

Captain Don Taylor Jr.
Inshore Outdoors Fishing
904.318.9906
Arlington/Mill Cove
January 2019

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas. As we roll into 2019 I can't help but to think back on 2018 and what an awesome year of fishing it was and what the new year has in store. This past year I had the opportunity to participate in events, speak at seminars, meet new friends, speak with some of the titans in the fishing industry and gain knowledge about the sport I love. I believe we can all learn something from one another and we are never to old stop learning. The Northeast Florida area in my opinion is one of the most diverse and difficult place to fish. However, learning to fish the area, and the challenges it presents makes everyday day different and exciting. For example, in my opinion the Flounder bite never really materialized like in years past. The Trout bite was better later in the year. Why do these patterns happen? These are the topics to name a few that keep me so passionate about my job and the outdoors. As soon as you think you have a certain species dialed in, they throw you a curve ball. On a recent trip, my guest and his 2 boys wanted fish for a fry, Trout in particular. After 4hrs of dinks and shorts I was at a loss. I asked them if we could try 2 more spots. Thankfully they agreed and boy did it pay off. We loaded the boat for 2hrs straight. After the trip the father used the day events as a learning lesson for his boys. To finish what you start and not to give up. I was humbled and appreciative at the same time. I mentioned this because it touched me and I learned a valuable lesson that day. Not to quit and someone else is always watching. Now to fishing. The Trout bite is on fire. On any given day a 50 to 70 trout outing is possible. The awesome thing, a ton of fish are in the slot. Look for moving water, rocks, ledges and fall offs. A variety of lures and bait will do the trick. On recent trips we have boated Trout for several hours straight. Plastics, mud minnows and hard baits will all get the job done. The redfish have moved to a winter pattern. Target the creeks holes on the higher tide and move to the flats and shallow water when the tide falls. Schooling fish will be sunning as the mud warms up. Shrimp, mud minnows and crab will all be very effective live bait. With the colder water temps this time of year, the clarity of the water is much improved and allows artificial anglers the opportunity for sight casting. Use a 1/16 or 1/8oz presentation when sight fishing. Also try dark colors and a smaller bait size during the winter months. The splash will be smaller and the fall will be slower. The Sheepshead bite is extremely good right now. Target the rocks, jetties and bridges. A fiddler crab, oyster or clam is the bait of choice. Use a shorter, heavier rod, and stout leader to pull these bad boys out of structure. I wish everyone a happy and exciting new year. If you have any questions or would like to go fishing, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to seeing you on the water.

Fishing,
Captain Don Taylor Jr.
Inshore Outdoors Fishing
904.318.9906
www.inshoreoutdoorsfishing.com
inshoreoutdoors@gmail.com