

Angler R3 Programs

Fishing for Dinner (FFD), Fishing in the Neighborhood (FiN), and Angler Education are programs that deliver fishing instruction to a variety of audiences; elements of all programs may be combined. FFD and FiN are an outgrowth of the DNR's Angler Education program that was designed primarily for youth. Anyone wishing to implement these programs should reach out to the AR3 Coordinator to attend training workshops so that they can lead these classes or mentor adults. Instructors and mentors will be asked to complete a background check by submitting [DNR Form 4100-217 \[PDF\]](#).

Fishing for Dinner

The *Fishing for Dinner* program's primary goal is to lure new anglers to the water's edge and encourage them to become stewards of Wisconsin's bountiful fisheries. While the focus is on young adults who have an interest in local, sustainably raised food, we invite anyone to participate. We hope that participants will consider the fish they catch as part of a healthy diet.



Format

Fishing for Dinner is structured as a community education-style class with multiple sessions (four or five) where adults learn fishing basics such as knot-tying, gear and bait selection, casting, fish identification, fish handling and preparing the catch for the table. Fishing for Dinner can be also be adapted for family programming at community centers. The DNR provides instructor training and materials and will help you promote your classes on our website and through social media. Partners should have access to community centers or be able to work with local agencies to use government facilities to host the classes.

Fishing in the Neighborhood

FiN is a program that delivers fishing opportunities to youth and families, particularly in low-income neighborhoods or neighborhoods with high percentages of people belonging to communities of color. College-age FiN interns, or *FiN'terns*, as they are affectionately known, are placed with partners at, for example, community centers or with local parks departments. FiN'terns are supervised by the partner organization and provide regularly scheduled fishing instruction and outings to youth and families in the community where there are based. They and their supervisors are encouraged to attend training from the DNR. Partners may have access to the *Fishmobile*, the DNR's mobile fishing trailer. We



are looking for partners to help us implement these programs and meet Wisconsin's Angler R3 goals on a wider scale than we can accomplish on our own.

Attached are a list of characteristics an organization would need to possess to successfully implement a FiN program. Please consider them when completing the Angler R3 grant application and outline how you would demonstrate that your organization has these characteristics.

Fishing in the Neighborhood Partner Characteristics

Thank you for your interest in applying to be a Fishing in the Neighborhood (FiN) Partner through the Angler R3 Grant process. We recommend an average of 4 programs per week for a 12-week summer internship. However, programming can occur any time of the year. Please feel free to reach out to the AR3 coordinator for additional guidance.



As you complete your Angler R3 Grant application, keep these considerations in mind to determine your potential to implement a successful FiN program:

1. **Intended Audience.** Be able to describe the demographics of the audience you intend to serve, e.g. age, race, ethnicity, gender.
2. **Relationship of organization to community.** Be able to describe how your organization's community presence will foster repeat fishing opportunities for intended audience.
3. **Adequate supervisory staff.** It is important that the FiN'tern be trained, supervised and mentored for a successful internship.
4. **Support staff to assist at outings.** Adequate support staff available for fishing outings. (Recommended ratio depends on audience.)
5. **Office space for FiN'terns.** FiN'tern(s) should have access to a computer and adequate space for equipment storage and program preparation.
6. **Community Connections.** Be able to list your community partners and describe the audiences they serve as well as how the FiN'tern(s) will work with them.
7. **Nearby Fishable Waters.** Consider proximity and accessibility of event locations to target audience. Having nearby, familiar fishable waters are important to foster continued fishing participation after programs' end.

8. **Transportation.** If applicable, ensure that your organization has access to passenger vans and staff certified to drive them.
9. **Training.** Training by DNR in Angler R3 programs, including Fishing for Dinner and Angler Education is strongly encouraged for FiN'terns, organization's supervisory staff and support staff.

Angler Education

The Angler Education program provides opportunities for youth to learn basic fishing skills, explore Wisconsin's aquatic resources and develop a set of conservation ethics to help ensure that Wisconsin's lakes and streams will remain bountiful for generations to come.

Program Providers

The DNR provides instructor training and certification workshops to adults from diverse organizations such as schools, community centers, recreation departments, youth agencies, conservation clubs and service groups. Certified instructors have access to educational resources and loaner fishing equipment to lead their own programs. Classroom teachers, community center staff, youth leaders, fishing club members, and civic leaders are all encouraged to attend a workshop as a team or form one at the workshop.

Program Models

Successful program models include classroom-based fishing programs that reinforce school curricula, after-school fishing clubs, summer enrichment classes, family-school/camp adventures, scout merit badges and more. While this program has traditionally focused on youth, keep in mind adults who may have missed the boat as kids, and consider the adult-focused *Fishing for Dinner* program.

Instructor Certification

Adults get certified as Angler Education Instructors by attending a training workshop and completing a background check using [DNR Form 4100-217 \[PDF\]](#). Basic Angler Education instructor certification workshops focus on teaching spin casting and incorporating related topics in a K-12 curriculum, youth development programs or adult education. Some workshops feature fly fishing while others are linked to our adult [Fishing for Dinner](#) program. Here are more specifics on the [certification process](#).