



**You could Win 1 of 3 Golf Getaways
for 2 to New Brunswick**

ENTER HERE

[SUBSCRIBE](#)
[COMMENTS/QUESTIONS](#)
[PHOTO REPRINTS](#)

USER NAME

 Login
 MONDAY,

PROUDLY SERVING THE GREATER HALIFAX COMMUNITIES

NEWS



[Closing up shop on Sunday shopping.](#)

EDITORIALS

[Store Wars - the Empire strikes back](#)

DEADDER



SPORTS



[Collins takes mid-am](#)

COLUMNS



[Legacy comes at a price](#)

HFX DAILY



[Doucette taking Idol for all it's worth](#)

MONEY

[click to view](#)

AUDIO SLIDE SHOWS

[Wreck diving on the HMCS Saguenay](#)
HOMES

[Brokers](#)

YOUR MONEY

[Track your portfolio](#)
HFX TV LISTINGS

[Weekly television listings](#)
WORKOPOLIS

[Looking for a Job?](#)
PARTNERSHIPS

[NIE - Newspapers in Education](#)
[The Daily News and the Community](#)

CONTESTS

[Blast From The Past](#)



[Advertising Archives](#)

[Deaths Contacts](#)

[Letters to Editor RSS Feeds](#)

[His Pri](#)

LATEST NEWS: [Great-West Lifeco buys parts of Metlife pension business: US\\$7.5B in asse](#)

NEWS

Monday, June 26, 2006

RSS

RSS feeds

- [RSS Top Story](#)
- [RSS News](#)
- [RSS Editorials](#)
- [RSS Sports](#)
- [RSS Columns](#)
- [RSS HFX Daily](#)
- [RSS Money](#)

[What is RSS?](#)

Reef balls give fish artificial homes to live in

By Jennifer Taplin
 The Daily News



Carp condos: Artificial reefs provide more than just fun for sport divers. They also provide a safe habitat for a variety of underwater animals. (Submitted photo)

BEDFORD - To a fish swimming along on its fishy business, a massive ship hitting the ocean floor is nothing but an opportunity.

Artificial reefs may be good for tourism, but they also make good fish habitats.

Glyn Sharp, a marine biologist at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, said whether artificial reefs are designed for fish or for scuba divers, it helps out the local fish population.

"You put in these habitats and it's not a matter of new fish being born, (but) you very quickly have it being utilized by existing fish populations."

Artificial reefs provide a place where the small fish can hide from the big fish.

While it's difficult to prove if artificial reefs translate to bigger fish populations overall, Sharp said there are studies that show reefs enhance production for many different species.

The only bad news is for the organisms -- like clams and worms -- living in the sediment where the ship lands.

"The footprint of the artificial reef will obliterate those populations, but the positive thing usually is you now have created a more complex environment."

Scientists design artificial reefs specifically for fish habitats. There are several locations around Nova Scotia where "reef balls" are used, such as near McNabs Island, Paddy's Head at St.

In tomorrow's paper

Could artificial reefs become a vital part of the Nova Scotia tourism industry? On Assignment looks at the big picture.



Reader Poll

How often do you wear seat belts?

- Always
- Most of the time
- Just for long trips
- Never

Vote!

[\(view past polls\)](#)

Fabulous Photo Caption Contest

CONTEST WINNERS

- [Silent Hill](#)
- [Scary Movie 4](#)
- [Akeelah & the Bee](#)
- [Nacho Libre](#)
- [The Lake House](#)



Margarets Bay and in the approach to Bras d'Or Lakes.

Reef balls are hollow, spotted with holes, and made of concrete. They're shaped like domes or bells, and usually at most about four feet high.

Bruce Young, with the Atlantic Coastal Action Program based in Sydney, said they bought reef ball molds and placed 12 balls near New Campbellton in 2004.

"The reef balls weren't originally designed for lobster habitat, but we've put some edges on the bottom of them so they can become a crevice for the lobster to back his way in. "

Within minutes of positioning the reef balls, a lobster moved in, he said.

ACAP installed the reef at the request of local groups, and they still have the molds. Young said they're hoping to generate more interest in the area to use the molds again.

jtaplin@hfxnews.ca

Ads by Google

Coral Reefs: Cities

Ecosystems, Biodiversity & Ecology
Magnificent Narrative & Photography
darwinpress.com/coralreefs

Advertise on this site

More **News:**

Reef balls give fish artificial homes to live... [6/26/2006]

USEFUL LINKS

- [Airport-Arrivals](#)
- [Airport-Departures](#)

- [Bus routes](#)
- [NS Highway Cameras](#)
- [N.S. Sport Hall of Fame](#)



Ads by Google

Lobster Lovers - MD/DC/VA

New Year's Eve Event. Order fresh Maine lobster for your party. www.lobsterday.com

Freshest Maine Lobster

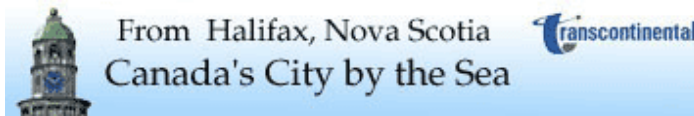
Specialty Seafood, Stew and Chowder Direct from our boat -Portland, ME
www.luckycatchlobster.com

"An Inconvenient Truth"

Al Gore's lifelong fight to reverse global climate change. Out Now
www.ClimateCrisis.net

Marine Expeditions

Volunteer Conservation
Madagascar Chart
Unexplored Coral Reefs
www.blueventures.org



The Daily News

A division of Transcontinental Media Inc.
1601 Lower Water Street - P.O. Box 8330, Station A
Halifax - Nova Scotia - B3K 5M1
Contents of this website are copyright
© The Daily News info@hfxnews.ca

Advertise on this site

