



## “Learn How To Fly Fish” Course

*“Gain knowledge & skills that might otherwise take years to learn”*

The School of FlyFishing has been teaching people how to fly fish since the early 1990s. The School’s comprehensive curriculum, *“Learn How To Fly Fish,”* is made available to its students through its course offerings across the nation. The curriculum is presented by experienced fly fishing educators in a fun, informal style, suitable for young and old alike. Families with children are particularly suited as students, however anyone wanting to gain knowledge and skills in fly fishing will benefit by taking this course.

The principle instructor for your course is Dana C. Cole. He is the founder of The School of FlyFishing and co-founder of the Fishing Education Foundation/National Fishing in Schools Program with his daughter, Katie Dement. He is the author of the course text, *“Learn How To Fly Fish.”* He initiated and taught the fly fishing course at the University of Nebraska for 6 years. He has 68 years of fly fishing experience, having caught his first trout at the age of 5 right here on Spearfish Creek, behind the family cabin.

The course content is adaptable to the level of experience for each prospective student. The courses are ideal for the **“beginner”** (who wants to gain sound initial fundamentals), the **“intermediate”** (who wants to continue to improve their fly fishing knowledge and skills), and the **“advanced”** (wanting to broaden their fly fishing experiences.)

Whichever date you select, you will have 2 full days of active, invigorating skill development and learning. One-and-a-half-days are “in the classroom” at the lodge and surrounding grounds; 1/2 day is spent actually fishing with a local professional guide (everything provided.)

With a maximum of 8 students per session, we have the flexibility to adapt to a range of student experience within any given course, insuring that you gain assistance in the areas most critical to you. Our objective is to teach you how to fly fish, not to sell tackle, clothing and equipment.

We hope you will join us this season for one of our *“Learn How To Fly Fish”* courses and help pave the way for what we hope will be a lifetime journey of fly fishing.

For course content, please see reverse side.

# What you learn at The School of FlyFishing

TOPIC	BEGINNER	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED
Casting	how flycasting is different load a rod: stop = go cast the line, not the lure the basic 2 phase cast	roll-cast how to mend line line hand control minimizing false casts	single haul, double haul shooting heads constant pressure techniques slack line, dump, reach, etc.
Knots	fly line-to-reel leader-to-fly line leader-to-leader fly-to-leader	dropper fishing saltwater/big fish loops/connections	tying bulletproof knots using loop connections on shooting heads
Rods	types/"actions" materials & construction how rods are classified how to choose a fly rod	matching rods to jobs handling conditions rods vs fish/quarry	when one rod is not enough downlining rods for distance
Reels	types/purposes reel components classification of reels how to choose a fly reel	big game/saltwater reels big fish reels extra spools	when to invest in an "expensive" reel backing for distance
Lines	types of fly lines fly line materials fly line classification how to choose/where use	getting lines down system for fly line use when/how use sinking lines	shooting heads improved mending complete "line library"
Leaders	purpose of leaders how to select leaders adding tippet	the long & short of leaders tying leaders leader materials	evaluating leader performance how to refine leaders to be more successful
Flies	types of flies selecting flies matching flies to conditions	hatch match? small stuff, big stuff	tying your own flies casting big flies toothy critter flies
Equipment/ Accessories	waders, boots, shoes, etc. vests, & the like necessities (& unnecessaries)	suggestions for comfort what you likely don't need	the final touches: some of the little things that work
Entomology	basic insect identification insect life cycle aquatic vegetation & insects	what fish eat determining fish diet insects vs flies relationship	imitation vs replication identification simplified small changes, big results
Presentation	fundamental flyfishing rules where to find fish selecting the right fly	hunting fish overcoming drag mending upstream & down	what to do in tough times advanced nymphing fishing tiny dries beating the odds

*For lodging information or to register:* Nicole Coons

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