

Kentucky's Boating & Fishing Access Sites

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KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF
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About This Guide

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is pleased to offer you this guide to Kentucky's boating and fishing access sites. Kentucky has approximately 1.1 million anglers and 1.4 million registered boats. Half of Kentucky boaters are also anglers. This guide provides a single source of information for both anglers and boaters.



Kentucky is blessed with a wealth of lakes and streams available for boating and fishing. These range from small city park lakes to large, multi-purpose reservoirs. Sport fish available for angling are equally diverse. Beginning anglers have shoreline opportunities for the panfishes and catfishes, while boat anglers have opportunities to chase the elusive black bass, striped bass and muskellunge. Fishing is a top tourism industry for Kentucky. Annually, this outdoor recreation pumps \$1 billion into the state's economy.



The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources has a boating access program to develop and maintain public access sites. Funding for this program and this guide, the Sport Fish Restoration program, is available through federal excise taxes on motor boat fuels, fishing tackle, and accessories. Federal funding

(75%) is matched with state fishing license revenues (25%). Since the 1986 inception of this program, our agency has developed 67 new boating access sites.

The guide represents a comprehensive list of public fishing and boating sites available in 1999. There are 677 sites available for public use, although some are privately owned. Information was collected from field staff and most sites have been field verified. The status of sites constantly changes, and ramps may become inaccessible due to flooding or low water conditions. We welcome valid information that can be incorporated in the next printing of this guide.

Enjoy safe boating and pleasant fishing in Kentucky, but remember to safeguard our precious natural resources. We also encourage you to take a friend or a kid fishing to maintain this wholesome and viable sport. Our children are the future stewards of our natural resources. Fishing and boating are excellent ways to enrich natural resource awareness and appreciation.

How to Use This Guide

For this publication, Kentucky has been divided into nine regions corresponding to a river basin, a section of a basin, or a group of smaller basins. In the guide are nine basin maps and 19 detailed maps depicting the location of shoreline fishing sites, boat ramps and trout streams across Kentucky. The maps are in a west to east order as you read from the front to back of this guide. On the back of this guide, there is a statewide locator map that serves as a table of contents. Locate the basin or major lake on the back page and turn to the designated page or pages. Each of the basins has a map of the counties, county seats, major highways, major streams, lakes, trout streams, wildlife management areas, and fishing and boating access sites.



Access site numbers represent a public shoreline fishing site, a boat ramp, or both. Access sites are numbered sequentially for each basin. The locations of major lakes are depicted on the basin maps and detailed maps of these lakes are on the pages following each basin map. Like the basin maps, lake inset maps have shoreline fishing and boating access sites sequentially numbered. Each basin map depicts trout streams highlighted in yellow and contains an index of trout streams present.

Information for each numbered site is located in an index on the map page or following page. The tables give you the specific water body, area name, and directions for each of the sites. All directions are given starting at the county seat of the appropriate county. Symbols are then used to describe the details of the facilities at each site. Legends explaining the table symbols are found on the same page, or facing page of each index.

Remember that all sites are not boat ramps but may

simply be a small lake or a stream access with only shoreline fishing. All available shoreline sites have not been shown for the lake insets; however, shoreline public property is accessible along all of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lakes and other areas designated as public property. There are many other shoreline sites along Kentucky streams but many of these are located on private property and they are not included in this guide. You must obtain landowner permission to access lakes and streams along private property.



Fishing licenses are sold at county clerk's offices and at stores where hunting and fishing equipment is sold.

For more information on Kentucky fishing and boating, contact **The Kentucky Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources** toll free **1-800-858-1549~(8:00-4:30M-F)~website: <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/fw/kdfwr.htm>**

CALL 1-800-25-ALERT for fish and wildlife violations

See Kentucky Sport Fish and Boating Guide, published each year, for a summary of laws and regulations regarding boating and fishing.

See Kentucky Fish booklet for the identification of major sport fish species.