

It's Spring, Maybe

All of the hunting seasons are coming to a close. The exceptions are rabbit, squirrel, and what is left of archery deer season. Everyone is getting their fishing lines ready to hit the lakes. It must be spring, right? Not so fast, it has snowed during spring break several times and I've noticed that the lakes are still in the need of water.

I was hunting at Blue Mountain Lake during the last weekend of duck season and the water was about six foot below the normal conservation pool of three hundred and eighty four feet. I was really amazed that it had as much water as it did. It was great to see that milo and millet had been planted and was drawing the ducks in. This has not been done in over twenty years. At Blue Mountain Lake if the lake is not flooded, it is feast or famine as far as duck hunting goes. Hopefully, with this last rain the runoff from Ashley Creek, Lick Creek and several others will put Blue Mountain Lake back to normal. Many row crop farmers depend on overflow water going down the Petit Jean River to irrigate their crops.

Lake Jack Nolen is another story. If you live out there you know what I'm talking about. There is not as much chance for runoff to fill this body of water. The bald eagles have been having a hay day because the low water has concentrated the fish for easy taking. Docks are several yards from the water and the stumps look like a mine field to navigate.

Can you believe it's February?! As I approach the age of AARP qualification I have noticed how time flies. Oh, by the way it's time to prune and plant trees this month. I topped my crepe myrtles this past weekend, as well as started pruning my willow oaks. It was getting old trying to mow underneath the lower branches and getting a limb in the head every time.

This year I'm buying more things local than ever before. Let's help ourselves to a better economy. When you buy local, you help create jobs, keep more money in the community, businesses make more purchases, and support local non-profits such as school sponsored clubs. I would like to thank Above and Beyond Lawn and Landscape, AirCare Systems by Price, Brownfield Pharmacy, Farmers Cooperatives and Vache Grass Country Club. That's just the ones here in Greenwood. By the way, Greg with Above and Beyond Lawn and Landscape tells me that now is the time to spray pre-emergent for those spring weeds.

I'm looking forward to spring as I still pray for rain to help our farmers, wildlife, and spring flowers. Don't forget to feed the birds, especially this time of year. It is a great thing to do to teach those grandkids about all the different types of birds that exist in our part of the country. Who knows, you might just see a bird that doesn't usually come to this area normally. Oh, by the way you can buy bird seed at a local business such as the Farmers Cooperatives and get a cup of hot coffee to boot. Tell 'em I sent you.

If you need to sell that old flat bottom boat sitting in the back yard JRO is offering cash right now! If you would like to turkey hunt with a bed and breakfast accommodations give Mr. Outdoors a call. JRO is now offering deer, turkey, and duck hunting leases in Oklahoma for 2013-14. Thank all of you for your continued support of JRO or Jim Reynolds Outdoors, a local business.