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## Your fishing report for Oct. 20, 2016

### From the deck of the Kick'n Bass pontoon

*The last several weeks have been excellent fishing weather temps and catching rates. Every fish that swims in the lake has been hitting cranks including a 4 to 5 foot longnose gar that broke off near the toon. He took my crankbait with him but not sure that I really wanted him in the boat! Crappies are great and we have even boated numerous catfish. The yellowbass have been keeping us busy in between crappies. We have had several sauger this week also but no giants...yet!*

### Lake conditions

Water temps are 69 degrees in the morning and warming up to about 75.5 degrees in the afternoons. These temps are perfect which means Crappie time!! Water color on the main lake is clear to about 3 feet. Levels are at 354.5 which is darn near winter pool and normal for this time of year. The TVA is pulling just enough water to keep the level where it is now for the foreseeable future.

You can view the lake levels here:

[tva.gov/Environment/Lake-Levels/Kentucky](http://tva.gov/Environment/Lake-Levels/Kentucky)

### Weather forecast

**Thursday...**Showers and thunderstorms likely in the morning... Then showers likely and a slight chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 60s. West winds around 5 mph in the morning shifting to the North with gusts to around 25 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation 70 percent.

**Thursday Night...**Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers in the evening. Lows in the upper 40s. North winds 5 to 10 mph. Gusts up to 25 mph in the evening.

**Friday...**Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 60s. North winds 5 to 10 mph.

**Friday Night...**Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s.

**Saturday...**Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s.



Bob Dye of Wheaton IL caught this 15" beauty pulling crankbaits.

**Saturday Night...**Clear. Lows in the upper 40s.

**Sunday...**Sunny. Highs in the lower 70s.

**Sunday Night...**Clear. Lows in the lower 50s.

**Monday...**Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s.

**Monday Night...**Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 50s.

**Tuesday...**Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s.

**Thursday Night...**Clear. Lows in the mid 50s.

**Friday...**Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 80s.



Jacek, Szczepan and Marian from Chicago had a great day on the pontoon.



Tom and Linda Burreta of Troy Mo celebrate their great catch!



Jim and Cheryl Miller from Princeton IL with a nice mixed bag.



Good fun was had by Pam and Brad Boe and Sherry and Curt Kent.

## Crappies

Crappies are on fire right now and even though their bellies are already bulging from shad they are still feeding heavily for the winter months. I have been pulling Arkie crankbaits in the 220, 250 and 350 series for weeks now. Fish have been caught in 8 feet out to 20 feet in all areas of the lake. Average speed of 1.8 mph has been my best speed but on the windy days I have gone up to 2.2 mph and have still caught fish. Lately any lure with at least some pink on it has been the best choice. Put in your time on the water and it pays off. I see this feeding frenzy picking up now that the water has cooled and the crops are schooling up.



Cheryl Miller of Princeton showing off a monster!

## Whitebass

The white and yellow bass report is basically the same. Whitebass and Yellowbass are scattered on river channels and shallow flats mid lake. Also in some of the deeper bays. We haven't fished for them in a while but we have caught quite a few. The yellows seem to be all over the lake right now. They have really put on the feed bag now. The average size for yellows has been great this fall...some in the 11 inch range and real fighters.



Yellow bass offer a good fight for anglers, and their mild fillets can round out a fish fry!

## Largemouth

Bass have been caught mainly in the bays from the main lake points all the way to the back in 2 feet of water. Topwaters, spinnerbaits and Texas rigged worms have been best baits. The BFL this past weekend sported many huge bags of fish...both large and smallmouth bass.

## Catfish

We caught many channel cats and a few blues while pulling cranks this week. Also saw a bunch of cats at the cleaning station that were caught jugging.

## Redear/Bluegill

I did not get the chance to fish for gills and redears this week so I do not have a report. We did catch several in 12 feet of water on crankbaits though.

## HiTec Outdoor Open House

Hitec Outdoor Pro Shop is hosting an open house Friday October 28th from 12 to 5pm, and Saturday the 29th from 9am to 3pm. Along with other seminars, Captain Rich will be presenting a seminar on pulling crankbaits, sharing his experience and knowledge of this technique that's catching on. The Pro Shop is located at 3243 E. US-68, Benton, KY. Hope to see you there. For more info go to [hitecoutdoors.com](http://hitecoutdoors.com).



John Rollins of Champaign Il with a nice largemouth.

## Attaboy:

Thanks for the pictures Rich! Had a wonderful time fishing with you. We will spread a good word!

—Linda and Don B, Troy, Mo.

## Book now with Captain Rich!

Gift certificates available

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