



[www.FocusOnFishHealth.org](http://www.FocusOnFishHealth.org)

## **FOCUS ON FISH HEALTH PHOTO CONTEST EXTENDED THROUGH SEPTEMBER**

***Enter to win at [www.FocusOnFishHealth.org](http://www.FocusOnFishHealth.org)***

The Focus on Fish Health campaign has extended its successful photo contest through the month of September! Boating and fishing enthusiasts having good, clean fun on the water on Labor Day weekend and throughout the month are invited to send in their photos and enter to win.

Those interested in entering the contest, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Inspection Services (APHIS), should submit photos online by September 30 at [www.FocusOnFishHealth.org](http://www.FocusOnFishHealth.org). A maximum of three photos can be submitted by each contestant.

Winners will be selected in three categories: Most Impressive Catch, Happiest Boaters on the Water, and Family Fun Fishing or Boating. Selected photos will be featured on the website during the month of October. In addition to bragging rights, winners will receive a Focus on Fish Health Duffle Bag.

"The main purpose of the contest is to draw visitors to our website to learn more about protecting fish from infectious diseases like Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) and invasive species like Asian carp, said Dr. Gary Egrie, APHIS senior staff veterinarian. "We encourage them to spread the message that transferring water, bait or mud and vegetation between bodies of water threatens the recreational activities we all enjoy – boating and fishing in clean, safe water. We hope everyone will get the facts and do their part in protecting the environment."

Audio and video Public Service Announcements, Palm Cards with information on preventive measures, and a Power Point presentation to help fight the spread of fish diseases and invasive species are available for free at [www.FocusOnFishHealth.org](http://www.FocusOnFishHealth.org)

**Community Relations Directors are invited to make liberal use of the audio Public Service Announcement attached.** Media representatives may contact Madelaine Fletcher at [Madelaine.Fletcher@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Madelaine.Fletcher@aphis.usda.gov), 301-734-6125 or Charlotte Roy at [croy@diversitymc.com](mailto:croy@diversitymc.com), 404-531-6777 or 404-313-2860