

LAKEQUEST 2014

Lake Trail

Gone Fishing

TRAIL NOTES: This Quest begins at Coldstream Beach and goes down to N Shore Way. There is limited parking at the Coldstream parking lot. Also, there are parts of the Lake Trail that are wet and muddy even when the rest of the trail is dry so sturdy shoes that can get wet and/or muddy are preferred.

SUPPLIES TO BRING:

- Quest Instructions and Logbook
- Pencil/Pen
- Water and a snack
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Sturdy walking shoes
- LLA membership cards

Lake Linganore has various types of fish that live in it. Some of the fish that live here are catfish, crappies, bass, carp and sun fish. As noted on the Lake Linganore Private Amenity Area Rules sign, a valid State of Maryland Fishing license is required to fish in any community lake. Bass fishing is restricted to catch and release only.

Catfish: Most catfish cannot harm humans but some can. Some catfish are able to sting, so you need to be careful when handling them. Catfish do not have scales.

Crappies: Crappies move towards the shore to feed mostly at dawn and dusk. They tend to stay deep underwater during the day when they are not feeding. Crappies also don't go into any semi-hibernation for the winter so many anglers ice fish for them.

Bass: Weed beds are a good place to fish for bass. Weeds produce oxygen that attracts baitfish and crawfish that bass like to eat. It also provides the bass with cover to avoid being eaten by predators. But they prefer green weed beds as opposed to brown and / or slimy weed beds.

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Carp: Since carp can live for decades, they can grow to be enormous. Some have been caught that were over 70 lbs. Carp like to feed almost exclusively under the surface of the water. They are also omnivores.

Sunfish: Hot shallow water attracts sunfish. Any kind of bait will work for catching sunfish such as crickets, grubs, worms, and small balls of bread. You can use live or frozen bait.

Step 1:

Begin walking down from Coldstream Beach parking lot to the beach. The edge of the water by the beach is often a place where minnows swim in schools. Minnows are in general small freshwater or saltwater fish. These are commonly used as bait to catch larger fish. The term also specifically refers to small freshwater fish in the carp family. There are many different types of minnows and there are various ways of catching them.

Some ways to catch them are to use a wire trap with bait inside. You place the trap where minnows like to swim and they can swim into the little opening on either end of the trap to get to the bait. However when they are inside the trap they have a hard time getting back out again. Another way to catch minnows is to use a mesh net. When you see a school of minnows you simply drag the net through the school to catch them.

Frequently the minnows will swim along the edge of the lake on the beach. If you scare them away they will usually come back after you are gone.

What is one type of bait used to catch fish? ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

Step 2:

Start walking down the lake trail toward N Shore Way. As you're walking, notice the docks in the water to your left. Fish often like to hide under docks as it provides a shelter for them. However, the docks on Lake Linganore are privately owned. So unless you own the dock you are not permitted to stand on them to fish. Fish also like to use natural hiding places in the lake to stay safe from bigger fish. This could be a log that is sunk in the lake or a rock on the bottom of the lake. However, you have to be careful when fishing by a sunken log as your line can easily get snagged.

Fish often like to ____ ____ ____ under docks or sunken logs.

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Step 3:

Keep walking down the Lake Trail until you get to the stream that you need to walk over. If you look to your left you will notice that this stream lets out into the lake. Where it meets with the lake there is a weed bed. Fish like to hang out around weed beds. You can try to fish from the edge of the lake but it's easy to snag your line on the weeds. If you want to fish from the side of the lake in a weed bed, a bobber would be helpful. This is a floating ball that attaches to your line to keep the hook and bait at a consistent length from the top of the water.

Where does the stream let out in to? _____ _____

Step 4:

Continue up over the hill on the path to the next bridge. Stop when you get to the bridge that is built over the stream. You can also fish from a bridge. Sometimes fish live in streams underneath bridges. Minnows are often in streams as well. This would be a good place to catch them for bait.

What structure can you fish from? _____ _____ _____

Step 5:

Using the letters from the boxes in the questions you answered above form a word related to fishing. Write this word in the Logbook for this Quest.

*Snap a picture of you and your team on this Quest and email it to FriendsofLakeLinganore@gmail.com or upload it the Friends of the Lake Facebook page!

*Don't forget to submit your Quest Completion online at www.LakeLinganore.org/Lakequest!