



MISSISSIPPI OUTDOOR DIGEST || 2025 2026

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS



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MISSISSIPPI OUTDOOR DIGEST | 2025 2026

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS (MDWFP)

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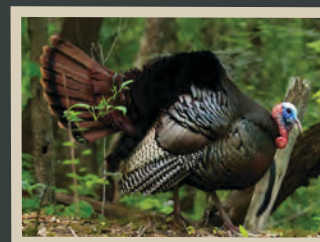
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2025–2026 Mississippi Outdoor Digest

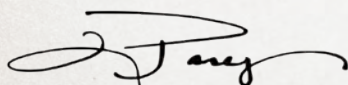
WELCOME TO THE MISSISSIPPI OUTDOOR DIGEST

Mississippi is a state teeming with diverse ecosystems, presenting many opportunities for those who love the outdoors. Spanning from the Delta to the hill country, from the Appalachian foothills to the shimmering Gulf Coast, and from the majestic Mississippi River to the Pine Belt, the state is a treasure trove of natural wonders.

The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MDWFP) is devoted to preserving the state's rich natural heritage for generations. Whether your passion lies in pursuing white-tailed deer or wild turkey, trekking through forests, observing birds, or capturing nature's beauty through photography, Mississippi caters to all interests. With 53 Wildlife Management Areas, 19 State Fishing Lakes, and 25 State Parks, MDWFP offers accessible and budget-friendly locales for thrilling escapades. The memories forged while savoring the rewards of our efforts with loved ones amidst Mississippi's stunning landscapes are priceless, each distinct adventure igniting fresh hope and excitement.

The ongoing support of those who relish Mississippi's outdoor lifestyle is vital to safeguarding the state's land, water, and wildlife. The 2025–2026 Outdoor Digest, published yearly, is a comprehensive guide for all excursions. It also represents our gratitude for the unwavering backing we receive from the state's citizens and communities. This collaboration is essential in maintaining some of the nation's most delightful outdoor attractions. We express our heartfelt appreciation to everyone who has joined forces with MDWFP's committed team to uphold Mississippi's outdoor legacy.

I wish you a productive and secure season, and I hope you fully embrace the abundance our natural resources provide.



Lynn Posey
Executive Director



About This Guide

This high-quality guide is brought to you by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks through a partnership with Kalkomey, a trusted leader in outdoor safety education since 1995. In addition to producing this guide, Kalkomey also offers a suite of educational courses to help people enjoy the outdoors safely.

The revenue generated through ad sales in this publication significantly lowers production costs and generates savings. These savings translate into additional funds for other important agency programs and we thank the advertisers for their support.



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The 2025–2026 Outdoor Digest is a publication of Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks which includes information and regulations on hunting and recreational freshwater fishing which were current at the time of printing. For commercial fishing regulations see the "Mississippi Digest of Commercial Fishing Laws and Regulations." Regulations are subject to change due to legislative or commission actions, and it is your responsibility to be knowledgeable of the laws and regulations in effect. Laws and regulations include those contained within the Mississippi Code Annotated Section 49-1-1 et seq., the official regulations of the Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks and applicable federal laws. Contact your local conservation officer for specific information or call MDWFP at (601) 432-2400.

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Resident License Prices

ALL ANNUAL LICENSES AND PERMITS ARE VALID FOR ONE (1) YEAR AFTER DATE OF ISSUANCE	LICENSE PRICE	PROCESSING FEE	AGENT FEE
Sportsman License (Includes Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow, and Freshwater Fishing. Does not include WMA User Permit, Velvet Season Permit, Saltwater Fishing, Wild Turkey Stamp, or Waterfowl Stamp.)	\$45.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
All Game Hunting/Freshwater Fishing (Does not include Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow Permit, WMA User Permit, Velvet Season Permit, Wild Turkey Stamp, or Waterfowl Stamp.)	\$25.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow Permit*	\$14.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Velvet Season Permit (Valid for 3 consecutive calendar days. 3-Day Permit used to hunt Velvet Deer during the permitted dates.)	\$10.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Wildlife Management Area User Permit (Must be purchased prior to ANY use of a Wildlife Management Area and in addition to any other required hunting/fishing license; however, on U.S. Forest Service Wildlife Management Areas, permits are only required for hunting, fishing, and trapping.)	\$15.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Small Game Hunting/Freshwater Fishing	\$10.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Apprentice Sportsman License	\$32.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Apprentice All Game License	\$17.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Apprentice Small Game License	\$13.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
North Mississippi National Wildlife Refuge Permit**	\$15.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
3-Day Sportsman Apprentice License	\$7.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Trapping License	\$25.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
3-Day Freshwater Fishing¹	\$3.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Saltwater Fishing	\$10.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Freshwater Commercial Fishing License	\$30.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Freshwater Guide License****	\$500.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Slat Basket License (Required for each Slat Basket; a commercial fishing license is also required to fish Slat Baskets)	\$30.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Wild Turkey Stamp (Required for any persons 16 years of age and older when hunting turkey, unless exempt from purchasing a license)	\$10.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
State Waterfowl Stamp Electronic Privilege (Required for any persons 16 years of age and older when hunting waterfowl - Federal Stamp also required.)	\$10.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Federal Duck Stamp - Electronic (Electronic stamp is valid for waterfowl hunting through June 30. A physical stamp will be mailed to your specified mailing address after March 10.)	\$29.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Youth Exempt (Under 16 years of age, voluntary – All Game Hunting, Freshwater and Saltwater Fishing license, Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow permit, WMA, Waterfowl Stamp.)	\$2.30	\$2.49	\$1.00
Senior Exempt Lifetime (Age 65 and over, voluntary – All Game Hunting, Freshwater Fishing license, Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow permit, WMA. Does not include saltwater fishing, waterfowl stamp.)	\$2.30	\$2.49	\$1.00
Senior Lifetime Saltwater License (Age 65 and over)	\$5.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Disabled Exempt*** (Voluntary – All Game Hunting, Freshwater, and Saltwater Fishing license, Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow permit, WMA – must carry proof of disability if you do not purchase the Disabled Exempt license.)	\$2.30	\$2.49	\$1.00
Duplicate Hunting & Fishing License	\$5.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Freshwater Guide Boat License****	\$25.00	\$2.49	\$1.00

* Accompanied by a valid hunting license, may hunt with a crossbow during any open season for deer, turkey, or small game.

** This permit is valid for Coldwater, Dahomey, Tallahatchie, and Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuges only.

*** May be purchased only at MDWFP offices, state lake, and state parks.

**** May be purchased at MDWFP offices (Headquarters and Regional Offices) only.

1 - 3-Day License is valid for 3 consecutive calendar days.

Note: All deer, hog, and turkey hunters must buy an All Game Hunting/Fishing, Sportsman, or Lifetime License.

• An additional eGov fee, along with a credit card processing fee, will be applied when using a credit card at an MDWFP location, online, phone sales, and using the mobile app.

Lifetime License Fees

Lifetime License (birth through 12) – \$500.00

Note: includes Sportsman, Wild Turkey Stamp, WMA User Permit, and Saltwater privileges

Lifetime License (13 and over) – \$1000.00

Note: includes Sportsman, Wild Turkey Stamp, WMA User Permit, and Saltwater privileges

Non-Resident Native Lifetime License – \$1500.00

Note: includes All Game, Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow, Deer Permit, Wild Turkey Stamp, WMA User Permit, and Saltwater privileges

**Lifetime applications are processed only at the Jackson Office.
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Non-Resident License Prices

ALL ANNUAL LICENSES AND PERMITS ARE VALID FOR ONE (1) YEAR FROM DATE OF ISSUANCE	LICENSE PRICE	PROCESSING FEE	AGENT FEE
All Game Hunting¹ (Does not include Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow permit, Deer Permit, Wild Turkey Stamp, WMA User Permit, Waterfowl Stamp, Freshwater & Saltwater Fishing.)	\$300.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
7-Day All Game Hunting¹ (Does not include Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow permit, Deer Permit, Wild Turkey Stamp, WMA User Permit, Waterfowl Stamp, Freshwater & Saltwater Fishing.)	\$150.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
3-Day All Game Hunting - Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow¹ (Does not include Deer Permit, Wild Turkey Stamp, WMA User Permit, Waterfowl Stamp, Freshwater & Saltwater Fishing.)	\$150.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow (Must be purchased in addition to All Game Hunting or 7-Day All Game Hunting.)	\$75.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
Wildlife Management Area User Permit* (Must be purchased prior to ANY use of a Wildlife Management Area and in addition to any other required hunting/fishing license; however, on U.S. Forest Service Wildlife Management Areas, permits are only required for hunting, fishing, and trapping.)	\$30.00	\$4.42	\$1.00
Deer Permit (Required for hunting deer during all deer seasons. Includes Velvet Season Permit. This license must be purchased in addition to All Game, 7-Day All Game, or 3-Day All Game Hunting.)	\$100.00	\$4.42	\$1.00
Wild Turkey Stamp (Required for hunting turkey during spring turkey season. This license must be purchased in addition to All Game, 7-Day All Game, or, 3-Day All Game Hunting.)	\$100.00	\$4.42	\$1.00
Small Game Hunting	\$95.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
7-Day Small Game Hunting	\$38.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
North Mississippi National Wildlife Refuge Permit**	\$15.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Trapping License	\$205.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
Shooting Preserve	\$13.00	\$4.42	\$1.00
State Waterfowl Stamp (Electronic privilege required for any person 16 years of age and older when hunting waterfowl. Federal Stamp also required.)	\$19.00	\$4.42	\$1.00
Federal Duck Stamp - Electronic (Electronic stamp is valid for waterfowl hunting through June 30. A physical stamp will be mailed to your specified mailing address after March 10.)	\$29.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Freshwater Fishing	\$68.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
1-Day Freshwater Fishing	\$10.00	\$4.42	\$1.00
3-Day Freshwater Fishing	\$30.00	\$4.42	\$2.00
Saltwater Fishing	\$30.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
LA Saltwater Fishing	\$60.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
3-Day Saltwater Fishing	\$15.00	\$4.42	\$2.00
Freshwater Commercial Fishing License	\$200.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
Freshwater Guide License***	\$2,000.00	\$4.42	\$3.00
Freshwater Guide Boat License***	\$25.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Slat Basket License (Required for each Slat Basket; a commercial fishing license is also required to fish Slat Baskets)	\$30.00	\$2.49	\$1.00
Armed Forces 14-Day License (Includes Spring Turkey Permit, Freshwater Fishing, Archery/Primitive Weapon/Crossbow permit. Does not include WMA User Permit, Velvet Season Permit, Wild Turkey Stamp, State Waterfowl Stamp or Saltwater Fishing. Applications are available at Jackson office and online at www.MDWFP.com)	\$32.00	\$4.42	\$1.00
Duplicate Hunting & Fishing License	\$5.00	\$2.49	\$1.00

* These permits are required in addition to any Non-Resident Lifetime License previously sold.

** This permit is valid for Coldwater, Dahomey, Tallahatchie, and Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuges only.

*** May be purchased at MDWFP offices (Headquarters and Regional Offices) only.

1 - Ages 16 and over

Note:

- Louisiana residents must purchase both the Non-Resident Freshwater and Non-Resident LA Saltwater Fishing license to fish in the marine waters of Mississippi.
- 3-Day License is valid for 3 consecutive calendar days.
- 7-Day License is valid for 7 consecutive calendar days.
- All deer, turkey, and hog hunters must purchase an All Game Hunting License.
- An additional eGov fee, along with a credit card processing fee, will be applied when using a credit card at an MDWFP location, online, phone sales, and using the mobile app.

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License Information

FISHING LICENSE (SALTWATER AND FRESHWATER)

Resident: Each resident of Mississippi ages 16-64, fishing in the fresh or marine waters of Mississippi, including lakes and reservoirs but NOT to include privately owned ponds and streams, shall be required to buy a fishing license. A freshwater fishing license is required to fish all public waters north of Interstate 10. A saltwater fishing license is required to fish all public waters south of U.S. Highway 90. Either a freshwater or saltwater fishing license can be used on all public waters south of Interstate 10 and north of U.S. Highway 90. If exempt from purchasing a license see "License Exemptions".

Non-Resident: All non-resident anglers, except for minors under 16, are required to obtain a fishing license while fishing in the fresh or marine waters of Mississippi. Louisiana residents must purchase both freshwater and saltwater licenses to fish in the marine waters of Mississippi.

HUNTING LICENSE

Resident: Each resident of Mississippi ages 16-64, must obtain a hunting license, except while hunting on lands titled in his/her name. Any person 65 or older, or any person otherwise exempt from obtaining a hunting license, must have documentation with him/her at all times while hunting as described in "License Exemptions."

Non-Resident: All non-resident hunters, except for minors under 16, are required to obtain a hunting license while hunting in the State of Mississippi.

HUNTER EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All persons born on or after January 1, 1972, must satisfactorily complete a hunter education course approved by MDWFP before purchasing a Mississippi hunting license. A child older than 12 and younger than 16 must have a certificate of satisfactory completion of a hunter education course approved by the department before hunting alone in the state. A child older than 12 and younger than 16 may hunt without having a certificate of hunter education if the child is in the presence and under the direct supervision of a Mississippi licensed or exempt hunter at least 21 years old when the child is hunting. A child younger than 12 must be in the presence and under the direct supervision of a licensed or exempt hunter at least 21 years old when the child is hunting. A resident apprentice hunting license may be issued to a resident older than 16 who does not have the required certificate of hunter education. An apprentice license may be issued only once to a resident. The apprentice hunting licensee must be accompanied by a licensed or

exempt resident hunter at least 21 years old when hunting. If it is determined that the holder was not entitled to issuance or obtained the license or hunter education certificate by fraudulent means, the license will be revoked or canceled. It is unlawful to issue a hunting license to any person without proof of completion of the hunter education course, except those born before Jan. 1, 1972, or residents purchasing a one-time apprentice license.

DUPLICATE HUNTER/BOATER EDUCATION CARD

If you have lost your hunter/boater education card, please go to www.mdwfp.com/enforcement-education/hunter-education to download a certificate or to purchase a duplicate card for a \$3 fee.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

A person's domicile is that person's principal or primary home or place of abode. A "principal or primary home or place of abode" is that home or place in which a person's habitation is fixed and to which he/she, whenever absent, has the present intention of returning after a departure of absence regardless of the duration of absence. The burden of proving the domicile shall be on the person claiming such status. A current and valid Mississippi driver's license or Mississippi issued identification shall be proof of domicile/residency for the purpose of obtaining a Mississippi resident hunting or fishing license. The Department may prescribe and consider other means of proving domicile/residency. Please contact the License Bureau at (601) 432-2055 for further information or at mdwfp.com. In the case of minors, domicile of the parents shall be used as evidence of the minor's domicile. Any person with a valid driver's license from another state will not be considered for a resident hunting and/or fishing license (see exceptions). A person who obtains a license under an assumed name or makes a materially false statement to obtain a license is guilty of a felony and shall be subject to a fine of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or may be imprisoned for a term of one year or both. You may be denied a resident hunting license if you fail to provide adequate proof. If using a Mississippi driver's license as proof of residency, please make sure license has not expired before purchasing a hunting/fishing license. Exceptions: Even if you are domiciled in another state, you may purchase a resident hunting/fishing license if you provide either a current identification card from a Mississippi college or university (in which you are enrolled as a student in good standing); or a current military ID card showing that you are an active member of the Armed Forces (excluding

Reserves and the National Guard) and a copy of the orders assigning you to a Mississippi military base.

LICENSE EXEMPTIONS

Youth License Exemptions

Mississippi Residents under 16 are exempt from purchasing a hunting or fishing license. Individuals exempt based on these criteria may purchase a voluntary Youth Exempt license by providing their social security number along with a copy of their parent/legal guardian's driver's license to establish residency.

Disabled License Exemptions

Mississippi Residents who are blind, paraplegic, a multiple-amputee, adjudged 100% disabled by the Social Security Administration, or 100% service-connected disabled by the Veterans Administration or Railroad Retirement Board are NOT required to purchase a hunting or fishing license. Residents exempt based on these criteria are required to have proof of residency, disability status or other physical impairment in their possession while engaged in hunting and fishing activities unless an exempt license is purchased. The Disabled Exempt license is an annual privilege. Applications are available online at www.mdwfp.com.

Military Exemption

Any Mississippi resident who is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, including the Reserves and National Guard, and on active duty outside the state of Mississippi is not required to purchase or have in his/her possession a hunting or fishing license while engaged in such activities while on leave from active duty. Such resident shall have in his/her possession an official military leave form. MDWFP Hunter Education requirements apply to residents who meet the military exemption status.

Senior License Exemption (Resident Only)

Mississippi residents 65 and older are exempt from purchasing a hunting or freshwater fishing license. Residents exempt based on these criteria are required to have proof of age and Mississippi residency in their possession while engaged in hunting and freshwater fishing activities unless a voluntary Resident Senior Exempt license is purchased. The Resident Senior Exempt license is a valid lifetime privilege as long as you are a Mississippi resident.

SENIOR SALTWATER LICENSE (RESIDENT ONLY)

Effective July 1, 2010, residents 65 and older are required to purchase a saltwater fishing license if fishing South of U.S. Highway 90. The Senior Saltwater License

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License Information

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WATERFOWL STAMP

State and federal duck stamps are required for anyone 16 or older, including Lifetime License holders, who hunts any waterfowl species. State stamps are digital unless you opt to receive a physical stamp. Physical stamps must be signed across the face of the stamp. Federal stamps are electronic only, but a physical collector's stamp will be mailed after March 10.

SMALL GAME/FISHING LICENSE

Any resident purchasing the combination small game hunting/freshwater fishing license for the use of freshwater fishing will not be required to provide a hunter education number. Any resident purchasing the combination small game hunting/freshwater fishing license for the use of hunting small game will be required to provide a hunter education number.

TRAPPING

A trapping license is required of anyone 16 and older who traps furbearers (bobcat, mink, muskrat, opossum, otter, raccoon, and weasel) and/or nuisance animals

(beaver, coyote, fox, skunk, nutria, and wild hogs). An All Game Hunting License is also an acceptable license when trapping wild hogs. A trapping license is not required for persons trapping on lands titled in their name. This license shall be required of each assistant or helper 16 or older employed or used by a trapper. A trapping license is required to sell skins or carcasses of any fur-bearing animal (see additional information in General Hunting Regulations and Information-Trapping).

COMMERCIAL FISHING/SLAT BASKET

Persons who possess a valid Freshwater Commercial Fishing License are allowed to fish gill nets, trammel nets, hoop nets, trotlines, slat baskets (with slat basket license), crawfish traps and shrimp traps, and/or sell non-game gross fish, minnows and non-native fish taken from the freshwaters of Mississippi. See the Commercial Fishing brochure for information or go to www.mdwfp.com.

Any person using a slat basket in Mississippi waters must have a valid slat basket license for each slat basket. You cannot purchase a slat-basket license unless you have a Freshwater Commercial Fishing License.

FRESHWATER FISHING GUIDE LICENSE

A Freshwater Guide License is required for anyone that provides fishing guide services on public waters in Mississippi north of I-10. CPR Training, First-Aid Training from an American Red Cross- or American Heart Association-certified trainer or course, and Boater Education is required to purchase a freshwater Guide License. A U.S. Coast Guard Captain's License may be substituted for CPR, First Aid, and Boater Education. Mississippi Residents are required to have a valid Sportsman License on file and proof of residency/domicile in the state of Mississippi for 12 consecutive months before the issuance of license. Non-Residents are required to have a valid annual Freshwater Fishing license on file.

FRESHWATER GUIDE BOAT LICENSE

An annual boat license must be purchased for any vessel being used for fishing guide services. A valid boat registration, driver's license, and proof of liability insurance (not less than \$100,000) are required to purchase a Freshwater Guide Boat License. Freshwater Guide Boat decal will be included with the Freshwater Guide Boat License, mailed to the address provided at the time of purchase.

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License Information

DEER PERMIT

Non-residents are required to have a Deer Permit for hunting during all deer seasons, unless individuals possess a Non-resident Native Lifetime License. This permit must be purchased in addition to All Game, 7-Day All Game, or 3-Day All Game Hunting.

WILD TURKEY STAMP

A wild turkey stamp is required for hunting wild turkey. Persons who are license-exempt or have a lifetime license are exempt from this requirement. Physical or electronic proof of purchase is sufficient.

NON-RESIDENT PUBLIC LANDS TURKEY PERMIT

In addition to relevant All Game licenses and Wild Turkey Stamp above; non-residents must additionally acquire a Non-resident Public Lands Turkey Permit before hunting turkey on open public lands before April 1. Open public lands include National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations. Allocation of Non-resident Public Lands Turkey Permits are conducted via a special drawing and are not available for purchase on demand. See www.mdwfp.com for application dates and information.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA USER PERMIT

Residents and Non-Residents using any state-operated Wildlife Management Area except those exempt from purchasing an annual hunting or fishing license, must purchase a Wildlife Management Area (WMA) User Permit. However, WMA User Permits are required only for hunting, fishing, and trapping on U.S. Forest Service WMAs.

ARMED FORCES 14-DAY HUNTING/FISHING LICENSE

Non-Residents who are active members of the United States Armed Forces (excluding Reserves and the National Guard) may purchase a special Armed Forces 14-Day Hunting/Fishing License. Only two Armed Forces 14-Day Hunting/Fishing licenses may be purchased per license year. Proof of active military status is required. This license is processed at the Jackson Office only. Applications are available online at www.mdwfp.com. MDWFP Hunter Education requirements apply to all non-residents who purchase the Armed Forces 14-day Hunting/Fishing License.

MISSISSIPPI LIFETIME LICENSE

Resident Lifetime License applicants must provide proof that they have been domiciled in the state of Mississippi for a minimum of 18 consecutive months before issuance of such license. All 12-and-under resident applicants must include a certified copy of their birth certificate. All non-resident Mississippi native applicants must include an original or notarized copy of the long-form birth certificate showing the applicant was born in Mississippi and their parent's address was in Mississippi at the time of birth OR for an applicant not born in Mississippi, the parent's address was in Mississippi at the time of applicant's birth.

All non-resident Mississippi native applicants must include a certified copy of an original birth certificate of parent showing that parent was born in Mississippi and additional office documents indicating parent was on active military services at the time of the applicant's birth. Lifetime applications are processed at the Jackson office only. Applications are available at www.mdwfp.com. Any address change by license holders should be reported to the License Department. MDWFP Hunter Education requirements apply to all Lifetime License Applicants.



You can prevent wildfires by learning how to carefully burn debris, extinguish a campfire, properly use outdoor equipment, and safely maintain and tow a vehicle. Remember, it only takes a spark to start a wildfire. Learn more at PreventWildfiresMS.com.





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White-Tailed Deer Hunting

Deer Management Unit (DMU) lines are predominately based on soil regions using highways and interstates as dividing boundaries.

DEER MANAGEMENT UNITS

North Central: Private and open public lands in Alcorn, Benton, Desoto, Marshall, Tate, Tippah counties.

Hills: All areas except the Delta, North Central, and Southeast Deer Management Units. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, excluding the Holly Springs National Forest, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

Southeast: Private and open public lands south of U.S. Highway 84 and east of MS Highway 35.

Delta: Private and open public lands west of I-55 and north of I-20 plus areas south of I-20 and west of U.S. Highway 61.

BAG LIMITS

Antlered Buck Deer

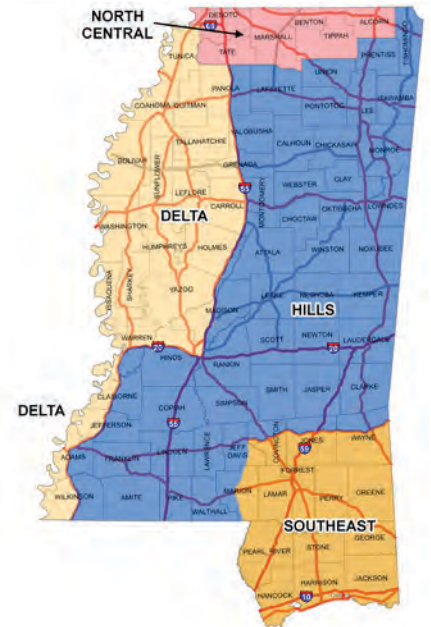
With the exception of the North Central DMU, the statewide bag limit on antlered buck deer is one (1) buck per day and three (3) per annual season. One (1) of these three (3) may have hardened antlers that do not

meet the DMU legal antler requirements on private land and Holly Springs National Forest. Antlered buck bag limit in the North Central DMU is one (1) buck per day and four (4) per annual season. No antler restrictions apply to this DMU. All four bucks may have any sized hardened antlers. For youth hunters fifteen (15) years of age and younger, hunting on private land and authorized state and federal lands, all three (3) of the three (3) buck bag limit may be any antlered deer.

Antlerless Deer

Private Land: With the exception of the North Central and Southeast DMUs, the statewide annual bag limit on antlerless deer is five (5). The bag limit for private lands in the North Central DMU is ten (10) antlerless deer per season. Antlerless deer are male or female deer which do not have hardened antler above the natural hairline. Only three (3) antlerless deer may be harvested from the Southeast DMU. There is no daily bag limit on antlerless deer; except, only one (1) antlerless deer per day may be harvested in the Southeast DMU.

U.S. Forest Service Lands: The bag limit is one (1) per day, not to exceed five (5) per annual season except in the Southeast DMU, which is three (3) per annual season.



LEGAL BUCKS

DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT OR DMU	INSIDE SPREAD	OR	MAIN BEAM
North Central	Any Hardened Antler		
Hills	10"	OR	13"
Southeast	10"	OR	13"
Delta	12"	OR	15"

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Legal Bucks: Hills and Southeast Deer Management Units

A legal buck is defined as having EITHER a minimum inside spread of 10 inches OR one main beam at least 13 inches long.

Estimating a 10-inch spread is accomplished by observing a buck's ears in the alert position. When in the alert position, the distance from ear-tip to ear-tip measures approximately 14 inches. If the OUTSIDE of each antler beam is 1 inch inside the ear-tip, the inside spread is approximately 10 inches.



To estimate a 13-inch main beam, the buck's head must be observed from the side. If the tip of the main beam extends to the front of the eye, main beam length is approximately 13 inches.



Legal Bucks: Delta Deer Management Unit

A legal buck is defined as having EITHER a minimum inside spread of 12 inches OR one main beam at least 15 inches long.

Estimating a 12-inch spread is accomplished by observing a buck's ears in the alert position. When in the alert position, the distance from ear-tip to ear-tip measures approximately 15 inches. If the OUTSIDE of each antler beam reaches the ear-tip, the inside spread is approximately 12 inches. Therefore, if the outside of both antler beams reach the ear tips, the buck is legal.



To estimate a 15-inch main beam, the buck's head must be observed from the side. If the tip of the main beam extends between the front of the eye and the tip of the nose, main beam length is approximately 15 inches.



Chronic Wasting Disease

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) was discovered in Mississippi in February 2018. Since then, proactive measures have been enacted for continued surveillance and management. Some measures include:

- Supplemental feeding of wildlife, including feeders, salt licks, and mineral licks, is banned within any MDWFP-defined CWD Management Zone.
- Only meat from cervids (deer, elk, moose, etc.) that has been completely deboned or bone-in quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached, hides with no head attached, finished taxidermy products, antlers with no tissue attached, and cleaned skulls or skull plates may be transported outside the CWD Zones or into Mississippi from any other state or country.
- Hunters may only transport a deer head outside of a MDWFP-defined CWD Management Zone to a permitted taxidermist participating in the CWD collection program. A CWD sample number must be obtained from the participating taxidermist prior to transporting the deer head outside of the MDWFP-defined CWD Management Zone. This sample number must accompany the deer head while in transport and be available for inspection by Law Enforcement upon request. The deer head must be delivered to the participating taxidermist within 5 days of receiving the sample number.

MDWFP urges hunters to submit the heads of harvested deer for CWD sampling, especially if the deer was harvested in a CWD Zone.

For more information or to locate a CWD drop off freezer or participating taxidermist, visit www.mdwfp.com/wildlife-hunting/chronic-wasting-disease/

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2025-2026 White-Tailed Deer Hunting Seasons

HUNTING SEASONS: NORTH CENTRAL, DELTA, HILLS DEER MANAGEMENT UNITS

Hills: All areas except the Delta, North Central, and Southeast Deer Management Units. A legal buck is defined as having EITHER a minimum inside spread of 10 inches OR a minimum main beam length of 13 inches. Delta: Private and open public lands west of I-55 and north of I-20 plus areas south of I-20 and west of U.S. Hwy. 61. A legal buck is defined as having EITHER a minimum inside spread of 12 inches OR a minimum main beam length of 15 inches. North Central: All portions of Alcorn, Benton, Desoto, Marshall, Tate, and Tippah counties. A legal buck is defined as having hardened antler above the hairline.

METHOD	SEASON DATES	LEGAL DEER
Archery	Sept. 12-14	Only one (1) Legal Buck. Special permit, mandatory reporting, and CWD sampling required. Private Land and authorized state and federal lands.
	Oct. 1 - Nov. 21	Either sex on private and open public land.
Youth Gun (15 and under)	Nov. 8 - Nov. 21	Either sex on private, open public, and authorized state/federal lands.
	Nov. 22 - Jan. 31	Either sex on private lands. On open public lands, youth must follow legal deer criteria.
Antlerless Primitive Weapons	Nov. 10-21	Antlerless Deer Only on private lands.
Guns (dogs allowed)	Nov. 22-Dec. 1	Either sex on private land and Holly Springs NF, excluding portions in Yalobusha County. Legal Bucks only on open public land.
Primitive Weapon	Dec. 2-15	Either sex on private land, open public land, and Holly Springs NF. <i>Weapon of choice may be used on private land with appropriate license.</i>
Guns (dogs not allowed)	Dec. 16-23	Either sex on private land and Holly Springs NF, excluding portions in Yalobusha County. Legal Bucks only on open public land.
Guns (dogs allowed)	Dec. 24 - Jan. 21	Either sex on private land and Holly Springs NF, excluding portions in Yalobusha County. Legal Bucks only on open public land.
Archery/Primitive Weapon	Jan. 22-31	Either sex on private land and Holly Springs NF, excluding portions in Yalobusha County. Legal Bucks only on open public land. <i>Weapon of choice may be used on private land with appropriate license.</i>

HUNTING SEASONS: SOUTHEAST DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT

Private and open public lands south of U.S. Hwy. 84 and east of MS Hwy. 35. A legal buck is defined as having EITHER a minimum inside spread of 10 inches OR a minimum main beam length of 13 inches.

METHOD	SEASON DATES	LEGAL DEER
Archery	Sept. 12-14	Only one (1) Legal Buck. Special permit, mandatory reporting, and CWD sampling required. Private Land and authorized state and federal lands.
	Oct. 15 - Nov. 21	Either sex on private and open public land.
Youth Gun (15 and under)	Nov. 8 - Nov. 21	Either sex on private, open public, and authorized state/federal lands.
	Nov. 22 - Jan. 31	Either sex on private lands. On open public lands, youth must follow legal deer criteria.
	Feb. 1 - Feb. 15	Legal bucks only on private and open public land.
Guns (dogs allowed)	Nov. 22 - Dec. 1	Either sex on private land. Legal Bucks only on open public land.
Primitive Weapon	Dec. 2-15	Either sex on private land and open public land. <i>Weapon of choice may be used on private land with appropriate license.</i>
Guns (dogs not allowed)	Dec. 16-23	Either sex on private land. Legal Bucks only on open public land.
Guns (dogs allowed)	Dec. 24 - Jan. 21	Either sex on private land. Legal Bucks only on open public land.
Archery/Primitive Weapon	Jan. 22-31	Either sex on private land. Legal bucks only on open public land. <i>Weapon of choice may be used on private land with appropriate license.</i>
	Feb. 1-15	Legal bucks only on private and open public land. <i>Weapon of choice may be used on private land with appropriate license.</i>

Open Public Lands include U.S. National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations. Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) are not considered Open Public Land. For seasons and bag limits on MDWFP WMAs visit www.mdwfp.com/wildlife-hunting/wildlife-management-areas.

LEGAL WEAPONS

Archery: Longbows, recurves, crossbows and compound bows. There is no minimum or maximum draw weight. There is no minimum arrow length. Fixed or mechanical broadheads may be used.

Primitive Weapons: Weapons legal for use during the Primitive Weapons season are all archery equipment and primitive firearms. "Primitive firearms," for the purpose of hunting deer, are defined as single- or double-barreled, muzzle-loading rifles of at least .38 caliber; OR single-shot, breech-loading, metallic-cartridge rifles (.35 caliber or larger) and replicas, reproductions, or re-introductions of those type rifles with an exposed hammer; OR single- or double-barreled, muzzle-loading shotguns, with single ball or slug. All muzzle-loading primitive firearms must use black powder or a black powder substitute with percussion caps, #209 shotgun primers, or flintlock ignition.

"Blackpowder substitute" is defined as a substance designed, manufactured, and specifically intended to be used as a propellant in muzzleloading or other black powder firearms, excluding modern smokeless powder. Metallic cartridges may be loaded with either black powder or modern smokeless powder (cartridges purchased at sporting goods stores).

During any open season on deer with primitive weapons after November 30, a person may use any legal weapon of choice including air bows and air guns (pre-charged pneumatic weapons) on private lands only, if the person is the title owner of the land; the lessee of the hunting rights on the land; a member of a hunting club leasing the hunting rights on the land; or a guest of a person specified above. If the person is required to have a hunting license, the person must have an All Game License and Primitive Weapon Permit, Sportsman's License or a Lifetime Sportsman's License.

Gun: There are no caliber or magazine capacity restrictions on firearms. Archery and primitive firearms may be used during Gun seasons.



DEER HEALTH OBSERVATION

If you observe a deer you suspect may be diseased or sick, report it to Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks by phone or QR code.

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SYMPTOMS

- ✓ Malnourished / frail
- ✓ Not afraid of humans
- ✓ Excessive salivation
- ✓ Erratic behavior



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White-Tailed Deer Hunting

SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING

Supplemental feeding of wildlife is allowed on private land in any county, or portion thereof, not in a CWD Management Zone. The feed may only be provided from above-ground, covered feeders or stationary spin-cast feeders. Any type of feed may be used. Feed may not be poured, piled, or placed directly on the ground. All feed and feeders must be at least 100 yards from the nearest property line. Deer hunters may hunt in the proximity, with no minimum distance from a feeder as described above.

SPECIAL DEER HUNTS

Special primitive weapons deer hunts are established pursuant to the authority granted the Commission in Sections 49-7-37(2), (3), & (4), Mississippi Code of 1972. **All archery and primitive weapons hunters must wear hunter orange or pink while these special hunts are in effect.**

ANTLERLESS PRIMITIVE WEAPONS HUNT

This season is for Antlerless Deer Only on private lands. Legal weapons are primitive weapons. This hunt is not on MDWFP Wildlife Management Areas. Refer to page 16 for the definition of a primitive weapon.

HUNTER ORANGE OR PINK

When hunting deer during any firearm season, every hunter, whether hunting with a firearm, bow and arrow, or any weapon, must wear in full view at least five-hundred (500) square inches of solid unbroken fluorescent orange or pink, except as otherwise provided in this section. Mesh-style or orange/pink-camouflage is not considered unbroken and does not count toward the five hundred (500) square inch minimum.

Hunters shall not be required to wear five hundred (500) square inches of solid unbroken fluorescent orange or pink when:

1. Hunting from a deer stand that is elevated twelve (12) feet or more above the ground; or
2. Hunting in a fully enclosed blind.

It is the intent of the Commission that "fully enclosed blinds" are tripod type stands, ladder stands, blinds and/or "shooting houses" or any other stand, whether located on the ground or elevated above ground, that can be covered so as to hide the hunter from view of game or other hunters.

FEDERAL LANDS-YOUTH HUNTS AND ANTLERLESS HARVEST

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers managed lands which designate the youth deer season in their regulations and open U.S. Forest Service National Forest lands are authorized to provide youth hunting opportunities.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Army managed lands are authorized to harvest antlerless deer on days designated by Federal Regulations. Contact local National Wildlife Refuge, Corps of Engineers, or U.S. Army for details.

To Report Wildlife Violations Call: 1-800-BE-SMART (1-800-237-6278)

CAMPING ESSENTIALS CHECKLIST



CAMPSITE :

- TENT
- SLEEPING BAG
- PILLOW
- FIREWOOD
- MATCHES
- FLASHLIGHT / LANTERN
- CAMP CHAIR

YOU MAY ALSO NEED :

- BACKPACKS
- MULTI-TOOL

- AXE / HATCHET
- BATTERIES

PERSONAL ITEMS :

- EXTRA CLOTHES
- JACKET
- BLANKET
- BOOTS OR SHOES
- SOCKS
- SANDALS
- SLEEP OR LOUNGEWEAR

- SUNGLASSES
- HAT
- PERSONAL TOILETRIES

YOU MAY ALSO NEED :

- RAINWEAR
- GLOVES
- CHAPSTICK
- SWIMSUIT
- TOWEL

CAMP KITCHEN :

- STOVE (AND FUEL)
- POTS AND PANS
- COOKING UTENSILS
- SHARP KNIFE
- MESS KIT
- CUPS / MUGS
- COFFEE MAKER
- COOLER
- SOAP
- SPONGE

YOU MAY ALSO NEED :

- TRASH BAGS
- POTABLE WATER
- CHARCOAL

- CUTTING BOARD
- BOTTLE OPENER
- STORAGE CONTAINERS
- PAPER TOWELS / NAPKINS

NECESSITIES :

- SUNSCREEN
- BUG SPRAY
- FIRST AID KIT
- TOILET PAPER
- HAND SANITIZER

EXTRA ITEMS :

- HAMMOCK
- GAMES

YOU MAY ALSO WANT :

- CAMERA
- BINOCULARS
- FIELD GUIDES

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**Boone and Crockett-
Non-Typical:**
Score 295 6/8
Taken by Tony Fulton,
Winston County
1994–1995 season



**Pope and Young-
Non-Typical:**
Score 236 1/8
Taken by Tracy Laird,
Adams County
2003–2004 season

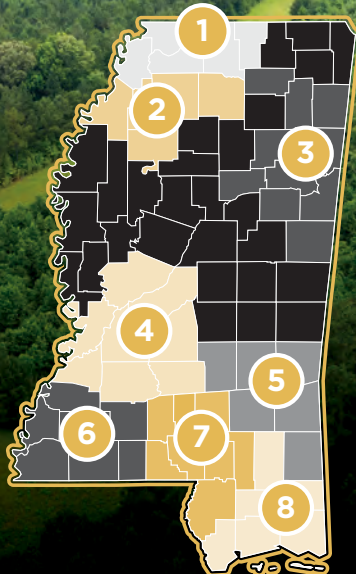


**Boone and Crockett-
Typical:**
Score 184 6/8
Taken by James Saunders,
Adams County
2010–2011 season



Pope and Young-Typical:
Net Score: 181 2/8
Taken by Earl Stubblefield,
Lafayette County
Archery season
2016–2017 season

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4. JEFF FOOTE
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5. RICK WALTERS
Eastern Mississippi
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6. LARRY STEWART
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7. ART MOTT
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8. BRICE PETERSEN
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Small Game & Migratory Game Birds

2025–2026 SMALL GAME HUNTING SEASONS & BAG LIMITS

SEASON	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT
Youth Squirrel (On private lands and authorized state and federal lands. Youth 15 and under.)	Sept. 24 – Sept. 30	8
Squirrel – Fall Season	Oct. 1 – Feb. 28	8
Squirrel – Spring Season	May 15 – June 1	4
Rabbit	Oct. 18 – Feb. 28	8
Bobwhite Quail	Nov. 27 – March 7	8
Frog	April 1 – Sept. 30	25/night
Raccoon	July 1 – Sept. 30	1 per party/night
Opossum, Raccoon, and Bobcat	Oct. 1 – Oct. 31 (Food and sport)	5/day; 8/party
	Nov. 1 – March 15 (Food, sport, and pelt)	no limit
Trapping	Nov. 1 – March 15	no limit

2025–2026 MIGRATORY GAME BIRD SEASONS & BAG LIMITS

SEASON	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Sept. Canada Geese*	Sept. 1 – Sept. 30	5	15
White-winged and Mourning Doves (Statewide)	Sept. 1 – Sept. 30 Oct. 18 – Nov. 16 Dec. 27 – Jan. 25	15 singly or in aggregate	45 singly or in aggregate
Sept. Teal	Sept. 20 – Sept. 28	6	18
Rails (Sora & Virginia)	Sept. 1 – Sept. 30 Nov. 22 – Dec. 31	25 singly or in aggregate	75 singly or in aggregate
Rails (Clapper & King)	Sept. 1 – Sept. 30 Nov. 22 – Dec. 31	15 singly or in aggregate	45 singly or in aggregate
Gallinules: Common and Purple	Sept. 1 – Sept. 30 Nov. 22 – Dec. 31	15 singly or in aggregate	45 singly or in aggregate
Crow	Nov. 1 – Feb. 28	no limit	no limit
Snipe	Nov. 14 – Feb. 28	8	24
Geese (Canada, Snow, Blue, Ross's, White-fronted, and Brant)	Nov. 14 – Nov. 30 Dec. 6 – Jan. 31	Canada Goose Bag Limit 5; Snow, Blue, and Ross's Bag Limit 20; White-fronted Bag Limit 3; Brant Bag Limit 1	Possession 15 (Canada Goose) No Possession Limit (Snow, Blue, and Ross's) Possession 9 (White-fronted) Possession 3 (Brant)
Ducks, Mergansers, & Coots	Nov. 28 – Nov. 30 Dec. 6 – Jan. 31	See below for ducks, mergansers, and coots bag limits.	
Woodcock	Dec. 18 – Jan. 31	3	9
Youth, Veteran, and Active Military Waterfowl Days	Feb. 7 – 8	Bag limits & shooting hours are the same as the regular season.	
Light Goose Conservation Order**	Oct. 1 – Nov. 13, Dec. 1 – Dec. 5, Feb. 1 – Feb. 6, Feb. 9 – Mar. 31	no limit	no limit

* Sept. Canada Goose season is closed on Roebuck Lake in Leflore county.

** The Light Goose Conservation Order is a special opportunity designed to reduce the populations of snow, blue, and Ross's geese when no other waterfowl seasons are open. This allows for expanded methods of take which are not allowed during regular waterfowl seasons.

Shooting hours for all migratory game birds are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except during the Light Goose Conservation Order.

To participate in the Light Goose Conservation Order, hunters need a valid Mississippi hunting license, state waterfowl stamp, and a free Light Goose Conservation Order permit number. Hunters can obtain the permit number online at www.mdwfp.com/wildlife-hunting/wildlife-species-program/waterfowl-program.

Light Goose Conservation Order Methods:

- Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- Only snow, blue, and Ross's geese are eligible for harvest.
- The use of electronic calls is allowed.
- The use of unplugged shotguns is allowed.
- There is no daily or possession limit for snow, blue, or Ross's geese.
- Hunters must use non-toxic shot.

DAILY BAG LIMITS / POSSESSION LIMITS:

Possession Limit is three times the daily bag limit for all migratory game birds except on opening day unless otherwise noted.

Ducks - A total of 6 ducks, including no more than 4 mallards (no more than 2 of which may be females), 3 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks, 1 mottled duck, 2 black ducks, and 3 pintail. The daily bag limit for scaup is 1 scaup per day Nov. 28 – 30 and Dec. 6 – 17; and is 2 scaup per day Dec. 18 – Jan. 31

Mergansers - A total of 5, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers.

Coots - 15 Daily.

Turkey Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits

2026 SPRING TURKEY HUNTING SEASONS & BAG LIMITS

SEASON	DATES	BAG LIMIT
Youth (Private and authorized state and federal public lands; youth 15 and under)	March 7 – 13	See Spring season for bag limit.
Spring (Nonresidents subject to special regulations, see below)	March 14 – May 1	One (1) adult gobbler or 1 gobbler with a 6-inch or longer beard per day, 3 per Spring season. Hunters 15 years of age and younger may harvest 1 gobbler of choice (any age) per day, 3 per spring season.

Non-residents Turkey Hunting on Public Lands: Non-residents cannot hunt any public land in Mississippi before April 1 unless drawn for either a Non-resident Public Lands Turkey Permit or WMA Draw Hunt. See www.mdwfp.com/wildlife-hunting/wildlife-species-program/wild-turkey-program for application dates and more information.

REPORTING YOUR TURKEY HARVESTS

By reporting your turkey harvests, you will aid the future of wild turkey conservation in Mississippi. Reporting through the MDWFP Game Check system is quick and easy, and it is **MANDATORY** for ALL TURKEY HUNTERS. The basics of Game Check are outlined below.

STEP 1. BEFORE YOU GO HUNTING

Unless exempt, all hunters must obtain a Wild Turkey Stamp prior to hunting. Upon purchase, three (3) potential Game Check reports will be credited to your license account. These will be accessible via the MDWFP HuntFish app for digital users. If you prefer not to use a mobile device, you must select the physical Game Check tag option when obtaining your license. Hunters exempt from the Wild Turkey Stamp will receive a no-cost license privilege, allowing them to choose between digital Game Checks or physical tags.

STEP 2. WHEN YOU HARVEST A TURKEY

The reporting process must begin **BEFORE MOVING** the turkey from the harvest location.

DIGITAL USERS: Invalidate the Game Check digitally using the MDWFP app at the harvest site. This completes your reporting requirement.

PHYSICAL TAG USERS: Invalidate the physical tag by notching it and attach it to the turkey's leg before moving the bird.

STEP 3. AFTER YOU HUNT

If you digitally invalidated the Game Check at the harvest site, no further action is required. If you used a physical tag, you must report the harvest by 10PM on the day of harvest.

THERE ARE THREE WAYS TO REPORT:

1. MDWFP app
2. Online at www.mdwfp.com/gamecheck.
3. Call 1-800-BE-SMART

Updates for 2026 Spring Turkey Season

Wild Turkey Stamp

Unless otherwise exempt, a turkey stamp purchase is required for any person 16 years old or older to hunt wild turkeys in Mississippi.

Game Check

All turkey hunters must Game Check their harvested turkeys. MDWFP encourages hunters to ensure they have an up-to-date profile in the new license system before turkey season. For more information scan the adjacent QR code.



For information on
YOUTH HUNTING
visit wildlife.ms



Wildlife Management Areas

The Wildlife Management Area (WMA) system is expansive and diverse. It includes 53 areas encompassing over a thousand square miles. WMAs are located from the upper edge of the coastal marshes in Jackson County to the lower reaches of the Appalachians in Tishomingo County. They range from the rolling hardwood hills of southwestern Mississippi to the deep, rich soils of the Delta. The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks owns some WMAs and manages many others under memoranda of understanding with the U.S. Forest Service or private corporations. Others are operated through long-term license agreements with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

When most Mississippians think of our WMAs, they think of them primarily as public hunting areas. Public hunting does, indeed, constitute the largest single use of WMAs. While deer hunting is the leading use, at over half of the annual total, there are many other resident and migratory game species available to pursue. Wild turkey, squirrel, rabbit, quail, raccoon, opossum, fox, and bobcat are among the resident species traditionally hunted on our WMAs. Ducks, geese, and doves are the most commonly hunted migratory species, but several other migratory game birds may be taken too. Wild hogs

are classified as nuisance animals and hunters are encouraged to kill them at any lawful opportunity. Wild hogs may be killed during any open WMA hunting season with weapons and ammunition legal for that season.

Today's WMAs serve many other roles in addition to public hunting—fishing, primitive camping, wildlife viewing, photography, wildlife research, habitat management demonstration areas, and nature study, to name a few. The common link among all WMAs is that they provide habitat for wildlife, game and nongame species alike. In certain locations they even lend themselves to management for threatened and endangered species such as the gopher tortoise, yellow-blotched sawback turtle, and red-cockaded woodpecker. The ability to enhance habitats and regulate public use makes WMAs vitally important for maintaining species of special concern.

While our WMAs have something for almost everyone, they cannot be all things to all people. We are ultimately responsible for protecting the public's wildlife resources, so there must be limits on recreational opportunities we can offer. The ability to formulate regulations for specific areas allows us to offer controlled public use within the limits of these resources.

Individual WMA regulations and maps are available from the MDWFP at 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS 39211-6374, or online at <https://www.mdwfp.com/wildlife-hunting/wildlife-management-areas>, or the WMA.

NOTE: The MDWFP will assist handicapped users in locating easily accessible areas for hunting on all WMAs.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA PERMITTED DRAW HUNTS

Permitted draw hunts are used for a variety of species on WMAs to distribute hunting opportunity and pressure while providing higher quality, safer hunting experiences for the public.

To see a list of hunts that are currently open and to submit applications, please visit the WMA permitted draw hunt page.

Annual application deadline targets are: Early Teal – August 15; Deer – July 31; Turkey – January 31; Waterfowl – October 15. Typically, applications will be opened online approximately one month prior to the application deadlines.

Permitted hunt drawings are conducted within one week of the close of the application period. Selected hunters are notified by email and may also check their status in the online licensing system or on the MDWFP mobile app.

MDWFP Regional Offices

Enid Office

Enid Lake
457 CR 36
Mailing Address
Box 100
Enid, MS, 38927
(662) 563-6222

Tupelo Office

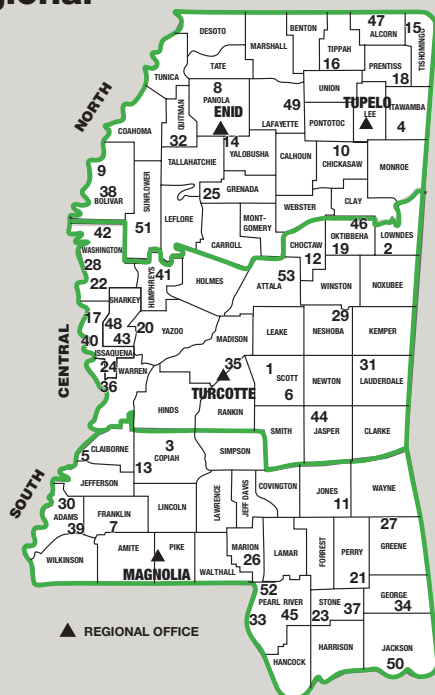
Elvis Presley Lake
272 CR 995
Tupelo, MS 38804
(662) 840-5172

Turcotte Office

506 Highway 43 South
Canton, MS 39046
(601) 859-3421

Magnolia Office

1201 N Clark Avenue
Magnolia, MS 39652
(601) 783-2911



MDWFP Wildlife Management Areas

1. Bienville WMA*
2. Black Prairie WMA
3. Calling Panther WMA
4. Canal Section WMA
5. Canemount WMA
6. Caney Creek WMA*
7. Caston Creek WMA*
8. Charles Ray Nix WMA
9. Charlie Capps WMA
10. Chickasaw WMA*
11. Chickasawhay WMA*
12. Choctaw WMA*
13. Copiah County WMA
14. Cossar State Park WMA
15. Divide Section WMA
16. Hell Creek WMA
17. Howard Miller WMA
18. John Bell Williams WMA
19. John W. Starr Memorial Forest WMA
20. Lake George WMA
21. Leaf River WMA*
22. Leroy Percy WMA
23. Little Biloxi WMA*
24. Mahannah WMA
25. Malmaison WMA
26. Marion County WMA
27. Mason Creek WMA*
28. Muscadine Farms WMA
29. Nanih Waiya WMA
30. Natchez State Park WMA
31. Okatibbee WMA
32. O'Keefe WMA
33. Old River WMA
34. Pascagoula River WMA
35. Pearl River WMA
36. Phil Bryant WMA
37. Red Creek WMA*
38. Riverfront WMA
39. Sandy Creek WMA*
40. Shipland WMA
41. Sky Lake WMA
42. Stoneville WMA
43. Sunflower WMA*
44. Tallahala WMA*
45. Theodore A. Mars Jr. Memorial Wildlife Refuge
46. Trim Cane WMA
47. Tusculumbia WMA
48. Twin Oaks WMA
49. Upper Sardis WMA*
50. Ward Bayou WMA
51. William C. (Billy) Deviney WMA
52. Wolf River WMA
53. Yockanookany WMA

* Properties owned by the U.S. Forest Service



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with mail-in registration, or online. You can learn
more about the Mississippi State Parks system these
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Wildlife Management Area Information

Wildlife Management Area	Acres	Nearest Town
Bienville.....	26,760	Morton
Black Prairie.....	6,001	Brooksville
Calling Panther.....	1,094	Hazlehurst
Canal Section.....	29,672	Fulton
Canemount.....	3,587	Port Gibson
Caney Creek.....	28,000	Forest
Caston Creek.....	28,286	Meadville
Charles Ray Nix.....	4,058	Sardis
Charlie Capps.....	661	Cleveland
Chickasaw.....	26,815	Houston
Chickasawhay.....	29,049	Laurel
Choctaw.....	21,705	Ackerman
Copiah County.....	7,466	Hazlehurst
Cossar S.P.....	604	Oakland
Divide Section.....	15,337	Iuka
Hell Creek.....	2,414	New Albany
Howard Miller.....	2,420	Rolling Fork
John Bell Williams.....	3,135	Fulton
John W Starr.....	8,244	Starkville
Lake George.....	8,383	Holly Bluff
Leaf River.....	41,350	Wiggins
Leroy Percy.....	1,940	Hollandale
Little Biloxi.....	13,687	McHenry
Mahannah.....	12,675	Redwood
Malmaison.....	11,981	Greenwood
Marion County.....	7,732	Columbia
Mason Creek.....	26,075	Richton

Wildlife Management Area	Acres	Nearest Town
Muscadine Farms.....	3,048	Avon
Nanih Waiya.....	8,243	Philadelphia
Natchez State Park.....	2,261	Natchez
Okatibbee.....	6,883	Collinsville
O'Keefe.....	6,794	Lambert
Old River.....	15,091	Poplarville
Pascagoula River.....	39,150	Vancleave
Pearl River.....	6,925	Canton
Phil Bryant.....	17,816	Redwood
Red Creek.....	22,789	Wiggins
Riverfront.....	1,214	Rosedale
Sandy Creek.....	19,125	Natchez
Shiplace.....	3,642	Mayersville
Sky Lake.....	4,306	Belzoni
Stoneville.....	2,664	Leland
Sunflower.....	61,481	Rolling Fork
Tallahala.....	27,442	Montrose
Theodore A. Mars, Jr.....	896	Poplarville
Trim Cane.....	891	Starkville
Tuscumbia.....	2,693	Corinth
Twin Oaks.....	5,675	Rolling Fork
Upper Sardis.....	50,725	Oxford
Ward Bayou.....	13,234	Moss Point
William C. (Billy) Deviney.....	2,860	Indianola
Wolf River.....	10,194	Poplarville
Yockanookany.....	2,379	McCool

To Report Wildlife Violations Call: 1-800-BE-SMART (1-800-237-6278)

North Mississippi National Wildlife Refuge Complex

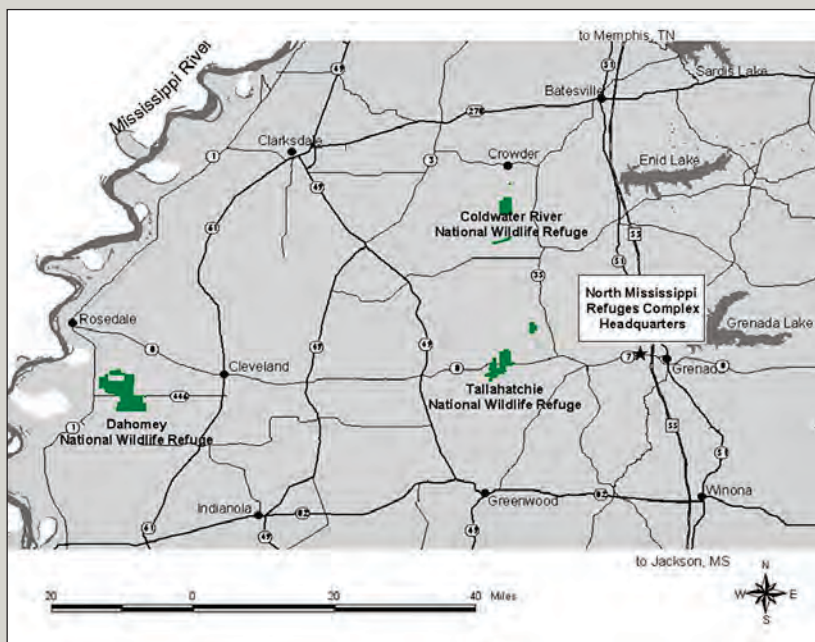
Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee NWR/North Mississippi Refuges Complex (Coldwater, Dahomey and Tallahatchie National Wildlife Refuges) are open from sunrise to sunset. During hunting season, hunters may enter the refuge at 4:00 am and must exit the refuge no later than one hour after sunset.

Hunting and Fishing on the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee NWR/North Mississippi Refuges Complex (NMRC) requires a \$15 North Mississippi National Wildlife Refuge Permit (Hunting/Fishing) if you are between the ages of 16-64. The permit can be purchased from any state license vendor or MDWFP website at www.mdwfp.com/licenses-permits.

All hunters and anglers should read and follow the current Hunting and Fishing Regulations. Hunters are required to fill out/display on dash of vehicle a Harvest Data Card. Harvest Data Cards are available at all refuge kiosks.

The following activities are some of the prohibited activities please check the Hunting and Fishing brochure for a complete list:

- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages
- Use or possession of All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) or Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTVs)
- Fires, camping, littering
- Collecting, removing, or damaging any animal or plant, except for those authorized in the Hunting and Fishing Regulations
- All commercial activities including guiding hunts or participating in guided hunts on the Refuge



The current NMRC hunt brochure can be found online at <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/dahomey>. The current Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee brochure can be found online at: <http://www.fws.gov/refuge/noxubee>.

Sharing Your Wildlife Management Areas and National Forests

The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MDWFP) and the National Forests in Mississippi are committed to providing safe recreational experiences for all users. Growing demands for recreational trails, places to hunt, and other outdoor activities have resulted in increased use of wildlife management areas and National Forests. Interactions between recreational visitors are occurring more frequently. In response, the MDWFP and National Forests in Mississippi are increasing efforts to raise individual awareness by providing tips to our visitors. Please follow these tips to ensure a safe visit for yourself and others and "Live to Play Another Day".

TIPS FOR TRAIL USERS

Trail Users: Know local hunting seasons—Specific dates for hunting seasons vary year-to-year and also by type of game hunted and the weapon used. Small-game seasons (dove, squirrel, rabbit, etc.) stretch from September through February. Deer seasons generally occur from October through January or mid-February. Turkey seasons usually run from mid-March through the beginning of May. Learn the regulations and hunting seasons for the areas where you will be recreating before you go. See www.mdwfp.com for specific information.



Trail Users:

- Know when hunting seasons are open
- Wear fluorescent orange or pink during open seasons
- Make your presence known

Trail Users: Wear fluorescent orange or pink—Wear a fluorescent orange or pink hat and vest (and pack cover if backpacking), or hooded outerwear when out in fall, winter, and spring. Horse riders should make or buy brightly colored rump sheets for their horses.

Trail Users: Other clothing tips—Avoid wearing colors that could be mistaken for game animals—white or brown during deer seasons; red or blue during turkey seasons.

Trail Users: Be heard—Make sure you are heard before you are seen by whistling,

singing, talking, etc., while on a trail. Tie small bells to your stirrups.

Trail Users: Communicate—Conflicts between hunters and trail riders seem to be relatively rare. If you meet hunters tell them your planned route. Try to keep the communication open.

Trail Users: Avoid peak hunting times—Avoid riding at peak times such as the opening day of a particular hunting season or early mornings/late afternoons.

Trail Users: Try to avoid known hunting areas—If possible, use trails located outside of state WMAs during peak hunting periods.

TIPS FOR HUNTERS

Hunters: ID your target—Be sure of your target and what is in front of and beyond it. Before you pull the trigger you must properly identify game animals. Until your target is fully visible and in good light, do not even raise your scope to see it. Use binoculars!

Hunters: Don't shoot—Across roads, trails or waterways. These areas may be occupied by people.

Hunters: Avoid—Avoid alcohol and medications that may impair judgment before or while handling firearms.

Hunters: Educate yourself—Obey all the rules of firearm safety and insist that those around you do the same.

Hunters: Know where trails are—National Forest trail maps can be obtained at U.S. Forest Service ranger district offices. WMA maps located at WMA visitor permit stations include maps showing trails on the areas.

Hunters: Be alert for trail users and make your presence is known to them—Trail users may be unfamiliar with hunting. Trail users may not be aware of hunting seasons or that they are in or near areas open to hunting. Trail users may not be wearing hunter orange or pink. Please use appropriate caution and communicate openly.

The websites below contain additional related information that visitors might find useful.

Leave No Trace:

www.lnt.org

Respected Access:

www.respectedaccess.org

Tread Lightly:

www.treadlightly.org

International Hunter Education Association:

www.ihea.com



National Forests in Mississippi

100 West Capitol Street, Suite 1141
Jackson, MS 39269
(601) 965-1600
www.fs.usda.gov/mississippi

Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, & Parks

1505 Eastover Drive
Jackson, MS 39211
(601) 432-2400
www.mdwfp.com

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Hunters:

- Always positively identify your target
- Be aware that trail users may be present
- Make your presence known

Hunting and Recreation on National Forests in Mississippi

The National Forests in Mississippi provide over 1 million acres of land available to the public for hunting. A variety of game is hunted each year on the National Forests in Mississippi. White-tailed deer, wild turkey, quail, squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, waterfowl, and more can be found in the forest.

The Forest Service shares responsibility for managing wildlife resources on national forest land with the MDWFP. This agency is responsible for regulating hunting seasons and enforcing game laws. The Forest Service, mainly through timber harvest, contributes to improved habitat conditions that benefit wildlife populations on the Forest.

DO I NEED A PERMIT TO HUNT ON NATIONAL FOREST LAND?

The requirements for hunting on national forest land in Mississippi include having a valid hunting license and following all rules and regulations set forth by the MDWFP.

Residents and Non-Residents that hunt, fish, or trap on Wildlife Management Areas on national forest land except those exempt from purchasing an annual hunting or fishing license, must purchase a Wildlife Management Area User Permit.

MAY I HUNT ANYWHERE ON NATIONAL FOREST LAND?

Most of the general forest area is open to hunting, but designated recreation areas and administrative sites are not. In addition, the Impact Closure Area of Camp Shelby on the DeSoto National Forest is closed to all public use. The area may be identified by signs that read "Danger, Military Firing Range, Unexploded Ordinance, DO NOT ENTER." Fourteen wildlife management areas are located on the National Forests in Mississippi that have special seasons and hunting regulations. These wildlife management areas are Bienville, Caney Creek, Caston Creek, Chickasaw, Chickasawhay, Choctaw, Leaf River, Little Biloxi, Mason Creek, Red Creek, Sandy Creek, Sunflower, Tallahala, and Upper Sardis. Be sure to review the regulations for hunting in these areas. All wildlife management area boundaries are posted with yellow signs. Check with the district offices for more information.

It is important to stay at least 150 yards from trails, roads, recreation areas, buildings, and residences. Pay close attention to the boundaries; what you may think is national forest land could be private. National forest land is marked with yellow signs in black print. These signs are posted along the boundaries.

Even though you may be within the national forest proclamation boundary, there are pockets of private land within that

boundary. Abide by posted "No Hunting" and "No Trespassing" signs. Permission from private property owners must be obtained prior to hunting.

You may purchase forest maps, available at district offices or at the Supervisor's Office in Jackson, MS.

The hunting seasons set by the MDWFP for private land are the same for Mississippi's national forest land, except for special regulations which govern wildlife management areas, antlerless deer harvest, and youth hunting seasons.

OFF-ROAD VEHICLES/ATV AND GAME RETRIEVAL

ORVs/ATVs are allowed on designated roads or trails, and only for the retrieval of harvested deer or hogs without a weapon on all Forest Service-owned WMAs. On Sunflower WMA (Delta National Forest), anyone operating ORVs/ATVs should have a permit. Anyone operating ORVs/ATVs should be familiar with the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) published annually by the U.S. Forest Service. The MVUM explains when and where ORVs/ATVs may be used. MVUMs are available at the local Forest Service office and online at www.fs.usda.gov/main/mississippi/maps-pubs.

TREE STANDS AND BLINDS

Tree stands and blinds may be used on national forest land, but they must be portable and cannot be of a type that will deface or harm trees. Since national forest lands are open to public hunting, hunters cannot maintain exclusive rights to a hunting area. Wildlife Management Areas located on national forest land have specific regulations pertaining to tree stands and blinds. Please refer to MDWFP WMA Basic Rules for these regulations.

PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED HUNTER ACCESS

The Forest Service provides Universal Access to all persons and does not discriminate against able and unable bodied persons. Therefore, no lands are set aside for sole use by handicapped hunters.

BAITING

Baiting and hunting over baited areas to attract wildlife is not allowed on national forest lands. No food plots may be placed on national forest land except by official personnel.

CAMPING

Developed recreation areas offer conveniences such as showers, restrooms and picnic facilities. Primitive camping is allowed except in designated scenic areas

or where otherwise prohibited. During hunting season, camping is permitted only in designated hunter camps in Sunflower WMA (Delta National Forest), and Choctaw and Chickasaw WMAs (Tombigbee National Forest). Camping in the national forests is limited to 14 days during a 30-day time period. Camps may not be left unattended for a period no longer than twenty-four (24) hours. Contact ranger offices for more information on camp locations.

HOW TO RECOGNIZE NATIONAL FOREST LAND

The land shown in green on the maps indicates national forest land.

Red paint and signs mark the boundaries between national forest land and private property. Recognition of these markings and boundary signs helps the visitor to be certain to stay on national forest land.

Visitors should comply with state law and the owner's rules when entering private land.

Entrance (portal) signs can be seen along major roads entering the national forests, usually on the first tract of government land encountered. Generally, portal signs are not used on low traffic roads.

Welcome signs are located on or just inside the boundaries or individual tracts of national forest land where the road enters. The sign will be oriented so that the land behind the sign is public land. Generally, they are not used on dead-end or woods roads or on small blocks of public land.

Upon entering woods on public land, welcome signs will not be present and the visitor should rely on property line markings and boundary signs.

The boundaries of individual national forest tracts adjacent to other ownerships are marked with brown and yellow property boundary signs.

The small metal boundary signs are fastened either to trees or posts located on the boundary line and at road crossings, and the signs are placed so that public land is behind the sign. Red paint spots on trees define the boundary line through woods.

While the majority of boundaries are identified and posted, occasionally visitors may encounter an area where signs have been vandalized or lines are not marked. In these cases, visitors should be alert to avoid accidentally trespassing on private land.

KNOW THE RULES

The regulations for legal species, weapons, season dates and bag limits are issued by the MDWFP. The rules in this guide are general in scope. More detailed, local rules and regulations may be obtained from the district ranger's office.

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USDA NFS Order for National Forests in Mississippi (effective through Feb. 1, 2026)

This order (No. 08-11-37-23-152) is applicable to all National Forests in Mississippi, which include Bienville, Delta, DeSoto, Holly Springs, Homochitto, and Tombigbee.

The following is prohibited:

- Possessing or consuming alcohol while in possession of a loaded firearm, air rifle, gas gun, or any instrument that can discharge a projectile that can cause death, injury, or property damage.
- It is prohibited to possess an uncased loaded firearm, air rifle, gas gun, or any other instrument that can discharge a projectile that can cause death, injury, or property damage under any condition in which a person would be guilty of driving or operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or other impairing substance pursuant to Miss. Code § 63-11-30. 36 C.F.R. § 261.58(bb).
- Transporting an uncased shoulder-fired firearm, air rifle, or gas gun in a motor vehicle on a National Forest Service (NFS) road or trail, except for off-highway vehicles (OHV).
- Operating or being on an OHV on an NFS road or trail with a loaded shoulder-fired firearm, air rifle, or gas gun.
- Having loaded shoulder-fired weapons within 100 feet of the center line of any road or trail designated for motor vehicle traffic.
- Hunting with dogs during any firearm season without wearing a minimum of 500 square inches of solid unbroken fluorescent orange or pink in full view.



- Hunting quail or rabbits without wearing a solid fluorescent orange or pink vest or cap.
- Discharging a projectile that can cause death, injury, or property damage across a National Forest property line into non-NFS land.

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual and \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment of not more than six months, or both.

To read the complete order, go to www.fs.usda.gov.

To Report Wildlife Violations Call: 1-800-BE-SMART (1-800-237-6278)

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General Hunting Regulations and Requirements

Landowner permission is required to hunt, fish, or trap on private lands. MDWFP Wildlife Management Areas are subject to special seasons and regulations which may vary from statewide seasons and regulations. Contact the MDWFP or area personnel (see page 22) for information about these areas.

LICENSE AND HUNTER EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

For information on license requirements, license exemptions, and hunter education requirements, see "License Information" on pages 8–12.

UNLAWFUL PURCHASE OF LICENSE

Any person who obtains a license under an assumed name or makes a materially false statement to obtain a license is guilty of a felony and shall be subject to a fine of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and/or can be imprisoned for a term of one (1) year.

SHOOTING HOURS

Legal shooting hours for resident game are one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset. Legal shooting hours for migratory birds are one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset.

LEGAL GAME

For description of legal bucks, see White-tailed Deer Management Units on page 15. Raccoons, foxes, opossums, beavers, nutrias, coyotes, and bobcats may be legally hunted at night, with or without the use of a light and with or without dogs, except during the spring turkey season. Hunters may hunt raccoon with dogs during the spring turkey season with a permit issued from MDWFP. These permits may be obtained at www.mdwfp.com/licenses-permits.

Landowners, leaseholders, or their designated agents may take nuisance animals year-round on lands owned or leased by them. Beaver, coyotes, nutria, fox, skunk, and wild hogs are classified as nuisance species and can be taken year round by licensed hunters subject to applicable regulations (see MDWFP Rule 7.1).

WEAPONS AND LOADS

Legal weapons for hunting from one-half (1/2) hour after sunset to one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise are restricted to handguns or rifles using no larger than .22 standard rimfire cartridges (no .22 magnums) and shotguns with shot no larger than No. 6.

When hunting migratory birds, a shotgun must be "plugged" so that it can hold no more than three (3) shells at one loading.

Legal weapons to hunt spring turkey are restricted to shotguns with no larger than No. 2 shot and compound, recurve, or long bows. However, any quadriplegic may hunt with a rifle.

DECOYS AND BAIT

It is illegal to hunt any wild animal or wild bird with the aid of live decoys or bait. Liquid scents may be used. Electrically operated calling or sound-reproducing devices may be used for hunting crow and nuisance animals. See MDWFP Rule 7.1 for information on baiting of nuisance animals.

HUNTING DOGS

Running of dogs during spring turkey season is allowed only by the exceptions designated in MDWFP Rule 5.3. Dogs are not allowed for hunting deer during archery season, primitive weapon seasons, or still hunting season. Application for dog field trials must be made to MDWFP at least 5 working days before the opening of the trial.

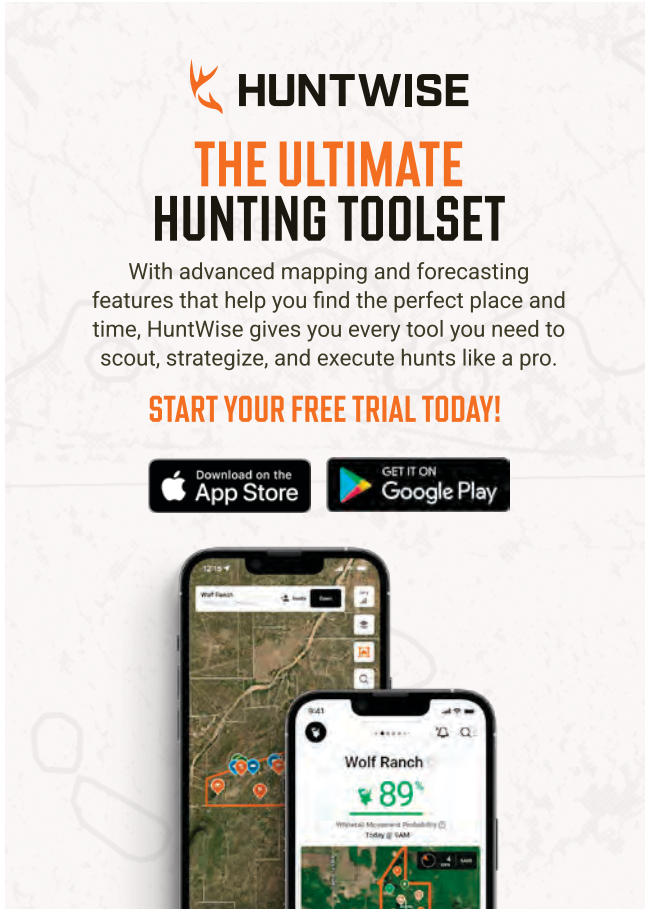


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Today @ 5AM

MEANING OF "UNLOADED"

"Unloaded" means that a cartridge or shell is not positioned in the barrel or magazine of the firearm or in a clip, magazine, or retainer attached to the firearm; or in the case of a caplock muzzle-loading firearm, "unloaded" means that the cap has been removed; or in the case of a flintlock muzzle-loading firearm, "unloaded" means that all powder has been removed from the flashpan.

HUNTING FROM ROADS, VEHICLES, AND BOATS

It is unlawful to hunt or shoot in, on, or across any street, public road, public highway, railroad, or the rights-of-way.

RULE 1.4 HUNTING FROM A MOTORIZED VEHICLE

It is unlawful to shoot at any wild animal, or wild bird from a motorized vehicle or motorized conveyance unless the progress from such vehicle or conveyance has completely ceased.

It is unlawful to hunt, chase, take, or pursue any wild animal other than squirrels and beaver from a motorboat or other watercraft having a motor, unless the

motor has been completely shut off and its progress has ceased.

It is unlawful to discharge any firearm from a boat or other watercraft operating on the public waters of this state during night-time hours from 30 minutes after sunset until 30 minutes before sunrise; except the Commission may set special seasons and regulations for the taking of alligators at night during dates and times set by them.

SOURCE: MISS. CODE ANN. §§49-1-29, 49-4-4, AND 49-7-45. Deer may not be taken from a boat at any time.

ANIMAL CONTROL PERMITS

Animal Control Permits may be issued to scare, harass, and/or kill deer that are destroying crops only after an MDWFP officer has inspected the damage and requested the issuance of such permits. To request an officer to inspect your damage, contact the appropriate regional office. Regional office phone numbers can be found on page 22.

KILLING DEER OUT OF SEASON

If a person is convicted of killing any deer out of season, that person may be

fined not less than \$100 and his license may be revoked for a year by the Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks.

HEADLIGHTING

It is unlawful to hunt, take or kill a deer at night with the aid of a light, lighting device, light amplifying device, forward-looking infrared (FLIR) or thermal imaging device. Headlighting Deer is a Class I violation that is punishable upon conviction of a \$2000-\$5000 fine and forfeiture of all hunting, fishing and trapping privileges for one to three years.

Any equipment used to hunt or kill deer at night that is subject to seizure is considered contraband property and will be seized by the enforcement officer. This equipment is subject to forfeiture and may become the property of the State of Mississippi.

HARASSMENT OF WILDLIFE

It is unlawful to shine a light from a public road or right-of-way, or on the property of another, at night, from one-half (1/2) hour after sunset to one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise. Harassment of Wildlife is a Class 2 violation that is punishable upon conviction of a \$100-\$500 fine.

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General Hunting Regulations and Requirements

RETRIEVAL OF WOUNDED DEER AFTER LEGAL HUNTING HOURS

It shall be lawful for any licensed or exempt hunter or tracker to track or pursue a deer that was legally shot and wounded during legal hunting hours, into the night after legal hunting hours, and to dispatch the deer if the deer is found alive. A licensed or exempt hunter or tracker tracking or pursuing a wounded deer into the nighttime hours may use reasonable means to assist the pursuit, including, but not limited to lights, and blood-trailing/tracking dogs. If blood-trailing/tracking dogs are used, no more than two (2) dogs may be used. If the deer being tracked is discovered alive, but wounded, the hunter or tracker may dispatch the deer by using a handgun with a barrel no longer than six (6) inches chambered in a caliber no larger than .45 caliber.

TRANSPORTING GAME

Any game animal, bird, or fish lawfully taken may be possessed at any time.

LITTERING

It is unlawful to throw, dump or otherwise dispose of any dead wildlife, wildlife parts, or waste on roads, rights-of-way of such roads, highways, or upon any private property without the permission of the owner of such property.

SELLING OF ANIMALS NATIVE TO MISSISSIPPI

It is unlawful to buy, sell, offer for sale, or exchange for merchandise or other consideration, any game animal, game bird, or game fish (regardless of whether it was taken in or out of Mississippi), except as follows: The skins and sinew of legally taken deer can be bought or sold at any time, products crafted or made from deer bone or antlers not in velvet can be sold, any part of a wild turkey, except the meat, may be bought or sold, and any parts of nuisance animals may be bought or sold. The meat of wild hogs may only be sold upon inspection per regulation of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The carcasses of raccoons, opossums, and muskrats may be sold for food during the open trapping season, and for 30 days after the close of trapping season. It also is illegal to buy or sell any non-game wildlife native to Mississippi, or any mounted game animals, game birds, or game fish.

PROTECTED WILDLIFE

Protected Wildlife are species that may not be hunted, molested, bought, or sold. All birds of prey (eagles, hawks, osprey, owls, kites, and vultures) and other native non-game birds are considered Protected Wildlife. Additionally, all species receiving protection under the Federal Endangered Species Act and/or Mississippi's Endangered Species Act are Protected Wildlife. Some of these species are more likely than others to be encountered by Mississippi hunters in the field: black bear, gopher tortoise, and sawback turtles (black knobbed, ringed, and yellow blotched) are examples. A full list of federal and/or state-endangered species occurring in Mississippi can be found by navigating to www.mdwfp.com/museum-natural-science/mississippi-natural-heritage-program and clicking on "endangered species."

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Any person 16 years of age and older must have both a federal waterfowl stamp (or proof of electronic purchase) and a state waterfowl stamp (or proof of electronic purchase) in order to hunt migratory waterfowl (ducks and geese). If a physical stamp is in possession, it must be signed by the hunter across the face

of the stamp. Exempt landowners and hunters over the age of 65 also must have these stamps when hunting waterfowl. Dove, rail, gallinule, coot, woodcock, crows, and snipe are not classified as waterfowl and may be hunted without such stamps.

All licensed hunters hunting migratory game birds (dove, rail, gallinule, coot, woodcock, snipe, crows, and waterfowl (ducks and geese) must be H.I.P. (Harvest Information Program) certified. H.I.P. certified means taking the Migratory Bird Survey at time of license purchase or separately.

TRAPPING

Trappers must have permission to trap on any land other than their own. A trapping license is required of anyone 16 years of age or older who traps fur-bearing and nuisance animals on property other than their own. A trapping license is also required of each assistant or helper 16 years of age or older employed or used by a trapper. Trappers are required to have an identification number, which is registered with MDWFP, attached to ALL traps by a metal tag or permanently inscribed, etched, or stamped on the trap. Any trap found without a registered identification number will be in violation and subject to removal by a conservation officer.

It shall be unlawful for any person to disturb the traps of another or to take furbearing/nuisance animals from them unless authorized by the owner. A trapping license is required to sell the pelts and/or skins of nuisance animals and furbearers, and may be sold only during the trapping season and for 30 days thereafter. All traps must be attended at least once every 36-hour period.

No traps may be placed on or set within 100 feet of any street or public road. Except, a municipality or county, or any person who has contracted with a municipality or county, may place or set only snare traps within one hundred (100) feet of any road or street located within such municipality or county. The governing authority of the municipality or the board of supervisors of the county shall make a finding that such placement of snare traps is reasonable and necessary to protect the public safety by removing fur-bearing and nuisance animals that threaten the safety of public roads and bridges. Snare traps shall be submerged at least fifty percent (50%). Additionally, landowners may trap on their own land within 100 feet of a public road, but not within the maintained road right-of-way.

No body-gripping (conibear-type) traps that exceed 7 inches inside jaw spread may be set on any public lands unless submerged in water.

Licensed trappers may maintain raw fur, green pelts, or dried fur in storage at any time. Anyone transporting raw fur or green pelts from 11 days after the close of trapping season until the day before the opening of trapping season must tag and identify such fur and pelts with the date, county of harvest, and person who trapped them.

It is illegal to trap with the aid of bait, recordings of bird or animal calls, or electrically amplified imitations of calls of any kind. Except, lure is allowed for trapping furbearers, beaver, nutria, coyote, skunk, and fox, provided that no more than two and one-half (2.5) cubic inches of such lure may be placed or located within twenty (20) feet of any trap. The lure amount of 2.5 cubic inches is approximately the volume equivalent of a regulation-sized golfball. All lure within twenty (20) feet of any trap must be covered and not visible from above. However, there are no lure restrictions when used inside live-cage type traps that do not exceed forty-two (42) inches in length, fifteen (15) inches in width, and twenty (20) inches in height. Liquid scents may be used.

The carcasses of raccoons, muskrats, and opossums may be sold for food during the open trapping season and for thirty (30) days after the close of trapping season. The holder of an All Game License, Sportsman License, or Trapping License may sell any part of any nuisance animal year-round.

TAGGING OF OTTER AND BOBCAT

Federal regulations, which require tagging to account for harvest of bobcat and river otter, are in effect. The Commission requires the tagging of otter and bobcat, to account for harvest of these species, which are subject to federal export regulations (CITES Tags). Bobcat and river otter harvested in Mississippi must be CITES tagged prior to shipping or transporting out of Mississippi. *It is not required to present the carcass or pelt to the MDWFP in order to purchase CITES tags.*

CITES tags (via over-the-counter purchases) are only available for purchase from November 1–April 15 at the following MDWFP locations: Jackson Office, North Region Office, Central Region Office, South Region Office, Buccaneer State Park, Clarko State Park, Hugh White State Park, J. P. Coleman State Park, John Kyle State Park, Legion State Park, Leroy Percy State Park, Natchez State Park, and Paul B. Johnson State Park. Tags are sold in lots of five each for \$1.29 only at the above listed locations. Quantities at each location may be limited, therefore, it is recommended to call in advance.

CITES tags are no longer available by mail-in requests.

ALLIGATOR HUNTING PERMITS

Alligator hunting in Mississippi is allowed by special permit only. There are separate seasons for public waters and private lands. Each alligator permit allows the harvest of two alligators 4 feet long or longer, but only one may exceed 7 feet long. The MDWFP issues harvest tags to each permittee and harvest reporting is mandatory.

Public Water Permits – A limited number of public water permits are offered each year. (A random drawing will be conducted by a third-party entity for all available permits in each of the seven alligator hunting zones. To be entered into the drawing, qualified applicants must submit a free application electronically between June 2–11. There are seven zones and customers are limited to one application in a zone of their choice.) To qualify for a permit you must be 16 years of age or older and possess one of the following: a valid Mississippi Sportsman License, All Game Hunting/Fishing License, Small Game Hunting/Fishing License, Apprentice Sportsman License, Apprentice All Game License, Apprentice Small Game License, Senior Exempt License, Disabled Exempt License, or Lifetime License. Winning applicants will be notified via email on or about June 16. A link will be provided to purchase the alligator permit and license. Winners will have a deadline to purchase their permit. An online Alligator Hunting Training Course is available at www.mdwfp.com/wildlife-hunting/wildlife-species-program/alligator-program. An Alligator Hunting License is \$25 and an Alligator Possession Permit is \$200. Any hunting party guests 16 years of age and older must possess a valid Alligator Hunting License and an All Game Hunting License. Lifetime License holders are exempt from the Alligator Hunting License. Hunter education requirements for licenses do apply. For more specific regulations and application procedures, visit www.mdwfp.com/wildlife-hunting/wildlife-species-program/alligator-program.

Private Lands Permits – There are 36 counties open to private lands permits. To be eligible, properties in open counties must contain at least 20 acres of privately owned permanent surface water. One harvest permit voucher is issued for properties with at

least 20 acres of eligible water and one additional voucher for each additional 100 acres of eligible water. Applications are available at www.mdwfp.com/wildlife-hunting/wildlife-species-program/alligator-program and may be submitted May 1–June 1. Only one application may be submitted per property. Applicants may be residents or non-residents 16 years of age or older. Applicants must provide signed permission from the landowner, copies of property tax receipts, property deed and legal description, and a property boundary map. License requirements for drawn applicants are an Alligator Hunting License (\$25) and an Alligator Possession Permit (Resident-\$100, Non-resident \$200), as well as an All Game Hunting License. Any hunting party guests 16 years of age and older must purchase an Alligator Hunting License and an All Game Hunting License. Lifetime License holders are exempt from the Alligator Hunting License. Hunter education requirements for licenses do apply. For more specific regulations and application procedures, visit www.mdwfp.com/wildlife-hunting/wildlife-species-program/alligator-program.



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JUST DIAL 811, VISIT WWW.MS811.ORG,
OR DOWNLOAD OUR APP (IOS & ANDROID) AT LEAST THREE
WORKING DAYS BEFORE BREAKING GROUND TO HAVE MEMBER
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 **811**

Mississippi Museum of Natural Science

Mississippi Museum of Natural Science

Visit the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks' Museum of Natural Science at the intersection of I-55 and Lakeland Drive. The Museum is located on Lefleur's Bluff surrounded by beautiful woodland, swamp, and riverine landscapes. Visitors are greeted with exhibits featuring native wildlife, dioramas of Mississippi's terrestrial ecosystems, and numerous large aquariums. Our aquariums hold over 100,000 gallons of water and showcase inhabitants of the Mississippi Sound, the Pearl River, and many other aquatic habitats throughout the state. Additional features include a 30,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art playground for children ages 6 months to 12 years old with 80 play activities, 73 of which are inclusive to children with accessibility needs. Meet "Spotter the Otter" and friends along Spotter's Adventure Trail, a fun and interactive outdoor experience and enjoy 2.5 miles of majestic hiking trails. For information on educational programs, field trips, camps, or events, please call (601) 576-6000 or visit our website at www.mdwfp.com/museum.

Museum Hours:

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday - Friday

9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saturday

1 – 5 p.m. Sunday

Closed On All Major Holidays

PROJECT WILD & WET

The Museum provides teacher education training through active, hands-on workshops. These workshops are interdisciplinary conservation and environmental education programs emphasizing wildlife. The programs are designed for educators of kindergarten through twelfth grade.

Most workshops are 6 hours and are approved by the State Department of Education for CEUs. For more information on these and other educational programs, visit <https://www.mdwfp.com/museum-natural-science/learn-us>.



The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science is located on I-55 at Lakeland Drive - within Lefleur's Bluff State Park. From I-55, take Exit 98B - East on Lakeland - South on Highland Drive - Left at Park entrance.
601.576.6000 • www.mdwfp.com/museum

MDWFP



MISSISSIPPI
Museum of
Natural
Science



Mississippi's Hunter Education Program

HUNTER EDUCATION WORKS

Since 1950 when formal hunter safety programs were introduced, the number of hunting and firearms-related accidents has declined dramatically. In Mississippi, we know that our hunter education efforts have reduced firearms accidents and saved lives. MDWFP offers the hunter education classes at numerous locations across the state, and the course includes ten (10) hours of instruction. Students must be at least 10 years old, must attend all course hours, and score 70 or greater on the written exam.

Hunter Education Courses are typically held in the late summer, fall, and winter months. Courses are taught by MDWFP staff or by certified volunteer instructors. Pre-registration for all Hunter Education Classes is required. To locate and register for a class, visit our website at education.mdwfp.com.

Hunter Education Courses are also offered online. As of July 31, 2020, Mississippi residents age 12 and over can complete

their hunter education requirement online. The internet course, *Today's Hunter in Mississippi*, is video-narrated and interactive. The card from the online course can be presented as a digital or paper copy to license vendors to purchase a hunting license.

All residents under 12 (ages 10-11) and non-residents can obtain their Hunter Education requirement through a classroom course. Students must pre-register for the class, click the following link <https://education.mdwfp.com/Web/Event/County-Selection>.

Course contents include:

- hunter ethics and responsibility
- history of firearms
- types of firearms
- types of ammunition
- safe gun handling
- fundamentals of marksmanship
- bowhunting skills
- wildlife identification
- principles of wildlife management
- basic survival skills

- water safety
- dangers of hypothermia
- first aid fundamentals
- tree stand safety guidelines

DUPLICATE HUNTER/BOATER EDUCATION CARD

If you have lost your hunter/boater education card, please go to www.mdwfp.com/enforcement-education/hunter-education to download a card or to purchase a duplicate card for a \$3.00 fee.



All Hunter Education classes require online pre-registration.

To locate and register for a class, visit our website at education.mdwfp.com and select a county.



Learn where hunter education classes are offered, how to replace a lost or damaged card, or sign up for our online hunter education course. Visit mdwfp.com or call MDWFP's Hunter Education Division at 601-432-2181.

Archery in Mississippi Schools

Archery in Mississippi Schools (AIMS) is designed to introduce 4th-12th grade students to the sport of International-Style Target Archery and as an extracurricular team sport. Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MDWFP) is a driving force behind AIMS. The program, which began in 2005 with 10 schools, now has seen more than 500 schools and 70,000 students participating. You can learn more about participating in AIMS in your local community by going to www.mdwfp.com/mdwfp-youth-programs or call (601) 674-0777 and (601) 325-0222.

Mississippi Scholastic Shooting Program

The Mississippi Scholastic Shooting Program (MSSP) is a team-based, youth-development program that uses the shotgun sports of 5-Stand, Skeet, and Sporting Clays to instill life skills such as discipline, safety, teamwork, ethics, self-confidence, and other life values. The program utilizes these disciplines to teach hunting skills through the safe use of hunting equipment, including firearms, and their relationship to hunting situations. For more information on participating in MSSP, contact Gary Holcomb (Gary.Holcomb@wfp.ms.gov) or call (662) 487-1946.



Boating Enforcement

PERSONAL FLOATATION DEVICES

- All vessels must carry one wearable U. S. Coast Guard approved personal floatation device (PFD) or life jacket for each person on board.
- All PFDs must be:
 - » in good and serviceable condition;
 - » readily accessible which means you are able to put the PFD on quickly in an emergency;
 - » of the proper size for the intended wearer. Sizing for PFDs is based on body weight and chest size.
- All vessels 16 feet length or longer must also have one U.S. Coast Guard approved throwable PFD (throwable) on board and it must be readily accessible.
- **Children 12 years old and younger must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved PFD whenever in a vessel less than 26 feet in length that is underway.**
- **Each person riding on or being towed behind a personal watercraft must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved PFD.**

ALCOHOL BOATING SAFETY

The Alcohol Boating Safety Act makes it unlawful to operate a watercraft on the public waters of the State of Mississippi while

under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any other substance which has impaired the person's ability to operate a watercraft.

- a. As a condition of operating a watercraft on the public waters of this state, the person operating the watercraft is deemed to have given consent to testing for the purpose of determining the alcoholic content of his blood.
- b. "Watercraft" is defined as any motorized vessel with a motor of 25 horsepower or greater used for transportation on public waters, and any personal watercraft (jet skis).
- c. "Public waters" is defined as all public waters over which the State of Mississippi has jurisdiction.
- d. Penalties for conviction under this law are:

1. **First conviction** – Fine no less than \$250 nor more than \$1,000, or imprisonment in jail for not more than twenty-four hours or both. Violator must complete a boating safety course.
2. **Second conviction** (within a five-year period) – Fine no less than \$600 nor more than \$1,000 and imprisonment not less than forty-eight consecutive hours nor more than one year of community service work for not less than ten days nor more than one year. Court shall order violator not to operate a watercraft for one year.
3. **Third conviction** (within a five-year period) – Fine no less than \$800 nor more than \$1,000; and imprisonment not less than thirty days nor more than one year. Court shall order violator not to operate a watercraft for two years.
4. **Conviction of a fourth or subsequent violation** (within a five-year period) is a **FELONY OFFENSE**. Fine no less than \$2,000 nor more than \$5,000; and imprisonment in the state penitentiary for not less than ninety days nor more than five years. Court shall order violator not to operate a watercraft for three years.

BOATING SAFETY COURSE

Any person born after June 30, 1980 must have successfully completed a Boating Safety Course prior to operating a boat. Persons under 12 years of age must be accompanied by a person 21 or older on board the boat in order to operate the boat.

Boater Education Courses are typically held in the spring and summer months. Courses are taught by MDWFP staff or by certified volunteer instructors.

Pre-registration for all Boater Education Classes is required. To locate and register for a class, visit our website at education.mdwfp.com. Online courses are available at www.mdwfp.com. Most insurance companies honor these courses by offering reductions in insurance premiums on completion. Boating Safety Courses are only required for operating motorized vessels.

BOATING CHECK LIST

Before you go out on the water, the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks would like to make you aware of everything you need to know for an enjoyable and safe boating experience. The following is a boating check list that will guide you to an enjoyable boating experience.

- Valid boating registration (onboard vessel)
- Valid numbers displayed on side of vessel (At least 3 inches tall with contrasting colors to hull).
- Coast Guard approved Personal Floatation Device sized to fit, for every person on board.
- Vessel 16' or larger must have a Coast Guard approved throwable device.
- Vessel must have a fire extinguisher if it has an enclosed gas compartment.
- Vessel must have a sound device if operating on navigable waters.
- Anyone 12 years and younger must wear a Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device at all times while the vessel is underway.
- Boater Education/Safety card for all operators who were born on or after June 30, 1980.

BOAT REGISTRATION

In Mississippi, all boats equipped with propulsion machinery and sailboats (anchored or not) which use the public waters of the state must be registered and numbered for identification. A person must register his/her boat no later than 10 days after the actual purchase. All boat registrations are valid for a period of three years from the last day of the month of receipt of the original or transfer application. You must have your registration card on board the vessel at all times.

Due to the increase in marine theft, a closer look is being taken at applications for boat registration when received. Applications for boat registration with required information missing or information which appears to be incorrect will be returned. The applicant will be required to have their boat inspected by a conservation officer. A "Boat Inspection Request Form" can be purchased through point-of-sale



license agents and an inspection will be arranged with an officer in the area. The cost of the inspection is \$10.00 (plus transaction fee). The application should then be re-submitted along with the completed boat inspection form. All homemade boats will require an inspection prior to registration.

HOW TO APPLY FOR REGISTRATION OF A BOAT

Owners of new or used boats have the option to register their boat Online or at the Jackson office. Owners may register their boat online at www.mdwfp.com. Owners may get the boat registration form at any local county tax collector's office, most places where boats are sold or serviced, MDWFP Regional Offices, or online at www.mdwfp.com. Complete the form, attach any necessary documents, sign and mail to the Jackson Office with the appropriate fee.

To register a new boat, if purchased from a dealer, the sales invoice showing proof of payment of Mississippi sales tax must be included. If the boat was purchased in another state you may pay Mississippi state sales tax at the local county tax collector's office. Include this proof of payment with the registration application.

If registering or transferring ownership of a used boat you must include a notarized or witnessed bill of sale describing the boat being purchased. You must also provide proof of the last registered owner of the used boat. If a boat was previously registered and titled in a state that requires mandatory titling you must also include the previous state's registration and title.

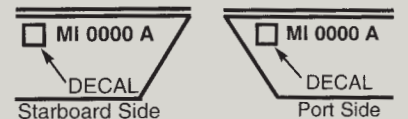
The registration application requires a Hull Identification Number or serial number. This number should contain 12 digits if the boat was manufactured after November, 1972. Examples of proper 12 digit Hull Identification Numbers will be: ABC456781272 or ABC45678A484. Boats manufactured prior to 1972 will have a serial number.

HOW TO RENEW A BOAT REGISTRATION

Once a boat is registered, a notice to renew the registration will be mailed to the owner by the MDWFP. For convenience and faster service you may renew your boat registration wherever hunting and fishing licenses are sold, by calling 1-800-5GO-HUNT (1-800-546-4868) which is available 24 hours a day, or online at www.mdwfp.com. You may also mail your

Example of Correct Number and Decal Display

Validating decal should be displayed within six inches (6") of the number.



renewal to the MDWFP Boat Registration Department. You should notify the MDWFP Boat Registration Department of any address changes.

HOW TO OBTAIN A DUPLICATE BOAT REGISTRATION

If you lose your boat registration card and/or decals or if you need an additional boat registration card you may obtain a duplicate wherever hunting and fishing licenses are sold or by calling

Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns

PleaseWearIt.com

US Army Corps of Engineers

THE CORPS FOUNDATION
OFFICIAL NONPROFIT OF
AMERICA'S LAKES AND WATERWAYS

Enid Lake Sardis Lake
Grenada Lake Arkabutla Lake

Boating Enforcement

1-800-5GO-HUNT (1-800-546-4868) available 24 hours a day. **You must provide your MS boat registration number and hull I.D. number/serial number in order to purchase a duplicate boat registration card.**

REGISTRATION, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, & DUPLICATE FEES*

Fees for original, transfer of ownership, renewal, livery, dealer and duplicate registrations are as follows:

Less than 16 feet	\$10.20
16 feet but less than 26 feet.....	\$25.20
26 feet and over.....	\$47.70
40 feet and over.....	\$47.70
Dealer number	\$40.20
Duplicate.....	\$7.70
Boat inspection fee	\$12.70

* Boat registration fees are subject to change.

ASSIGNMENT OF REGISTRATION NUMBER

After processing a new boat registration, the department will assign a registration number to be displayed on the boat. This number is also noted on a water-resistant, pocket-sized boat registration card which is mailed to the owner. **This card must be aboard the boat when in operation.** Boat owners also will receive two validating decals. The decals should be displayed within six inches (6") of the number (See Boat Registration Numbering System and Proper Display). The decals correlate with the year the boat registration will expire. **The registration number assigned by MDWFP for a boat becomes a permanent number. That registration number will remain the same in the event that the boat is transferred to a new owner within the state of Mississippi.**

BOAT REGISTRATION NUMBERING SYSTEM & PROPER DISPLAY

The numbering system consists of three parts: the first part consists of the symbol MI, which designates Mississippi; the second part consists of a numerical group having a maximum of four digits; and the third part consists of an alphabetical group having a maximum of two letters. Each part shall be separated by hyphens or equivalent spaces.

The assigned number shall be painted on or attached to each side of the bow of the vessel for which it was issued. The numbers shall be placed on each side of the forward half of the vessel in such position as to provide clear legibility for identification.

The numbers shall read from left to right and shall be in block characters of good proportion not less than three inches (3") in height. The numbers shall be of a color which will contrast with the color of the background and be maintained to be clearly visible and legible, i.e., dark numbers on a light background, or light numbers on a dark background. **No other numbers shall be carried on the bow of such vessel.**

SOLD OR LOST/STOLEN BOATS

Should you sell your boat, you are required to report such transaction to MDWFP, which issues the registration number. The new owner must, within ten (10) days, make application to transfer the registration. If a numbered boat is lost, stolen or abandoned, the owner should first report it to the local authorities having jurisdiction, and then report it to MDWFP.

BOAT & MOTOR TITLING

Boat and outboard motor titling is available in Mississippi but is not mandatory. Boat and motor titling is an optional choice for lending institutions and boat owners. The cost is \$12.70 each for an original title, duplicate title, or corrected title. **A boat must be registered before being titled.** If the title is submitted indicating a lien, the original title will be sent to the lending institution until the lien is satisfied. Once the lien is satisfied, an original clear title will be provided to the owner. **When a titled boat is sold, the owner must provide the original title to the purchaser along with a bill of sale in order for the boat to be eligible for transfer of ownership.** Boat and Motor title applications may be obtained online at www.mdwfp.com, through your lending institution or from MDWFP Boat Registration Department.



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**

Prevent the transport of nuisance species:

When you leave a body of water:

- Remove any visible mud, plants, fish, or animals before transporting equipment.
- Eliminate water from equipment before transporting.
- Clean and dry anything that comes into contact with water (boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, etc.).
- Never release plants, fish, or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.

www.ProtectYourWaters.net

Freshwater Fishing in Mississippi

FRESHWATER SPORT FISHING

MDWFP manages all public freshwater fish populations north of Hwy 90. This includes public reservoirs, 18 state fishing lakes, 21 state park lakes and 20 community fishing assistance ponds. A freshwater fishing license is required to fish in public waters north of Interstate 10. Review the digest's license section for requirements or call (601) 432-2055. **Go to www.mdwfp.com for weekly fishing reports from February through November.**

FRESHWATER GUIDES & OUTFITTERS

Freshwater Fishing Guides and Outfitters are required to purchase a Fishing Guide License and a Guide Boat License. See the license section.

FREE FISHING DAYS

In June, during the first weekend of National Fishing and Boating Week, a sport fishing license is not required for Mississippi residents for all public waters, and fishing permits for all anglers at State Lakes and State Park Lakes are free! Mississippi residents can fish without a fishing

license on July 4th in all waters of the state. State Fishing Lake and State Park Permits are required to fish in State Fishing Lakes and State Park Lakes on July 4.

SALTWATER FISHING

Saltwater fisheries and public fishing south of Hwy 90 are managed by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. For information concerning saltwater fishing, please call (228) 374-5000 or go to www.dmr.ms.gov. A saltwater fishing license is required to fish all waters south of Hwy 90.

On all public waters south of Interstate 10 and north of Hwy 90 either a

Freshwater Fishing in Mississippi

freshwater fishing license or a saltwater fishing license is valid for use.

PUBLIC ACCESS

Many public waters in the state are located on or near private land. These waters must be accessed through a public access point or by permission from the landowner. Contact MDWFP if you have questions about access to fishing waters and for public access points.

GAME FISH

Game fish are defined as: bream (red-ear sunfish, bluegill, longear sunfish, warmouth, green sunfish), crappie (white, black), black bass (largemouth, smallmouth, spotted) shadow bass, walleye, sauger, yellow perch, hybrid striped bass, striped bass, white bass, yellow bass, and pickerel (redfin, grass, and chain).

NON-GAME GROSS FISH

Non-game gross fish are defined as: gizzard shad, threadfin shad, gar (alligator, shortnose, longnose, spotted), eel, bowfin, common carp, paddlefish, bullheads (yellow, black, brown), buffalo (smallmouth, bigmouth, and black), spotted sucker, river carpsucker, quillback,

highfin carpsucker, blacktail redhorse, freshwater drum, and catfish (channel, blue, flathead).

LEGAL SPORT FISHING METHODS

Hook and Line: Game fish may be taken by hook and line (one or more hooks, including rod and reel with artificial bait). You may actively fish with an unlimited number of poles or rod/reels except on waters where the number of poles or rod/reels is restricted. Check the Special Regulations Section for specific restrictions.

Bow & Arrow, Crossbow, Spear, or Gig are allowed for the harvest of the following: bowfin, buffalo, common carp, catfish, gar, shad, silver carp, bighead carp, black carp, grass carp, and snakehead. Catfish may not be taken with spear or gig from May 1 through July 15. No other species of fish may be harvested with these gears.

Snagging: Snagging is when fish are intentionally hooked in any place other than the mouth. Snagging is allowed statewide the entire year for all game fish and non-game gross fish. Any size hook may be used when snagging except when fishing in spillways. See spillway restrictions.

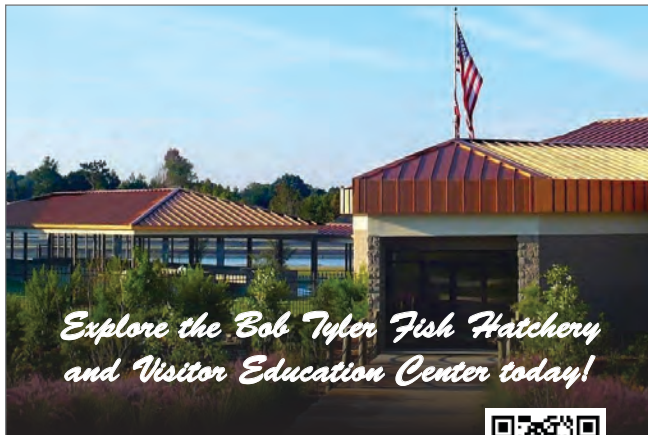
Hook Limit: Each person with a valid sport fishing license or those exempt from

purchasing a license may fish no more than 100 single hooks in aggregate with the following gear types.

Trotlines, Throwlines, Limblines and/or Set Hooks are allowed for the harvest of game fish and non-game gross fish. No more than a total of 100 single hooks may be fished. Hooks must be tied securely at least 2 feet apart. For specific restrictions, see the Areas Closed to Trotlines, Throw Lines, Set Hooks, Limblines, FFFD's, Jugs, and Yo-Yos section. The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources regulates trotline use in the waters south of Interstate 10. Anglers should call (228) 374-5000 to learn about fishing trotlines in these waters.

Free Floating Fishing Devices (FFFD), Jugs, and Yo-Yos: No more than 25 jugs and no more than 25 yo-yos may be fished by an individual with no more than 2 single hooks on each of these devices. If these devices are attached to a line, they must be tied securely at least 2 feet apart. See State Border Waters section for legal number allowed in those areas. These gears do not need to be attended or tagged unless you are fishing in the following waters:

1. Arkabutla Reservoir in Tate and Desoto counties
2. Eagle Lake in Warren County



Explore the Bob Tyler Fish Hatchery and Visitor Education Center today!

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Hours of Operation

March–October
Open Tuesday–Saturday
8:30 am until 4:30 pm
Closed Sunday and Monday

November–February

Open Monday–Friday
7:30 am until 3:30 pm
Closed Saturday and Sunday
Closed holidays

Admission

Adults (age 18–59): \$2.50
Adults (age 60+): \$2.00
School Groups: \$2.00 per student
Children (age 3–17): \$2.00
Children (under 3): No charge
Active Military: No charge



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Freshwater Fishing in Mississippi

3. Enid Reservoir in Lafayette, Panola, and Yalobusha counties
4. Grenada Reservoir in Grenada, Calhoun, and Yalobusha counties
5. Lake Washington in Washington County
6. Sardis Reservoir in Panola, Marshall, and Lafayette counties

In these waters, attended means devices (whether set, baited, or tripped) must remain within sight of the angler during daylight hours. These devices may be fished at night without attendance except at Lake Washington where attendance at night is required. At Lake Washington, yo-yos may only be unattended (tripped, with hook out of the water) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Unattended yo-yos fishing during the day at the waters listed above and fishing at night at Lake Washington may be seized by MDWFP Law Enforcement officers except for those fishing unattended at Lake Washington from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. In these waters, all gear must be legibly marked with a tag. The tags shall be furnished by the angler and must contain either the license holder's MDWFP number or the full name, residence address, and zip code of any angler exempt from purchasing a license. This information must be legibly written with either waterproof ink or stamped. Yo-yo tags shall be attached above the water line.

CRAWFISH AND FRESHWATER SHRIMP

A sport fishing license is required (unless exempt by 49-7-9) to harvest crawfish and freshwater shrimp from public waters for personal use. A freshwater commercial fishing license is required to sell crawfish and freshwater shrimp harvested from public waters. Shrimp and crawfish traps fished in public waters shall be marked with a waterproof tag provided by the angler, which shall contain either the license holder's MDWFP number or the full name, residence address and zip code of any angler exempt from purchasing a license.

There is no limit on the number of crawfish traps and freshwater shrimp traps a person may fish.

Crawfish traps are any device constructed of coated wire with openings of throats or flutes not exceeding 2 inches and are used for the sole purpose of taking crawfish. Any commercially available crawfish trap with openings of the throats or flutes not exceeding 2 inches may be used.

Shrimp traps—It is illegal to take or attempt to take freshwater shrimp by the use of any trap which exceeds the following dimensions: 36 inches long (from the rear of the heart to the leading edge of the trap), by 24 inches wide (between the leading edges of the trap, or heart opening), by

12 inches high; or has external or unattached wings, weirs, or other devices intended to funnel shrimp to the trap heart.

AREAS CLOSED TO TROT LINES, THROW LINES, SET HOOKS, LIMBLINES, FFFD'S, JUGS, AND YO-YOS:

1. Aberdeen Lock spillway downstream to U.S. 45 overpass, including auxiliary spillway and associated bank fishing access area in the Tombigbee River cutoff below the dam.
2. All spillways listed in the Spillway Restrictions section.
3. All State Park Lakes and State Fishing Lakes.
4. Amory Lock downstream to MS Hwy 6 overpass.
5. Fulton Lock downstream to MS Hwy 78 overpass.
6. G.V. Sonny Montgomery Lock downstream to mile marker 406.
7. Glover Wilkens Lock downstream to mile marker 375
8. Jamie L. Whitten Lock downstream to MS Hwy 4 overpass.
9. John Rankin Lock downstream to mile marker 398.
10. John C. Stennis Lock spillway downstream to mile marker 334, including auxiliary spillway and associated bank fishing access area in the Tombigbee River cutoff below the dam.
11. Lake Washington: Limblines and set hooks may not be fished or set, but sportfishing trotlines, FFFD's and yo-yos may be used.
12. Ross Barnett Reservoir: Pelahatchie Bay, Pelahatchie Creek, and the area of the reservoir north of the main dam and south of a line between the point where Twin Harbors channel enters the main lake in Madison County and the Fannin Landing boat launch in Rankin County; within 100 yards of any sandbar or public boat launching facility within the main lake or river; in any marked navigational channel between State Highway 43 and Ratliff Ferry in Madison County.
13. Sardis Lower Lake from the outlet structure to Spaulding Creek, except that FFFD's are permitted in Sardis Lower Lake.

SPILLWAY RESTRICTIONS

Special restrictions apply to spillways at the following lakes:

1. Aberdeen and Columbus spillways.
2. Arkabutla, Enid, Grenada, Sardis, Okatibbee, and Ross Barnett Reservoirs from the spillway outlet to the end of the rip rap.
3. Bluff Lake spillway in Noxubee County.

4. Lowhead dam on Ross Barnett Reservoir from the dam to the end of the Idle Speed Only/No Wake Zone Area downstream of the dam.

From December 1 until the last day of February anglers fishing these waters may use no more than one pole or rod per person (except those in the lowhead dam area of Ross Barnett Reservoir) with no more than 2 single hooks. Single hooks must be at least 1 inch apart and must be no larger than #2.

From March 1 to November 30 anglers may use no more than one pole or rod per person (except those in the lowhead dam area of Ross Barnett Reservoir) with no more than 2 single hooks of any size. Single hooks must be at least 1 inch apart.

No more than 2 artificial lures with no more than 3 treble hooks no larger than #2 may be used year round.

The use of bare or baited treble hooks is illegal in these spillway areas. No other gear may be used in these waters except for dip or landing nets, cast nets, boat-mounted scoops, wire baskets, minnow seines, and minnow traps that can be used to capture shad and minnows. **Anglers keeping legal fish caught with these gear types in these waters, except for Lowhead dam in Leake County on Ross Barnett Reservoir, must immediately place their catch on ice or in a dry container.** All game fish caught with these gear types must be released immediately upon capture.

GRABBLING SEASON

Grabbling is open from May 1 to July 15. Grabbling is fishing for non-game fish, most notably catfish, with your hands or with rope (no attachments). Only wooden containers may be used. It is illegal to place or take fish from structures such as plastic or metal barrels, hot water tanks, concrete pipe, tires, and other non-biodegradable materials in any public waters of the state. It shall be illegal to place any cavity-type structure, intended to be used for hand-grabbling purposes, in all Mississippi water of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway.

It is unlawful to alter any natural areas by placing boards, wire, or any other obstruction to logs, holes, etc., or to take fish from such altered devices. It is also unlawful to raise any part of a natural or wooden container out of the water thereby aiding in the capture of enclosed fish.

FISH ATTRACTORS

It shall be illegal to place structures such as plastic or metal barrels, plastic or metal pipes and tubing larger than 4 inches in diameter, hot water tanks, concrete pipes and tires, and any other nonbiodegradable

material into the public waters of the state for use as fish attractors. However, wooden materials and plastic tubing and pipe materials may be used as fish attractors provided that the plastic materials are no larger than 4 inches in diameter. Concrete, rope, wire, and nails may be used to make fish attractors. **Written permission to place such legal fish attractor materials into public waters must be obtained from the federal or state agency which owns the specific water body.** The person placing such fish attractor material into the public water must carry a copy of the written permission on them at all times when transporting and placing such material. A permit is required to place fish attractors and grabbing boxes in Ross Barnett Reservoir. To apply for a permit, call the Ross Barnett Reservoir office at (601) 856-6574.

ILLEGAL FISHING METHODS

It is unlawful to take any fish species by muddying and by the use of lime, poison, explosives, electrical devices, wire baskets, fish traps, or dip nets; except that shad and minnows may be taken by residents only as specified below under the Bait section. It is illegal to take fish, crawfish, or shrimp from, tamper with or use any sport fishing gear without the consent of the gear's owner.

No person shall stock, place, release, or cause to be released into any of the public waters of the state any aquatic species without first obtaining a permit from the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (State Law 49-7-80).

BAIT

Sport anglers may use game fish, non-game gross fish, goldfish, and minnows for bait, as long as they were legally taken and you do not possess more than the daily creel limit. **It is illegal to harvest, possess, or use mussels for bait.** Anglers can harvest minnows, non-game gross fish, and non-game fish for personal use as bait without a commercial fishing license. A freshwater commercial fishing license is required to sell those fishes legally taken in minnow seines and minnow traps from public waters. No minnows caught in public waters shall be taken outside of the state for sale. **Shad and minnows may be taken for sport fishing bait using dip/landing nets, cast nets, boat mounted scoops, and wire baskets by residents only for personal use during sport fishing.** Minnow seines and minnow traps can be used to harvest minnows, nongame gross fish, and nongame fish for bait. Minnow seines must be no more than 25 feet in length and 4 feet in depth. Minnow traps shall be constructed of glass, plastic, nonmetallic,

or wire mesh not more than 32 inches in length and 12 inches in diameter without leads or wings and having an entrance no larger than 1 inch in diameter. All game fish caught with these gears must be immediately returned to the water. **Freshwater mussels cannot be collected or used for bait (State Law 49-9-5).** Fish caught for bait in spillway areas must immediately be placed on ice or in a dry container.

SALE OF GAME FISH

It is illegal for any person, while in Mississippi, to buy or sell, offer for sale, or exchange any game fish harvested in Mississippi or coming from another state.

COMMERCIAL FISHING

It shall be illegal to possess while on the water, both commercial and sport fishing gear in the same boat. **See the Commercial Fishing brochure for information or go to www.mdwfp.com/fishing-boating/freshwater-commercial-fishing.**

STATE BORDER WATERS

Mississippi resident licenses are valid for fishing certain state-line waters including:

1. Pickwick Lake
2. Aliceville Pool
3. Mississippi and Pearl Rivers and border lakes along these rivers where they are the boundaries between Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

In Mississippi waters that border adjacent states, the legal number of FFFDs shall be that of the adjacent state or the Mississippi limit, whichever is greater, but not to exceed 50 per individual. Yo-yos and FFFDs must be attended during daylight hours on borderline waters between Arkansas and Mississippi.

For details on state border waters and current reciprocal agreements, visit our website, www.mdwfp.com

PUBLIC WATERWAYS

Public waterways are defined in Miss. Code Ann. §51-1-4, and set forth on a map at www.mdeq.ms.gov/water/surface-water/public-waterways/ by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality. All citizens of the state of Mississippi and other states have the right to use the public waterways for free transport, fishing, and water sports. Any person using the public waterways of the state does so at his or her own risk. The use of public waterways of the state does not entitle any person to trespass upon any lands adjacent to the stream or waterway. No person using the public waterways may harm or disturb the banks or bed of the stream, nor may any person hunt, fish, or go across any adjacent lands under

floodwaters outside the natural banks of the waterway. The right of the public to use the public waterways does not include the use of motorized vehicles (ATVs, trucks, etc.) on the streambed. Exceptions to this prohibition are set forth in Miss. Code Ann. §51-1-4.

CREEL LIMIT

The creel limit is the specified maximum number of fish a person can take in one day.

TRANSPORT LIMIT

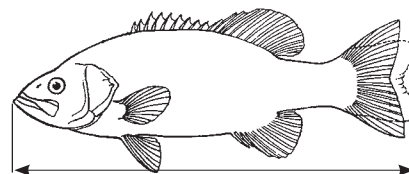
No person shall transport more than seven daily limits of fish for each licensed or exempt angler present in the vehicle. A single angler may only transport his or her own daily limit(s) of fish, not to exceed seven daily limits.

LENGTH LIMIT

While fishing areas with established MDWFP length limits all game fish must be intact (with head, tail, skin, and scales) and comply with length limits for that body of water.

HOW TO MEASURE A FISH

Lay the fish on its side, with the mouth closed and the tail lobes pressed together. Measure the total length from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail. Paddlefish are measured from the front of the eye to the fork of the tail.



Total Length (using a flatboard)

Minimum limit: Fish measuring equal to or shorter than the regulated size length must be returned to the water immediately after capture and may not be possessed on designated waters. Fish exceeding the minimum length may be kept.

Maximum limit: Fish measuring equal to or longer than the regulated size length must be returned to the water immediately upon capture and may not be in possession on these designated waters. Fish shorter than the maximum length limit may be kept.

Slot length limit: Fish measuring equal to or between the designated range in inches must be returned to the water immediately upon capture and may not be in possession on these designated waters. Fish shorter than or longer than the designated range may be kept.

Freshwater Fishing in Mississippi

Statewide Creel and Size Limits

For Saltwater Fishing Regulations, call the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources at 228-374-5000 or visit www.dmr.ms.gov

Species	Daily Creel Limits
Alligator Gar****	2
Paddlefish* (must be less than 30 inches)	2
Striped Bass and/or Striped Bass Hybrids (minimum length 15 inches)**	6
Walleye***	3
Sauger	10
Crappie** (combined white and black)	30
Bluegill, bream and all other sunfish (combined)**	100
Largemouth, Smallmouth and Spotted bass (combined)**	10
Sturgeon	0

For all other game or sport fish species, there is no daily creel limit.

* No Paddlefish harvest allowed in the Tenn-Tom Waterway, Tombigbee River or its tributaries, and Pickwick Lake. Paddlefish are measured from the front of the eye to the fork of the tail.

** Daily limits for bream, Black Bass (largemouth, spotted and smallmouth), Crappie, Striped Bass and Striped Bass hybrids in waters adjoining adjacent states shall be that of the adjacent state, or the Mississippi limit, whichever is greater.

*** Harvest and possession of Walleye is prohibited in Lake Lamar Bruce, Lake Monroe, and in the Old Tombigbee River and its tributaries north of Hwy 278 (Monroe, Itawamba and Prentiss counties) and in Choctaw Lake (Choctaw County).

**** No Alligator Gar harvest allowed from Bee Lake (Holmes County).

Transport Limit: No person shall at anytime transport more than seven (7) daily creel limits of fish for each licensed or exempt angler present in the vehicle. A single angler can only transport his or her own daily limit(s) of fish, not to exceed seven (7) daily limits.

On all other lakes, there is no length limit for any species except Striped Bass and/or Striped Bass hybrids and Paddlefish but the statewide daily creel limits apply.

Special Largemouth, Spotted & Smallmouth Bass Regulations

Area/Water	Lengths to Release	Creel Limits
Aberdeen Lake	14 inches & under	10 per day
Calling Panther Lake	20 inches & over	10 per day, 1 over 20 inches
Charlie Capps WMA Lake	No Length Limit	5 per day
Choctaw Lake (Choctaw County)	16-20 inches	10 per day, 1 over 20 inches
Columbus Lake	14 inches & under	10 per day
Davis Lake (Chickasaw County)	18-22 inches	10 per day; 1 over 22 inches
Eagle Lake	16 inches & under	10 per day
(includes channel to Muddy Bayou water control structure)		
Elvis Presley Lake	16-22 inches	10 per day, 1 over 22 inches
Holmes County State Park (English and Odom lakes)	16-22 inches	10 per day, 1 over 22 inches
Lake Bill Waller	18-22 inches	15 per day, 1 over 22 inches
Lake Bogue Homa	15 inches & under	5 per day
Lake Claude Bennett	No Length Limit	30 per day
Lake Jackson (Washington County)	No Length Limit	5 per day
Lake Jeff Davis	18-24 inches	15 per day, 1 over 24 inches
Lake Lamar Bruce	18-24 inches	10 per day, 1 over 24 inches
Lake Mary Crawford	16-22 inches	10 per day, 1 over 22 inches
Lake Monroe	18-24 inches	10 per day, 1 over 24 inches
Lake Okhissa (Franklin County)	18-22 inches	10 per day, 1 over 22 inches
Lake Washington	15 inches & under	5 per day
(Possession of black bass under 15 inches while in Paul Love Park or on the weir is prohibited.)		
Leroy Percy State Park Lake	No Length Limit	5 per day
Malmaison WMA Lakes	15 inches & under	2 per day
Moon Lake (includes area east of Hwy 1)	No Length Limit	5 per day
Natchez State Park Lake	18-22 inches	7 per day, 1 over 22 inches
Neshoba County Lake	16-20 inches	10 per day, 1 over 20 inches
North Abutment Campground Lake at Grenada Reservoir	15 inches & under	2 per day
Pascagoula River	12 inches & under	10 per day
(George & Jackson Counties, Merrill, MS to Hwy 90 bridge, includes all connected oxbow lakes; East & West Pascagoula Rivers and all waters between these two rivers)		
Paul B. Johnson State Park Lake (Geiger Lake)	18-22 inches	10 per day, 1 over 22 inches
Percy Quin State Park (Lake Tangipahoa)	16-22 inches	7 per day, 1 over 22 inches
Pickwick Lake	15 inches & under	10 per day
RecCon Lake (Bolivar County)	No Length Limit	2 per day
Ross Barnett Reservoir	14 inches & under	7 per day
Simpson County Lake	14-22 inches	10 per day, 1 over 22 inches
Wolf-Broad Lake (Yazoo & Humphreys Counties)	12 inches & under	5 per day

Special Striped Bass and Hybrid Striped Bass Regulations

Area/Water	Lengths to Release	Creel Limits
Ross Barnett Reservoir to City of Jackson water intake.....	15 inches & under.....	6 per day, 1 over 24 inches

Special Bluegill & Redear Regulations

Area/Water	Lengths to Release	Creel Limits
Choctaw Lake (Choctaw County).....	No Length Limit	25 per day
Elvis Presley Lake.....	No Length Limit	50 per day
Holmes County State Park (English and Odom lakes).....	No Length Limit	50 per day
Lake Okhissa (Franklin County).....	No Length Limit	50 per day
Simpson County Lake.....	No Length Limit	20 per day

Special Catfish Regulations

Area/Water	Lengths to Release	Creel Limits
Choctaw Lake (Choctaw County).....	No Length Limit	5 per day
Lake Okhissa (Franklin County).....	No Length Limit	5 per day
RecCon Lake (Bolivar County).....	No Length Limit	10 per day
All MDWFP State Fishing Lakes and State Parks Lakes.....	No Length Limit	10 per day
Border Waters with Alabama & Tennessee.....	No Length Limit	1 over 34 inches, no creel limit under 34 inches

For all other waters, there is no daily creel limit for any catfish species.

Special Walleye Regulations

Area/Water	Lengths to Release	Creel Limits
Davis Lake (Chickasaw County).....	No Length Limit	1 per day

Special Black & White Crappie Regulations

Area/Water	Lengths to Release	Creel Limits
Arkabutla Reservoir ⁺	12 inches & under.....	10 per day
Arkabutla Spillway to Prichard Rd. Bridge ⁺⁺	No Length Limit	10 per day
Charlie Capps WMA Lake.....	No Length Limit	20 per day
Choctaw Lake (Choctaw County).....	12 inches & under.....	10 per day
Eagle Lake (includes channel to Muddy Bayou water control structure).....	11 inches and under.....	30 per day
Elvis Presley Lake.....	No Length Limit	20 per day
Enid Reservoir ⁺	12 inches & under.....	10 per day
Enid Spillway to I-55 ⁺⁺	No Length Limit	10 per day
Grenada Reservoir ⁺	12 inches & under.....	10 per day
Grenada Spillway to Hwy. 51 ⁺⁺	No Length Limit	10 per day
Holmes County State Park (English and Odom lakes).....	No Length Limit	20 per day
Lake Monroe.....	No Length Limit	20 per day
Lake Mary Crawford	No Length Limit	15 per day
Lake Okhissa (Franklin County).....	10 inches & under.....	10 per day
Lake Washington	11 inches & under.....	20 per day
(Possession of crappie under 11 inches while in Paul Love Park or on the weir is prohibited.)		
Moon Lake (includes area east of Hwy 1).....	10 inches & under.....	30 per day
Percy Quin State Park (Lake Tangipahoa).....	No Length Limit	20 per day
Pickwick Lake & Tenn-Tom Waterway	9 inches & under.....	30 per day
(including all tributaries)		
Sardis Reservoir ⁺	12 inches & under.....	10 per day
Sardis Spillway & Sardis Lower Lake to Spaulding Creek ⁺⁺	No Length Limit	10 per day
Simpson County Lake.....	No Length Limit	15 per day

⁺ At Arkabutla, Enid, Grenada and Sardis Reservoirs anglers may fish no more than 4 poles per person. Each pole may have no more than 2 hooks or lures. The aggregate daily boat creel limit for all species of crappie on Arkabutla, Enid, Sardis, and Grenada Reservoirs for boats with three or more anglers shall be 25 crappie larger than 12 inches.

⁺⁺ See spillway restrictions in this section.

Special Rainbow Trout Regulations

Area/Water	Lengths to Release	Creel limits
Lake Lamar Bruce.....	No Length Limit	3 per day

On all other lakes, there is no length limit for any species except Striped Bass and/or Striped Bass hybrids and Paddlefish but the statewide daily creel limits apply.

Mississippi State Fishing Lakes

MDWFP operates 18 prime fishing lakes throughout the state which offer outstanding fishing on more than 3,300 acres of picturesque waters.

Sport fishing licenses and permits are required to fish these lakes, except in June during the first weekend of National Fishing Week when fishing permits are free, and a sport fishing license is not required for Mississippi residents.

Only rod and reel or pole fishing is allowed on State Fishing Lakes and State Park Lakes. No other gear is allowed.

Fishing is not allowed from courtesy piers adjacent to boat ramps. Night fishing is allowed at all State Fishing Lakes (except for Lake Bill Waller) from the bank or from boats that are in compliance with state and U.S. Coast Guard regulations.

Camping reservations are not available at State Fishing Lakes. **Call the lake for camping availability.**

STATE FISHING LAKES FEES

DAILY PERMITS	FEE
Daily Fishing (ages 16 and over)	\$5.00
Daily Boat Launching/Fishing/Skiing Permit (ages 16 and over)	\$9.00
Youth Fishing (under age 16)	Free
ANNUAL PERMITS	FEE
Annual Boat Launching/Fishing/Skiing (ages 16–61)	\$125.00
Annual Exempt Boat Launching/Fishing/Skiing	\$100.00
Annual Fishing Permit – no boat launching (ages 16–61)	\$55.00
Annual Exempt Fishing Permit – no boat launching	\$35.00
Duplicate copy of Annual or Lifetime Permit	\$9.00

Annual boat launching permits include guests.

CAMPING AND PAVILION RENTAL PERMITS	FEE
Camping Permit – 1 day day ¹ (ages 21–61)	\$25.00
Exempt Camping Permit – 1 day ¹	\$22.00
Camping Permit – 30 day ¹ (ages 21–61)	\$500.00
Exempt Camping Permit – 30 day ¹	\$360.00
Primitive/Tent Camping (1 day; no electricity)	\$20.00
Pavilion Rental – 1 day	\$53.00

¹ These camping permits include fishing and boat launching for registered campers not to exceed 8 people.

Exempt permits are for persons who are 62 or older, 100% disabled, active service members, or military veterans.



MDWFP SHOOTING FACILITIES McIvor | Turcotte | McHenry



PISTOL RANGE
RIFLE RANGE
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5-STAND SKEET RANGE
ARCHERY RANGE
SHOTGUN RENTAL

MDWFP's shooting facilities are safe, fun, and affordable.

Hone your skills in the off season or enjoy a day shooting with friends.

MDWFP.com

State Fishing Lakes Information

1. CALLING PANTHER LAKE

(404 acres)

Manager: Pat Drew,
(601) 892-4776

Location: Copiah Co., 5 miles west of Crystal Springs just off New Zion Road.

Facilities/Activities: 21 camping pads and 2 handicapped camping pads with electrical/water/sewer hookups. Boat ramp, kayak launch, handicapped fishing pier, handicapped restroom with showers, and nature trail. Skiing on Wednesday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

2. ELVIS PRESLEY LAKE*

(322 acres)

Manager: Jarreth Thompson,
(662) 432-5950

Location: Lee Co., 2 miles northeast of Tupelo, just off Hwy 78 east.

Facilities/Activities: Bicycle/walking trail, boat ramp, 16 camping pads with water/electrical hookups, tent camping, 2 handicapped fishing piers, grills, pavilion, picnic tables, and restrooms with showers. Skiing daily, noon to sunset.

3. LAKE BILL WALLER

(168 acres)

Manager: Dustin Brumfield,
(601) 736-1861

Location: Marion Co. 12 miles south-east of Columbia on Marion Co. WMA.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, 2 handicapped fishing piers, 5 earthen piers, handicapped restrooms with showers. No skiing or camping.

4. LAKE BOGUE HOMA

(882 acres)

Manager: Darrell Ainsworth,
(601) 425-2148

Location: Jones Co. About 6 miles east of Laurel on Hwy 84.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, duck hunting, 3 handicapped fishing piers, pavilion, picnic tables, and restrooms with showers. Skiing daily, noon to sunset.

5. LAKE CLAUDE BENNETT

(71 acres)

Manager: Jemison Bufkin,
(601) 727-3561

Location: Jasper Co. about 20 miles east of Bay Springs off Hwy 18.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, 31 camping pads with electrical/water hookups, 1 handicapped fishing pier, pavilions, picnic tables, playground, and handicapped restrooms

with showers. Skiing on Wednesday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

6. LAKE COLUMBIA

(84 acres)

Manager: Dustin Brumfield,
(601) 736-1861

Location: Marion Co. 12 miles south-east of Columbia on Marion Co. WMA.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, kayak launch, six camping pads with electrical/water hookups, 1 handicapped fishing pier, 2 earthen piers, pavilion, picnic tables, and handicapped restrooms with showers. Skiing on Wednesday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

7. LAKE JEFF DAVIS

(100 acres)

Manager: Richard Hathorn,
(601) 792-8225

Location: Jefferson Davis Co., 3 miles southeast of Prentiss off Hwy 42.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, 13 camping pads with electrical/water hookups, 3 handicapped fishing piers, bike trail, nature trail, pavilion, picnic tables, and handicapped restrooms with showers. Skiing on Tuesday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

8. LAKE LAMAR BRUCE

(300 acres)

Manager: Nathan Martin,
(662) 869-2009

Location: Lee Co. 1.5 miles northeast of Saltillo off Hwy 45.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, 11 camping pads with water/electrical hookups, 3 handicapped fishing piers, pavilion, and handicapped restrooms with showers. Skiing on Thursday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

9. LAKE MARY CRAWFORD

(128 acres)

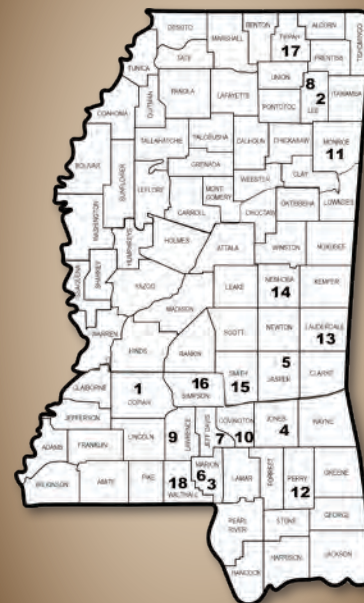
Manager: Jay Aultman,
(601) 587-7853

Location: Lawrence Co. 5 miles west of Monticello off Hwy 84.

Facilities/Activities: 2 boat ramps, 20 camping pads with electrical/water hookups, 4 fishing piers (3 handicapped), 8 earthen piers, nature trail, pavilion, picnic tables, and handicapped restrooms with showers. Skiing on Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

State Fishing Lakes Map

(number in text corresponds to location on map)



GO TO WWW.MDWFP.COM
FOR LAKE INFORMATION

10. LAKE MIKE CONNER

(79 acres)

Manager: John Stamps,
(601) 765-4024

Location: Covington Co. 8 miles west of Collins off Hwy 84.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, 15 camping pads with electrical/water hookups, 2 handicapped fishing piers, pavilion, picnic tables, and handicapped restrooms with showers. Skiing on Wednesday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

11. LAKE MONROE

(103 acres)

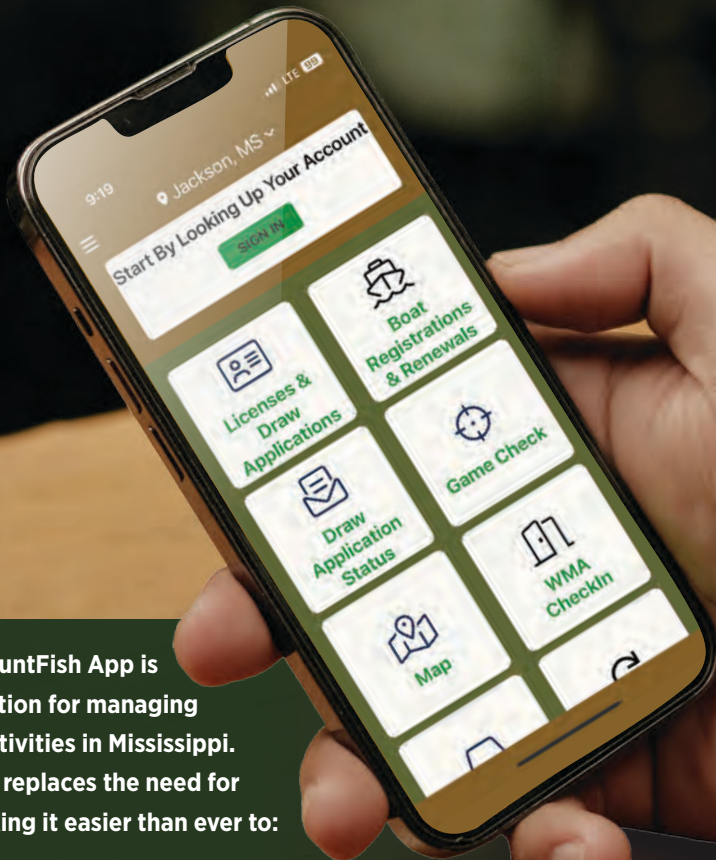
Manager: Charles Mullins,
(662) 256-9637

Location: Monroe Co. between Aberdeen and Amory off Hwy 45 on Coontail Rd.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, kayak launch, 14 camping pads with electrical/water hookups, 2 handicapped fishing piers, picnic tables, and restrooms with showers. No skiing.

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State Fishing Lakes Information (Continued)

12. LAKE PERRY

(68 acres)

Manager: Joey Hinton,
(601) 784-6119

Location: Perry Co. about 3 miles south of Beaumont off Hwy 98.

Facilities/Activities: 2 boat ramps, kayak launch, 15 camping pads with electrical/water hookups, 4 fishing piers (3 handicapped), nature trail, pavilion, picnic tables, and handicapped restrooms with showers. Skiing on Friday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

13. LAKE TOM BAILEY

(182 acres)

Manager: Vacant,
(601) 632-4679

Location: Lauderdale Co. about 8 miles east of Meridian off Hwy 11.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, 22 camping pads with electrical/water hookups, 2 handicapped fishing piers, picnic tables, and handicapped restrooms with showers. Skiing on Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

14. NESHOPA COUNTY LAKE

(138 acres)

Manager: Sherry Hazelwood,
(601) 656-7376

Location: Neshoba Co. about 6 miles southeast of Philadelphia off Hwy 486.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, 22 camping pads with electrical/water/sewer hookups, 2 handicapped fishing piers, pavilion, picnic tables, playground, and handicapped restrooms with showers. No skiing.

15. PRENTISS WALKER LAKE

(81 acres)

Manager: William Sanford,
(601) 733-2611

Location: Smith Co. about 4 miles southwest of Mize off Hwy 35.

Facilities/Activities: Boat dock, boat ramp, 18 camping pads with electrical/water hookups, 2 handicapped fishing piers, pavilions, picnic tables, playground, and handicapped restrooms with showers. Skiing on Friday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

16. SIMPSON COUNTY LAKE

(76 acres)

Manager: Tony Craft,
(601) 849-4886

Location: Simpson Co. 5 miles north of Magee on Hwy 49.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, 11 camping pads with electrical/water hookups, 3 handicapped fishing piers, pavilions, picnic tables, and handicapped restrooms with showers. Skiing on Thursday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

17. TIPPAAH COUNTY LAKE

(145 acres)

Manager: Jim Cutberth,
(662) 837-9850

Location: Tippah Co. 2.5 miles north of Ripley on Hwy 15, west 2.5 miles.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp, 22 camping pads with electrical/water hookups, 3 handicapped fishing piers, 1 earthen pier, grills, pavilion, picnic tables, and restrooms with showers. Skiing on Saturday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day noon to sunset.

18. LAKE WALTHALL

(55 acres)

Manager: None

Location: Walthall Co. 8 miles southeast of Tylertown off Hwy 48.

Facilities/Activities: Boat ramp. No camping or skiing



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FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES & COMMERCIAL FISHING BANS

These advisories are current as of the time of publication, but are subject to change.

Please consult the MDEQ Web Site

<https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/water/field-services/fish-advisories-fish-tissue-and-fishing-bans/ms-fish-tissue-advisories-and-commercial-fishing-bans-june-2011/>
or call the MDEQ Laboratory at (601) 961-5701 for the most up to date information.

STREAM REACH	CHEMICAL	DATE ISSUED	ACTION
Archusa Water Park in Clarke County	Mercury	Sept. 2001	See #1 Below
Bogue Chitto River	Mercury	May 1995	See #1 Below
Delta Region / All waters east of the Mississippi River levee and west of the bluff hills except for Steele Bayou, Black Bayou, Bee Lake, RecCon Lake (Rainey's Lake), and Lake Charlie Capps.	Toxaphene, DDT	June 2001	See #4 Below
Enid Reservoir	Mercury	May 1995	See #1 Below
Escatawpa River from the Alabama state line to Interstate 10.	Mercury	May 1995	See #1 Below
Grenada Lake & Yalobusha River from the dam downstream to Hwy 8 & 35 at Holcomb.	Mercury	June 2001	See #1 Below
The Gulf	Mercury	May 1998	See #2 Below
Lake Susie, Oxbow Lake of Old Tallahatchie River in Panola County west of Batesville	PCBs	Nov. 1989	See #3 Below
Little Conehoma Creek & Yockanookany River in Attala & Leake counties. From Highway 35 near Kosciusko Downstream to Highway 429 near Thomastown (approx. 15 miles).	PCBs	June 1987	See #3 Below
Pascagoula River	Mercury	Sept. 1996	See #1 Below
Pearl River Hwy 25 (Leake County), near Carthage, downstream to Leake County Water Park	Mercury	June 2001	See #1 Below
Yazoo National Wildlife Refuge (All Waters)	Toxaphene, DDT	1975	See #3 Below
Yockanookany River	Mercury	May 1995	See #1 Below
Yocona River From Enid Reservoir to Little Tallahatchie River	Mercury	Sept. 1996	See #1 Below

CONSUMPTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Mississippi State Department of Health recommends that people limit the amount of largemouth and spotted bass and large catfish over 27 inches that they eat from these areas because of high levels of mercury in the fish. Children under seven and women of childbearing age should eat no more than one meal of these fish every two months. Other adults should eat no more than one meal of these fish every two weeks.
2. The Mississippi State Department of Health recommends that people limit the amount of 33"-39" king mackerel they eat from the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Do not eat king mackerel greater than 39". Children under seven and women of childbearing age should eat no more than one meal of these fish every two months. Other adults should eat no more than one meal of these fish every two weeks.
3. Do not consume any fish from these waters. Closed to commercial fishing. Precautionary advisory issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for Yazoo National Wildlife Refuge.
4. The Mississippi State Department of Health recommends that people eat no more than one meal every 2 weeks of buffalo, carp, gar, and catfish over 22 inches from all waters in this area, except for Steele Bayou, Black Bayou, Bee Lake, RecCon Lake (Rainey's Lake) and Lake Charlie Capps.

DDT (dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane) is an insecticide whose use in the United States was banned in 1972.

PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) are chemicals whose production in the United States was banned in 1978.

MISSISSIPPI OFFICIAL STATE RECORD FRESHWATER FISH

(Rod and Reel Division)

SPECIES	WEIGHT	ANGLER	LOCATION CAUGHT	DATE
Alligator Gar	215 lbs	Earl Stafford	MS River (Natchez)	5/3/2003
American Eel	5 lbs 1 oz	Mitch McLendon	MS River (Vicksburg)	7/12/1994
Bighead Carp	67 lbs 12 oz	Ron Maxwell	Sardis Lower Lake	4/3/2007
Bigmouth Buffalo	46 lbs 3 oz	Willie Hearn	Private Pond	10/24/2007
Black Bass Hybrid	11 lbs 4.5 oz	Hunter Yarborough	Private Pond	9/26/1964
Black Bullhead	5.56 lbs	Harold B. Alexander	Sunrise Lake	6/12/1988
Black Crappie	4 lbs 4 oz	Gerald Conlee	Arkabutla Reservoir	3/19/1991
Blue Catfish	131 lbs	Eugene Cronley	MS River (Natchez)	4/11/2022
Bluegill	3.45 lbs	Gerald E. Thurmond	Farm Pond	2/2/1995
Bowfin	18 lbs 14 oz	B.H. Toney	Ross Barnett Reservoir	11/23/1978
Brown Bullhead	6.13 lbs	Bobby L. Gibson	Farm Pond	1/19/1991
Chain Pickerel	6 lbs 4 oz	Ronnie Boren	Bay Springs Lake	10/4/1986
Channel Catfish	51 lbs 12 oz	Tom Edwards	Lake Tom Bailey	5/31/1997
Common Carp	74 lbs	Curtis Wade	Pelahatchie Lake	6/13/1963
Flathead Catfish	77.7 lbs	Matt Bingham	MS River (Tunica)	5/8/2012
Freshwater Drum	30.63 lbs	John Smith	Eagle Lake	1/7/2016
Grass Carp	53.2 lbs	Melvin Murphy	Prairie Waters	4/16/2008
Green Sunfish	1.26 lbs	Craig Jones	Waltman's Lake (Canton)	5/21/1986
Green Sunfish Hybrid	1.23 lbs	Troy M. Wright	Private Pond	4/6/1986
Largemouth Bass	18.15 lbs	Anthony Denny	Natchez State Park Lake	12/31/1992
Longear Sunfish	0.65 lbs	Eric Mayo	Private Pond	4/11/2025
Longnose Gar	48 lbs 1 oz	Don Henson	Sardis Reservoir Spillway	9/10/2016
Magnolia Crappie	3.46 lbs	Tom Box	Lake Charlie Capps	3/24/2004
Paddlefish	65 lbs	Randy Pues	Ross Barnett Reservoir Spillway	6/23/1974
Rainbow Trout	5.03 lbs	Cyrus Manning	Private Pond	1/5/2015
Redfin Pickerel	0.16 lbs.	Eric Mayo	Black Creek	10/6/2022
Redspotted Sunfish	0.32 lbs	Eric Mayo	Private Pond	4/12/2025
Redear	3.33 lbs	James K. Martin	Tippah County Lake	11/5/1991
Sauger	2.52 lbs	Pete Mauceli	MS River (Greenville)	8/5/1992
Saugeye	4.66 lbs	Scott Wood	Bay Springs lake	2/26/2000
Shadow Bass	0.83 lbs	Allen Smith	Red Creek	5/11/2020
Shortnose Gar	5.83 lbs	Robert Mills	Enid Spillway	8/22/1999
Silver Carp	27.25 lbs	Andrew Vinson	Sardis Lower Lake	8/1/2019
Smallmouth Bass	7 lbs 15 oz	Thomas Wilbanks	Yellow Creek Arm (Pickwick Lake)	1/24/1987
Smallmouth Buffalo	57 lbs 12 oz	Charles M. Cox	Ross Barnett Reservoir	11/21/1983
Spotted Bass	8 lbs 2 oz	S. Ross Gratham	Farm Pond	9/2/1975
Spotted Gar	8.58 lbs	Jerome Mitchell	Lake Eddins	8/12/2024
Striped Bass	39.6 lbs	Rocky Rawls	Pascagoula River	2/7/2016
Striped Bass Hybrid	17.77 lbs	Robert F. Fulce	Lower Sardis Lake	4/15/1991
Walleye	9.66 lbs	Clayton E. Hobbs	TN River (Iuka)	1/19/1985
Warmouth	1 lb 8 oz	Lillian Morris	Black Creek	6/17/1979
White Bass	5 lbs 6 oz	William Mulvihill	Grenada Reservoir Spillway	4/21/1979
★ White Crappie	5 lbs 3 oz	Fred Bright	Enid Reservoir	7/31/1957
Yellow Bass	2.24 lbs	Zach Lipford	Pickwick Lake	3/2/2017
Yellow Bullhead	2 lbs 13.5 oz	Tom Wimberly III	Private Pond	4/6/2021
Yellow Perch	1.46 lbs	Wesley Cummins	Pickwick Lake	3/21/2016

★ – World Record



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Community Fishing Assistance Program – Public Fishing Waters

To inquire about enrolling a water body owned by a city or county in this program call (601) 432-2207.

- Only rod and reel or line and pole gear may be used in the following public waters which are open to fishing. Unless otherwise stated, all persons possessing a valid fishing license or who are legally exempt from the license requirements may fish these waters.
- The term “Handicapped persons” means paraplegic, hemiplegic, anyone permanently dependent upon a wheelchair for mobility, anyone who requires the permanent use of braces, full prosthesis or crutches for walking or blindness.
- Boating, swimming, littering, and alcoholic beverages are not allowed, except where noted. City or county ordinances may also regulate activities at these waters.
- Community Fishing Assistance Program Lakes may be closed to public use and the use regulations may be changed for special events.

LOCATION AND WATER	SIZE	SPECIES	DAILY LIMIT	RULES
Amory, Monroe County McAlpine Lake	2.5 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	1 10 2	See A Below
Brookhaven, Lincoln County Brookhaven Fishing Pond	1 acre	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	0 10 5	See B Below
Byram, Hinds County Lake Dockery	43.5 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	5 25 5	See C Below
Carthage, Leake County McMillian Park Pond	1.5 acres	Largemouth Bass All other Species Combined	2 8	Open Each Day
Clarksdale, Coahoma County Coahoma County Lake	3.2 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	2 20 5	See D Below
Cleveland, Bolivar County Bear Pen Park Lake	3 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	0 15 5	See E Below
Eupora, Webster County White's Creek Lake	280 acres	Largemouth Bass. Release bass 15 inches and under Bluegill, Redear, all bream Crappie. Release all crappie 10 inches and under Catfish	5 25 15 10	See F Below
Greenwood, LeFlore County, Floewood River Plantation Lake	5 acres	Largemouth Bass bream Catfish	2 10 5	See G Below
Hattiesburg, Forrest County Duncan Lake	16.5 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	5 10 5	See H Below
Hattiesburg, Forrest County Forrest County Lake	10.1 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	5 20 5	See I Below
Hernando, Desoto County Lee's Summit Park Lake	1.5 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Crappie	0 100 30	See J Below
Olive Branch, Desoto County Olive Branch City Park Main, Middle, & Amphitheater Ponds	8 acres Total	Largemouth Bass. Release bass 15 inches & under Bluegill, Redear, all bream Crappie Catfish	2 10 5 5	Open Each Day
Oxford, Lafayette County Lake Patsy	7.6 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	0 10 5	See K Below
Pascagoula, Jackson County Chateau Lake	4.5 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	5 10 5	Open Each Day
Pascagoula, Jackson County Whitehead Lake	13 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	5 10 5	Open Each Day
Poplarville, Pearl River County Poplar Springs Lake	5.2 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	2 20 5	See L Below
Tupelo, Lee County Ballard Lake	3 acres	Largemouth Bass Bluegill, Redear, all bream Catfish	5 25 5	See M Below
Walnut Grove, Leake County Willow Lake	2.5 acres	Largemouth Bass All other species combined	0 8	See N Below

Rules for Community Fishing Assistance Program Waters – 40 MS Admin. Code Part 3 Rule 2.2

- McAlpine Lake is open for fishing to persons 15 years old and younger on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday. One pole per youth.
- Brookhaven Fishing Pond will only be open for fishing to persons 14 years old and younger or handicapped persons of any age, as defined in this Rule.
- Lake Dockery is open to fishing each day from 30 minutes before dawn until 30 minutes before sunset. No swimming, alcohol, glass containers, overnight camping, outboard gasoline engine use or ATVs, tobacco products, unleashed pets, or firearms allowed. Contained fires only.
- Coahoma County Lake is open to fishing each day from sunrise to sunset.
- Bear Pen Park Lake is open daily from sunrise to sunset.
- White Creek's Lake is open daily from sunrise to 9 p.m. No campfires, firearms, explosives, or jug fishing allowed. Boating allowed. Launching fee may apply. All business activities are prohibited including guided fishing trips. See rules posted at lake.
- Floewood River Plantation Lake is open to fishing on Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Duncan Lake is open to fishing each day from sunrise to sunset. Pets must be on a leash.
- Forrest County Lake will be open to fishing on Thursday and Friday of each week and only to persons 14 years old or younger or handicapped persons of any age as defined in this Rule. All minors must be accompanied by a supervising adult and handicapped persons in need of personal assistance must provide such. The lake will be open to the general public for fishing on Saturday of each week from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Lee's Summit Park Lake is open to fishing each day from sunrise to sunset.
- Lake Patsy will only be open for fishing to persons 15 years old and younger or handicapped persons of any age, as defined in this Rule. Fishing hours will be from sunrise to sunset each day.
- Poplar Springs Lake shall be open to fishing on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
- Ballard Lake is open to fishing each day from sunrise to 10 p.m.
- Willow Lake will be open to fishing Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday of each week from sunrise to sunset.



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Mississippi State Parks

15

LEGION STATE PARK

635 Legion State Park Road
Louisville, MS 39339
(662) 773-8323

16 acres of lake

Location: 2 miles north of Louisville on North Columbus Avenue (Old Hwy 25).

16

LEROY PERCY STATE PARK

1400 Hwy 12 W
Hollandale, MS 38748
(662) 827-5436

60 acre lake

Location: 5 miles west of Hollandale off Mississippi 12.

17

NATCHEZ STATE PARK

230-B Wickcliff Rd.
Natchez, MS 39120
(601) 442-2658

230 acre lake

Location: 10 miles north of Natchez off U. S. 61 at Stanton.

18

PAUL B. JOHNSON STATE PARK

319 Geiger Lake Rd.
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
(601) 582-7721 – 225 acre lake

Location: 10 miles south of Hattiesburg, off U.S. 49.

19

PERCY QUIN STATE PARK

2036 Percy Quin Dr.
McComb, MS 39648
(601) 684-3938

490 acre lake

Golf Course: (601) 684-2903

Location: 6 miles south of McComb off I-55, exit 13.

20

ROOSEVELT STATE PARK

2149 Highway 13 South
Morton, MS 39117
(601) 732-6316

150 acre lake

Location: I-20, exit 77.

21

SHEPARD STATE PARK

1034 Graveline Rd.
Gautier, MS 39553
(228) 497-2244

Location: 3 miles west of Pascagoula, south of U. S. 90 at Gautier.
Operated by the City of Gautier.

22

TISHOMINGO STATE PARK

105 County Rd. 90 / P.O. Box 880
Tishomingo, MS 38873
(662) 438-6914

45 acre lake

Location: Mile marker 304 off the Natchez Trace or two miles south of Tishomingo off Hwy 25.

23

TOMBIGBEE STATE PARK

264 Cabin Drive
Tupelo, MS 38804
(662) 842-7669

58 acre lake

Location: 6 miles southeast of Tupelo off Mississippi 6.

24

TRACE STATE PARK

2139 Faulkner Rd.
Belden, MS 38826
(662) 489-2958

437 acre lake

Location: 10 miles east of Pontotoc off Mississippi 6.

25

WALL DOXEY STATE PARK

3946 Hwy 7 South
Holly Springs, MS 38635
(662) 252-4231

60 acre lake

Location: 7 miles south of Holly Springs off Mississippi 7.



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Mississippi State Parks – Fees

GENERAL ENTRANCE	FEES	DESCRIPTION
Per Person	\$2.00	5 years of age and under free
Special Event/Vehicle	\$10.00	\$2.00 for each person over 6 people
Daily Trail Use, ORV, Horse	\$8.00	Per person
Daily Trail Use, Mountain Bike	\$5.00	Per person
Daily Walk-in, Bus, Bike	\$0.50	Per person
Annual Entrance Permit	\$50.00	In & Out-of-State
Annual ORV/Horse	\$102.00	Per person

FISHING PERMITS	FEES	DESCRIPTION
Daily Youth Fishing	N/A	Under 16 years of age
Daily Fishing (Ages 16–61)	\$5.00	Per person
Annual Bank/Pier Fishing (Ages 16–61)	\$55.00	Per person
Annual Bank/Pier Disabled/ Age Exempt Fishing	\$35.00	Per person

BOAT LAUNCH	FEES	DESCRIPTION
Daily Boat Launch Fish/Ski (Ages 16–61)	\$9.00	Per boat
Annual Boat Launch Fish/Ski (Ages 16–61)	\$125.00	Per boat
Annual Boat Launch Fish/Ski Disabled/Age Exempt	\$100.00	Per boat
Duplicate copy of Annual Permit	\$9.00	

CANOE RENTAL	RATE	DESCRIPTION
Bear Creek Float Trip	\$40.00	Per Trip (Tishomingo Only)

CABINS, COTTAGES	RATE RANGE
Mini, Rustic, Standard & Deluxe cabins	\$35 – \$190
Standard cottage (no linens)	\$60 – \$110

CAMPING	NIGHTLY	MONTHLY
Camping – RV Sites	\$25.00 – \$190.00	\$500.00 - \$800.00
Camping – Standard (water/electricity)	\$25.00	\$500.00
Camping – Primitive (tent only)	\$20.00	
Scout Groups (per person)	\$2.00	
Camping – Premium	\$45.00 – \$65.00	\$800.00 (Only Buccaneer)
Camping – Gulf View (Buccaneer)	\$85 – \$190	

GOLF VILLAS	NIGHTLY	DESCRIPTION
Percy Quin	\$300.00	Per villa

GROUP CAMPS	RATE	STANDARD
Lodging	\$8.50	Per person/per night
Meals	\$8.50 - \$15.00	Per person/per meal

MUSEUMS, CULTURAL CENTERS	UNIT	RATE	DESCRIPTION
Museum of Natural Science	Adult	\$8.00	
	Senior Citizen	\$7.00	Ages 60 and over
	Children	\$6.00	Ages 3–18
	Children	Free	Under 3
	Educational Groups	\$3.00	Per person, chaperone free
	Adult Groups	\$7.00	
	Senior Adult Groups	\$6.00	
	Children Groups	\$3.00	
	Annual Permit	\$45.00	Per person
	Annual Permit	\$70.00	Per family
	Annual Permit	Bulk	50% off with purchase of 200 or more permits
	Amphitheater	\$500.00	
	Picnic Pavilion	\$50.00	Per 2-hour period
	Picnic Pavilion	\$150.00	Per day
Livingston Performing Arts	Arts & Media Center	\$360.00 – \$900.00	Per day – rate to be determined

MARINAS	SLIP	RATE	DESCRIPTION
J.P. Coleman	Dock A - C	\$56.00 – \$250.00	Monthly, 32 – 48 foot slips. Covered and uncovered, w/ and w/out electricity
	Transient Dock	\$1/foot	10 Day maximum stay. Minimum length 26 foot. Includes electricity.
Percy Quin	Guest Slip Rental	\$6.00	Daily, covered, without electricity
	All slips	\$300.00	Yearly, with electricity

MEETING ROOMS	RATE
Meeting Rooms	\$40.00 - \$500.00

BUSINESS RETREAT CENTERS	RATE
J.P. Coleman	\$500.00 per day

MISCELLANEOUS	RATE	DESCRIPTION
Disc Golf Rental	\$3.00	Per disc/per day
Disc Rental Replacement Fee	\$5.00	Per disc
Golf Cart	\$10.00	Per Person/Per day/Valid Driver's license required
Annual Golf Cart Permit	\$100.00	Per Cart/Per licensed driver
Horse Barn Rental (Trace State Park)	\$6.00	Per Night
Permit Replacement Fee	\$6.00	Each
Firewood	\$7.00	Per Load
Ice	\$2.50	Bag
Linen Rental	\$15.00	Per set
Damage Fee	\$50.00	

MOTELS & TOWNHOUSES	NIGHTLY	DESCRIPTION
Motels	\$72.00 - \$110.00	
Townhouses	\$162.00 - \$225.00	J.P. Coleman

Mississippi State Parks – Fees

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES	RATE	DESCRIPTION
Ball Field, with lights	\$12.00	Per hour
Ball Field, without lights	\$6.00	Per hour
Ball Field, Softball Tournaments	\$25.00	Per team (Lake Lowndes) 10 team minimum
Ball Field, Child Team Practice	\$50.00	Per Field
Carpet (miniature) Golf	\$2–\$4	Per Person
Gymnasium Lake Lowndes	\$2.00	Per Person – general use
Gymnasium Lake Lowndes	\$10.00	Per hour, reserved (2 hour minimum)
Gymnasium Lake Lowndes	\$200.00	Lock-in 8 p.m. to 8 a.m.
Multi-Sports Center – Lake Lowndes	\$150.00	6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
School Recreation Permit, Annual	\$250.00	Lake Lowndes only
Tennis Courts	\$6.00	Per 1.5 hours with lights
Tennis Courts	\$3.00	Per 1.5 hours without lights
Concessions – Vendor Rental	\$35.00	Per Space
Tournaments – Special Events	\$50.00 – \$1,000.00	Rate to be determined
Regal's Landing	\$5.00 – \$200.00	Hourly

PAVILIONS	RATES
Pavilions	\$5.00 – \$200.00, hourly

TENNIS	RATES
Entrance Annual Permit	\$75.00 per person

SWIMMING, WATER SLIDES, SPLASH PADS & WAVE POOL		
FACILITY	RATE	DESCRIPTION
Pool (at J.P. Coleman, Percy Quin, Roosevelt, Tishomingo, & Buccaneer)	\$6.00	Person 13 and older
	\$4.00	Person 3–12 years old
Water Slides (at Roosevelt)	\$11.00	Per Day/Per Person

BUCCANEER STATE PARK		
Water Slides & Wave Pool Regular Rate	\$13.00	One person under 48" high
	\$19.00	One person over 48" high
Group Rate (50 people +)	\$11.00	One person under 48" high
	\$16.00	One person over 48" high
Twilight (4–6 p.m.)	\$9.00	One person under 48" high
	\$11.00	One person over 48" high
Non-Participant Fee	\$6.00	
Annual Pass, Individual	\$60.00	
Annual Pass, Family	\$200.00	(4 people) Family pass only covers immediate family
Annual Pass, Additional Family Member	\$50.00	(up to 2 people) Only covers immediate family
Annual Pass replacement	\$10.00	

PAUL B. JOHNSON STATE PARK		
Splash Pad Regular Rate	\$6.00	One person 15 – & under
	\$8.00	One person 16 – & older
Annual Pass, Individual	\$30.00	
Annual Pass, Family	\$120.00	(4 people) Family pass only covers immediate family
Private Parties (7–9 p.m.)	\$250.00	Each person over 50 will be charged the standard rate.

Notes: 1. Refer to State Park Fees (Rule 1.1) and Rules and Regulations (Rule 1.2) for complete fee and reservation information at www.mdwfp.com/parks-destinations

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Mississippi State Parks – Amenities

CONFERENCE & OVERNIGHT FACILITIES							
• FACILITY OR ACTIVITY AVAILABLE	MOTEL	MEETING ROOMS	CABINS	GROUP CAMP	RV CAMPGROUND	TENT CAMPGROUND	CAMPGROUND LAUNDRY
Buccaneer					•	•	•
Clarkco		•	•		•	•	•
Florewood							
George P. Cossar		•	•		•		•
Golden Memorial	Day Use Only						
Holmes County					•		
Hugh White		•	•		•		
J. P. Coleman	•	•	•		•	•	•
John W. Kyle		•	•	•	•		•
Lake Lincoln			•		•	•	
Lake Lowndes		•	•		•	•	•
LeFleur's Bluff					•	•	
Legion		•	•		•	•	
Leroy Percy		•	•		•		•
Natchez			•		•	•	•
Paul B. Johnson		•	•	•	•	•	•
Percy Quin	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Roosevelt	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Shepard					•	•	
Tishomingo		•	•	•	•	•	
Tombigbee		•	•	•	•	•	•
Trace		•	•		•	•	•
Wall Doxey		•	•	•	•	•	•

DAY USE FACILITIES & ACTIVITIES															
• FACILITY OR ACTIVITY AVAILABLE	GOLF	TENNIS	DISC GOLF	PICNIC AREA/PAVILIONS	PLAYGROUND	PLAYING FIELDS	EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL	NATURE TRAIL	SWIMMING POOL	WATER SLIDE	SPLASH PAD	FISHING	BOAT LAUNCH	WATER SKIING
Buccaneer			•	•	•				•	•	•		•		
Clarkco		•	•	•	•	•			•			•	•	•	•
Florewood													•		
George P. Cossar			•	•	•				•				•	•	•
Golden Memorial				•	•								•	•	
Holmes County				•									•	•	
Hugh White	•		•	•	•								•	•	•
J. P. Coleman				•	•					•			•	•	•
John W. Kyle	•				•								•	•	•
Lake Lincoln			•	•	•				•				•	•	•
Lake Lowndes		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•	•
LeFleur's Bluff			•	•	•				•				•	•	
Legion				•	•				•				•		
Leroy Percy			•	•	•				•				•	•	
Natchez			•	•	•				•				•	•	
Paul B. Johnson			•	•	•				•			•	•	•	•
Percy Quin	•	•		•	•	•			•				•	•	•
Roosevelt		•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•		•	•	•
Shepard			•	•	•	•			•				•	•	
Tishomingo			•	•	•	•			•				•		•
Tombigbee			•	•	•	•			•				•	•	
Trace			•	•	•		•	•	•				•	•	•
Wall Doxey			•	•	•	•			•				•	•	
Clark Creek				•					•						
Great River Road					•								•	•	

Mississippi State Parks Info 1-800-GO PARKS

Useful Phone Numbers

Beaver Problems/Animal Damage Control	USDA/WS	(662) 325-3014
Boat Registration/Titling	MDWFP	(601) 432-2055
Commercial Freshwater Fishing	Fisheries	(601) 432-2200
Commercial Quail Breeders' Licenses.....	MDWFP	(601) 432-2199
Commercial Wildlife Enclosures	MDWFP	(601) 432-2199
Disabled Hunting.....	MDWFP	(601) 432-2055
DMAP (Deer Mgmt. Assistance Program)	MDWFP	(601) 432-2199
Ducks/Geese with Leg Bands	USGS	reportband.gov
Environmental complaints (state)	MDEQ	(888) 786-0661
Environmental complaints – (federal, Corps of Engineers).....	USACOE	(800) 522-5672
Falconry Permits	MDWFP	(601) 432-2196
Field Trial Permits (Bird Dog, Raccoon Hunt, Fox Hunt)	MDWFP	(601) 432-2199
Fish Kills (on public waters).....	MEMA (24 hrs/day).....	(800) 222-6362
Hunter Education.....	MDWFP	(601) 432-2180
Lifetime License	MDWFP	(601) 432-2055
McHenry Shooting Facility.....	MDWFP	(601) 928-1645
Mclvor Shooting Facility	MDWFP	(662) 487-1946 (Charles Ray Nix WMA)
Mississippi Outdoors Magazine.....	MDWFP	(601) 432-2244 or (888) 874-5785 (to subscribe)
Mississippi Outdoors Television/Media	MDWFP	(601) 432-2250 or 432-2251
Pond /Aquatic Plant / Exotic Species Assistance	Fisheries	(601) 432-2200
Salt Water Regulations.....	MDMR	(228) 374-5000
Scientific Collecting Permits.....	Museum	(601) 576-6060
Shooting Preserves.....	MDWFP	(601) 432-2199
Sportsman's License	MDWFP	(601) 432-2055
State Fishing Lakes.....	Fisheries	(601) 432-2206
Tamed Quail Permit (To train bird dogs).....	MDWFP	(601) 432-2199
Taxidermy Permits.....	MDWFP	(601) 432-2199
Turcotte Shooting Facility	MDWFP	(601) 859-3421

Reservoirs

Arkabutla.....	(662) 562-6261
Bay Springs	(662) 423-1287
Columbus Area Office, COE (Tenn-Tom Waterway)	(662) 327-2142
Enid	(662) 563-4571
Grenada	(662) 226-5911
Okatibbee	(601) 626-8431
Pickwick.....	(256) 386-2601
Ross Barnett.....	(601) 856-6574
Sardis	(662) 563-4531

Miscellaneous Numbers

Agriculture Museum	(601) 432-4500
MS Audubon Society	(662) 252-1155
Delta Wildlife Inc.....	(662) 686-3370
Ducks Unlimited	(601) 956-1936
Grand Gulf Military Park.....	(601) 437-5911
Gulf Islands National Seashore	(228) 875-9057
Jackson Zoo	(601) 352-2580
MS Dept. of Agriculture and Commerce.....	(601) 359-1100
MS Dept. of Environmental Quality	(601) 961-5171
MS Dept. of Marine Resources	(228) 374-5000
MS Forestry Commission.....	(601) 359-1386
MS Nature Conservancy.....	(601) 713-3355
MS Wildlife Federation	(601) 605-1790
Natchez Trace Parkway – Tupelo	(662) 680-4027
Ridgeland.....	(601) 856-7321
National Forests in MS.....	(601) 965-1600
Natural Resources Conservation Service.....	(601) 965-5205
Pat Harrison Waterway District	(800) 748-9618
U.S. Geological Survey	(601) 933-2900
U.S. Coast Guard-Gulfport.....	(228) 868-3743
Vicksburg Military Park	(601) 636-0583
Wildlife Mississippi	(662) 686-3375

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Wildlife Refuges, and Fish Hatchery

Bogue Chitto NWR.....	(985) 882-2000
Coldwater River NWR	(662) 226-8286
Dahomey NWR.....	(662) 226-8286
Grand Bay NWR	(228) 475-0765
Hillside NWR.....	(662) 235-4989
Holt Collier NWR	(662) 839-2638
Jackson Office.....	(601) 965-4900
Mississippi Sandhill Crane NWR.....	(228) 497-6322
Morgan Brake and Matthews Brake NWR.....	(662) 235-4989
Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee NWR.....	(662) 323-5548
Panther Swamp NWR	(662) 836-3004
Private John Allen NFH	(662) 842-1341
St. Catherine Creek NWR	(601) 442-6696
Tallahatchie NWR	(662) 226-8286
T. Roosevelt NWR Complex	(662) 839-2638
Yazoo NWR.....	(662) 839-2638

Corps of Engineer Districts and Management Areas

Memphis (800) 317-4156
Mobile (251) 690-2576
Vicksburg (601) 631-5000

National Forests

Bienville.....(601) 469-3811, Forest
Chickasawhay(601) 428-0594, Laurel
Delta.....(662) 873-6256, Rolling Fork
DeSoto.....(601) 528-6160, Wiggins
Holly Springs(662) 236-6550, Oxford
Homochitto.....(601) 384-5876, Meadville
State Office.....(601) 965-1600, Jackson
Tombiabee.....(662) 285-3264, Ackerman



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