

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **First Day of Spring Means It's Countdown to Trout Season Only a Dozen Days until the Riedman Foundation All-Ages Opening Day Derby**

In just 12 days—on April 1—Powder Mills Park will play host to thousands of anglers who mark the opening day of trout season with pride and tradition. Hundreds of these fishermen and fisherwomen will also show their support for the Fish Hatchery at Powder Mills Park through participation in the annual Riedman Foundation benefit derby—a rite of spring now in its 11th year.

The derby awards prizes in three age categories including age eight and younger and has become well known for its Bank of America Angler Award, a \$500 cash prize for the contestant reeling in the biggest brown trout. All said, anglers will be vying for more than \$2,000 in quality merchandise and services, including a four-hour fishing charter for two on Lake Ontario. The derby is open to the public for a \$5 fee. Derby applications can be found at [www.fishpowdermill.org](http://www.fishpowdermill.org).

“Bank of America is once again pleased to join with the Riedman Foundation in supporting the Fish Hatchery at Powder Mills Park,” says Bank of America Rochester Market President John Pitton. “The opening day Trout Derby is one of Rochester's first signs of spring, and we look forward to joining the hundreds of sportsmen and sportswomen and their families at this exciting event.”

The Riedman Foundation Opening Day Trout Derby to Benefit the Fish Hatchery at Powder Mills Park takes place on April 1 from 7 a.m. until noon. Fishing will take place in designated areas of Irondequoit Creek within the boundaries of Powder Mills Park. Powder Horn Lodge serves as the official derby headquarters and weigh station. Prizes for largest catch will be awarded there just after noon. Prize sponsors include Bank of America, Fish-On Charters-Inc., Hallett Bait and Tackle, Potter's Custom Taxidermy, Bayside Boat and Tackle, LL Bean, The Outdoor Store, Lake Timber Tackle, S&R Bait and Tackle, Jay-Ve Fishing Tackle Co. Inc., Avon Anglers Unlimited, and B-E Fishing Tackle. Proceeds from the derby help fund operations at the Fish Hatchery at Powder Mills Park.

The Derby will be conducted in accordance with New York State Law. Participants 16 years of age and older must have a valid fishing permit and must abide by State Fish and Game laws.

Media interest in covering the event should contact Suzanne Seldes at 585-766-7409.