Lone Star Cane Pole

Never guaranteed. Always honest.

Pack checklists

Tip: the Prep page builds a list matched to the day's weather at your lake.

Every trip

- ■ Fishing license (freshwater endorsement)
- ■ Phone in a waterproof bag
- ■ Water and snacks
- ■ Sunscreen, hat, polarized glasses
- ■ Pliers and line cutters
- ■ First-aid kit
- ■ Trash bag — pack it out
- ■ Check the lake's catfish and crappie rules
- ■ Check DSHS eat-safe advisories

From the bank

- ■ Rod holder or sand spike
- ■ Folding chair
- ■ Bug spray
- ■ Bucket or stringer

From a boat

- ■ Life jacket for each person
- ■ Kill switch lanyard
- ■ Drain plug (and a spare)
- ■ Anchor and rope
- ■ Registration and boater card
- ■ Throwable cushion
- ■ Horn or whistle
- ■ Drain livewell, bilge and bait buckets before leaving

From a kayak

- ■ Life jacket — wear it
- ■ Paddle leash
- ■ Anchor trolley or stake-out pole
- ■ Whistle
- ■ Dry bag
- ■ Rod holders

Bluegill — starter box

- Cane pole or 5–6 ft ultralight spinning combo
- 4 lb line
- #6–#10 long-shank thin-wire hooks
- Small split shot
- Small round bobbers
- Worms or crickets
- Stringer or small cooler

Crappie — starter box

- 6–7 ft light spinning combo, 4–6 lb line
- 1/16 oz jig heads with plastic grubs/tubes
- Minnow hooks (#2–#4 light wire) and split shot
- Slip bobbers and stops
- Minnow bucket with aerator
- 10-inch measuring board (statewide minimum)

Blue catfish — starter box

- 7 ft medium-heavy rod with a strong reel
- 30–50 lb line (TPWD's range for big blues)
- Circle hooks 2/0–7/0
- Egg and bell sinkers, swivels
- Rod holder or sand spike
- Fresh cut shad