



2008 Fall/Winter Newsletter

[www.gbra.org/recreation/lakewood/default.aspx](http://www.gbra.org/recreation/lakewood/default.aspx)

# How to Fish at the Lake Wood Spillway

At Lake Wood Park, the popular place to fish is at the H-5 Dam Spillway (below Lake Wood Dam). There is a light at night, a rail, and a concrete fishing area. There are several tricks to be successful fishing for catfish, bass, crappie, and white drum at the rail. At night the catfish are spooked by any shadows cast by the overhead security light. Shadows are cast on the 30 foot concrete wall going down the water and also on top the water. The catfish will not be in the area when they can see the shadows moving. The best fishing is when all fishermen are aware of this and attempt to not spook the fish. Some weekend nights the fishermen constantly are making shadows and the best fishing will be as far as you can cast. Notice the overhead power lines that contain over 60 years of fisherman's lines.

At normal levels spilling basin is about 4' deep with large concrete bottom, probably about 120' x 50' in size. On the concrete bottom is a mess of fishing line that is added to by new fishermen when their hooks snag. You can estimate where the concrete stops under the water and assume that the ledge or hollow caves under the concrete contain the big fish. During

sunny days the fish prefer to be in shady areas, out of direct sunlight. In the morning and evening, the fish will be in the shady spots created by the dam structures. The fishing is good at the spillway when there is a North wind that blows the mayflies and other bugs from the security light on to the water. Sometimes the mayflies are mounded up on the ground and you can kick them in the water and watch the fish feed.

Alex Shepherd was the first one to report the one-foot by one-foot sweet spot for fishing at the spillway after he caught the Texas Guadalupe River record largemouth bass, (10.37 lbs, 25" long, 18" girth) on 5/22/98. Since that time, many bass over 6 lbs caught from this same one-foot square location. The big bass have been caught on wacky worms, cut bait, plastic worms, live worms, and shrimp all in the same spot. The sweet spot will remain a mystery, but you can find it a short cast from the rail.

People catch crappie below the dam at night in the wintertime using lights hanging 20' down from the rail, using minnows and jigs. A school of crappie circle around and several rods get bites at the same time in intervals. In the

early spring the crappie are caught in the eddy immediately downstream of the rail during the day using minnows and jigs next to the trees in the water. The white drums start trying to go upriver to spawn in April and May and congregate below the dam. The catfish always seem to be around below the dam. There is a large amount of channel catfish caught on fresh liver when the gates shut and the water level recedes below the dam. Occasionally, fish such as stripers, hybrid stripers, white bass, and paco pass through, but they are extremely rare at the spillway. F

## Gasoline Prices

Gas prices have encouraged theft of boat gas tanks and gas containers around Texas lakes and boat ramps. Efforts to deter this activity include locking the tanks, removing tanks, covering the tanks, or moving the fuel to a safer location away from traffic and within sight. Thieves cut the boat tank hose and pour the fuel into other containers by using the left over hose. Sometimes thieves use a garden hose as a siphon. Marking your gas tanks, ice chests, and other items is a good idea as

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# Gasoline Prices

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you may not be able to prosecute or get your possessions back if they are located unless you can positively identify your items. When camping, in boat ramp parking lots, or most other places, if you smell gasoline fumes you can assume that someone is stealing gas. Remember that gasoline is extremely flammable. If you smell gas, find a safe area away from the fuel and campfires or other flames. Writing down a license plate would help in prosecution. Call the local law enforcement authorities and the park office if you suspect criminal activity around the park.

# 2008 KidFish Trophy Winners

Last Saturday at the Lake Wood KidFish about 60 children registered catching 17 fish. Free rod and reel combos and fishing lures were presented to all the children after the event by Skeeter Boats, American Rodsmiths, Ron Totten, Jason Gallas, Bass Pro Shops, Academy, Ronnie Logan, and others.

## Age 6 & Under

Place	Name	Age	Length
1st	Cooper LaBuhn	3	21"
2nd	Lilly Wilson	3	18-1/8"

## Age 7-11

1st	Colby Kifer	10	17-1/2"
2nd	Nathan Palat	10	17-1/4"

## Age 12-16

1st	Kyle Day	14	18"
2nd	Colton Dryer	14	16-1/2"

## Top Fundraisers

	Name	Amount
1st	Cooper LaBuhn	\$520
2nd	Kyle Day	\$108
3rd	Nicholas Martinez	\$50
4th	Trey Schreiner	\$50



Jason Gallas gave free Skeeter boat rides for the young children.

All the children above qualified to attend the Annual KidFish Classic where winning prizes will include a \$1,000 savings bond, \$500 for his/her school, fishing boat, tackle and more.

# 2008 Come & Take It Canoe Race

## Unlimited Class

	Name	Hr:Min:Sec
1st	Michael Rendon, Phil Bowden & Debbie Ricardson	1:36:38

## USCA Cruising Class

1st	Zoltan Mraz	2:26:19
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## Solo Unlimited Class

1st	Thomas Yonley	1:34:39
2nd	John Beltzell	1:35:24
3rd	Brad Penington	1:39:14
4th	Murray Hunkin	1:40:48
5th	Mike Drost	1:50:46
6th	Chris Stevenson	2:00:07
7th	Rusty Herbert	2:01:37
8th	Bruce Trainum	2:24:30

## Aluminum Class

1st	Roy Tyron, Lynn Poole	1:59:56
2nd	Gary & Kristen Gibson	2:20:51
3rd	Gib Havernick, Joshua Pulian	2:21:51
4th	Louis & Adela Garcia	2:50:27
5th	Chris Schwarz	3:58:15

## Women's Unlimited Class

1st	Erin Magee	2:01:56
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## Recreational Class

1st	Richard Hebert	2:17:04
2nd	Ken Thigpen	2:24:41
3rd	Carter Jennings	2:28:33
4th	Winter & Janis Eastland	2:32:50

## Gonzales Local Canoe Class

1st	Michael McMains, Kendra Heath	4:10:00
2nd	Jonathan McMains, Amanda Paque	4:13:00
3rd	Dainel Gray, Dustin Kreger	5:25:45
4th	David & Stephanie Gray	5:47:30

The 2008 Come & Take It Canoe Race had 24 boats with 35 participants. The fastest time was Thomas Yonley with 1 hour, 34 minutes and 39 seconds. Dustin Kreger and Daniel Gray of Gonzales won the river cleanup trophy

For additional information call Mark Henneke 830-672-2779.

