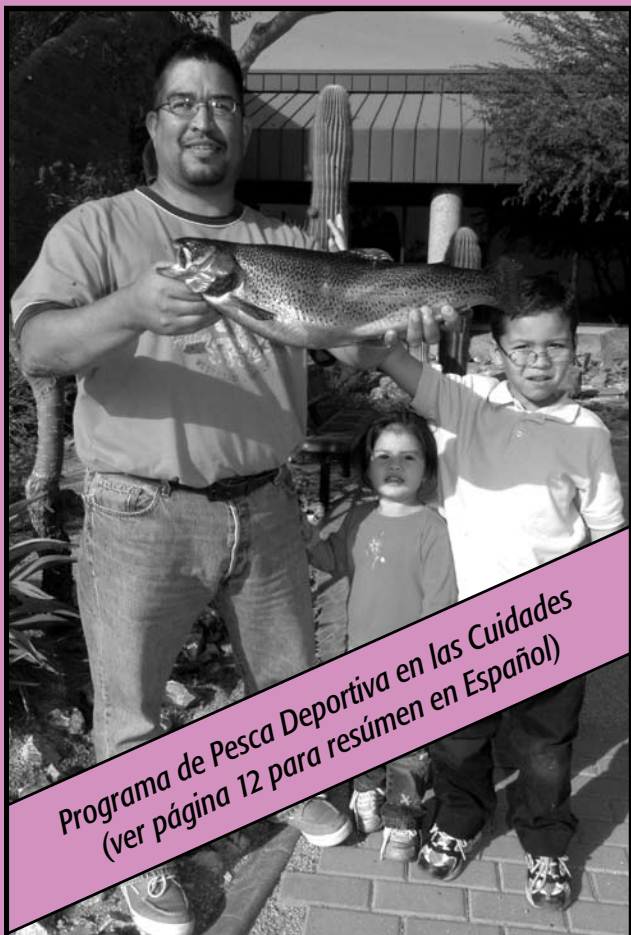


**Arizona Game and Fish Department**

**2007**

# **URBAN FISHING PROGRAM**



**Programa de Pesca Deportiva en las Ciudades  
(ver página 12 para resumen en Español)**

## **What It Is • What You Need Where To Go • What To Catch**

*A cooperative program between the  
Arizona Game and Fish Department and the cities  
of Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa, Payson, Peoria, Phoenix,  
Sahuarita, Scottsdale, Surprise, Tempe, and Tucson*

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*Cover photo: Roy Banda and family with 4.5 pound rainbow trout caught from Surprise Lake.*

# Arizona's Urban Fishing Program

*A cooperative program between the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the cities of Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa, Payson, Peoria, Phoenix, Sahuarita, Scottsdale, Surprise, Tempe, and Tucson.*

Arizona's Urban Fishing Program officially began in 1985. One of its goals is to provide nearby fishing opportunities to city dwellers as a more convenient alternative to long-distance travel to lakes outside of town. Of equal importance is its goal of providing fishing education opportunities to urban residents. Workshops on equipment selection, fishing techniques and outdoor ethics are offered to a wide range of groups (see page 45 for more information).

The Urban Fishing Program concept is simple, if people can't get to the fish, we bring fish to the people. By partnering with city parks, the Arizona Game and Fish Department can bring in healthy, catchable fish into your neighborhood park lake. Lakes are stocked every two weeks from September to July with trout deliveries from November to March and catfish stockings from March to early July, then from mid September to November.

For more information on current stocking updates and fishing reports on Urban Fishing Program waters, use the Game and Fish Web page at [azgfd.gov](http://azgfd.gov). This Web site includes weekly stocking schedules, the current Urban Fishing Program Bulletin, fishing reports and Urban Fish-of-the-Year records. The Urban Fishing Bulletin (a report on what is happening at program lakes, when lakes were last stocked, and what fish are biting on), is prepared every two weeks and is posted at Fishing Information Stations at every lake. To get your own Bulletin, go to [azgfd.gov](http://azgfd.gov) and click on AZGFD eNews.



Green Valley Lake, Payson

***All 20 lakes in this brochure are designated Urban Fishing Program lakes that require a \$18.50 Class U fishing license for anglers 14 years of age or older.***

## Changes Since Last Year

Be sure to note that all Arizona fishing and hunting license and stamp fees have increased for 2007. There are also some new license choices representing good values for families and for avid hunters and anglers. For many years, urban anglers have requested a special fishing license that covers all statewide and Urban Program waters at a good value. The new 2007 Super Conservation Fishing License does just that (see more information below).

- The Urban Fishing (Class U) License is now \$18.50 for 2007.
- The Two-Pole Stamp is now \$6 for 2007.
- **NEW** Urban Fishing Licenses (Class U) are available at \$9.25 (half price) for the last two months (November-December only) of the license year. Purchases must be made from November 1 to December 31.
- **NEW** Super Conservation Fishing License (Class L) is valid for all fish species and all waters statewide. This comprehensive fishing license includes all privileges of the General (Class A) Fishing License, a Trout Stamp, and the Urban (Class U) Fishing License. The cost for residents is \$53 (save \$4.75), and the cost for non-residents is \$63. This new license can be purchased at all license dealer locations, all Game and Fish offices and online.
- **NEW** Super Conservation Combo Hunting and Fishing License (Class N) is valid for all fish species and all waters statewide (same as Class L listed above which includes Urban Fishing), PLUS it includes a General Hunting license privilege, North Kaibab Habitat stamp, state waterfowl stamp, state migratory bird stamp, over-the-counter archery deer, archery turkey, fall bear and mountain lion tags. This license can be purchased only at Game and Fish offices, and is only available for residents.
- **NEW** Family Combination License (Class K) is a combo fishing and hunting license, which includes trout fishing privileges, is \$54 for the first adult, \$43.20 for the legal spouse, and \$20 for each child under age 18. This license is not valid at Urban Fishing Program waters. This license can be purchased at Game and Fish offices and online, and is only available for residents.
- The City of Phoenix recently completed an "extreme makeover" to the landscaping, seating and roadways surrounding Alvord Lake at Cesar Chavez Park. In addition, a new public library was constructed at the northwest corner of the park.

## Lakes Stocked With Largemouth Bass

For two years now, all Urban Lakes and Ponds were restocked with largemouth bass. Most recently, bass ranging in size from 6-9 inches were stocked at rates of 10-30 fish per acre in November 2006. The management goal of this special stocking was to bolster bass populations and improve long-term fishing success for this popular sport fish. The juvenile bass will benefit from the many fish habitat improvement projects recently completed at lakes creating better homes and spawning habitats. **For this management strategy to work, the support of anglers and compliance with the 13-inch minimum length limit is essential. Anglers must immediately release unharmed all bass under 13 inches—it's the law.**

## Harmful Algae Bloom Alert

Swimming or suspended in all urban waters are millions of planktonic algae. Most of these algae are microscopic, but some are large enough to be seen as small flecks in the water. These algae are vital to the overall health and productivity of our lakes and serve as the base of the primary food web that supports fish populations. Recently, however, a new species of algae referred to as golden alga have been found in four Urban Fishing Program Lakes resulting in fish kills. The golden alga produce toxins that can lead to fish kills, however they do not pose a risk to humans, pets or wildlife if they come in contact with or drink from the water, or consume any of the fish.

The Game and Fish Department has taken a lead role in monitoring for these harmful algae species before they cause problems. Early detection of the bad algae and rapid response with algaecide treatments are the key to avoiding any significant fish losses in our lakes. The Department is working closely with the cities, lake management consultants and other key partners to detect and control all adverse algae blooms.

### ***What you can do and what to look for***

Please do not transport any water or live fish from the lake. Drain all containers and dry off all equipment before moving to another water location. Typically shad, trout and small bluegill are the first fish species to die from algae toxins. Fish may be also seen resting on the bottom or moving slowly near the shorelines. During an golden alga bloom, water color along the edges turns yellow to yellow-brown. Report all fish kills and unusual fish behavior to the Department at 602-789-3257 or [goldenalga@azgfd.gov](mailto:goldenalga@azgfd.gov).

# Urban Fishing Program FAQ's

*Answers to your questions*

## ***Q: What lakes are included in the Urban Fishing Program?***

A: Currently, there are 20 lakes that are specially designated Urban Fishing Program waters. Distinctive signage uniquely identifies all waters in the Program. A listing of lakes by city can be found in the index. Locations of all 15 metropolitan Phoenix urban waters can be found on pages 22-23. A map of the four Tucson area urban lakes is on page 17. Green Valley Lake is located in Payson.

## ***Q: What kind of license do I need to fish these designated Urban Fishing Program waters and where can I purchase one?***

A: If you are 14 years of age or older, you must buy a \$18.50 Class U Urban Fishing license (rates are the same whether a resident or non-resident). The Class U license covers all fish species found in the designated Urban Fishing Program lakes and ponds. Juveniles under the age of 14 do not need a license. The new Class L Super Fishing License is valid for all statewide and Urban Fishing Program waters. Other licenses that are valid at designated Urban Fishing Program waters are: Class D resident or non-resident one-day fishing licenses; Class N Super Combination Hunt and Fish License; resident youth-group two-day fishing licenses (sold to groups of up to 20 juveniles age 14-17); and Pioneer and disabled veteran complimentary licenses. Urban and one day fishing licenses can be purchased from any of 340 dealers statewide that sells state fishing and hunting licenses or any Game and Fish office. In addition, all fishing licenses can be purchased from our Web site at [azgfd.gov](http://azgfd.gov). A regular Arizona fishing license (Class A, B, C, F or I) is not needed nor valid at the designated Urban Fishing Program waters.

## ***Q: What types of fish are in the Urban Program waters?***

A: Catchable rainbow trout are stocked during the winter months (November through March) and channel catfish are stocked in the spring and fall months (March to July and September to November). Additionally, sunfish and largemouth bass are stocked each year. Largemouth bass, bluegill and other sunfish species are common. Other species of fish (not regularly stocked) that may occur in these lakes include carp, white amur, tilapia, and crappie.

## ***Q: When are designated Urban Fishing Program waters stocked?***

A: Lakes are stocked every two weeks from September to July. Due to extremely high lake temperatures, there are no fish stockings from July 10 to September 20. Specific stocking days are not publicized,

however the week of stocking is shared with the public. This gives everyone an equal opportunity to take advantage of the stocked fish and emphasizes the sporting aspects of fishing. It also assists in reducing crowding and other associated impacts on stocking days. On stocking weeks, fish stockings may occur from Monday through Saturday with days randomly determined.

***Q: Why are there two kinds of Urban Program waters—Lakes and Ponds?***

A: Starting in 2005, the Urban Pond concept was developed to provide a quality fishing experience at small fishing waters less than three acres. These small ponds must be managed differently than traditional Urban Lakes to reduce the rapid harvest of fish after each stocking, decrease the crowding impacts, allow for fair distribution of fish caught by more anglers, and encourage anglers to focus more on the recreational benefits of fishing while still allowing for a couple of fish to be kept. There are currently four waters managed as Urban Ponds and 16 waters managed as Urban Lakes. Throughout this booklet and by special signage at each park, these waters are clearly identified.

***Q: How many fish does each of the Urban Lakes or Ponds get?***

A: Designated Urban Fishing Program lakes are stocked on a surface-acre basis. For each surface acre, a lake receives from 65 to 150 pounds of catfish or 25-45 pounds of trout per stocking. On average, that equates to 50 catfish or 75 trout stocked per acre. The four waters under the Urban Pond management concept are also stocked every two weeks, but at rates of 30 catfish or 45 trout stocked per acre. With stockings occurring every two weeks at Urban Lakes and Urban Ponds, most lakes get over 20 stockings per year.

***Q: What is the limit at Urban Lakes and Urban Ponds?***

A: For Urban Lakes, the daily bag and possession limit is 4 trout, 4 catfish, 2 largemouth bass of 13 inches or more, 10 sunfish, and one white amur of 30 inches or more. Statewide limits apply to all other fish species. For waters managed under the Urban Pond concept, the limits are 2 trout, 2 catfish, 1 largemouth bass of 13 inches or more, 5 sunfish, and one white amur of 30 inches or more. For unlicensed juveniles under the age of 14, they may take the same limits of fish as a licensed angler with the exception of trout, where the daily limit is 1/2 the established limit.

***Q: Can I fish with two poles at Urban Program waters?***

A: Urban anglers may fish with two poles providing they have a valid Two Pole Stamp in their possession and it is affixed to either their current Urban Fishing License or state fishing license. Two Pole Stamps cost \$6 and can be obtained from any license dealer or department office.

***Q: Are any big fish stocked in these Urban Program waters?***

A: Yes! The ratio is about one big fish for every 20 stocked, so several lucky anglers may take home bragging-sized fish from each stocking, which could mean a 3-6 pound catfish or a 2-3 pound trout. However, remember that these fish are bought by the pound (catfish average over 1 1/2 – 2 pounds each, trout average nearly 1/2 pound each). This means that as more lunkers are stocked, the total number of fish stocked drops. So by stocking more “keeper-sized” fish, everyone has a better chance of catching fish.

***Q: Who pays for the Urban Fishing Program?***

A: The Urban Fishing Program is a cooperative effort between the cities of Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa, Payson, Peoria, Phoenix, Sahuarita, Scottsdale, Surprise, Tempe and Tucson. The program is supported by the sale of Urban Fishing Licenses and from fees from the city parks and recreation departments. During 2006, over \$500,000 was spent on stocking keeper-size channel catfish, rainbow trout, and sunfish.

***Q: Why are some lakes in urban areas not in the Urban Fishing Program and not a designated Urban Fishing Program water?***

A: There are several reasons, including, but not limited to: 1) these lakes are either smaller than 2 acres and/or have poor water quality to support stocked fish; 2) they have inadequate facilities or are not open to the public or; 3) their managing entity or the city chooses not to enter into a cooperative agreement with the department. The department is committed to growth of the Urban Fishing Program and is always looking for new fishery opportunities and partnerships. Watch for growth in the future.

***Q: Are the fish safe to eat?***

A: Yes. Overseeing the quality and health of the lakes and the fish involves a partnership between the cities, the Game and Fish Department and the Department of Environmental Quality. Lake water quality is monitored regularly to ensure compliance with state standards. The trout, catfish and sunfish stocked into our designated Urban Fishing Program waters come from reputable fish farms with strict fish health standards and quality control practices. Most of the stocked fish don't stay in the lakes for long (80 percent of the stocked fish are caught within 30 days). Finally, remember that proper care and cooking of your catch will ensure a healthy and delicious meal!



# 2006 Urban Fish-of-the-Year and Catch and Release Records

*(Preliminary as of Nov. 8, 2006. Final results will be available in February 2007 at azgfd.gov)*

## Urban fish-of-the-year:

- Channel Catfish**..... 5 lb. 0.96 oz., 24 in.  
*Caught 9-16-06 at Surprise Lake by Rigoberto Rocha*
- Rainbow Trout**..... 7 lb. 15.75 oz., 25 in.  
*Caught 1-03-06 at Green Valley Lakes by Eric Smith*
- Tilapia** ..... 2 lb. 4.48 oz., 13.75 in.  
*Caught 8-13-06 at Encanto Lake by Warren Hollen*
- White Amur** ..... 22 lb. 4 oz., 37 in.  
*Caught 2-12-06 at Kiwanis Lake by Justin Arterburn*

## Urban catch and release records (length only):



- Carp** .....30 in.  
*Caught 5-16-06 at Surprise Lake by Mark Moore*
- Channel Catfish** ..... 18 in.  
*Caught 6-27-06 at Surprise Lake by Melissa Roman*
- Largemouth Bass** .....24 in.  
*Caught 2-21-06 at Red Mountain Lake by James Thompson III*
- Rainbow Trout** ..... 16 in.  
*Caught 1-11-06 at Sahuarita Lake by Jerald Minnerly*
- White Amur** .....47 in.  
*Caught 10-18-06 at Encanto Lake by Denny Noel*

New State and Urban Catch and Release record White Amur, 47 inches in length. Caught by Denny Noel at Encanto Lake.

## Things to know

Remember the following actions are illegal by the public:

- 1) stocking live fish into a body of water, and
- 2) removing and transferring fish alive from a body of water.

Please, do not feed the ducks and geese. Feeding creates a dependent population that is a potential health hazard and makes a costly mess. Ducks have plenty of natural food already. Most food given to ducks is not healthy, too many ducks creates a nuisance situation, and the feces from ducks and wasted food causes water pollution. Many of the parks have rules prohibiting the feeding of ducks.

## Where to get more information

Current information on Program activities and stocking schedules is prepared every two weeks in the Urban Fishing Program Bulletin. Bulletins are posted on bulletin boards at your nearest Urban Program lake or they can be downloaded from the Web at [azgfd.gov](http://azgfd.gov). To receive your free copy of the bi-weekly Urban Fishing Program Bulletin or the weekly Fishing Report, subscribe under AZGFD eNews. The web site includes more facts and information on the Program as well as the weekly stocking schedules. Also, you can buy all your fishing licenses and stamps online at [azgfd.gov](http://azgfd.gov).



Riverview Lake, Mesa

# The Urban Angler's Code of Ethics

1. I will **help protect** the outdoors. I will not litter. I will pick up and properly dispose of all fishing line, bait containers, fish remains and other trash.
2. I will **respect** other people's privacy and fishing space. I will fish quietly so I don't frighten fish or disturb people.
3. I will **buy and carry** an Urban Fishing license if I am 14 years old or older.
4. I will **know** the fishing regulations including the size and number of fish I can keep. I will **abide** by these laws and report those that violate them to Operation Game Thief (1-800-352-0700).
5. I will **keep** only those fish that I plan to eat. I will **carefully release** all other fish right away.
6. I will **properly care** for all fish I plan to eat. This means putting them on ice at the lake, cleaning them at home, and quickly and properly storing them in a refrigerator or freezer.
7. I will **share** my fishing knowledge and skills with others, particularly kids.



Canal Pond, Tempe

# Urban Fishing Regulations at a Glance

The Game and Fish Commission specially designates certain municipal lakes as Urban Fishing Program waters (listed in this brochure). This special designation includes rules and regulations that are unique to these waters. The following information highlights what are considered some of the key regulations urban anglers should be aware of.

**NOTE:** This summary of fishing regulations is prepared for convenience only. It is not a legal document, as it does not contain all the laws and regulations relating to fishing. For more details on general rules and regulations, please refer to the 2007 & 2008 Arizona Fishing Regulations booklet.

**License Requirements:** All persons 14 years or older, while fishing any public fishing water in Arizona, must have on their person a current Arizona fishing license. Urban Fishing Program waters require one of the following license types (other types are not valid).

AGE	FISHING LICENSE TYPE	FEE
Under age 14	No license required	
Age 14 and over	Class U, Urban good for calendar year	\$18.50
	Class D, One day only	\$16.25
	Class L, Super Fish good for calendar year	\$53.00 resident \$63.00 nonresident
	Class N, Super Combo Hunt and Fish	\$163.00
Age 70 and over and AZ resident past 25 years	Class P, Pioneer	Complimentary

*Other valid licenses include disabled veteran complimentary license and youth-group two-day fishing license.*

Licenses can be purchased at any Game and Fish office or any one of our 340 license dealers or sporting goods stores statewide that sells state fishing and hunting licenses. Or, you can purchase a hunting or fishing license from our Web site: [azgfd.gov](http://azgfd.gov).

***Fishing without a license or the proper license is the #1 violation.***

# Bag and Size Limits\*

Species	Daily Bag and Possession Limits		Minimum Size Limit
	Urban Lakes	Urban Ponds	
Catfish	4	2	None
Trout	4	2	None
for unlicensed juveniles	2	1	None
Bass	2	1	13 inches
Sunfish: <i>various species including bluegill, redear, green, and hybrid</i>	10	5	None
White amur (grass carp)	1	1	30 inches
Other	None	None	None

\*Once you catch a fish and do not release it, it now counts toward your daily possession limit. This includes any fish you catch and give away to someone else. Once your daily limit is reached, you must stop fishing for that species.

## Method of Take, Use of Bait

### Angling:

- One or two poles only. Anglers may use no more than two hooks on each line. If using two poles, must have a \$6 Two Pole stamp.
- No snagging or use of seine or dip nets to capture sport fish.

### Other:

- Park rules and regulations vary by city and are identified on signage at each park. Posted park hours are also the times that anglers may fish.
- When fishing, Game and Fish laws require you to attend your line, that is, stay near your fishing pole at all times.
- When fishing, the hook, fly or lure must be used in such a manner that the fish voluntarily attempt to take it in their mouths.
- It is a violation to fail to keep all edible portions of fish in an edible condition or to leave fish to die. This is wasting "game" meat.
- It is illegal to transport live fish from a lake or to transfer live fish from one body of water to another. Unauthorized stocking of fish, minnows and crayfish is illegal.
- It is a violation to litter. This includes hooks, fishing line, bait containers, wrappers, etc.

**Report Violators**  
**Call Operation Game Thief 24/7**  
**1-800-352-0700**

# Guía rápida sobre los reglamentos del Programa de Pesca en las Ciudades (Pesca Deportiva Urbana)

La Comisión de Caza y Pesca de Arizona ha designado ciertos lagos en varias ciudades del estado, como parte del Programa de Pesca Deportiva en las Ciudades. Este proyecto es en colaboración con los condados y no todos los lagos urbanos participan en este programa. Aquellos lagos que si participan, se encuentran enlistados en este folleto. La designación especial de estos lagos incluye una serie de reglas y reglamentos únicos para estas aguas. La siguiente información resume lo que se considera lo mas importante que un pescador debe de conocer para la práctica de la pesca deportiva en las ciudades.

*NOTA: Esta guía rápida sobre la pesca deportiva en las ciudades se ha preparado únicamente con fines informativos. No es un documento legal, ya que no contiene todas y cada una de las leyes y reglamentos referentes a la pesca deportiva. Para mayor información sobre las leyes y reglamentos, porfavor consulte el folleto del 2005 y 2006 sobre la pesca deportiva en Arizona, disponible en las oficinas del Departamento de Caza y Pesca por todo el estado y con los distribuidores de artículos deportivos sobre caza y pesca.*

**Requisitos para obtener una licencia de pesca deportiva en las ciudades.** Todas las personas que tengan 14 años de edad o más, deben de portar una licencia válida del año en curso mientras se encuentran pescando en Arizona. Para participar en Programa de Pesca en las Ciudades se requiere una de las siguientes licencias, según sea el caso. Existen otro tipo de licencias para pescar fuera de las ciudades, pero estas no son válidas para la pesca urbana.

<b>Edad</b>	<b>Tipo De Licencia Para Pescar</b>	
Menores de 14 años	No se necesita una licencia para pescar	
14 años o mayores	Licencia Clase U (Urbana), válida por el año en curso, o.	\$18.50
	Licencia Clase D, válida por un día.	\$16.25
70 años o mayores y residentes del estado de Arizona en los últimos 25 años	Licencia Clase P (Pionero). –	

*Otro tipo de licencias para pescar incluyen licencias gratuitas para veteranos de guerra con discapacidades y licencias de dos días para grupos de jóvenes.*

Las licencias de pescar pueden ser compradas en cualquiera de las oficinas del Departamento de Caza y Pesca de Arizona o cualquiera de los 340 establecimientos autorizados como son las tiendas de deportes en todo el estado que venden licencias de cazar y pescar. También puede adquirir su licencia de cazar o pescar en nuestra página de internet: [azgfd.gov](http://azgfd.gov).

# Límites del número y tamaño de captura para el programa de pesca deportiva en las ciudades

Especie	Limite diario de captura		Mínimo de talla para su captura
	Lagos Urbanos	Estanques Urbanos	
Bagre de canal (channel catfish)	4	2	Ninguno
Trucha (trout) para cada menor de 14 años	4	2	Ninguno
Lobina (small and large mouth bass)	2	1	Ninguno
Varias especies de los llamados "sunfish", como el agalla azul (bluegill), reदार, green e híbridos	10	5	Ninguno
Carpa herbívora (grass carp o white amur)	1	1	30 pulgadas (76 centímetros)
Otras especies	Ninguno	Ninguno	Ninguno

## Metodos de pesca y tipo de carnada:

### Con Anzuelo:

- Una o dos cañas. Cada pescador solo puede usar hasta dos anzuelos por cada caña. Si se utilizan dos cañas al mismo tiempo, el pescador deberá de tener en su licencia una estampilla especial de \$6 dólares que autoriza el uso de dos cañas.
- No se permite el uso de harpones, chinchorros, o redes de cuchara para capturar a los peces.

### Otros:

- Los reglamentos de los parques varían de ciudad en ciudad. El pescador debe de leer estos reglamentos en los señalamientos de cada parque.
- Cuando este pescando, cada persona debe de cuidar su cañas, esto quiere decir que debe de permanecer cerca de sus cañas en todo momento.
- Cuando este pescando, el anzuelo, mosca artificial o atrayente deben de ser usados de tal manera que el pez deba, de manera voluntaria, tratar de tomarlo con su boca.
- Si después de haber capturado un pez, usted lo deja morir o hechar a perder, estará violando la ley.
- Se prohíbe transportar peces vivos capturados en alguno de los lagos de la ciudad, o bien transportarlos de un lago a otro. Esto constituye una introducción ilegal y se aplica para peces y crustáceos como el acocil.

***Pescar sin una licencia o sin la licencia adecuada, es el ilícito #1***

# Arizona Urban Fishing Program

## Urban Fish-of-the-Year/Catch and Release entry form

Check One:  kept fish  catch and release

See page 15 for rules and a description of the record fish program.

Angler's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Species: \_\_\_\_\_

*Common Name*

Date Caught: \_\_\_\_\_

Certified Weight (Rule #1): \_\_\_\_\_ lbs (example: 3.18 lbs)

Total Length (Rule #2): \_\_\_\_\_ inches

Location of Catch (Rule #3): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Lure or Bait: \_\_\_\_\_

Species Identified By (Rule #4): \_\_\_\_\_

Fishing License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

License Verified by (Rule #5): \_\_\_\_\_

Scale Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Registered Scale Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date of Scale Certification: \_\_\_\_\_

Witnesses to Weight (except catch and release entries):

We, the undersigned, witnessed the weighing of the fish described above and attest to the weight and length as listed (Rule #1, 2, 6).

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit your completed entry form and photograph to:  
Arizona Game and Fish Department Fisheries Branch  
2221 W. Greenway Road, Phoenix, AZ 85023



# Arizona Urban Fishing Program

## Urban Fish-of-the-Year/Catch and Release

In 2000, the Arizona Game and Fish Department started keeping records for Urban Fish-of-the-Year, and Catch and Release records from the department's designated Urban Fishing Program waters. Over the years, some remarkable fish have been caught from city park lakes. This is your opportunity to claim some fame for your trophy catches, whether you keep it or release it. We also plan to include photographs of some of you and your record fish in next year's Urban Fishing Program brochure. Good Luck!

### Requirements for reporting

- Rule #1** Fish must be weighed on a certified fair trade scale in pounds. Scale locations, register number and expiration date of scale certification must be recorded on an entry form. The department reserves the right to cut open any fish after weighing. (Rule #1 not required for catch and release entries).
- Rule #2** Length of the fish must be measured in inches by a straight line from the tip of the snout to the tip of the compressed tail.
- Rule #3** Fish must be caught in an Arizona Urban Fishing Program water. Fish must be taken during the legal open season and by the legal method of take for the water where taken. Any illegal act associated with taking or handling of the fish will disqualify the record.
- Rule #4** Identification of species must be verified by a member of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. A photograph of the fish is required for the record file and for identification purposes.
- Rule #5** Angler must provide Arizona Fishing License number. Inspection of valid fishing license must be verified by a member of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. For catch and release records, a photo copy of the current, valid license is required.
- Rule #6** If the weights and measurements are not witnessed by the department personnel, two witnesses must be present at the time the fish is weighed and measured.
- Rule #7** The Arizona Game and Fish Department reserves the right to further check identification and/or verification of witnesses and to refuse an application that is questionable.
- Rule #8** In the event of any dispute regarding the authenticity of the fish record application, the fish must be made available for inspection by Arizona Game and Fish Department personnel. The determination made by department personnel shall be conclusive.

***See page 14 for record fish entry form.***



## Releasing and Caring for Your Catch

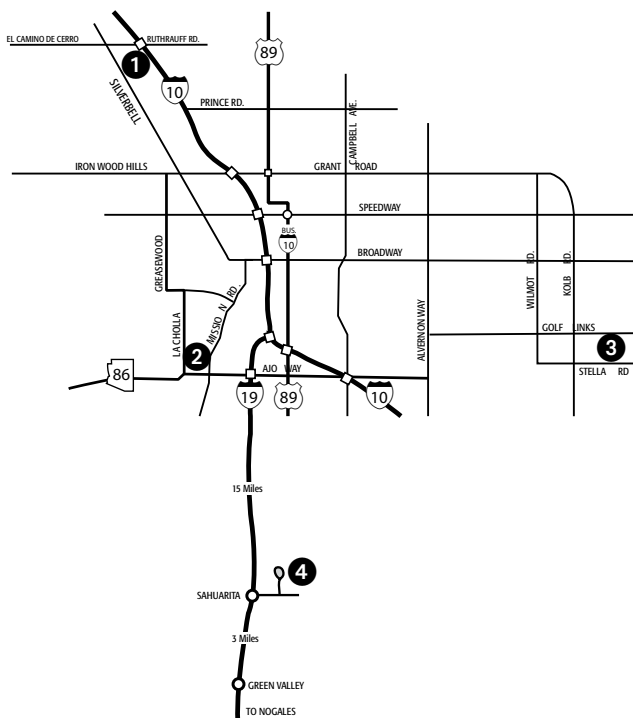
Because of heavy demands on Arizona's fishery resources, many anglers believe that killing and eating any sport fish is an obsolete practice. They feel each fish should be enjoyed many times through "catch and release" (a form of fish recycling). By limiting your harvest of urban fish, you help assure better sport fishing for all. Responsible anglers never take more fish than they can use.

If you decide to release a fish, try to keep it in the water at all times, hold it lightly so as not to damage internal organs, and gently remove the hook or cut your line if the hook is swallowed. Even large bass can be landed with a lip hold. Grasping a fish with dry hands, squeezing it around the middle or head, letting it flop around on the ground, or using an abrasive landing net will remove a fish's protective slime that protects it from infection.

When releasing a fish, ease it into the water head first, or maintain the lip hold and submerge the fish. Hold it underwater gently cupped in your hand until it swims off.

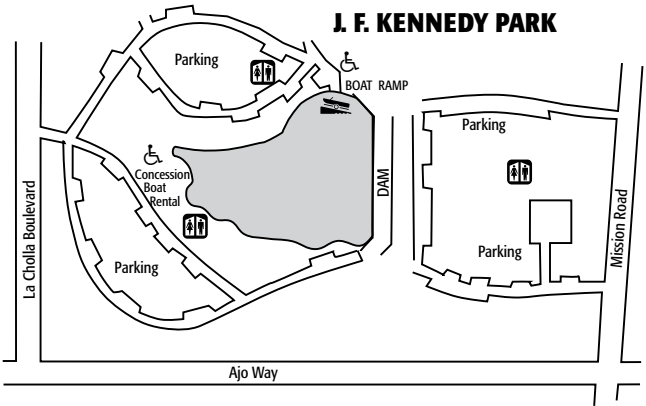
To preserve the flavor of the fish you plan to keep, don't keep them on a stringer after they die. Fish stay alive longer in a wire basket. Or best yet, put the fish on ice immediately. Fish that die and stiffen on stringers get an "off taste" or may spoil, particularly if kept in warm water or in the sun.

# Tucson Area Urban Lakes



- 1 Silverbell**
- 2 Kennedy**
- 3 Lakeside**
- 4 Sahuarita**

# City of Tucson Lakes



## Kennedy Lake:

**Location:** J. F. Kennedy Park in southwest Tucson, north of Ajo Way between La Cholla Boulevard and Mission Road.

**Size:** 10 acres. Maximum depth 12 feet, average depth 8 feet.

**Hours:** Sunrise to 10:30 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on carp.

**Boating:** Canoes up to 17 feet and boats 14 feet and under are permitted. Must have proper floatation devices on board. Gasoline motors prohibited.

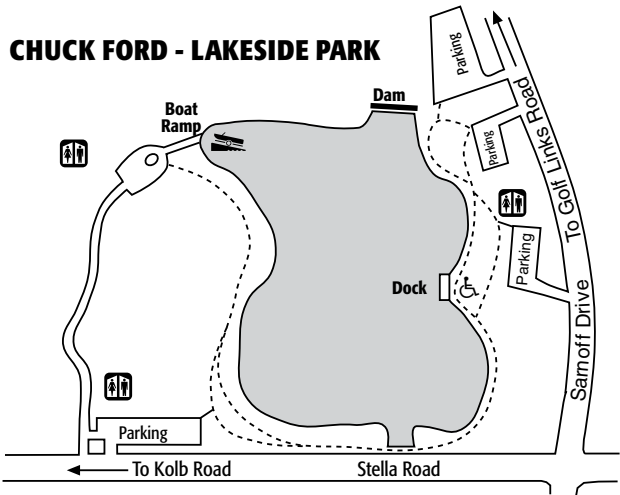
**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. No live baitfish allowed. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, carp, and white amur.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. No glass containers. No littering. Feeding of waterfowl prohibited. Other rules posted. For more information call (520) 791-5909 or (520) 791-3204, ext. 13.



Kennedy Lake, Tucson

## CHUCK FORD - LAKESIDE PARK



### Lakeside Lake:

**Location:** Chuck Ford–Lakeside Park in east Tucson, northwest corner of Stella Road and Sarnoff Drive.

**Size:** 14 acres at full capacity. Maximum depth 35 feet, average depth 15 feet.

**Hours:** Sunrise to 10:30 p.m.

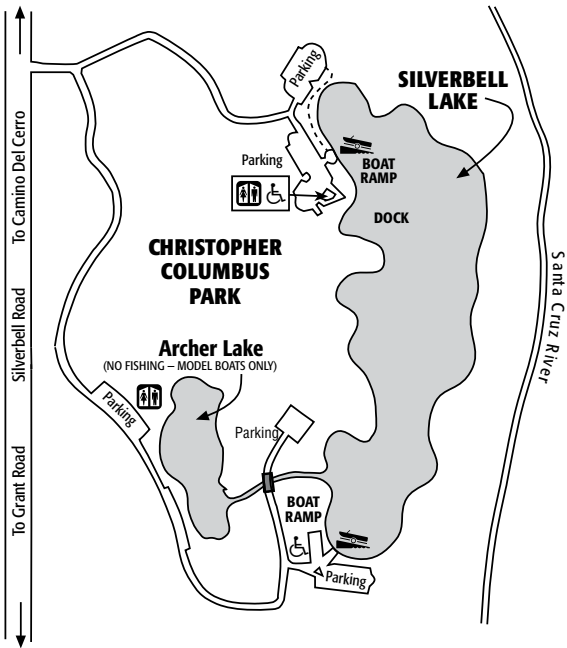
**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish. No limit on crappie.

**Boating:** Canoes up to 17 feet and boats 14 feet and under are permitted. Must have proper floatation devices on board. Gasoline motors prohibited.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. No live baitfish allowed. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, crappie and largemouth bass.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. No glass containers. No littering. Feeding of waterfowl prohibited. Other rules posted. For more information call (520) 791-5930 or (520) 791-3204, ext.13.

# City of Tucson Lakes



## Silverbell Lake:

**Location:** Christopher Columbus Park in northwest Tucson, east of Silverbell Road between Camino del Cerro and Grant Roads.

**Size:** 13 acres. Maximum depth 6 feet, average depth 4 feet.

**Hours:** Sunrise to 10:30 p.m.

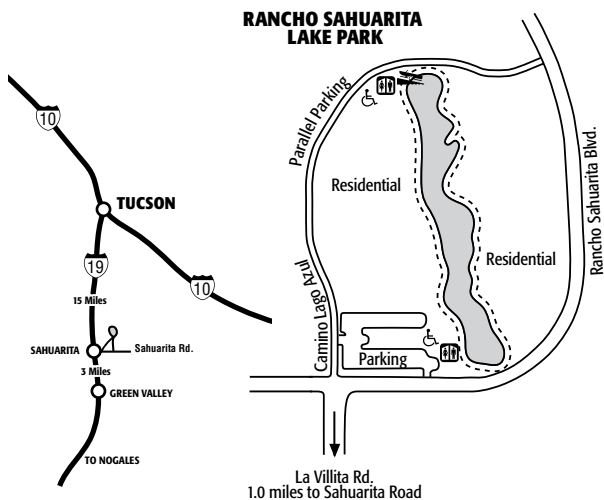
**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on crappie or carp.

**Boating:** Canoes up to 17 feet and boats 14 feet and under are permitted. Must have proper flotation devices on board. Gasoline motors prohibited.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. No live baitfish allowed. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, crappie, largemouth bass, carp, and white amur.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. No fishing allowed in Archer Lake. No glass containers. No littering. Feeding of waterfowl prohibited. Other rules posted. For more information call (520) 791-5890 or (520) 791-3204, ext. 13.

# Town of Sahuarita



## Sahuarita Lake: ♿

**Location:** Located 18 miles south of downtown Tucson. Take Sahuarita Road exit (exit 75) off Interstate 19 (Nogales Highway) and head 1.0 miles east to La Villita Road. Take La Villita Road 1.2 miles north to the north shore of the lake.

**Size:** 10 acres. Maximum depth 12 feet, average depth 7 feet.

**Hours:** Daylight hours as posted at lake.

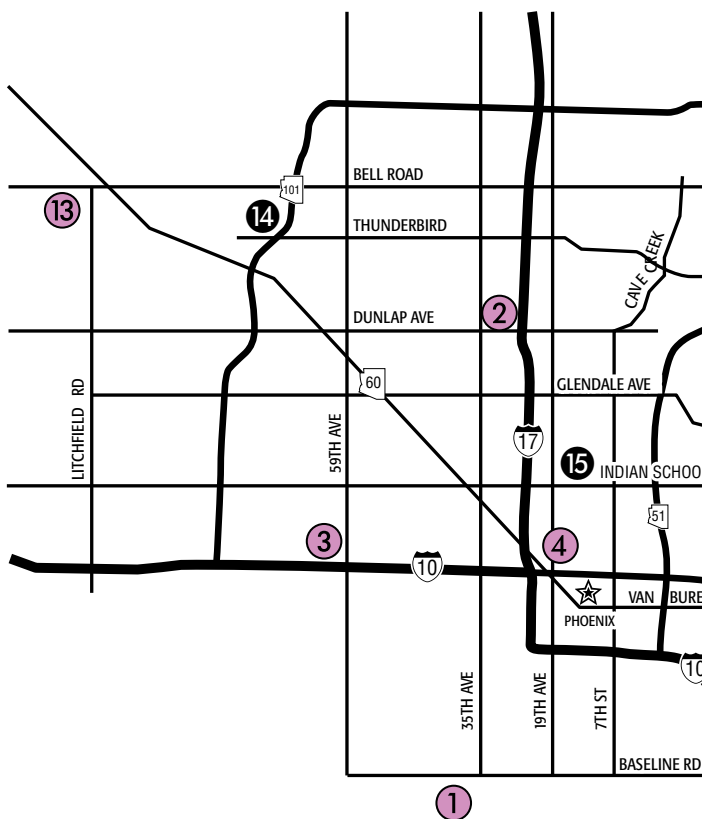
**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish.

**Boating:** Boating permitted only between sunrise and sunset. Gas motors prohibited and not allowed to be attached to boats on the lake. Must have proper flotation devices on board. For other boating rules, call the information number below.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, and hybrid sunfish.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. All animals must be restrained by a leash. Alcoholic beverage permits required. Glass containers prohibited. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (520) 625-2731.

# Metropolitan Phoenix U



● *Urban Lakes*

● *Urban Ponds (< 3 acres)*

## PHOENIX

- ① Alvord
- ② Cortez
- ③ Desert West
- ④ Encanto
- ⑤ Papago Ponds
- ⑬ Steele Indian School

## SCOTTSDALE

- ⑥ Chaparral

## TEMPE

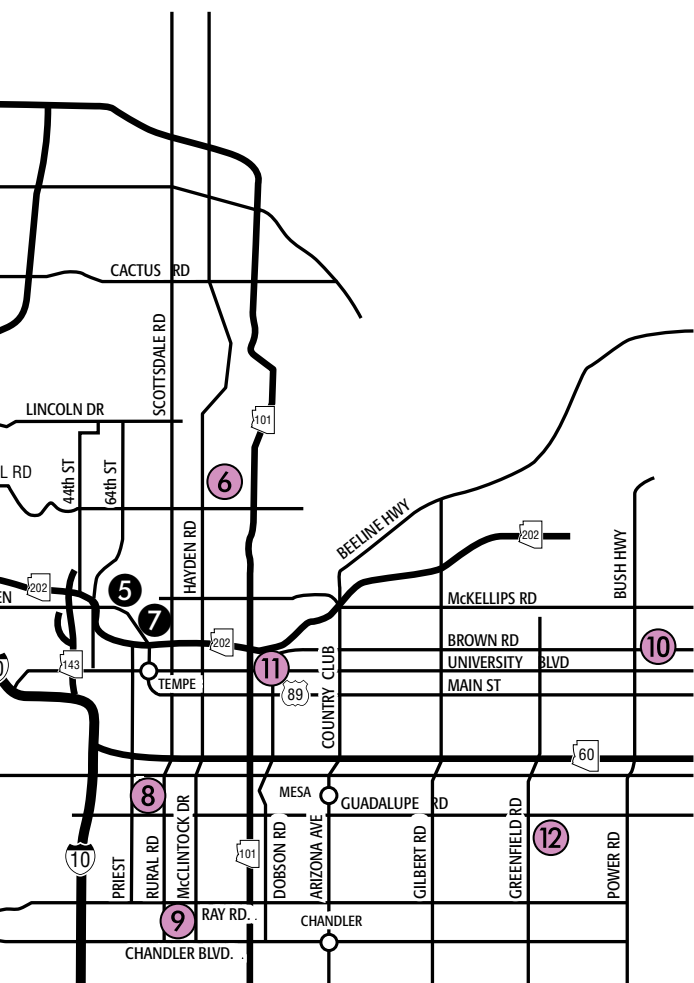
- ⑦ Canal
- ⑧ Kiwanis

## CHANDLER

- ⑨ Desert Breeze



# Urban Lakes and Ponds



## MESA

- ⑩ Red Mountain
- ⑪ Riverview

## GILBERT

- ⑫ Water Ranch

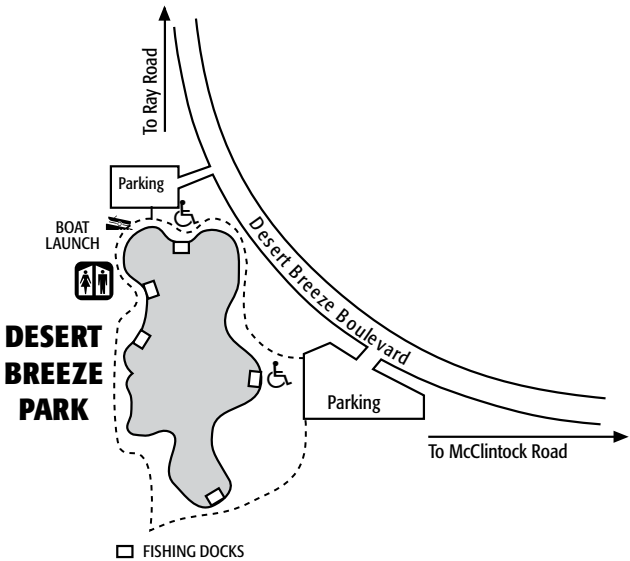
## SURPRISE

- ⑬ Surprise

## PEORIA

- ⑭ Rio Vista

# City of Chandler Lake



## Desert Breeze Lake: ♿

**Location:** Desert Breeze Park in west Chandler, southwest of Ray Road and McClintock Drive on Desert Breeze Boulevard.

**Size:** 4 acres. Maximum depth 12 feet, average depth 8 feet.

**Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

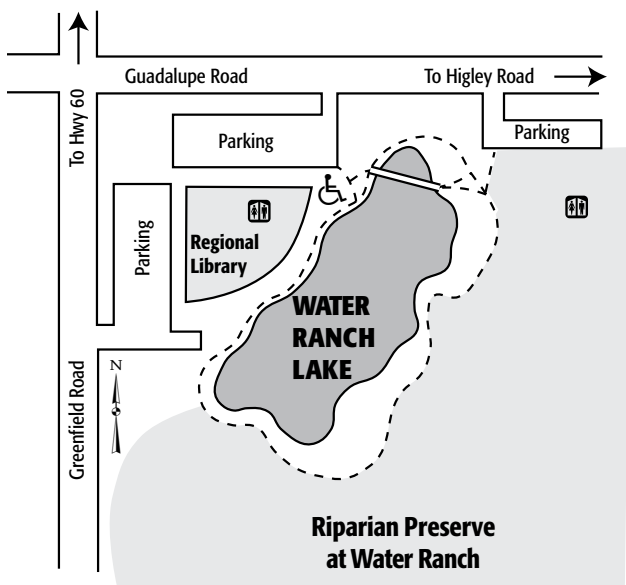
**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on carp.

**Boating:** City of Chandler boating permit required. Must have proper floatation devices aboard. No launch ramp, must hand carry boat from north parking lot. No motors allowed (gas or electric). For more boating information, call (480) 782-2727.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, carp, and white amur.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. Glass containers prohibited. Alcoholic beverage permits required. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (480) 782-2727.

# Town of Gilbert Lake



## Water Ranch Lake: ♿

**Location:** Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch in north Gilbert, at southeast corner of Greenfield Road and Guadalupe Road. Lake is just east of the Southeast Regional Library.

**Size:** 5 acres. Maximum depth 15 feet, average depth 11 feet.

**Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on tilapia or carp.

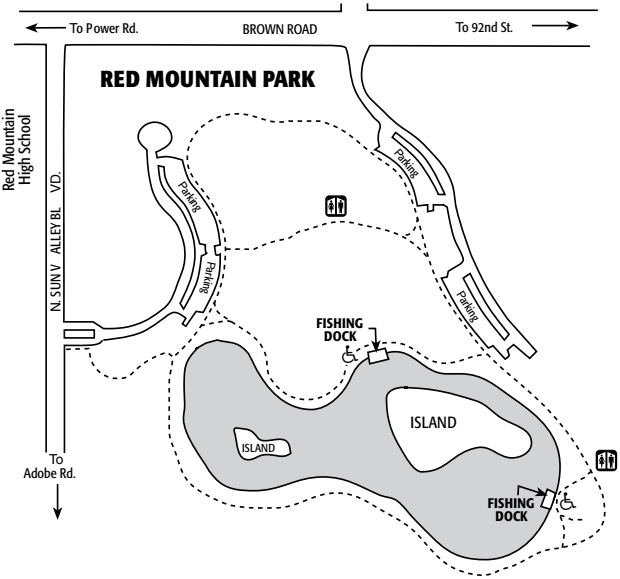
**Boating:** Not allowed.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tilapia, and carp.

**Park rules:** No fishing from bridge. Swimming or wading prohibited. Glass containers prohibited. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information on park rules and regulations call (480) 503-6200.

**Special note:** In February 2005, golden algae blooms caused a complete fish kill. The lake has been restocked with bass, bluegill, catfish and trout.

# City of Mesa Lakes



## Red Mountain Lake: ♿

**Location:** Red Mountain Park in east Mesa, at southeast corner of Brown Road and Sunvalley Boulevard (3/4 mile east of Power Road).

**Size:** 8 acres. Maximum depth 17 feet, average depth 12 feet.

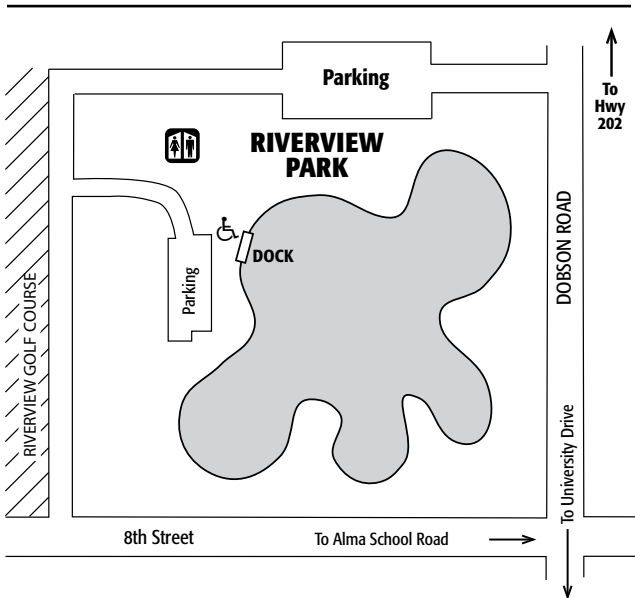
**Hours:** Sunrise to 10 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on carp.

**Boating:** Not allowed.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, carp, and white amur.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. No pets allowed in park. Glass containers prohibited. No distilled alcoholic beverages permitted. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (480) 644-5300 or (480) 644-4271.



## Riverview Lake: ♿

**Location:** Riverview Park in west Mesa, northwest corner of Dobson Road and 8th Street.

**Size:** 3 acres. Maximum depth 16 feet, average depth 10 feet.

**Hours:** Sunrise to 10 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish. No limit on carp or tilapia.

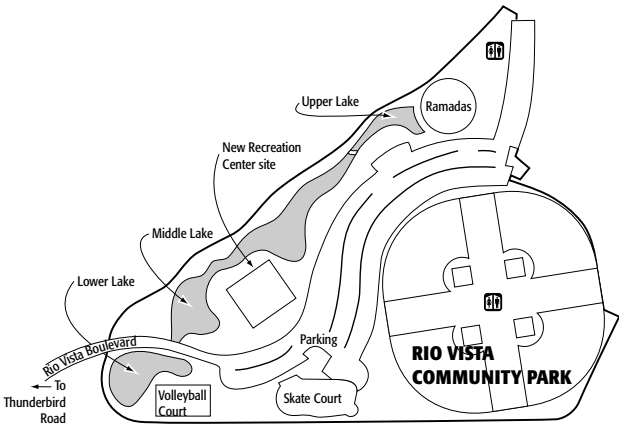
**Boating:** Not allowed.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, tilapia, and carp.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. No pets allowed in park. Glass containers prohibited. No distilled alcoholic beverages permitted. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (480) 644-4271 or (480) 644-5300.

# City of Peoria

## Under Urban Pond management



### Rio Vista Pond:

#### Urban Pond Concept

**Location:** Rio Vista Park in south central Peoria on Rio Vista Boulevard, just north of Thunderbird Road, 1/4 mile west of Loop 101 Freeway.

**Size:** 2.7 acres. Maximum depth 13 feet, average depth 7 feet.

**Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** Urban Pond Concept - 2 catfish, 2 trout, 1 bass (13 inch minimum), 5 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on tilapia or carp.

**Boating:** Not allowed

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (seasonal), hybrid sunfish, bluegill, redear sunfish, largemouth bass, tilapia, white amur, and carp.

**Park Rules:** Swimming or wading in pond prohibited. Glass containers prohibited. Alcoholic beverage permits required. No littering. Dogs are not permitted in park. Other rules posted. For more information call (623) 773-7137.

**Urban Pond Note:** This smaller urban lake will be managed under the new Urban Pond concept. Urban Ponds will be stocked just as often as Urban Lakes at two-week intervals, but with fewer fish per delivery. Reduced daily bag and possession limits apply for all stocked fish.

# City of Phoenix Lakes



## Alvord Lake: ♿

**Location:** Cesar Chavez Park in southwest Phoenix, at southwest corner of 35th Avenue and Baseline Road.

**Size:** 25 acres, largest of Arizona's designated Urban Fishing Lakes. Maximum depth 18 feet, average depth 14 feet.

**Hours:** 5:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish, white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on yellow bass, tilapia or carp.

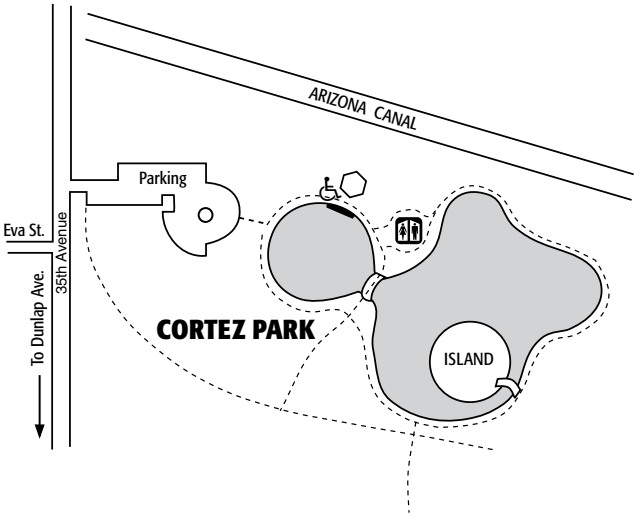
**Boating:** Boating permitted only between sunrise and sunset. Only canoes, rowboats and sailboats are allowed (no rafts). No motors allowed (gas or electric). Must have proper floatation devices on board. Fishing from a boat is prohibited.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, yellow bass, tilapia, and carp.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. Glass containers prohibited. Alcoholic beverage permits required. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (602) 262-6111.

**Special note:** New, custom-designed aeration system was installed in 2005 with Heritage funding. A new library was constructed between Baseline Road and Alvord Lake. Phoenix completed a beautification project with new landscaping, seating and roadways around the lake.

# City of Phoenix Lakes



## Cortez Lake: ♿

**Location:** Cortez Park in west Phoenix, at northeast corner of 35th Avenue and Dunlap Avenue.

**Size:** 3 acres. Maximum depth 14 feet, average depth 10 feet.

**Hours:** 5:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

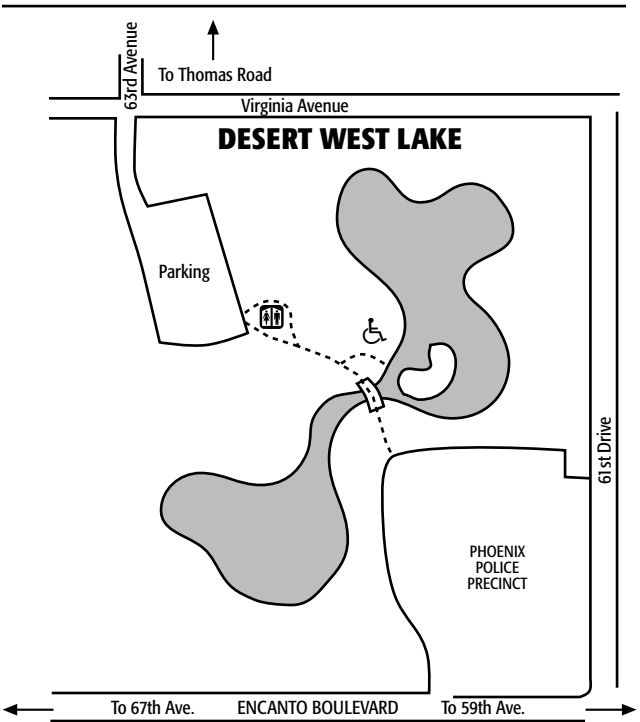
**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on tilapia or carp.

**Boating:** Not allowed.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, tilapia, carp, and white amur.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. Glass containers prohibited. Alcoholic beverage permits required. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (602) 262-6575.





## Desert West Lake: ♿

**Location:** Desert West Park in southwest Phoenix, at 63rd Avenue between Virginia Avenue and Encanto Boulevard.

**Size:** 5 acres. Maximum depth 15 feet, average depth 11 feet.

**Hours:** 5:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on tilapia or carp.

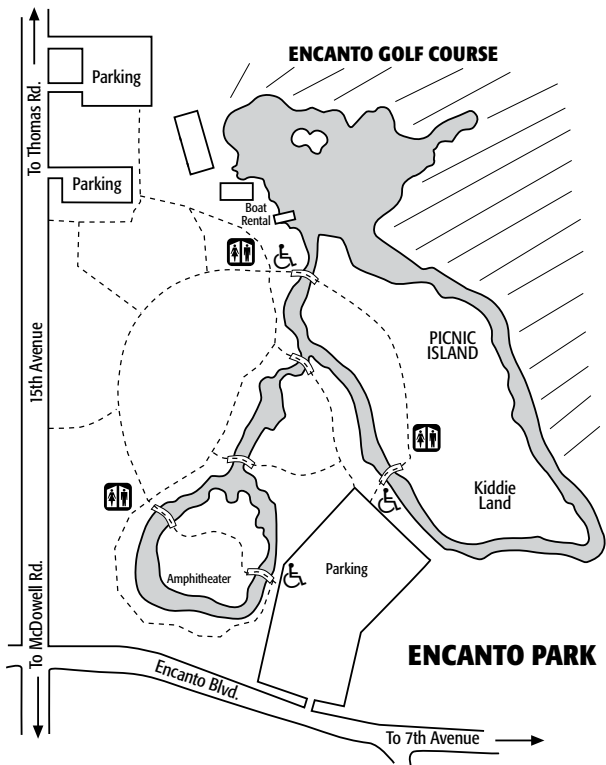
**Boating:** Not allowed.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, carp, and white amur.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. Glass containers prohibited. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information on park rules and regulations call (602) 495-3700.

**Special note:** Phoenix will be installing a new pump station and inlet requiring a temporary lowering of the lake in early 2007.

# City of Phoenix Lakes



## Encanto Lake: ♿

**Location:** Encanto Park in central Phoenix, northeast of 15th Avenue and Encanto Boulevard (between Thomas and McDowell roads).

**Size:** 7.5 acres. Maximum depth 10 feet in main lake, 4 feet in channels.

**Hours:** 5:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on tilapia or carp.

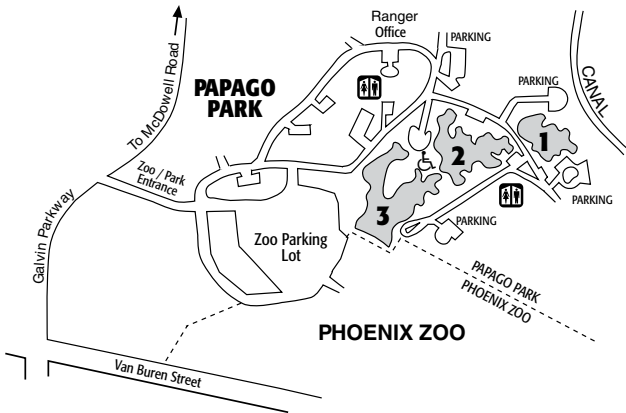
**Boating:** Private boats not allowed.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, tilapia, carp, and white amur.

**Park rules:** Fishing prohibited from golf course as posted. Swimming or wading prohibited. Glass containers prohibited. Alcoholic beverage permits required. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (602) 261-8991.

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## *Under Urban Pond management*



### **Papago Ponds:** ♿

#### *Urban Pond Concept*

**Location:** Papago Park in east Phoenix, immediately north of the Phoenix Zoo on Galvin Parkway between McDowell Road and Van Buren Street.

**Size:** Total of 6 acres. Pond #1: 1 acre, maximum depth 8 feet. Pond #2: 2 acres, maximum depth 7 feet. Pond #3: 3 acres, maximum depth 11 feet.

**Hours:** 6:00 a.m. To 11:00 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** Urban Pond Concept - 1 bass (13 inch minimum), 2 catfish, 2 trout, 5 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on crappie, tilapia or carp.

**Boating:** Not allowed.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: Channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, crappie, tilapia, carp and white amur.

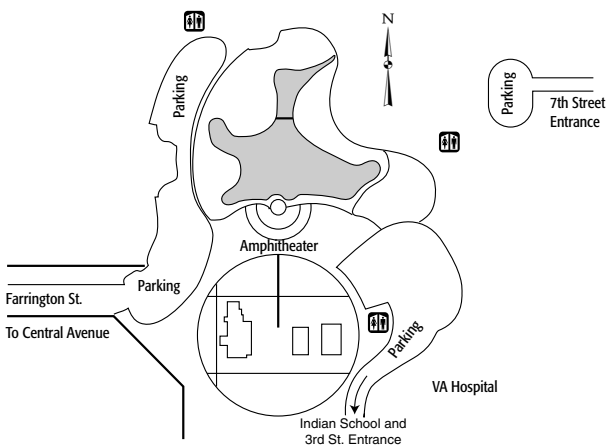
**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. Glass containers prohibited. Alcoholic beverage permits required. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (602) 256-3220.

**Urban Pond note:** This smaller urban lake will be managed under the new Urban Pond concept. Urban Ponds will be stocked just as often as Urban Lakes at two-week intervals, but with fewer fish per delivery. Reduced daily bag and possession limits apply for all stocked fish.

# City of Phoenix Lakes

*Under Urban Pond management*

## STEELE INDIAN SCHOOL PARK



### Steele Indian School Park Pond:

#### *Urban Pond Concept*

**Location:** Steele Indian School Park on the northeast corner of Indian School Road and Central in downtown Phoenix. Park entrances are from 3rd Street north of Indian School or from Farrington Street (1 block north of Indian School Road) west off of Central Avenue.

**Size:** 2.5 acres. Maximum depth 12 feet, average depth 8 feet.

**Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** Urban Pond Concept - 2 catfish, 2 trout, 1 bass (13 inch minimum), 5 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on tilapia or carp.

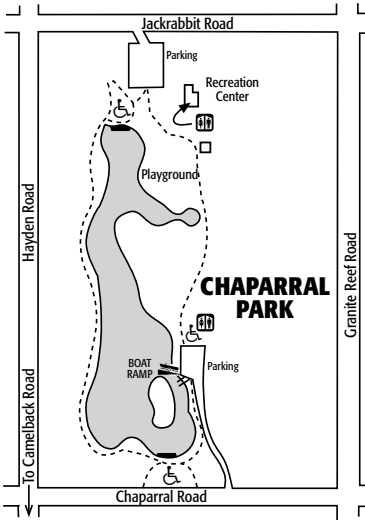
**Boating:** Not allowed.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (seasonal), hybrid sunfish, bluegill, redear sunfish, largemouth bass, tilapia, white amur, and carp.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading in pond prohibited. Glass containers prohibited. Alcoholic beverage permits required. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (602) 495-0739.

**Urban Pond note:** This smaller urban lake will be managed under the new Urban Pond concept. Urban Ponds will be stocked just as often as Urban Lakes at two-week intervals, but with fewer fish per delivery. Reduced daily bag and possession limits apply for all stocked fish.

# City of Scottsdale Lake



## Chaparral Lake: ♿

**Location:** Chaparral Park in west Scottsdale, northeast corner of Hayden and Chaparral roads.

**Size:** 10 acres. Maximum depth 15 feet, average depth 10 feet.

**Hours:** Sunrise to 10:30 p.m.

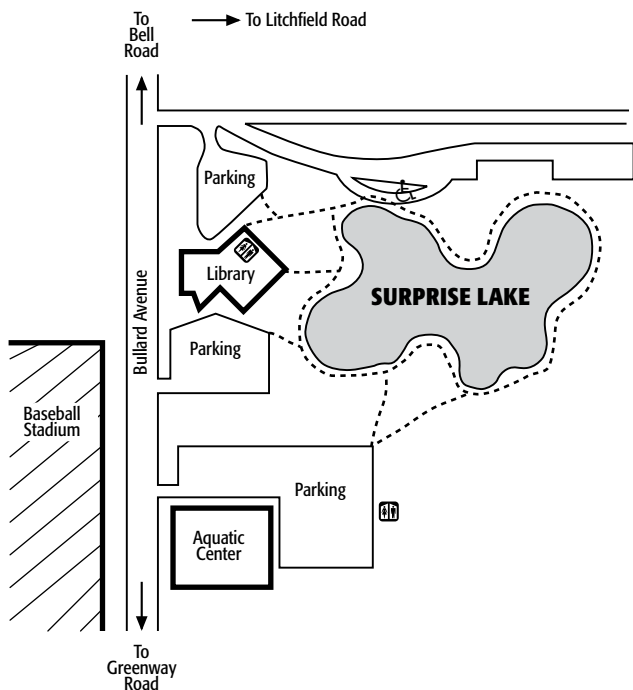
**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish. No limit on crappie, tilapia or carp.

**Boating:** Boating permitted only between sunrise and sunset. Must have proper floatation devices on board. Electric trolling motors may be used. Gas motors prohibited. Windsurfing not allowed. Other boating rules posted.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, flathead catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tilapia, and carp.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. Must obtain a permit to drink beer in the park. All other alcoholic beverages and glass containers are prohibited. Model boats may be operated only in areas that are designated for that purpose. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (480) 312-2353.

# City of Surprise



## Surprise Lake: ♿

**Location:** City of Surprise. Surprise Recreation Campus in northwest Valley, between Bell Road and Greenway on the east side of Bullard Avenue.

**Size:** 5 acres. Maximum depth 12 feet, average depth 8 feet.

**Hours:** Sunrise to 10:00 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum).

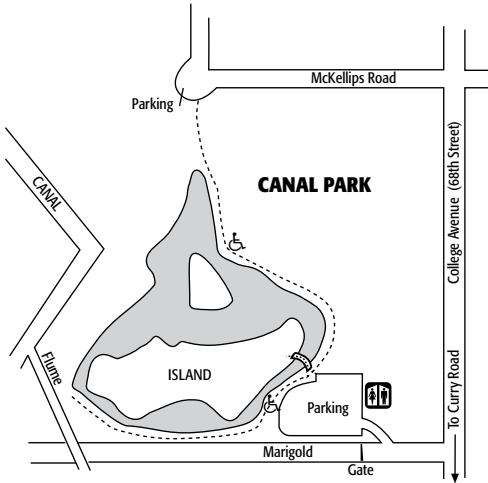
**Boating:** Not allowed.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, and white amur.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. Glass containers prohibited. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (623) 266-4500.

# City of Tempe Lakes

*Under Urban Pond management*



## **Canal Pond:** ♿

### *Urban Pond Concept*

**Location:** Canal Park in northwest Tempe, southwest corner of College Avenue (68th Street) and Mckellips Road.

**Size:** 3 acres. Maximum depth 7 feet, average depth 5 feet.

**Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 2 catfish, 2 trout, 1 bass (13 inch minimum), 5 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on tilapia or carp.

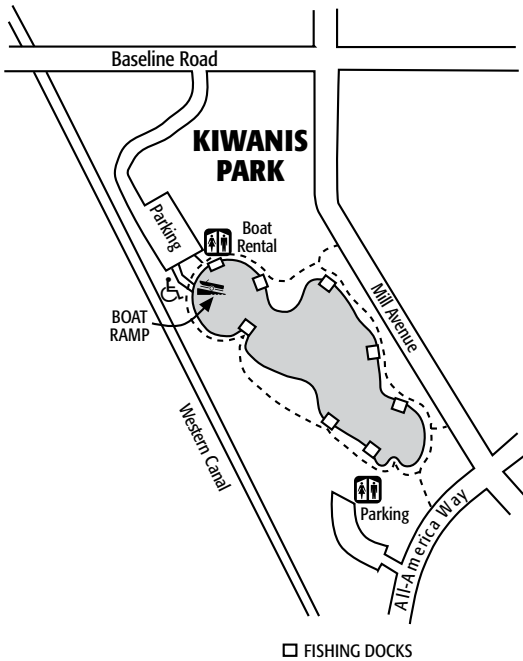
**Boating:** Not allowed.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, tilapia, carp, and white amur.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. A permit is required to drink beer in the park. All other alcoholic beverages and glass containers are prohibited. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (480) 350-5200.

**Urban Pond note:** This smaller urban lake will be managed under the new Urban Pond concept. Urban Ponds will be stocked just as often as Urban Lakes at two-week intervals, but with fewer fish per delivery. Reduced daily bag and possession limits apply for all stocked fish.

# City of Tempe Lakes



## Kiwanis Lake: ♿

**Location:** Kiwanis Community Park in central Tempe, southwest of Baseline Road and Mill Avenue.

**Size:** 13 acres. Maximum depth 8 feet, average depth 5 feet.

**Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inch minimum). No limit on tilapia or carp.

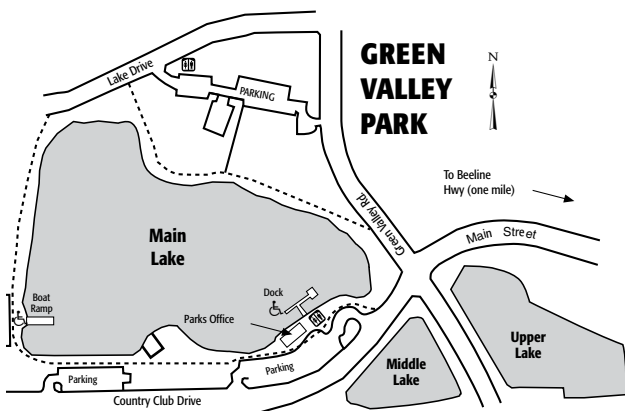
**Boating:** City of Tempe annual boating permit required (call (480) 350-5200). Must have proper flotation devices on board. Gas and electric motors prohibited. Boating permitted only between sunrise and sunset. Other boating rules posted.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains: channel catfish, rainbow trout (in season), bluegill, redear sunfish, hybrid sunfish, tilapia, largemouth bass, flathead catfish, carp, and white amur. New picnic ramadas surrounding the lake were completed.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. A permit is required to drink beer in the park. All other alcoholic beverages and glass containers are prohibited. No littering. Other rules posted. For more information call (480) 350-5200.



# Town of Payson Lakes



## Green Valley Lakes: ♿

**Location:** Green Valley Park in west Payson, on Main Street and Green Valley Road (one mile west of Beeline Highway 87).

**Size:** Upper lake 2 acres, middle lake 1 acre, and main lake 10 acres. Maximum depth of main lake 21 feet.

**Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

**Daily bag and possession limit:** 4 trout (2 for unlicensed juveniles), 2 bass (13 inch minimum), 4 catfish, 10 sunfish.

**Boating:** Boating permitted only between sunrise and sunset. Gas motors prohibited. Must have proper floatation devices on board.

**Comments:** Urban Fishing License required. Contains rainbow trout (in season), largemouth bass, channel catfish, crappie, bluegill, green sunfish and hybrid sunfish. Lake receives treated effluent, therefore full body contact is prohibited.

**Stocking:** Trout are stocked two week intervals from October to May. Catfish, bass, and sunfish are not stocked.

**Park rules:** Swimming or wading prohibited. All animals must be restrained by a leash. Alcoholic beverage permits required. Glass containers prohibited. No littering. Other rules posted. For more parks information call (928) 474-5242 ext. 7.

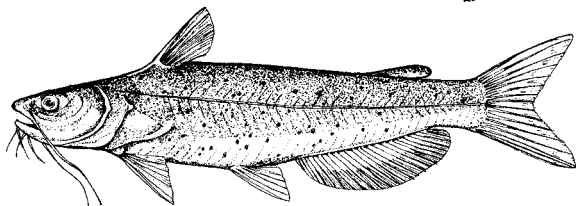
# Urban Fish

## Channel Catfish (*Bagre de canal*)

Stocked every other week from March up to July 10 and from September 20 to November.

Average size: 14-18 inches

**STOCKED**



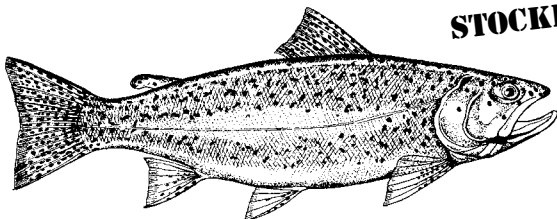
These fish have spines in the dorsal and pectoral fins, long barbels about the mouth, and an adipose fin. Body is scaleless and the tail is deeply forked. Younger fish are silvery with black spots. Older fish are blue-black above with white bellies. Most often caught with worms, liver, shrimp, hot dogs or prepared "stink" baits fished on the bottom at dusk, at night, or at dawn. Use sliding sinker, No. 2-6 hook. "Cats" stocked in Designated Urban Lakes average 1.8 lbs., but 3-6 lb. lunkers are not uncommon. **Daily bag and possession limit is 4 catfish, except at Urban Ponds where the limit is 2 catfish. No size limits.**

## Rainbow Trout (*Trucha*)

Stocked every other week from November - March

Average size: 9-14 inches

**STOCKED**

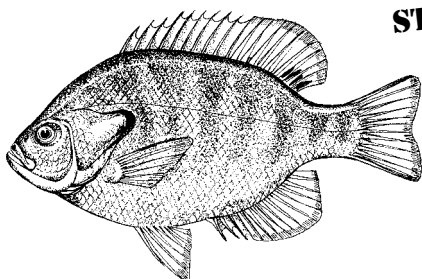


Arizona's most popular trout has very fine scales, an adipose fin and a silvery body that goes from dark olive to black on top to silvery white on the belly. Body and fins are spotted. Sides often have a horizontal pink streak, hence its name. A coldwater fish, the rainbow trout does not survive through the hot summer months in urban lakes. Can be caught on salmon eggs, Power Bait, corn, worms and cheese using No. 10 or 12 hook and small weight or with a bobber. Also strike small spinners and other flashing lures as well as wet flies and nymph patterns. Designated Urban Lakes are stocked with rainbow trout averaging over 1/3 pounds each. Occasional catches of 2-3 lb. fish occur. **Daily bag and possession limit is 4 trout for licensed anglers and 2 for unlicensed juveniles and blind residents, except at Urban Ponds where the limit is 2 and 1 trout, respectively. No size limits.**

## **Hybrid (Híbridos) Sunfish** (includes bluegill, redear sunfish, green sunfish and hybrid sunfish)

**Stocked each year.**

**Average size: 5-8 inches**

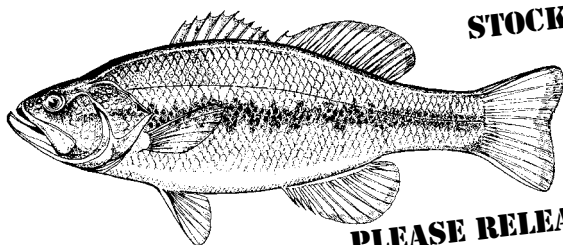


Short bodied fish that is compressed or flat. Each sunfish species varies in coloration and markings. Bluegill and redear have small mouths, while green and hybrid sunfish mouths are larger. Sunfish occasionally reach weights up to 3 pounds, but are most commonly 4-8 inches. Hybrids tend to grow faster and reach larger sizes. Sunfish are easily caught by using earth worms, meal worms or bread on #10 or smaller hook with a small bobber. Will strike small jigs or flies. Stocked hybrids are particularly aggressive. **Daily bag and possession limit is 10 sunfish, except at Urban Ponds where the limit is 5 sunfish. No size limits.**

## **Largemouth Bass (Lobina)**

**Stocked once every three years as available.**

**Average size: 10-15 inches**

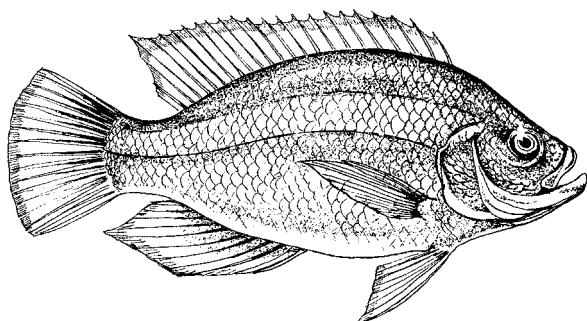


Longer and not as deep-bodied as other sunfish. Dark green on top shading to white on the belly. There is a wide, dark mottled bar along the side. Feeds almost entirely on other fish. Can be caught using lures that imitate natural prey—flies, poppers, plugs, spoons, plastic worms—or natural bait—worms and minnows. Fish around rock piles, points and submerged objects at dawn or dusk. Lunkers from 3-8 pounds are sometimes taken. Largemouth bass help control overpopulated, stunted sunfish. Hardy, they may be caught and released many times. **Daily bag and possession limit is 2 bass that must be a minimum of 13 inches, except at Urban Ponds where the limit is 1 bass that must be a minimum of 13 inches.**

# Urban Fish

## Tilapia

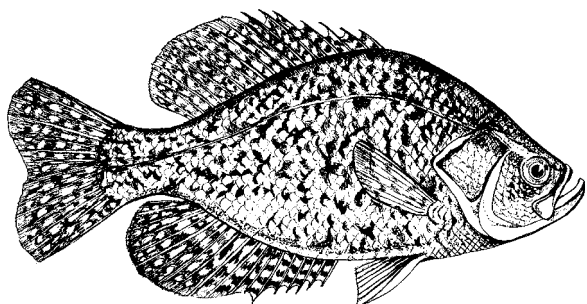
**Average size: 5-10 inches**



Similar to bluegill and sunfish, except no dark gill flap, large-headed, large mouth, with “broken” lateral line on sides. Coloration highly variable, but body tending to be olivaceous and red or iridescent blue tinges not uncommon on body or fins. Feeds on aquatic weeds and algae and is helpful in their control. Intolerant of cold water temperatures—large numbers may die during cold winter months. Tilapia occasionally reach sizes from 1-2 pounds, but are very prolific and overpopulate and become stunted. Highly competitive with bluegill and largemouth bass. Anglers can help prevent this by keeping all they catch. Good tasting. Tilapia are caught by using small earth worms or meal worms on No. 8 or smaller hook with a bobber. Will strike small jigs or flies. **No creel limit.**

## Crappie

**Average size: 6-11 inches**

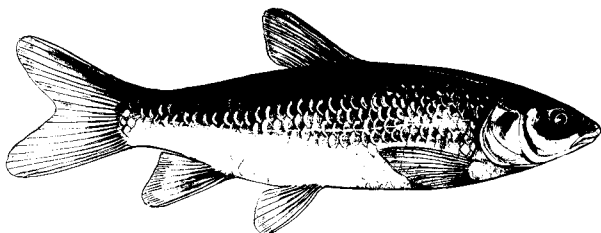


Flat-bodied fish with large dorsal and anal fins. Crappie mouths are large and the head lengths are greater than other sunfish. Body is silvery white and speckled with dark spots across the sides and fins. Feeds mostly on threadfin shad and other small fish. Often caught on small minnows, worms and jigs. **No creel limit.**

## **White Amur (Grass carp) (*Carpa herbívora*)**

**Average size: 15-30 inches**

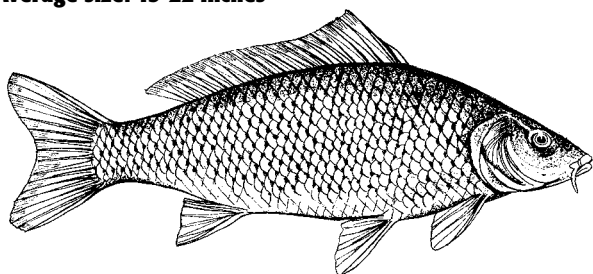
**PLEASE RELEASE**



Similar to common carp only in color (brassy yellow) and large scales. Notable differences include no barbels on bony mouth, no spine on a short dorsal fin or anal fin, more elongated, tail darker and more deeply forked. These fish are highly effective biological controls of nuisance weed and algae problems and were stocked for these purposes. Lakes containing white amur are posted with advisory signs. White amur can consume more than their body weight in aquatic weeds each day. Although vegetarians, white amur will occasionally take various baits. Good fighters. Anglers should exercise care to ensure safe release of these fish. A state record 47 pounder was caught in 2002 from Encanto Lake. **Daily creel limit is 1 fish that must be a minimum of 30 inches.**

## **Carp (*Carpa*)**

**Average size: 15-22 inches**



An often overlooked food and sport fish. Carp have large scales, two small barbels on each side of fleshy mouth, and a large sawtoothed spine at the front of a long, single dorsal fin and the anal fin. Color is brassy yellow or gold. Use worms, corn or dough balls made with bread, cornmeal or Wheaties with various flavors (such as liver or anise) added, and fish on bottom. Catches of 8-15 pounders not uncommon. Good fighters. Tasty when smoked. **No creel limit.**

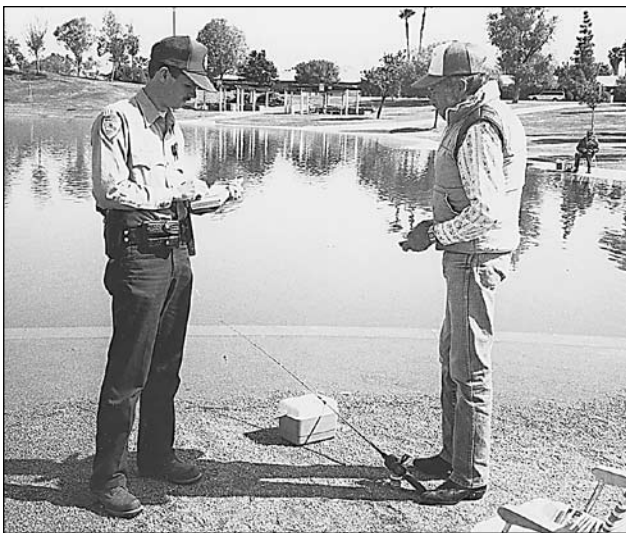
# Operation Game Thief

## Violators steal your fish— help us catch game thieves!

**Report violators: \$25–\$100 rewards for information about over-limits. Call 1-800-352-0700.**

Arizona's fish and wildlife belong to all of us, so when someone takes an over-limit, it's like taking a fish off your stringer and putting it on theirs. Bag and possession limits are designed to give everyone an equal chance and protect the fishery. If you see someone breaking the law, call Operation Game Thief toll free (1-800-352-0700) immediately, 24-hours a day. This phone number is printed on all fishing and hunting licenses.

To make the best case against violators, we need to know exactly what they did, when and where they did it, a description of the person or persons, a description of their vehicle, and the license plate number (very helpful).



Kiwanis Lake, Tempe

Our most frequently reported violation is for overlimits of fish (anglers stealing from you and the Urban Program). Here are the facts regarding bag limit regulations:

*In a 24-hour calendar day period, an angler may not catch and keep over 4 trout and 4 catfish from any one or more Urban Program Lakes. Once the 4th fish is kept, the angler must stop fishing for that species that day regardless if the angler gives any of the kept fish away to someone else anytime that day. Daily limits at Urban Program ponds are 2 trout and 2 catfish.*

# Sportfishing Education Program

*It's fun and it's free!*

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has a statewide Sportfishing Education Program, which teaches introductory fishing skills to people of all ages. Fishing clinics are led by department sanctioned instructors. The department further supplies all educational materials, rods, reels, bait, and terminal tackle at no charge. Topics of instruction include: where and when to fish; selecting tackle and bait; casting and rigging techniques; fishing safety and ethics; care of your catch; and much more.

The department works with various private and public organizations to solely or jointly sponsor fishing programs ranging in size from 25 to 2,500 participants. For information on scheduled public fishing clinics in your area, call (602) 789-3235 or visit our Web site at [azgfd.gov](http://azgfd.gov).



**Read the 2007 & 2008 Arizona Fishing Regulations. You should get a copy when you buy your fishing license. If the dealer doesn't give you a copy, ask! The fishing regulations are important to you and the future of Arizona's fishing. Creel, size and slot limits, methods of take, and other rules protect fish from over-exploitation, improve fishing quality, and give all of us a better chance for success. The rules do change, so get a new copy every year.**



Catfish stocking at Sahuarita Lake, Sahuarita.

**For the department's Weekly Fishing Report call (602) 789-3701 or check our home page at [azgfd.gov](http://azgfd.gov) for urban and other statewide fishing information.**

## **ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT**

2221 West Greenway Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85023  
(602) 942-3000



### **REGIONAL OFFICES**

REGION 1	2878 E. White Mountain, Pinetop 85935	(928) 367-4281
REGION 2	3500 S. Lake Mary Rd., Flagstaff 86001	(928) 774-5045
REGION 3	5325 N. Stockton Hill Rd., Kingman 86409	(928) 692-7700
REGION 4	9140 E. 28th St., Yuma 85365	(928) 342-0091
REGION 5	555 N. Greasewood Rd., Tucson 85745	(520) 628-5376
REGION 6	7200 E. University, Mesa 85207	(480) 981-9400

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is the state agency charged with conserving and managing Arizona's fish and wildlife resources. Its money comes from the sale of licenses, permits, fees and federal excise taxes on firearms, ammunition and fishing equipment and boats. Policies are decided by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, whose members are appointed by the Governor.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or disability in its programs and activities. If anyone believes that they have been discriminated against in any of the AGFD's programs or activities, including employment practices, they may file a complaint with the Deputy Director, 2221 W. Greenway Rd. Phoenix, AZ 85023, (602) 942-3000, or with the Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Dr. Ste. 130, Arlington, VA 22203. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation or this document in an alternative format by contacting the Deputy Director as listed above.