



Bay Springs Lake 2022

REEL FACTS

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General Information: Covering approximately 6,700 acres and 8 miles in length, Bay Springs Lake is the northern most impoundment along the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. Bay Springs is connected to Pickwick Lake on the Tennessee River through the Divide Cut and Yellow Creek. As a result, water levels on Bay Springs are controlled by Tennessee Valley Authority's operations at Pickwick Dam.

Location: Within Tishomingo and Prentiss Counties approximately 26 miles East of Booneville on Hwy 4.

Fishery Management: Largemouth, Spotted, and Smallmouth Bass, crappie, bream, and catfish.

Purchase a Fishing License: https://www.ms.gov/mdwfp/hunting_fishing/

Amenities

- 7 public boat ramps
- Marina
- Campground
- Public Beach
- Picnic Areas
- Restrooms
- Lock & Dam scenic overlook
- Interpretive center

Regulations

- Black bass (largemouth, spotted, and smallmouth): 10 bass (combined) per day per angler.
- Crappie: 9 inch minimum length limit and 30 crappie per day per angler.
- Bream: 100 bream (combined) per day per angler.
- Catfish: No limit.
- Other creel limits can be found at <http://www.mdwfp.com>

Fish Stockings

2019

Florida Largemouth Bass
(110,000)

2013

Florida Largemouth Bass
(75,000)

2011

Florida Largemouth Bass
(75,000)

2009

Florida Largemouth Bass
(114,660)

1999

Threadfin Shad
(60,000)

1996

Threadfin Shad
(250,000)
Redear Sunfish
(285,000)

Fishing Tips

Black Bass

- Target main lake and secondary points with C/T rigged plastics.
- In the spring, target timber areas in the back of coves with spinner baits.

Crappie

- Try standing timber near Jackson Camp.
- Fish Ashcraft Holler and McDougal Branch using road-runners or hair jigs.
- Target main lake points in the winter.

Bream

- Fish similar areas as crappie using redworms and crickets.

Catfish

- Target cats at night on the shallow flats with cutbait or liver.
- During the summer, fish the rip-rap on the north side of the lake near Crow's Neck.

Below: Results from the 2021 fall electrofishing survey on Bay Springs. Boat electrofishing was completed along 9.3 miles of shoreline in November. Healthy bass (largemouth and spotted) populations were seen during the survey.

| Species | # of Fish Sampled | % of Sample | Minimum Length (Inches) | Average Length (inches) | Maximum Length (inches) | Catch Rate Adult fish (fish/mile) |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Gizzard Shad | 61 | 6 | 10.2 | 12.2 | 13.8 | 7 |
| Threadfin Shad | 9 | <1 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 3.2 | - |
| Chain Pickerel | 9 | <1 | 10.6 | 16.1 | 23.1 | 1 |
| Golden Shiner | 29 | 3 | 2.8 | 5.7 | 9.1 | - |
| Channel Catfish | 9 | <1 | 15.8 | 17.8 | 20.6 | 1 |
| Bluegill | 450 | 47 | 0.2 | 3.7 | 7.7 | 35 |
| Longear Sunfish | 52 | 5 | 1.6 | 3.5 | 4.7 | 4 |
| Redear Sunfish | 141 | 15 | 1.6 | 6.3 | 9.6 | 13 |
| Smallmouth Bass | 4 | <1 | 8.5 | 13.3 | 17.4 | <1 |
| Spotted Bass | 49 | 5 | 2.4 | 9.7 | 17 | 4 |
| Largemouth Bass | 103 | 11 | 4.7 | 12.8 | 21.7 | 9 |
| Crappie (White and Black) | 10 | 1 | 2.6 | 5.2 | 12.1 | <1 |
| Yellow Perch | 35 | 4 | 2.8 | 6.6 | 11.1 | 2 |

Below: Bay Springs has a healthy crappie population. These Black Crappie were collected from a single piece of woody debris, and almost all were over the 9" minimum length limit.



Below: Length distributions for Largemouth Bass, Spotted Bass, Bluegill, and Redear Sunfish collected during fall 2021 electrofishing. Sampling was conducted over 9.3 miles of shoreline in November.

