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Subject: : Tips and Tricks

Topic: : That Side Arm Cast

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Last night on Channel 394 (WFN) around 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. I happen to catch A fly fishing show. Towards the end of the program this gent was talking about the cast. He was really degrading the side arm cast. Even to the tune that it was the novice style of flyfishing. It maybe true that the overhead cast is best at presenting flies and numphs on a target. However I have found that there are times that having a good side arm cast in the arsenal is a plus:

1. When there are plenty of trees overhead, being able to cast to or through the small window where an overhead cast just won't work.
2. High banks on the sides of the creek/river.
3. When it is a windy day. It seams I get smacked in the back more often with an overhead cast. So I try to keep the line as close to the waterline as possible because there is less wind resistance.
4. when I want to skip a fly (bounce once prior to landing) this will sometimes get a fish's attention.

The downside of the side arm casts is it does not work well when you are waist deep or higher in the water. My arm is just too close to the waterline. Or when non-flyers leave their sticks standing up in the ground.

All in all I feel if you know your equipment well, It does not take much to become accurate with a side arm cast.