



News Release

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Winter Trout Fishing Program Restored

The Mid-Missouri Chapter of Trout Unlimited will co-sponsor the 2008-09 winter trout fishing program at Cosmo-Bethel Park lake, in conjunction with the Missouri Department of Conservation. In the past, Columbia Parks and Recreation had co-sponsored funding for half the cost of the program, but was unable to this year due to budget constraints. The local Trout Unlimited chapter is assuming Parks and Recreation's portion of the funding.

The lake at Cosmo-Bethel is stocked with about 2,400 trout. The goal of the program is to increase fishing opportunities and species diversity in urban lakes.

All trout must be released, unharmed from November 1-January 31. Only artificial baits (no natural or scented baits) can be used from November 1-January 31. After January 31, anglers can harvest trout under statewide regulations. A valid Missouri fishing permit is required.

The total cost of the winter trout fishing program ranges from \$5,000-\$6,000 depending on the number and size of trout stocked.

For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460 or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com.