

FISHING FAVORITE WATERS

Bass

HYBRID STRIPED BASS/STRIPED BASS

Kanawha, Monongahela and Ohio rivers; Beech Fork, Bluestone, Mt. Storm and R.D. Bailey lakes.

Favorite baits

White jigs, silver spoons, shad imitation lures and live minnows.

LARGEMOUTH BASS

Beech Fork, Bluestone, Burnsville, Cheat, East Lynn, Elk Fork, O'Brien, R.D. Bailey, Stonewall Jackson and Sutton lakes; Ohio River; most farm ponds and state managed lakes.

Favorite baits

Minnows, night crawlers, crayfish, crankbaits, spinnerbaits, jigs, soft plastic and most top-water lures.

SMALLMOUTH BASS

Summersville and Tygart lakes. Cheat, Elk, Greenbrier, Guyandotte, New, South Branch of Potomac, Shenandoah, Tug Fork and Tygart rivers.

Favorite tackle and baits

Spinning tackle of medium-light and ultra-light weight using spinners and other artificial lures resembling minnows, night crawlers, hellgrammites, crayfish, crankbaits, jigs, and numerous soft plastic and top-water baits.

WHITE BASS

Cheat and Tygart lakes; Ohio, Kanawha and Monongahela rivers.

Favorite baits

Jigs, crankbaits, spinners, streamers and live minnows.

RIPARIAN AND SHORELINE HABITATS

Vegetation is an important component of habitats along West Virginia's streams and lakes. These riparian areas are crucial in the protection of aquatic habitats for fish and other organisms. Help protect West Virginia's waters by protecting riparian areas.

See the following links for more information:

www.dep.wv.gov/WWE/Programs/nonpntsource

water.epa.gov

Channel Catfish

Beech Fork, Bluestone, Cheat, East Lynn, Burnsville, Stonecoal and Stonewall Jackson lakes; Kanawha, Monongahela, South Branch of the Potomac, and Ohio rivers. Most warmwater streams and state managed impoundments.

Favorite baits

Minnows, night crawlers, chicken livers and other natural baits.

Crappie

Bluestone, Burnsville, East Lynn, North Bend, R.D. Bailey, Stonewall Jackson, Sutton, Summersville, and Tygart lakes; Ohio River backwaters.

Favorite baits

Minnows, jigs and minnow-imitating lures.

Musky

Burnsville, East Lynn, North Bend, Stonecoal, Stonewall Jackson and Woodrum lakes; Buckhannon, Elk (downstream of Sutton), Gauley, Hughes, Little Kanawha, Monongahela, Mud, New, Tygart and West Fork rivers; Dunkard, Middle Island, Mill and Sandy creeks.

Favorite tackle and baits

Bait casting reels using minnow imitating lures; glide baits and jerkbaits. Large spinners are also excellent choices.

Trout (Year-Round Waters)

Blackwater, Cranberry, Elk above Webster Springs, Glade Creek of New River, South Branch of the Potomac near Franklin, North Fork of the South Branch, Shavers Fork of Cheat and Williams rivers.

Walleye

Cheat, Jennings Randolph, Summersville, Stonecoal, and Tygart lakes; Elk, lower Gauley and New rivers; Kanawha, Monongahela and Ohio river dam tailwaters; and Stephens Lake.

Favorite baits

Live minnows, night crawlers, jigs, minnow-imitating crankbaits and spinners.