

WELCOME TO THE MAGNOLIA RIDGE PARK FISHING POND

Providing fishing opportunities for all types of visitors is one of the goals of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. We hope to entice all parents to enjoy the great outdoors with their children by building safe places where they can camp and fish. Since not all visitors have boats, and because it can be quite a challenge to fish from the shoreline in Magnolia Ridge Park, the Corps created this stocked fishing pond for the exclusive use of children and persons with special needs. It is stocked periodically with channel catfish from a local catfish farm and rainbow trout provided by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Fish Hatchery Program. Some lucky person might also catch one of the trophy largemouth bass released in the pond by local fishermen. If that person is you, we ask that you photograph your trophy fish and practice “catch and release” so that others may share that same “once in a lifetime” experience.

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

1. Fishing is limited to:
 - (a) Children and teenagers ages 15 and under (with adult supervision).
 - (b) Anyone with a severe mobility disability that leaves him or her unable to fish from a boat. A required special permit can be obtained at the Town Bluff Project Office on Highway 92 South or from any park ranger.

Registered campers at Magnolia Ridge or Sandy Creek parks who fit the above categories can fish for free. Non-campers who fit the above categories will be charged \$5.00 per person per day.

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 or **5** rainbow trout per person per day. There is no size limit and all fish 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 prohibited 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.

KID'S FISHING DAY

The first Saturday in June, the park hosts a celebration of National Fishing and Boating Week. It is open for all children 15 and under, whether camping in the park or not. The event is free and begins at 8:00 am, and lasts until around noon. Each participant may keep their fish and trophies are awarded for several categories. Check with the Town Bluff Project Office at (409) 429-3491 for dates and details.

