



## PARKS AND RECREATION

### PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## 23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL KIDS FISHING DERBY - \$500 TAGGED FISH

Athens Regional Park – May 13 - 8 AM to 11:30 AM

ATHENS, TENNESSEE – May 2, 2023- The City of Athens Parks and Recreation Department’s 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Free Kids Fishing Derby, for ages 12 and under, will be held Saturday, May 13, 2023, 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 excited to host our annual fishing derby! The pond at Athens Regional Park is a great place to get acquainted with fishing and gives kids the chance to have fun in their local park. This is a great opportunity for young and first-time fishers to spend quality time with their parent or guardian learning how to fish,” said Program Coordinator Derek Phillips. “The \$500 fish and a plethora of other prizes to be won, make this event exciting for the angler, parents, and everyone in attendance. Even if you are not fishing, this is an awesome event to watch.”

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

For more information, please contact the Office of Parks & Recreation at (423) 744-2704 or email the department at [recreation@athenstn.gov](mailto:recreation@athenstn.gov) or visit the website at [athenstn.gov](http://athenstn.gov).