of their rod. This was the scene the Bellaire Conservation Club members envisioned back in the 1970's when they planned their first Kids Fish Day. The members of the club strove to encourage respect and love for nature through the sport of fishing. This year's Kids Fish Day on April 25, 2026, is free to all 14-year-old and younger youths. This event gets children outside and away from their phones, computers, IPADS, tablets, TikTok, TV, and Nintendo games. Over the last four years, Kids Fish Day was attended by Bellaire kids as well as children from 20 counties in Michigan and 47 Cities, Towns, and Villages.

For almost 50 years on the last Saturday in April, Bellaire Conservation Club stocked Meadow Brook Pond in Bellaire with rainbow trout. In past years fish were supplied from Jordon River National Fish Hatchery at no cost. The all-volunteer club would buy bait, prizes, loaner fishing poles, and some additional fish for Kids Fish Day.

Unfortunately, fish are no longer available through any national or state program. This year the Club is faced with purchasing over a thousand fish at \$5 - \$7 per trout from private hatcheries. They need help to continue offering this program for kids. Another benefit of this program is that residents of Meadow Brook Medical Care Facility can fish and enjoy the outdoors. The Club also offers several Community Senior Citizen Fish Days, as well as other programs for kids and adults throughout the year.

If you have a great memory of catching a fish on Kids Fish Day, or watched your children and grandchildren experience the thrill of landing a fish, please consider donating to Kids Fish Day. Please send your donation to:

Bellaire Conservation Club
P.O. Box 177
4820 Stover Rd.
Bellaire, Michigan 49615

If you have any questions, please email: bellaireconservationclub@gmail.com.
Contact: Lori or Paul Sak
586-604-1892



And thank you Bellaire Conservation Club for being our bright spot of the week!



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