

5:00 PM EST
Tuesday, April 18, 2023

Eating Fish Caught in Local Bodies of Water

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

With our recent catfish losses in Lake Bowen, I have received some questions related to the safety of eating fish caught in the lake.

As with all state-wide health and environmental regulations and guidance, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) provides regular oversight of bodies of water, and through their Bureau of Water and Aquatic Science Program, they maintain up-to-date Fish Consumption Advisories: <https://scdhec.gov/bow/aquatic-science-programs/fish-consumption-advisories>

With these advisories, they also maintain a list of waterbodies across the state that have no advisories, and where they note you can “eat as many fish as you would like” - <https://scdhec.gov/bow/aquatic-science-programs/fish-consumption-advisories/waterbodies-no-advisories>

Both Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock are included in this list of waterbodies without advisories. Municipal Reservoir #1, though fishing on the shoreline does occur, SCDHEC does not include it on this list or consider it a recreational body of water, as no public fishing or boating is allowed.

As a fishing enthusiast myself, I have enjoyed having the opportunity to begin experiencing fishing in our Spartanburg Water reservoirs, and also the fish dinners that have resulted for myself and my family. I am confident in the health and safety of our reservoirs and resident fish, and look to our very capable team at Spartanburg Water to maintain this and our strong partnerships with SCDNR and SCDHEC.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and continue to feel free to reach out any time.

Most sincerely,

Guy Boyle
Chief Executive Officer
Spartanburg Water