



Dave Baker photo

TROUT WATERS

TROUT REGULATIONS

SPORT FISH SPECIES	Daily Limit	Minimum Size Limit
Rainbow trout	Daily limit 8, only 3 may be brown trout	none
Brown trout		12"
Brook trout*	Catch and release only	

*See "Catch and Release Brook Trout Streams" on page 29.

EXCEPTIONS

On the Dix River (Herrington Lake tailwaters), fishing is permitted with artificial baits only. Live or organic bait may not be possessed while fishing this two-mile section of Dix River. The only public access to Dix River below Herrington Dam is via the Kentucky River.

The Cumberland River below Lake Cumberland from the Wolf Creek Dam downstream to the Tennessee state line is a trophy brown trout area. A 20-inch minimum size limit and a one fish daily creel limit applies to brown trout. A 15 to 20-inch protective slot limit on rainbow trout is in effect for the same section of the Cumberland

River. All rainbow trout caught between 15 and 20 inches must be immediately released. There is a five fish daily creel limit on rainbow trout and only one rainbow trout may be longer than 20 inches. All anglers on this section of the Cumberland River, including all tributary streams up to the first riffle and all of Hatchery Creek, must now possess a valid Kentucky trout permit (regardless of species sought).

On Paint Creek in Johnson County (Paintsville Lake tailwater), there is a 16-inch minimum size limit and 1 fish daily creel limit on trout from the KY 40 bridge downstream to the first U.S. 460 bridge crossing. Only artificial baits may be used.

On Chimney Top Creek, including Right Fork Chimney Top Creek (Wolfe County), there is a 16-inch minimum size limit and one fish daily creel limit for brown trout and only artificial baits may be used.

Q: Where can I find out about upcoming trout stockings?

A: Please consult our website at fw.ky.gov and click on the "fishing" tab. Then, click on the "stocking" tab and click on "trout stocking schedule."

TROUT STOCKING

STREAMS

The streams listed below are stocked with rainbow trout by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during the months

indicated. Brown trout are stocked once each year for a put-grow-take fishery. All trout are produced at Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery.

CATCH AND RELEASE STREAMS

Some streams indicated in the table below have a catch and release season (no

harvest) from October 1 through March 31, except in Swift Camp Creek where the catch and release season is October 1 through May 31. Only artificial baits may be used during the catch and release season. Statewide regulations apply April through September.

STATEWIDE STREAMS	County	Total Rainbows	Months	Total Browns	Catch and Release (No Harvest) Season
Bark Camp Creek*	Whitley	3,600	3,4,5,6,10	500	Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; 3.9 miles
Beaver Creek	Wayne	2,900	4,5,6,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; Hwy 90 bridge upstream to Hwy 200 bridge – 2.8 miles
Beaverdam Creek	Edmonson	2,400	4,5,6,9		
Big Bone Creek	Boone	3,000	4,5,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; inside the Big Bone Lick State Park – 2.1 miles
Big Double Creek*	Clay	2,000	3,4,5		
Big Caney Creek	Elliott	4,000	4,5,6,7	250	
Cane Creek*	Laurel	4,900	3,4,5,6,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; 6.6 miles
Casey Creek	Trigg	8,000	4,5,6,7,8,9,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; 3.6 miles
Chimney Top Creek*	Wolfe		6	450	
Clear Creek	Bell	2,000	4,5,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; Hwy 190 bridge down stream to mouth – 4.5 miles
Craney Creek*	Rowan	1,400	10,11		
East Fork Indian Creek*	Menifee	3,900	3,4,5,10	400	Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; 5.3 miles
East Fork Little Sandy River	Boyd	2,000	4,5		
Elk Spring Creek	Wayne	2,000	4,5,6,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; 2.8 miles
Goose Creek	Casey	4,500	4,5,6		
Greasy Creek	Leslie	1,500	4,5,6		
Hatchery Creek	Russell	24,000	monthly		
Hood Creek	Johnson	1,000	4,5		
Jennings Creek	Warren	3,000	4,5,6,7,8,9		
Laurel Creek	Elliott	3,000	4,5,6	250	
Left Fork Beaver Creek	Floyd	1,600	4,5,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; Hwy 122 bridge upstream – 3.6 miles
Lick Creek	Simpson	3,600	4,5,6,7		
Line Fork	Letcher	4,000	4,5,6,9,10		
Little Whippoorwill Creek	Logan	750	4,5,6		
Lynn Camp Creek	Hart	4,000	4,5,6,7		
Middle Fork Red River*	Powell/Wolfe	5,000	3,4,5,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; inside of Natural Bridge State Park – 2.2 miles
Middle Fork, Rockcastle Creek	Martin	2,500	4,5,10		
North Fork Triplett Creek*	Rowan	2,000	3,4,5,6		

*Daniel Boone National Forest stream; stockings are not announced.

STATEWIDE STREAMS (continued)	County	Total Rainbows	Months	Total Browns	Catch and Release (No Harvest) Season
Otter Creek	Meade	2,200	4,10	500	Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; Ft. Knox Military Reservation and Otter Creek Park – 9.7 miles
Paint Creek	Johnson		4	300	
Peter Creek	Barren	3,600	4,5,6,7,8,9		
Raven Creek	Harrison	1,000	4,5		
Right Fork Buffalo Creek	Owsley	1,500	4,5,6		
Rock Creek*	McCreary	17,600	3,4,5,6,9,10,11,12		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; Bell Farm bridge upstream to Tennessee border – 9.8 miles
Rough Creek	Hardin	3,000	4,5,6,7		
Rough River (Hwy 54 bridge)	Grayson/Ohio	4,800	4,5,6,7,9		
Round Stone Creek	Hart	3,600	4,5,6,7		
Royal Springs	Scott	1,500	6,7,8		
Russell Fork	Pike	9,000	4,5,10		
Sinking Creek	Breckinridge	6,000	4,5,6,7,8,9		
Station Camp Creek	Estill	2,000	4,5		
Sturgeon Creek	Lee	1,000	4,5		
Sulphur Spring Creek	Simpson	5,000	4,5,6,7,9		
Swift Camp Creek*	Wolfe	1,000	4,10		Oct. 1 - May 31; within Clifty Wilderness Area – 8.0 miles
Trammel Fork	Allen	9,600	4,5,6,7,8,9	400	
Triplett Creek	Rowan	2,000	3,4,5,6		
War Fork*	Jackson	4,000	3,4,5,6,10		

*Daniel Boone National Forest stream; stockings are not announced.

TAILWATERS

The following tailwaters receive rainbow and brown trout. Stocking begins in spring and continues into the late fall; monthly totals will vary. Monthly schedules are available through Kentucky Fish and Wildlife by calling 1-800-858-1549 or logging on to fw.ky.gov.

Get permission

Many of the streams listed in this guide are located on, or adjacent to, privately owned lands. Anyone entering upon or crossing private property must have the permission of the land owner.

TAILWATERS	Total Rainbows	Total Browns	Months
Buckhorn	3,800	0	4,5,6,10,11
Carr Creek	8,400	0	4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11
Cave Run	8,500	0	4,5,6,10,11
Cumberland*	161,000	38,000	4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11
Dewey	3,200	0	4,5,10,11
Fishtrap	6,600	0	4,5,6,10,11
Grayson	8,000	0	4,5,6,10,11
Herrington	4,600	1,000	3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11
Laurel River	250	500	3
Martins Fork	4,800	0	4,5,6,7,10,11
Nolin River	16,600	0	4,5,6,7,8,9,10
Paintsville	16,600	0	4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11
Rough River	5,000	0	4,5,6
Yatesville	1,800	0	4,5,11

*Stocking dates for Cumberland River (Lake Cumberland tailwater) will not be announced.

LAKES

The lakes below are stocked with rainbow trout in the months indicated. January-March stockings are scheduled based on weather and road conditions.

LAKES	Acreage	Total Rainbows	Months
Bert Combs	34	5,200	1,4,5,10
Beulah	71	4,500	1,4,5,10
Cannon Creek	219	9,000	1,4,5,10
Cherokee Park	5	4,000	4,10
Cranks Creek	176	8,000	1,4,5,10
Fisherman's Park	5	6,000	4,5,11
Fishpond	30	5,000	1,4,5,10
Grants Branch Lake	40	2,000	3
Greenbo	179	15,000	1,10
Kingdom Come	3	2,000	4,5,10
Laurel River	5,830	112,000	2
Madisonville Park	10 (upper lake)	4,000	4,11
Martin County Reservoir	22	4,500	4,5,10
Metcalfe County	22	600	3
Mike Miller Park	5	4,000	3,10
Miles Park #4	4	3,000	4,10
Mill Creek	41	5,500	1,4,5,10
Mills Road Park	1	1,000	4,10
Mingo	2	1,000	4,10
Owensboro Park	6 (2 lakes)	4,000	4,11
Paintsville	1,000	18,500	1
Peabody WMA	(4 lakes)	2,880	1
Prisoner	3	4,500	1,4,11
Upper Sportsman's	6	6,000	1,4,10
Lower Sportsman's	3	2,000	1,4,10
Stanford	38	1,000	4
Stein	7	4,000	4,10
Three Springs Park	29	1,000	1
Tom Wallace	5	4,000	4,10
Watterson Park	4	4,000	4,11
Waverly Lake	5	4,000	3,11
Wood Creek	625	14,000	1

OTHER AREAS

FORT CAMPBELL AND FORT KNOX

Little West Fork, Fletchers Fork and Kinser Pool on Fort Campbell (Tennessee portion) and Otter Creek on Fort Knox (Bullitt, Meade and Hardin counties) military reservations are stocked with rainbow or brown trout. Special fishing regulations apply and a post fishing permit is required in addition to a valid Kentucky fishing license and trout permit. Contact Community Recreation Division, Hunting and Fishing Unit, Fort Campbell, KY 42223-5000; phone: (270)798-2175 or Hunt Control Office, Fort Knox, KY; phone: (502) 624-2712.

CATCH AND RELEASE BROOK TROUT STREAMS

Four streams are catch and release only year-round and only artificial flies and lures with a single hook may be used on these streams:

- Dog Fork – Wolfe County
- Parched Corn Creek – Wolfe County
- Poor Fork – Letcher County, from the headwaters to Hwy 932
- Shillalah Creek – Bell County, outside the Cumberland Gap National Historic Park

Leave a note

When planning a boating trip, leave a note, or float plan, with someone to let them know where you are. Include your departure and expected return times, the waters where you will be boating, a description and/or license number of the vessel and where you can be reached in case of emergency.

NEW THREAT TO TROUT FISHERIES

The invasive algae known as Didymo (*Didymosphenia geminata*) recently appeared in the Cumberland River (Lake Cumberland tailwater). This algae is also in Arkansas, Tennessee, West Virginia and several western states. Didymo, native to northern Europe and Canada, is a white, gray, light brown or beige mass on the stream bottom that

resembles shag carpet. Didymo can choke the stream bottom with mats that cover up native plants and crowd out native insects that trout need for food.

To prevent the spread of Didymo into other Kentucky tailwaters and streams, anglers who fish the Cumberland River and out-of-state waterways should:

- Inspect all wading gear and boat hulls,

livewells, lower units and trailers for any vegetation after leaving the water and remove.

- If algae or vegetation is discovered later, disinfect with a 2 percent solution of household bleach or a 5 percent solution of salt. You may also soak in undiluted vinegar.
- Allow to air dry for at least 2 days.