



Fishing at Clemson Sandhill REC Regulations

Public access to the waters of
the Sandhill REC through a
fee based membership
program

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**SANDHILL RESEARCH
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College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences

Program Parameters

The 2023 membership period runs from March 20 through December 17. Access is open seven days a week, unless otherwise noted. Updated information will be posted on the website.

Anglers will be assigned to one of 4 primary groups. All groups have access each day. In the unlikely event traffic on the ponds becomes too great, the color coded groups will be used to assign dates and times for access. Information regarding where and when you may fish will be provided on our website.

Members will be provided with a color coded picture ID card and vehicle display placard. They must be plainly visible when on site. Lost ID cards and vehicle placards will be replaced at a fee of \$10.00 each. Children under 18 will be provided membership cards without names or photos.

Catch and release is allowed but not required. Anglers should determine if the fish is too injured to successfully release.

Fee Structure

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Individual Membership | \$125.00 |
| Family Membership | \$200.00** |
| Senior Membership | \$100.00 (65 and older) |
| Single day guest pass | \$ 5.50* (must be accompanied by a member) |
| Boat launch fee | \$ 5.50* (to be used by members only) |

* Guest passes and boat launch permits are purchased online from the Sandhill Fish Club page. Passes are single use per purchase.

** **Family membership includes parents and their children under the age of 21 residing at the residence. Other resident relatives or guests will require individual memberships or guest passes.**

Forms

Applicants will need to complete an online membership application and execute/agree to the liability release form for each person and/or family member. Guests may also have to sign a liability release form prior to using the property.

Regulations

1. All fishing on Clemson Sandhill REC waters shall be in accordance with the fishing laws of South Carolina. These regulations are designed for use in combination with the South Carolina regulations and anglers should be thoroughly familiar with both. This document repeats some South Carolina regulations, but primarily places additional restrictions on fishing Clemson Sandhill REC waters. A state issued fishing license is required.
2. Members wishing to fish must check the website for a listing of what waters and areas are open and what group is allowed access based on the date and time. Anglers may be asked to sign in when arriving on property and sign out when leaving. If required procedures will be provided. Night fishing is not permitted except as may be specifically noted.
 - a. A member vehicle identification card will be issued along with your photo identification card. The vehicle card must be displayed in your windshield and the photo ID must be worn in a visible manner at all times while on property.
 - b. Family members under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or responsible individual with authorized fishing privileges. An individual must be 18 years of age or older to sponsor a guest.
 - c. Fishing locations will be identified in detail and anglers should not stray from these designated areas.
3. Boating on Sandhill REC waters is allowed only for members of the fishing club and subject to strict criteria.
 - a. Rowboats, canoes, and other small boats with no artificial power source other than an electric motor are authorized on ponds and lakes designated as open for fishing.
 - b. Boats must be launched from specified areas. Boats must be carried from their trailer to the water. The large lake can host a maximum of 7 boats at one time. The small pond to the left of the Lake House can host 3 boats. Boats are not permitted on the pond located between the Lake House and the Clemson REC office building. Launch permits are sold on a first come, first served basis and must be in the boater's possession when on the water.
 - c. All persons occupying a boat on Clemson Sandhill REC must wear a Coast Guard approved personal flotation device at all times.
4. The following is prohibited on Clemson Sandhill REC:
 - a. Releasing any species of fish into a Clemson Sandhill REC pond that was not caught in said pond
 - b. Individuals baiting or chumming fish in any manner
 - c. Taking any species of fish by the use of firearms, seines or other nets, snares, explosives, electrical apparatus, fish traps or fish baskets
 - d. Taking bullfrogs
 - e. Night fishing except as specifically noted
 - f. Selling, offering to sell, buying, or offering to buy any fish caught on property
 - g. Adding or removing boards or tampering with water level control structures in any way
 - h. Fishing in unauthorized areas or waters
 - i. Firearms

- j. Fishing with more than two active lines per authorized angler
- k. Cleaning fish on site
- l. Stringers or other devices that maintain your catch in the lake or ponds
- m. Leaving trash/garbage/refuse/etc. or depositing said in the water
- n. Feeding of the alligators
- o. Alcoholic beverages, illegal substances
- p. Attire not in keeping with an open family environment
- q. Parking in unauthorized areas

6. Creel Limits. The daily creel limit is:

- a. Bass - eight (8) per person
- b. Bream - eight (8) per person
- c. Crappie - eight (8) per person
- d. Catfish - eight (8) per person

7. Size Limits. There are no size limit restrictions on fish harvested other than those defined in the South Carolina Hunting and Freshwater Fishing Rules and Regulations.

8. Devices. Fish may be caught with hook and line, fly rod, casting rod, pole and line, or hand line only. Set hook, jug fishing, trotlines, bow and arrow, spears, gigs, nets, seines, tires, traps, and other similar devices are prohibited. **Crickets and worms are the only live bait allowed.**

Suspension and Revocation of Privileges

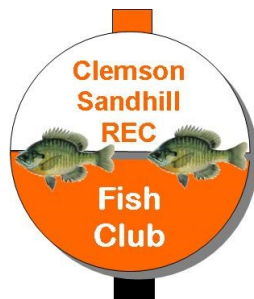
The Clemson Sandhill REC Director may suspend or revoke privileges. A suspension will become final unless appealed within ten days. Notification of suspension will be provided electronically and in writing. A listing of violations and their associated penalties are found on the following page.

When appealing a decision or penalty address your concerns to:

Director, Special Projects
Clemson Sandhill REC
900 Clemson Road
Columbia, SC 29229

| Fishing Violations and Penalties | | |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Violation | 1 st Offense | 2 nd Offense |
| Possessing a weapon on site | Withdraw privileges up to 2 years | Withdraw privileges permanently |
| Allowing another to use your fishing membership | Withdraw privileges up to 1 year | Withdraw privileges permanently |
| Fishing in unauthorized areas | Withdraw privileges up to 6 months | Withdraws privileges up to 1 year |
| Fishing by unauthorized methods | Withdraw privileges up to 1 year | Withdraw privileges up to 2 years |
| Fishing with more than 2 lines | Withdraw privileges up to 1 month | Withdraw privileges up to 6 months |
| Fishing without required license and Sandhill ID in possession | Withdraw privileges up to 1 month | Withdraw privileges up to 1 year |
| Possession of more fish than the expressed or legal limit | Withdraw privileges up to 1 year | Withdraw privileges permanently |
| Trespassing, illegal entry, bypassing locked gates | Withdraw privileges up to 1 year | Withdraw privileges permanently |
| Releasing fish, except those caught on site | Withdraw privileges up to 2 year | Withdraw privileges up to 5 years |
| Baiting, trapping, chumming and use of other illegal methods when fishing | Withdraw privileges up to 1 year | Withdraw privileges up to 3 years |
| Tampering with water or control structures | Withdraw privileges up to 1 year | Withdraw privileges up to 3 years |

| Boating Violations and Penalties | | |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Violation | 1st Offense | 2nd Offense |
| Failure to wear personal flotation device (lifejacket) | Withdraw privileges up to 180 days | Withdraw privileges permanently |
| Failure to operate vessel in safe manner or endangering others | Withdraw privileges up to 1 year | Withdraw privileges permanently |
| Operation of boat while under the influence of drugs or alcohol | Withdraw privileges up to 2 years | Withdraw privileges permanently |
| Unauthorized use of combustion motors | Withdraw privileges up to 180 days | Withdraw privileges up to 1 year |
| Operating in restricted area | Withdraw privileges up to 180 days | Withdraw privileges permanently |



Parking

The Clemson Sandhill REC provides a natural setting. Most of our roads are dirt or gravel lined and provided a sometimes uneven surface. Motorists should remain aware of the terrain and operate at minimum speeds. While there are speed limit signs posted it is best when operating on dirt roads to avoid creating a dust trail and to slow below the posted speeds when pedestrians are present. Always start and stop your vehicle slowly so as not to disturb the natural surface. Avoid noticeably wet areas.

Parking for access to the large lake near is located at the bottom of the paved road that leads to the dam. Park in the open area on the right hand side just prior to the dam.

Parking for the two ponds near the Lake House is on the left hand side of the road leading to the Lake House. Do not park past the raised break at the bottom of that road.

Boating Access

You may not be able to back trailers into the water to launch your boat. You may drive as close to the dam as possible to unload your boat. After unloading park your vehicle as previously noted. After unloading park your vehicle as previously noted. Both waters permitting boats will have the approved launch areas clearly defined. Use these only areas for access.

Fishing Access

Be aware that all waters may not be open to fishing each day. Remember to check the website for when and which body of water you can fish. The areas that you may fish from on each lake or pond are as follows.

Large Lake (L1) Anywhere along the dam and at various designated clearings surrounding the lake. Maps are available on line.

Pond between the Lake House and office building (P1) Below the road near the Lake House and along the dam. Do not fish the area near the office building.

Pond near the Lake House (P2) Below the road near the Lake House and at various designated clearings surrounding the pond. Maps are available on line.

Calendar

The Fish Club page of the website has a link to the Sandhill Fish Club calendar. With the increase and planned increase of agricultural activity on site, various waters, particularly the lake, will be closed to access during various periods. Make sure to check the calendar when planning your visit.

Monitoring and Compliance

Fishing the waters of the Clemson Sandhill REC is a privilege purchased by the membership. On occasion you may encounter non-members engaged in fishing. In that all members are required to wear their identification card or membership pass in a visible manner, non-members should be easily identified. If you are not comfortable in speaking to the individual or individuals you can report the activity to our main office by calling 803-788-5700. The office is closed during non business hours, weekends and holidays. In addition to non-members accessing the property to fish occasionally members may be on site during the wrong period or there may be too many boaters on the water. You may also report these incidents or any other areas of concern to the number listed above. If you have non urgent comments, observations or concerns you may email shrec@clemson.edu. Should you notice activity you believe to be illegal, dangerous or life threatening please call the Richland County Sheriff's Department or other appropriate emergency service provider by dialing 911.

Membership Passes and Boat Launch Permits

Passes and permits may be purchased electronically using your credit card at any time. They are good for a single use. **Passes are not available at the main office.** Again this year, season long boat passes will be available for \$100.00 and those must be purchased from the club director. Passes and permits must be displayed or available when in use. The director receives an electronic notice of all passes purchased online for confirmation purposes as well as monitoring.

Clemson University
Assumption of Risk and Release from Liability

Name: _____

Membership Number: _____

I, _____, acknowledge that I would like to participate in the following ACTIVITY at the Clemson Sandhill REC:

The **Sandhill REC Fishing Program** which is sponsored/organized by the Clemson Institute for Community and Economic Development and will take place on the Clemson Sandhill REC waters. The contact person for this Program is the Director for Special Projects, Stan Perry. Mr. Perry can be reached at 803-699-3187.

In consideration for being allowed to participate in this ACTIVITY, I the undersigned, acknowledge, appreciate and agree that:

I am at least 18 years of age.

2. I understand that all individuals in my family 18 years of age or older who will be participating in this ACTIVITY must sign their own Assumption of Risk and Release from Liability form. I understand that I am responsible for supervising my children under the age of 18 while they are participating in this ACTIVITY.

3. There are inherent risks involved with this ACTIVITY, including but not limited to sunburn, heat stroke, dehydration, insect bites and stings, reactions to plants such as poison ivy, allergic reactions (to food, plants, pollen, animals, insects etc.), animal bites and injuries (there are alligators, snakes and many other wild animals living on the property), fishing hook injuries, boating accidents and injuries etc. and I choose to voluntarily participate in this ACTIVITY with full knowledge that said ACTIVITY may be hazardous to me, my participating children under the age of 18 and our property. I voluntarily assume full responsibility for any risk of loss, property damage or personal injury, including death, which may be sustained by me or my children under the age of 18 as a result of our participation in this ACTIVITY.

I and my children under the age of 18 will abide by the “Fishing at Clemson Sandhill REC Requirements” attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference. I understand that if I or my children under the age of 18 fail to comply with the “Fishing at Clemson Sandhill REC Requirements” at any time, I and/or my children could be expelled from the Sandhill REC Fishing Program and could lose fishing privileges at the Sandhill REC in accordance with the Fishing Violations and Penalties contained in the “Fishing at Clemson Sandhill REC Regulations”.

I have an accident and health insurance policy that will provide coverage for any injury or

illness that may occur during my participation or the participation of my children under the age of 18 in this ACTIVITY. I understand that I am responsible for any and all costs relating to medical treatment or care of injuries or illness that I may suffer or my children under the age of 18 may suffer as a result of, or while participating in the ACTIVITY.

I understand that this ACTIVITY is a physically strenuous outdoor activity and I know of no medical reason why I should not participate or why my children under the age of 18 should not participate.

I hereby release, waive, and discharge Clemson University and its Board of Trustees, its officers, agents, employees and representatives from all claims, demands, liabilities, rights and causes of action of whatever kind or nature, that may result from or occur during my participation in this ACTIVITY, whether caused by negligence of the UNIVERSITY, its Board of Trustees, officers, agents, employees or representatives or otherwise. I also agree to indemnify and hold harmless the UNIVERSITY for any loss, liability, damage or costs, including court costs and attorney's fees that may occur as a result of my negligent or intentional act or omission while participating in this ACTIVITY.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND HAVE HAD SUFFICIENT TIME TO SEEK EXPLANATION OF THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED ABOVE. I SIGN THIS DOCUMENT VOLUNTARILY AND WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

Date Signed _____

PARTICIPANT'S SIGNATURE



The primary areas of use are noted on the above map. The dam sections along L1 and P1 are easily visible on this satellite image. The clearings for anglers to use along the trails connected to L1 and P2 are not marked on the map but are marked on site. Boat launch areas and parking are also marked on the map. They will also be marked on site.

Pond 2 (P2) Fishing and Parking Areas. Fish only from the areas marked by the white line and the clearings noted by arrows.



Pond 1 (P1) Fishing and Parking Areas. Fish only from banks and dam indicated by white lines. No fishing along the trail or in front of the office building.





The Main Lake (L1) Parking and Fishing areas. Fishing is allowed from the dam and areas marked by white arrows. Access to the cleared area nearest the Lake House is via a trail along the Lake House lower road. Fishing is also allowed from the dock adjacent to the water front exhibition area if programs are not in process. Do not fish from the trail areas unless a clearing has been marked for that purpose.

Boat launch area is marked near fence segment blocking dam from vehicle traffic.

Application

Access the application via the Sandhill Fish Club home page by [clicking here](#).



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