

What to do in this heat!

Contributed by ed moes

or CrappiePappy's summertime advice.

"Now, the weather forecasted is high of 91 Friday, 88 Saturday, and 89 Sunday. We're hoping to get on some gills so we can have some supper that night with the fish we catch, but with temperatures this hot I think it might be a challenge. Any and all panfish is what we'll be going for, weather it be Crappie, Blue Gill, Sunnies, etc. Just curious about what depths we should be looking at setting the bobbers at. We'll be mostly fishing with worms and maybe some minnows, but I'll have my "green carp" (bass) lures on one of my poles." member Sailor Jerry

CrappiePappy says: I'd be getting some crickets and dropping them down any of the real deep points or cliff banks I'd be getting some crickets and dropping them down any of the real deep points or cliff banks fishing no less than 10ft deep, and no deeper than 25ft, even if it meant not fishing all that close to the shore. Small gills/sunnies are going to be hanging around the bank, shallows, and the cover on it ... while the larger ones are more likely to be out away from the bank, and suspended (probably just above the thermocline, if there is one).

On a very deep local lake, I used to get out away from the cliff banks and cast a cricket parallel to the cliff, and just let it swing back to the boat (no reeling in, until line was straight down). I used a #4 Water Gremlin pinch-on sinker & cricket hook. ANYTIME the line stopped sinking ... I set the hook !! And, of course, I set the hook when I felt a hit or the line started moving off to one side or the other I'd be doing this during the midday hours.

Early Am hours ... consider casting jigs to shoreline wood, on shaded banks, for Crappie action.

Late evening hours ... consider dragging nightcrawlers near the bottom for Walleye, casting crankbaits along deep banks, or using a jig/waxworm under a float along any rocky/cliff banks (about 6-8ft deep) for gills & catfish. I like the "popeye" type jigs for this ... but, any 1/32oz hair/feather type jig will do. Works better during a full moon (spawn) period, but may still be productive during this new moon period.

If there's going to be 7 of you, on this one pontoon ... I hope it's a good sized one Don't know as I'd try and do any trolling ... but, if anchoring or tying up or in the case of no trolling motor --- it may be your best option. Have everyone put on a different bait, and ease along as best as the motor and wind will allow. No bigger than the lake is, you should be able to cover alot of it ... and be sure and make note of how/where the other anglers are fishing