



City of Eustis

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NEWS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

The City of Eustis will host the 5th Annual Bass Tournament during the 122nd Georgefest

EUSTIS, Fl. – Join your fellow anglers on Sunday, February 18, 2024 for the 5th Annual Georgefest Bass Fishing Tournament during the 122 Annual Eustis Georgefest Celebration. In conjunction with Florida BASS Nation, the tournament honors PFC Derek Gibson, Bronze Star recipient from Eustis, killed in action during Operation Iraqi Freedom on April 4, 2007.

The event, sponsored by Gibson Construction, will be held on the Harris Chain of Lakes with the weigh-in and awards at Ferran Park in Downtown Eustis at approximately 2 p.m. First place is guaranteed to win \$2,500 (up to 99 boats) or \$5,000 (more than 100 boats). The team event will count as a Team Qualifier for FBN members. Take-off will begin at 6:30 a.m. or safe light from the docks in front of the Community Center, located at 601 Northshore Drive in Eustis.

The Florida BASS Nation is a non-profit organization comprised of members dedicated to the future of bass fishing in the state. The organization furnishes manpower, funds, and equipment for environmental and conservation projects for the state's Fish & Wildlife Conservation. According to the website, www.floridafederationnation.com, membership is dedicated to community involvement such as attendance at local events and introducing local youth to fishing.

All participating boaters are expected to obey Florida Boating or Fishing and Wildlife Statutes and Rules, and should adhere to the highest standards of sportsmanship. Only Largemouth Bass, 12-inches or more, will be weighed for this event, and teams must make every effort to maintain the welfare of its catch throughout the day.

The tournament will cover all of the Harris Chain of Lakes. Water that is open to public fishing will be considered tournament waters, while any waters closed to public fishing is off limits. All boats must be driven to the starting area, as no trailering is allowed. To enter the tournament and for a complete set of guidelines, visit www.eustisgeorgefest.org.

The 122nd annual Eustis Georgefest is the oldest, continuously celebrated recognition of President George Washington. Held from February 17-24, 2024, the event features concerts and activities throughout Downtown Eustis every night of the festival. A full list of activities can be also be found at www.eustisgeorgefest.org.