



TWRA NEWS

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DATE: April 10, 2007

SMALL GAME ANNUAL SEED MIX AVAILABLE IN WEST TENNESSEE

The Region I Office (West Tennessee) of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency will be distributing 5 lb. bags of small game annual seed mix this spring while supplies last. This seed mix includes white proso millet, German foxtail millet, Laredo soybeans, grain sorghum, buckwheat, cowpeas, Kobe lespedeza, and partridge pea. The 5 lb. bag of seed mix will plant a ¼ acre food plot. Individuals will be limited to four bags of seed.

This annual seed food plot mixture is provided by TWRA free of charge to promote the production of food and cover for wildlife. To benefit most wildlife species, the best planting time is May through June.

This seed mix can be obtained from your local county Wildlife Officer or from the TWRA Region I Office in Jackson, located adjacent to Lake Graham. For more information contact the TWRA at 1-800-372-3928 or 731-423-5725.

CONTRABAND ITEMS TO BE SOLD AT COURTHOUSES

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) announces the sale of equipment that has been declared contraband by General Session Judges.

Every year TWRA Wildlife Officers seize various items as evidence used in wildlife violations. If the violator is convicted, the Judge can order the equipment declared as contraband and sold by TWRA. Various pieces of equipment will be sold to the highest bidder at the front door of the Courthouse in the county where the trial was held. **The sales of firearms are open only to persons 18 years of age or older and legally capable of possessing a firearm under federal and state laws.**

Sales will be held on the dates and times listed for the following West Tennessee counties:

April 21, 2007 – Benton Co. (10:00 am), Carroll Co. (10:00 am), Chester Co. (10:00 am),

Fayette Co. (10:00 am), Hardeman Co. (10:00 am), Hardin Co. (10:00 am), Henderson Co. (10:00 am), Henry Co. (10:00 AM) and Houston Co. (10:00 am).

April 28, 2007 – Crockett Co. (10:00 am), Lauderdale Co. (10:00 am), McNairy Co. (10:00 am), Obion Co. (10:00 am) and Shelby Co. (10:00 am).

For a complete list of items to be sold in Region I (West Tennessee), plus the other TWRA regions across Tennessee, go to www.tnwildlife.org.

TIME FOR HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS

Tennessee's smallest birds are now returning from their wintering grounds in South America and you can help them by putting out a hummingbird feeder. With an inexpensive feeder, hummingbirds can be attracted to just outside your window, even in urban areas.

Hummingbirds feed on the nectar of flowers, so feeders are filled with sugar water with mineral supplements added. The feeders have an imitation flower that attracts the little birds and provides them with a place to feed.

The ruby-throated hummingbird, which spends its summers in the eastern United States, been timed at speeds up to sixty miles per hour with wing beats of more than 75 strokes per second. Not only do they hover, fly backward, and shift sideways, but they can also fly straight up and down. In summer, males establish feeding territories from which they chase, very aggressively, not only their own kind, but even bumblebees which come to feed. Males guard their feeding territories by spectacular, swinging, pendulum-like flights, or intimidation displays.

Hummingbirds must feed almost continuously all day to remain alive. Besides flower nectar, hummingbirds get the protein they need by eating small beetles, weevils, bugs, mosquitoes, aphids and spiders.

Hummingbird feeders may be hung anywhere in a conspicuous place. Once the feeders have been erected, it may take a week or two for the hummingbirds to find the feeders. Be sure to change the nectar solution weekly and clean the feeder often to prevent the growth of bacteria. Bacterial growth can harm hummingbirds if it is ingested.

For a more natural food supply, plant domestic flowers such as azalea, begonia, gladiolus, geranium, snapdragon, petunia, nasturtium and others with tubular red or orange flowers. Some native flowers that can be transplanted include jewelweed, cardinal flower and phlox. Other flowering plants and trees preferred by hummingbirds include honeysuckle and mimosa.

WEST TENNESSEE FISHING REPORT

REELFOOT LAKE:

Creel Limits- Largemouth Bass/Spotted Bass – 5 (minimum length 15 inches/ no length limits on Spotted Bass), Crappie – 30 (no size limit). Bass fishing is slow. Crappie fishing is slow, water temperature is in low 60's. Bluegill fishing is slow. Catfishing is slow.

KENTUCKY LAKE:

Creel Limits- Largemouth Bass/ Smallmouth Bass/ Spotted Bass – 5 (minimum length 15 inches/ no length limit on Spotted Bass), Redear – 30, Crappie – 30 (minimum length 10 inches) Sauger – 10 (minimum length 14 inches), Catfish (only one catfish over 34 inches per day. No limit on fish under 34 inches)

North of I-40: Lake level is steady. Water temps are in the low 60's. Bass fishing is fair. Some small fish being caught around stumps along the edge of creek channels on crawfish colored crankbaits. Crappie fishing is slow. Most fish being caught in 5-10 foot water. Catfishing is fair in the New Johnsonville Steam Plant Harbour. Fish being caught using turkey livers or night crawlers.

South of I-40: Water temps in the low 60's. Bass fishing is fair. Some fish being caught off of the river points using crankbaits. Crappie fishing is fair. Fish being caught in 6 ft.-12ft. water in the creek channels on minnows and jigs. Catfishing is good. Fish being caught on the main channel in 35 ft.-40 ft. water. White Bass is fair. Some fish being caught off points at the mouth of creeks on live crawfish.

PICKWICK LAKE:

Creel Limits: Largemouth Bass/Smallmouth Bass/Spotted Bass – 5 (minimum length 15 inches/ no length limit on Spotted Bass). Redear – 20, Crappie – 30 (minimum length 9 inches). Water temps are in the low 60's. Largemouth bass fishing is fair. Fish being caught along shore lines on crank baits in 6 – 8 ft. water. Smallmouth fishing is fair. White bass fishing is good. Crappie fishing is improving.

LAKE BARKLEY:

Creel Limits: Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass/Spotted Bass – 5 (minimum length limit 15 inches/ no length limit on Spotted Bass), Redear – 20, Crappie – 30 (minimum length limit 10 inches). Water temps in the low 60's. Bass fishing is good. Fish being caught on crankbaits. Crappie fishing is fair. Large fish are being taken around stumps and other cover along edge of creek channels on small jigs and minnows.

REGION I TWRA FAMILY FISHING LAKE REPORT

BROWNS CREEK LAKE (located ten miles south of I-40 in Natchez Trace State Park):

Creel Limits- Bass- 5 (16"-21" PLR) only one per day greater than 21", Blue and Channel Catfish - 5, Crappie - 30 (10" minimum). Bass fishing is fair, fish are being caught on crank baits. Crappie fishing is fair, being caught on small minnows and red & white jigs around the fish attractors. Catfish are being caught on turkey livers. Bream fishing is fair.

CARROLL LAKE (located on Hwy. 22 between McKenzie and Huntingdon):

Creel Limits- Bass- 5, Blue and Channel Catfish -5, Crappie - 30 (10"minimum). Bass fishing is fair, fish are being caught on spinnerbaits. Crappie fishing is fair, being caught on small minnows. Catfish are being caught on turkey livers. Bream fishing is fair.

DAVY CROCKETT LAKE (located 4 miles west of Humboldt off Hwy. 152):

Creel Limits- Bass-10, Blue and Channel Catfish- 5, Crappie-30 (10" minimum).). Catfish are being caught chicken/turkey livers and night crawlers. Bass fishing is fair. Crappie fishing is fair, fish being caught in deep water on small minnows and blue and white jigs. Some bream are being caught on redworms in 4 - 5 ft of water.

GARRETT LAKE (located on Hwy. 190 near Dresden):

Creel Limits- Bass- 5, Blue and Channel Catfish - 5, Crappie-30 (10" minimum).). Catfish are being caught chicken/turkey livers and night crawlers. Bass fishing is fair using crank baits. Crappie fishing is fair, fish being caught in deep water on small minnows and red and white jigs. Bream fishing is slow.

GIBSON CO. LAKE (located at Trenton)

Creel Limits – Bass – 5 (14"-18" PLR) only one per day greater than 18", Bluegill/Redear (in combination) – 20, Blue and Channel Catfish - 5, Crappie- 30 (10" minimum). Catfishing is fair. Bass fishing is good using crank baits in 10 to 15 ft. water. Crappie fishing is slow, some keepers are being

caught in deep water on small minnows and blue and white jigs. Bream fishing is fair. Some are being caught off the bottom using wax worms.

GLENN SPRINGS LAKE (located on Glenn Springs Rd, 12 miles northeast of Millington):

Creel Limits- Bass - 5 (14"-18" PLR) only one per day greater than 18", Bluegill/Redear (in combination) – 20, Blue and Channel Catfish - 5, Crappie- 30 (10" minimum). Catfish are being caught chicken/turkey livers and night crawlers. Bass fishing is fair using crankbaits in 10 to 12 ft. water. Crappie fishing is fair, fish being caught in deep water on small minnows and white jigs. Some bream are being caught on the bottom using wax worms.

HERB PARSONS LAKE (located 8 miles north of Collierville off Collierville-Arlington Road):

Creel Limits- Bass - 10 (14"-18" PLR) only one per day greater than 18", Blue and Channel Catfish -5, Crappie - 30 (10" minimum). Bass fishing is fair, being caught on minnows and crank baits. Catfishing is fair, being caught on chicken/turkey liver and large minnows in 6-8ft water. Crappie are fair, being caught on medium minnows and chartreuse jigs tipped with wax worms around fish attractors .in 4-6 ft water. Bream is fair in deep water on wax worms and red worms.

LAKE GRAHAM (located 5 miles east of Jackson on Cotton Grove Road):

Creel Limits- Bass - 10 (14"-18" PLR) only one bass per day greater than 18", Blue and Channel Catfish -5, Crappie- 30 (10" minimum). Bass fishing is fair, fish being caught on crankbaits and spinnerbaits . Crappie fishing is fair, fish being caught on red & black jigs and minnows in 4-6 ft. water. Catfishing is fair, some being caught on turkey livers and night crawlers. Bream fishing is fair.

MAPLES CREEK LAKE (located 4 miles north of I-40 in Nathez Trace State Park):

Creel Limits- Bass -5, Blue and Channel Catfish - 5, Crappie - 30 (10" minimum). Bass fishing is fair, fish are being caught on spinnerbaits. Crappie fishing is fair, being caught on small minnows around the fish attractors. Catfish are being caught on turkey livers. Bream fishing is slow.

WHITEVILLE LAKE (located 2 miles south of Whiteville off Hwy. 64):

Creel Limits- Bass - 5, Blue and Channel Catfish- 5, Crappie- 30 (10" minimum). Bass fishing is fair, fish are being caught on crank baits. Crappie fishing is fair, being caught on small minnows and chartreuse jigs around the fish attractors. Catfish are being caught on turkey livers. Bream fishing is fair.

