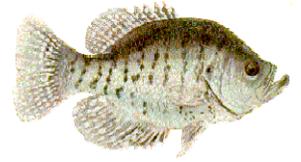




# Fishing at the Outlet Park River Pond



As a visitor to Melvern Lake you are likely one of many people looking for a good spot to fish. If this is the case you may be interested in learning more about the 90 acre River Pond located in the Outlet Park.

An intensive fisheries management program was initiated in the fall of 1989. At that time the pond was drained, allowing the Corps of Engineers and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks an opportunity to eliminate the existing population of predominately rough fish and replace it with more desirable game species. This process was repeated in 2001. By 2003 the River Pond was open for “catch and release” fishing. A feeding program using commercial fish food is utilized to increase the growth rate of the channel catfish. The fish feeders are the metal containers you see mounted to floating structures in the pond. An evaluation of the feeding program at the end of each recreation season has revealed outstanding results. Also, during the time the pond was drained we constructed a permanent boat dock, widened the existing boat ramp to 20 feet, and consolidated the small scattered brush piles into larger, more complex piles to improve in fish habitat. Strict creel limits, along with length limits, have been set to maintain this highly productive fishery well into the future. Signs are located in the park to inform visitors of current regulations. The restrictions are designed to provide park users with a quality fishing experience.

If you wish to fish the River Pond, but do not intend to remain overnight, please do not occupy a campsite with your vehicle and equipment. You may park at the nature trail parking area or the boat ramp parking area. Also, remember gas-powered motors are prohibited on the River Pond. Thank you for your cooperation in making this program a success.

---

## Special Regulations Applying to River Pond

### Channel Catfish

Minimum 15-inch length limit  
2 Fish daily creel limit

### Black Bass

13-18 inch slot length limit  
2 Fish daily creel limit

### Walleye

Minimum 18-inch length limit  
2 Fish daily creel limit

### Crappie

Minimum 10-inch length limit  
10 Fish daily creel limit

### Wipers

Minimum 18-inch length limit  
2 Fish daily creel limit

### Bluegill

No Length Limit  
10 Fish daily creel limit

**Set Lines Prohibited.**

**Gas powered motors prohibited.**

**All other State guidelines, rules, and  
Regulations, and laws remain in effect.**