



Although the Spring fishing season is not here yet it is just around the corner. If you are a fly fishing angler then your fly casting performance and your fly lines ability to float will be influenced by the quality and cleanliness of the line. If the line has cracks in the outer PVC coating or is damaged from stepping on it too many times in the bottom of the boat, then you might consider replacing the line. Otherwise, cleaning the line will rejuvenate its performance with reduced dynamic friction and will improve the buoyancy of the line.

We are asked frequently about how to best clean and re-coat fly lines. There are a number of line conditioners on the market but none of them should be used on a fly line until the line is clean. Of course there are many ways to clean a fly line, but the very best way that I have found employs the use of a product called Miracle II soap. This product is not available in any store but is available through distributors-(<https://www.miracleii.com>). You might also find it available at your local Trout Unlimited Chapter raffle over the next few months.

Four ounces of Miracle II soap should be added to one gallon of warm water and the fly line(s) should be placed in this solution for about an hour and maybe more if the line is very dirty. I have found using a plastic round or square pan about 12 inches in diameter will work quite well.

Following this the line should be rinsed in clean water and then dried. The soap solution should be placed back in a one gallon container and saved for future line cleaning. After the line is cleaned and dried the best coating that I have found is made by Umpqua, called Glide line dressing. This coating should be applied completely and then allowed to dry. Upon completion of the cleaning and coating of the fly line, it should perform as it did when it was new.

Take a little time and maintain your fly lines and they will last much longer and perform like new. Remember to keep them stored in a dry and cool place to retain their hopeful long life.

Mack Martin

