

News Release

For additional information, contact:

Jayne Baker, Public Relations Manager, jayne@lakemurraycountry.com

Another Big Fishing Tournament Making A Splash At Lake Murray

Anglers from across the United States will converge on Lake Murray, October 22-28, for the National Championship of the American Bass Anglers American Fishing Tour. The tour, which is operated in 41 states, will determine the best of the best in bass fishing for the weekend angler. The event, hosted by the Capital City/Lake Murray Country Regional Tourism Office (CCLMC), will feature the top 500 anglers from across the country.

This weeklong event combines two major contests, a Divisional "Angler of the Year" fish-off and a three-day "National Championship." Anglers will be vying for a part of over \$200,000 in cash and prizes. The Angler of the Year and National Championship winner will receive a 2011 Triton Boat and Mercury motor package plus, there will be a draw boat presented to one lucky angler at the conclusion of the event.

"CCLMC is proud to host the ABA National Championship on Lake Murray, said Miriam Atria, President/CEO of CCLMC. It is a true testament of the appeal that Lake Murray has to anglers, that CCLMC can still attract a National Championship caliber event to this region during these trying economic times. I sincerely hope that families will take time to come out to beautiful Dreher Island State Park to watch the weigh-ins during the tournament. Lake Murray is known for producing record worthy largemouth bass and this fall tournament should not disappoint the fishing enthusiast," continued Atria. □□

"This tournament is stretching out its' reach around the region," added Amy Hoffman, Special Events Manager at CCLMC. "We've been working with the ABA tournament organizers since the beginning of the year to secure facilities, caterers and necessary vendors. A tournament of this size is big business for the Lake Murray Country Region. I'm excited to see how visiting families will enjoy the amenities and attractions our region has to offer," she concluded.

"In 2000, Lake Murray was the site of the first National Championship for the newly formed ABA/MBAA organization," said Morris Sheehan, President of American Bass Anglers. For this reason Lake Murray holds a special place in all ABA members' hearts. ABA members from 41 states will descend on Richland, Newberry, Saluda, and Lexington counties as well as Columbia, for over a week to partake in not only the lake but also the many activities the area offers. I know all anglers will enjoy returning to Lake Murray," he concluded.

The 2011 National Championship is sponsored by the Capital City/ Lake Murray Country Regional Tourism Office, Hyatt Place in Irmo, Triton Boats, Mercury Marine, Royal Purple, Angler's Advantage Insurance, Early Times Kentucky Whisky, Busch Beer,

Carlisle Tire & Wheel, Hobie Polarized Sunglasses, Keep Alive, ProBass Networks, Rejuvenade, Odyssey, US Reel, Sirius Marine Weather, and Simms Outdoors.

About American Bass Anglers: American Bass Anglers offers more than 1,000 tournaments per year in 40 states that are designed for the weekend angler. American Bass Anglers is committed to providing low-cost, close-to-home tournaments for weekend anglers and at the same time offering each competitor a path to progress to higher levels of competition. For more information, visit AmericanBassAnglers.com.