



## The President's Message: July 2022

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There is no denying it. It's hot. We are definitely in the Dog Days of Summer, and it has an effect on our fishing. According to the Farmers' Almanac, the "Dog Days" of summer are from July 3 to August 11 each year. They're usually the hottest and most unbearable days of the season.

We often hear about the "Dog Days" of summer, but few know where the expression originated. You may be surprised to see it has to do with the stars!

The phrase is a reference to Sirius, the Dog Star. During the "Dog Days" period, the Sun occupies the same region of the sky as Sirius, the brightest star visible from any part of Earth. Sirius is a part of the constellation Canis Major, the Greater Dog.

In the summer, Sirius rises and sets with the Sun and because the star is so bright, the ancient Romans believed it actually gave off heat and added to the Sun's warmth, accounting for the long stretch of sultry weather. They referred to this time as *diēs caniculārēs*, or "dog days."

Thus, the term Dog Days of Summer came to mean the 20 days before and 20 days after this alignment of Sirius with the Sun—July 3 to August 11 each year.

It may be too hot to fish in the middle of the day. Fish early, fish at night, fish the beaches and don't forget the sunscreen.

Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick Warfel  
SFF President