

Kentucky Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources News



New fishing program comes to Camp Ernst Lake in Boone County

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FRANKFORT, Ky. – The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources has partnered with Boone County Parks and Recreation to provide a great fishing opportunity at Camp Ernst Lake.

The 25-acre lake is now enrolled in the Fishing in Neighborhoods (FINs) program. The FINs program began in 2006 with five lakes. During the last two years, it has expanded to include 34 lakes statewide. The goal of the program is to provide high quality fishing opportunities near cities of all sizes throughout the commonwealth. These lakes are great places to make a quick getaway, relax and catch a mess of fish. They also are great places to take the family fishing without traveling far from home.

The lake will receive four yearly stockings of channel catfish and three annual stockings of rainbow trout.

Since trout prefer cold water, the department stocks them during the cool months of February, March and November. The department stocks catfish during the warmer months of March, April, May and August.

Camp Ernst Lake will receive its first stocking of 2,500 channel catfish during the first two weeks of March. The stocked channel catfish will be 13-16

inches long and average 1 pound each. The stocking of 2,500 rainbow trout is scheduled for mid-March. The lake already received 1,250 rainbow trout stocked in early February. Rainbow trout will average 8-12 inches long.

Additionally, lakes containing sunfish and bass will be managed and stocked as necessary. Check the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife website for the complete list of lakes, exact stocking dates, license requirements and directions to each lake. The site also has a place for you to submit pictures of your catch. Just go to fw.ky.gov/urbanfishing.asp to get the latest information.

Daily limits for each angler fishing a FINs lake includes five rainbow trout, four catfish, one largemouth bass over 15 inches and 15 bluegill or other sunfish. A statewide fishing license is required for anglers who are 16 and older. Licensed anglers who want to keep their trout must have an additional trout permit. The trout permit is included in the \$5 senior license for those anglers age 65 and older, as well as the sportsmen's license.

Don't forget: March 1 marks the start of the new year for fishing licenses. By purchasing a fishing license and trout permit you are helping fun fisheries management and the FINs program.

A great fishing opportunity is just minutes away. So grab a pole, wet a line and we'll see you at the lake.

(Editors: Please feel free to use the attached FINs logo for publication. If you need a higher resolution version, please e-mail Dave Baker at:

dave.baker@ky.gov)

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The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources manages, regulates, enforces and promotes responsible use of all fish and wildlife species, their habitats, public wildlife areas and waterways for the benefit of those resources and for public enjoyment. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife is an agency of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet. For more information on the department, visit our Web site at fw.ky.gov.