

Point-n-Shoot Photo Tip #10 by Dave Dawson

It has been awhile since the last photo tip article so since we're still in the off-season, it seems fitting to provide you with something you can use now. This article won't help you take better photos, but **it is still very useful photo tip information that will leave you with great records that are easy to understand.**

Have you ever come across a photo of a fish you caught and while you can vividly remember the muskie encounter, you just can't remember how long that muskie was? Or worse, you recognize it's a photo of you holding a muskie, but you just have no recollection of it at all. (I catch so few muskies so this 2nd problem doesn't seem to happen to me.)

Today's tip will take the guesswork out of identifying those fish pics you have stored on your computer. The key to this is to take action to clearly identify the photos as soon as you load your fish pics on your computer. It's far too easy to just load them and walk away, but the little extra time you spend with them at that time will prevent lots of headaches and wonder in the future.

When you load your files onto your computer, they load with filenames similar to the following:

IMG_1070.JPG

20160207_115409.jpg

These filenames give few clues about the content of the photos. So, once you have your fish photo files loaded on your

computer, look at each one of your photos and rename them to identify them in a way that is meaningful too you. Consider including the date and maybe even the time the photo was taken, who is in the photo, the length of your catch, and what lake you were fishing on. Your filename may seem awkward at first, but after you've done this for a while, you'll look at your directory full of photo files and easily know what each file is. For sortability, start your filename with the date and time in `yyyymmddhhmm` format. Here is an example of a filename for a 42 1/4" fish I caught last July 4 at 7:18pm on Lake "X":

201507041918-DaveD4225-LakeX.jpg

Adopting this filenaming standard obviously helps you,

but it also helps anyone you might share your photos with. For example, our fishing contest director, Greg Rubin, spends a great deal of time identifying and confirming photos sent to him by our club members. Much of that time would be eliminated if each of us names our files in an easy-to-understand way similar to what is described here.

Getting in the habit of consistently naming your photo files in a timely fashion takes the future guesswork out of pinpointing the details of your photos. This simple procedure takes very little time when done right away and will have lasting benefits you'll enjoy when reviewing your muskie fishing photo memories in the future.



No, you're not seeing Double? Bruce Spangenberg caught these 2 beautiful muskies on the same morning! 48.5" (L) and 2015 Club Champion 49" (R). Bruce might consider renaming these 2 photo files to something similar to the following:

201506111045-Bruce-485-Strawberry.jpg

201506110845-Bruce-49-Strawberry.jpg