

Big Country Acres Fishing Regulations

Updated September 2024

A minimum length limit means that fish below a designated length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.

Species	Length Requirements	Daily Limit
Black Bass	12"and larger	Catch and Release Only
Black Bass	Less than 12"	No Limit
Crappie	Minimum 9"	5
Channel Catfish	Minimum 18"	2
Redear Sunfish	Minimum 7"	5
Bluegill	Minimum 6"	10
Green Sunfish	N/A	No Limit – Invasive species, do not return to the lake
Grass Carp	N/A	Catch and Release Only

This private lake and common ground are only for use by RESIDENTS/GUESTS of Big Country Acres. If you meet this requirement, we welcome you.

Please get a Lake Use Permit from a property owner so we know that you are not trespassing.

Lake Rules

1. Gasoline powered engines are prohibited.
2. Trot or throw lines and spear gun fishing are prohibited.
3. While minnows are allowed for bait, care should be exercised as far as feasible that live minnows escaping in the lake be held to a minimum and unused supply must be returned and not be released in the lake.
4. Nuisance Animals. Muskrats, beavers, and otters are detrimental to the health of our lake. If you see evidence of current activity, please report the sighting to a Lake Committee member. If you see the animal, you are legally allowed to eliminate it because it is a nuisance to our homeowners. You may not use the animal unless it is in season as per MDC regulations.

WARNING To prevent death or injury to people, avoid the use of single projectile type firearms, such as a rifle or pistol. These types of bullets should never be used on the water since they can ricochet off the water (in any direction) and travel very long distances.

5. Clean Boating. Please observe the following "clean boating" practices when transporting your boat between waterways to protect against invasive species such as zebra mussels. This also applies to the boat of your guests.
 1. INSPECT - Thoroughly inspect your boat's hull, drive unit, trim plates, trolling plates, prop guards, transducers, centerboards, rollers, axles, anchor, anchor rope and trailer. Scrape off and trash any suspected mussels, however small. Remove all water weeds hanging from the boat or trailer before leaving any water body. If you find any attached mussels, use HOT (104 F) water, or tow the boat through a do-it-yourself carwash and use the high pressure hot water to "de-mussel" your boat. Do not use chlorine bleach or other environmentally unsound washing solutions.
 2. DRAIN - Drain water from the motor, live well, bilge and transom wells and any other water from your boat and equipment while on land before leaving any water body.
 3. DUMP - Trash leftover bait on land, away from water, before leaving any water body. Leftover live aquatic bait should not be transported.
 4. RINSE - Before launching your boat into our lake - thoroughly rinse and dry the hull, drive unit, live wells (and live well pumping system), bilge, trailer, bait buckets, engine cooling system and other boat parts that got wet while in others waters; use a hard spray from a garden hose.