**[Jon Oody  Tennessee Valley Anglers](https://tennesseevalleyanglers.com/professional-anglers/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

**Knoxville, TN**

Jon came to Louisville back in the winter and gave a presentation at the local Orvis store, on fly fishing opportunities in Southeast Tennessee, primarily the Knoxville area. Amanda and I had plans to fish in the Smokies, so tagging on a pit stop in Knoxville to fish with Jon was a must do.  The number of options he laid out at Orvis made it clear he knows his home waters and will put us on fish. No doubt he delivered, was extremely knowledgeable, easy going and fun to spend the day with. Anglers of all skill levels will learn and be challenged by Jon progressing your skill development in a single trip out. He targets musky and stripers on the fly for those of you Pros out there looking to expand your fly fishing experiences.

Jon met us at our hotel the day of the trip, we road to the put in, got the boat situated, took a vehicle to the take out and were on the water in about 30 minutes from initial meeting. Rowing upstream to staging for the outflow of generation water we had time to line up the roads and practice casting. The wind was killer, at times Jon struggled to keep us from blowing back upstream, but we prevailed. Catching a handful of healthy hard fighting fish as we floated the Clinch. Jon's fly selection was on point, hooking fish upon first drift. The sky was blue, sun was out, and it felt like the first day to hit the 80's this spring. Don't forget your sunscreen! After a handful of fish, a few missed hook sets and a lot of hard work by Jon keeping us floating in the right direction we made it to the take out glad to see the vehicles still had their windows. It wasn't that late in the afternoon and it was a Wednesday, but we were amazed at how busy the put-ins and take-outs had become!

We broke for lunch and some relaxation, Jon put the boat away and we headed back out for some wading from the bank which Jon had access to. The sun wasn't blazing like earlier, clouds started showing up, but the wind was still a factor. We hiked upriver, crossed the river and fished a row of ripples making our way back to the vehicles. Amanda killed it in this area, at one point catching 10/11 in a row. Having a guide willing to change flies based on what he thinks should be happening was a game changer. A couple swaps and the fly were on fire, eventually losing it due to the tippet wearing out! Not to mention we only had one net, but Jon improvised using his Simms hat, scooping fish after fish!

We had a blast, took some good pics, made memories and hope to be back soon! If you find yourself in Southeast Tennessee, primarily the Knoxville area, give Jon a shout he will put you on fish!

[*Tennessee Valley Anglers*](https://tennesseevalleyanglers.com/)

### Equipment & Notes

* We used one of our rods, the 9ft 4 wt [TFO Mangrove rod](https://tforods.com/mangrove-fly-rods/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) loaded with [Scientific Angler Mastery MPX](https://www.scientificanglers.com/product/mastery-mpx/) 4 wt line
* Jon provided a couple extra 5 wt's
* Setup with 12ft 6x leaders, a small bead head or non-bead head nymph and we fished them under an special indicator
* Lunch - On our own, Zaxby's near the takeout