



CALLAWAY

- OUTDOORS -

May 2019 Fishing Report

Mountain Creek Lake

Temp: Low to mid 60s. Clarity: Clearing.

Bass: Good. May is usually most people's favorite month for all types of fishing. The weather is usually beautiful and fairly consistent. Bass can be caught this month on many different patterns. Topwater baits such as Pop Rs, Zara Spooks and buzz baits can be extremely effective for shallow and aggressive prespawn and spawning fish. The second pattern that works well is to look for spawning shad. Some big largemouth are caught by guys who sight fish, targeting fish that are locked on bed. A Yamamoto Senko or lighter colored trick worm, rigged weightless can do the trick. Also try fishing rip-rap, spinnerbaits, small square bill crankbaits and Zoom Super Flukes around blow downs. Look for shad-spawn activity on the lake first thing in the morning. Lots of smaller bass spawn in April and are caught by just dragging a Carolina-rigged Zoom Finesse worm or Mini Lizard around closer to the banks. This tactic normally works very well for numbers."

Crappie: Good. There should be a decent second wave of crappie coming up in early to mid May. During May, crappie can be in all stages of the spawning process—prespawn, spawn and postspawn. Crappie can be easier to catch in slightly stained water, especially if you have shallow brush, blowdowns or chunk rock structure. Spawned-out fish will typically move out and hold on deeper structure for a while to recover.

Bream: Good. Don't forget about our bream and shellcracker on Mountain Creek Lake. Finding an active bed can take a little effort, but when you do, you can have a ball! Bedding usually takes place on the full moon cycles in April and May. Look for shallow cover in the backs of pockets. Flats and stump beds tend to draw the fish like a magnet. Use pink worms, crickets and small jigs for the best results.

Catfish: Good. Lots of channel cats are caught every May. Pink worms and livers are used on catfish. To target flatheads, go to a larger rig and fish the same areas. Flathead catfish in the 10- to 12-lb. range are commonly catch in May on Mountain Creek Lake.