



**Fish Kentucky Lake
with Guide Captain Rich Bay**

Book a trip on our fishing pontoon:

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Your fishing report for July 1, 2017

From the deck of the Kick'n Bass pontoon

We have had family and friends visiting from out of state and have had a great time here in Kentucky Lake!! Between scheduled guide trips we caught a lot of fish and had a lot of fun. Kentucky Lake is a great place to live and I thank God for putting me here. Also thank my Dad and Mom for vacationing here a lot when all of us were kids.

We have used a two prong approach to fishing. Starting most mornings casting for white and yellow bass and if those stop feeding we switch to pulling crankbaits for crappies, etc. In the summer is also a good time to troll because when the fish turn sluggish we take the bait to them instead of waiting for them to come to us. This approach has helped put mixed bags of fish into the Kick'n Bass pontoon.

Lake conditions

The water level has stabilized to around summer pool at 359.25. Temps in low 60's at night and mid 80's during the day have made for a great morning bite. TVA is keeping the water at this level for the next few days at least.

You can view the lake levels here: tva.gov/Environment/Lake-Levels/Kentucky

Weather forecast

<https://weather.com/weather/tenday/l/42025:4:US>

Crappies

Crappies have settled into their normal pattern on the main lake. Pulling Arkie crankbaits has produced some nice fish. I have been varying my trolling speed between 1.6 and 2.1 mph. Seems the best colors this week have been the Arkie #3 Sexee Shad and any pink combination crankbaits but that can change day



Cap'n Rich's sister, brother and friend with a nice mess





Austin Sumrow (left) and Mike Sumrow of Lemont, IL, enjoying their day of catching on the water.



The Roger Segura group showing off some of their catch



Danika Apostolovich and Ally Whitson from Illinois



Another beautiful morning at Malcolm Creek Resort

to day.... Fishing the deeper bays over brush and stake-beds has produced some fish but the main concentrations of fish are in the main lake. Put in the time to scan for fish and come up with a pattern will get you on the fish.

Whitebass

The whitebass report is the same as last reported. SteelShad bladebaits have been great using a yo-yo style of fishing. Let them sink to the bottom and steadily pull up about 6 feet. Pause there and then tightline the lure back to the bottom.

Repeat back to the boat. On sunny days we use the silver colored baits and on cloudy days we have used the gold blades. Some days we have been using 3/8 ounce inline spinners in white with a silver blade. Hit bottom then reel at a medium retrieve about 8 times around. Then open the bail and let the lure sink back to bottom. Repeat back to the boat. Jigging spoons have worked some also.

Catfish

We have not fished for cats exclusively but we have caught a ton fishing for other species. We have caught cats casting Steelshads and also trolling crankbaits. My sister Kathy caught a big flathead while pulling cranks. Nearly every time we catch a cat while trolling I hear "I didn't know catfish would hit on lures!" Yes, they do!

Largemouth

We have caught largemouths the last few weeks fishing for other species, either on SteelShads or crankbaits. I try to keep a Sexee Shad colored Arkie crankbait on at all times because that is a favorite color for bass. Reeling in a 5 pounder on a 14 foot rod is a treat!

Bluegills and Redears

I did not get the chance to fish for gills and redears this week but have caught some nice gills while trolling and have seen nice baskets of both at the cleaning station. We have caught a few in deep water on crankbaits. An old pattern I've used in the past is to find a long flat in about 10 feet of water and let the current slowly move the boat along. Bounce a piece of crawler on a bare hook with a split shot one foot above the hook and be ready.

ATTABOY

*Austin and I had a really good time out there with you today.
Thank you so much for a great day. —Mike S., Lemont, IL*

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