## I SWA. DNR

# Fishing News



The <u>Spring 2025 lowa Outdoors magazine</u> includes a list of great fishing spots, many in areas known for other activities and events where you can **take the tackle along**.

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## NORTHWEST

#### Black Hawk Lake

Water levels are about 6 inches over the crest of the spillway. Water temperature is in the low 70s. Water clarity is roughly 2 to 3 feet. Anglers are doing well from shore and boat. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Anglers are starting to pick up crappie. Fishing along Ice House Point shoreline and in the marina have been productive. **Bluegill** - Fair: Anglers are picking up some keeper size bluegill while fishing near shore for crappies. **Walleye** - Good: Anglers are picking up fish. Shore and boat fishing have been productive. Throw a fwister near shore during late evening right before sunset. Also use a leech, crawler, or minnow under a slip bobber near shore. Or bottom bouncer rig if fishing by boat. **Yellow Perch** -Slow.

#### Brushy Creek Lake

**Black Crappie** - Fair: Pick up crappie near shore in 2-8 feet of water near submerged structure. **Bluegill** - Fair: Use small jig tipped with a piece of crawler fished under a bobber.

#### North Twin Lake

Water is roughly 6 inches below crest. Water clarity is 2 feet.

#### Storm Lake (incl Little Storm Lake)

Water temperatures are around 65 degrees. Walleye fishing is starting to pick up. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Anglers are catching catfish from shore with crawlers or cut bait on the bottom. **Walleye** - Fair: Anglers are catching walleye. Best bite is late evening. Pick up fish from shore or by boat. Throw a twister or fish a crawler or minnow under a slip bobber from shore. If fishing by boat, use crankbaits or a bottom bouncer rig fished near the dredge cut. **White Bass** - Fair.

For more information, contact the Black Hawk District office at 712-657-2638.

#### <u>Clear Lake</u>

Water temperatures is in the low 60s. Water level is 1.9 inches over crest. Water clarity is about 60 inches. **Black Crappie** - Good: Crappies are mowing shallow. Target the rush beds on the north shore. **Walleye** - Good: Try jig minnows or slow retrieved crankbaits near vegetation. Best bite is early morning and after sunset. **Yellow Bass** – Good: Fish will move shallow as the water temperatures continues to rise.

#### Crystal Lake

**Black Crappie** -Good: Crappies are moving shallow. Target near the old roadbed and woody habitat near shore. **Walleye** - Slow.

#### **Rice Lake**

**Bluegill** - Slow. Largemouth Bass- Good: Target woody habitat near the shore. Yellow **Perch** - Slow: Try fishing near the cattail edges on warmer days.

#### Silver Lake (Worth)

The courtesy dock is in. **Bluegill** – Slow. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Try slow retrieved plastic baits. **Yellow Perch** – Slow.

#### Winnebago River

Water level is 5.99 feet.

For additional information, contact Clear Lake Fisheries Office at 641-357-3517.

#### East Okoboji Lake

Temperatures are in the upper 60s. **Black Crappie** - Fair: **Bluegill** - Fair. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: **Yellow Perch** - Fair: Many fish have been observed; sorting will most likely be needed.

#### Ingham Lake

Walleye - Fair: Morning and afternoon bite is best.

#### Silver Lake (Dickinson)

Walleye - Fair: The bite is hit-or-miss.

#### Spirit Lake

The Marble Beach fish cleaning station is fully operational. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Anglers are finding quality-size fish up to 14-inches. Anglers report some success around Templar Lagoon. **Bluegill** - Fair. **Yellow Perch** - Fair: Sorting is needed; anglers are finding many of acceptable size.

#### West Okoboji Lake

Water temperatures are in the upper 50s. Black Crappie - Fair: Bluegill - Fair.

Area boat ramp courtesy docks are in place and useable. Fish cleaning stations are operational. Water temperatures are around 60 degrees. Most lakes are at crest level. <u>The walleye season on the IGL's now open</u>. For current conditions, call 712-330-2542.

## NORTHEAST

#### Cedar River (above Nashua)

Water temperatures are in the upper 50s. Water levels continue to drop. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Action is picking up; use minnows. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Anglers using chicken liver fished on the bottom are finding good action in impoundments and off channel areas. **Smallmouth Bass** - Slow: Action remains variable. Use a jig tipped with plastic tail or crankbait fished through a deeper hole out of current. **Walleye** - Good: Find walleye in deeper holes and out of current using minnows or worms.

#### Decorah District Streams

<u>Catchable trout stockings</u> are weekly with streams announced once a month. Trout streams are in excellent condition. Flows remain elevated. Caddisfly and mayfly hatches are becoming numerous especially on warm sunny days. <u>Turkey season is in full swing</u>. Avoid wearing red, white, or blue; these colors look like a turkey head. **Brook Trout** - Fair: A variety of insect hatches occurring on warm sunny afternoons. Use care not to alarm fish when approaching streams with clear water. **Brown Trout** - Good: Try fishing near or around undercut banks. Spinnerbaits work well, especially in windy conditions. Use streamers on larger waterbodies for exciting action. Brown trout prefer slightly off-color water. **Rainbow Trout** - Excellent: Use spinnerbaits, hair jigs, or hooks tipped with a small piece of worm, dough ball, or cheese floated through deeper water. Use bait if you plan to keep your catch.

#### Lake Hendricks

Water temperatures is in the mid to upper 60s. Water is clear. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Try angling higher in the water column in the late afternoon. Try a jig tipped with a plastic tail over rocky humps. **Bluegill** - Good. Find gills around pallet structures. Use a small hook tipped with worm under a bobber. **Largemouth Bass** -Good: Try spinnerbaits along weed lines in about 6 feet of water.

#### Lake Meyer

Water temperatures are in the mid to upper 60s. **Black Crappie** - Slow. **Bluegill** - Good: Use a small jig tipped with a waxworm or red worms around the jetties. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Find bass in shallow to spawn or near woody structure near shore.

#### Turkey River (below Clermont)

Water temperatures is in the upper 50s. Water levels dropped about a foot. Water clarity is improving. **Walleye** – Fair. **White Sucker** – Good: Try worms fished on the stream bottom.

#### Upper Iowa River (above Decorah)

Water temperature is in the 50s. Water levels are slowly falling. Water clarity is improving. **Smallmouth Bass** - Slow. **Walleye** - Fair: Use a jig tipped with a minnow in slack water below dams. **White Sucker** - Excellent: Try a worm on the stream bottom.

#### Volga Lake

Few anglers are out due to windy weather. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Find crappie around woody structure. Use a flashy lure to attract attention. **Bluegill** - Good: Find bluegills around structure near shore. Use small jigs tipped with waxworms or a small piece of

nightcrawler. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Try crankbaits or spinnerbaits near shore around downed trees or rocky areas.

Northeast Iowa is in store for a beautiful weekend with temperatures in the 70s to 50s and an abundance of sunshine. <u>Turkey Hunting</u> is in full swing until May 18. For more information, contact the Chuck Gipp Decorah Fish Hatchery at 563-382-8324.

#### Brinker Lake

Anglers are catching crappie on the shallower west end. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Drift a minnow under a slip bobber or cast and retrieve crappie jigs.

#### Cedar River (Nashua to La Porte City)

Anglers are catching walleye, smallmouth and crappie. **Black Crappie**- Good: Drift a minnow under a slip bobber or cast and retrieve a crappie jig. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Cast and retrieve spinnerbaits or a jig tipped with half a nightcrawler. **Walleye** - Good: Use a jig head with plastics with or without a live minnow. Look for the deeper pools, current breaks, and tail ends of riffles.

#### George Wyth Lake

Anglers are catching crappie. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Locate structure; drift a minnow under a slip bobber or cast and retrieve crappie jigs.

#### Heritage Pond

Heritage Pond was stocked last Saturday with catchable rainbow trout. You need a valid fishing license and pay the trout fee to fish for or possess trout. **Rainbow Trout** - Good: Cast and retrieve flashy jigs or little spinners or floating baits underneath a slip bobber.

#### Lake Delhi

The lake should be clearing up. Water temperatures are nearing the crappie spawn. Avoid mid-afternoons and weekends due to heavy boat traffic. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Try a live minnow under a slip bobber or cast various colored tube or hair jigs near structure.

#### Manchester District Streams

Next week's forecast calls for temperatures near 80 degrees; should be good aquatic insect hatches to provide great trout fishing. **Brown Trout** - Good: Try matching the hatches with dry flies.

#### Maquoketa River (above Monticello)

Anglers are catching walleye and smallmouth bass. River levels have fallen and the water has cleared considerably. **Smallmouth Bass** - Fair: Try a jig head with plastics with or without a live minnow or cast and retrieve crankbaits or spinnerbaits. **Walleye** - Fair: Use a jig head with plastics with or without a live minnow. Look for the deeper pools, current breaks, and tail ends of riffles.

#### Maquoketa River (below Monticello)

River levels are falling. Good water clarity in Jones ad Jackson counties. Anglers are catching smallmouth bass. **Smallmouth Bass -** Excellent: Cast and retrieve spinnerbaits or a jig tipped with half a nightcrawler. **Walleye -** Fair: Try a jig head with plastics with or without a live minnow. Look for the deeper pool current breaks and tail ends of riffles.

#### North Prairie Lake

North Prairie Lake was stocked last Saturday with catchable rainbow trout. You need a valid fishing license and pay the trout fee to fish for or possess trout. **Rainbow Trout** - Good: Cast and retrieve flashy jigs or little spinners or floating baits underneath a slip bobber.

#### Shell Rock River (Greene to Shell Rock)

We have received no information about fishing on this water body this week.

#### Wapsi River (Tripoli to Troy Mills)

We have received no information about fishing on this water body this week.

Most interior river levels continue to fall after recent rainfall. Anglers continue to catch a few walleye, smallmouth bass, and crappie on the rivers. Reports on area lakes of anglers beginning to catch crappie as the lake begin to warm in and around the Cedar Falls/Waterloo area. Trout streams are in excellent condition. For more information, contact Manchester Hatchery at 563-927-3276.

## **MISSISSIPPI RIVER**

#### Mississippi River Pool 9

Water level is 8.9 feet at Lansing and is expected to slowly recede. Water temperature is near 65 degrees. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Try a weighted crawler off the bottom in current eddies. **Flathead Catfish** - Fair: Reports of some flatheads biting as they are feeding prespawn. Try large shiners or a small bluegill for bait. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Throw plastics along the shorelines in the upper end of backwaters away from current. **Northern Pike** - Good: Pike are on the feed after the spawn. Try larger flashy spinnerbaits in the shallows and weedy shorelines. **Sauger** - No report: Use a hair jig tipped with a minnow out of the current near Lock and Dam tailwaters. Anglers are picking up sauger downriver on closing dams. Expect the bite to pick up again post-spawn. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Use spinners along the current near Lock and Dam tailwaters. Anglers are picking up walleye downriver on closing dams. Expect the bite to pick up again post-spawn. **Yellow Perch** - Fair: Use a crappie rig tipped with worms or a minnow in the current seams off shore.

#### Mississippi River Pool 10

Water level is 618.6 feet at Lynxville and is expected to gradually recede next week. Fishing

away from the current below the Lock and Dam or side channels has been good. Water temperature is 66 degrees at the Lock and Dam. Water is still over the road at Sny Magill ramp. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Try a weighted crawler off the bottom in current eddies. **Flathead Catfish** - Fair: Reports of some flatheads biting as they are feeding prespawn. Try a large shiners or a small bluegill for bait. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Throw plastics along the shorelines in the upper end of backwaters away from the current. **Northern Pike** -Good: Pike are on the feed after the spawn. Try larger flashy spinnerbaits in the shallows and weedy shorelines. **Sauger** - Slow: Use a hair jig tipped with a minnow out of the current near Lock and Dam tailwaters. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Use spinners along the rocks on shorelines with current. **Walleye** - Slow: Use a hair jig tipped with minnow out of the current near Lock and Dam tailwaters. Anglers are picking up walleye downriver on closing dams. Expect the bite to pick up again post-spawn. **Yellow Perch** - Good: Use a crappie rig tipped with worms or a minnow in the current seams off shore.

#### Mississippi River Pool 11

Water level has fallen to 10.5 feet at Guttenberg and is expected to fall gradually. Water temperature is near 65 degrees. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Try a weighted crawler off the bottom in current eddies. **Fathead Catfish** - Fair: Reports of some flatheads biting as they are feeding pre-spawn. Try large shiners or a small bluegill for bait. **Largemouth Bass**- Fair: Throw plastic along the shorelines in the upper end of backwaters away from current. **Northern Pike** - Fair: Pike are on the feed after the spawn. Try larger flashy spinnerbaits in the shallows and weedy shorelines. **Sauger** - No report: Use a hair jig tipped with a minnow out of the current near Lock and Dam tailwaters. Anglers are picking up sauger downriver on closing dams. Expect the bite to pick up again post-spawn. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Use spinners along the rocks on shorelines with current. **Walleye** - No report: Use a hair jig tipped with minnow out of the current near Lock and Dam tailwaters. Anglers are picking up sauger up walleye downriver on closing dams. Expect the bite to pick up again post-spawn. **Yellow Perch** - Fair: Use a crappie rig tipped with worms or a minnow in the current seams off shore. Perch are biting off shore at Mud Lake park near Dubuque.

Upper Mississippi River water levels is on a gradual fall. During high water, find areas away from the current to fish. Water clarity is improving with water temperatures in the mid to upper 60s. The bite is improving as fish become more active with warmer water temperatures.

#### Mississippi River Pool 12

Water level is receding to 9.8 feet at Dubuque Lock and Dam and 11.8 feet at RR Bridge. The water is clear. Water temperature is around 64 degrees in the main channel. The main boat ramp at Spruce Creek park is still under construction. **Black Crappie** - Fair: It takes a bit of fishing in brush piles, but anglers can catch a few crappie on minnow rigs. **Bluegill** - Fair: Starting to hear anglers getting some bluegills out of the newly flooded backwaters. **Catfish** - Good: Use blood bait or live worms in moderate current areas in 6 feet or less of water. **Freshwater Drum** - Good: Easily catch drum on an egg sinker and worm rigs. **Northern Pike** - Good: Pike fishing has been very good this winter and early spring. An increase in the pike bite was noticeable the past few weeks. **Walleye** - Fair: Smaller walleye and sauger are along the rock lines. Use small spinners and jigs to pick up both walleye and sauger. **Yellow Perch** - Good: Try jig and worm rigs in the tailwater areas.

#### Mississippi River Pool 13

Water level is receding to near 10.9 feet at Bellevue. Water is clear. Water temperature is

around 65 degrees in the main channel. **Bluegill** - Fair: Bluegills are starting to be reported in flooded backwaters. **Bowfin** - Good: Bowfin are good early season biters. Try backwater area like the Green Island Wildlife area for early season fun. **Brown Bullhead** - Good: The lower pool access sites are good places to fish off the bank to catch brown bullhead and an occasional catfish. Bullheads are good early season biters. **Channel Catfish**- Good: Look for feeding catfish in flooded areas. Use blood baits in areas near the bank. **Northern Pike** - Fair: Just starting to hear reports of pike biting in backwater areas; use gaudy lures. **Paddlefish** -

**No Report: Paddlefish snagging season is closed. Rainbow Trout** - Excellent: Several trout are left in the the Kids' trout pond near the Bellevue Fishing Station. It is starting to weed over and soon it will be nearly unfishable. **Walleye** - Slow: Most walleyes have spawned; usually bite starts to pick back up on wing-dams in the next few weeks. **Yellow Perch** - Good: Try small jigs and worm rigs in the tailwaters.

#### Mississippi River Pool 14

Water level is receding and to near 10.3 feet at Fulton, 13.0 feet at Camanche, and 7.5 feet at LeClaire. Water is clear. Water temperature is around 65 degrees. **Bluegill** - Fair: Fishing is picking up. **Channel Catfish** -Good: Seems early, but good channel catfishing is occurring using blood baits. **Northern Pike** - Fair: Anglers throwing spinnerbaits are catching pike. **Paddlefish - No Report: Paddlefish snagging season is now closed. Walleye -** Slow: Most walleyes have spawned; usually bite starts to pick back up on wing dams in the next few weeks.

#### Mississippi River Pool 15

Water level is receding to near 10.6 feet at Rock Island. Water is clear. Water temperature is around 66 degrees.

Water temperatures is in the 60s throughout the district. Levels are receding. If you have angling questions, call Bellevue Fisheries Management at 563-880-8781.

## SOUTHEAST

#### Cedar River (Cedar Rapids to Moscow)

**Channel Catfish -** Fair. **Flathead Catfish** - Slow. **Sauger -** Slow: Try fishing sand bars early mornings. **Walleye -** Slow: Try fishing sand bars early mornings. **White Bass** - Slow.

#### Cedar River (La Porte City to Cedar Rapids)

Channel Catfish - Fair. Flathead Catfish - Slow. Walleye - Slow: White Bass - Slow:

#### Coralville Reservoir

**Channel Catfish -** Fair. **Largemouth Bass -** Fair. **Spotted Bass -** Fair. **White Crappie -** Fair: Try fishing in brush piles or off the docks.

#### Diamond Lake Black Crappie - Fair.

Hannen Lake

Black Crappie - Fair: Anglers are catching 8- to 11-inch crappie around brush piles. Bluegill -

Fair: Anglers are catching mostly 4- to 7-inche bluegills around brush piles. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Try fishing around brush piles.

#### lowa Lake (lowa Co.)

Water is very clear so fish spook easily. Use lighter line and hooks to catch more fish. **Black Crappie** - Excellent: Use pink hair jigs. **Bluegill** - Excellent: Try nightcrawlers below a bobber. **Largemouth Bass** - Good.

#### Iowa River (Coralville Lake to River Junction)

Channel Catfish - Fair. Flathead Catfish - Slow. Northern Pike -Slow. Sauger -Slow. Spotted Bass - Slow. White Bass - Slow. Wiper (Hybrid Striped Bass) - Fair.

#### Iowa River (Marshalltown to Coralville Lake)

**Channel Catfish** - Fair. **Walleye** - Slow: Anglers are catching a few walleye with soft plastics. **White Bass** - Fair. **Wiper (Hybrid Striped Bass)** - Slow.

#### Lake Macbride

A youth bass tournament is being held this weekend; expect full parking lots at boat ramps. **Bluegill** - Fair. **Largemouth Bass** - Good. **Muskellunge** - Fair. **Spotted Bass** -Good. **Walleye-** Fair. **White Crappie** - Good. **Wiper (Hybrid Striped Bass)** - Slow.

#### Pleasant Creek Lake

**Black Crappie** - Good. **Bluegill** - Good. **Largemouth Bass** -Good. **Muskellunge** - Fair. **Walleye** - Fair: Best bite is at night. **Wiper (Hybrid Striped Bass)** – Fair.

#### Sand Lake

2000 rainbow trout were stocked recently. **Rainbow Trout** – Good. You need a valid fishing license and pay the trout fee to fish for or possess trout.

#### Wapsipinicon River (Troy Mills to Oxford Junction)

Black Crappie - Fair. Bluegill - Fair. Channel Catfish - Fair. Northern Pike Slow. Smallmouth Bass - Fair. Walleye - Fair.

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

#### Hawthorn Lake

**Black Crappie** - Slow. Use small jigs around structure and the jetties. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Try plastics around the jetties and along the face of the dam.

#### Lake Keomah

Lake Keomah is drained for a lake restoration project. Please stay out of the lakebed.

#### Lake Miami

**Black Crappie** - Fair: Target jetties and along the dam. **Largemouth Bass** -Fair: Look for bass to start to move into shallow water along the dam.

#### Lake Sugema

**Bluegill** - Fair: Use small jigs in the shallows and around underwate4r habitat. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Try spinnerbaits and plastics around the fishing jetties and along the face of the dam.

#### Lake Wapello

**Black Crappie** - Fair: Use small jigs around structure and the shorelines. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Use spinnerbaits and plastics around the cedar tree piles.

#### Ottumwa Park Pond South (Trout Pond)

1500 trout were stocked in late March. You need a valid fishing license and pay the trout fee to fish for or possess trout. Try in-line spinners, chunks of nightcrawlers or prepared trout baits.

#### Rathbun Reservoir

The current lake level is 904.25 msl; recreation pool is 904 msl. Water temperatures are in the mid- to upper 50s. Lake Rathbun has zebra mussels; <u>properly drain, clean and dry</u> <u>equipment</u> before transporting to another waterbody. Water temperatures are in the mid to upper 50s. **Black Crappies** - Good: Crappies have started to move shallow and are biting along the shorelines. Try small jigs or jigs under a slip bobber. **Walleye** - Slow: Target post spawn walleyes around rock piles in 8-12 feet of water. **Wiper (Hybrid Striped Bass)** - Fair: Anglers are catching hybrids. Look for rock piles and rock reefs. Cast crankbaits or try vertically jigging.

#### Red Haw Lake

**Bluegill** - Fair: Try small jigs around the shallows and any structure close to shore. **Channel Catfish** - Slow: Use dead minnows on the shorelines. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Try spinners or plastics along shorelines.

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

## SOUTHWEST

#### Big Creek Lake

**Black Crappie** - Good: Catch crappie near any rock or wood as well as fish staging just off shallow water on submerged brush piles. Cast and slowly retrieve small panfish plastics or use live minnows under bobbers. The peak of the spawn will occur next week. **Walleye** - Fair: Jig or troll live bait rigs off humps and around points in 10 to 20 feet of water during the day and shallower in the evenings near sunset.

#### Hickory Grove Lake

**Black Crappie** - Fair: Crappie are moving shallow. Cast small plastics or live minnows under floats near any wood or rock habitat along and just off the shoreline.

#### Red Rock Reservoir

**Black Crappie** - Good: Crappies have moved shallow. The first areas to check are any shorelines with rip-rap. Cast small two inch or less plastics or live minnows under a float.

For information on Central Iowa lakes and rivers contact Andy Otting at 515-204-5885.

#### **Greenfield Lake**

**Channel Catfish** - Fair. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Greenfield has a good largemouth bass population.

#### Lake Anita

The crappie bite has picked up. **Black Crappie** - Good: Sorting is needed for 9-inch fish. **Bluegill** - Fair: Anglers are catching bluegills over the roadbed. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair.

#### Littlefield Lake

**Black Crappie** - Fair: Littlefield has a good population of 9-inch black crappie. Look for spawning fish along the dam.

#### Mormon Trail Lake

**Black Crappie** - Good: Cast along the dam and around the jetties to find 9-inch black crappie. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Mormon Trail has a good largemouth bass population with a good percent of fish over 15-inches.

#### Prairie Rose Lake

Starting Monday May 5th through May 14th, there will be semi-truck traffic at the south boat ramp to prepare for the alum treatment. The ramp will be open to the public, but may cause delay in launching boats. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Bite has slowed. Look for spawning black crappie around the rock piles and jetties. **Bluegill** - Slow. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Anglers are catching largemouth bass casting the shoreline.

#### Viking Lake

Water clarity is good. **Black Crappie** - Good: Cast small jigs 2 feet under a bobber in the pontoon arm of the lake. Sorting is needed for 9-inch fish. **Bluegill** - Fair: Bluegill average 7.5-inches. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Anglers are having good luck casting the shoreline.

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

#### Green Valley Lake

The dock is in at the main boat ramp. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Catch crappies up to 9- inches with jigs fished along rocky shoreline area.

#### **Little River Watershed Lake**

The dock is in at main boat ramp. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Use jigs fished near creek channels along the flooded timber to catch all sizes of crappies. **Bluegill** - Fair: Try jigs fished near rockpiles to catch all sizes of bluegill. **Walleye** - Fair: Catch walleye up to 18 inches with crankbaits fished along the weedline.

#### Three Mile Lake

**\*\*Driving is prohibited on any service roads used to access the lakebed and the lakebed itself.**\*\* Lake level is 10 feet below normal pool. Boat ramp lanes are out of the water at the main boat ramp.

#### **Twelve Mile Creek Lake**

The dock is in at the main boat ramp. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Try jigs fished along creek channels near the flooded timber to catch all sizes of crappie. **Bluegill** - Fair: Use jigs fished near rock reefs to catch all sizes of bluegill.

Water temperature is in the low to mid-60s in most district lakes. For more information, call Mount Ayr Fisheries office at 641-931-6031.

## May 10th 2025 is World Migratory Bird Day!

Since 1993, World Migratory Bird Day has educated the public about the importance of migratory bird conservation. Over 100 species of birds that nest in the Midwest, and many more that fly through during migration, are considered Neotropical migrants, meaning they breed in North America and spend the winter in Mexico, Central America, South America, or the Caribbean.

Here are five things you can do for wildlife at home, that will help support migratory birds!

- 1. Plant native plants
- 2. Add water
- 3. Use the right lighting
- 4. Reduce hazards to wildlife
- 5. Embrace willdness

Check out the <u>Bird Friendly lowa program website</u> to learn more about how you can support birds in your community or get your town or county certified as bird friendly. Learn more about bird watching with <u>lowa DNR's story map</u>.