

## WELCOME TO THE MAGNOLIA RIDGE PARK FISHING POND

This stocked fishing pond was completed in 1996 (expanded in 2004) for use by children and disabled persons because of the lack of shoreline access in Magnolia Ridge Park. It is stocked periodically with channel catfish. Parents are encouraged to bring their children camping and introduce them to fishing and enjoying the great outdoors.

The following is a list of rules designed to provide optimal use of the pond:

1. Pond fishing is restricted to the following:
  - (a) Children 12 years or under who are occupying a campsite with a registered camper;
  - (b) Registered campers with a severe mobility disability that leaves him/her unable to fish from a boat. A Park Ranger must verify the disability and issue a special permit good only for the length of the current stay.
2. All children **must** be accompanied by an adult 18 years or older. Parents are not allowed to fish for the child if the child decides not to fish or wants to play. The only assistance an adult is allowed to give a child is baiting the hook, removing a fish, and casting. Once the cast is made the adult **must immediately** hand the rod to the child.
3. The bag limit is **3** catfish per person per day. There is no size limit and all catfish

landed must be kept. There are no possession or length restrictions on sunfish.

4. Fishing is permitted only between 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset. No night fishing is allowed.
5. Only rod fishing is allowed – no juglines or trotlines are permitted. Only one line per person is allowed.
6. Unused bait will not be placed in the pond.
7. No swimming is allowed in the pond.
8. Alcohol is not permitted at the pond.

**The pond may be temporarily closed after stockings. Thank you for your patience.**

To insure your safety please be advised that the pond is steeply sloped underwater, with a maximum depth of 7 feet. Also be aware that wild animals such as raccoons, opossums, snakes and alligators may be attracted to the pond in search of food and water.

Violators may be subject to citation under CFR Title 36, Section 327. Violators who repeatedly ignore the above rules may be expelled from the park, regardless of the amount of time remaining on their camping permit. In extreme cases individuals may be banned from the park.

## KIDS FISHING DAY

Once a year in June (usually the first Saturday) the park hosts a celebration of National Fishing and Boating Week. It is open for all children 12 and under, whether camping in the park or not. The event is free and begins at 8:00 am. The fishing lasts until around noon, when lunch is provided. Each child may keep their fish and will be given a trophy/certificate and goody bag for participating. Check with the Town Bluff Project Office at (409) 429-3491 for dates and details.



*\* Revised April 2004 \**