The silence of the morning was suddenly broken when a fisherman set the hook, and a large fish surfaced near a submerged log. After a battle of several minutes, the fisherman eased the fish alongside the boat and carefully released the musky to challenge another angler on another day.

It was early evening and the fisherman made one last cast in the long pool of the cold mountain stream. The fly settled onto the water and quickly disappeared as the brook trout rose and darted upstream.

“Daddy, I caught one! I caught one!” shouted the little girl as she furiously reeled in the stubborn fish hooked on the end of her line. She proudly held up the wriggling sunfish for everyone at the small lake to admire.

Just a few of the experiences that await anglers in the Mountain State.
**Premier Fishing Destinations**

**Trout**
- Cranberry River, Dogway Fork, Otter Creek, Blackwater River, Elk River, Back Fork of Elk River, Shavers Fork of Cheat River, Slatyfork section of Elk River, Williams River, North Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River

**Smallmouth Bass**
- Greenbrier River, New River, South Branch of the Potomac River, Gauley River

**Largemouth Bass**
- Stonewall Jackson Lake, Sleepy Creek Lake, O'Brien Lake, Woodrum Lake, Upper Mud Lake, Cheat Lake, Ohio River, Elk Fork

**Walleye**
- Kanawha River, Ohio River, New River, Gauley River, Tygart Lake, Summersville Lake

**Channel Catfish**
- Stonewall Jackson Lake, Bluestone Lake, East Lynn Lake, Kanawha River, Ohio River

**Musky**
- Middle Island Creek, Buckhannon River, Mud River, Hughes River, Little Kanawha River, New River, Kanawha River, Gauley River, Stonewall Jackson Lake, Burnsville Lake, Stonecoal Lake

For more information on fishing these waters and others, please visit [www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov) and check the state fishing regulations.

**West Virginia State Parks, Forests and Wildlife Management Areas**

Many state parks, forests and WMAs are located on lakes, rivers and streams. With a wide variety of accommodations to choose from, West Virginia offers excellent fishing opportunities for the whole family to enjoy. Please call 1-800-CALL WVA or visit [www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov) for more information.

- **Babcock State Park** - trout, smallmouth bass
- **Beech Fork State Park/WMA** - largemouth bass, hybrid striped bass
- **Blackwater Falls State Park** - trout
- **Bluestone State Park/WMA** - smallmouth bass, hybrid striped bass, channel catfish, flathead catfish
- **Hawks Nest State Park** - smallmouth bass, channel catfish
- **Greenbrier River Trail** - smallmouth bass
- **Greenbrier State Forest** - smallmouth bass
- **Kanawha Falls WMA** - smallmouth bass, walleye, musky, hybrid striped bass
- **Kumbrabow State Forest** - trout
- **Monocove Lake State Park/WMA** - largemouth bass, channel catfish
- **North Bend State Park** - largemouth bass, musky
- **Pipestem Resort State Park** - largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, trout
- **Seneca State Forest** - smallmouth bass, trout
- **Stonewall Jackson Lake Resort State Park/WMA** - largemouth bass, channel catfish, musky, crappie, tailwater trout
- **Tygart Lake State Park/WMA** - largemouth bass, walleye
- **Watoga State Park** - smallmouth bass, trout

**Popular Float Fishing Trips**

**South Branch Float Trips**
- Mouth of North Fork
- Petersburg Bridge
- Vernon Welton Park
- Fisher Bridge South
- Fisher Bridge
- Old Fields Bridge
- Trough Entrance (McNutt)
- Trough Entrance
- Harmsons
- Stony Run
- Romney Bridge
- Hanging Rock
- Blues Beach Bridge
- Blues Beach Bridge
- Millesons Mill
- Millesons Mill Bridge
- Blue Ford
- Indian Rock
- Blackwater Falls State Park
- Indian Creek
- Mouth

**Cacapon River Float Trips**
- Wardensville
- Capon Lake
- Capon Lake
- Hooks Mill Road Ford
- Cold Stream
- Rt. 127 Bridge
- Rt. 127 Bridge
- Capacon Crossings
- Capacon Crossings
- Largest South
- Fisher Ford Bridge
- Power Plant
- Power Plant

**Greenbrier River Float Trips**
- Renick
- Anthony Bridge
- Caldwell
- Ronceverte
- Fort Spring
- Fort Spring
- Alderson
- Pence Springs
- Pence Springs
- Talcott Bridge
- Talcott Bridge
- Barger Springs
- Willow Wood Bridge

**New River Float Trips**
- Shanty's Ferry
- Mouth of Indian Creek
- Below Sandstone Falls
- Prince
- Prince

*Contains rapids for experienced canoists only.
**Contains two falls to be portaged.