

# Arizona Game and Fish Department 2010 URBAN FISHING PROGRAM



*A cooperative fishing program between the  
Arizona Game and Fish Department and 11 cities*

**25th Anniversary  
Guidebook**

Arizona's Urban Fishing Program motto is:

# "If people can't get to the fish, we'll bring fish to the people."

We take great pride in providing a fun, family-friendly fishing opportunity at city park lakes across Arizona. In 2010 we celebrate 25 years of providing excellent customer value through the consistent, reliable delivery of quality fish throughout the year.

## 2010 Fish Stocking Calendar – week of fish stockings

On highlighted stocking weeks, fish deliveries will occur randomly on any day except Sundays. Specific stocking days are not announced. Our goal is a 100% On Time delivery of fish during each scheduled stocking week.

Trout     Catfish

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28							28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	
31																											

MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST						
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30	31																										

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	
							31																				



**CHANNEL CATFISH**

(stocked through the spring and fall)



**RAINBOW TROUT**

(stocked throughout the winter)



**LARGEMOUTH BASS**

(stocked once a year)



**BLUEGILL**

(stocked once in spring and fall)

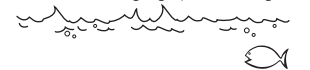
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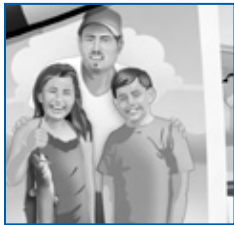
COVER ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES McDONALD  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY GEORGE ANDREJKO AND ERIC SWANSON

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is the state agency charged with conserving and managing Arizona's fish and wildlife resources. Its money comes from the sale of licenses, permits, fees and federal excise taxes on firearms, ammunition and fishing equipment and boats. Policies are decided by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, whose members are appointed by the Governor.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or disability in its programs and activities. If anyone believes that they have been discriminated against in any of the AGFD's programs or activities, including employment practices, they may file a complaint with the Deputy Director, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086, (602) 942-3000, or with the Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Dr. Ste. 130, Arlington, VA 22203. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation or this document in an alternative format by contacting the Deputy Director as listed above.



## Welcome to Arizona's Urban Fishing Program



Whether you are an experienced, occasional or new angler, the Arizona Urban Fishing Program offers great fishing opportunities that you are sure to enjoy. There are 21 city park lakes currently participating in the Program, a partnership between the Arizona Game and Fish Department and 11 cities across the state. Lake locations by city can be found on maps on pages 26, 32-33, and 51. To ensure fishermen have a good chance

of catching fish, plenty of ready-to-catch fish are stocked over a 10-month period from mid September through June; every two weeks!

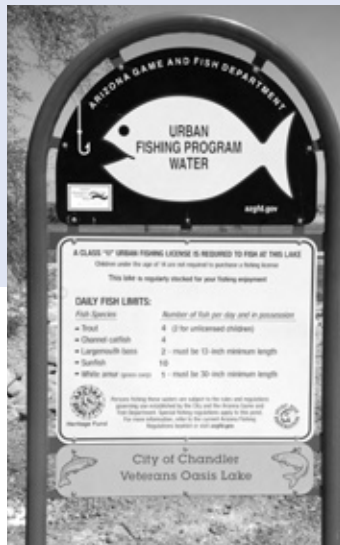
More than 4 million Arizona residents live within a 20-minute drive of a heavily stocked Urban Fishing Program lake. Close by and convenient, all the parks offer parking, restrooms and other amenities to make your fishing trip and park visit enjoyable.

Fishing at urban lakes is affordable. Annual Urban Fishing Licenses are only \$18.50. Basic fishing equipment is all you need to catch the abundant catfish, trout and bluegill found in the lakes.

### Why fish urban lakes?

- All lakes are intensively stocked
- Lakes and parks are well maintained
- Fishing is a fun and rewarding sport
- Anyone can fish
- Fishing is relaxing and peaceful
- Parks are pleasant and safe environments
- Fish are safe to eat and good for you

Distinctive Urban Fishing Program signs are posted at key locations at all participating waters, uniquely identifying these fisheries from other city waters. The signs also highlight the fishing license requirements and special bag limit regulations for Urban Lakes and Urban Ponds.



	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Catfish			4							8		
Trout					9							
Sunfish				1					1			

**Catfish** – Channel catfish averaging 1.5-2 pounds are stocked four times during the fall, from September to November. By mid March, water temperatures have warmed enough to support catfish once again. From March through the end of June, another eight stockings of catfish are delivered to all Urban Fishing Program waters.

**Trout** – By mid November, the every-other-week stockings of catfish are replaced by stockings of 11-13 inch rainbow trout. There are nine trout stockings during the winter period lasting to early March.

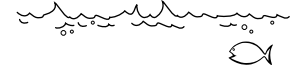
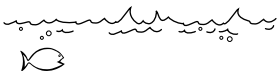
**Sunfish** – In addition to stocking catfish or trout at two-week intervals, catchable size sunfish (bluegill or redear sunfish) in the 5-8 inch range are stocked once in the fall and once in the spring.

**Stocking Facts** – More than \$570,000 is spent annually to purchase these fish from fish growers and transporters that can deliver healthy fish on time, every time. Catfish and sunfish are delivered to Urban Fishing Program waters from Arkansas-based fish suppliers. Trout are delivered by fish contractors in Colorado.

In the past three years, the Urban Fishing Program has a 98% On Time Delivery success in making over 900 deliveries of fish to 21 waters on the scheduled week of stocking.

**For further stocking and program information, see the Frequently Asked Questions information on pages 6-8.**

*All 21 lakes in this guidebook are specially designated Urban Fishing Program waters that require an annual Urban Fishing License (Class U) or Super Conservation Fishing License (Class L) for all anglers 14 years of age or older*



## We're Celebrating Our 25th Anniversary!

What began as a simple idea of stocking fish into a few local park lakes in 1985, has grown into one of the largest and best urban fishing programs in the country. To celebrate 25 years of growth and success in providing high quality, convenient fishing recreation, the Urban Fishing Program is conducting Web-based contests all year long. Please share with us your photographs of memorable urban fishing trips, scenic and historic shots, big fish, first fish and more. So dig out those old pictures from many years ago or grab your camera as you head out on your next urban fishing trip and create a new memory. Information on how you can enter each contest can be found at [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov).



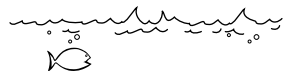
**Guidebook** – We created this new Guidebook to make it easier for you to figure out where to fish, how to fish, what to fish with, and how to keep up to date on the best fishing information and news available. Major changes inside include:

- A 2010 fish stocking calendar
- Listings of family-friendly park amenities
- A timeline of significant Program events over the past 25 years
- A fishing equipment checklist to help get you started
- All new lake and park maps

## 2010 Angler Survey Study

From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 the Urban Fishing Program staff will be visiting all 21 lakes a couple times every month to conduct angler interviews. You may be asked questions such as how many fish you've caught that day, how many years you've been fishing the Urban waters, and how far you traveled that day. Gathering performance information on the Program is vital to its continued success.

Results of the study will be used to guide future management decisions such as increases in fish stocking amounts and improvements that can be made at the parks. Information on angler participation levels, satisfaction, and economic benefits is important to share with government and civic leaders so they are better aware (and supportive) of the value of urban fishing in their communities.



## Where to get more information

Current information on Program activities and stocking schedules is prepared every two weeks in the Urban Fishing Program Bulletin. Bulletins are posted at Fishing Information Stations at your nearest Urban Program lake or they can be downloaded from the Web at [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov). To receive your free copy of the bi-weekly Urban Fishing Program Bulletin or the weekly Fishing Report, subscribe under AZGFD eNews.

## Game and Fish Online Fishing Information

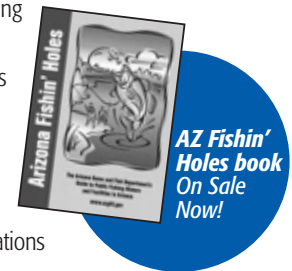
[www.azgfd.gov/fishing](http://www.azgfd.gov/fishing)

### Urban Fishing Program (UFP):

- UFP Bulletin . . . . . Bi-weekly newsletter, what's biting
- UFP Stocking Schedule . . . . . Weekly fish stocking schedules
- UFP Lake Locations . . . . . Find nearest lake, see lake maps
- Find links to all participating park Web sites

### Statewide Fishing Resources:

- Weekly Fishing Reports . . . . . What's biting and where
- Where to Fish . . . . . Interactive fishing map, 170 locations
- Trout stocking schedule . . . . . Weekly trout stocking schedules
- Fishing Blog . . . . . Interactive fish talk
- Been Fishing? . . . . . Submit your own fish report
- Fishing Pictures . . . . . Share your fishing photos, find new places to fish
- Arizona Fishing Regulations . . . . . Review or download current regulations
- "Get Outside Arizona" . . . . . Your resource to more outdoor activities
- Operation Game Thief . . . . . How to turn in violators and be a good witness
- Hot Topics . . . . . Info on Quagga Mussels, Golden Alga
- State Fish Records . . . . . All-time biggest fish caught
- eNews . . . . . Free online subscriptions to Urban Fishing Bulletin, Weekly Fishing Report, and more

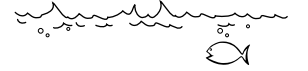


### ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT OFFICES

PHOENIX HEADQUARTERS 5000 W. Carefree Highway Phoenix, AZ 85086 (602) 942-3000

### REGIONAL OFFICES

PINETOP	2878 E. White Mountain Blvd., Pinetop 85935	(928) 367-4281
FLAGSTAFF	3500 S. Lake Mary Rd., Flagstaff 86001	(928) 774-5045
KINGMAN	5325 N. Stockton Hill Rd., Kingman 86409	(928) 692-7700
YUMA	9140 E. 28th St., Yuma 85365	(928) 342-0091
TUCSON	555 N. Greasewood Rd., Tucson 85745	(520) 628-5376
MESA	7200 E. University Dr., Mesa 85207	(480) 981-9400



# Urban Fishing Program FAQ's

Answers to your frequently asked questions

## Q: What lakes are included in the Urban Fishing Program?

**A:** Currently, there are 21 specially designated Urban Fishing Program waters. Distinctive signage uniquely identifies all lakes and ponds in the Program. A listing of lakes by city can be found in the table of contents. Locations of all 16 Phoenix area urban waters can be found on pages 32-33. A map of the four Tucson area urban lakes is on page 26. The location of the Green Valley Lakes in Payson can be found on page 51.

## Q: What kind of license do I need to fish these designated Urban Fishing Program waters and where can I purchase one?

**A:** If you are 14 years of age or older, you must buy a \$18.50 **Class U Urban Fishing license** (rates are the same whether a resident or non-resident). The Class U license covers all fish species found in the designated Urban Fishing Program lakes and ponds. Juveniles under the age of 14 do not need a license.

The **Class L Super Conservation Fishing License** is valid for all statewide and Urban Fishing Program waters. Other licenses that are valid at designated Urban Fishing Program waters are: Class D resident or non-resident one-day fishing licenses; Class N Super Combination Hunt and Fish License; resident youth-group two-day fishing licenses (sold to groups of up to 20 juveniles age 14-17); and Pioneer and disabled veteran complimentary licenses.

Urban, Super Fishing, and one day fishing licenses can be **purchased from any of 340 dealers statewide that sells state fishing and hunting licenses or any Game and Fish office**. A regular Arizona fishing license (Class A, B, C, F or I) is not needed, nor is it valid at the designated Urban Fishing Program waters.

## Q: What types of fish are in the Urban Program waters?

**A:** Catchable **rainbow trout** are stocked during the winter (November through March) and **channel catfish** are stocked in the spring and fall (March through June and September to November). Additionally, **bluegill** and **largemouth bass** are stocked each year. Other species of fish (not regularly stocked) that may occur in these lakes include redear sunfish, common carp, white amur, tilapia, and crappie. Pictures of the most common fish species can be found on the inside front cover and on pages 21-23.

## Q: When are designated Urban Fishing Program waters stocked?

**A:** Lakes are stocked **every two weeks from September through June** (see stocking schedule on inside front cover). Due to high lake temperatures in the summer, there are no fish stockings from July 4 to Sept. 15. Specific stocking days are not publicized, however the week of stocking is shared with the public. This gives everyone an equal opportunity to enjoy the stocked fish and emphasizes the sporting aspects of fishing. It also assists in reducing crowding and other associated impacts on

stocking days. On the designated weeks, fish stockings may occur randomly from Monday through Saturday. The program has an amazing 98 percent "on time" delivery rate for all scheduled fish stockings.

## Q: Why are there two kinds of Urban Program waters—Lakes and Ponds?

**A:** The Urban Pond concept was developed to provide a quality fishing experience at small fishing waters less than three acres. These small ponds must be managed differently than traditional Urban Lakes to reduce the rapid harvest of fish after each stocking, decrease the crowding impacts, allow for fair distribution of fish caught by more anglers, and encourage anglers to focus more on the recreational benefits of fishing while still allowing for a couple of fish to be kept. There are currently four waters managed as Urban Ponds and 17 waters managed as Urban Lakes. Throughout this guidebook, and by special signage at each park, these waters are clearly identified.

## Q: How many fish does each of the Urban Lakes or Ponds get?

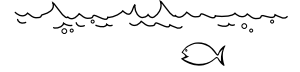
**A:** Designated Urban Fishing Program waters are stocked on a surface acre basis each delivery. For each surface acre, **Urban Lakes receive about 50 catfish, or 75 trout, per acre**. The four waters under the Urban Pond management concept are also stocked every two weeks, but at rates of 30 catfish or 45 trout per acre. With stockings occurring every two weeks at Urban Lakes and Urban Ponds, **each water gets over 22 fish deliveries a year**.

## Q: What is the limit at Urban Lakes and Urban Ponds?

**A:** For **Urban Lakes**, the **daily bag and possession limit is 4 trout, 4 catfish, 2 largemouth bass** of 13 inches or more, 10 sunfish, and one white amur of 30 inches or more. Statewide limits apply to all other fish species.



Surprise Lake, Surprise



For waters managed under the **Urban Pond concept**, the limits are **2 trout, 2 catfish, 1 largemouth bass** of 13 inches or more, 5 sunfish, and one white amur of 30 inches or more. For unlicensed juveniles under the age of 14, they may take the same limits of fish as a licensed angler with the exception of trout, where the daily limit is 1/2 the established limit.

**Q: Can I fish with two poles at Urban Program waters?**

**A:** Yes, if urban anglers have a valid **Two-Pole Stamp** in their possession and it is affixed to either their current Urban Fishing License or state fishing license. Two-Pole Stamps cost \$6 and can be obtained from any license dealer or department office. No more than two poles may be used in the water at any one time.

**Q: Are any big fish stocked in these Urban Program waters?**

**A:** Yes! The ratio is about one big fish for every 20 stocked, so several lucky anglers may take home bragging-sized fish from each stocking, which could mean a 3-6 pound catfish or a 2-3 pound trout. Some trophy-sized fish are delivered from time to time including catfish up to 8 pounds and trout up to 6 pounds. Our contracted fish are purchased by the pound (catfish average over 1 1/2 – 2 pounds each, trout average nearly 1/2 pound each). With each fish delivery, we strive to achieve a **good combination of fish sizes that includes plenty of quality size fish with some lunkers mixed in.**

At least once a year, in early January, a special incentive trout stocking of larger trout is delivered to all waters.

**Q: Who pays for the Urban Fishing Program?**

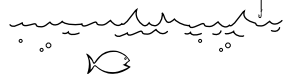
**A:** The Urban Fishing Program is a self-supporting, user-pay program. It is a cooperative effort between the cities of Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa, Payson, Peoria, Phoenix, Sahuarita, Scottsdale, Surprise, Tempe and Tucson. **This Program is financed from the sale of Urban Fishing Licenses and from annual fees from the city parks and recreation departments.** The Arizona Game and Fish Department receives no state taxpayer dollars. During 2009, over \$570,000 was spent on stocking keeper-size channel catfish, rainbow trout, sunfish and other fish.

**Q: Why are some lakes in urban areas not in the Urban Fishing Program and not a designated Urban Fishing Program water?**

**A:** There are several reasons, including, but not limited to: 1) these lakes are either smaller than 2 acres and/or have poor water quality to support stocked fish; 2) they have inadequate facilities or are not open to the public or; 3) their managing entity or the city chooses not to enter into a cooperative agreement with the department. The department is committed to growth of the Urban Fishing Program and is looking for new fishery opportunities and partnerships. Watch for growth in the future.



Catfish stocking at Sahuarita Lake, Sahuarita



## Urban Fishing Regulations at a Glance

The Game and Fish Commission specially designates certain municipal lakes as Urban Fishing Program waters. These waters have their own special rules and regulations. Here are some key Urban Fishing Program regulations anglers should be aware of.

**NOTE:** This summary of urban fishing regulations is prepared for convenience only. It is not a legal document, as it does not contain all the laws and regulations relating to fishing. For complete details on statewide fishing regulations, please refer to the 2009 & 2010 Arizona Fishing Regulations booklet.

**License Requirements:** All persons 14 years or older, while fishing any public fishing water in Arizona, must have on their person a current Arizona fishing license. Urban Fishing Program waters require one of the following license types (*other types are not valid*).

AGE	FISHING LICENSE TYPE	FEE
Under age 14	No license required	
Age 14 and over	Class U, Urban Fishing <i>Good for calendar year</i>	\$18.50 <sup>1</sup>
	Class D, One day only	\$16.25
	Class L, Super Fishing <i>Good for calendar year</i>	\$53.00 resident \$63.00 nonresident
Age 70 and over and AZ resident past 25 years	Class P, Pioneer <i>Available only from Game and Fish offices</i>	Complimentary

<sup>1</sup> In November and December only, you can purchase that years' Urban Fishing License for half price: \$9.25.

Other valid licenses include Super Combo Hunt and Fish, disabled veteran complimentary license and youth-group two-day fishing license.

Licenses can be purchased at any Game and Fish office or any one of our 340 license dealers or sporting goods stores statewide that sells state fishing and hunting licenses.

**Fishing without a license or the proper license is the #1 violation.**

## Bag and Size Limits

FISH SPECIES	DAILY BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS		MINIMUM SIZE LIMIT
	Urban Lakes	Urban Ponds	
Catfish	4	2	None
Trout For juveniles under age 14	4	2	None
	2	1	None
Bass	2	1	13 inches
Sunfish: <i>various species including bluegill, redear, green and hybrid</i>	10	5	None
White Amur (grass carp)	1	1	30 inches
Other	None	None	None

**Once you catch a fish and do not release it, it now counts toward your daily possession limit. This includes any fish you catch and give away to someone else. Once your daily limit is reached, you must stop fishing for that species.**

## Method of Take, Use of Bait

### Angling:

- One or two poles only. Anglers may use no more than two hooks on each line. If using two poles, must have a \$6 Two-Pole stamp.
- No snagging or use of seine nets, cast nets or dip nets to capture sport fish.

### Other:

- Park rules and regulations vary by city and are identified on signage at each park. Posted park hours are also the times that anglers may fish.
- When fishing, Game and Fish laws require you to attend your line, that is, stay near your fishing pole at all times.
- When fishing, the hook, fly or lure must be used in such a manner that the fish voluntarily attempt to take it in their mouths.
- It is a violation to fail to keep all edible portions of fish in an edible condition or to leave fish to die. This is wasting "game" meat.
- It is illegal to transport live fish from a lake or to transfer live fish from one body of water to another. Unauthorized stocking of fish, minnows and crayfish is illegal.
- The use of live bait fish (such as minnows) is illegal at all Tucson area lakes (Silverbell, Kennedy, Lakeside and Sahuarita), and also at Green Valley Lakes in Payson.
- It is a violation to litter. This includes hooks, fishing line, bait containers, wrappers, etc.

**Report Violators  
Call Operation Game Thief 24/7  
1-800-352-0700**



## Guía rápida sobre los reglamentos del Programa de Pesca en las Ciudades

(Pesca Deportiva Urbana)

La Comisión de Caza y Pesca de Arizona ha designado ciertos lagos en varias ciudades del estado, como parte del Programa de Pesca Deportiva Urbana. La designación especial de estos lagos incluye una serie de reglas y reglamentos únicos para estas aguas. Este folleto incluye regulaciones que los pescadores deben tomar en cuenta.

**NOTA:** Esta guía rápida sobre la pesca deportiva en las ciudades se ha preparado únicamente con fines informativos. No es un documento legal, ya que no contiene todas y cada una de las leyes y reglamentos referentes a la pesca deportiva. Para mayor información sobre las leyes y reglamentos en todo el estado, por favor consulte el folleto del 2009 y 2010 sobre la pesca deportiva en Arizona.

**Requisitos para obtener una licencia de pesca deportiva en las ciudades.** Todas las personas que tengan 14 años de edad o más, deben de portar una licencia válida del año en curso mientras se encuentran pescando en Arizona. Para participar en Programa de Pesca en las Ciudades se requiere una de las siguientes licencias, según sea el caso. Existen otro tipo de licencias para pescar fuera de las ciudades, pero estas no son válidas para la pesca urbana.

EDAD	TIPO DE LICENCIA PARA PESCAR	COSTO
Menores de 14 años	No se necesita una licencia para pescar	
14 años o mayores	Licencia Clase U (Urbana) <i>válida del 1 de enero al 31 de diciembre</i>	\$18.50 <sup>1</sup>
	Licencia Clase D, válida por un día	\$16.25
	Licencia Clase L, Super Pesca <i>válida del 1 de enero al 31 de diciembre</i>	residente \$53 no residente \$63
70 años o mayores y residentes del estado de Arizona en los últimos 25 años	Licencia Clase P (Pionero) <i>Disponible únicamente en las oficinas del Departamento de Caza y Pesca de AZ</i>	Gratuita

<sup>1</sup>En el mes de Noviembre y Diciembre usted puede comprar la licencia Urbana por el año en curso a mitad de precio por \$9.25.

Otro tipo de licencias para pescar incluyen licencias gratuitas para veteranos de guerra con discapacidades y licencias de dos días para grupos de jóvenes.

Las licencias de pescar pueden ser compradas en cualquiera de las oficinas del Departamento de Caza y Pesca de Arizona o cualquiera de los 340 establecimientos autorizados como son las tiendas de deportes en todo el estado que venden licencias de cazar y pescar.



## Límites del número y tamaño de captura para el programa de pesca deportiva en las ciudades

ESPECIE	LÍMITE DIARIO DE CAPTURA		LÍMITE MÍNIMO DE TAMAÑO
	Lagos Urbanos	Estanques Urbanos	
Bagre de canal ("channel catfish")	4	2	Ninguno
Trucha ("trout") para cada menor de 14 años	4	2	Ninguno
	2	1	Ninguno
Lobina ("largemouth bass")	2	1	13 pulgadas (33 centímetros)
Varias especies de los llamados ("sun-fish"), como el agalla azul ("bluegill"), redear, green e híbridos	10	5	Ninguno
Carpa herbívora ("grass carp o white amur")	1	1	30 pulgadas (76 centímetros)
Otras especies	Ninguno	Ninguno	Ninguno

**Una vez que usted pesca un pez y no lo suelta, en ese momento ese pez cuenta hacia su límite de posesión diaria. Esto incluye cualquier tipo de pez que usted haya capturado y luego regalado a alguien mas. Una vez que haya alcanzado su límite de pesca, usted tiene que parar de pescar esa especie.**

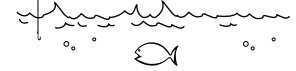
## Metodos de pesca y tipo de carnada

### Con Anzuelo:

- Una o dos cañas. Cada pescador solo puede usar hasta dos anzuelos por cada caña. Si se utilizan dos cañas al mismo tiempo, el pescador deberá de tener en su licencia una estampilla especial de \$6 dólares que autoriza el uso de dos cañas.
- No se permite el uso de harpones, chinchorros, o redes de cuchara para capturar a los peces.

### Otros:

- Los reglamentos de los parques varían de ciudad en ciudad. El pescador debe de leer estos reglamentos en los señalamientos de cada parque. Las horas para pescar son indicadas en estos señalamientos.
- Cuando este pescando, cada persona debe de cuidar su cañas, esto quiere decir que debe de permanecer cerca de sus cañas en todo momento.
- Cuando este pescando, el anzuelo, mosca artificial o atrayente deben de ser usados de tal manera que el pez deba, de manera voluntaria, tratar de tomarlo con su boca.
- Si después de haber capturado un pez, usted lo deja morir o hechar a perder, estará violando la ley.
- Se prohíbe transportar peces vivos capturados en alguno de los lagos de la ciudad, o bien transportarlos de un lago a otro. Esto constituye una introducción ilegal y se aplica para peces y crustáceos como el acocil.
- Esta prohibido usar como carnada el cebo vivo del pescado (tal como los llamados "minnows") en todos los lagos del area de Tucson ( Silverbell, Kennedy, Lakeside and Sahuarita), y tambien en el lago Green Valley en Payson.
- Es una violación a la ley el tirar basura. Esto incluye los anzuelos, cañas de pescar, contenedor de carnada, envolturas, etc.



## A Responsible Angler is someone that...

- Is **aware** of and **respects** other angler's rights.
- **Buys and carries** an Urban Fishing license if they are 14 years old or older.
- **Knows and follows** the fishing regulations, including the size and number of fish they can keep.
- **Informs others of regulations** and reports those that violate them to Operation Game Thief (1-800-352-0700) or local authorities.
- **Keeps** only those fish that they plan to eat. Unwanted or under-sized fish are **carefully released** right away. [see page 60 for tips on properly releasing fish]
- **Properly cares** for all fish they plan to eat so none go to waste. [see page 59 for tips]
- **Helps protect** the outdoors by not littering or polluting. They keep their fishing spot tidy and pick up and properly dispose of all fishing line, bait containers, fish remains and other trash.
- Protects our fisheries by cleaning and drying all fishing equipment after use. [see page 16 Aquatic Invasive Species]
- Does **not transfer** live fish or illegally dump them in another water.
- **Shares** their fishing knowledge and skills with others, particularly kids.



## Violators steal your fish – help us catch game thieves!



**GAME THIEF**  
**OPERATION**  
**1-800-352-0700**

### A 24/7 hotline to report fish and wildlife violations

Report a violation. Rewards of \$50-\$1,000 are offered for information leading to an arrest for fishing violations. Callers can remain anonymous. Call **1-800-352-0700**.

Bag and possession limits provide everyone with a chance at a quality fishing experience and protect the fishery. Any angler that keeps or gives away more than their limit is breaking the law—they are thieves stealing fish from you and other responsible anglers.

Your help is needed to catch these violators. If you witness an angler keeping more than the daily bag and possession limit, fishing without a license, fishing with more than two poles at the same time, or not complying with other fishing rules, contact the Game Thief Hotline to report the violation.

Reported violations are prioritized based on the quality of the information provided. Because the department has a limited number of Wildlife Officers statewide, it is not possible to have an immediate response to every call. That is why it is important that you be a good witness so that follow-up by an officer can be conducted.

#### Be a good witness:

- Recognize what specific activities are violations.
- Do not put yourself in danger or confront the violator.
- Write down the date, time and specific park and lake location.
- Write down a description of the person(s) (physical and clothing).
- If possible, get the vehicle description and license plate number.
- Try to take pictures or video of the violation and violator.
- Call or go online to report the violation as soon as possible.

**Poaching is not fishing! Poachers are not fishermen!** Do the right thing. Report a violator. Your tip can make the difference in apprehending a fish thief.



## Aquatic Invasive Species

Aquatic invasive species are harmful aquatic plants, animals or microscopic organisms that are non-native to our Arizona waters. Typically they are moved from lake to lake by common recreational activities such as boating and fishing. When these invaders come into contact with our native, resident species, they often out-compete them for food and territory because there are no natural predators to stop them.

### What you can do

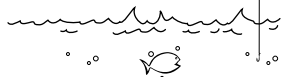
- To prevent spreading aquatic invasive species, at the end of every fishing trip make sure to **remove any visible mud, plants or fish** from your equipment.
- **Clean, drain and dry** all equipment before using it again.
- **Don't transport or stock live fish** (or aquatic plants). It's illegal.



Do not move fish between waters or introduce fish to waters from which they did not come. Doing so can have far-reaching consequences, posing threats to resident fish and perhaps infecting waters and spreading disease.

### Arizona's Urban Fishing Program Most Unwanted:

- 1. Golden Alga** is a one-celled microscopic alga that produces a toxin that can kill fish and dams. It is already found in numerous Arizona waters including some Urban Fishing waters in the Phoenix area. The alga toxins are harmless to humans, pets and birds.
- 2. Quagga mussel** is a shelled bivalve that attaches to hard surfaces, natural and man-made. It filters the water through a siphon and eats large amounts of microscopic algae, the base of the food web. A single adult can produce a half million larvae a year, quickly clogging pipes and blanketing large areas of the lake bottom.
- 3. Crayfish** are sometimes used as bait. They consume large quantities of aquatic plants, fish, and even each other. They annoy anglers by stealing their bait.
- 4. Tropical fish** such as Plecostomus (alga eaters), goldfish, pacu and even piranhas have been illegally released from fish tanks and ponds. They carry diseases, prey on food items important to sport fish, and may create fear and panic when found.
- 5. Hydrilla and other tropical/aquarium plants** can rapidly infest ponds becoming a nuisance as they cover the surface or the bottom. Expensive to control, they can be a persistent pest.



## Are the Fish Safe to Eat? Is the Water Safe for Fish?

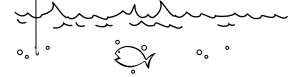
Yes. The fish stocked into Program waters are fresh off the farm and safe to eat. These fish farms are inspected regularly, maintain current health certifications, and have excellent reputations.

During each stocking, the fish are also inspected by Game and Fish biologists to ensure that only healthy fish are delivered into the urban lakes and ponds and established protocols are followed. Most stocked fish don't stay in the lakes for long. More than 80 percent of the stocked fish are caught within 30 days, so it's very likely that the fish you catch came from the fish farm a week or two ago.

Many people may not realize it, but a greenish water color and reduced water clarity is a good sign. It means a lake is productive. The color you see is a planktonic algae community that supports a food chain that allows fish in urban waters to feed, reproduce and grow.

Every two weeks Game and Fish biologists check the Program lakes to verify that the water is safe for the fish. Parks departments and lake management consultants also keep an eye on the lakes and use best management practices to control nuisance weeds and algae, monitor fish health, and keep our lakes clean from pollutants and litter.

Finally, remember that proper care, cleaning and cooking of your catch will ensure a delicious meal with many health benefits.



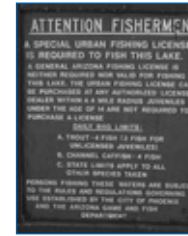
# Accomplishments

The Arizona Urban Fishing Program formally began in 1985, 25 years ago. Many Program features and management strategies have remained the same, others have changed.

### What has stayed the same:

- Stockings of catchable trout and catfish
- Fish are purchased from private fish farms
- Fish stockings are done every two weeks
- Anglers age 14 and over must buy an Urban Fishing license
- The Program is financially self-sustaining
- A focus on delivering a quality product for a quality recreational fishing experience
- Making fishing accessible and convenient to all local residents
- A strong partnership with city parks departments
- A commitment to grow and expand

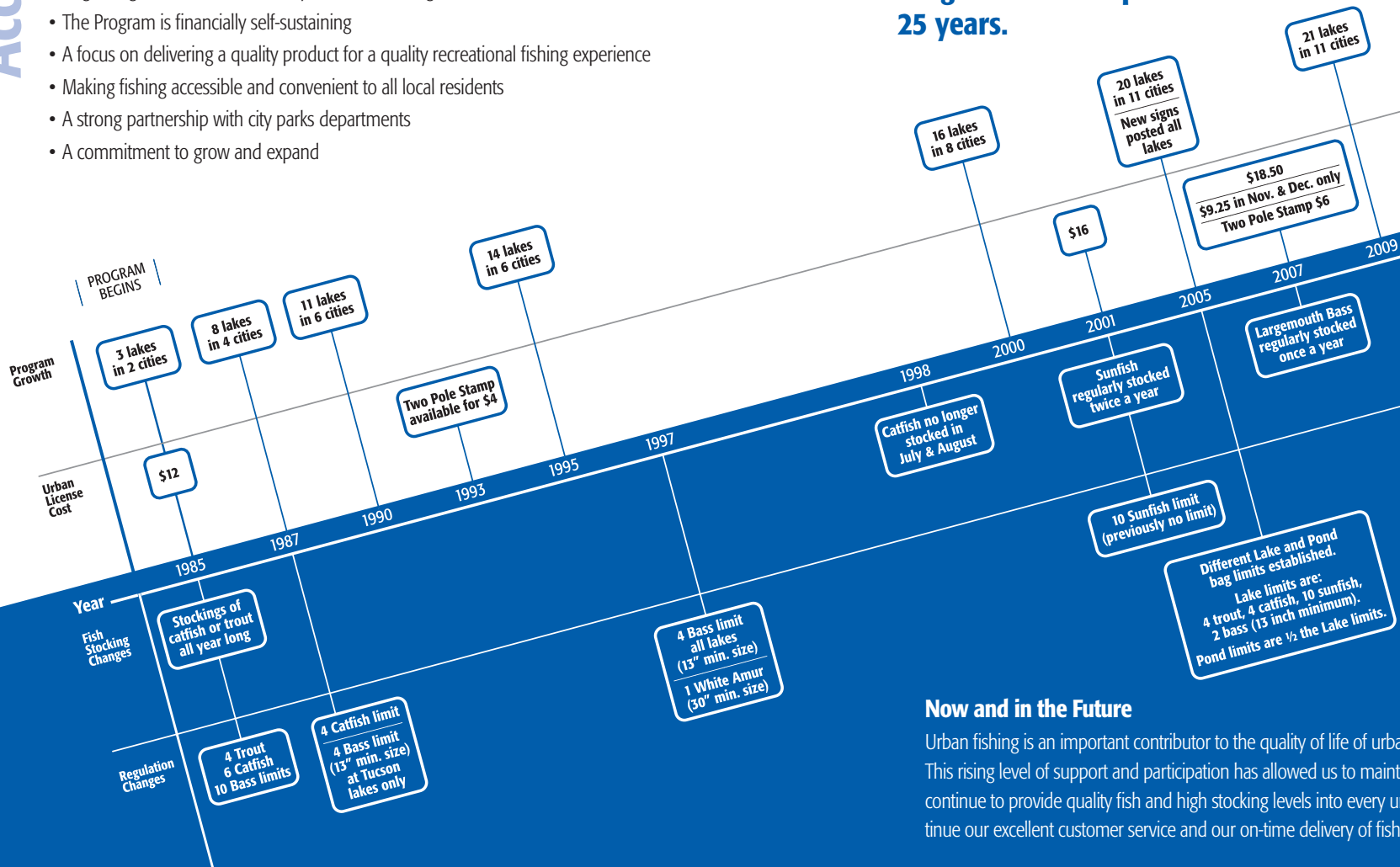
### The following timeline highlights key changes to the Urban Fishing Program over the past 25 years.



1987 regulation signs looked different in each city.



New signage campaign, implemented in 2005, included uniform, attractive signs statewide.



### Now and in the Future

Urban fishing is an important contributor to the quality of life of urban residents and is in demand. This rising level of support and participation has allowed us to maintain our budgets so we can continue to provide quality fish and high stocking levels into every urban lake. We pledge to continue our excellent customer service and our on-time delivery of fish through 2010 and beyond.

## Overview of Program Accomplishments

### Showcase in Excellence Award

The Urban Fishing Program Fish Stocking process was selected as a 2007 Showcase in Excellence Award recipient by the Arizona State Quality Alliance. This prestigious award recognizes the high quality performance of the fish stocking process and the methods that have been put in place to ensure fish arrive in the right amounts, right sizes, and healthy condition on time, every time.

The Urban Fishing Program is committed to continuous quality improvement, high performance, accountability and customer service. It serves as a role model for urban fishing programs across the United States. This award validates what urban anglers have known for years – that the Arizona Urban Fishing Program is a winner!



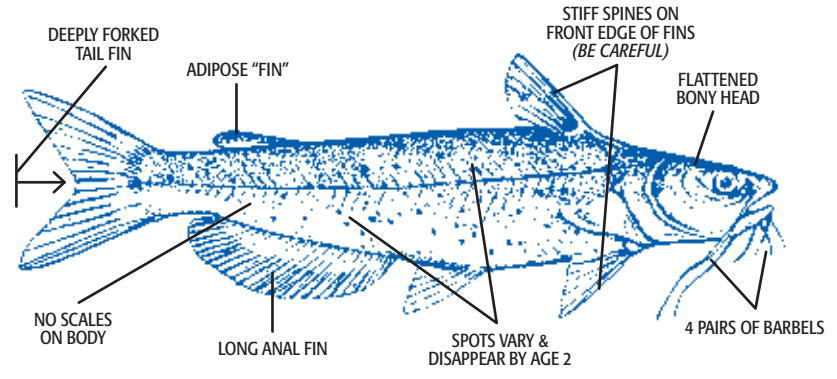
**By the Numbers** – Here are some impressive results of 25 years of urban fishing management and recreation from 1985 through 2009.

Fish Stocking Totals	
7,985	Number of stocking deliveries to urban waters
98%	"On Time Delivery" rate of getting fish into each lake, every scheduled week of stocking
1.3 million	Number of catchable rainbow trout stocked
1.8 million	Number of catchable channel catfish stocked
0.9 million	Number of catchable bluegill/sunfish stocked
0.15 million	Number of largemouth bass stocked

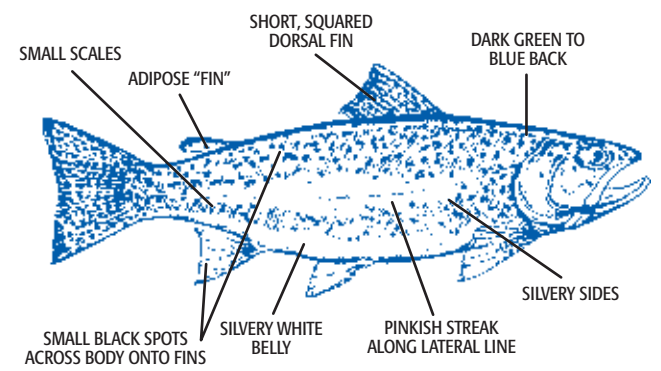
Angler Use Totals	
0.9 million	Number of urban anglers served
10.9 million	Number of days urban anglers fished
\$94.5 million	Direct economic benefit of urban fishing participation

## Fish Species



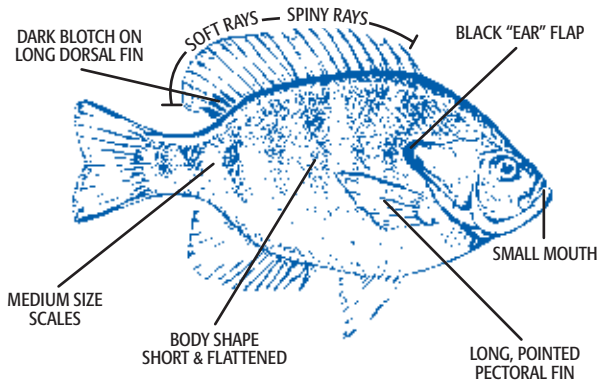
### Channel Catfish (Bagre de canal)

**Average Size:** 14-18 inches  
**Stocking:** Every other week from March to June, and from September to November. Natural reproduction occurs at some lakes.  
**Daily bag and possession limits:** 4 catfish in Urban Lakes, or 2 catfish at Urban Ponds. No size limits.



### Rainbow Trout (Trucha)

**Average size:** 9-14 inches  
**Stocking:** Every other week from November to March in all Tucson and Phoenix area Urban waters. The Green Valley Lakes in Payson are stocked from October to May. Trout can not reproduce in lakes.  
**Daily bag and possession limits:** 4 trout in Urban Lakes, or 2 trout at Urban Ponds. Unlicensed juveniles under age 14 may only keep a half limit of trout. No size limits.

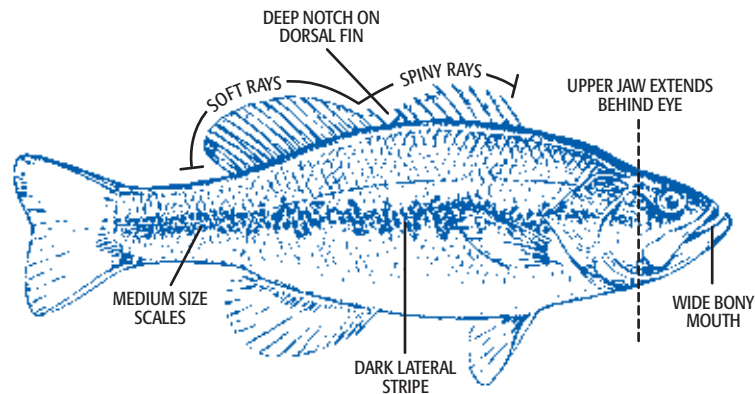


**Bluegill** (member of **Sunfish** family that also includes redear sunfish, green sunfish and hybrid mixes) (Come el agalla azul)

**Average size:** 5-8 inches

**Stocking:** Twice a year; once in the spring, and once in the fall. Fair to good levels of natural reproduction occur at all lakes.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 10 sunfish in Urban Lakes, or 5 sunfish at Urban Ponds. No size limits.



**Largemouth Bass (Lobina)**

**Average size:** 10-15 inches

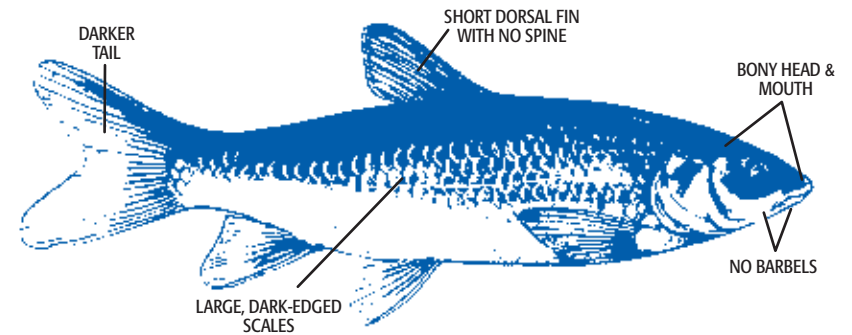
**Stocking:** Once a year as 6-9 inch fish. Fair to good levels of natural reproduction occur at all lakes.

**Daily bag and possession limit, and size limit:** 2 bass that must be a minimum length of 13 inches in Urban Lakes, or 1 bass that must be a minimum length of 13 inches at Urban Ponds.

**Note:** *Largemouth bass* are a prized sport fish. Many anglers enjoy practicing catch-and-release to ensure bass populations are not depleted, and good fishing can be sustained. See page 60 for helpful tips on how to handle and release a fish without harming it.

**Know the difference between these two carp species!**

*Keep white amur in our lakes. They are helping to keep our waters clean and free of weeds. Special regulations are in effect to protect them.*



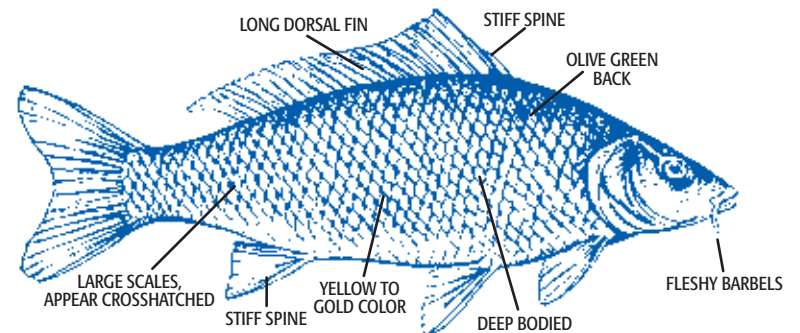
**White Amur** (also called Grass Carp) (*Carpa Heribvora*)

**Average size:** 15-30 inches

**Stocking:** As needed by lake managers to control aquatic weeds. This important biological tool helps to greatly reduce the need to spray chemicals in the waters. These fish are certified as sterile and will not reproduce.

**Daily bag and size limit:** 1 fish that must be a minimum length of 30 inches.

**Note:** *White amur* are mostly vegetarians and are specially stocked by lake managers as an important tool for the biological control of nuisance weeds and algae. These "underwater lawnmowers" are vital to keeping lakes clean, healthy and fishable. If caught, please release them unharmed so they can go back to work.

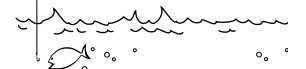
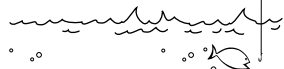


**Common Carp (Carpa)**

**Average size:** 15-22 inches

**Stocking:** Not stocked. Some natural reproduction occurs.

**Daily bag limit:** None. No size limits.












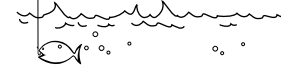
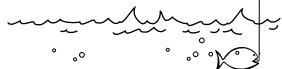
Lakeside Lake, Tucson

## Urban Fishing Program Waters - This section includes maps and specific information on each of the 21 Urban Fishing Program waters located in 11 cities across Arizona.

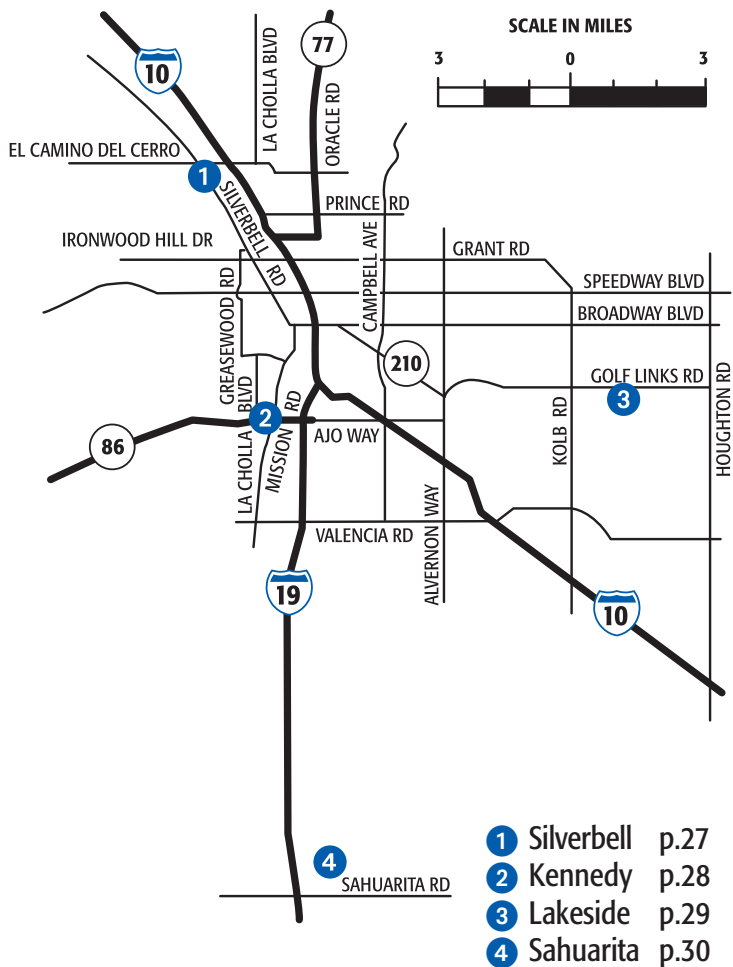
- Lakes are grouped by city, and key lake and city park information is listed to ensure you have a pleasant and enjoyable fishing experience when you visit.
- All parks have parking, restrooms, picnic tables, drinking water, handicap access, and much more. Facilities, landscaping and lakes are well maintained by parks staff.
- Fishing Information Stations and Urban Fishing Program regulation signs are posted at all lakes to keep you informed of the current fishing regulations and license requirements.
- Enjoy fishing the park lakes. Please help keep your community parks clean and follow the rules and regulations.

### Key to map symbols

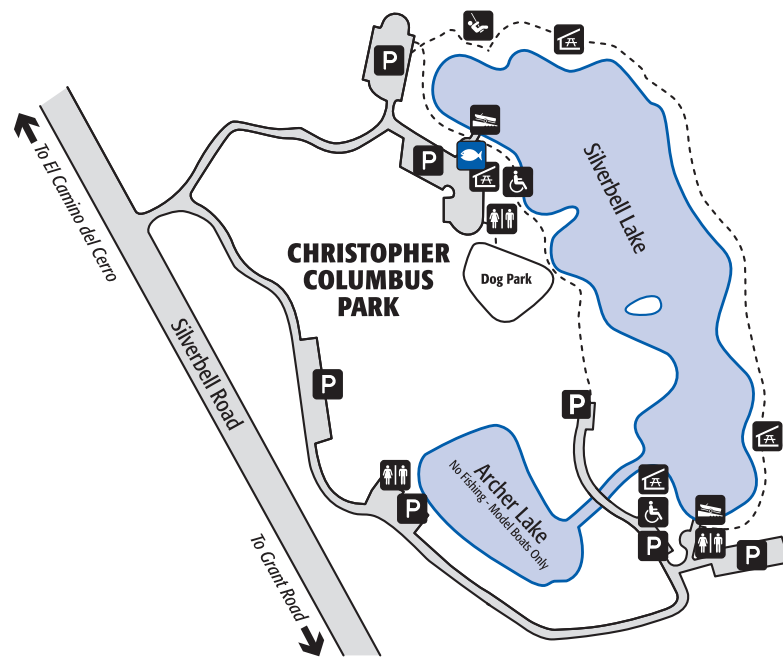
- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
|  Parking                  |  Boat Ramps      |  Covered Ramadas |
|  Restrooms                |  Handicap Access |  Playgrounds     |
|  UFP Information Stations |   |   |



# Tucson Area Urban Lakes



# Silverbell Lake



**Location:** Christopher Columbus Park  
4600 N Silverbell Rd

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

**Size:** 13 acres. Maximum depth 7 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* No live baitfish allowed. Canoes up to 17 feet and boats 14 feet and under must be properly licensed and permitted. Must have proper floatation devices on board. Gasoline motors prohibited. No fishing allowed in Archer Lake. Feeding of ducks and geese prohibited. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**

Tucson Parks and Recreation  
(520) 837-8013  
[www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec)

**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

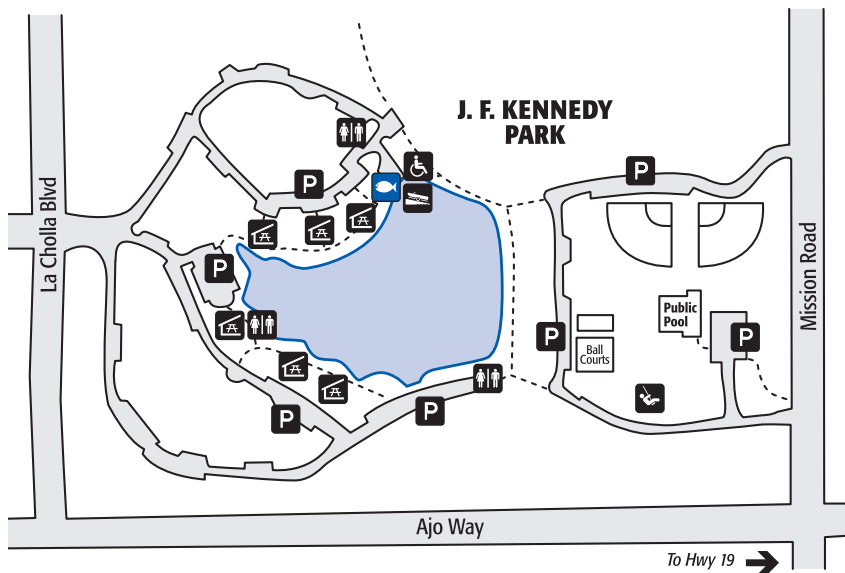
- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

**Park Amenities**

- Boating
- Large Shade Trees
- Group Ramadas
- Playground
- Dog Park
- Model Airplane Area
- Model Boat Lake (Archer Lake)

Joined UFP in 1984

## Kennedy Lake



**Location:** J. F. Kennedy Park  
3600 S La Cholla Blvd

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

**Size:** 10 acres. Maximum depth 12 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* No live baitfish allowed. Canoes up to 17 feet and boats 14 feet and under must be properly licensed and permitted. Must have proper floatation devices on board. Gasoline motors prohibited. Feeding of ducks and geese prohibited. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**

Tucson Parks and Recreation  
(520) 791-5909 or (520) 837-8013  
[www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec)

**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

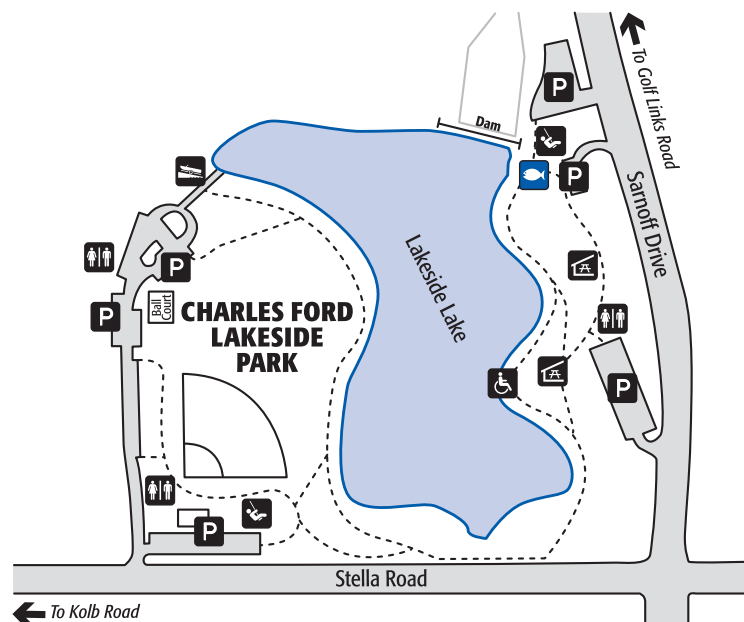
- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

**Park Amenities**

- Boating
- Group Ramadas
- Playground
- Sports Fields
- Swimming pool

*Joined UFP in 1984*

## Lakeside Lake



**Location:** Chuck Ford Lakeside Park  
8300 E Stella Rd

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

**Size:** 14 acres at full capacity.  
Maximum depth 35 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* No live baitfish allowed. Canoes up to 17 feet and boats 14 feet and under must be properly licensed and permitted. Must have proper floatation devices on board. Gasoline motors prohibited. Feeding of ducks and geese prohibited. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**

Tucson Parks and Recreation  
(520) 791-5930 or (520) 837-8013  
[www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec)

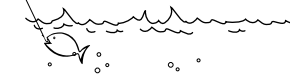
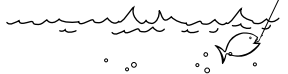
**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

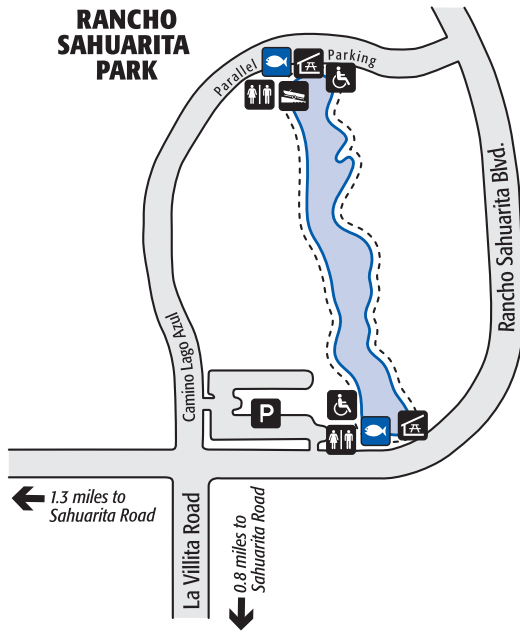
**Park Amenities**

- Boating
- Playgrounds
- Sports Fields
- Walking Trail

*Joined UFP in 1986*



## Sahuarita Lake



**Location:** Sahuarita Lake Park  
15466 S Rancho Sahuarita Blvd

**Park Hours:** Sunrise to Sunset

**Size:** 10 acres. Maximum depth 12 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers, littering, cleaning of fish on premises, and alcoholic beverages are prohibited.* Boating permitted only between sunrise and sunset. Gas motors prohibited. Must have proper floatation devices on board. Animals must be restrained by a leash at all times. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**  
Sahuarita Parks and Recreation  
(520) 822-8896  
[www.ci.sahuarita.az.us](http://www.ci.sahuarita.az.us)

### Daily Bag and Possession Limits

- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

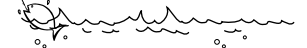
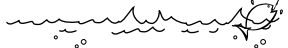
### Park Amenities

- Boating
- Outdoor Amphitheater
- Group Ramadas
- Walking Trail

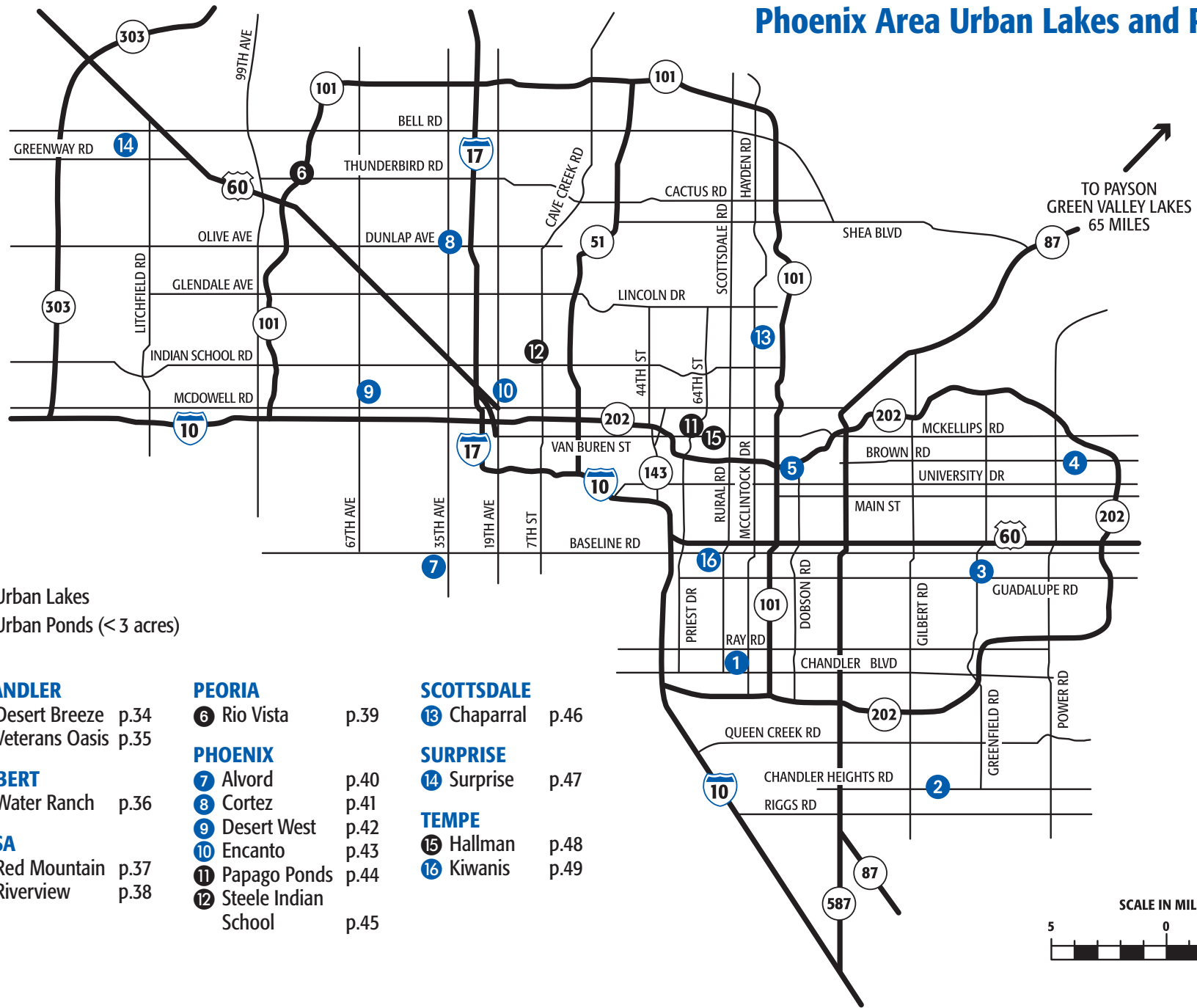
Joined UFP in 2002



Desert Breeze Lake, Chandler



# Phoenix Area Urban Lakes and Ponds



- Urban Lakes
- Urban Ponds (< 3 acres)

### CHANDLER

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### SURPRISE

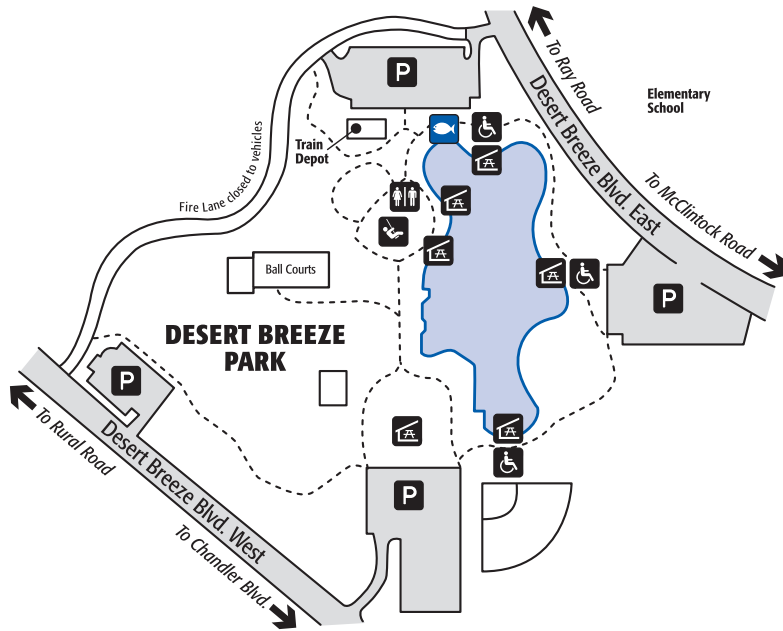
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## Desert Breeze Lake



**Location:** Desert Breeze Park  
660 N Desert Breeze Blvd East

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

**Size:** 4 acres. Maximum depth 12 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Alcoholic beverage permits required. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**

Chandler Community Services  
(480) 782-2727  
www.chandleraz.gov

**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)

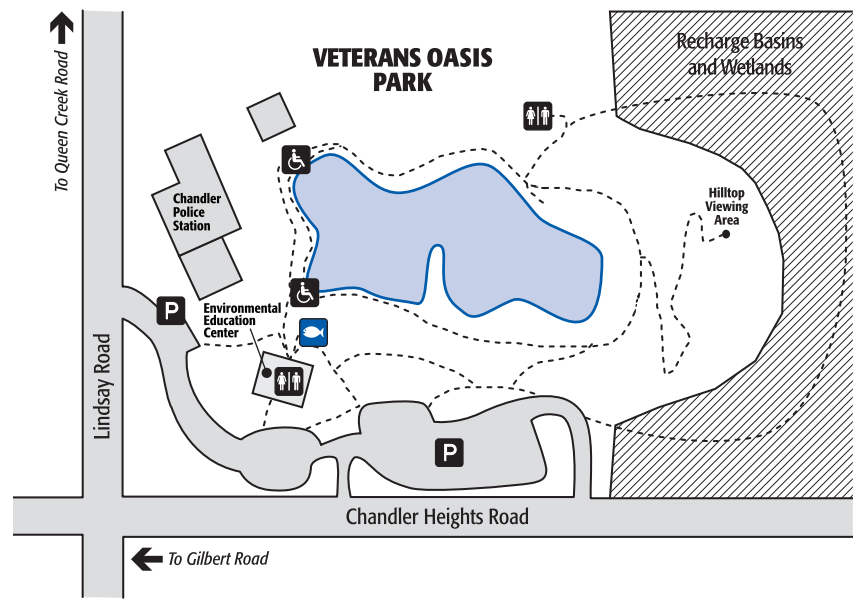
Statewide limits apply to all other species

**Park Amenities**

- Large Shade Trees
- Playground
- Walking Trails
- Splash Park
- Carousel/Train rides
- Hummingbird Habitat (west of park)

Joined UFP in 1990

## Veterans Oasis Lake



**Location:** Veterans Oasis Park  
4050 E Chandler Heights Rd

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

**Size:** 5 acres. Maximum depth 14 feet

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Alcoholic beverage permits required. Boating not allowed. No fishing in recharge basins. Dogs must remain on leash at all times. Dogs prohibited from lake and recharge basins. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**

The Environmental Education Center  
(480) 782-2890  
www.chandleraz.gov/veterans-oasis  
or email eec@chandleraz.gov

**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

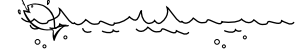
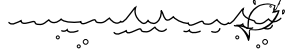
- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)

Statewide limits apply to all other species

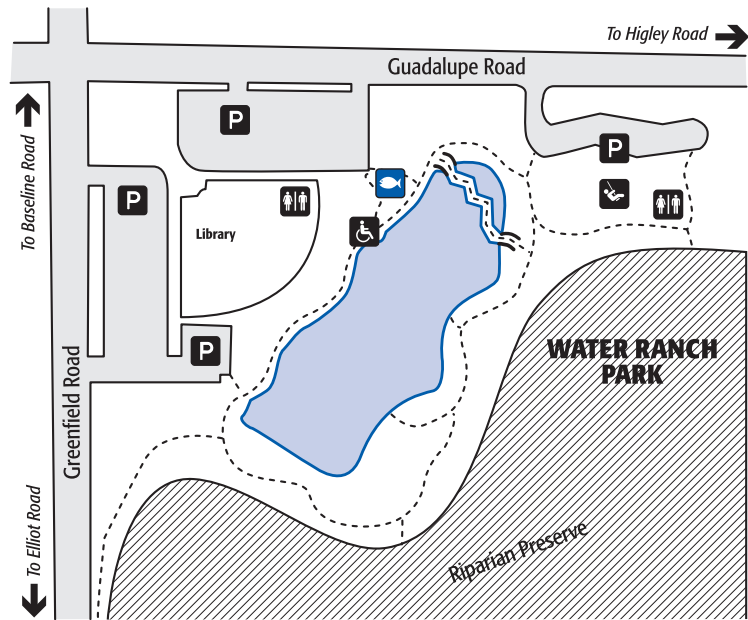
**Park Amenities**

- Walking Trails
- Environmental Education Center
- Open Play Area
- Equestrian Trail
- Excellent Bird Watching

Joined UFP in 2008



# Water Ranch Lake



**Location:** Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch  
2757 E Guadalupe Rd

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**Size:** 5 acres. Maximum depth 15 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Boating not allowed. No fishing from bridge. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**

Gilbert Parks and Recreation  
(480) 503-6200  
[www.ci.gilbert.az.us/parks](http://www.ci.gilbert.az.us/parks)

Joined UFP in 1999

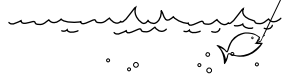
**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

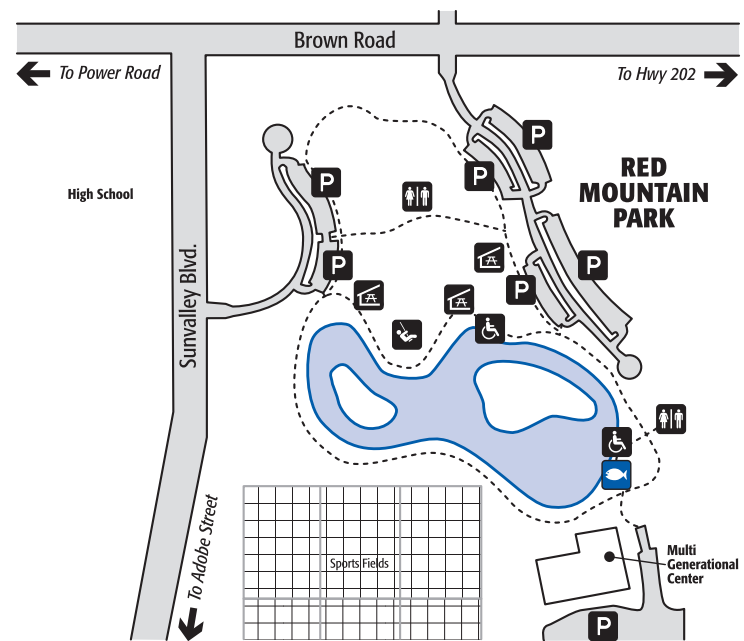
**Park Amenities**

- Playground
- Riparian Preserve with walking trails
- Library
- Excellent bird watching

**GA** Golden alga occurs here.  
See page 16 for more information.



# Red Mountain Lake



**Location:** Red Mountain Park  
7745 E Brown Rd

**Park Hours:** Sunrise to 10 p.m.

**Size:** 8 acres. Maximum depth 17 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* No distilled alcoholic beverages permitted. Boating not allowed. No pets allowed in park. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**

Mesa Parks, Recreation and Commercial Facilities  
(480) 644-5300  
[www.mesaaz.gov/parksrec](http://www.mesaaz.gov/parksrec)

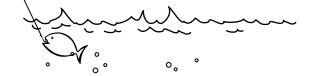
**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

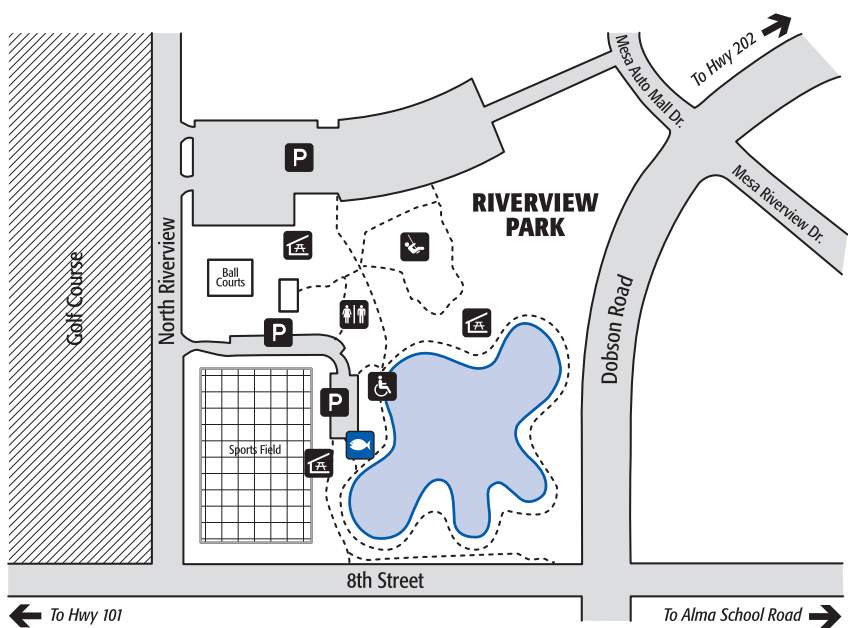
**Park Amenities**

- Group Ramadas
- Playground
- Sports Fields
- Walking Trail
- Multi Generational Center

Joined UFP in 1995



# Riverview Lake



**Location:** Riverview Park  
2100 W 8th St

**Park Hours:** Sunrise to 10 p.m.

**Size:** 3 acres. Maximum depth 16 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* No distilled alcoholic beverages permitted. Boating not allowed. No pets allowed in park. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**  
Mesa Parks, Recreation and Commercial Facilities  
(480) 644-2352  
[www.mesaaz.gov/parksrec](http://www.mesaaz.gov/parksrec)

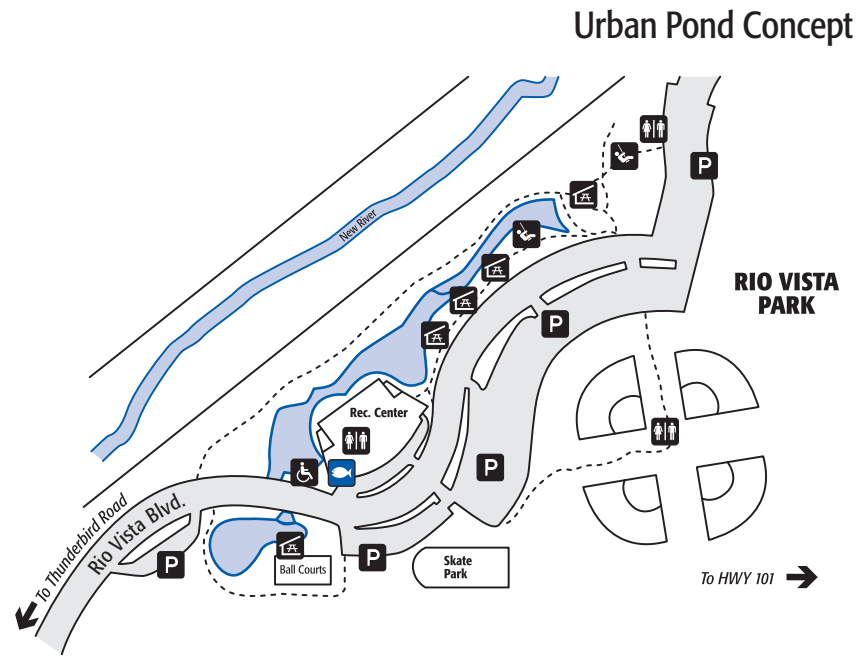
**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**  
 4 catfish  
 4 trout  
 2 bass (13 inch minimum)  
 10 sunfish  
 Statewide limits apply to all other species

**Park Amenities**

- Group Ramadas
- Playground
- Sports Fields

*Joined UFP in 1987*

# Rio Vista Pond



**Location:** Rio Vista Community Park  
8866-D W Thunderbird Rd

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

**Size:** 2.7 acres. Maximum depth 14 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Alcoholic beverage permits required. Boating not allowed. Leashed dogs are permitted in park. Other rules as posted.

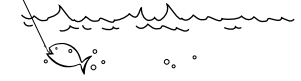
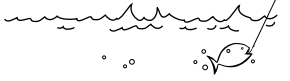
**For more park information contact:**  
Peoria Community Services  
(623) 773-7137  
[www.peoriaaz.gov](http://www.peoriaaz.gov)

**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**  
 2 catfish  
 2 trout  
 1 bass (13 inch minimum)  
 5 sunfish  
 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)  
 Statewide limits apply to all other species

**Park Amenities**

- Group Ramadas
- Sports Fields
- Splash Park
- Batting Cages
- Skate Park
- Recreation Center
- Playground and Tot Lot

*Joined UFP in 2004*



# Alvord Lake



**Location:** Cesar Chavez Park  
7858 S 35th Ave

**Park Hours:** 5:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**Size:** 25 acres. Maximum depth 18 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Alcoholic beverage permits required. Boating permitted only between sunrise and sunset. Only canoes, rowboats and sailboats are allowed (no rafts). No motors allowed (gas or electric). Must have proper floatation devices on board. Fishing from a boat is prohibited. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**  
Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department  
(602) 262-6111  
[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

### Daily Bag and Possession Limits

- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

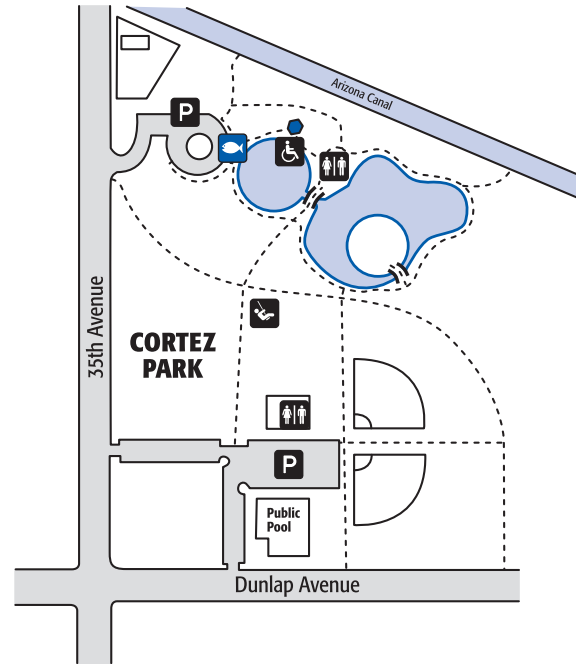
### Park Amenities

- Boating
- Large Shade Trees
- Group Ramadas
- Playground
- Sports Fields
- Library
- Walking Trail

Joined UFP in 1987

**GA** Golden alga occurs here.  
See page 16 for more information.

# Cortez Lake



**Location:** Cortez Park  
3434 W Dunlap Ave

**Park Hours:** 5:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**Size:** 3 acres. Maximum depth 14 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Alcoholic beverage permits required. Boating not allowed. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**  
Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department  
(602) 262-6575  
[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

### Daily Bag and Possession Limits

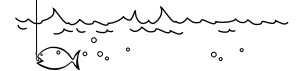
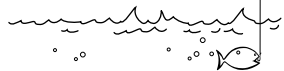
- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

### Park Amenities

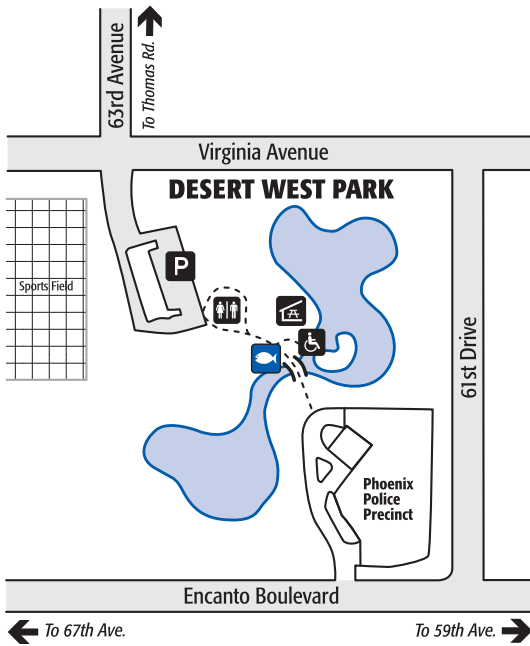
- Playground
- Large Shade Trees
- Sports Fields

Joined UFP in 1989

**GA** Golden alga occurs here.  
See page 16 for more information.



# Desert West Lake



**Location:** Desert West Park and Sports Complex  
6602 W Encanto Blvd

**Park Hours:** 5:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**Size:** 5 acres. Maximum depth 15 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Boating not allowed. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**  
Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department  
(602) 262-6575  
[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

### Daily Bag and Possession Limits

- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

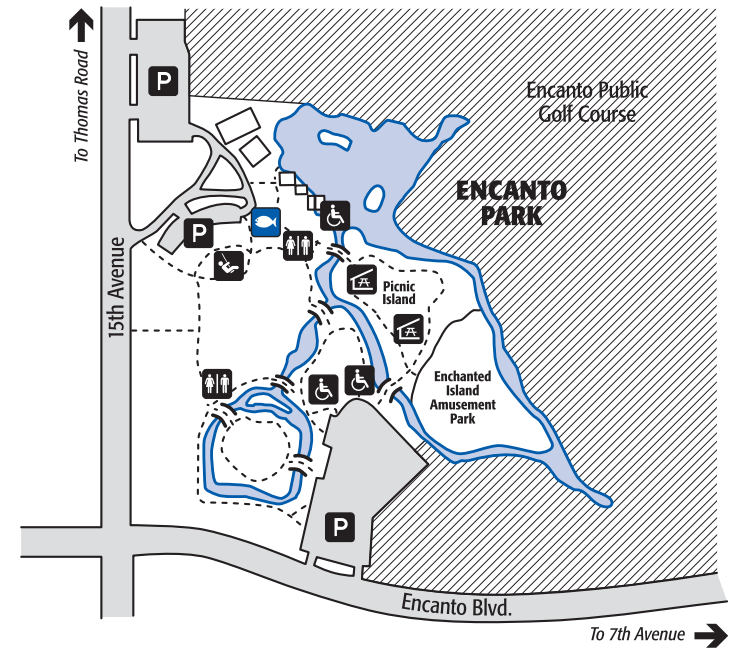
### Park Amenities

- Playground
- Sports Fields
- Community Center (west of park)

Joined UFP in 1995

**GA** Golden alga occurs here.  
See page 16 for more information.

# Encanto Lake



**Location:** Encanto Park  
2605 N 15th Ave

**Park Hours:** 5:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**Size:** 7.5 acres. Maximum depth 10 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Alcoholic beverage permits required. Private boats not allowed. Fishing prohibited from golf course as posted. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**  
Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department  
(602) 261-8991  
[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

Joined UFP in 1989

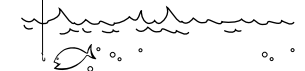
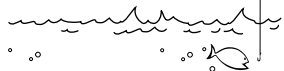
### Daily Bag and Possession Limits

- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

### Park Amenities

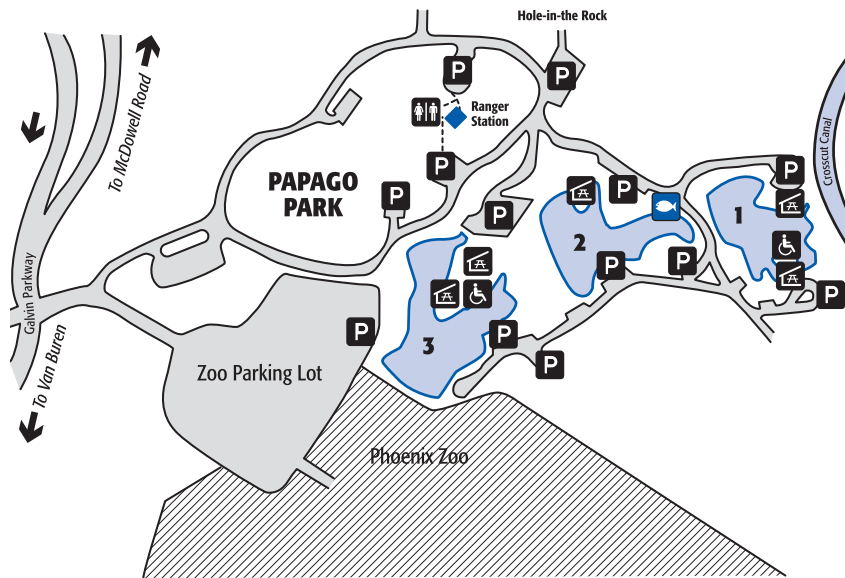
- Playground
- Ball Courts
- Swimming Pool
- Enchanted Island Amusement Park
- Paddleboat Rentals

**GA** Golden alga occurs here.  
See page 16 for more information.



## Papago Ponds

### Urban Pond Concept



**Location:** Papago Park  
625 N Galvin Parkway

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**Size:** Total of 6 acres. Pond #1: 1 acre, maximum depth 8 feet. Pond #2: 2 acres, maximum depth 7 feet. Pond #3: 3 acres, maximum depth 11 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Alcoholic beverage permits required. Boating not allowed. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**  
Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department  
(602) 256-3220  
[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

Joined UFP in 1993

#### Daily Bag and Possession Limits

2 catfish  
2 trout  
1 bass (13 inch minimum)  
5 sunfish  
1 white amur (30 inch minimum)  
Statewide limits apply to all other species

#### Park Amenities

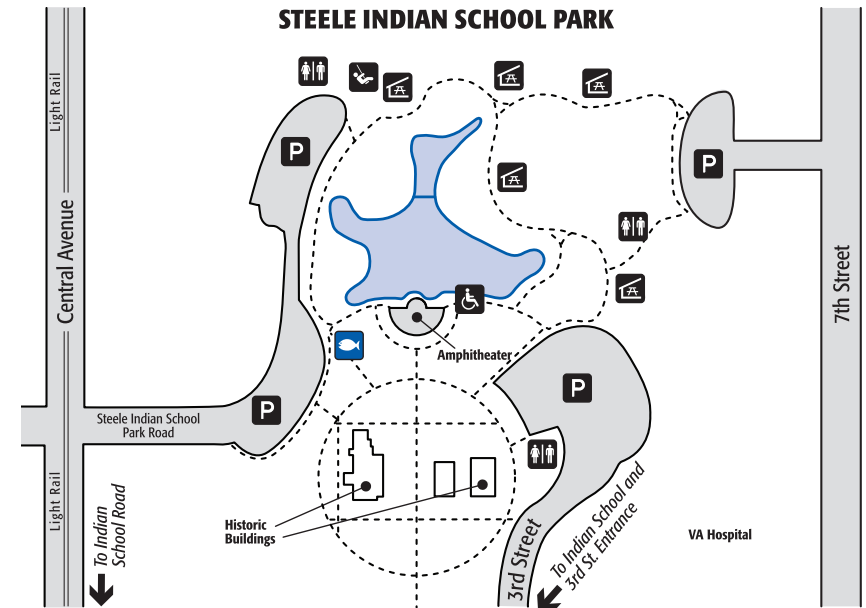
- Group Ramadas
- Multi-purpose trails
- Next to Phoenix Zoo
- Hole-in-the-Rock



Golden alga occurs here.  
See page 16 for more information.

## Steele Indian School Pond

### Urban Pond Concept



**Location:** Steele Indian School Park  
300 E Indian School Rd

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**Size:** 2.5 acres. Maximum depth 12 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Alcoholic beverage permits required. Boating not allowed. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**  
Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department  
(602) 495-0739  
[www.phoenix.gov/parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks)

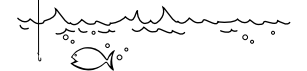
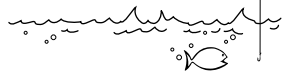
#### Daily Bag and Possession Limits

2 catfish  
2 trout  
1 bass (13 inch minimum)  
5 sunfish  
1 white amur (30 inch minimum)  
Statewide limits apply to all other species

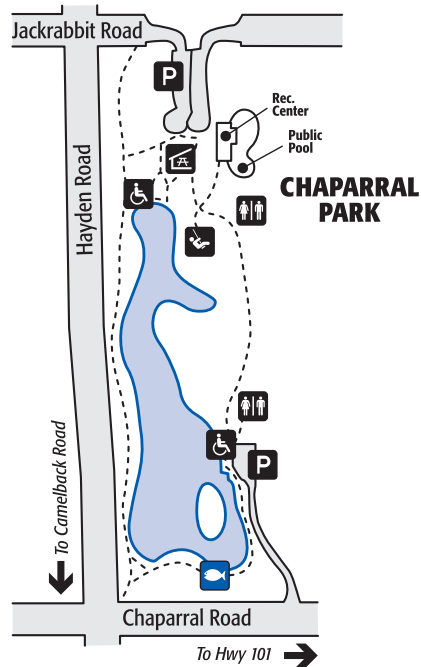
#### Park Amenities

- Group Ramadas
- Playground
- Dog Park (north of park)

Joined UFP in 2005



# Chaparral Lake



**Location:** Chaparral Park  
5401 N Hayden Rd

**Park Hours:** Sunrise to 10:30 p.m.

**Size:** 10 acres. Maximum depth 15 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Must obtain a permit to drink beer in the park. All other alcoholic beverages prohibited. Boating permitted only between sunrise and sunset. Must have proper floatation devices on board. Electric trolling motors may be used. Gas motors prohibited. Model boats may be operated only in areas that are designated for that purpose. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**  
Scottsdale Community Services  
(480) 312-2353  
[www.scottsdaleaz.gov/parks](http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/parks)

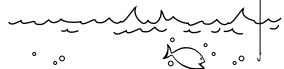
**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

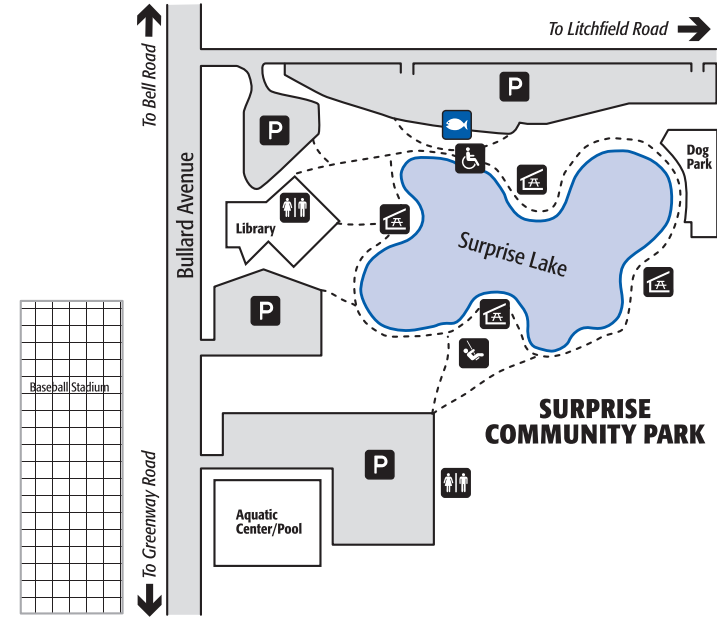
**Park Amenities:**

- Boating
- Large Shade Trees
- Group Ramadas
- Playground
- Sports Fields (north of park)
- Exercise, Walking Course
- Swimming pool
- Dog park (north of park)

*Joined UFP in 1983*



# Surprise Lake



**Location:** Community Park  
15930 N Bullard Ave

**Park Hours:** Sunrise to 10:00 p.m.

**Size:** 5 acres. Maximum depth 12 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Boating not allowed. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**

Surprise Community and Recreation Services  
(623) 222-2000  
[www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com)

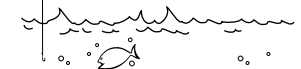
**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

**Park Amenities**

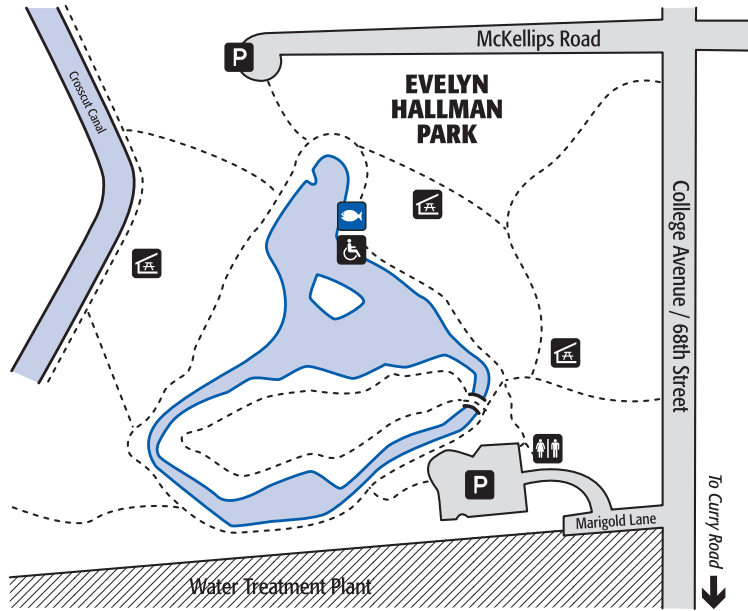
- Playground
- Sports Fields
- Dog park
- Swimming Pool
- Library
- Baseball Stadium

*Joined UFP in 2003*



# Evelyn Hallman Pond

## Urban Pond Concept



**Location:** Evelyn Hallman Park  
1900 N College Ave

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**Size:** 3 acres. Maximum depth 7 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* A permit is required to drink beer in the park. All other alcoholic beverages prohibited. Boating not allowed. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**  
Tempe Parks and Recreation Department  
(480) 350-5200  
[www.tempe.gov/parks](http://www.tempe.gov/parks)

**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

- 2 catfish
- 2 trout
- 1 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 5 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)

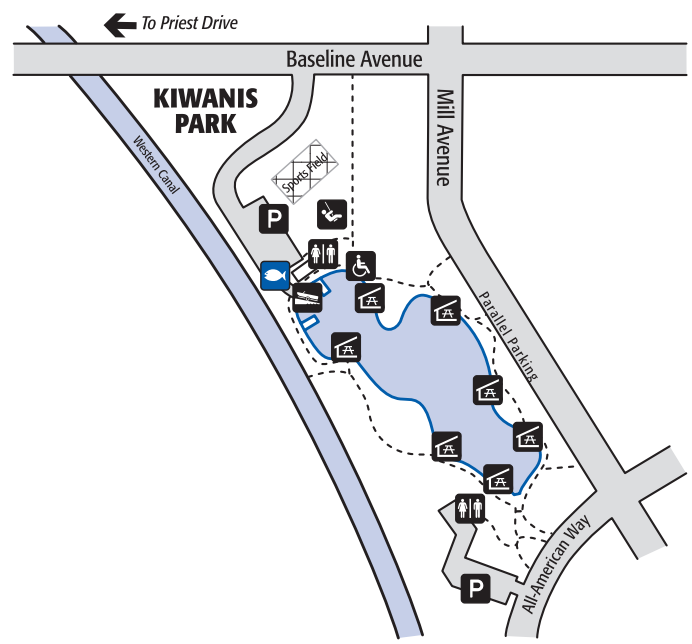
Statewide limits apply to all other species

**Park Amenities**

- Walking Trails
- Group Ramadas

*Joined UFP in 1987*

# Kiwanis Lake



**Location:** Kiwanis Park  
5500 S Mill Ave

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight.

**Size:** 13 acres. Maximum depth 8 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* A permit is required to drink beer in the park. All other alcoholic beverages are prohibited. City of Tempe annual boating permit required (call (480) 350-5200). Must have proper floatation devices on board. Gas and electric motors prohibited. Boating permitted only between sunrise and sunset. Other rules as posted.

**For more park information contact:**  
Tempe Parks and Recreation Department  
(480) 350-5200  
[www.tempe.gov/parks](http://www.tempe.gov/parks)

**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

- 4 catfish
- 4 trout
- 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
- 10 sunfish
- 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)

Statewide limits apply to all other species

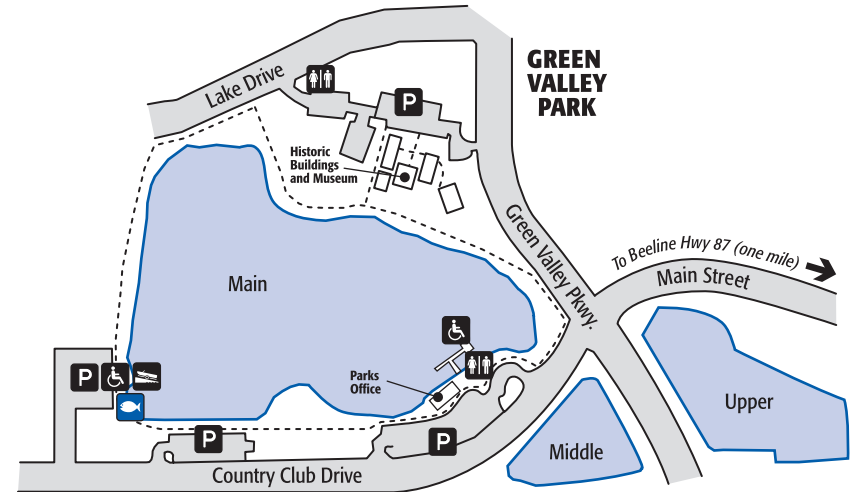
**Park Amenities**

- Boating
- Group Ramadas
- Playground
- Sports Fields
- Recreation Center with Wave Pool
- Paddleboat Rentals (seasonal)

*Joined UFP in 1984*



## Green Valley Lakes



**Special Note: Trout are stocked at two week intervals from October to May.**

*Catfish, bass and sunfish are not stocked, but are present.*

**Location:** Green Valley Park  
1000 W Country Club Dr

**Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

**Size:** Total of 13 acres. Upper lake 2 acres, middle lake 1 acre, and main lake 10 acres. Maximum depth of main lake 21 feet.

**Rules:** *Swimming, wading, glass containers and littering are prohibited.* Alcoholic beverage permits required. Boating permitted only between sunrise and sunset. Gas motors prohibited. Must have proper floatation devices on board. Lake receives treated effluent, therefore full body contact is prohibited. All animals must be restrained by a leash. Other rules as posted.

**For more parks information contact:**

Payson Parks, Recreation and Tourism  
(928) 474-5242 ext. 7  
[www.ci.payson.az.us](http://www.ci.payson.az.us)

**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

- 4 catfish
  - 4 trout
  - 2 bass (13 inch minimum)
  - 10 sunfish
  - 1 white amur (30 inch minimum)
- Statewide limits apply to all other species

**Park Amenities**

- Boating
- Playground
- Walking Trails
- Accessible Fishing Dock (north of Lake Drive)
- Historic Buildings

Joined UFP in 1998

A fishing trip to a nearby urban lake is a great way to learn new skills, have fun and connect with the people who matter most. Fishing can be much more than just catching fish. Time spent fishing can reap many social, mental and physical benefits for you and your family.

## Benefits of Fishing

Social Benefits	Mental Benefits	Physical & Practical Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create memories</li> <li>• Build family unity</li> <li>• Shared with someone else, fishing is a positive bonding experience</li> <li>• Learn patience and conquer boredom</li> <li>• Have fun</li> <li>• Meet friends, grow relationships</li> <li>• Learn sportsmanship and respect</li> <li>• Increase community pride</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relax and de-stress</li> <li>• Park lakes are serene and peaceful</li> <li>• Enhance quality of life and health</li> <li>• “Nature breaks” to go fishing calm and soothe us</li> <li>• Enhance creativity and develop problem solving skills</li> <li>• Reconnect with the outdoors and natural world</li> <li>• Learn more about fish, plants and wildlife</li> <li>• Instill stewardship attitude for nature and parks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convenient, easy access</li> <li>• Affordable</li> <li>• Catch fish</li> <li>• Keep or release your fish</li> <li>• Fish are good to eat and healthy for you</li> <li>• Watch wildlife</li> <li>• Parks are safe environments</li> </ul>

**“Get Outside Arizona”** In addition to fishing, the Arizona Game and Fish Department supports many other family friendly outdoor recreation activities including watchable wildlife, environmental education, hunting, and shooting sports. For more information, go to: [www.azgfd.gov/h\\_f/getoutside](http://www.azgfd.gov/h_f/getoutside)

*Be Outdoors Arizona, Be Out There, and the Children & Nature Network* are a few of the excellent organizations that are dedicated to reconnecting children and families to the outdoors to improve their health and quality of life. For more information on why fishing and spending time outdoors is good for you and your family, visit their Web sites.

- [www.beoutdoorsarizona.org/](http://www.beoutdoorsarizona.org/)
- [www.nwf.org/beoutthere/](http://www.nwf.org/beoutthere/)
- [www.childrenandnature.org/](http://www.childrenandnature.org/)



## Looking for More Information to get Started Fishing?

There are numerous helpful how-to fishing resources available both online and in book form for anglers of all skill levels. These information sources are great places to find answers to most questions a novice or new fisherman may have.

### Take Me Fishing Web Site



[www.takemefishing.org](http://www.takemefishing.org) is a Web site dedicated to getting people outside and fishing with friends and family. This site features many links to anything and everything about fishing. It is a resource that will be a valuable asset to any angler.

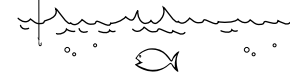
- **Where to fish:** An interactive map that pinpoints fishing hotspots and amenities all throughout the United States. Find a good spot near you.
- **How to Fish:** Everything you need to know about technique, presentation, hook set, landing the fish, and preparing your catch.
- **Fishopedia:** A listing of commonly sought after sport fish found throughout the 50 states, with tips on identification, where to find them, and how to fish for each of them.
- **Little Lunkers:** Children have a section of the site which uses fish-related games, pictures, and stories to not only educate children about fishing, but to get them excited to go out with their family for a day of fun.
- **Community/Anglers Legacy:** The community aspect of this site is geared to create an atmosphere where new anglers are being brought into the fishing community by friends and family. Taking others fishing with you is a great way to share the rich legacy of fishing. Passing on fishing skills, tips, and memories will ensure future generations can enjoy the fun sport of fishing.



### Books

There are many instructional fishing books available to purchase, through bookstores or online sites like Amazon, that can act as a handy guide to fishing anywhere you go. Here are a few suggested books to consider for the urban angler.

- Fishing Basics* – Gene Kugach
- Freshwater Tips and Techniques* – Gene Kugach
- Basic Freshwater Fishing* – Cliff Hauptman
- Fishing For Dummies* – Peter Kaminsky
- The Everything Fishing Book* – Ronnie Garrison
- The Kids Book of Fishing* – Michael J. Rosen



## Basic Fishing Setups

Proper rigging of your hooks, weights and baits is a fundamental part of your fishing success. The following methods have proven to work well for trout, catfish and bluegill in urban waters. Use lighter line and smaller hooks and weights for trout and bluegill. Some baits such as worms are effective for all fish, however most other baits are species specific.

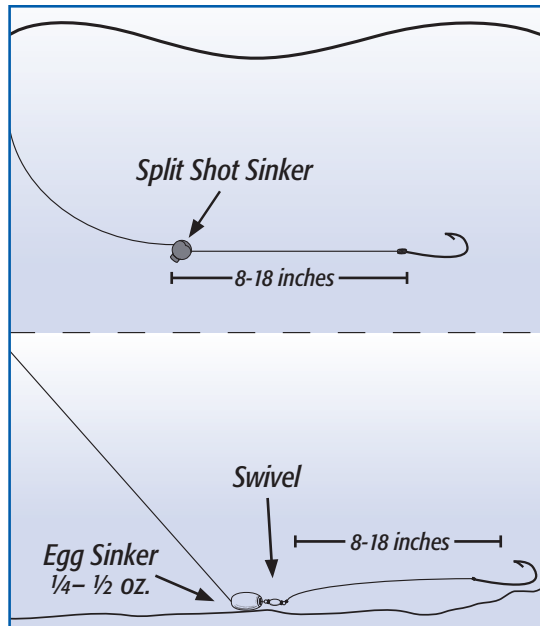
**NOTE:** See the inside back cover for illustrations and a complete checklist of the essential fishing equipment and baits that are recommended for urban fishing.

### Catfish

**Line:** 8 to 12 lb. test  
**Hook Size:** 2 to 6 baitholder  
**Bait:** Worms, stink baits, hotdogs, liver, shrimp



Catfish are best caught using a hook and sinker setup (**fig. 1**). Catfish bite best in darker environments. Fish the deepest spots during the daytime and shallower areas after dark.



**Figure 1: Hook and Sinker Setup**

### Trout

**Line:** 4 to 6 lb. test  
**Hook Size:** 8 to 12 baitholder  
**Bait:** Worms, salmon eggs, Power Bait



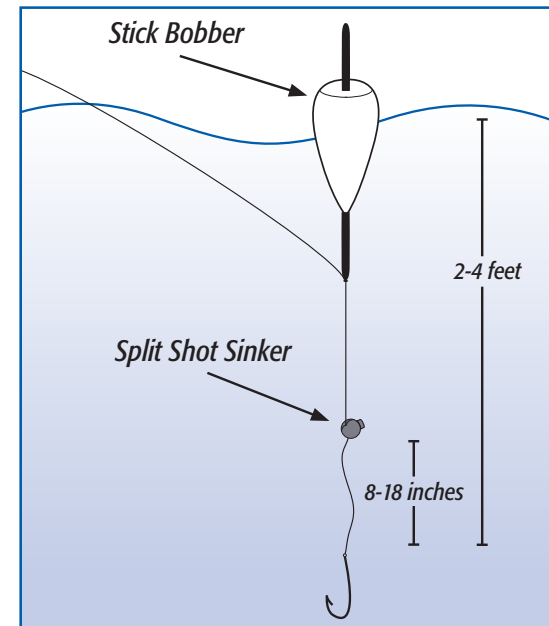
When using prepared floating baits, the bottom fishing set up with an egg sinker is most effective (**fig. 1**). When fishing for trout, use the egg sinker set-up with 4- or 6-pound line tied below the swivel to the hook. Fishing with a bobber (**fig. 2**) can work well for trout when using non-floating baits such as worms or salmon eggs. In addition to the baits suggested for trout, small in-line spinners such as Panther Martins or Mepps, or spoons such as KastMasters or Super Dupers, can be effective.

### Sunfish/Bluegill

**Line:** 2 to 6 lb. test  
**Hook Size:** 8 to 12 baitholder  
**Bait:** Worms, mealworms, corn



Sunfish or bluegill can be caught using the bobber setup (**fig. 2**). Use a small stick or round bobber and fish along the lake edges in 4-8 feet of water. Use enough weight below the bobber so that it can be pulled underwater easily. Try to cover up the hook with the bait.



**Figure 2: Bobber Setup**



## Tips to Better Fishing

### Study about fishing and fish habits.

Fishing is part sport and part biology. Both aspects require study to not only improve your ability to catch fish, but increase your enjoyment! There are many books and magazines covering basic to highly specialized fishing tips. The Internet is loaded with informative Web sites and fishing blogs. Attend fishing clinics or seminars, join a fishing club, and seek advice from more experienced fishermen.

### Go fishing more often!

Not only is fishing a great way to relax, but the more often you go, the more your “luck” will improve. Like any sport, fishing takes practice—knowledge and experience will help you consistently succeed. The fastest way to improve is to find a “coach” or experienced angler to take you fishing and show you the basics as well as the many finer points about fishing. Ask around for help.

### Match tackle and techniques to fish.

Your choice of equipment, lures and presentation all influence your chances of catching fish. Whether you should fish on the bottom or the surface, the shoreline or the deeper waters varies between types of fish and seasons of the year. Learn to match your techniques to the seasonal habitats and behavior patterns of fish, be adaptable. Pay attention to the methods other anglers are using.

## Formula to Fishing Success

### F + L + P + A LITTLE “LUCK” = SUCCESS

**F: Fish factor:** Understanding each fish species’ unique habits, and their food and habitat preferences during the year.

**L: Location factor:** By understanding fish habits, you can fish those spots where fish are likely to be most concentrated or active for that time of day or year.

**P: Presentation factor:** Matching your tackle, bait, technique and timing to entice fish to bite.

## Standard Fishing Knot

**Trilene Knot** (a strong all-purpose knot)



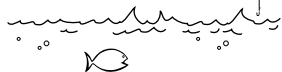
1. Run the ends of the line through the eye of the hook two times.



2. Loop the line around 4 or 5 times, then thread the loose end back between the two loops near the hook as shown.



3. Pull tight. Trim the loose end.



## Simple Tips for Family Fun!

Remembering these five simple kid-style tips will help make your next family fishing trip an enjoyable and memorable experience

### 1. Keep it simple and safe.

Forget technique and tactics, kids just want to throw a line in the water and catch something. Choose simple equipment. A push button spincast reel and a 5-6 foot rod are best. Pack only the amount of tackle you need to keep everybody fishing (hooks, bobbers and weights). See inside back cover for lists and pictures of basic fishing supplies. Fish with easy-to-use bait secured under a small bobber or on the bottom. Provide your youngster with his or her own small tackle kit. Spend your time teaching and coaching the kids, don't plan to do much fishing yourself.

### 2. Be prepared.

Have all the things you need to fish beforehand, so when you go fishing there are no delays. Get lots of worms. They are great universal bait and kids will love the dirt, slime and squirm of worms. Bring drinks and snacks in a small tote – being in the outdoors makes kids hungry. Bring a camera to capture the memories.

### 3. Make it fun.

Take kids to a place where they can catch a lot of fish such as bluegill. Help them identify their catch (see pages 21-23) and teach them how to properly handle the fish they catch (see pages 59-60). If fishing is slow, take a short break and walk the shoreline or play at the nearby playground. Relax and have patience. Seize opportunities to explore and discover, to make up games and to tell stories.



### 4. Involve the kids.

Whenever you can, let kids do things themselves – bait the hook, cast their own rods, reel in the fish and remove the fish from the hook. Give kids a role for the day – choosing where to fish, what to bring for snacks, how long to fish each spot, netting the fish or counting the birds.

### 5. Go where the fish are.

Nearby Urban Fishing Program waters are excellent locations to catch all kinds of fish including bluegill, trout and catfish. Lakes are stocked every two weeks for 10 months of the year.



## Sport Fishing Education Program

It's fun and it's free

**What is it?** The Arizona Game and Fish Department has a statewide Sport Fishing Education Program which teaches introductory fishing skills to people of all ages. Fishing clinics are led by department sanctioned instructors. All educational materials, rods and reels, bait, and terminal tackle are provided at no charge. Topics of instruction include: where and when to fish; selecting tackle and bait; casting and rigging techniques; fishing safety and ethics; care of your catch; and much more.



**Schedule a Fishing Program for Your Group.** Groups of 25 or more are eligible to submit an online application requesting a sport fishing education program for their group at no charge. The majority of participants must be 8 years or older. The department will provide a fishing instructor, up to 100 rods and reels, bait, and educational handouts. We will meet your group at a fishing location of your choice. Scheduling of group fishing programs is on a first come, first serve basis and available dates fill up fast.

**Open to the Public Fishing Programs.** Individuals, families or groups are welcome to attend our "Open to the Public" fishing events conducted throughout the year. For a schedule of programs, visit our Web site at [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov) and look under Education Programs, Sport Fishing Education, then to Schedule of Public Fishing Programs.

**Rod Loaner Program.** The department has fishing equipment available for loan to the public. Loaner sites include the department's Phoenix headquarters office and six regional offices. Up to 100 rods and reels with tackle are available to borrow for up to a week.

**Become a Fishing Volunteer!** The department is looking for qualified individuals who want to volunteer with the Sport Fishing Education Program. You don't have to be an expert angler to help others learn basic fishing skills. Be an active participant in Arizona's fishing legacy.

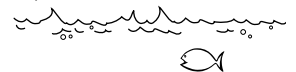
**For information on Sport Fishing Education programs, rod loaner programs or volunteer opportunities, call (623) 236-7219 or visit our Web site at [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov).**

## Caring for your catch

If you're going to eat your catch, you should know how to care for it from the hook to the frying pan. Nothing tastes better than a freshly caught fish. Our urban lakes offer high quality fish that are delicious, nutritious, and an affordable alternative to buying fish from a store.

Responsible anglers catch only what they plan to eat—making sure the fish does not go to waste before it is eaten. Here are some tips to keep your catch fresh and tasty, and avoid having to throw a fish away.

- **A cool, moist place to put your catch.** One of the quickest ways a fish can go bad is by being left in a warm area (on land or in the water). A good solution is to bring an ice chest with enough ice for the trip and immediately place the catch on ice. You can also keep the fish on a stringer if the water is cool.
- **Keep the fish alive until you are ready to leave.** The longer you can keep a fish alive and fresh, the better it will taste when you eat it. Using a wire basket or a stringer is a typical tactic used by most anglers. If using a stringer, thread the stringer through the fishes' lower jaw instead of the gills. This keeps the fish alive a lot longer. Once you are ready to leave the lake, place the fish in a cooler or container. When you leave, remember it is against the law to transport your fish alive in water.
- **Clean the fish as soon as you get home, and store it properly:** The sooner you get home and gut and clean your fish, the better it will taste. Once properly cleaned, the fish will keep for up to 2-3 days in the refrigerator sealed in a container. If you need to store it for longer, you can freeze it in water or a ziplock bag and it will keep for 2-4 months.



## Proper Release Methods

Fish are a valuable resource, and fishing for them is a fun and exciting recreational experience. Fresh fish are also a great source of nutrition. Keeping only what you plan to eat and releasing the rest is good stewardship of this precious resource. By limiting your harvest, and practicing good catch-and-release techniques, you can help preserve the fishery and ensure that fish remain for another day.

Fish can easily die when subjected to excessive handling and poor release techniques. The fish may swim away at first, but likely dies in a matter of minutes or days if it is: left out of the water too long, covered in dirt, squeezed too hard, or injured from forced removal of a deeply impaled hook. **The following catch-and-release tips will greatly improve the fish's chance of survival.**

### Do's:

**Quick hook sets:** Avoid letting fish swallow hooks by keeping a taught, well attended line while fishing.

**Quick retrieve:** Exhaustion stress can be fatal, the longer you play a fish, the more stress it endures.

**Wet hands and a gentle touch:** Handling fish with wet hands will help keep their protective slime from coming off.

**Keep the fish in the water as much as possible:** It is best to unhook the fish while it is still in the water. If you want a picture, have your camera ready to go and limit holding the fish out of the water for too long while you set up the shot.

**Carefully remove the hook:** Grasp the hook firmly and back it out the same direction it went in. Use pliers, a hook removal tool, or grasp the hook at the eyelet.

**Quick Release:** Gently place the fish back into the water. If it doesn't swim away, you may need to move the fish forward and back under water so oxygen flows over the gills and it can regain its energy.

### Don'ts:

**Avoid forcefully removing swallowed hooks:** If the hook is embedded down the throat, clip the line as close to the eye of the hook as possible. Hooks will dissolve over time. A fish that has a hook pulled out from its throat has less than a 50% chance of survival. A fish with the hook left in its throat has a 90% chance.

**Avoid touching the gills or eyes:** Holding a fish by the gills can be lethal; these are extremely sensitive and easily damaged organs.

**Avoid letting the fish flop around on the ground:** A fish can easily harm itself on land and lose some of its protective slime coating. It is best to minimize the amount of time it spends out of the water.

**Avoid a firm grip:** Fish are slippery and wiggly. Instinct will lead an angler to tighten their grip on the fish, and potentially crush its internal organs with force.

Other helpful techniques may include using barbless hooks, circle hooks, hook removal tools, and rubberized nets for handling fish.

## 2009 Urban Fish-of-the-Year and Catch-and-Release Records

*(Preliminary as of Nov. 5, 2009. Final results will be available in February 2010 at [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov))*

### Kept:

**Channel Catfish** . . . . . 26 lb. 14.4 oz., 37.5 in.  
*Caught 5-9-09 at Green Valley Lake by Tuy Sayasavanh*

**Rainbow Trout** . . . . . 6 lb. 14.7 oz., 26 in.  
*Caught 3-11-09 at Papago Ponds by Morris Sevada*

**Bluegill** . . . . . 0 lb. 8.6 oz., 8.5 in.  
*Caught 6-22-09 at Kiwanis Lake by Garrett Laubinger*

**Common Carp** . . . . . 19 lb. 0.3 oz., 33 in.  
*Caught 5-12-09 at Papago Pond #3 by Emigdio Hernandez*

**White Amur** . . . . . 18 lb. 4.8 oz., 35 in.  
*Caught 10-18-09 at Kiwanis Lake by Tori Townsend*

### Released (length only):

**Largemouth Bass** . . . . . 19 in.  
*Caught 3-3-09 at Steele Indian School Pond by Brandon Williams*

### All-time Arizona Urban Fish Records (kept or released)

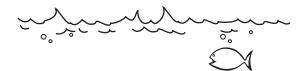
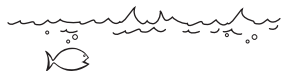
Common Carp	30 lb. 0.6 oz., 35.5 in.	Encanto Lake, 2002
Channel Catfish	26 lb. 14.4 oz., 37.5 in.	Green Valley Lake, 2009
Channel Catfish <sup>1</sup>	11 lb. 5.44 oz., 28 in.	Evelyn Hallman Pond, 2002
Bluegill	0 lb. 8.6 oz., 8.5 in.	Kiwanis Lake, 2009
Largemouth Bass <sup>1</sup>	11 lb. 10.4 oz., 24.5 in.	Papago Pond, 2000
Rainbow Trout	7 lb. 15.75 oz., 22.75 in.	Green Valley Lake, 2006
Redear Sunfish	1 lb. 12.25 oz., 13.4 in.	Encanto Lake, 2000
Tilapia	3 lb. 15.68 oz., 17 in.	Encanto Lake, 1984
White Amur <sup>2</sup>	47 lb. 1.6 oz., 46.5 in.	Encanto Lake, 2002

<sup>1</sup> Catch-and-release record

<sup>2</sup> Also the Arizona State record

## How to Measure the Length of a Fish

On a flat surface, measure in a straight line the maximum length between the tip of the snout and the tip of the pinched tail.



## Arizona Urban Fishing Program

### Urban Fish-of-the-Year/Catch-and-Release Instructions

In 2000, the Arizona Game and Fish Department started keeping records for Urban Fish-of-the-Year, and Catch-and-Release records from the department's designated Urban Fishing Program waters. Over the years, some remarkable fish have been caught from city park lakes (see page 61). This is your opportunity to claim some fame for your trophy catches, whether you keep it or release it. Each year's winners will receive prizes. Good Luck!

#### Requirements for reporting

**Rule #1** Fish must be weighed on a certified fair trade scale in pounds. All Game and Fish offices have scales. Page 37 of the 2009 & 2010 Arizona Fishing Regulations lists 26 fish weighing scale locations across the state. Scale locations, register number and expiration date of scale certification must be recorded on an entry form. The department reserves the right to cut open any fish after weighing. *(Rule #1 not required for catch and release entries).*

**Rule #2** Length of the fish must be measured in inches by a straight line from the tip of the snout to the tip of the pinched tail (see page 61).

**Rule #3** Fish must be caught in an Arizona Urban Fishing Program water. Fish must be taken during the legal open season and by the legal method of take for the water where taken. Any illegal act associated with taking or handling of the fish will disqualify the record.

**Rule #4** Identification of species must be verified by a member of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. A photograph of the fish is required for the record file and for identification purposes.

**Rule #5** Anglers must provide their Arizona Fishing License number. Inspection of valid fishing license must be verified by a member of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. For catch-and-release records, a photo copy of the current, valid license is required.

**Rule #6** If the weights and measurements are not witnessed by the department personnel, two witnesses must be present at the time the fish is weighed and measured.

**Rule #7** The Arizona Game and Fish Department reserves the right to further check identification and/or verification of witnesses and to refuse an application that is questionable.

**Rule #8** Eligible fish species for both State record and Fish-of-the-Year entries are those sportfish listed under current State records. Illegally released fish species from pet and aquarium trades are not eligible for a State record or Urban Fish-of-the-Year.

**Rule #9** In the event of any dispute regarding the authenticity of the fish record application, the fish must be made available for inspection by Arizona Game and Fish Department personnel. The determination made by department personnel shall be conclusive.

## Arizona Urban Fishing Program

### Urban Fish-of-the-Year/Catch-and-Release Entry Form

**Check One:**    Kept Fish       Catch-and-Release

Angler's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fish Species: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMON NAME

Date Caught: \_\_\_\_\_

Certified Weight (**Rule #1**): \_\_\_\_\_ lbs (example: 3.18 lbs)

Total Length (**Rule #2**): \_\_\_\_\_ inches

Location of Catch (**Rule #3**): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Lure or Bait: \_\_\_\_\_

Species Identified By (**Rule #4**): \_\_\_\_\_

Fishing License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

License Verified by (**Rule #5**): \_\_\_\_\_

Scale Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Registered Scale Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date of Scale Certification: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Witnesses to Weight (except catch and release entries):

We, the undersigned, witnessed the weighing of the fish described above and attest to the weight and length as listed (**Rule #1, 2, 6**).

1. Name and Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

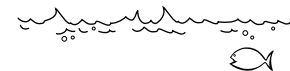
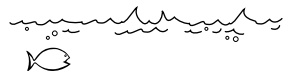
2. Name and Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Submit your completed entry form and photograph to:

Arizona Game and Fish Department Fisheries Branch  
5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086



## Fishing Equipment Checklist

The following items are considered good, basic equipment for an enjoyable and successful urban fishing experience.

Tackle Box Items	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> Tackle box	\$10-15
<input type="checkbox"/> Hooks (baitholder style, 6-10 per package)	
• Sizes 8, 10 and 12 for trout and bluegill	\$4-6
• Sizes 6 and 4 for catfish	\$3-4
<input type="checkbox"/> Sinkers (6-10 per package)	
• Egg type – 1/8 and 1/4 ounce sizes	\$5-6
• Split shot – size 7 and 4	\$5-6
<input type="checkbox"/> Swivels (by package), sizes 7 and 12	\$2-3
<input type="checkbox"/> Bobbers – 2 each	
• Round, 1 inch and 1.25 inch diameter	\$2-4
• Pencil type, balsa or plastic	\$2-4
<input type="checkbox"/> Needle nose pliers, or hook removal tool	\$5-8
<input type="checkbox"/> Clippers	\$2-3
<input type="checkbox"/> Stringer	\$2-4
<b>Tackle box totals</b>	<b>\$42-62</b>

### Fishing Rod and Reel

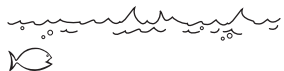
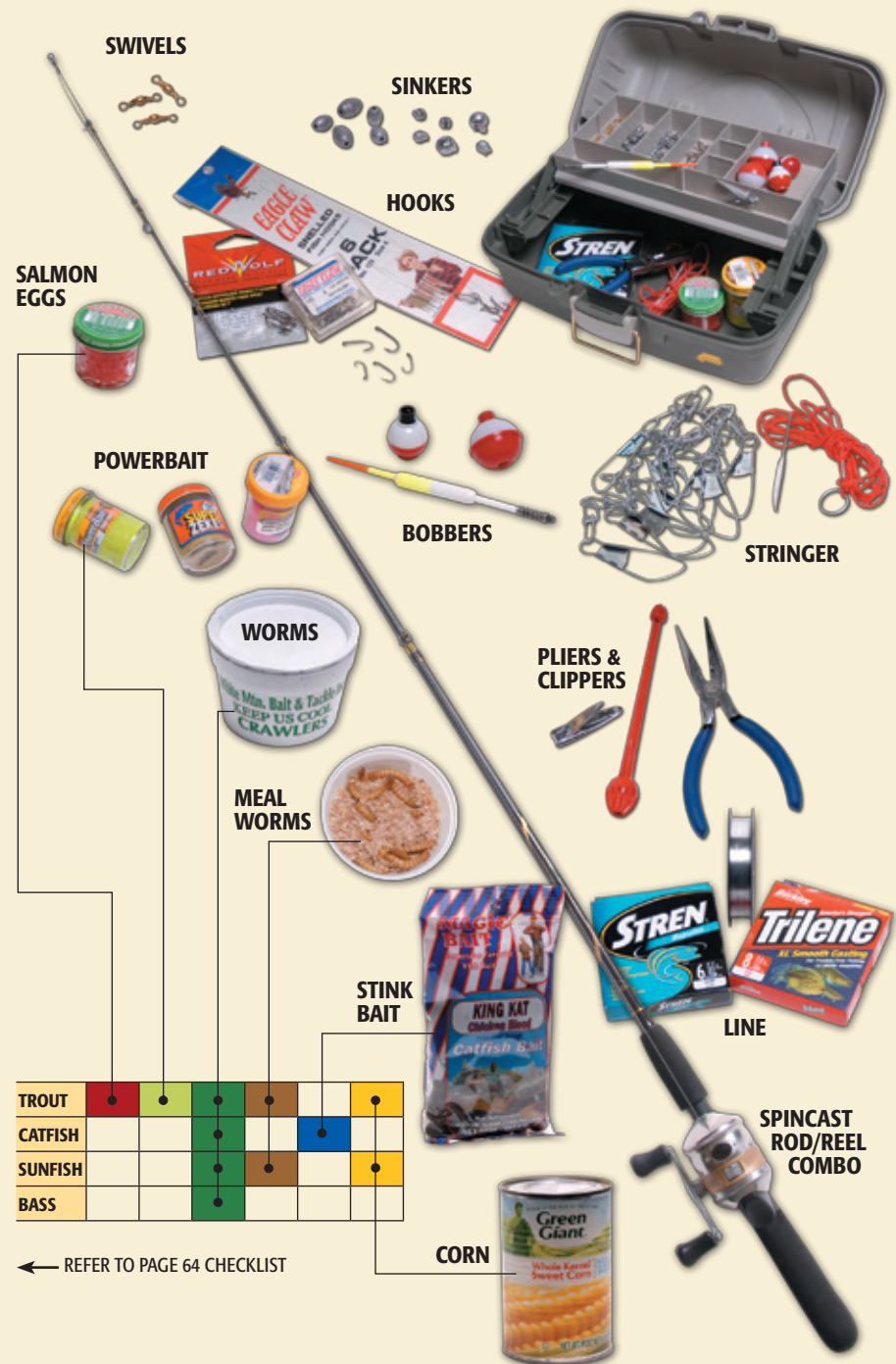
- 5-6 foot spincast rod (medium action) with matching push button reel \$16-26
- Fishing line, 4-6 pound for trout & bluegill, 8-12 pound for catfish and bass \$5-7

### Bait

- Powerbait or similar scented doughbait (jar) \$3-4
- Worms (nightcrawlers or dillys) \$3-4
- Mealworms \$2-3
- Stinkbait (package or container) \$4-5
- Corn (small can) \$1
- Salmon eggs (jar) \$2-3

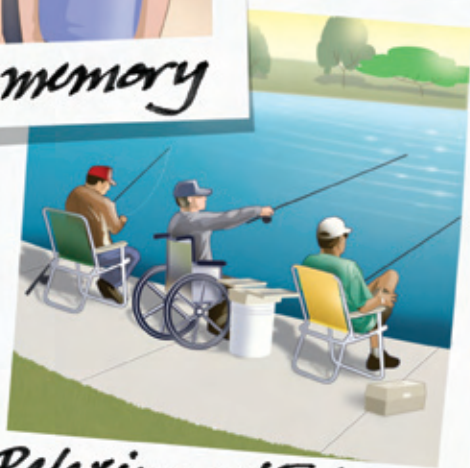
**Grand Total** **\$68-99**

## Basic Fishing Equipment





*Catch a memory*



*Relaxing w/ Friends*



*My first fish*

