Old Bethany City Lake

About This Area

Close-to-home fishing is an accurate description for this 16-acre water supply lake. The lake is located inside Bethany's city limits and is ideal for families to bring kids who want to "wet a line." According to local residents Old Bethany Reservoir was built in the 1930s by WPA labor using horse drawn scrapers. The lake is surrounded by park land and a golf course.

Since the lake was enrolled in the Community Assistance Program, the Missouri Conservation Department has added a disabled user accessible parking lot and restrooms. Anglers with disabilities have access to the lake by way of a paved trail. The City of Bethany has added a gravel boat ramp.

Channel catfish are stocked periodically by the Conservation Department. Anglers of all ages should enjoy an active afternoon of fishing at this lake. Non anglers can enjoy picnicking, nature viewing or bird watching.

Things to Do

- Fishing
- Frogging
- Picnicking
- Outdoor Photography
- Nature Study and Birdwatching

Rules and Regulations

Hunting and trapping prohibited.

Fishing

Species	Daily Limit	Length Limit
Black bass	6	15"
Channel catfish	4	None
Crappie	30	None
All other fish combined	20	None

- Only pole and line fishing (3 per person).
- Bullfrogs and green frogs may be taken during the statewide season by hand, handnet, gig, longbow or hook and line.
- No swimming.
- Vehicles on roadways and parking areas only.
- Electric boat motors only.

The Community Assistance Program sponsored by the Missouri Conservation Department provides fisheries management and assistance to local communities for developing or upgrading facilities. In return, local communities maintain the area and facilities and open their lakes to the public. This program provides fishing and improved facilities at lakes close to home. Everyone benefits.

Missouri Department of Conservation
816/675-2205 or 816/271-3100
City of Bethany
660/425-3511

11/2025

(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri *and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special regulations for areas owned by other entities are in Chapter 12 of the* Wildlife Code. *A free printed copy of the* Wildlife Code *is available from the Conservation Department. Chapter 12 in its entirety is available at www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp.) Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, (573) 751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.*

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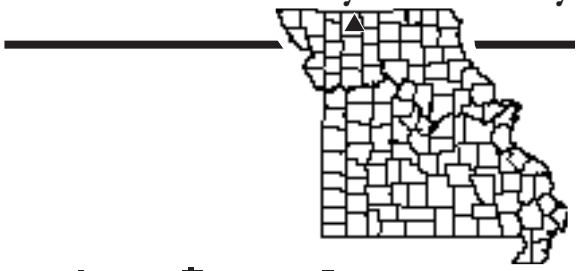
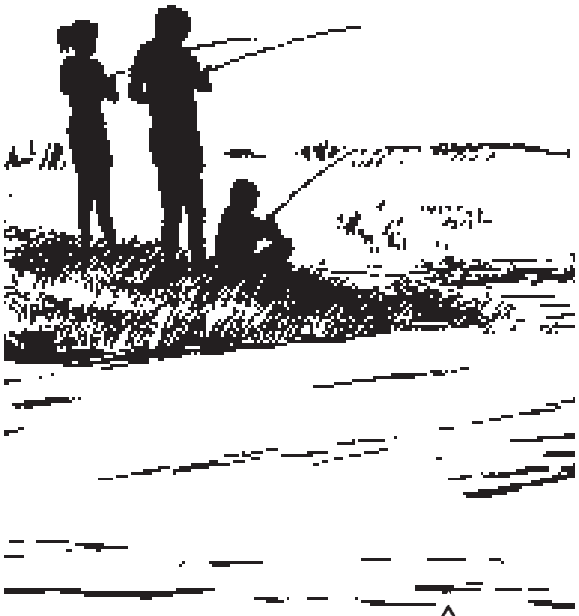
Managed in cooperation with
City of Bethany





Missouri Department
of Conservation

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