When the weather gets hot, these are the

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The late-summer months of August and September usher in what some consider the "second season" of summer fishing across the state of South Carolina. Gone are the prospects of pre-spawn or spawn fishing as well as most still, shallow water fishing patterns.

What the second season brings to Upstate anglers is deep-water and moving-water fishing.

And for those who understand how summertime fish relate to these conditions, the fishing is good.

Here's a couple of local "hotspots" to find good fishing right now.

Starting in the upper northwest corner of the state, deep, clear Lake Jocassee's trout fishing plummets to the deepest depths of the year where hungry trout can be found holding along the thermocline when temperatures soar.

Due to the trout's propensity for cold, dark water, trout are often caught slow trolling as deep as 100 feet throughout the summer.

Trolling spoons and crankbaits behind downriggers from 70 feet down to the thermocline is the best tactic. Try the dam area early and late in the day and halfway back into Three Rivers during the rest of the day.

"If they're pumping water, the better bite usually lasts from about an hour before daylight till 10:30 a.m.," said Sam Jones, a trout guide at Jocassee. "You can still catch fish even if they aren't running water, but the fish are not as concentrated and you'll need to do a lot of searching and cover a lot more water. There's a lot of submerged timber out in the lake, and the trout will hold in that if they aren't ganged up at the dam."

Heading west across the Upstate, the Broad River is home to some great moving-water smallmouth bass fishing.

"This is a unique fishery," said Brandon Barber, owner of Riverblade Knife & Fly in Spartanburg. "Naturally, there are smallmouths up and down this river and they can be caught year round, but to me, the best time to catch them is in the dead of summer. August usually means the lowest river flows of the year and that concentrates fish."

Barber said smallmouth fishing is more like trout fishing than bass fishing.

"The first thing I look for is rocks, the second is current" said Barber. "Pretend you're looking for good trout water rather than bass water and you're going in the right direction. The river has stretches of both and that's what makes this such a great place to float fish from a kayak.

Upstate's fishing hot spots

"You can paddle through the deeper spots and then either fish the rocky areas from the boat or get out and wade fish."

Lake Hartwell's sprawling creek arms are home to an abundant population of both black and white crappie. Summer finds crappie relating to deep-water structure.

Veteran crappie angler Sammy Smith prefers to tightline troll for crappie during the summer at Hartwell. He suggests starting at the mouth of any of the major tributary creeks and go at least halfway to the back and start looking for baitfish on your graph.

Target depths may be from 12 to 30 feet deep, but look for crappie to relate to structure along the edge of the creek channel or suspend up in the water column at or just below the level of the bait.

Troll 1/16-ounce jigs tipped with live minnows or straight live bait over the tops of submerged structure such as stumps or channel breaks to target white crappie which prefer to suspend over deeper water during the summer. Black crappie will be found holding tight to heavier cover such as brush piles or standing timber.

The Upstate Sout Carolina Chapter of The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation will be holding its 20th annual big game banquet and fundraiser to benefit the Upstate Chapter.

The event will be held at The Poinsett Club in Greenville today.

The event will feature raffles for guns, a live auction and world-class wild game food prepared by the Poinsett Club chefs. Fine craft beer will also be available from Blue Ridge Brewing Co. Doors open at 5 p.m.

A range of ticket packages are available by contacting Edward Wilson at (803) 528-3574.

Doors open at 5 pm.