

Collins Creek (in JFK Park)

Collins Creek is an Arkansas Game & Fish Commission project developed in cooperation with and on lands leased from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Arkansas Game & Fish Commission conducts management and maintenance of the trail, creek and parking area.

Rules and Regulations

- 🐟 Collins Creek is a catch-and-release only area.
- 🐟 Only artificial lures with one single barbless hooking point per pole may be used (no marshmallows, salmon eggs, or moldable substances such as POWER BAIT®, POWER EGGS® or Zeke's Gold® type baits).
- 🐟 Fishing is allowed from sunrise to sunset.
- 🐟 Only youths under 16 may fish from its source to the wooden vehicle bridge in JFK Park.
- 🐟 From the bridge to the Little Red River, fishing is restricted to youths under 16 or anglers over sixteen accompanied by an actively fishing youth under age 16.
- 🐟 Do not make any alterations to the streambed, erect rock dams, etc.

Catch-and-release pointers:

- 🐟 Barbless hooks can be made by crimping barbs with pliers.
- 🐟 Fish have a mucous film, which protects them from infections. Wet your bare hands before touching the fish or better still, don't handle the fish at all. Pull the fish close using the line or net, while keeping the fish in the water. Grab the hook with needle nose pliers and remove the hook without touching the fish.
- 🐟 Use a wetted net made with a soft material such as cotton or soft nylon. Nets made from hard nylon scrape the protective coating off a fish just as easily as dry hands.
- 🐟 Fish need oxygen and get it from the water. Leave the fish in the water while removing the hook.
- 🐟 Want a photo? Take the picture quickly with the fish in the water. Hold the fish gently just on the water's surface and then take the picture. Cradle it with one hand on its belly and another on its tail or photograph it in the net.
- 🐟 Cut the line if the fish has swallowed the hook.
- 🐟 Bronze hooks dissolve more quickly than black or shiny gold hooks.
- 🐟 Fish can run out of energy while being caught. If the fish seems stressed, hold the fish in the water and gently move it back and forth in the water to stimulate its gills. After a few seconds, the fish will swim off.

For further information about Collins Creek, contact the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission at 1-877-470-3309.