

GO FISH! (WEST VIRGINIA DNR)

Monongahela River

Water levels are above normal from Tygart Lake discharges. Increased flows will cause walleyes and saugers to move upstream and their numbers will increase at the lock and dams. Saugers and walleyes 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 can be caught by trolling large crank baits. Channel catfish are abundant throughout the river and can be caught on cut bait, chicken livers and night crawlers.

Cheat Lake

The winter boat ramp at the Cheat Lake Park is open for reliable boat access when there is no ice cover. Cheat Lake has an excellent channel catfish population and they can be caught throughout the winter at the park. Surprise your friends with a winter channel catfish fry. Keep track of the lake elevation and predicted daily changes in elevation at cheatlaketoday.com.



Tygart Lake

The lake is about 45 feet below the summer level, ice covered and unsafe for fishing. Call the Corps of Engineers hotline, at 304-265-5953, for lake elevation and tailwater conditions. The tailwater temperature is 36 degrees. There are trout and walleyes in the tailwater for hardy anglers.

Stonecoal Lake

The lake is 5 feet below summer pool and clear. A few trout have been caught recently week on powerbait. Bass and panfish are being caught in and around structure. A few catfish are being caught in the evenings. Crappie have moved up and are being caught on minnows and jigs.

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 trolling. Before heading to the lake, contact the Corps of Engineers, at 304-269-7463.

Summersville

The lake is at winter pool and clear. A few walleye have been caught in 10-15 feet of water. Bass and panfish are being caught in and around structure. Trout were stocked in the tailwaters Oct. 28 by helicopter. If you are looking for a back country trout fishing experience, hike down in and enjoy. Info: 304-872-5809.

Sutton

The lake is at winter pool and milky. The boat launch behind the dam and Bee Run are open. Fishing is fair. Bass have moved out to about 10 feet of water. Crappie and panfish are on structure and hitting minnows. Try the fish attractors and below downs. About 500 pounds of trout were stocked in the tailwaters Oct. 20. Before heading to the lake, call the Corps of Engineers, at 304-765-2705.