

Rush Creek Reservoir

Fishing Program

The reservoir will be open for fishing during the hours of 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM daily. Gated access into and out of the reservoir will be secured at 5:00 PM daily.

Each person/group must register with the City Employee on duty and receive a tag. All persons 16 years and over must show a valid Picture ID, all persons under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a person at least 16 years of age with proper valid Picture ID. Your information is to be entered into a Log Book showing the date, time, number of persons in group, ID verification, and tag issued. Upon your departure you are required to check out with the City Employee on duty. Your issued tag must be returned at the check-out time along with the time of departure noted in the log book.

This reservoir is an electric motor only boating site, gas powered motors are not permitted on the reservoir. Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Emergency Response Teams and/or City of Manchester employees or designees may from time to time have need of using such gas type powered boats or other devices. These type activities will be limited in scope and will be for specific operational, maintenance, rescue/emergency response or enforcement actions.

Those using the reservoir are to be checked out of the site with the on duty City Employee by 5:00 PM. As part of the checkout process please be prepared to provide number of each fish species harvested, for our reports to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division. The exit gates from the reservoir will be promptly closed at 5:00 PM those not checked out by this time will be unable to exit the facility without being escorted by The Georgia Department of Natural Resources or the Talbot county Sheriff's Department. Failures to comply with this check-out time will be considered to be onsite without permission and will fall under violation of GA. Code: 27-3-1/27-4-2/27-3-63 as applicable, this could result in loss of future access to the site. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division will be performing site visits from time to time and will at their discretion also perform random on the water boat inspections.

This site requires a valid Georgia Fishing License, all laws and regulations governing the fishing or boating for waters of the State of Georgia apply for this site. Georgia Department of Natural Resources will be onsite from time to time to confirm all laws and regulations for waters of the State are being followed, they will take appropriate enforcement actions for any violations found.

No more than two rods may be used per person at any one time. All active rods are to be supervised at all times. Live bait is permitted to be used. Use of trotlines, droplines, jug fishing, limb lines, or other similar fishing methods are not permitted. No Spear or Bow Fishing will be permitted. Use of seines, cast nets, or bow nets will not be permitted. Noodling will not be permitted. Trolling will not be permitted on the reservoir. All State of Georgia Department of Natural Resources established Creel Limits as well as all established size limitations are to be followed and will be enforced Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

All boats used on these waters must follow all Georgia Department of Natural Resources guidelines. Boaters must have boat properly registered with the proper registration stickers and ID numbers applied according to the boating regulations established by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. All required safety devices and equipment outlined in the Georgia Department of Natural Resources guidelines must be able to be produced upon inspection by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

This reservoir is for use as a drinking water supply for the surrounding area and therefore please ensure you maintain the integrity of the water supply by use of the supplied trash containers. If you locate or find improperly disposed of trash or debris, please collect it and place in the proper trash containers. Your access to the site is for fishing or boating no swimming is permitted in this reservoir.

The City of Manchester reserves the right to at any time deny access to the site. The site is a controlled access and use reservoir and as deemed necessary by the City of Manchester it can be closed to open access from the public at any time without advanced notice. The City of Manchester can ban entrance of individuals found to be regular violators of any of the outlined rules listed above. The use of this reservoir is for bank or from boat fishing and all regulations and laws as adopted and set forth by the State of Georgia Department of Natural Resources apply to this body of water.

Use of alcohol on the reservoir site is not permitted. No onsite fish cleaning, gutting, or other similar practices are permitted. No onsite grilling, fire building, or other similar activities permitted.

It is the responsibility of the person fishing to follow the posted size and limits for each species of fish and to confirm all boating guidelines are being followed. The City of Manchester assumes no responsibility for failure to follow the Georgia fishing & boating regulations for waters of the State of Georgia.

LENGTH AND DAILY LIMITS:

LENGTH LIMIT:

Largemouth bass: 14 inches minimum

DAILY LIMITS:

Largemouth bass 5

Bream or sunfish (of any one species or a combination) 15

Channel catfish....5

No limit for any other species (crappie, bullhead catfish, etc.)

Above length and daily limits for Rush Creek Reservoir are per recommendations received from The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division