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TENNESSEE

WILDLIFE

SPECIAL EDITION



2023-2024
Fishing Regulations



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TWRA OFFICES

All OFFICE HOURS:

8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Monday–Friday (local time)

website: www.tnwildlife.org



CENTRAL OFFICE - NASHVILLE

5107 Edmondson Pike

Nashville, TN 37211.....	615-781-6500	Outreach & Communications.....	615-781-6502
Boating Education.....	615-781-6682	Law Enforcement/Boating.....	615-781-6580
Boat Registration.....	615-781-5270	License Sales.....	615-781-6585
Boating Safety.....	615-781-6682	Human Resources Division.....	615-781-6594
Director’s Office.....	615-781-6552	Quota Hunts.....	615-781-6621
Fisheries Division.....	615-781-6575	Wildlife/Forestry Division.....	615-781-6610
Hunter Education.....	615-781-6538		

WEST TENNESSEE - REGION I

200 Lowell Thomas Drive

Jackson, TN 38301.....731-423-5725

Toll Free.....1-800-372-3928

Fax.....731-423-6483

MIDDLE TENNESSEE - REGION II

5105 Edmondson Pike

Nashville, TN 37211.....615-781-6622

Toll Free.....1-800-624-7406

Fax.....615-831-9995

CUMBERLAND PLATEAU - REGION III

464 Industrial Blvd.

Crossville, TN 38555.....931-484-9571

Toll Free.....1-833-402-4698

Fax.....931-456-1025

EAST TENNESSEE - REGION IV

3030 Wildlife Way

Morristown, TN 37814.....423-587-7037

Toll Free.....1-800-332-0900

Fax.....423-587-7057

ALL HOURS HUNTING/FISHING VIOLATION NUMBERS

Region I.....	1-800-831-1173
Region II.....	1-800-255-8972
Region III.....	1-833-402-4699
Region IV.....	1-800-831-1174

TENNESSEE FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE WWW.TNWILDLIFE.ORG.

This publication is not a legal document. It is a summary of Tennessee’s fishing regulations. More detailed information on fishing is available from all TWRA offices.

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is available to all persons without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or military service. TWRA is also an equal opportunity/equal access employer. Questions should be directed to TWRA, Human Resources Office, 5107 Edmondson Pike, Nashville, TN 37211, (615) 781-6594 (TDD 781-6691), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office for Human Resources, 4401 N. Fairfax Dr., Arlington, VA 22203.

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Authorization No. 328686, 360,000 copies, January 2023. This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$.04 per copy

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TENNESSEE WILDLIFE

SPECIAL EDITION

2023/2024 FISHING REGULATIONS

WHAT'S NEW FOR 2023

Statewide

Trotlines cannot extend more than three-quarters (0.75) the distance across any stream, river, chute, or embayment. Trotlines, limblines, and jugs must be run at least once per 24-hour period.

New! Bill Dance Signature Lakes

Lake Halford

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 fish per day. Only two (2) fish longer than 18 inches may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 16" minimum length limit
- Jug fishing is prohibited.

Browns Creek

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 per day, 18"-25" protected length range. Only one (1) fish longer than 25" may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit

Herb Parsons

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 per day, 16"-20" protected length range. Only one (1) fish longer than 20" may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 16" minimum length limit
- **Hybrid Striped Bass:** 16-inch minimum length limit, 2 fish per day creel limit

Travis McNatt Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** no creel limit, Only one (1) fish longer than 16" may be harvested.

- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 16" minimum length limit

Pin Oak Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 per day, 18"-25" protected length range. Only one (1) fish longer than 25 inches may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit

Woodhaven Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 per day, 18"- 25" protected length range. Only one (1) fish longer than 25" may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day in combination, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit

Acorn Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 bass per day, no minimum length limit.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day in combination, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 16" minimum length limit
- **Trout:** catch and release only from Dec. 1-March 31, 5 fish per day, no length limit April 1-Nov. 30

Fall Creek Falls Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 fish per day, Only one (1) fish longer than 16" may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 16" minimum length limit

Region 1 (West TN)

Poplar Tree Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 fish per day. Only one (1) fish longer than 18" may be harvested.

Region 4 (East TN)

Douglas Reservoir

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 bass per day in combination, only one large-mouth or smallmouth bass over 16" per day June 1 through September 30.

Do NOT Move Bass!



Invasive species, like Alabama Bass, can destroy native bass populations and alter the ecology of Tennessee's waters, **FOREVER!**

It is illegal to stock live fish into public waters. Report any information regarding illegal stocking to TWRA 1-833-402-4699



Learn More



On the Cover

Thank you to Bass Pro Shop for their continued sponsorship of our Tennessee Conservation Raffle! This pair is having a blast fishing on their Nitro Boat. Visit RaffleTN.com for your chance at winning this year.

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LICENSE FEES & INFORMATION

Thank you for buying a hunting and fishing license. 100% of your license dollars go to support wildlife conservation in Tennessee. Your license is an investment that also returns your federal excise taxes paid on hunting and fishing equipment to TWRA to support wildlife. Without you, Tennessee would not have the abundance of fish and wildlife that we all enjoy.

All annual licenses are valid for 1 year from date of purchase. Purchase your license 24/7/365 at www.gooutdoorstennessee.com. Lifetime and select other licenses that are not available for purchase online can visit a TWRA regional office or visit www.tnwildlife.org to find the correct form with instructions. No paper license will be mailed. You can also purchase your hunting and fishing licenses from any of our License Agent locations in Tennessee.

All license and permit fees are subject to change. All expire at midnight of last effective date.

Native Tennessean

Nonresidents who were born in Tennessee may apply for Native Tennessean annual licenses. These licenses provide nonresidents born in the state but no longer residing in the state, the opportunity to purchase annual Tennessee hunting/fishing/trapping licenses at the same cost as residents. Available by application only. Details and application available online at www.tnwildlife.org.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

A valid fishing license obtained from the state of Tennessee or the state of North Carolina is required and honored throughout the park for all persons 13 years of age and older. A Tennessee trout license is not required. The National

Park Service sets fishing regulations within the park. For detailed fishing information, contact:

Park Headquarters

Gatlinburg, TN 37738

(865) 436-1200

<https://www.nps.gov/grsm/index.htm>

Who must have a Tennessee license?

If you take, or attempt to take fish (including crayfish and salamanders) by any method or if you assist someone else to do so, you must have a valid fishing license. **There are some exceptions:**

- If you are under 13 years of age (resident or nonresident).
- Landowners, their spouses and children, who fish on their farm land which is owned by an individual or a family. Landowners, their spouses and children must be residents of Tennessee but need not reside on the land.
- Tenants, their spouses and dependent children who fish on farm land owned by an individual or a family. Tenants, their spouses and dependent children must be residents of Tennessee and must actually reside on the land and have permission of the landowner to fish. A tenant is a person who, for money, free rent, or other consideration, cares for farmland. The tenancy must be agricultural in nature.
- Resident grandchildren (under 16) and resident great-grandchildren (under 16) who fish on farm land which is owned by their resident grandparents or great-grandparents.
- First cousins who own farmland jointly or in common may fish on the farmland. Their children may fish as well.
- You are on military leave, carrying a copy of your leave orders. A pass does not meet this requirement.
- You are a resident who was born before March 1, 1926. (To qualify for this exemption,

you must carry proof of your age and residency to show to a wildlife officer, if requested.)

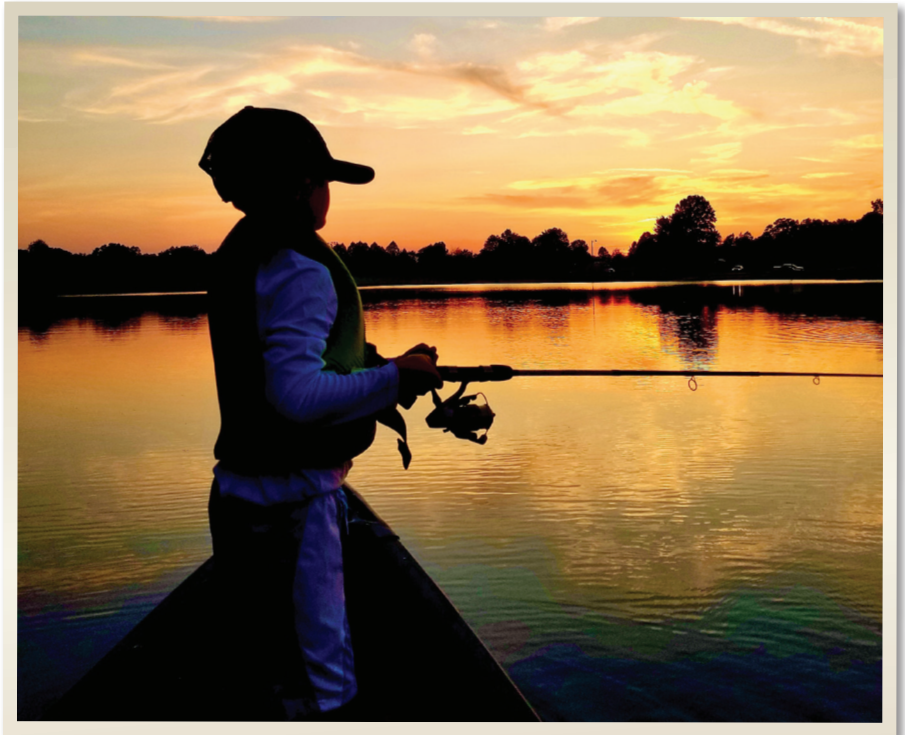
- **It's Free Fishing Day!** This year it falls on June 10, 2023 (see page 11).
- **It's Free Fishing Week!** All children, ages 15 and younger can fish free between June 10–16 (see page 11).

NOTE: Giving false information to obtain a license is a misdemeanor punishable by fine and loss of license. Licenses are not transferable.

Misplaced a License?

All licenses including lifetime licenses can be accessed, emailed, and printed from your computer at no cost at www.gooutdoortennessee.com anytime. You can also purchase a duplicate hard card online, from our TWRA mobile app, or from our license agents for a fee of \$8.00. Please verify your address at the time of purchase.

Thank you to everyone who buys a fishing license! You are the true stewards of conservation. Without your support, Tennessee would not have fish and wildlife conservation at the level that we enjoy. If you enjoy wildlife, thank hunters and anglers for footing the bill to keep wildlife populations healthy.



Buy your license online at GoOutdoorsTennessee.com

Resident Licenses

Resident licenses can be purchased by:

- Persons who possess a valid Tennessee driver's license or Tennessee state ID issued by the Department of Safety. Tennessee state law requires drivers to obtain a Tennessee drivers license within 30 days of residency. Out-of-state driver's license only accepted for Military Personnel and Students meeting the criteria below.
- Persons who do not drive or do not possess a valid driver's license from another state, but who have lived in Tennessee for 90 consecutive days with the genuine intent of making Tennessee their permanent home, may prove residency by presenting to a TWRA license agent any two of the following documents:
 - » current Tennessee voter registration card;
 - » current Tennessee vehicle registration or title;
 - » Form I-94 issued by the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Service
 - » current rental/mortgage contract or receipt including deed of sale for property or receipt for payment of Tennessee real estate taxes within last year
- Military personnel on active duty in this state and children under 16 years of age who reside with them, regardless of Tennessee resident status.
- Students who are enrolled in a Tennessee school, college or university for at least six months, with an appropriate student ID.
- Nonresidents that were born in the State of Tennessee, upon completion of an application for a Native Tennessean license.

NOTE: A Social Security Number is required to purchase a Tennessee hunting or fishing license. Ages 12 and under no license is required, some permits may still apply.

LICENSE	FEE
Annual Hunting and Fishing Combination ages 16–64	\$33
Minimum license required to fish and/or hunt small game.	
Junior Hunt/Fish/Trap ages 13–15	\$9
Good for hunting all game, fishing and trapping. Must be purchased prior to 16th birthday. No supplemental licenses are required, but special season and WMA big game permits will need to be purchased in addition to this license. Fees apply when applying for quota hunt permits as well as “left over” permits.	
One-Day Fishing No Trout; ages 13–64	\$6
One-Day Fishing All Species includes trout; ages 16–64	\$11
Annual Trout Supplemental ages 16–64	\$21
Annual Trout is a supplemental license required to fish for trout in addition to the Annual Combo.	
Annual Sportsman ages 16–64	\$165
An all-inclusive license valid for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing without any TWRA supplemental licenses or non-quota permits; allows holders to apply for quota permits at no additional fee.	
Annual Hunt/Fish Disabled Under Age 18	\$5
Available by application only.	

Buy your license online at GoOutdoorsTennessee.com

Resident Licenses (continued)

LICENSE	FEE
County of Residence Fishing - No Trout ages 13 and over	\$10
This license allows an angler to fish in his/her county of residence with natural bait (worms, crickets, cut bait, corn, etc.), but not minnows. No artificial baits can be used. A supplemental license is required to fish for trout.	
South Holston Reservoir Supplemental ages 13 and over	\$20
This additional license allows licensed TN resident anglers to fish the VA portion of South Holston Reservoir. This is essentially a VA license sold by TWRA, therefore all license holders, including the sportsman's license holders, would need to purchase this additional license if fishing in VA.	
Annual Resident Senior Citizen Hunt/Fish/Trap pages 65 and over	\$4
Available at all license agents and can only be purchased when 65th birthday is reached. A valid Tennessee driver's license or proof of age and residency is required. No supplemental licenses are required, but applicable permits are required.	
Permanent Senior Citizen Hunt/Fish/Trap ages 65 and over	\$49
Available from any license agent for a one-time fee, and valid as long as holder remains a resident of Tennessee. This is not a Lifetime Sportsman License. Additional permits may be required. Can only be purchased when 65th birthday is reached. A valid Tennessee driver's license or proof of age and residency is required. A trout license is not required.	
Annual Senior Citizen Sportsman ages 65 and over	\$49
An all-inclusive license valid for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing without any state supplemental licenses or permits. Sportsman licenses can be purchased from all license agents.	
Lifetime Sportsman age determines the cost	
An all-inclusive lifetime license valid for hunting, trapping and sport fishing without any Tennessee supplemental licenses or permits. Allows holders to apply for quota permits at no additional fee. Applications are available at tnwildlife.org or your local office. Applications may be submitted by email at Lifetime.License@tn.gov , mail, fax (615-837-4262) or TWRA offices.	
Infant (Under 3 years)	\$320
Toddler (Ages 3–6)	\$659
Youth (Ages 7–12)	\$988
Adult (Ages 13–50)	\$1,976
Older Adult (Ages 51–64)	\$1,153
Senior (Ages 65 & over)	\$329
Adopted Child Lifetime license available for children under 13 adopted within previous 3 years.	\$320

Nonresident Licenses

Ages 12 and under, no license required.

LICENSE	FEE
Junior Hunt/Fish Required for nonresidents age 13–15 fishing and small game only)	\$10
Three-Day Fishing—no trout	\$20
Ten-Day Fishing —no trout	\$30
Annual Fishing—no trout	\$49
Three-Day All Species—includes trout	\$40
Ten-Day All Species —includes trout	\$61
Annual All Species —includes trout	\$98

Special Permits (Resident and Nonresident)

If you purchase one of the following special permits, you must also have all applicable licenses. Holders of Annual Sportsman's License, Lifetime Sportsman's License or Annual Senior Citizen Sportsman do not need to purchase permits below.

LICENSE	FEE
Reelfoot Lake Permit is required for all users except: those under 16 years of age; residents 65 years or older.	
Reelfoot Preservation Permit—Annual	\$16
Reelfoot Preservation Permit—Three-Day	\$10
Reelfoot Preservation Permit—Daily	\$3
Tellico-Citico Permit is required seasonally to fish Tellico River, Citico Creek. See page 36 for details.	
Tellico-Citico Trout—Daily; Required for all ages. See page 36.	\$6
Agency Lake Permits are required to fish Agency Fishing Lakes (pages 30–31), except those under 16 years of age and residents 65 years or older.	
Daily TWRA State Lake Fishing Permit—Daily Permit Valid on all Agency lakes, this permit is sold at Agency Lake offices.	\$6
TWRA State Lake Fishing Permit—Annual Permit Valid on all Agency lakes, this permit is sold online at GoOutdoorsTennessee.com or at Agency Lake Offices	\$48
Bedford Lake 1-Day Fishing	\$6
Lake Halford 1-Day Permit - required for anyone utilizing the area for recreation except those under 16 years of age and residents 65 years or older (pages 26-27).	\$6
Annual Lake Halford Permit -required for anyone utilizing the area for recreation except those under 16 years of age and residents 65 years or older (pages 26-27).	\$48

Buy your license online at GoOutdoorsTennessee.com

Special Permits (Resident and Nonresident) (continued)

LICENSE	FEE
Gatlinburg Trout Fishing – For information on fishing in the Gatlinburg area, contact the Gatlinburg Chamber of Commerce, 1-800-568-4748 or the Gatlinburg trout facility at 865-436-4558.	
3-Day Gatlinburg Trout Permit Required for residents ages 13–64 and nonresidents ages 13 and up in addition to the appropriate fishing licenses except for those who purchase the Gatlinburg One-Day Trout permit.	\$9
1-Day Gatlinburg Trout License Only requirement for residents and nonresidents ages 13 and up to fish in Gatlinburg for one day.	\$11
1-Day Gatlinburg Trout Permit Required for residents ages 13–64 and nonresidents ages 13 and up in addition to the appropriate fishing licenses except for those who purchase the Gatlinburg One-Day Trout permit.	\$3

Resident Permanent Licenses

The following licenses are available only by application. Applications are online and can be submitted at your local TWRA office, by email at twra.miscapplication@tn.gov or mail. A doctor's statement is required as defined on the application. Licenses are valid as long as holder remains a resident of Tennessee. These are not Lifetime Sportsman Licenses. Additional permits may be required.

LICENSE	FEE
Sport Fishing Certified Blind	\$10
Wheelchair Hunt/Fish Resident License	\$10
Application must be accompanied by a doctor's statement stating that the applicant is permanently confined to a wheelchair.	
Resident Disabled Veteran Hunting and Fishing	\$10
Available to resident veterans certified by the VA as 30 percent disabled by reason of war service or 100% service connected.	
Resident Permanent SSI Fishing sport fish only	\$10
Must be receiving SSI Benefits due to intellectual disability.	
Hunt and Fish Intellect Disabled Resident	\$10
Application must be accompanied by a doctor's statement stating that the applicant is intellectually disabled.	

Guide License

This license is required for anyone who accepts compensation for providing assistance to another in any act of hunting, fishing, and/or trapping. Available by application only.

LICENSE	FEE
Resident Guide License	\$150
Nonresident Guide License	\$650

STATEWIDE LIMITS & REGULATIONS

Statewide Creel and Length Limits

The following are the creel and size limits that apply statewide. Several waters have exceptions to these limits. Refer to the pages listed in red at the bottom of this page to see exceptions to the statewide regulations. If you are fishing a location that does not have exceptions listed in this guide, then the statewide limits apply.

SPECIES	CREEL LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH LIMIT
Black Bass (includes Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted, Alabama, and Coosa)	5 No more than 5 black bass per day in any combination may be taken.	none
Crappie (all species combined)	15	10 inches
Region 1 Crappie Exception: unless otherwise noted for specific waters.	30	none
Rock Bass or Redeye and Shadow Bass	20	none
Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass (any combination)	2	15 inches
White Bass	15	none
Muskellunge	1	36 inches
Sauger or Sauger/Walleye hybrids	10	15 inches
Walleye	5	16 inches
Trout (all trout species combined)	7	none
Lake Trout	Only 2 trout may be lake trout.	none
Redear Sunfish or Shellcracker	20	none
Yellow Bass, Bluegill, Warmouth, Bream, Bullheads, Pickerel, Northern Pike, Yellow Perch, and nongame species	no limit	none
Skipjack Herring	100	none
Alligator Gar: No harvest allowed. Must be returned to water immediately.		
Catfish: Only one catfish over 34 inches may be harvested per day. No harvest limit on catfish less than 34 inches.		
Paddlefish: Paddlefish may be harvested from April 24 through May 31. Daily creel limit is 2 fish per day with no size limit. Culling is prohibited. For exceptions on Center Hill, Cherokee, and Watts Bar reservoirs, see pages 18 and 20.		
Shovelnose Sturgeon: No harvest allowed. Must be returned to water immediately.		

Exceptions to the statewide limits and other regulations:

Reservoirs	pages 15–25	State Park Lakes	page 32
TWRA Fishing Lakes	pages 26–29	Streams and Rivers	pages 33
Small Impoundments	page 30	Trout Fisheries	pages 35–45

TWRA's goal is to manage each species of fish with statewide creel and length limits where possible. However, many waters, because of their unique characteristics, require individual creel and length limits. These regulations improve fishing for all anglers.

Minimum Length Limits restrict the harvest of fish below a specified minimum length. For example, a 15-inch minimum length limit allows the angler to keep fish 15 inches or greater. Fish less than 15 inches cannot be harvested.

Slot Limits or Protected Length Ranges (PLRs) allow anglers to harvest fish above and below a specified length range. For example, a 14–18" PLR protects fish in the 14- to 18-inch length group. Anglers may harvest fish that measure less than 14 inches and they may harvest fish that measure over 18 inches. For a protected length range to be effective, anglers must harvest fish below the protected range.

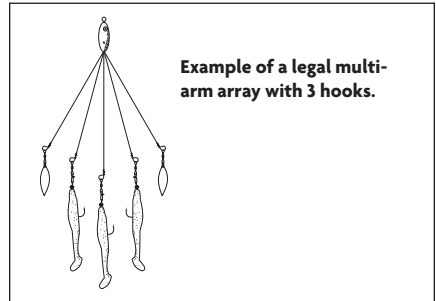
Possession Limits: The total possession limit is twice the daily creel limit. You may not have more than the daily creel limit with you while afield. It is unlawful to have, while afield, any fish which has been altered so that its species and/or total body length cannot be determined.

Pole or Rod Limit: Unless otherwise noted in this guide or by proclamation, there is no limit on the number of poles an angler may fish at one time.

Statewide Hook Restriction

Unless otherwise restricted in this proclamation, anglers are restricted to a maximum of 3 hooks per rod, pole or hand-held line. Single, double or treble hooks each count as one hook. The statewide hook restriction does not apply when using a sabiki rig (also known as a piscatore rig) to take shad or herring. A sabiki rig is a set of

small lures attached to a single line, typically used to catch baitfish.



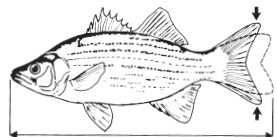
Banned In Tennessee

It is unlawful to possess or transport live specimens of the following animals:

- **Silver carp**
(*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*)
- **Bighead carp**
(*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*)
- **Black carp**
(*Hypophthalmichthys piceus*)
- **Blueback herring**
(*Alosa aestivalis*)
- **Marbled Crayfish (Marmorkreb)**
(*Procambarus fallax f. virginalis*)
- **New Zealand mud snail**
(*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*)
- **Round goby**
(*Neogobius melanostomus*)
- **Rudd**
(*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*)
- **Ruffe**
(*Gymnocephalus cernua*)
- **Snakeheads**
(all members of the Family Channidae)
- **Swamp eels**
(all members of the Family Synbranchidae)
- **Zebra mussels**
(*Dreissena polymorpha*)

How to Measure a Fish's Length

Lay the fish on a flat ruler, close the mouth, and squeeze the lobes of the tail fin to produce the maximum length. The mouth of the fish may not be manipulated or extended.



RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS

Tennessee has several reciprocal agreements with adjacent states. These agreements have been arranged so that any fishing license from either Tennessee or the corresponding state is valid in the following waters.

Alabama/Mississippi

Pickwick Lake: Applies to anyone with a valid Sport Fishing License from Tennessee, Alabama or Mississippi. Resident anglers of the three states may fish without purchasing a nonresident license anywhere within the boundaries covered by the agreement. The reciprocal area includes all impounded water from Pickwick Dam upstream to Tennessee River Mile 224.8 at the mouth of Bear Creek but does not include Bear Creek and does not include that portion of Yellow Creek above the Hwy. 25 Bridge. Sport fishing license holders shall abide by the regulations of the state in whose waters they are fishing.

Arkansas

This state agrees to honor either license on the flowing waters of the Mississippi River, adjacent sloughs, bayous and old river runs, which are accessible by boat from the river proper, and the old river chutes forming a common boundary, excluding all wildlife management areas established by either state and the Wolf, Loosahatchie, Hatchie, Forked Deer and Obion rivers. The following common regulations apply:

- **Black bass:** creel limit 10, no length limit
- **Sunfish:** creel limit 50, no length limit
- **Crappie:** creel limit 50, no length limit
- **Striped bass and Hybrid striped bass:** creel limit 6, no length limit
- **Sauger:** creel limit 6, no length limit

All anglers must follow Arkansas regulations governing creel and size limits, trotlines, and other equipment requirements on Ikes Chute, Hopefield Chute, Mosquito Lake, Mound City Lake, Island 40 Chute and Lake Neark.

Kentucky

Dale Hollow Lake: Sportfishing licenses from

either state are recognized in Wolf River including Illwill Creek, beginning at a line crossing the Wolf River at its mouth where it joins the Obey River. Creel limits and other regulations of the state where the license was issued apply.

Big South Fork of the Cumberland River: Sportfishing licenses from either state are recognized from Leatherwood Ford Bridge (Hwy. 279) in Tennessee, downstream to the Hwy. 92 bridge at Yamacraw, Kentucky. Creel limits and other regulations of the state where the license was issued apply.

Kentucky Lake: Each state will recognize the sport fishing licenses for the other state on the portion of Kentucky Lake south of the Eggners Ferry Bridge (US 68 & Hwy. 80) in Kentucky and north of the Governor Ned McWherter Bridge (US 79 & Hwy. 76) in Tennessee. This includes all embayments and tributaries within this portion of Kentucky Lake except the Blood River embayment. Blood River embayment shall be defined as a straight line between opposite points where the embayment connects to the main body of Kentucky Lake. A sport fishing license holder from either state may fish from the bank or attach legal sport fishing trot or limb lines in this described portion of Kentucky Lake. Sport fishing license holders shall abide by the regulations of the state in whose waters they are fishing. Wildlife enforcement officials in either state shall have the right to inspect the licenses, permits, catches and equipment of any person on this portion of Kentucky Lake subject to the laws of either state.

Missouri

Persons possessing a valid sportfishing license in either state may fish in the Mississippi River and its backwaters within the boundaries of the other state and any oxbow lakes through which the Missouri-Tennessee boundary passes. They may fish from or attach any device or equipment to land under the jurisdiction of the other state. Persons licensed in only one state may not fish in the Mississippi River tributaries of the other state.

Anglers must comply with the fishing regulations of the state where they are fishing and when fishing where they are not licensed will comply with the most restrictive state's regulation. Persons legally exempted from license requirements of either state are entitled to these privileges and provisions.

Except where it is shown to be elsewhere, the center of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers navigation channel will be the boundary between Tennessee and Missouri.

North Carolina

Sportfishing licenses from either state are recognized in all of Calderwood Reservoir while fishing from a boat and in that portion of Slickrock Creek which constitutes the boundary between the two states. See pages 21 and 36 for regulations on Calderwood Reservoir and Slickrock Creek, respectively.

Virginia

South Holston Reservoir: Tennessee residents may purchase an annual South Holston Reservoir

License (Type 063) to fish the VA portion of South Holston Reservoir. Virginia residents can purchase a similar license from VDGF to fish the TN portion of the reservoir. Anglers that are not TN or VA residents must abide by the state boundary line unless they purchase other appropriate fishing licenses from both states.

A South Holston Reservoir License is valid for all impounded portions of the reservoir below full pool elevation of 1,730 feet, including the confluence of the Middle Fork and South Fork Holston Rivers and the South Fork Holston upstream to the Route 710 Bridge at Alvarado, VA.

In addition to the South Holston Reservoir License, an angler must have whatever licenses that are required to fish in their home state. A valid resident TN trout fishing license or a valid resident VA trout fishing license is required to fish for trout. All anglers shall abide by the laws of the state in which they are fishing as to manner and means of taking fish. Length and creel limits are listed on page 24 of this guide.

ATTENTION

FREE Fishing Day/Week

Saturday, June 10, is Free Fishing Day in Tennessee and anyone (resident or non-resident) of any age may fish free without a license in Tennessee's public waters! Even better, if you are 15 years old or younger, you may fish free the entire week, beginning on Free Fishing Day, June 10, and running through the following Friday, June 16.

This day and week are annual events in Tennessee and are great opportunities to introduce children to the joys and excitement of a day on the water catching fish! Not only is fishing a great family activity, it helps make us more aware of our natural environment.

Finding a place to fish is easier than ever. Starting in late spring, all you need to do is go to www.tnwildlife.org to view the 2023 Kid's Fishing Events. There you will find a variety of activities planned across the state with details as to event locations and times. You can also contact your regional TWRA office to find out what's going on in your area or let them know you are interested in sponsoring or volunteering to help with an event. Anglers and would-be anglers should check the events list often since more fishing rodeos are frequently added. Whatever you do, don't miss the fun!

Free Fishing Day and Week apply to Tennessee's public waters, Agency owned and operated lakes, and state park facilities. Some privately owned pay lakes continue to charge during this special day and week. Please consult with lake operators if you have any questions about the status of a particular facility.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Notice of inspection law: It is the duty of every person participating in the privileges of taking or possessing wildlife to permit agency officers to ascertain whether the requirements of this title are being faithfully complied with, including the possession of a proper license. It is a violation of law to refuse such inspection or to interfere with an officer attempting such inspection. TCA 70-6-101(b)(1)

Basic Laws and Definitions

- Stocking of any fish, crayfish or salamanders into public waters is strictly prohibited.
- Explosives, chemicals and electrical shocking devices are strictly forbidden, and their use carries heavy penalties.
- Shooting with any type of firearm or air gun to injure or take fish or turtles is prohibited.
- All boaters and passengers must wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket within the area designated and appropriately marked as a hazardous area below any dam and/or lock.
- It is illegal to take any fish, crayfish, salamander, or turtle that is listed as endangered, threatened or in-need-of-management.
- It is illegal to sell or offer to sell fish or turtles without a commercial fishing license.

Bait: Any living or dead organism, or prepared substance designed to attract fish by taste or odor. For the purpose of this proclamation bait includes, but is not limited to, fish, fish eggs, crayfish, worms, grubs, crickets, corn, cheese, bread, pork rinds, putty or paste-type products, and flavors or scents applied to or impregnated into artificial lures.

Culling: The removal of a fish from the creel limit and replacing it with another fish of the same species. The released fish must be a live, healthy specimen which should be expected to survive once it is returned to its natural environment.

Gigging: The taking of fish by means of a hand-held pole or spear with a tip consisting of a single, sharpened point or one or more sharpened barbed points. This includes, but is not limited to gear known as the Hawaiian sling.

Single hook: A hook with only one point.

Snagging: The taking of fish using one or more single, double, or treble hooks which are manipulated or jerked through the water in such a manner as to impale or hook fish.

Spear gun: Any device designed to propel a spear through water and is drawn or held by a mechanical device.



METHODS OTHER THAN ROD AND REEL

Trotlines, Limblines and Jugs

Trotlines consist of a main line with drop lines to which single hooks are attached. Drop lines must not be closer than 24 inches. Nongame fish, except paddlefish and sturgeon, may be taken without limit. Game fish may be taken according to local limits. There is no limit on catfish, except only one fish may exceed 34 inches. The creel limit for skipjack is 100 fish.

Sportfishing trotlines, limblines and jugs must be tagged and/or marked with the owner's name and address, or TWRA identification number. Trotlines attached to the bank must be tagged on the line within five feet of the bank. Other trotlines must be tagged within five feet of either end, and floating trotlines must be marked on floats. The holder of a sport fishing license may use one or more trotlines not having a combination of more than 100 hooks. Limblines (including yo-yos) must be tagged above water level and are allowed only one hook per line. Sport anglers are limited to 25 limblines. Sport anglers are limited to 50 jugs or blocks and each with only one hook.

Trotlines, limblines and jugs must be run at least once per 24-hour period and are prohibited within 1,000 yards below any TVA or Corps of Engineers dam. Trotlines may not be set within 100 yards of the mouth of any river, creek or slough. Trotlines cannot extend more than three-quarters (0.75) the distance across any stream, river, chute, or embayment.

Exceptions:

- **Allen Branch Pond and Chilhowee (McKamy) Pond in Cherokee WMA:** Closed to jugs and trotlines.
- **Bards Lake on Land Between the Lakes:** Closed to trotlines and limblines. Jugs permitted from October 1–March 21.
- **Beech River Watershed Development Authority:** 20 jugs or blocks per boat. Trotlines prohibited.

- **Calderwood Reservoir:** Trotlines and limblines prohibited.
- **Danville Railroad Bridge Dikes:** Trotlines prohibited within 50 yards of dikes.
- **Indian Boundary Lake:** Closed to trotlines, jugs and limblines.
- **New Johnsonville Steam Plant Harbor:** 10 jugs or blocks per angler. Trotlines prohibited.
- **Norris Reservoir:** From January 1 through April 30, trotlines, limblines and jugs are prohibited between River Mile 32 (Point 15) and Hwy. 25E Bridge on the Powell River arm and Between River Mile 137 (Point 31) and the Hwy. 25E Bridge on the Clinch River arm.
- **TWRA Lakes:** Trotlines and limblines are prohibited. From April 1 through Sept. 30, jug fishing is prohibited on Saturdays, Sundays, Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day. On days open to jug fishing, each boat is limited to 10 jugs or blocks per day.
- **Lake Halford:** Jug fishing is prohibited.

Slat Baskets

Persons eligible to fish with a slat basket may fish with one slat basket, provided the slat basket is marked with a metal tag, obtainable from the TWRA for an annual fee of \$10.00. Possession or use of more than one slat basket is prohibited. A slat basket is defined as a device used for taking nongame fish and catfish only. Slat baskets may have only one outside funnel opening and must be made of wood, plastic or cane slats which are placed lengthwise and so constructed that there must be a minimum of four openings in the catching area, each being at least 1½ inches wide and 6 inches long. Fish taken may not be sold.

The slat basket may not be set within 100 yards of the mouth of any river, creek or slough. Slat basket must be checked at least every 72 hours.

Applications for metal tags can be obtained by writing to: TWRA Sales Office, P.O. Box 41729, Nashville, TN 37204. If you are applying in person and need directions to the TWRA central office, call 615-781-6500. You may also apply online at, GoOutdoorsTN.com

Grabbling, Gigging, Grab Hooks, Snagging, Archery, Crossbow, Speargun

Season open year-round in all waters except:

- where closed to fishing or expressly prohibited.
- within 100 yards below dams. At Pickwick Dam the closed area extends downstream to the first moorage cell across from ramp.
- at John Sevier Steam Plant the discharge channel is closed.

Nongame fish may be taken without limit. Game fish, sturgeon, and alligator gar may not be taken. Catfish, paddlefish, and skipjack may be harvested according to local limits.

Gigging is closed on the East Fork of the Obey River and its tributaries from Jan. 1–April 30.

Snagging is prohibited year-round on the South Holston tailwater (from South Holston Dam to Highway 390 bridge at Bluff City), Center Hill Reservoir, and the Cumberland Fossil Plant

discharge channel into Barkley Reservoir, Cherokee Reservoir (Holston River) from Malinda Ferry Road (Hwy. 344) bridge upstream to John Sevier Dam from March 1 through March 31 and April 16 through May 31.

Watts Bar Reservoir: Watts Bar Reservoir from US-321 bridge upstream to Fort Loudon Dam is closed to snagging from March 15 through April 30 and May 16 through May 31.

Grabbling, gigging, grab hooks, snagging, archery, crossbow, speargun is prohibited on the following waters from Jan. 1–Apr. 30:

- Dale Hollow Reservoir:** East Fork Obey River and its tributaries.
- Norris Reservoir:** between River Mile 32 (Point 15) and the Hwy. 25E Bridge on the Powell River arm and between River Mile 137 (Point 31) and the Hwy. 25E Bridge on the Clinch River arm
- Elk River in Carter County:** from the Hwy. 321 Bridge downstream to River Mile 3.0 (Point 11) on the Elk River arm of Watauga Reservoir
- Doe Creek:** Old Cabin Private Road downstream to Roan Creek
- Roan Creek:** Mountain Lakes Estates Bridge downstream to Doe Creek
- Row Branch:** NC state line downstream to end of Cownstown Road



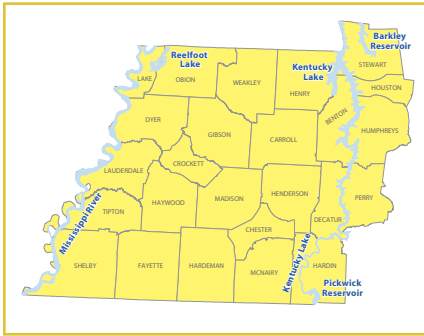
RESERVOIR

REGULATIONS

Reservoir full pool elevation is the boundary between reservoir and tributary streams or rivers for harvest restrictions.

Statewide regulations apply for any species not mentioned under each listed reservoir section.

REGION 1



Barkley

Includes the following dewatering areas—Barkley Unit 1 (also known as Dover Bottoms) and Bear Creek WMA. The dewatering areas are closed to fishing 5 days prior to and during the late waterfowl season.

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 20 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.

- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Kentucky Lake

Includes the following dewatering areas—West Sandy, Big Sandy, Gin Creek, Camden Bottoms, Duck River Bottoms, Busseltown, Perryville, and Gumdale. The dewatering areas are closed to fishing 5 days prior to and during the late waterfowl season.

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 20 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit—this includes all dewatering areas.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Pickwick

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day in combination, 9 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.

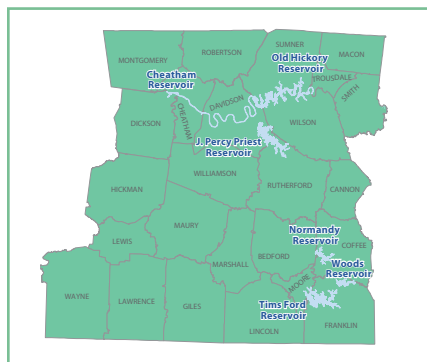
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Reelfoot

Preservation Permit required for lake users except those under 16 years of age, residents 65 years or older, and lifetime or sportsman license holders. The use of gasoline powered boats is prohibited in TWRA posted areas April 1 through May 31.

- **Largemouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.

REGION 2



Cheatham

Includes Stones River up to J. Percy Priest Dam.

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 14 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.

INFORMATION

Water Release Schedules For Dams

Water release schedules of TVA and US Army Corps of Engineers dams and observed lake elevations of TVA impoundments can be determined by calling the following number:

1-800-238-2264

<https://www.tva.com/Environment/Lake-Levels>

For lake information on US Army Corps of Engineers impoundments, call:

J. Percy Priest Lake	615-889-1975
Old Hickory Lake	615-822-4846
Cordell Hull Lake	615-735-1034
Center Hill Lake	931-858-3125
Dale Hollow Lake	931-243-3136
Lake Barkley	270-362-4236
Cheatham Lake	615-792-5697

<https://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/>

- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Cordell Hull

See page 19.

Kentucky Lake

See page 15.

Normandy

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Old Hickory

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 14 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.

- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

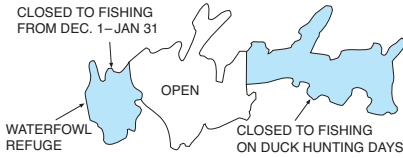
Percy Priest

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Tims Ford

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Woods



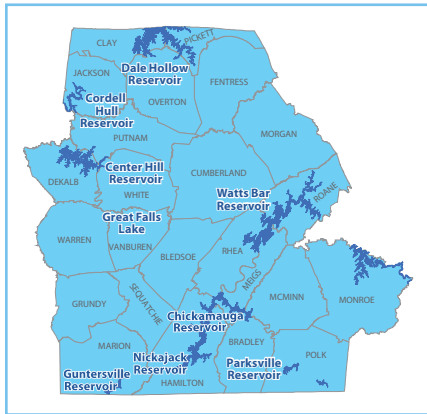
- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth/Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 50 inch minimum length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** reservoir and its tributaries are closed to taking or possessing paddlefish.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS:

January 1–April 30: on Caney Fork River from Rock Island State Park boat ramp upstream to Great Falls Dam, anglers are restricted to the use of one hook having a single point, or one lure with a single hook with one point. No more than three rods and reels or poles per angler may be used.

REGION 3



Center Hill

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.

Chickamauga

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass/Alabama Bass:** 5 per day in combination, only one may be a smallmouth bass.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 1 per day, 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass/Alabama Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Hiwassee Refuge is closed to all forms of use and trespass from Nov. 15 through the last day

of Feb., except the wildlife viewing area. During the refuge closure, public entry and fishing are permitted while on the main river channel passing through the refuge.

Cordell Hull

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no minimum length.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination.
- **Striped Bass:** 32–42 inch PLR. Only one fish may be over 42 inches.
- **Hybrid Striped Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Dale Hollow

- **All Species:** No more than 4 rods and reels per angler may be used.
- **Largemouth/Spotted/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination, only two may be smallmouth bass.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 2 per day, 16–21 inch PLR. One fish may be under 16 inches and one may be over 21 inches. Includes Wolf River upstream to South Ford Road bridge.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.

- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 50 inch minimum length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, no length limit.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS:

January 1–April 15: On the east fork of the Obeys from Compton boat ramp upstream to Hwy. 52 bridge, anglers are restricted to the use of one hook having a single point, or one lure with a single hook with one point. Walleye creel limit is 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit. Only one walleye over 20 inches may be harvested. No more than 3 rods and reels or poles per angler may be used.

Great Falls

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 50 inch minimum length limit.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Guntersville

- **Largemouth/Spotted/Alabama Bass:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 1 per day, 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day in combination, 9 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*

- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Nickajack

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination, only one may be smallmouth bass.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 1 per day, 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted/Alabama Bass:** From Chickamauga Dam downstream to mouth of South Chickamauga Creek, 15 per day, no length limit. Rest of reservoir: 5 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Parksville

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted/Alabama Bass:** no creel or length limits.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 36 inch minimum length limit.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Perch:** 15 per day, no length limit.

Watts Bar

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted/Alabama Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted/Alabama Bass:** no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:**
 - » **April 1–Oct. 31:** 2 per day in combination.

CONTAMINANTS

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (TDEC) Division of Water Pollution Control issues advisories for the consumption of fish from certain Tennessee waters. The following information is subject to change and was copied from TDEC's site. Concerned individuals should visit TDEC's site for more information about these advisories, bacteriological advisories, and tips on how to reduce risks from contaminated fish.

For specific information regarding aquatic contaminants or affected waters, contact:

TDEC's Water Pollution Control Office

615-532-0703

<https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/wr-water-resources/watershed-stewardship/bacteriological-and-fishing-advisories.html>

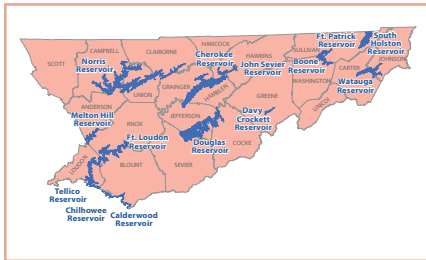
- » **Nov. 1–March 31:** 2 per day in combination, only one may be a striped bass.
- **Striped Bass:**
 - » **April 1–Oct. 31:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
 - » **Nov. 1–March 31:** 36 inch minimum length limit.
- Hybrid Striped Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- Paddlefish:** 1 per day; season is open from May 1 through May 15. *Culling is prohibited.*
- Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 36 inch minimum length limit.
- Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

- » **Nov. 1–March 31:** 2 per day in combination, only one may be a striped bass.
- **Striped Bass:**
 - » **April 1–Oct. 31:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
 - » **Nov. 1–March 31:** 36 inch minimum length limit.
- **Hybrid Striped Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, no length limit.

Calderwood

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day in combination. Only 2 less than 14 inches.
- **Crappie (all species):** 20 per day in combination, 8 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel or length limit
- **Walleye:** 8 per day, no length limit.
- **Sauger:** 8 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit
- **Rock Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** no creel or length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, no length limit.
- **White Bass:** 10 per day, 14 inch minimum length limit.
- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 42 inch minimum length limit.

REGION 4



Boone

Reservoir defined as from dam upstream to Hwy. 390 Bridge at Bluff City on South Fork Holston arm and upstream to new Austin Springs Bridge on Watauga arm.

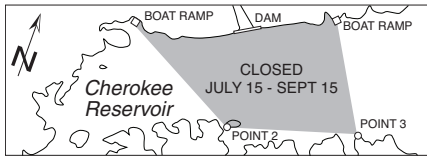
- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:**
 - » **April 1–Oct. 31:** 2 per day in combination.

Cherokee

Restrictions extend from Cherokee Dam upstream to John Sevier Dam.

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination, only one may be smallmouth bass June 1 through Oct. 15.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit
- **Smallmouth Bass:**
 - » **June 1–Oct. 15:** 1 per day, 18 inch minimum length limit.
 - » **Oct. 16–May 31:** 5 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted/Alabama Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.

- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Walleye/Sauger/Saugeye:** 10 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** 1 per day, no length limit. Season is open from April 1–15. *Culling is prohibited.* Holston River from Malinda Ferry Road (Hwy. 344) bridge upstream to John Sevier Dam is closed to snagging from March 1–31 and April 16–May 31.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.



SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS:

A closed fishing zone will be in effect from July 15 through Sept. 15. This zone is enclosed by lines from the boat ramp at the south end of the dam across the lake to Point 2, from Point 2 to Point 3, and from Point 3 back across the lake to the TWRA boat ramp at the north end of the dam. All bank fishing will be open and the coves along the southeast shoreline will be open to boat fishing, but no fishing for any species will be allowed by boat in the described zone from July 15 through Sept. 15.

Chilhowee

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 14 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.

- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, no length limit, only two may be lake trout.
- **Yellow Perch:** 15 per day, no length limit.

Douglas

Restrictions extend from Douglas Dam upstream to the ENKA Dam on the Nolichucky River, Hwy 321 bridge in Newport on Pigeon River, and Hwy 321 bridge on French Broad River. Restrictions on Walleye and Sauger or Sauger/Walleye hybrids also include Pigeon and French Broad Rivers upstream of Douglas Dam to NC state line.

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth/Spotted Bass:** 5 per day year-round
 - » Oct. 1-May 31: no length limit
 - » June 1-Sept. 30: Only one largemouth or smallmouth bass over 16" per day
 - » No length
- **Spotted Bass:** no length limit, year-round
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **White Bass/Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Walleye/Sauger or Walleye/Sauger Hybrids:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Walleye:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger or Sauger/Walleye Hybrids:** no minimum length limit but only one sauger may be over 16 inches per day.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 36 inch minimum length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Ft. Loudoun

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 14 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted/Alabama Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.

- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Ft. Patrick Henry

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** no length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, no length limit.

John Sevier

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** no length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 13–17 inch PLR, only one Smallmouth bass over 17 inches per day.
- **Spotted Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.

Melton Hill

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 14 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** 15 per day, no minimum length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, including Clinch River upstream to Highway 61 bridge in Clinton.
- **Striped Bass:** 32–42 inch PLR; only one fish may be over 42 inches.
- **Hybrid Striped Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Sauger:** 10 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.
- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 50 inch minimum length limit. Muskellunge that are not intended to be harvested must be released immediately in a manner that promotes survival of the fish. Culling is not allowed.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, no length limit.

Norris

Extends from the dam upstream to the Hwy. 25E bridge on the Clinch River arm and upstream to Gap Creek on the Powell River arm.

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination, only one smallmouth bass June 1 through Oct. 15
- **Largemouth Bass:** 14 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:**
 - » **June 1–Oct. 15:** 1 per day, 20 inch minimum length limit.
 - » **Oct. 16–May 31:** 5 per day, 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted/Alabama Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 10 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.

- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass:**
 - » **April 1–Oct. 31:** 2 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
 - » **Nov. 1–March 31:** 1 per day, 36 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye/Sauger:** 5 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit (upstream to Grissom Island on the Clinch River).
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 36 inch minimum length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** 30 per day, no length limit.
- **Largemouth Bass:** no length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** No creel or length limits.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** 20 per day in combination. Only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **White Bass:** No harvest allowed.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 18 inch minimum length limit. Includes tributaries.
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill:** 50 per day, no length limit.
- **Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, only two may be lake trout.

Tellico

Tellico Reservoir boundary extends upstream on Tellico River to Big Creek Boat Ramp. The following restrictions apply to this area.

South Holston (TN + VA Rules)

An additional South Holston Reservoir License is available for TN residents that want to fish Virginia portion of reservoir. See page 11.

Restricted to 15 limb lines per angler.

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 14 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 18 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted/Alabama Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS

What can you do to prevent the spread of whirling disease?

- **CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.** Clean all equipment, such as waders, fishing gear, boats, trailers, and float tubes of mud before leaving an area when fishing. Careful cleaning using disinfectants such as bleach will kill this parasite and many other aquatic nuisance species. Drain water from all motor units, live wells and buckets.
- **DO NOT** transport live fish from one waterbody to another.
- **DO** dispose of fish parts carefully when cleaning fish (dry disposal in garbage is best).
- **CONTACT US** if you observe signs of whirling disease in fish.
TWRA.WhirlingDisease@tn.gov
 Please provide a location and picture of the fish if possible.



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!
 Be A Good Steward. Clean. Drain. Dry.
StopAquaticHitchhikers.org

- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Yellow Bass:** no creel or length limit.
- **Walleye/Sauger:** 10 per day in combination but no more than 5 may be walleye. 15 inch minimum length limit. One walleye may be 24 inches or larger. Includes tributaries.
- **Paddlefish:** 2 per day; season is open from April 24 through May 31. *Culling is prohibited.*
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, no length limit.
- **Walleye:** 5 per day, 18 inch minimum length limit. Walleye run regulation: from Jan 1–April 30 restricted to the use of one hook having a single point or one lure having no more than one hook with a single point (artificial or bait) on the following waters: Elk River (Hwy 321 bridge downstream to Row Branch), Doe Creek (Old Cabin Private Road downstream to Roan Creek), Roan Creek (Mountain Lake Estates Bridge downstream to Doe Creek), and Watauga River (NC line downstream to the end of Cowanstown Road).
- **Rock Bass:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Warmouth and other sunfishes:** no creel or length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, no length limit, only two may be lake trout.

Watauga

- **Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Largemouth Bass:** 12 inch minimum length limit.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Spotted Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day in combination, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish (all species):** No creel limit for fish 34 inches and less in length; only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **White Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.



TWRA FISHING LAKES

INFORMATION

Nineteen TWRA managed lakes, located in Middle and West Tennessee, are open year-round. Some of these lakes are operated by private concessionaires under contract and offer complete services for the fishing public.

Hours

The lakes are open to fishing all week. Lakes will open one-half hour before official sunrise and close one-half hour after official sunset, except Garrett Lake which is open 24 hours a day. Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day the following lakes are closed: Gibson Co., Glenn Springs, Herb Parsons, and Lake Graham.



Permits

A daily lake permit of \$6.00 (available at most lakes), in addition to the regular fishing license, is required to use these lakes. At Lake Halford, a daily or annual permit specified for Lake Halford is required for anyone using the lake or facilities for any type of recreation (available online). A lake permit is not required at Garrett and Whiteville lakes. All residents 16 through 64 years of age, and nonresidents 16 years of age or older must have a permit. Sportsman license and lifetime license holders do not need a lake permit. Resident anglers 65 years of age and older do not need a permit, but do need a fishing license. A \$48.00 Annual Lake Permit may also be purchased at many of the lakes with concessionaires, and is good at all TWRA fishing lakes. For Coy Gaither-Bedford Lake, a daily lake permit should be purchased from a license agent in the surrounding area before going to the lake.

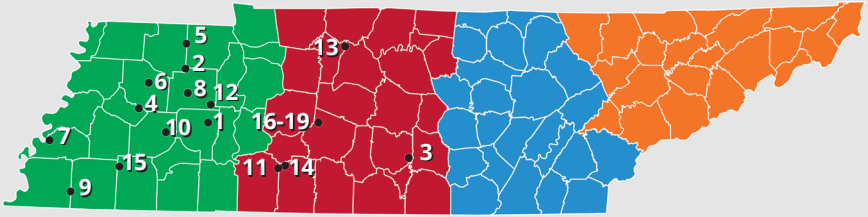
Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at all agency lakes.

Boats used for any activity other than fishing are prohibited, except for hunting on specific lakes during the regular hunting season as listed in the Tennessee Hunting Guide. Speed boating, personal water craft, water skiing, and swimming are prohibited. Houseboats, sailboats and inboard cruisers are prohibited. On Coy Gaither-Bedford, Marrowbone, VFW and Williamsport lakes, only trolling motors can be used. At Lake Halford recreational boating, personal watercraft, water-skiing and swimming are allowed.

Boats may be rented for \$10.00 per day at some lakes on a seasonal basis. There is no charge for paddles.

Tackle

Only rods and reels, poles, hand-held lines, and jugs may be used (see page 13 for jug fishing rules at TWRA lakes). Snagging is prohibited.



TWRA Fishing Lakes Locations and Facilities

See more details at www.tn.gov/twra/fishing/where-to-fish

LICENSES SOLD	PERMIT REQUIRED	RENTAL BOATS	OUTBOARDS PERMITTED	LAUNCHING RAMP	FISHING PIERS	PICNIC AREAS	BAIT & TACKLE
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1	Browns Creek Lake (731-423-5725) Henderson Co. 10 miles S of I-40 in the Natchez Trace State Park. (167 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
2	Carroll Lake (731-423-5725) Carroll Co. 4 miles E of McKenzie on Hwy 22. (100 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
3	Coy Gaither-Bedford Lake (615-781-6622) Bedford Co. 10 miles SE of Shelbyville on Hwy 269. (47 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
4	Davy Crockett Lake (Crockett Co.) (731-784-3889) Crockett Co. 5 miles W of Humboldt on Hwy 152. (87 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
5	Garrett Lake (731-423-5725) Weakley Co. 7 miles E of Dresden on Hwy 54. (183 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
6	Gibson County Lake (731-423-5725) Gibson Co. 5 miles E of Trenton off of Vaughns Grove Rd. (560 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
7	Glenn Springs Lake (731-423-5725) Tipton Co. 12 miles NE of Millington on Glenn Springs Rd. (310 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
8	Lake Halford (731-423-5725) Carrol Co. 5 miles SW of Huntindgon Hwy 70. (985 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
9	Herb Parsons Lake (731-423-5725) Fayette Co. 15 miles N of Collierville on Collierville-Arlington Rd. (177 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
10	Lake Graham (731-423-5725) Madison Co. 9 miles E of Jackson on Cotton Grove Rd. (500 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
11	Laurel Hill Lake (931-762-7200) Lawrence Co. 15 miles W of Lawrenceburg on Hwy 64. (325 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
12	Maples Creek Lake (731-423-5725) Carroll Co. 4 miles N of I-40 in Natchez Trace State Park. (90 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
13	Marrowbone Lake (615-410-6193 or 615-781-6622) Davidson Co. 6 miles N of Joelton off of Hwy 41-A. (60 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
14	VFW Lake (931-762-7200) Lawrence Co. 12 miles W of Lawrenceburg off of Hwy 64. (22 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
15	Whiteville Lake (731-423-5725) Hardeman Co. 2 miles S of Whiteville on Hwy 64. (158 acres)	•	•	•	•	•	•
16-19	Williamsport Lakes (4 lakes) (931-583-2477) Maury Co. 8.5 miles NW of Columbia on Hwy 50. (164 acres total)	•	•	•	•	•	•

Statewide regulations apply for any species not listed.

Browns Creek Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 per day, 18–25-inch PLR. Only one (1) fish longer than 25 inches may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day, no minimum length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or minimum length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit

Carroll Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 5 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 20 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** No creel limit; no length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Walleye:** 16 inch minimum length limit, 5 fish creel limit.

Coy Gaither-Bedford Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 5 per day, 14–18 inch PLR. Only one (1) fish longer than 18 inches may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 20 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 14 inch minimum length limit.

Davy Crockett Lake (Crockett Co.)

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill:** no creel or length limit.
- **Redear:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit.

Garrett Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 5 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill:** no creel or length limit.
- **Redear:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit.

Gibson County Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 per day, 18–24 inch PLR. Only one (1) fish longer than 24 inches may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 20 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit.

Glenn Springs Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** No creel limit for fish 18 inches and less in length, only one fish over 18 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 20 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day, no minimum length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit.

Herb Parsons Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 per day, 16"–20" PLR. Only one (1) fish longer than 20" may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 16" minimum length limit
- **Hybrid Striped Bass:** 16-inch minimum length limit, 2 fish per day creel limit

Lake Graham

- **Largemouth Bass:** No creel limit for fish 18 inches and less in length, only one fish over 18 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Bluegill:** no creel or length limit.
- **Redear:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, no length limit.

Lake Halford

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 fish per day, 18-inch maximum size limit. Only two (2) fish longer than 18 inches may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 fish per day, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel no length limit

Statewide regulations apply for any species not listed.

- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day, 16 minimum length limit
- Jug fishing is prohibited on Lake Halford.

Laurel Hill Lake

One embayment is for juvenile fishing, only youths 16 and under may fish. Nursery ponds may be closed as posted.

- **Largemouth Bass:** 5 per day, 13–18 inch PLR. Only one (1) fish longer than 18 inches may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 20 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 14 inch minimum length limit.

Maples Creek Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** No creel limit for fish 18 inches and less in length, only one fish over 18 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Bluegill:** no creel or length limit.
- **Redear:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** No creel or length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit.

Marrowbone Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 5 per day, 14–18 inch PLR. Only one (1) fish longer than 18 inches may be harvested.
- **Bluegill:** no creel or length limit.
- **Redear:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Trout:** 7 per day, no length limit.

VFW Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 5 per day, no length limit.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 20 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 14 inch minimum length limit.

Whiteville Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** No creel limit for fish 18 inches and less in length, only one fish over 18 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Bluegill:** no creel or length limit.
- **Redear:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** No creel or length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit.

Williamsport Lakes (4 lakes)

Whippoorwill Lake is for juvenile fishing, only youths 16 and under and an accompanying adult may fish. Two wetland ponds, Egret and Heron, are closed to fishing.

- **Largemouth Bass:** 1 per day, 20 inch minimum length limit.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 20 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day, 10 inch minimum length limit.
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 14 inch minimum length limit.
- **Hybrid Striped Bass:** 2 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.

DEFINITION

Protected Length Range (PLR)

PLR is a Protected Length Range. Fish in this length range may not be harvested. To promote growth of bigger bass in these lakes, anglers are encouraged to harvest their daily limit of bass shorter than the listed PLR.

EXCEPTIONS

TO STATEWIDE REGULATIONS

Community Fishing Program

Community Fishing Program water bodies: **Cameron Brown Park Pond** (Germantown), **Cedar Hill Pond** (Nashville), **Jack Dickert Pond** (Chattanooga), **Greenbelt Lake** (Maryville), **Pistol Creek** (Maryville; from East Harper Avenue upstream to West Lamar Alexander Parkway), and **Fountain City Lake** (Knoxville).

General: Rod & reel, handlines, poles only. Trotlines, jugs, seines, and cast nets not allowed.

Creel and length limits same as statewide except as listed below:

- **Catfish (Blue, Channel, hybrids combined):** 5 per day, no size limit
- **Bluegill Sunfish and Redear Sunfish (combined):** 20 per day, no size limit
- **Black Bass (all species):** 1 per day, no size limit
- **Crappie (all species combined):** 30 per day, no size limit
- **Trout (all trout combined):** 5 per day, no size limit

Small Impoundments

Allen Branch Pond (Cocke County)

- **Catfish:** 5 per day.

Beech River Watershed Lakes

- **Catfish:** 5 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day, no length limit.

Pine Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 per day.

Dogwood Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 12- to 16-inch PLR, 10 per day.

Redbud Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 12- to 16-inch PLR, 10 per day.

Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness WMA Ponds

Designated as youth fishing ponds. Fishing is permitted for youths 16 years of age or younger who are accompanied by a non-fishing adult (18 years of age or older). Youths are limited to using one (1) pole or rod while fishing. Fishing is permitted from one-half hour before official sunrise to one-half hour after official sunset.

- **Bluegill:** 10 per day, no length limit.
- **Channel Catfish:** 5 per day.
- **Largemouth Bass:** catch and release only.
- **Catfish:** 5 per day, 14-inch minimum length limit.
- **Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day in combination, no length limit.

Campbell Lake (Maury County)

- **Largemouth Bass:** 1 per day, 12 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish:** 5 per day, 14 inch minimum length limit.
- **Bluegill/Redear Sunfish:** 20 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 30 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Grass Carp:** No harvest allowed.

Casper Lake (Shelby County)

- **Largemouth Bass:** 2 per day, 16 inch minimum length limit.

Catoosa Wildlife Management Area

All streams and ponds are open from Apr. 1–Dec. 31, except on the dates of managed big game and turkey hunts.

Davy Crockett Lake (Greene County)

- **Crappie:** 30 per day, no length limit.
- **Smallmouth/Largemouth Bass:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Smallmouth Bass:** 13–17 inch protected length range, only one over 17 inches.
- **Spotted Bass:** 15 per day, no length limit.

Dickson City Lakes (Dickson County)

- **Catfish:** 5 per day, no length limit.

Doakes Pond (on Norris Reservoir)

The portion of Norris Reservoir known as Doakes Pond, located adjacent to Hwy. 63 approximately 9 miles NE of LaFollette, is closed to fishing.

Indian Boundary Lake (Cherokee NF)

- **Largemouth Bass:** 2 per day, 14 inch minimum length limit
- **Catfish:** 5 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie:** 30 per day, no length limit.

Lake Kefauver (Madisonville, Monroe County)

- **Bass:** 2 per day, 14 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish:** 5 per day, no length limit.

Land Between the Lakes

All waters are open year-round with the following provisions:

- Farm ponds are open to fishing unless otherwise posted.
- **Bards Lake:** Trotlines and limblines are prohibited. Jugs are permitted from Oct. 1–Mar. 21, with a limit of 10 jugs per person.

Liberty Park Lake (Clarksville)

- **Catfish:** 5 per day, no length limit.

New Lake (Lewisburg City Lake)

- **Largemouth Bass:** 5 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Catfish:** 5 per day, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** 15 per day, no length limit.

Open one-half hour before official sunrise to one-half hour after official sunset. Only rods and reels and cane poles permitted.

Reelfoot Watershed Lake #18

- **Largemouth Bass:** 5 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.

WMAs/Refuges**Douglas Reservoir**

Henderson Island WMA Rearing Pond is closed to fishing year-round.

Federal Refuges

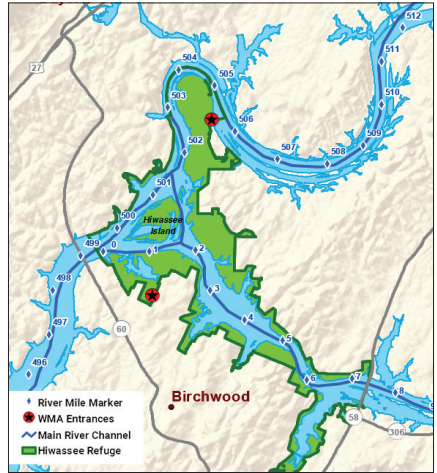
Some federal wildlife refuges have closed seasons. For details contact the office of the national wildlife refuge where you wish to fish.

Gooch Unit E Lake

- **Largemouth Bass:** 5 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit.

Hiwassee Refuge

Trespassing and fishing are prohibited in embayments and sub-impoundments from Nov. 15–Feb. 29. Boats must remain within the river channel defined by navigational buoys.

**Tellico Lake Chota Refuge Unit**

(that portion from LTRM 26.0 Upstream to the Hiwassee - Alcoa powerline at LTRM 29.7)

Closed to all forms of use and trespass from Nov. 15 through last day of Feb., except in designated observation areas.

Exceptions on State Park Lakes

State Park Lakes are managed by the TN Department of Environment and Conservation. Unless otherwise posted, statewide fishing regulations apply with the following exceptions:

Fall Creek Falls State Park (Fall Creek Falls Lake) —

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 fish per day, only one (1) fish longer than 16 inches may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 fish per day, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day, 16" minimum length limit

Montgomery Bell State Park (Acorn Lake) —

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 bass per day, no minimum length limit.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 16" minimum length limit
- **Trout:** catch and release only from Dec. 1-March 31, 5 fish per day, no length limit April 1-Nov. 30

Montgomery Bell State Park (Woodhaven Lake) —

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 per day, 18- to 25-inch PLR. Only one (1) fish longer than 25 inches may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day in combination, no length limit.
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no minimum length limit

Big Hill Pond State Park (Travis McNatt Lake) —

- **Largemouth Bass:** no creel limit. Only one (1) fish longer than 16" may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, 16 minimum length limit

Natchez Trace State Park (Pin Oak Lake) —

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 per day, 18"-25" protected length range. Only one (1) fish longer than 25 inches may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 10 per day, no length limit
- **Crappie (all species):** no creel or length limit
- **Blue/Channel Catfish:** 5 per day in combination, no length limit
- Trotlines and limblines prohibited year-round.
- From 1st of April through 30th of September fishing with jug lines will be prohibited on Fridays after 12 noon until 12 midnight on Sundays. Fishing with jug lines is also prohibited on Memorial Day, July 3rd through July 5th, and Labor Day. On days open to jug fishing, each boat is limited to 10 jugs per day.

Crappie (all species combined):

- **All other state park lakes not specified:** 15 per day, no length limit

Channel or blue catfish or in combination:

- **All other state park lakes not specified:** 5 per day, no length limit.

Black bass from the following lakes must be a minimum of 15 inches:

- Lake Lindsey, David Crockett State Park.
- Sullivan's Pond, Ft. Pillow State Historic Area.
- Indian Mt. "B" Lake, Indian Mountain State Park.
- Creech Hollow Lake, Montgomery Bell SP.

Bluegill/Redear sunfish in combination creel limit of 20 fish per day:

- Byrd Lake, Cumberland Mountain State Park
- Kelly (Standing Stone) Lake, Standing Stone State Park
- Pickett Lake, Pickett State Park
- Grundy Lakes, South Cumberland State Park

Chickasaw State Park (Lake Lajoie and Lake Placid) —

- **Black Bass:** 14-18 inch PLR (slot limit). Daily creel limit 10 bass per day, only one bass over 18 inches may be harvested.

Big Ridge State Park (Big Ridge Lake) —

- **Black Bass:** 14 inch minimum length limit.

Meeman Shelby State Park (Poplar Tree Lake) —

- **Largemouth Bass:** 10 fish per day, only one (1) fish longer than 18" may be harvested.
- **Bluegill/Redear:** 20 per day in combination, no length limit

Rivers and Streams

Buffalo Creek (Grainger County)

Closed to all fishing and minnow seining upstream from the mill dam.

Calkiller River and tributaries

- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 50 inch minimum length limit.

Caney Fork River (headwaters of Center Hill Reservoir)

Walleye run regulation in effect on the upper end of Center Hill Reservoir, including the Caney Fork River beginning at the boat ramp at Rock Island State Park and extending upstream to Great Falls Dam. Anglers restricted to use of one hook having a single barb or lure containing a single hook with one barb from Jan. 1–Apr. 30. No more than 3 rods and reels or poles may be used.

Caney Fork River (above Center Hill Dam) and tributaries

- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 50 inch minimum length limit.

Clear Creek (tributary to the Clinch River – Anderson County)

Closed to fishing and minnow seining from Hwy. 441 upstream to the second dam (adjacent to the city of Norris water tower), as posted from Nov. 1–Mar. 31.

Clinch River

- **Norris Reservoir upstream to Grissom Island:** Walleye/Sauger: 5 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Hwy. 25E upstream to state line:** 13- to 17-inch PLR for Smallmouth Bass, with a creel limit of 5 black bass, allowing only one smallmouth bass in creel to be greater than 17 inches.

Collins River and tributaries

- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 50 inch minimum length limit.

East Fork of the Obey River (headwaters of Dale Hollow Reservoir)

Walleye run regulation in effect on the East Fork of the Obey River from Compton Boat Ramp upstream to the Hwy. 52 bridge. Anglers restricted to use of one hook having a single barb or lure containing a single hook with one barb from Jan. 1–April 15. Walleye creel limit 5 per day, 16-inch minimum length. Only one Walleye over 20 inches may be harvested. No more than 3 rods and reels or poles may be used.

Forked Deer, Hatchie, Loosahatchie, Obion and Wolf Rivers (includes tributaries)

- **Crappie:** 30 per day, no length limit.

French Broad River (Hwy. 168 to Douglas Dam)

- **Smallmouth bass:** 18-inch minimum length limit. Creel limit 5.

French Broad River (from Hwy 321 bridge at Newport upstream to North Carolina state line)

- **Smallmouth Bass:** 13- to 17-inch PLR with a creel limit of 5 black bass allowing one Smallmouth Bass to be greater than 17 inches.
- **Walleye/Sauger or Walleye/Sauger Hybrids:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Walleye:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger or Sauger/Walleye Hybrids:** No minimum length limit; only one fish over 16 inches in length may be harvested per day.

Holston River (I-40 bridge upstream to Cherokee Dam and John Sevier Dam upstream to North Fork Holston River)

- **Black Bass:** 5 per day in combination; 13–17 inch PLR for Smallmouth bass, only one Smallmouth bass over 17 inches per day.

Little River (Rockford Dam upstream to Great Smoky Mountains NP boundary)

- **Black Bass:** 5 per day in combination; 13–17 inch PLR for Smallmouth bass, only one Smallmouth bass over 17 inches per day.

Little Pigeon River (from mouth upstream to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park boundary, including the West Prong and East Fork of the Little Pigeon River)

- **Smallmouth Bass:** 1 per day, 20 inch minimum length limit.

Mississippi River (includes adjacent sloughs, bayous, and all river runs and chutes, that are accessible by boat from the river proper)

- **Black Bass:** 10 per day, no length limit.
- **Sunfish/Bream:** 50 per day, no length limit.
- **Catfish:** no creel limit, only one fish over 34 inches in length may be harvested per day.
- **Crappie:** 50 per day, no length limit.
- **Striped Bass and Hybrid Striped Bass:** 6 per day, no length limit.
- **Sauger:** 6 per day, no length limit.
- **White Bass:** 30 per day, no length limit.

Nolichucky River (ENKA Dam upstream to state line, includes Davy Crockett Lake)

- **Black Bass:** 5 per day in combination; 13–17 inch PLR for Smallmouth bass, only one Smallmouth bass over 17 inches per day.

North Fork Holston River (confluence with South Fork Holston River upstream to state line)

- **Black Bass:** 5 per day in combination; 13–17 inch PLR for Smallmouth bass, only one Smallmouth bass over 17 inches per day.

Pigeon River (from Hwy 321 bridge at Newport upstream to NC state line)

- **Smallmouth Bass:** 1 per day, 20 inch minimum length limit.
- **Walleye/Sauger or Walleye/Sauger hybrids:** 5 per day in combination.
- **Walleye:** 15 inch minimum length limit.
- **Sauger or Sauger/Walleye Hybrids:** No minimum length limit; only one fish over 16 inches in length may be harvested per day.

Powell River (Gap Creek confluence upstream to state line)

- **Black Bass:** 5 per day in combination; 13–17 inch PLR for Smallmouth bass, only one Smallmouth bass over 17 inches per day.



Rocky River and tributaries

- **Muskellunge:** 1 per day, 50 inch minimum length limit.

South Fork Holston River (confluence with North Fork Holston River upstream to Fort Patrick Henry Dam)

- **Black Bass:** 5 per day in combination; 13–17 inch PLR for Smallmouth bass, only one Smallmouth bass over 17 inches per day.

Stones River (confluence with Cumberland River upstream to J. Percy Priest Dam)

Regulations for Cheatham Reservoir apply (page 23).

Tellico River (Tellico Reservoir Boundary upstream to state line)

- **Black Bass:** 5 per day in combination; 13–17 inch PLR for Smallmouth bass, only one Smallmouth bass over 17 inches per day.

Wolf River (South Ford Road Bridge downstream into Dale Hollow Reservoir)

- **Smallmouth Bass:** 2 per day, 16–21 inch PLR (one under 16 inches and one over 21 inches).

TROUT

REGULATIONS

Statewide Regulations

Any combination of trout species:

- **Daily Limit:** 7.
- **Minimum Length Limit:** None.

Exceptions:

- Only 2 trout in a creel may be lake trout
- See the following specific regulations

Delayed Harvest Areas

In the areas listed below, the harvest or possession of trout is prohibited during the catch-and-release season. During the catch-and-release season, only artificial lures are permitted and the use or possession of bait is prohibited.

Big Soddy Creek: Upstream of Back Valley Road

- Catch-and-release season Oct. 1 through the last day of Feb.

Buffalo Creek: Mill dam downstream to Buffalo Springs WMA boundary.

- Catch-and-release season Oct. 1–Jan. 31.

Doe River: Roan Mountain State Park boundaries.

- Catch-and-release season is Oct. 1–last day of Feb.

Hiwassee River: Appalachian Powerhouse downstream to L&N Railroad Bridge

Catch-and-release season is Oct. 1 through last day of Feb.

- From March 1 through Sept. 30, trout creel limit is 7 trout of all species combined and only 2 may be brown trout.

Paint Creek: Paint Creek Campground downstream to mouth at French Broad River

- Catch-and-release season is Oct. 1 through last day of Feb.

Piney River: Cumberland Trail State Park downstream to Highway 27 Bridge

- Catch-and-release season is Nov. 1 through last day of Feb.

Tellico River: Mouth of North River upstream to the Tennessee - North Carolina state line

- Catch-and-release season is Oct. 1 through the last day of February.

Special Trout Regulations

Caney Fork River: Center Hill Dam to Cumberland River, including tributaries

- Total daily creel of all trout (rainbow, brown and brook) in combination is 5 fish.
- **Rainbow Trout:** 5 per day, 14–20 inch PLR, only one fish over 20 inches may be harvested.
- **Brook Trout:** 5 per day, 14–20 inch PLR, only one fish over 20 inches may be harvested.
- **Brown Trout:** 1 per day, 24 inch minimum length limit.
- **Cutthroat Trout:** 5 per day, 14–20 inch PLR, only one fish over 20 inches may be harvested.

Elk River: Tims Ford Dam to I-65 bridge, including tributaries.

- **Brown Trout:** 20 inch minimum length limit, 1 per day.
- Total daily creel limit of all trout species in combination is 7 trout.

Clinch River: Norris Dam. downstream to Hwy. 61 bridge, including tributaries

- 14–20 inch PLR on all trout.
- 7 trout creel limit, only one trout may be greater than 20 inches.

Clear Creek: tributary to Clinch River—Anderson Co.

- Closed to fishing and minnow seining from Hwy. 441 upstream to the second dam (adjacent to the city of Norris water tower), as posted from Nov. 1–Mar. 31.

Hiwassee River: Appalachian Powerhouse downstream to L&N Railroad Bridge

- March 1 through Sept. 30: 7 trout creel limit, only 2 may be brown trout.
- Oct. 1 through last day of February: see delayed harvest areas.

South Fork Holston River: South Holston Dam to Hwy. 390 Bridge at Bluff City

- 16–22 inch PLR on all trout.
- 7 trout creel limit, only one trout may be greater than 22 inches.
- Closed to all fishing Nov. 1–Jan. 31 in the following areas:
 - » Hickory Tree Bridge upstream to the confluence with Bottom Creek.
 - » Downstream point of Boy’s Island (first island downstream of Weaver Pike Bridge) upstream to the top of the first island above Webb Road Bridge.

Watauga River: Quality Trout Fishing Area Smallings bridge downstream to CSX railroad bridges

- 14 inch minimum length limit.
- 2 trout creel limit.
- Use or possession of any bait is prohibited.
- Trout less than 14 inches may not be in possession.

Horse Creek: Greene County, U.S. Forest Service Boundary Line upstream to the junction of Squibb Creek

- Daily limit: 7 trout per day, except from May 1–Sep. 30 daily limit is 2 trout.

Slickrock Creek: That portion of Slickrock Creek which constitutes the boundary between the states of Tennessee and North Carolina.

- Appropriate licenses from TN or NC are valid.
- **Rainbow, Brown and Brook Trout:** Daily limit of 4 in combination with a 7 inch minimum length limit.

- Only single-hook artificial lures are permitted. Use or possession of bait or multiple hook lures is prohibited. One single-hook artificial lure separated from a legal lure by a length of line (for example, a dropper fly) is also permitted.

Dillard Ponds:

- 4 trout per day.
- Each angler limited to one rod or pole.
- Fishing permitted from one half-hour before official sunrise to one half-hour after official sunset.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Most of the streams in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park provide trout fishing opportunities. For detailed fishing information and regulations, contact: Park Headquarters, Gatlinburg, TN 37738; phone 865-436-1200.

Fort Campbell Military Reservation

Several streams on Fort Campbell Military Reservation including Dry Creek, Little West Fork and Fletcher’s Fork are stocked with rainbow and brown trout. Special fishing regulations apply and a Post Fishing Permit is required in addition to a valid Tennessee fishing license and trout stamp. For details, contact the Community Recreation Division, Hunting and Fishing Unit, Fort Campbell, KY 42223-5000; phone 270-798-9824. <https://ftcampbell.isportsman.net/Permits.aspx>

Tellico-Citico Permit Areas

AREA	REGULATIONS
<p>Tellico River from its confluence with Turkey Creek upstream to the Tennessee-North Carolina state line.</p> <p>Citico Creek from its confluence with Little Citico Creek upstream to the confluence of North and South Forks of Citico Creek.</p>	<p>Tellico-Citico Permit required March 1 through Aug. 15.</p> <p>Closed on Thursday and Friday during the period March 1 through Aug. 15 (except when national or state holidays fall on Thursday and Friday). From Aug. 16 through the last day of February fishing is allowed every day and Tellico-Citico Permit is not required.</p> <p>Daily creel limit of 7 trout, with no size limit.</p> <p>Fishing permitted from ½ hour before official sunrise to ½ hour after official sunset. The possession of fishing equipment and/or tackle is prohibited on stream banks except during legal fishing hours.</p> <p>Each angler permitted only one rod or pole.</p> <p>Tellico River from Sourwood Campground upstream to the dam on Tellico River from one half-hour before official sunrise to 12 p.m. is closed to fishing for individuals 17 and older on Free Fishing Day (which is the first Saturday after the first Monday of the month of June).</p>
<p>Green Cove Pond</p>	<p>Tellico-Citico Permit not required.</p> <p>Daily creel limit of 5 catfish, with no length limit.</p> <p>Hours open – ½ hour before official sunrise to ½ hour after official sunset.</p> <p>Each angler permitted only one rod or pole.</p> <p>Daily creel limit of 7 trout, with no size limit.</p>

Wild Trout Stream

WATER	REGULATIONS
<p>North River and tributaries (Monroe County).</p>	<p>Daily creel limit of 5 trout with no length limit.</p> <p>Only single-hook artificial lures are permitted. Use or possession of bait or multiple hook lures is prohibited. One single-hook artificial lure separated from a legal lure by a length of line (for example: a dropper fly) is also permitted.</p>
<p>Bald River and tributaries (Monroe County).</p>	
<p>Sycamore Creek (tributary to Tellico River in Monroe County) and tributaries.</p>	
<p>Laurel Fork and tributaries beginning at the cable crossing ½ mile upstream from the USFS Dennis Cove Recreation Area and extending upstream to the USFS boundary (Carter County).</p>	
<p>Beaverdam Creek and tributaries from its confluence with Birch Branch downstream to Tank Hollow Road (USFS Rd. 300) (Johnson County).</p>	
<p>Paint Creek and tributaries from USFS campground upstream to USFS Boundary line south of Highway 70 near Munday Gap (Greene County).</p>	
<p>Rocky Fork and tributaries upstream of Rocky Fork Rd. and State Park Entrance Rd. junction. (Greene/Unicoi Counties).</p>	
<p>Left Prong (tributary to Hampton Creek in Carter County).</p>	
<p>Rough Ridge Creek and tributaries.</p>	
<p>Little Stony Creek and its tributaries upstream of the confluence with Plot Branch (1.3 miles upstream of Hwy 321 crossing).</p>	

Tailwater Trout

TWRA stocks fingerling and adult trout into coldwater tailwaters below dams to provide fishing opportunities. In many tailwaters trout fishing can be good year-round. Trout are stocked routinely during the following months. Use caution below dams. Call TVA at 1-800-238-2264 to check dam discharge and generation schedules (www.tva.com/Environment/Lake-Levels).

	RIVER	BELOW	TROUT SPECIES	STOCKING SCHEDULE
REGION 2	Duck River	Normandy Dam	rainbow	November through June*
	Elk River	Tims Ford Dam	rainbow, brown, cutthroat, and brook	March through December
	Stones River	J. Percy Priest Dam	rainbow	December through March*
REGION 3	Caney Fork River	Center Hill Dam	rainbow, brown, cutthroat, and brook	March through December
	Hiwassee River	Appalachian Dam	rainbow, brown, cutthroat, and brook	October through July
	Obey River	Dale Hollow Dam	rainbow, brown	January through December
	Ocoee River	Ocoee Dam #1—Parksville	rainbow	March through May*
REGION 4	Clinch River	Norris Dam	rainbow, brown, and brook	March through August
	Holston River	Cherokee Dam	rainbow and brown	November through April
	South Fork Holston River	Boone Dam	rainbow, brown, cutthroat, and brook	March, April, December
	South Fork Holston River	Fort Patrick Henry Dam	rainbow and brown	March and April
	South Fork Holston River	S. Holston Dam	rainbow	March through September
	Watauga River	Wilbur Dam	rainbow	March through December
	Wilbur Reservoir	Watauga Dam	rainbow	March through July

*Seasonal fishery – only productive during stocked months.

Gatlinburg Trout Fishing

TWRA and the City of Gatlinburg offer a variety of trout fishing opportunities in four streams. All streams are closed on Thursday each week and a Gatlinburg permit is required (page 12). Some areas are managed especially for children 12 and under. For more information contact the Gatlinburg Chamber of Commerce, (800) 568-4748 or the Gatlinburg trout facility at (865) 436-4558.

The taking of trout using a Gatlinburg Permit is allowed only within the designated streams, designated times, and under the restrictions listed in the following paragraphs.

General Streams

- West Prong Little Pigeon River from Park Boundary to Gnatty Branch except those sections set aside as Children's Streams.
- Dudley Creek from Park Boundary to West Prong Little Pigeon River, except those sections set aside as Children's Streams.
- Roaring Fork from the Park Boundary to West Prong Little Pigeon River.
- Leconte Creek from Painter Branch to West Prong Little Pigeon River.

Children's Streams (May only be fished by children 12 and under, unless otherwise posted.)

- Leconte Creek from Painters Branch upstream to Park Boundary.
- West Prong Little Pigeon River from North Park Lane Bridge (Herbert Holt Park) downstream to Gatlinburg By-pass Bridge.
- Dudley Creek from Highway 441 Bridge to West Prong Little Pigeon River.

Season and Creel Limits

Fishing permitted year-round, except on Thursday, from one half-hour before official sunrise to one half-hour after official sunset. Fishing is permitted with one hand-held rod and single hook only.

From December 1 through March 31 (all streams):

- Possession of any trout shall be prohibited.
- All trout caught must be immediately returned to the water.
- Use or possession of bait is prohibited. Use or possession of any artificial lures other than sin-

gle hook artificial flies, spinners, and spoons is prohibited. The use of one dropper fly having a single hook which is separated from a legal lure by a length of line is permissible.

From April 1 through November 30:

- **General Streams:** The creel limit is five (5) trout per day. Bait and artificial lures permitted.
- **Children's Streams:** The creel limit is two (2) per day.
- Total possession limit shall not exceed twice the daily creel limit.
- While fishing or when afield, possession of more than the daily creel limit shall be prohibited, regardless of whether the trout are fresh, stored in an ice chest, in a vehicle, or otherwise preserved.



COUNTY	STREAM	FEBRUARY					MARCH					APRIL					MAY					JUNE					JULY					AUGUST					SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER										
		5	12	19	26	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22													
Greene	Paint Creek ^{DH}					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	DH													
Hamblen	Panther Creek	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Hancock	Mantooth Pond		•										•																																			•				
Hancock	Richardson 'Byrd' Creek	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Hawkins	Alexander Creek	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Hawkins	Big Creek	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Johnson	Doe Creek					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
Johnson	Forge Creek					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Johnson	Laurel Creek					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Johnson	Beaverdam Creek					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Johnson	Upper Roan Creek					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Scott	Oneida City Park Lake																																																			
Sevier	Mid. Prong Little Pigeon River					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Sevier	Gatlinburg Streams**G	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	DH	
Sevier	W. Prong Little Pigeon R. (Pigeon Forge)	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Unicoi	Clark Creek					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Unicoi	Fishery Park Pond	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Unicoi	North Indian Creek					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Unicoi	Rocky Fork	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Unicoi	South Indian Creek					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Unicoi	Spivey Creek					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

* From March 1 through August 15, water is closed to fishing on Thursdays and Fridays (except the day of State and Federal holidays) and a daily permit is required. Check your fishing guide for more regulations.
 **From October 1 through August 15, water is closed to fishing on Thursdays and Fridays (except the day of state and Federal holidays). Daily permit is required October 1 through August 15. Check your fishing guide for regulations.
 **G Closed to fishing on Thursdays and special permit or Sportsmans License is required. Check your fishing guide for more regulations.
 DH - Stream is subject to delayed harvest regulations. Check fishing guide for specific regulation dates.

WINTER

2023 TENTATIVE TROUT STOCKING SCHEDULE

The following locations are tentatively scheduled to be stocked with rainbow trout December through March. The schedule will be posted on www.tnwildlife.org in November.

	LOCATION	TOWN
REGION 1	Beech Lake	Lexington
	Cameron Brown Lake	Germantown
	Davies Plantation	Bartlett
	Edmund-Orgill Park	Millington
	Johnson Park Lake	Collierville
	Lake Graham	Jackson
	Martin City Pond	Martin
	McKenzie City Park	McKenzie
	Milan City Pond	Milan
	Paris City Park	Paris
	Shelby Farms	Memphis
	Union City Reelfoot Packing Site	Union City
Valentine Park	Munford	
Yale Road Park	Bartlett	
REGION 2	Big Rock Greenway	Lewisburg
	Billy Dunlop Park	Clarksville
	Cowan City Park	Cowan
	Cedar Hill Park	Madison
	Don Fox Park in Lebanon	Lebanon
	Harpeth River	Franklin
	J. Percy Priest Tailwater	Nashville
	J.D. Buckner Park	Dickson
	L.L. Burns Park	Kingston Springs
	Lafayette City Park	Lafayette
	Marrowbone Lake	Joelton
	McCutcheon Creek	Spring Hill
	Nice Mill	Smyrna
	Shelby Bottoms	Nashville
Stone Bridge Park	Fayetteville	
Sulphur Fork Creek	Springfield	
West Fork Stones River	Murfreesboro	
REGION 3	Athens City Park Pond	Athens
	Camp Jordan	East Ridge
	Cane Creek Park	Cookeville
	Cumberland Mountain State Park	Crossville
	Lake Junior	Chattanooga
REGION 4	Fountain City Lake	Knoxville
	Oneida City Park	Oneida
	Pistol Creek/Greenbelt Lake	Maryville

RESERVOIR

2023 TENTATIVE TROUT STOCKING SCHEDULE

The following reservoirs are stocked with trout during the winter to provide year-round trout fishing opportunities.

RESERVOIR	SPECIES STOCKED
Calderwood	Rainbow, Brown, and Brook Trout
Chilhowee	Rainbow Trout
Dale Hollow	Rainbow and Brown Trout
Fort Patrick Henry	Rainbow and Brown Trout
Parksville	Rainbow Trout
South Holston	Rainbow and Lake Trout
Tellico (upper)	Rainbow Trout
Watauga	Rainbow and Lake Trout

TENNESSEE LAKE STURGEON

Tennessee's Lake Sturgeon Project

Lake sturgeon are a primitive species that can grow to 8 ft. in length, weigh up to 300 pounds, and live for 150 years. Since 2000, over 300,000 lake sturgeon have been stocked into the French Broad and Holston rivers near Knoxville and the Cumberland River near Nashville. These stocking efforts are designed to restore reproducing populations of this primitive species. This species is known to travel long distances, so it is very likely that anglers could catch lake sturgeon in other waters of the state.

Angler reports are important to TWRA because they provide important information needed to monitor the success of Tennessee's lake sturgeon program.

If you catch a lake sturgeon, please be as careful as possible not to harm the fish—avoid holding the lake sturgeon by their tails and remember fish cannot breathe while they are out of the water. Lake sturgeon are endangered in Tennessee and should be released immediately. If possible, note an approximate length before the fish is released. Additionally, a photo of your catch would be appreciated if you can do so without harming the fish.

You can email details (including photos) of your catch to sturgeon.reports@tn.gov or refer to page 2 for your local regional office number. In appreciation of your efforts, you will receive a Certificate of Appreciation from the TWRA.



STATE RECORDS

INFORMATION

How To Be Considered For a State Record Fish

The following criteria must be followed when applying for a state record certificate:

1. State record fish application is available at www.tnwildlife.org under “Fishing”.
2. To be considered for a state record certificate, the fish must be weighed on certified scales, or scales “legal for trade”. These scales may be found at supermarket meat centers, Farm/Feed stores, UPS/FedEx locations.
3. Two witnesses, one of which must be the scale operator/owner, must fill out and sign Part B of the application certifying that they have observed the declared weight.
4. Only the current species listed in Class A and B, or those approved by TWRA, will be considered for a Tennessee state record fish certification.
5. Ties are accepted, but a new state record will be recognized only if the weight of the fish is one (1) ounce (oz) or more than the weight of the previous state record for that species or recognized hybrid (see #7).
6. It is the responsibility of the angler to contact a TWRA fisheries biologist for positive identification of the fish. The fish must be alive, fresh or frozen until positive species identity can be established. A photograph is not acceptable for identification.
7. Only two hybrid classifications, the striped bass/white bass (Cherokee bass) and the walleye/sauger (Saugeye), will be considered for a state record. Applicants must be willing to submit to the professional judgment of the certifying biologist as to the fish’s hybrid status.
8. TWRA reserves the right to conduct genetic testing on any fish submitted as a state record to verify its species or hybrid status.
9. The completed application must be forwarded to the TWRA Fisheries Division within 30 days of the catch in order to be considered for a state record certification.



Visit our Website to Find Current State Records

Scan QR code to link directly to a listing of all state records

TENNESSEE ANGLER RECOGNITION

PROGRAM

The Tennessee Angler Recognition Program (TARP) gives anglers an opportunity to have their trophy-size fish recognized by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. Anglers of any age, who catch large fish that meet or exceed qualifying lengths, can apply. The TWRA Fisheries Management Division sends these accomplished anglers TARP certificates featuring color reproductions of fish artwork by renowned wildlife artist Joseph R. Tomelleri.

The program is designed to acknowledge anglers for outstanding sportfishing accomplishments, to encourage catch and release of trophy size fish and to provide the TWRA with information on large fish caught throughout the state.

Not to be confused with the State Record Fish program, TARP recognizes anglers who catch trophy-size fish that are not necessarily state records.

Trophy Fish/Master Angler Certificates

TARP features five levels of angler recognition. Anglers catching a fish that meets or exceeds the minimum “trophy” length requirements will receive a Trophy Fish certificate. These certificates feature artwork representing the species caught by the applicant. After anglers submit five trophy-size fish, in any combination, a Master Angler Level I certificate and patch will be awarded at no cost to the angler. Anglers submitting five different trophy-size fish will receive a Master Angler Level II certificate and patch. The Master Angler Level III will be awarded to anglers submitting ten different trophy-size fish. In addition to a certificate and patch, the angler will receive a “tackle package,” courtesy of Bass Pro Shops (Kodak, TN). Master Angler



IV will be awarded to anglers submitting fifteen different trophy fish. The award will consist of a certificate, patch and an engraved trophy. The newest level, Master Angler V, will be awarded to anglers submitting twenty different trophy fish, and will receive a certificate, patch and engraved plaque.

How Do You Qualify?

- The fish must meet or exceed the minimum Trophy Fish Length listed on the right of this page.
- Persons 13 years of age and older must be licensed anglers and must provide their license number (TWRA #) on the application.
- The fish must be caught legally (in accordance with Tennessee Sportfishing Regulations) in Tennessee waters, by sportfishing methods only (rod and reel or cane pole).
- The length of the fish must be verified by either a witness or a photograph. The witness must complete the section on the application and/or the photo must be of the fish lying flat on top of or beside a flat measuring rule or tape and included with the application. Submitted photos may be used on the TWRA web site and in TWRA publications.

If you believe your catch exceeds the current state record for that species, you should immediately contact a TWRA Fisheries Biologist for positive identification of the fish (see page 46).

How Do You Apply?

An application form is located on the next page and online. Complete one application form for each fish you are registering. You may include more than one application form per envelope. If the fish length is being verified by photo, the picture must be enclosed with the application. For each Trophy Fish Certificate only, a \$5.00 processing fee, per application, must also be enclosed and **mailed within 90 days from the date of catch**. Make check or money order payable to TWRA and mail, with the application(s), to the address at the right of the application. **Note: a picture of the fish may be requested/required for any submitted application at the discretion of TWRA.** The processing fee is

non-refundable for non-qualifying applications. For further information about TARP or the State Record Fish program, call (615) 781-6575, or visit www.tnwildlife.org.

Measuring Your Fish

Please refer to the instructions on page 9.

Minimum Trophy Fish Lengths

SPECIES	LENGTH (INCHES)
Largemouth Bass	22
Spotted Bass	18
Smallmouth Bass	20
Striped Bass	40
Hybrid Striped Bass (Cherokee Bass)	28
White Bass	18
Yellow Bass	11
Black Crappie	14
White Crappie	14
Bluegill	10
Redear Sunfish	11
Rock Bass	10
Sauger	20
Walleye	28
Yellow Perch	11
Muskellunge	40
Brook Trout	10
Brown Trout	26
Rainbow Trout	24
Lake Trout	28
Channel Catfish	28
Blue Catfish	36
Flathead Catfish	36
Common Carp	34
Freshwater Drum	28
Bowfin	26
Longnose Gar	45

TROPHY FISH APPLICATION FORM

FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY. PLEASE PRINT.

Angler's name: _____ Phone number: _____ (_____) _____ - _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Do you qualify for a Master Angler Award? Yes No

E-mail: _____

Fishing license number (TWRA #): _____

FISH INFORMATION: KIND OF FISH (SPECIES): _____ DATE CAUGHT: _____

Body of water where caught: _____ Was the fish released? Yes No

Type of Water: _____ Pond _____ Reservoir/Lake _____ River/Stream _____ Bait: _____ Natural _____ Artificial _____

County: _____ Length of fish (to nearest 1/4 inch): _____ Length certification: _____ (A or B)

A. Witness signature: _____ Phone number: _____ (_____) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

B. Photo: Print your name, birth date, and fish species on back of photo and enclose with application.

Photos become property of TWRA and are not returned. Photos may be used in publications.

(Angler sign here) I, _____ hereby affirm that the above information is true and in taking this fish I complied with all state fishing regulations and rules of the Tennessee Angler Recognition Program and that the witness actually witnessed the measuring of the fish and/or the photo is accurate and was not altered in any way.

TARP
Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
P.O. Box 41729
Nashville, TN 37204

Enclose a check or money order for \$5.00 payable to TWRA and mail to:



WIR-0831

LIVE BAIT

REGULATIONS

The following sections explain which species can be used for bait, and how they can be harvested, sold and transported. **Under no circumstance shall live fish, crayfish or salamanders be intentionally released into Tennessee waters away from the waters from which they were harvested.**

For the purposes of these rules, a sport angler shall be defined as anyone who attempts to take, kill, injure, capture, or catch any sport fish and every act of assistance thereof. A bait dealer shall be defined as one who engages in the business of capturing legal species of fish and other aquatic life for the purpose of sale, or one that sells any legal species of fish and other aquatic life for bait. All bait dealers must purchase a type 118 (resident) or 116 (nonresident) license annually, and make all necessary reports as required to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. The harvest and use of bait fish by commercial fishers shall be regulated in the commercial fishing proclamation.

A licensed sport angler (with all required licenses and permits) can harvest game fish (including rainbow trout and sunfish) for use as bait using legal sport fishing methods. When harvesting game fish, all restrictions in the sport

fishing proclamation apply (including creel and length limits, seasons, and license requirements) for both the waters from which fish are harvested for bait and for waters where they will be used as bait.

Trout harvested in the following waters shall only be used as bait in the water from which the trout were harvested.

1. South Fork Holston River from South Holston Dam to Boone Dam;
2. Watauga River from Watauga Dam to Boone Dam;
3. Doe River (Carter Co.); and
4. North River (Monroe Co.).

Class A Bait Fish

The following species may be:

1. Harvested by licensed sport anglers for use as bait;
2. Imported into Tennessee or exported from Tennessee as live or dead bait by licensed bait dealers and licensed sport anglers;



3. Harvested and sold in Tennessee by licensed bait dealers. There is no possession limit for Gizzard Shad, Threadfin Shad, Fathead Minnow, Golden Shiner, and Goldfish.

Skipjack Herring* (*Alosa chrysochloris*)
(creel limit of 100 per day; possession limit is 200)



SKIPJACK HERRING

Gizzard Shad* (*Dorosoma cepedianum*)



GIZZARD SHAD

Threadfin Shad* (*Dorosoma petenenes*)



THREADFIN SHAD

Fathead Minnow (*Pimephales promelas*)



FATHEAD MINNOW

Golden Shiner (*Notemigonus crysoleucas*)



GOLDEN SHINER

Goldfish (*Carassius auratus*)



GOLDFISH

Sunfishes** (*Lepomis spp.*)



SUNFISHES (BLUEGILL, e.g.)

Rainbow Trout*** (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)



RAINBOW TROUT

* Skipjack Herring, Gizzard Shad, and Threadfin Shad may not be transported away from the water alive from the Mississippi River and Barkley, Kentucky, and Pickwick reservoirs and any tributaries or oxbows of these waters. This restriction does not apply to the Duck River above Normandy Dam.

** All species in the Genus *Lepomis* may be bought and/or sold subject to the following conditions:

- Such fish may be bought and/or sold for bait purposes only.
- Such fish bought and/or sold must not be more than four (4) inches in length.
- Such fish must have been lawfully taken from privately owned lakes and/or ponds.
- Nothing contained herein shall be construed as legalizing the sale of sunfish taken from any stream or public lake.

*** Bait dealers cannot harvest trout from public waters for sale as bait. A licensed sport angler may possess rainbow trout 8 inches or less in length without limit for use as bait if purchased from a licensed bait dealer and accompanied by an invoice that was issued by the licensed bait dealer. Such invoices shall be consecutively numbered and must contain the name, license number, and location of the licensed bait dealer, the date of sale or delivery, the number of rainbow trout bought or delivered, and the name and address of the person receiving the rainbow trout. Any person transporting or possessing rainbow trout obtained from a licensed bait dealer for bait must have a copy of this invoice on their person. Rainbow trout larger than 8 inches in length may be purchased by sport anglers and used for bait provided com-

pliance with all sport fishing regulations on the waters being fished (including creel and length limits, seasons, and license requirements).

Class B Bait Fish

The following species may be:

1. Harvested by licensed sport anglers for use as bait;
2. Imported into Tennessee or exported from Tennessee by licensed sport anglers for use as bait. These species shall not be sold. A licensed sport angler shall possess no more than 100 each of the following species:

Stonerollers (*Campostoma spp.*)



STONEROLLER

Jim Negus

Creek Chub (*Semotilus atromaculatus*)



CREEK CHUB

Bluntnose Minnow (*Pimephales notatus*)



BLUNTNOSE MINNOW

Jim Negus

Bullhead Minnow (*Pimephales vigilax*)



BULLHEAD MINNOW

Jim Negus

Class C Bait Fish

Bait fish that are not listed in Class A or B above and are not listed as endangered, threatened, or in need of management may be harvested by licensed sport anglers for use as bait with the following restrictions:

1. Live specimens shall only be used in the water from which they were harvested;
2. Live specimens shall not be possessed away from the waters from which they were harvested;
3. Live specimens shall not be imported into Tennessee or exported from Tennessee by anyone;
4. Live specimens shall not be sold.

Dead specimens harvested by sport anglers may be moved and used for bait, unless otherwise restricted. Daily creel limit of Class C bait fish is 50 fish in aggregate; 100 fish in aggregate possession limit for live and dead specimens.

Class D Bait Fish

In addition to the provisions of Class A, a licensed bait dealer may also harvest these species to be sold as dead specimens:

- **Brook Silverside** (*Labidesthes sicculus*)
- **Inland Silverside** (*Menidia beryllina*)
- **Silver Carp** (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*)
- **Bighead Carp** (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*)
- **Black Carp** (*Mylopharyngodon piceus*)
- **Grass Carp** (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*)

These carp species may be harvested without limit but cannot be kept alive by any means upon harvest.

A licensed bait dealer may possess and sell any fish species that is not native to Tennessee and is imported in a preserved state (e.g. frozen, salted, pickled, or dried).

Legal Gear for Harvest of Bait Fish

- **Angling:** Use of line with a hook attached to a bait or lure. Angling is the only method approved for the harvest of game fish for use as bait. (e.g. sunfish and trout).
- **Minnow Seine:** A minnow seine consists of a float and lead line to which netting is attached. A minnow seine shall not be longer than 10 feet and the mesh size shall not exceed 3/8 inch on the square. Seines must be constantly attended, and may not be fished in a stationary manner.

- **Minnow/Crayfish Traps:** A trap is hereby defined as a device used for the purpose of catching minnows and crayfish. All traps shall be clearly and legibly labeled with owners name and address, or TWRA identification number.
- **Cast Net:** A cast net is defined as a net having a maximum radius of 10 feet and a mesh (square measure) of not less than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and not greater than 1 inch on the square.
- **Shad Trawl:** A shad trawl is one having a mesh size no larger than 1 inch, a hoop diameter no larger than 48 inches, and a net length no larger than 72 inches. Only threadfin or gizzard shad shall be taken with a shad trawl and shad trawling is not allowed within 1,000 yards below any dam.
- **Dip Net:** A dip net is a net constructed from natural synthetic fibers, or metal/plastic mesh which is attached to a frame that is attached to a pole.
- **Hand Collection:** Use of hands or non-mechanized hand tools.

Amphibians and Crayfish

Only Northern Dusky and Spotted Dusky salamanders (*Desmognathus fuscus* and *Desmognathus conanti*) and native crayfish species that are not listed as endangered, threatened, or in need of management may be harvested without limit by licensed sport anglers for use as bait. Crayfish and salamanders may be harvested with legal gear listed on page 56.

Amphibians and crayfish species shall not be sold or purchased for bait. Amphibians and crayfish shall not be imported into Tennessee or exported from Tennessee by anyone for bait. The harvest, use, and possession of crayfish is prohibited in the following streams, in all of their tributaries, and on all adjacent banks:

- Mill Creek in Davidson and Williamson counties
- East Fork Stones River in Cannon County
- Hurricane Creek in Cumberland, Fentress, Overton, and Putnam counties
- Roaring Paunch Creek in Scott County
- South Chickamauga Creek in Hamilton County
- Caney Fork River in Cumberland County
- Robinson Creek, Beason Creek (upstream of confluence of North Fork and South Fork),

- and Owl Creek (upstream of Highway 142) in Hardin and McNairy counties
- Flint River in Lincoln County;
- Long Fork, White Oak Creek, and Salt Lick Creek in Macon County. Garrett Creek, Little Trammel Creek, and Middle Fork Drakes Creek in Sumner County;
- Shoal Creek system in Lawrence and Wayne counties;
- Puncheon Branch in Giles County;
- Cypress Creek system in Wayne County;
- Gassaway Creek, Little Gassaway Creek, Laurel Creek, and Rogers Branch in Polk County;
- Hiwassee River and tributaries upstream of Apalachia powerhouse in Polk County;
- Conasauga River system in Bradley and Polk counties;
- Big Brush Creek system in Sequatchie County;
- Bullpen Branch in Cannon County;
- Mountain Creek in Warren County;
- Blood River system in Henry County; and North Fork Obion River in Henry County.

Crayfish harvested from the following streams and their tributaries shall not be possessed away from the watershed from which they were harvested:

- French Broad River and its tributaries outside Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- Holston River and its tributaries
- Clinch River and its tributaries
- Clear Fork and its tributaries in Claiborne and Campbell counties; and
- Big South Fork of the Cumberland River in Scott County.



Crayfish as Food

Crayfish may be taken from the wild according to rules of live bait for food. Wild caught crayfish may not be sold.

TURTLES

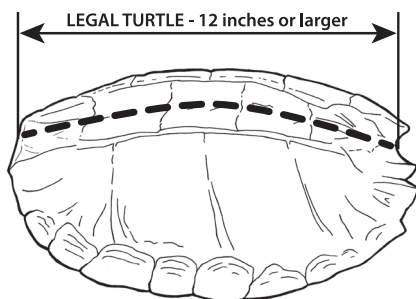
IN TENNESSEE

A sport fishing license is required and only the common snapping turtle may be taken. Turtles taken by sport fishing methods may not be sold. Shooting with any type of firearm or air gun is prohibited.

Common snapping turtles may be taken by all legal sport fishing methods except archery, spearguns and dipping. Daily limit is 5 with a minimum legal length of 12 inches—length is determined by measuring the upper shell in a straight line from the scute directly behind the turtle's head (nuchal scute) to the base of the notch where the two most posterior scutes meet. Sport fishermen may also take snapping turtles by the use of up to three turtle trap nets, with minimum net size of three inches on the square in Benton, Carroll, Chester, Crock-

ett, Decatur, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Houston, Humphreys, Lake, Lauderdale, McNairy, Madison, Obion, Perry, Shelby, Stewart, Tipton, and Weakley counties. Each net must be marked with the owner's name and address or TWRA Identification Number. Each net must be set so that a portion of the catch area is above the water.

No turtle may be possessed while afield which has been altered to the extent that its species or length cannot be determined.



ATTENTION ANGLERS

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is conducting an alligator snapping turtle restoration project in West Tennessee which involves the release of live alligator snapping turtles. Alligator snapping turtles are listed in Tennessee as state threatened and are illegal to take.



ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLE ▲

- Alligator snapping turtles have three large prominent ridges along the back and a prominently hooked beak.
- Often reaches weights in excess of 30 pounds.
- Alligator snapping turtles have an extra row of scutes (scales) between the outer scale row and the large center scales.



COMMON SNAPPING TURTLE ▲

- Common snapping turtles have a smoother, rounded shell without the three ridges and weakly hooked beak.
- Rarely exceeds 30 pounds.
- Common snapping turtles do not have the extra row of scutes (scales) between the outer scale row and large central scales.

For more information or to report sightings of alligator snapping turtles, contact TWRA at 731-423-5725, or write to 200 Lowell Thomas Dr., Jackson, TN 38301.



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