Fish Consumption
For the Tar Creek Area Including Grand Lake Guide
The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality has issued a series of fish consumption advisories for the Tar Creek Area, which includes Grand Lake. This fish advisory does not mean all fish caught from these waters are unsafe to eat. Instead, it provides guidelines for people to make informed choices about their health and diet.

The advisory is the result of studies conducted in 2003 and 2007. The study showed increased levels of lead in fish collected in Tar Creek area mill ponds, the Spring River, the Neosho River, and Grand Lake. The fish studied were grouped into five categories: Non-Game Fish, Game Fish, Sunfish, Catfish, and Paddle Fish.

The consumption of fish containing elevated levels of lead is a concern because chronic exposure to lead can cause health problems. Lead is particularly harmful to the developing brains and nervous systems of young children. The recommendations are calculated for the protection of children, but adults should also follow the guidelines.
Lead is known to collect in the bones and organs of fish. All advisories are for fish preparations containing bones except one advisory for boneless fillets for non-game fish caught on the Spring River.

People who wish to reduce their exposure to lead should eat portions that do not contain bones or skin. Fish are an important part of a healthy diet; however, not all fish should be consumed in unlimited quantities by everyone.

Residents living with the Tar Creek Area have different consumption advisory levels because they have a higher level of risk due to lead exposure from the Tar Creek Superfund Site. The following guidelines are formulated to provide information to both residents and non-residents of the Tar Creek Area.

For more information, contact the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality at (405) 702-1000 or visit www.deq.state.ok.us/csdnew/2007TCFishReport.pdf to view the full 2007 study.
Tar Creek Area
Resident Advisory
## Non-Game Fish

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fish Type</th>
<th>Mill Ponds</th>
<th>Spring River</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carp</td>
<td>Not sampled</td>
<td>3 meals per month of preparations with bones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshwater Drum</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 meals per month of boneless fillets</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Resident**
Redhorse Sucker

Smallmouth Buffalo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neosho River</th>
<th>Grand Lake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 8 meals per month of preparations with bones</td>
<td>• 6 meals per month of preparations with bones</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Game Fish

White Bass

Largemouth Bass

Resident

Mill Ponds
- 14 meals per month of preparations with bones

Spring River
- Unrestricted
Neosho River
- Unrestricted

Grand Lake
- Unrestricted

* Game fish also includes Spotted Bass
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Mill Ponds</th>
<th>Spring River</th>
<th>Neosho River</th>
<th>Grand Lake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 meals per month of preparations with bones</td>
<td>5 meals per month of preparations with bones</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* Sunfish also includes Hybrid Sunfish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mill Ponds</td>
<td>Spring River</td>
<td>Neosho River</td>
<td>Grand Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not sampled</td>
<td>9 meals per month of preparations with bones</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Paddle Fish & Paddle Fish Eggs

Paddle Fish

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Mill Ponds</th>
<th>Spring River</th>
<th>Neosho River</th>
<th>Grand Lake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not sampled</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tar Creek Area
Non-Resident Advisory
Non-Game Fish

Carp

Freshwater Drum

Non-Resident

Mill Ponds

- Not sampled

Spring River

- 5 meals per month of preparations with bones
Redhorse Sucker

Smallmouth Buffalo

Neosho River
- Unrestricted

Grand Lake
- 11 meals per month of preparations with bones
Game Fish

Non-Resident

Mill Ponds
- Unrestricted

Spring River
- Unrestricted

White Bass

Largemouth Bass
Neosho River
- Unrestricted

Grand Lake
- Unrestricted

* Game fish also includes Spotted Bass
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Mill Ponds</th>
<th>Spring River</th>
<th>Neosho River</th>
<th>Grand Lake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meals per month</td>
<td>5 meals per month of preparations with bones</td>
<td>8 meals per month of preparations with bones</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparations</td>
<td>with bones</td>
<td>with bones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Sunfish also includes Hybrid Sunfish.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Mill Ponds</th>
<th>Spring River</th>
<th>Neosho River</th>
<th>Grand Lake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not sampled</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Catfish

- Blue Catfish
- Channel Catfish

Non-Resident
# Paddle Fish & Paddle Fish Eggs

![Paddle Fish](image)

**Non-Resident**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mill Ponds</th>
<th>Spring River</th>
<th>Neosho River</th>
<th>Grand Lake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not sampled</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tri-State Mining District Fish Tissue Study Area

Map of the study area showing locations such as Blue Ridge, Miami, and various other points of interest.

Fish Consumption Guide
Grand Lake Sampling Stations

- Sycamore Cove
- Paradise Point
- Catfish Point
- Above Tynon Bluffs Area
- Shangri-La
- Dam Area
- Below Tynon Bluffs Area
- Neosho River Below Grand Lake Dam