

Big Run Lake Fishing Club Newsletter, Beginning 2026

Members,

Welcome to the 2026 fishing year. Please enjoy the lake and the fishing this year. Forward any questions or problems you have to Haley at 606-748-2320 (email address: frazihay@gmail.com).

UPDATE ON GRASS CARP: We will stock grass carp again in late May. There is a change. The fisheries manager of Cave Run, Tom Timmerman, states that our practice of stocking 60 is excessive. He recommends 20. This number for the lake size keeps the population of grass carp sufficient to control the grass varieties that grass carp eat. Grass carp do not reproduce. When flood water rises to reach the spillway the grass carp swim out of the lake downstream. When it does occur it depletes the grass carp population. Annual stocking keeps replenishing the population to counter any losses.

CRAPPY: Mr. Timmerman recommends that every crappie caught be removed from the lake. They tend to take over he says. What is not eaten is good fertilizer for the garden.

UPDATE ON POND SHIELD: Grass carp do not eat the small lily pad. More accurately it is called Pond Shield. There is no practical way to eliminate all the pond shield, however, Mr. Timmerman states that some use of an approved herbicide for patch treatment is legally permissible. Therefore, when it begins to appear midsummer, we will plan a test spraying. The plan is to use it around the floating dock and the boat slip. I plan to keep the test area under 500 square feet until we see how it does.

PORTA-POTTY: The porta potty will appear again at the upper edge of the spillway about mid-April and remain until the end of August.

NON-MEMBERS FISHING and TRESPASSING: If you find non-members using the lake, please ask them politely to join the club – at least the first time you see them. Point out to those people that firstly they are crossing private land to get to the lake. Secondly, whereas the water is federal/state owned, the entrance plus surrounding and submerged property is all privately owned. So, entering without permission constitutes trespassing. Also please point out the member benefits listed on the sign at the spillway. We would prefer to turn unaware trespassers into members. Please ask uncertain people to show you their membership card. Members should carry their laminated cards. Also get to know each other. If the trespasser is resistant and keeps coming anyway, please get the dates of trespass and what identifying information you can – photograph if possible. Notify us to initiate a trespass charge.

SIZE OF BASS: One member is concerned that the growth of bass in the lake has become stunted. The Cave Run fisheries biologist states there is a procedure for dealing with this circumstance but first it's existence needs to be substantiated or rejected. Of the options the only one we could implement is for all members to keep an "angler's diary." You will recall I surveyed last summer the membership about implementing a diary. Only a few people responded. To be successful most members need to participate. The diary plan was hence rejected. For now the topic is at a standstill.

Sincerely,
Haley Frazier