

## **GO FISH! (W.VA. DNR)**

### **Monongahela River**

Water levels are above normal and turbid after recent rains. Increased flows will cause walleye and sauger to move upstream and their numbers will increase at the lock and dams. Sauger and walleye usually begin feeding at dusk in the tailwaters but will be active during the day when the water is turbid. The Westover side of the river below the Morgantown lock can be productive during high water conditions. Jigs with minnows are always good baits but 3-inch plastic grubs will also be productive. Muskies are particularly active right now and can be caught by trolling large crankbaits. Channel catfish are abundant throughout the river and can be caught on cut bait, chicken livers, and nightcrawlers.

### **Cheat Lake**

The winter operation schedule has started which allows the lake elevation to decrease as much as 13 feet until April 1. The winter boat ramp at the Cheat Lake Park will be opened for reliable boat access. Cheat Lake has an excellent channel catfish population and they can be caught throughout the lake using cut bait, chicken liver, and nightcrawlers. Cheat Lake Park located near the dam is a good area for bank anglers to catch channel catfish, sunfish, and bass. Keep track of the lake elevation and predicted daily changes in elevation on the Cheat Lake website at [www.cheatlaketo-day.com](http://www.cheatlaketo-day.com).

### **Tygart Lake**

The lake level has increased from recent rains. Walleye are scattered throughout the lake and their depths vary during the day. Using min-

nows during the day in depths up to 40 feet can be an effective method to catch walleye. Wall-eye move into shallow water to feed at dusk and can be caught by bank anglers. The fall trout stocking has been completed and there are still large brood trout present in the tailwater and downstream through Grafton. Call the Corps of Engineers telephone hotline at 304-265-5953 for daily lake and tailwater conditions.

## **Stonewall Jackson**

The lake is at winter pool and milky. For bass try shallow water and around structure. Crappie are in deeper water. Try trolling with minnows and around bridges in 15 feet of water. A few musky have been caught this week trolling. Before heading to the lake please contact Corps of Engineers at 304-269-7463.

## **Stonecoal Lake**

The lake is five feet below summer pool and clear. A few trout have been caught this past week on powerbait. Bass and panfish are also being caught in and around structure. A few catfish are also being caught in the evenings. Crappie have moved up and are being caught on minnows and jigs.