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Castro Valley

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Park

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### **BEST OF THE EAST BAY 2011**

**Best Fishing Spot** Lake Chabot

The first rule of fishing is that it's not about catching fish. If that were the case, people would go fishing at Safeway. Fishing is about being outside, having a beer, and relaxing. Part of the East Bay Regional Parks District, Lake Chabot was originally built as a reservoir in 1874 and began allowing recreational uses in the 1960s. Now the 315-acre lake and 280-acre Fairmont Ridge offers picnicking, hiking, and interpretive trails and the lake is stocked year-round with trout and catfish. It's hard to believe that the picturesque setting, more akin to the Sierra Nevada Mountains than San Francisco, is only a dozen miles from downtown Oakland. The spot, with a small bait and snack shop, is perfect for

kids learning how to fish or experienced anglers taking a boat out onto the lake while families barbecue back on shore. It's quaint, quiet, beautiful, and who knows, you may even catch a fish. If not, who cares?

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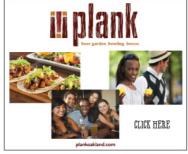












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