

# Hartwell set for Southern Crappie Classic tourney

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## THE DETAILS

SENECA — Lake Hartwell has built up a reputation of being a good competitive fishing lake over the years, and it'll put that reputation on the line again this weekend for the Southern Crappie Tournament Trail's Two-Day Classic.

Anglers from North and South Carolina, as well as Georgia, will compete in Southern Crappie's end-of-the-season championship to take place at the Clemson Marina on Hartwell beginning today and concluding Saturday.

Sponsoring partners for the event is the Oconee County Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department, the Mountain Lakes Convention and Visitors Bureau, as well as Wal-Mart in Seneca.

Mountain Lakes' Executive Director Ken Sloan says Southern Crappie's choice to hold the event on Hartwell was an easy one to make.

"They contacted us because of the popularity of Lake Hartwell," Sloan said. "The fishermen like the Clemson Marina area, and it's a good proximity to the city of Seneca for weigh-ins and lodging. Lake Hartwell is a primary target for good tournament fishing."

The contest kicks off bright and early at 7 a.m. for both days of the event at the Clemson Marina on Lake Hartwell, with weigh-ins being held at

**What:** Southern Crappie Tournament Trail's Two-Day Classic

**When:** Today and Saturday; registration 6-7 a.m.; fishing 7 a.m.-3 p.m.; weigh-ins 3-4 p.m.

**Where:** Lake Hartwell, Clemson Marina, Seneca; weigh-ins at Walmart in Seneca

the Wal-Mart in Seneca from 3-4 p.m.

Sloan hopes that this event will catch Southern Crappie's eye to possibly consider a return for multiple fishing tournament down the road.

"South Crappie's Tournament Trail is throughout the Southeast region," Sloan said. "Hopefully they'll come back for more tournaments or make this an annual stop."

The general public is invited to attend the event, which is expected to have around 20 teams competing. Admission to the event as a spectator is free.

In addition to the main competition, the annual kids tournament will also take place on Lake Hartwell and is set to be held Saturday morning beginning at 9. Kids 15 and under can register for the event from 8-8:45 a.m. at South Cove County Park in Seneca, where the competition will take place.

More information for both events can be found at [www.southerncrappie.com](http://www.southerncrappie.com).