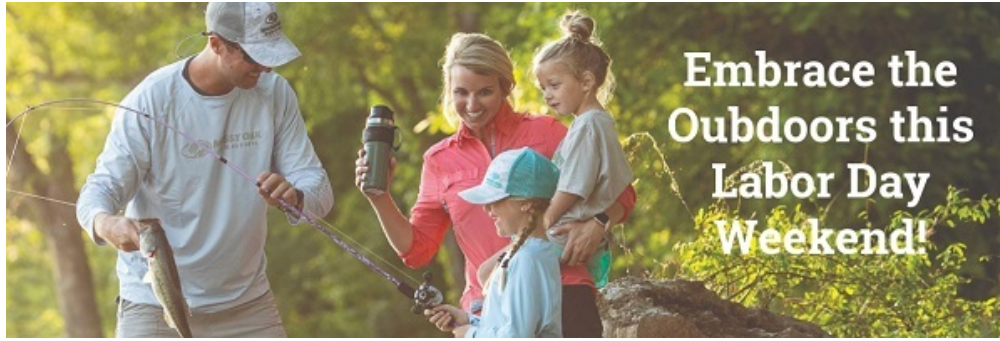


Fishing News

CONSERVATION AND RECREATION



Unplug from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and immerse yourself in the tranquility of the outdoors. Dust off your camping gear, pack a picnic, grab the tackle box, and prepare for an amazing outdoor adventure. Savor the final moments of summer and create memories that will last a lifetime.

August Fishing Podcast

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NORTHWEST

[Black Hawk Lake](#)

Water temperatures are in the upper 70s. Water levels are 2 inches above spillway. Water clarity is about 12 inches. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Pick up crappie in and around the fish house in Town Bay and along Ice House Point shoreline. Crappie are up to 10- to 12-inches. Morning and evening bite are best. **Bluegill** - Slow: Try a nightcrawler under a bobber fished from the fish house or around the rock piles. **Largemouth Bass** - Slow. **Walleye** - Slow: Try the submerged rock piles in the east basin and the shoreline along Ice House Point.

[Brushy Creek Lake](#)

Water temperatures are in the mid-70s. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Find crappie in 10-15 feet of water. **Bluegill** - Slow: Find bluegill near submerged rock/brush piles in 5-15 feet of water. **Largemouth Bass** – Fair: Try soft plastics in deeper weedlines and rock/brush piles in 8-15 feet of water. **Walleye** - Slow: Pick up walleye in 10-15 feet of water on rock/brush piles. **Yellow Perch** – Fair

[North Twin Lake](#)

Water levels are about 12 inches below the crest of the spillway. Surface water temperatures are in the upper 70s. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Try fishing from shore in 2-6 feet of water near rocky structure. A recent survey showed good numbers of 16-inches to 24-inches fish.

Storm Lake (incl Little Storm Lake)

Water temperatures are in the upper 70s. **Black Crappie** – Slow. **Channel Catfish** - Fair. **Largemouth Bass** - Slow. **Walleye** - Fair: Pick up walleye off shore near the dredge cuts; use a crawler harness or crankbaits. **White Bass** - Fair. **Yellow Bass** – Fair.

Water temperatures are in the upper 70s in most area lakes. For more information, contact the Black Hawk District office at 712-657-2638.

Beeds Lake

Black Crappie - Good: Drift fish or troll small jigs along the north shore. **Bluegill** - Good. **Yellow Bass** - Fair.

Clear Lake

Water level is about 1.9 inch below crest. Water temperatures are in upper 70s. Water clarity is 20 inches. **Black Crappie** - Fair. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair. **Walleye** - Fair: Anglers are catching walleye with live bait and crankbaits. Fish are in 3 to 8 feet of water. Try rock reefs areas and near edge of vegetation. **Yellow Bass** - Fair: Anglers are catching a few yellow bass while targeting walleye. Live bait below slip bobbers or drifting works best.

Crystal Lake

Black Crappie- Fair: Drift fish or troll small jigs in the dredge cut. **Bluegill** - Fair. **Walleye** - Slow: Try fishing near vegetation edges and along the old roadbed.

Rice Lake

Bluegill – Slow. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Try fishing woody habitat. Morning bite best. **Walleye** - slow.

Winnebago River

River level is 4.9 feet. **Smallmouth Bass** - Fair.

For information on lakes and rivers in north central Iowa, contact Clear Lake Fish and Wildlife office at 641-357-3517.

East Okoboji Lake

Lake level is around 1 inch over crest. **Black Crappie** - Good: **Bluegill** - Good: Many bluegill seen, easily catchable around functional docks. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Bass are a little ways off shore; you can still find some around docks and other structure. **Yellow Perch** - Good: Many perch seen; sorting most likely needed.

Ingham Lake

Walleye - Fair: Anglers success morning and afternoon.

Silver Lake (Dickinson)

Lake level is below crest. Lake outlet boards broken during high water this summer have been replaced. Lake is experiencing an algae bloom. **Walleye** - Good: Bite hit-or-miss, but very good when bite is on.

Spirit Lake

Lake level is 1 inch over crest. **Black Crappie** - Good: Anglers finding quality-size crappie; biting on almost anything. **Bluegill** - Good. **Walleye** - Good: Anglers are catching quality-sized walleye. Evening bite best with leech and bobber from shore or crankbaits and slip bobbers by boat. **Yellow Perch** - Good: Sorting may be needed.

West Okoboji Lake

Lake level around 1 inches above crest. **Black Crappie** - Fair: **Bluegill** - Good. **Pumpkinseed** - Good. **Walleye** - Fair. **Yellow Perch** - Fair: Sorting may be needed.

Water levels are barely above crest. Water temperatures are in the mid-70s. Many area lakes are currently experiencing algae blooms. For current conditions, call the Spirit Lake District Office at 712-336-1840.

NORTHEAST

Cedar River (above Nashua)

Mitchell dam in Mitchell will undergo a rehabilitation project on the powerhouse intake structure requiring the impoundment to be lowered by October 1. River levels will be lowered one foot per day until desired levels are achieved and maintained during the work. After completion, water levels will be allowed to return. Users should prepare for limited access due to lowered water levels. The river below the dam will not be dewatered. **Black Crappie** - Good: Try fishing near brush piles using a minnow or red worm under a bobber. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Try worms or chubs fished on the bottom in calm water or edge of current. **Smallmouth Bass** - Excellent: Use crankbaits in off channel areas or eddies. **Walleye** - Good: Find walleye in deeper water; try jigs tipped with minnow or spinnerbaits.

Decorah District Streams

All announced and unannounced streams stocked this week. Streams are in excellent condition.. Wild parsnip is dying back. Don't touch this plant; it can cause painful blisters. Terrestrial insects are more abundant as heat of summer progresses. Gnats, mosquitoes, and no-see-ums are out in force. **Brook Trout** - Slow: Sneak up on brook trout for a better chance to catch one of these beauties. Good hatches of mayflies, dragonflies, grasshoppers, crickets, and ants. **Brown Trout** - Good: Try fishing near or around logs or undercut banks. Spinnerbaits work well. Also try streamers on larger waterbodies. Brown trout like cloudy water. **Rainbow Trout** - Good: Use spinnerbaits, hair jigs, or hooks tipped with a small piece of worm, bread, or cheese floated through deeper holes.

Lake Hendricks

Water clarity is about 3 feet. Water temperature in the low 80s. **Black Crappie** - Good: Try small jigs tipped with minnow in about 6 feet of water. **Bluegill** - Fair: Bluegills are shallow; use a small piece of worm or waxworm. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Try nightcrawler or squashed minnow on hook near bottom. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Use topwater lures along edge of vegetation.

Lake Meyer

Lake clarity is about 2 feet due to an algae bloom. Clarity is improving with cooler temperatures. Water temperature is in the low 80s. Most fish suspended at depths not greater than 6 feet. **Black Crappie** - Good: Use spinnerbaits or jig tipped with minnow in 6 feet of water or less. Trolling is a great option. **Bluegill** - Good: Try small hooks tipped with a waxworm or small piece of worm under bobber. **Channel Catfish** - Slow: Use nightcrawler on hook fished at bottom. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Try spinnerbait along edge of vegetation. Reports of anglers catching quite a few small bass.

North Bear Creek

Stream habitat improvements completed on upper North Bear downstream of 380th St. bridge with seeding and mulching. Improvements between 128th Ave. and 380th Street will starting end of September. **Rainbow Trout** - Slow: Thanks for staying out of this area until vegetation gets established. There are many other great locations to fish on North Bear. Stocking continues below this area weekly.

Turkey River (above Clermont)

Water clarity is good. Use caution when on water. Visit [National Water Prediction Service webpage](#) for more information. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Use shallow running crankbaits or

spinners along current breaks or rocky shores. **Walleye** - Good: Try fishing near evening along rocky shorelines or current breaks.

[Turkey River \(below Clermont\)](#)

Water clarity is good to excellent. Use caution when on the water. Visit [National Water Prediction Service webpage](#) for more. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Find smallies in deeper holes or near rock ledges. **Walleye** - Good: Use crankbaits or jigs tipped with plastics in off channel areas.

[Upper Iowa River \(above Decorah\)](#)

Water level is low with good clarity. Use caution on the water. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Find bass along rock ledges and deeper pools around woody habitat. **Walleye** - Good: Find walleye in deeper runs or pools and in back eddies; use spinnerbaits or a jig tipped with a plastic worm.

[Upper Iowa River \(below Decorah\)](#)

Water level is low with improved clarity. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Find smallies in off channel areas and back eddies; use spinners or streamers. **Walleye** - Fair: Find walleyes in deeper water and back eddies. Evening bite is best; try spinners or crankbaits.

[Volga Lake](#)

Water clarity is improving. Water temperature is in the 80s. **Black Crappie** – Good: Find crappies in 6 feet of water or less or near drop-offs; use a jig tipped with a minnow. **Bluegill** – Good: Try a small piece of worm on a hook under bobber near brush or rocky areas. **Channel Catfish** – Good: Use a squished minnow or worm fished on bottom. **Largemouth Bass** – Good: Try spinners or crankbaits along jetties or drop-offs.

[Volga River](#)

Water levels are stable to low with good to excellent clarity. Visit [National Water Prediction Service webpage](#) for details. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Try fishing in deeper pool using top water lures or a light colored jig with twister tail.

Water levels on area rivers and streams are falling or stabilizing. Water clarity is good to excellent. Weekend temperatures in the low 80s to upper 40s at night. For more, contact Chuck Gipp Decorah Fish Hatchery at 563-382-8324.

[Cedar River \(Nashua to La Porte City\)](#)

Anglers are catching channel catfish and a few walleye. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Try chubs fished on river bottom below snags or other structure. **Flathead Catfish** - Fair: Use chubs on river bottom below snags or other structure. **Smallmouth Bass** - Fair: Try lead head jigs with twister tails. **Walleye** - Fair: Cast and retrieve lead head jigs tipped with a nightcrawler.

[George Wyth Lake](#)

Anglers are doing fair on crappie and bluegill. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Use electronics to find and drift a live minnow under a bobber or artificial jigs over structure in 6 to 8 feet of water. **Bluegill** - Fair: Use a piece of worm under a bobber in areas with structure or off the jetties.

[Lake Delhi](#)

Anglers are catching crappie. Avoid weekends; concentrate efforts early morning and evenings during the weekdays. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Try a minnow under a slip bobber around shoreline structure in 6 to 8 feet of water.

Manchester District Streams

Rainbow trout stockings are on schedule. Brown trout fishing fair, especially in the evenings. **Brown Trout** - Fair: Use crankbaits, jigs, spinners, dry flies, or nymphs. **Rainbow Trout** - Good: Try jigs, spinners, crankbaits, or live bait.

[Maquoketa River \(above Monticello\)](#)

Anglers are catching smallmouth bass and walleye in Delaware County. **Smallmouth Bass** - Fair: Use live or artificial tackle. **Walleye** - Fair: Cast and retrieve lead head jigs tipped with a nightcrawler.

[Shell Rock River \(Greene to Shell Rock\)](#)

No fishing information this week.

[Wapsipinicon River \(Tripoli to Troy Mills\)](#)

Anglers are catching smallmouth bass. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Use lead head jigs with twister tails.

Interior rivers are at usual levels this time of year to provide great angling. Lakes in and around Cedar Falls are producing catches of panfish. Trout streams remain in excellent condition. For more, contact Manchester Hatchery at 563-927-3276.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

[Mississippi River Pool 9](#)

Water level is 8 feet at Lansing, predicted to remain stable next week. Water temperature is 80 degrees. **Army Road at New Albin, Heytman's Landing, and Lansing Village Creek are open.** **Bluegill** - Excellent: Bluegill moved off spawning beds into deeper water. Use light tackle on flooded shorelines and weed beds. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Anglers catching channel cats on crawlers and stink bait. **Flathead Catfish** - Good: Use live bluegill or shiners in tailwaters of Lock & Dams and large tree snags in deeper sloughs. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Try a piece of crawler off bottom along main channel and side channel current. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Cast frog baits along weed edges in upper portions of backwaters. **Northern Pike** - Good: Try fishing the shallows along weed beds in backwater lakes. Try fishing near the mouth of coldwater streams and spring inlets during the heat of summer. **Smallmouth Bass** - Excellent: Smallmouth are biting in areas with moderate current. Cast spinners and crankbaits along the main channel rock shorelines. **Walleye** - Fair: Troll crankbaits on three-way rigs along deep side channel borders and wing dams. **White Bass** - Good: Throw inline spinners along current breaks. Watch for schools of minnows jumping as white bass are feeding. **Yellow Perch** - Fair: Jig for perch in the vegetation off edge of cuts in 6-8 feet of water.

[Mississippi River Pool 10](#)

Water level is 615 feet at Lynxville and is predicted to rise slightly around 615.4 feet next week. **Boat ramps at Nobles Island, Marquette, McGregor, Bussey Lake, and Sny Magill are open.** **Bluegill** - Excellent: Bluegill have moved off spawning beds into deeper water. Use light tackle on flooded shorelines and weed beds. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Anglers are catching a few channel cats on crawlers. **Flathead Catfish** - Good: Use live bluegill or shiners in the tailwaters of the Lock & Dams and large tree snags in deeper sloughs. **Freshwater Drum** - Good: Try a piece of crawler off the bottom along the main channel and side channel current. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Cast frog baits along weed edges in upper portions of the backwaters. **Northern Pike** - Fair: Try fishing the shallows along weed beds in backwater lakes. Try near the mouth of coldwater streams and spring inlets during the heat of summer. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Smallmouth are biting in areas with moderate current. Cast spinners and crankbaits along the main channel rock shorelines or at the spillway. **Walleye** - Fair: Troll crankbaits on three-way rigs along deep side channel borders and wing dams. **White Bass** - Good: Throw inline spinners along current breaks. Watch for schools of minnows jumping as white bass are feeding. **Yellow Perch** - Fair: Jig for perch in the vegetation off edge of cuts in 6-8 feet of water.

[Mississippi River Pool 11](#)

Water level is 6.1 feet at Guttenberg in the tailwaters and is expected to reach 6.7 feet next week. **Guttenberg City, Turkey River Landing, Finley's Landing and Mud Lake ramps are open.** **Bluegill** - Excellent: Bluegill have moved off spawning beds into deeper water. Use light tackle on flooded shorelines and weed beds. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Anglers are catching a few channel cats on crawlers or cut bait. **Flathead Catfish** - Good: Use live bluegill or shiners

in the tailwaters of the Lock & Dams and large tree snags in deeper sloughs. **Freshwater Drum** - Good: Try a piece of crawler off the bottom along the main channel and side channel current. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Cast frog baits along weed edges in upper portions of the backwaters. **Northern Pike** - Good: Try fishing the shallows along weed beds in backwater lakes. Try near the mouth of coldwater streams and spring inlets during the heat of summer. **Smallmouth Bass** - Excellent: Smallmouth are biting in areas with moderate current. Cast spinners and crankbaits along the main channel rock shorelines. **Walleye** - Fair: Troll crankbaits on three-way rigs along deep side channel borders and wing dams. **White Bass** - Good: Throw inline spinners along current breaks. Watch for schools of minnows jumping as white bass are feeding. **Yellow Perch** - Fair: Jig for perch in the vegetation off edge of cuts in 6-8 feet of water.

Upper Mississippi River levels at Pools 9 -11 are rising slightly this week. All boat ramps have reopened. Water temperatures are in the mid-80s. A lot of weeds are floating, but water clarity is good. Fish are seeking cooler water at deeper depths and area with some current.

[Mississippi River Pool 12](#)

Water level is stable at 6.2 feet at Dubuque Lock and Dam and 8.6 feet at the RR bridge. Water temperature is back up around 80 degrees. **Black Crappie** - Good: Crappie are starting to show up in the creel with using minnows in brush piles in the larger sloughs. **Bluegill** - Good: Try fishing along the weedline edges that are starting to show back up after the flood receded. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: The post-flood bite has been phenomenal; most anglers are using stink bait. **Flathead Catfish** - Fair: Anglers are using trot lines where they can find non-flooded banks. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Use big crayfish to catch big drum. Otherwise try a simple egg sinker worm rig in areas of moderate current. **Northern Pike** - Good: Pike, like other predators, are seen feeding on the abundant forage along the shorelines. **Walleye** - Good: Many anglers are targeting smaller flowing sloughs with crankbaits. **White Bass** - Excellent: White bass have been a consistent in the creel. Try flashy spinners in tailwater areas.

[Mississippi River Pool 13](#)

The water level is stable and near 6.4 feet at Bellevue. Water temperature is 80 degrees. The water is clear. **Black Crappie** - Good: Crappie are starting to show up in the creel with anglers using minnows in brush piles in the larger sloughs. **Bluegill** - Excellent: Some sorting may be needed to find nicer bluegill; many are being caught with worm rigs along the main channel shoreline. **Brown Bullhead** - No Report: Anglers using egg sinker and worm rigs in the lower pool above Clinton are catching good numbers of this unique bullhead. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Channel catfishing has been phenomenal post-flood; most anglers are using stink bait. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Drum are a consistent biter in moderate current areas; use an egg sinker worm rig. **Largemouth Bass** - Excellent: Find weed lines away from the main channel. Anglers are using gaudy spinnerbaits or frog imitation lures. **Smallmouth Bass** - Excellent: Try spinners or jigs around rock lines to catch abundant smallies. **Walleye** - Fair: Some vegetation is starting to float after the flood making keeping a crankbait in the water a little difficult. **White Bass** - Excellent: Try white jigs or small spinners in the Bellevue tailwaters.

[Mississippi River Pool 14](#)

The water level is stable at 6 feet at Fulton, 10.2 feet at Camanche and 5.1 feet at LeClaire. The water is clear. Water temperature is 81 degrees. **Black Crappie** - Good: Crappie are starting to show up in the creel. Try using minnows in brush piles in the larger sloughs. **Bluegill** - Excellent: Some sorting may be needed to find nicer bluegill; many are being caught with worm rigs along the main channel shoreline. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Try using stink baits in moderate current in 3-8 feet of water. Move often if you do not find fish. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Worm rig with egg sinker fished along shore in moderate current will catch this consistent biter. **Largemouth Bass** - Excellent: Find weedlines that remain after the flood recedes; throw frog lures or spinner baits. **Smallmouth Bass** - Excellent: Use spinners or jigs next to rock lines. **White Bass** - Excellent: Try flashy spinners or small white jigs along shorelines near the tailwater.

[Mississippi River Pool 15](#)

The water level is stable near 6.3 feet at Rock Island. The water is clear. Water temperature is around 81 degrees. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Try stink bait rigs near shore to catch abundant catfish. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Worm rig with egg sinker fished along shore in moderate current will catch this consistent biter. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Try fishing along the many rock lines with moderate current to catch abundant smallmouth bass.

Water levels has been somewhat stable the past four weeks. Quality fishing has returned to the river. If you have angling questions, please call Bellevue Fisheries Management at 563-880-8781.

[Mississippi River Pool 16](#)

Tailwater stage is 6.34 feet at Lock and Dam 15 in the Quad Cities. Forecast is to stay fairly steady the next few days. Flood stage is 15 feet. **Bluegill** - No Report: Look for bluegills in the backwaters around brush piles. Use pieces of worm under a bobber. **Channel Catfish** - No Report: Look for channel catfish around brush piles and snags along the main channel and side channels. Try cut shad, stink bait, or crawlers upstream of the snags. **Largemouth Bass** - No Report: With lower and warmer condition, look for fish around brush piles and snags along the main and side channels. **Walleye** - No Report: Some walleyes are being caught on wing-dams and around rocky points. Try casting or trolling crankbaits or trolling three-way rig with night crawlers on the wing-dams.

[Mississippi River Pool 17](#)

Tailwater stage is 5 feet at Lock and Dam 16 in Muscatine. River level is forecast to stay steady over the weekend. Flood stage is 15 feet. **Bluegill** - No Report: Look for bluegills around brush piles and snags in the backwaters and side channels. Try pieces of worm under a bobber. **Channel Catfish** - No Report: Look for channel catfish around brush piles and snags along the main channel and side channels. Use cut shad, stink baits, or nightcrawlers upstream of the snag. **Largemouth Bass** - No Report: With the lower and warmer water conditions, look for largemouth around brush piles and snags along the main and side channels. **Walleye** - No Report: Look for walleyes on the wingdams. Try casting or trolling crankbaits on the upstream side of the wingdam. Trolling three-way rigs with crawlers can catch walleyes as well. **White Bass** - No Report: Look for white bass down by GPC or on the tips of wingdams. Try casting crankbaits or jigs and twister tails.

[Mississippi River Pool 18](#)

Tailwater stage is 5.66 feet at Lock and Dam 17 at New Boston. Water is forecast to stay fairly steady over the weekend. Flood stage is 15 feet. **Bluegill** - No Report: Look for bluegills around brush piles in the backwaters. Use pieces of worms under a bobber. With warmer water conditions look for brush piles with a little bit of current. **Channel Catfish** - No Report: Look for channel catfish upstream of brush piles and snags along the main channel and side channels. Try cut shad, stink bait or nightcrawlers. **Largemouth Bass** - No Report: Look for largemouth around brush piles and snags along the main channel and side channels with the lower and warmer water conditions. **Walleye** - No Report: Look for walleyes on the wing-dam. Try casting or trolling crankbait. Try trolling three-way rigs with half a nightcrawler.

[Mississippi River Pool 19](#)

Tailwater stage is 3.09 feet and falling at Lock and Dam 18 above Burlington. Flood stage is 10 feet. **Bluegill** - No Report: Look for bluegills around brush piles in the backwaters. Try pieces of worm under a bobber. With warmer water conditions look for brush piles with little bit of current. **Channel Catfish** - No Report: Look for channel catfish around brush piles and snags along the main channel and side channels and wing-dams. Use cut shad, stink bait or nightcrawlers upstream of the snag. **Largemouth Bass** - No Report: With the lower and warmer water conditions look for largemouth around brush piles and snags along the main channel and side channels. **Walleye** - No Report: Look for walleyes on the wing-dams. Try casting or trolling crankbaits. Walleyes can also be caught on the wing-dams trolling three-way rigs with half a nightcrawler.

River stages have been falling this past week for Pools 16-19. Water clarity is fair. Main channel water temperature is around 82 degrees. If you have questions on fishing Pools 16-19, contact the Fairport Fish Hatchery at 563-263-5062.

SOUTHEAST

Big Hollow Lake

Water temperature is reaching the mid-80s during the afternoons. Very little angling this week with the heat. **Black Crappie** - Slow: Crappies are out deeper water in the flooded timber around the old creek channel where it follows the bluff line on the south side of the lake. **Bluegill** - Slow: Concentrate our efforts along the southside where the shade of the trees has taken at least a little heat and light off the water. Try fishing early in the morning; use slip bobbers and worms at a depth of around 6 feet.

Cedar River (Moscow to Columbus Junction)

The Cedar continues to drop very slowly east of Conesville. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Catfishing has been decent post sunset/predawn. Target the slack water areas around the log jams and behind the sandbars that are starting to show.

Iowa River (Columbus Junction to Mississippi River)

Water levels are holding steady. Current weather conditions dictate either night fishing or predawn fishing.. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Try minnows and nightcrawlers along the back drop-offs on the sandbars and just behind the back edges of the brush piles, not too far out from the bank.

Lake Belva Deer

Water temperature is in the low 80s. **Black Crappie** - Slow: Try slow drifting out from the beach along the tree line down to about the north boat ramp. **Bluegill** - Slow: Back out into the deeper water around the old creek channel. Try slow trolling through the open sections and tie off to a tree and vertical jig through the timber sections. **Largemouth Bass** - Slow: Work the drop-offs into deeper water where they are trying to stay cool. Target the 10 to 12 feet water.

Lake Darling

Water temperature is 82 degrees, up from 75 degrees last week. **Bluegill** - Slow: Bluegills have retreated to deeper water. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Try fishing very early morning out around the point along the edge of the deeper water.

Lake Geode

Water temperature have returned to mid-80s. **Bluegill** - Slow: Bluegills have retreated out into deeper water until the water temperatures cool down again. **Channel Catfish** - Slow: With the water heating back up, try along the south bank along the old creek channel and around the rock piles along the hauling road that was built during renovation.

Lost Grove Lake

Water temperature is back into the low 80s. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Still finding some around the culvert piles and along the face of the dam. Most anglers are using stink baits. **Largemouth Bass** - Slow: With the return of the hot weather don't expect them to move from the deeper water. Try jigging off the deeper (10-12 feet) habitat: trees and rock piles.

Skunk River (Rose Hill to Coppock)

Water level remains at about half bank full. Should be plenty of water for most Jon boats. Very little fishing activity earlier this week. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Try cut baits and dip baits.

For more information on the above lakes and rivers call the Lake Darling Fisheries Office at 319-694-2430.

Central Park Lake

Bluegill - Good: Use small plastics or worms to catch suspended fish in open water. **Channel Catfish** – Good: Try crawlers, chicken livers, or stink bait around rocks. Lots of eater-sized fish are being caught. **Largemouth Bass** – Good: A variety of artificials are working all day. **Redear Sunfish** - Slow: Fish are suspended with the bluegills. Best bite is evenings or after dark on small jigs or worms.

Coralville Reservoir

Lake level is holding at 683.7 feet. The water is dirtier than it has been, especially in the upper section. Water temperatures are around 80 degrees. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Troll or drift cut bait in the channel. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Cast artificials along rocky shorelines. **Walleye - Slow**: Try fishing early or late with a jig/crawler on rock banks. **White Bass** - Fair : Smaller fish are showing up again. Try small crankbaits jigs or spinners around windblown banks. **White Crappie** - Fair: Use bright jigs or minnows along rock bluffs or over deeper brush.

Diamond Lake

Black Crappie – Slow. **Bluegill** – Fair. **Channel Catfish** – Fair. **Largemouth Bass** – Slow.

Hannen Lake

Bluegill - Good: Most fish are smaller-sized. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Some 2-3 pound catfish are being caught. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: More 15-inch bass are showing up.

Lake Macbride

The 10 hp maximum is in effect through Labor Day. Water temperatures are around 80 degrees. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Try jigs or minnows around brush in 5-10 feet of water. **Bluegill** - Fair: Use worms or small jigs around rock shorelines or rock humps. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Chicken livers or crawlers work best. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Try fishing around rock, wood, or vegetation. **Spotted bass** - Fair: Try fishing along shallow rock. Most fish are less than 14-inches. **Walleye** - Slow: Fish rockbars and points with jigs or live bait rigs. **Wiper (Hybrid Striped Bass)** - Slow: Troll crankbaits in open water or watch for surface activity early/late in the day.

Pleasant Creek Lake

Mornings and evenings have been best for all species. **Black Crappie** - Slow. **Bluegill** - Fair. **Channel Catfish** - Fair. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair. **Walleye** - Slow. **Wiper (Hybrid Striped Bass)** - Fair.

Wapsipinicon River (Troy Mills to Oxford Junction)

River levels are low. **Walleye** - Good: Try crankbaits or jig/crawler in deeper holes.

For more information, contact the Lake Macbride Fisheries Station at 319-624-3615.

Hawthorn Lake

Black Crappie - Fair: Try jig and minnow combinations in brush piles. **Bluegill** - Fair: Use jigs along the shoreline and open areas in the vegetation. Tip the jigs with a chunk of nightcrawler. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Try nightcrawlers or chubs in 6-10 feet of water. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Target the fishing jetties and rip-rapped shorelines. Use plastics in these areas and in open areas of the vegetation.

Lake Keomah

Lake Keomah is drained for a lake restoration project. Please keep out of the lake bed. Conditions of dried silt give the appearance of solid ground, but the soils are very soft.

Lake Miami

Black Crappie - Fair: Use jigs and minnows along cedar tree brush piles or drift over the brush piles. **Bluegill** - Fair: Try small jigs in the brush piles and along the shore. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Use nightcrawlers along the face of the dam and around the jetties. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Try plastics around brush piles and along rip-rapped shorelines.

Lake Sugema

Black Crappie - Fair: Try jigs and minnows in the standing timber. **Bluegill** - Fair: Use small jigs around submerged brush piles and the shoreline. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Try plastics or spinnerbaits along rip-rapped shorelines and around submerged structures.

Lake Wapello

Black Crappie - Fair: Drift jig and minnows in deeper water; try different depths until you find active fish. **Bluegill** - Fair: Try small jigs around brush piles. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Use dead chubs around rip-rapped shorelines. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Try plastics and crankbaits around the brush piles and rip-rapped shoreline.

Rathbun Reservoir

The current lake level is 905.44 msl; the 2024 summer recreation target pool is 905.60 msl; typical recreation pool is 904 msl. Lake Rathbun has zebra mussels; [properly drain, clean and dry equipment](#) before transporting to another waterbody. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Try jigs around submerged cedar tree piles and docks. Crappie have moved to deeper water; target brush piles in 15-20 feet of water. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Use minnows or nightcrawlers along areas with large rocks. **Walleye** - Fair: Try trolling crankbaits or crawler harnesses. **All walleye less than 15-inches must be immediately released unharmed. Wiper (Hybrid Striped Bass)** - Fair: Use jigging spoons or crankbaits over rock piles and near the old river channel.

Red Haw Lake

Bluegill - Fair: Try small jigs around the shorelines and submerged structure near the campground shoreline. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Use nightcrawlers along the fishing jetties or the face of the dam. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Try plastics along rip-rapped shorelines and the fishing jetties.

Contact the Rathbun Fish Hatchery at 641-647-2406 with questions about fishing in south central Iowa.

SOUTHWEST

Don Williams Lake

Black Crappie - Good: Drift or troll light jigs with minnows or twister tails from the main boat ramp area to about three quarters up the lake. Crappie are suspended 2 to 6 feet deep away from shore.

Hickory Grove Lake

Bluegill - Fair: Drift live bait over habitat in 15 feet of water or less.

Red Rock Reservoir

Channel Catfish - Good: Drift cut bait rigs near and above the mile long bridge. **White Bass** - Fair: Catch White Bass trolling shad imitating crankbaits spoons or plastics. Target the windblown side of the lake. On calm days look for small shad breaking the surface of the water.

For information on Central Iowa lakes and rivers contact Ben Dodd at 641-891-3795 or Andy Otting at 515-204-5885.

Lake Anita

Water clarity is 3 feet. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Black crappie are being caught around the roadbeds. Early morning and late afternoon bite is best. **Bluegill** - Fair: Slow troll small jigs to catch 8 inch bluegill. Tipping with a nightcrawler or Berkley helps. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair.

Mormon Trail Lake

Water clarity is good. **Channel Catfish** - Slow: Anglers are having success at night using blood bait. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Anglers are having success fishing topwater baits early in the morning then switching to plastics in deeper water.

Prairie Rose Lake

Black Crappie - Slow: Find submerged tree piles and vertical jig to catch 10- to 12-inch black crappie. **Bluegill** - Slow: Anglers are catching a few fish slow trolling deep water areas. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair.

Viking Lake

Bluegill - Fair: Bluegill average 7.5-inches. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair.

For information on lakes in the Southwest District, call the Cold Springs office at 712-769-2587.

Green Valley Lake

Docks are in at boat ramps. **Bluegill** - Slow: Catch bluegill up to 7.5-inches with jigs tipped with live bait near cedar tree brush piles early in the morning and late in the evening. **Channel Catfish** - Slow: Use nightcrawlers or shrimp along rocky shoreline areas to catch all sizes of channel catfish. **Largemouth Bass** - Slow: Try finesse plastics around cedar tree brush piles to catch all sizes of largemouth bass.

Little River Watershed Lake

The dock is in at the main boat ramp. **Bluegill** - Slow: Catch bluegill up to 8.5-inches with small jigs tipped with live bait along creek channels. **Largemouth Bass** - Slow: Try finesse plastics near weedlines to catch all sizes of largemouth bass.

Three Mile Lake

Lake level is 8 feet below normal pool. **Walleye** - Slow: Use twister tails or crankbaits along the dam to catch all sizes of walleye.

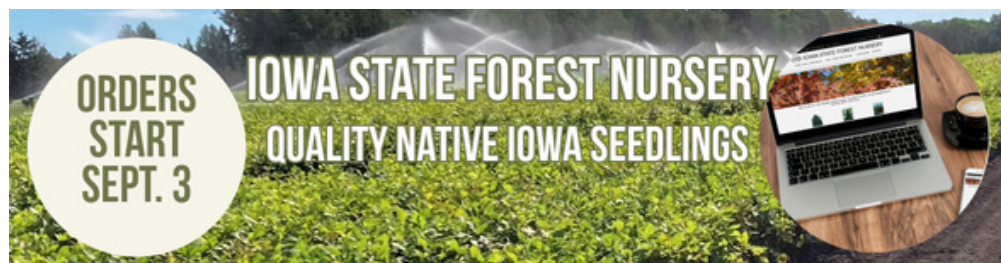
Twelve Mile Creek Lake

The dock is in at the main boat ramp. **Largemouth Bass** - Slow: Catch largemouth bass up to 19-inches with jigs or finesse plastics near rock piles.

West Lake (Osceola)

Lake level increased with recent rains, but still about 1 foot below normal. Boaters can use boat ramps at their own risk.

Water temperatures are in the upper 70s to mid-80s in most Mount Ayr district lakes. For more, call Mount Ayr Fisheries office at 641-464-3108.



The [DNR State Forest Nursery](#) is gearing up for fall 2024 and spring 2025 seedling orders.

Seedlings can be ordered **Sept. 3 - May 30**. The bare-root seedlings are packaged in bundles of 25 inside sealed and labeled plastic bags.

Tree varieties include 23 species of native hardwoods, eight evergreen species and 15 smaller trees and shrubs. Prices range from \$.80 to \$1.20 per seedling. Seedlings are sold in three age classifications, and range in size from 10-30 inches depending on the species.

Fall delivery is in November and spring delivery is in April and May. Customers can choose to have their order shipped or they can pick it up at the State Forest Nursery in Ames.