



**April 8, 2009**

**By Ken Lamb of the Tackle Box, 301-863-8151**

Good crappie catches are coming in from St. Mary's Lake. Live minnows, tiny jigs, and a few night crawlers will bring strikes. Be sure to use a bobber and a short leader.

Fishermen trolling in the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay have found PLENTY of rockfish. The size and quantity of fish caught and released has been terrific. The reports come from the mouth of the Patuxent River, Point No Point, Point Lookout in the Chesapeake Bay, and Piney Point and St. George Island in the Potomac River. There is plenty of bait (alewives and herring) in the Chesapeake Bay and the rockfish are following, feeding, and spawning.

Tommy Courtney caught his first croaker of the year in his pound net at Cornfield Harbor, on the Potomac River, last Saturday. A handful of others have shown up in the lower Potomac River on the Virginia side in the pound nets. April is the month for the croakers to begin their summer migration into the Chesapeake Bay, but the cold is slowing down the process.

Crabs are behind too. Only a handful have shown up in the crab pots so far.