



PARKS AND RECREATION

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

22ND ANNUAL KIDS FISHING DERBY - \$500 TAGGED FISH

Athens Regional Park – April 23 - 8 AM to 11:30 AM

ATHENS, TENNESSEE – April 5, 2022- The City of Athens Parks and Recreation Department’s 22nd Annual Free Kids Fishing Derby, for ages 12 and under, will be held Saturday, April 23, 2022, at the Athens Regional Park large lake. Registration will begin at 7:00 am with fishing from 8:00 am until 11:30 am. Prizes include a tagged fish worth \$500 along with fishing tackle, and other prizes including additional cash fish. Participants do not need a fishing license to participate, but must bring their own fishing pole, and bait, and be accompanied by a parent or guardian. To be eligible for prizes, participants must be able to cast and reel in their catch, without assistance, until the fish is on land. Tagged fish, including the \$500 fish, must be caught during the event to be redeemed for prizes.

TWRA will be stocking the lake with rainbow trout prior to the derby. Once the lake is stocked, the lake will be closed for public fishing until after the fishing derby. Anyone fishing, while the lake is closed, will be subject to fines. After the derby, all TWRA rules will apply including fishing licenses and trout stamps.

“We are so pleased to be able to host our fishing derby this year. The warm weather has everyone excited to be outside and what better way to get acquainted with the outdoors than fishing in your local park? This is a great opportunity for young and first-time anglers to learn how to fish and win some fun prizes,” said Program Coordinator Brianna Baker. “Over the years when the \$500 fish has been pulled from the lake it has been truly exciting for the young angler and for the parents and quite frankly for everyone in attendance. Even if you are not fishing it is fun to watch the event.”

The Athens Regional Park is located at 2405 Decatur Pike in Athens, TN, conveniently off Exit 49 at I-75.

The City of Athens is a full-service municipality nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains and has garnered a reputation as the “Friendly City.”

For more information, please contact the Office of Parks & Recreation at (423) 744-2700 OPT 3 or email the department at recreation@athenstn.gov or visit the website at athenstn.gov/parks.