

The Muskrat Nymph

The next fly tying session will be held at the Odd Fellows Hall in San Luis Obispo on Tuesday, June 27th at 6:30. Jim Snodgrass will demonstrate the Muskrat Nymph. The Muskrat Nymph was created by Oregon fly-tying legend Polly Rosborough, known for his Fuzzy Nymph collection. Rosborough's philosophy of fly tying was that the patterns should "simulate the action of insect life versus trying to imitate the literal composition of aquatic insects."



According to Steve Yates, of Little River Outfitters, during the spring hatches some nymphs, especially mayfly nymphs, become restless just before they hatch moving up and down in the water column. Even when they begin to hatch, many insects never make it to the surface. They are intercepted by fish on the way to the surface or are impaired and drown. Often times a hatch will start out with the smaller fish making loud splashy rises, the larger fish will continue to eat the nymphs as they emerge, or take advantage of the impaired and drowned insects.

The Muskrat Nymph is effective when the nymphs are close to maturity and the transformation from aquatic to air born insect is nearing. Trout are not generally selective of their food source until an abundance of a certain food item becomes available. During the time when trout are feeding on several types of nymphs, the generic nymph is attractive. The Muskrat nymph is not weighted, rather it moves freely in the water column.

Materials:

The following are the material that will be used for the Muskrat Nymph:

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| Thread | - | 6/0 or 8/0 black |
| Hook | - | Dai-Riki #730, size 18 |
| Body | - | Natural muskrat dubbing |
| Thorax | - | Peacock herl |
| Head | - | Tying thread |

All materials will be supplied, but be sure and bring your thread, either 6/0 or 8/0 black.

Web Sites:

<http://littleriveroutfitters.com/littleriverjournal/mar2010/yates/index.htm>

<http://www.orvis.com/news/fly-fishing/video-tie-muskrat-nymph/>