

Fishing Report Ending Nov. 13, 2020

This will be our last report for the 2020 season. Please remember when fishing in colder weather to prepare and dress properly. See our article on *Cold Weather Fishing*.

Riverbend Park - Upper Potomac is running 2.1 feet at the Riverbend gauge. Water level is falling slowly, and the water is beginning to clear. Water clarity is 3 to 4 feet. Water temp is in the lower to upper 40s. As the water temperature drops, look for smallmouth bass to transition to deeper, slower water and deeper shoreline eddies. Typically, during this time of year, tubes in 2 3/4 inch to 3 1/2 inch on 1/8-ounce to 1/4-ounce jig heads are most effective. Although the numbers of bass caught per an outing will be down, the colder months are one of the best times for catching a trophy smallmouth bass.

Area Rivers - As the water temperature drops, look for smallmouth bass to transition to deeper, slower water and deeper shoreline eddies. Typically, during this time of year tubes in 2 3/4 inch to 3 1/2 inch on 1/8-ounce to 1/4-ounce jig heads are most effective. Although the numbers of bass caught per an outing will be down, the colder months are one of the best times for catching a trophy smallmouth bass. Another effective lure is a jerk bait worked in the slower runs, with a stop-and-jerk method with 3- to 6-second passes in between light jerks of the lure.

Area Ponds/Lakes - The area ponds and lakes will be less affected by weather changes, rains, and other factors. They will also be less likely to be muddy from heavy rains. Thus, the fish in these waters are easier to locate due to conditions that are more stable. Try and fish on the third day of a three-day warming trend. Pick the afternoon times to fish when water has been warming up throughout the day. Fish will more than likely be found on the bottom or suspended 2 to 4 feet off the bottom, in the water column. Effective lures are plastic worms, tubes and creature baits fished on the bottom or a small 2-foot to 3-inch curly tail grub fished on a 1/16-ounce jig head under a float and fly system.