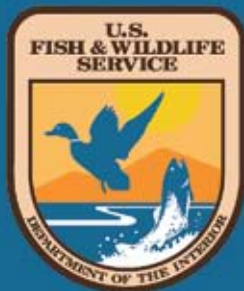


Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery

The **Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery** is a must visit while you are in the Lake Cumberland area or planning a visit to the region. This premier facility is one of seventy hatcheries in the U.S. and one of the newest with a new multimillion dollar visitor center constructed in 2008. This Class A Hatchery offers fantastic interpretive exhibits that promote a better understanding and appreciation of the natural history, resources, and the aquatic habitat in Kentucky. Their emphasis is on promoting the environment and recreational fishing to the public, plus highlighting the different species of fish, wildlife, and habitat found in our waterways. This is the largest fish hatchery in the state of Kentucky and the third largest in the country. When the Wolf River Dam was constructed for flood control and energy production, and Lake Cumberland was created, the federal government realized that they disrupted, and in some cases eliminated the native species of the river and totally changed the fish habitat. In order to mitigate this, the fish hatchery was built to provide healthy trout species - including rainbow trout, brown trout, brook trout and others - to supply the Cumberland River and other waters across Kentucky. The Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery raises over a million fish every year and releases them at various stages of development. They receive over 2 million eggs, which take about sixteen to eighteen months to reach optimum size for release. The 64 raceways that they have separate the fish into different stages of their growth. Visitors may visit the raceways to observe the development. If you come at the right time, you might be able to assist them with feeding. They release the fish when they are around 9-10" long and transport them all across Kentucky in special custom made trucks. The Cumberland River, just below the

dam, is known to be a premier trout stream - one of the best east of the Mississippi. Many folks come from all over to catch these healthy fish. One of the biggest events at the Wolf Creek National Hatchery is their annual **CATCH A RAINBOW Kids Fishing Derby** day. This is a free event with lots of activities centered on catching rainbow trout. One of the largest events of its kind in the country, this event is a real hit! Over 1,650 children participated in the event last year, with activities, fishing assistance, and prizes for all. Everything is free due to the generosity of their many sponsors and The Friends of Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery, Inc. The non-profit Friends group is an integral part of the programs at the Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery. Its mission is to promote fishing and environmental education through various activities and programs. They also operate a very successful gift shop with t-shirts, books, souvenirs, and fishing licenses, fishing tackle, along with the widest assortment of environmental educational materials in the region. This is a great facility to bring a school or church group, women's club outing, the family, or to hold an educational seminar. With over 100,000 visitors per year, this exceptional fish hatchery offers a great environment for learning, helps us to appreciate the habitat around us, plus take responsibility of protecting our future and the environment that we live in. Admission to the Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery is **free** and they are open year round - only closed on Christmas day. The hours of operation are January to April from 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, May to October from 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, and November to December from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM. They can be contacted at 270-343-3797. You can also visit them online at www.fws.gov/wolfcreek.



Open 7 Days a Week 364 Days per Year
Visitor/Environmental Education Center Hours:
Jan - Apr: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm CST daily
May - Oct: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm CST daily
Nov - Dec: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm CST daily
50 Kendall Rd., Jamestown, KY 42629
270-343-3797

<http://www.fws.gov/wolfcreek>



"Have a TROUT-TASTIC time at Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery!"

