

2008 Michigan Fishing Guide

Rules apply from April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009



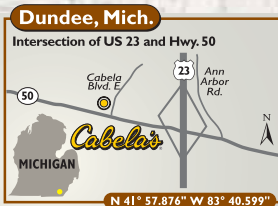
Great Lakes, Great Times, Great Outdoors



**Visit us on the Web at:
www.michigan.gov/dnr**



LIKE NO OTHER RETAIL STORE
ON EARTH.™



With more than 200,000 outdoor products in our store, you're sure to find exactly what you need to turn your next hunting trip into a success. You'll find only the best in quality products to make your time outdoors more productive.



Shop your way.

ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

CATALOG - Call 800.747.0148 for a FREE Catalog

INTERNET - Visit cabelas.com

RETAIL - Call 800.581.4420 for store information

IN-STORE PICK UP *Now Available!*

Call 800.237.4444 or visit www.cabelas.com/pickup for more details

Cabela's

WORLD'S FOREMOST OUTFITTER®

Hunting • Fishing • Outdoor Gear



The Natural Resources Commission, as the governing body for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, provides a strategic framework for the DNR to effectively manage your resources. The NRC holds monthly, public meetings throughout Michigan, working closely with its constituencies in establishing and improving natural resources management policy.

Regulations that apply to fishing for trout and salmon on inland waters are included in a separate publication, Michigan Inland Trout & Salmon Guide

For information on the Michigan Department of Community Health's Fish Consumption Advisory, see page 9 or go to www.michigan.gov/mdch



Public access to fishing is supported by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the State's natural resources for current and future generations.

Table of Contents

Amphibians and Reptiles..... 9
 Angler Harassment Information..... 23
 Angler Rights On Public Streams..... 23
 Aquatic Invasive Plants and Animals..... 24
 Boat Registration Information..... 24
 Bow and Spear Fishing 12
 Common Terms 22
 Exceptions by County..... 16-19
 Fish Consumption Advisory..... 9
 Fishing Tournament Information..... 24
 General Hook and Line Regulations..... 10-11
 General Netting Regulations 12
 Great Lakes Commercial Fishing Nets..... 9
 Great Lakes Trout and Salmon..... 8
 Ice Safety..... 31
 Ice Shanties..... 24
 Know Your Fish..... 26-27
 Lake Sturgeon Regulations 11
 Lawful Fishing Methods..... 6
 License Information 4,6
 Licensing Requirements..... 6
Major Regulation Changes 4
 Marked and Tagged Fish..... 22
 Master Angler Information 23
 Michigan-Indiana Bordering Lakes..... 14
 Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters..... 13
 Operations Service Centers 31
 Parasites and Diseases of Fish..... 24
 Personal Flotation Devices..... 23
 Railroad Rights-Of-Way..... 23
 Restricted Spearing Lakes 11
 Seasonal Fish Mortalities 24
 Special Northern Pike and Muskellunge Regs. 11
 Sylvania Wilderness Area..... 14
 Unlawful Activities..... 7
Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus Statewide Regulations 14-15

New regulations appear in red throughout the guide.

A complete listing of regulations and legal descriptions are available on our Web site: www.michigan.gov/dnr

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunities for employment and access to Michigan's natural resources. Both state and federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, height, weight or marital status under the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended (MI PA 453 and MI PA 220, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire additional information, please write: Human Resources, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, MI 48909-7528 or the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Cadillac Place, Suite 3-600, 3054 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48202 or the Division of Federal Assistance, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.

**REPORT ALL POACHING
 Call: 800-292-7800**

Major Regulation Changes

- **Statewide - Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) Regulations** Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia is a virus that affects fish and has been found in several Michigan water bodies. New regulations are in effect to reduce the spread of this pathogen. See p. 14 for more information.
- **Statewide - Amphibian and Reptile Regulations** The commercial harvest of amphibians and reptiles is prohibited. For additional regulations concerning amphibians and reptiles, see Table 2, p. 9.
- **Upper Peninsula Season Extension - Walleye, Northern Pike and Muskellunge** The closing date for the walleye, northern pike and muskellunge fishing season in the Upper Peninsula has been extended from the last day in February to March 15, see Table 3, p. 10
- **Lake St. Clair and St. Clair River - Lake Sturgeon Catch and Release Season** A catch and release lake sturgeon season has been added. Anglers may fish for lake sturgeon from Oct. 1-Nov. 30, but the harvest of lake sturgeon is prohibited during this time. All anglers targeting lake sturgeon need to obtain a nontransferable sturgeon tag prior to fishing for sturgeon. See Table 4, p. 11.

New regulations appear in red throughout the guide.

Native American Fishing on Inland Waters

In 2007, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan entered a Consent Decree on tribal fishing rights in the 1836 Treaty area of Michigan. The parties to the Consent Decree were the state of Michigan, the United States and the following tribes in the 1836 Treaty area: the Bay Mills Indian Community, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. The area affected by the agreement is the portion of Michigan within the 1836 Treaty boundary, which includes roughly the eastern half of the Upper Peninsula and a large area in the northern third of the Lower Peninsula. The Consent Decree recognizes a treaty-reserved right for the tribes' members to engage in hunting, fishing and gathering activities within the treaty area and for the tribes to regulate those activities.

Under an approved and monitored permit system, tribal members may use spears and may place impoundment nets on public waters. If you encounter these activities, do not disrupt the fishers or interfere with their nets. In the 1836 Treaty area, the DNR and the tribes will coordinate their efforts in research and assessment activities and consult and exchange information. Under the decree, the tribes will have seasons and bag limits that differ somewhat from state regulations. However, tribal fishing efforts should have limited effect on the resources, especially in view of the small number of tribal fishers relative to the large number of non-tribal fishers.

For more information or to view a copy of the 2007 Inland Consent Decree, visit the DNR Web site at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Purchase your fishing license (and more) online at www.michigan.gov/dnr

LICENSE TYPE	COST
DNR Sportcard	\$1.00
Resident	
24 hr. (Good for all species for a designated 24-hour period)	\$7.00
Senior (65 or older)	\$3.00
Restricted (Good for all species EXCEPT trout and salmon)	\$15.00
Upgrade to All Species	\$13.00
Senior (65 or older)	\$6.00
Upgrade to All Species	\$5.20
All Species (Good for all species. See below and also see the Inland Trout and Salmon Guide)	\$28.00
Senior (65 or older)	\$11.20
Military (residents serving in the U.S. Military, who are stationed outside of Michigan) See page 6.	\$1.00
Nonresident	
24 hr. (Good for all species for a designated 24-hour period)	\$7.00
Restricted (Good for all species EXCEPT trout and salmon)	\$34.00
All Species (Good for all species. See below and also see the Inland Trout and Salmon Guide)	\$42.00
Voluntary	
Young Angler All Species (Good for all species). Residents or nonresidents under the age of 17.	\$2.00
Sportsperson Discount	
A 15 percent discount is provided when four or more licenses are purchased at one time for the same person. The 24-hour fishing license, all-species upgrade, waterfowl hunting license and restricted hunting applications are not eligible for this discount.	
Lost Licenses	
You may purchase a replacement license at any license dealer. You must provide the identification number used to purchase the original license. The cost of the replacement license will be determined at the license terminal.	

All-species fishing licenses are required for all anglers, age 17 or older, to take and possess trout and salmon from any public waters. This license also is required when fishing the following waters:

- All trout lakes designated by the DNR under FO-200 (All Type A, all Type D and designated Type B lakes).
- All Type 5, 6 and 7 streams designated by the DNR under FO-200.
- All waters of the Great Lakes when trout and/or salmon are the target species.
- All designated trout streams (FO-210) when trout and/or salmon are the target species.
- Regulations for trout and salmon fishing on inland waters are in the ***Inland Trout and Salmon Guide***. Accessible online at: www.michigan.gov/dnr.



www.sportsmanswarehouse.com



*Welcome to "The Great
Indoors for those who love
the Great Outdoors."™*

Allen Park

3223 Fairlane Drive • (313) 382-9800

SHIMANO



PENN



BLUE FOX



Fishing License Requirements:

- You must purchase a license if you are 17 years of age or older. **If you are under 17, you may fish without a license, but you are required to observe all fishing rules and regulations.**
- When fishing, you must carry your license and the identification used to purchase that license and exhibit both upon demand of a Michigan Conservation Officer, a Tribal Conservation Officer or any law enforcement officer.
- Your fishing license is valid from March 1 of a given year through March 31 of the following year.

To purchase a fishing license, you must have:

- A valid Michigan Driver License.
- A valid Michigan ID Card (issued by the Secretary of State) with additional proof of Michigan residency, such as a Michigan voter registration card.
- A DNR Sportcard (issued by license dealers). If the information on your DNR Sportcard from a previous year is still accurate, you may continue to use it.

To qualify for a resident fishing license, you must:

- Be a person who resides in a settled or permanent home or domicile within the boundaries of this state with the intention of remaining in this state, or
- Be a full-time student at a Michigan college or university, or
- Serve full time in the U.S. Military and be officially stationed in Michigan.

The ownership of land in Michigan by itself is not qualification for a resident license.

The following special provisions exist:

Residents serving in the Armed Forces: Persons serving in the U.S. Military, who, at the time of enlistment, were residents of Michigan and have maintained residence status for the purposes of obtaining a driver license or voting and who are stationed outside the state, may purchase a resident all-species license for \$1. Applicants must present proof of military status and leave papers when applying for the discounted licenses. This license, available at DNR Operations Service Centers (see p.31) and at license retail outlets statewide, is valid for up to two weeks during an open season. The license buyer can designate the exact fishing period.

Residents who are blind or disabled: A resident who is declared legally blind or a resident who has been determined by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs to be permanently and totally disabled and entitled to veteran benefits at the 100% rate (with proof of same) is eligible to purchase ANY of the senior fishing licenses.

Mentally disabled persons and residents of a home for the aged (licensed under the Public Health Code) may fish without a license if they are a member of a group, and accompanied by one or more licensed adults who possess a permit issued by the DNR. Permits are available at DNR Operations Service Centers (see p.31).

Lawful Fishing Methods

Bait: See VHS information on pages 14-15. Any fish (except lampreys, live carp, and goldfish) and frogs may be used as bait when legally taken and possessed. Wigglers (mayfly nymphs) and other aquatic nymphs and larvae also may be used for bait, but may not be taken from any trout stream except for personal use on the same stream. Crayfish may be taken for bait for personal use. See special exceptions on Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters (p. 13).

Bow Fishing: Bows may be used on certain waters for certain species. See Table 6 (p. 12).

Dip Nets: Dip nets may be used for bowfin, carp, gar, smelt, and suckers in non-trout streams. A permit is required from a DNR office if equipment is to be left overnight. See Table 5, Netting (p. 12).

Drop-shotting: Having a weight suspended below a hook that is tied directly to the main fishing line. This gear may be used on inland lakes, Great Lakes, and Great Lakes connecting waters only. This gear may not be used on rivers, streams, or drowned river mouths (see Note 3, p. 8 for listing).

Gaffs: Gaffs may be used to help land lawfully hooked fish on all waters **except** on a trout stream.

Gear Restrictions: On all streams (including tributaries to the Great Lakes) from August 1 through May 31, it shall be unlawful to use multi-pointed hooks exceeding 3/8 inch between point and shank and/or single-pointed hooks exceeding 1/2 inch between point and shank. Also on all streams during this period it shall be unlawful to use lures exceeding one ounce. The Detroit R., St. Clair R. and St. Marys R. are exempt from these restrictions.

Hand Nets: Hand nets may be used to help land lawfully hooked fish. During April, May, and June, hand nets larger than 5 1/2 feet in circumference or having a handle exceeding 14 inches in length **may not** be used or possessed on designated trout streams except as provided in Table 5 (p. 12). Hand nets may also be used to take bowfin, carp, gar, smelt, and suckers. See Table 5, General Netting Regulations (p. 12).

Hook and Line Fishing: Fish so taken must be hooked in the mouth. Fish not hooked in the mouth must be returned to the water immediately. No more than two lines per person (including tip-ups) nor more than four hooks or lures may be used. **Except:** on L. Michigan, L. Huron, L. Superior and the St. Marys R., those persons in the act of trolling while targeting trout/salmon may use three rods/lines and attach no more than six hooks total on all lines. All hooks attached to an artificial bait or "night crawler harness" are counted as one hook. Hooks must be baited or attached to an artificial bait. You may use any number of hooks on one line for taking smelt in recognized smelt waters. Tip-ups and similar devices used for ice fishing must show the angler's name and address. All lines must be under immediate control. Hook size regulations exist on certain streams (see Exceptions to General Regulations by County, p. 16-19).

Hoop Nets: May be used for burbot only on certain waters Dec. 15 - last day of February. Permit needed from a DNR office (see Table 5, p.12).

Minnows For Personal Use: See VHS information on pages 14-15.

Minnows for personal use only may be taken with hook and line, seines, dip nets, and traps with a valid fishing license. In trout streams minnows may only be taken during the open season for trout by hook and line or minnow traps. Minnows may not be taken from Big Glen L., Hatlem Cr. (Leelanau Co.), Portage L., Torch L., the North and South Portage Canal (Houghton Co.), in that portion of L. Superior west of Big Bay Point or any of their tributaries for 1/2 mile above their mouths. Gear restrictions are as follows: Seines must not be over 12 feet by 4 feet; hand nets not over 8 feet square and without sides or walls; and minnow traps not over 24 inches long. Minnow traps must bear user's name and address. Cast nets (not exceeding 8 feet in diameter without walls or sides) may be used to take minnows, alewife, smelt, and shad in the Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, and the Detroit R., St. Clair R., and St. Marys R.

Spearing: Hand, rubber, or spring-propelled spears may be used for certain species. See Table 6 (p. 12).

It Is Unlawful To:

Possess or transport any live transgenic (genetically engineered) organisms or the following nonnative fish: bighead carp, black carp, **large scale silver carp**, silver carp, grass carp (white amur), members of the snakehead family (Channidae), bitterling, Ide, Japanese weatherfish, rudd, tench, Eurasian ruffe, tubenose goby, or round goby. To do so may result in civil fines up to \$10,000.

Import, plant or transplant live game fish including viable eggs of any game fish without permit.

Buy or sell fish or parts of fish, reptiles, amphibians, or crayfish taken under a sport fishing license.

Take fish for the sole purpose of removing the eggs.

Take or attempt to take freshwater mussels (clams or other bivalves) whether living or dead, including the shell or parts thereof (except zebra mussels) from any waters of the state except under provisions of a cultural or scientific investigation permit from the DNR.

Take, attempt to take, or possess, any threatened or endangered species, except as authorized by the DNR. For more information, see <http://web4.msue.msu.edu/mnfi/data/specialanimals.cfm>.

Possess or sell a multi-pointed hook with a weight permanently attached.

Possess illegally taken fish or mutilated fish that cannot be measured or identified.

Possess more than the Michigan limit when fishing in Michigan waters even if holding licenses from more than one state or province.

Commercially take, possess, or sell rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*) in Michigan.

Commercially take amphibians or reptiles in Michigan.

Disturb or remove reptile eggs from the wild without a permit.

Fish for any species or possess fishing devices along a stream closed to fishing.

Fish with your hands, firearms, explosives, crossbows, setlines, poisons, or methods other than lawful fishing methods.

Fish anywhere in a fish ladder or within 100 feet of a lamprey control weir.

Use a net to take a fish within 100 feet of a dam (you may use a landing net to secure a legally hooked fish).

Use a seine for any species other than minnows.

Use cast nets in any inland water.

Possess a spear, gaff, or bow/arrow along a trout stream at any time.

Shoot reptiles or amphibians with a firearm (including spring, air, or gas propelled).

Have a weight rigidly attached to a multi-pointed hook, or suspended from a multi-point hook.

Fish on a river, stream, or drowned river mouth (see Note 3, p.8) using a weight suspended below any hook *unless* the hook is on a dropper line (a leader) that is at least 3" long.

Deposit litter, fish offal, or any foreign matter, in any waters of the state or on any lands, private or public.

Take or attempt to take fish outside of the open season for that species.

Commercially harvest wigglers from any state waters from June 1 - Sept. 1.

Snag fish or retain a fish not hooked in the mouth.

Possess largemouth or smallmouth bass during the catch and immediate release season, see p.22.



Becoming an **Outdoors-Woman**®

Becoming an **Outdoors-Woman (BOW)** offers outdoor skills workshops to women throughout Michigan. At a BOW workshop you will have the opportunity to learn about hunting, shooting sports, fishing, camping, canoeing, fly-tying and much more.

For more information: www.michigan.gov/dnr



Great Lakes Trout and Salmon Regulations (Note 1)

The regulations in this table apply to fishing on the **Great Lakes** for the following species: **Atlantic salmon, Brook trout (Note 2), Brown trout, Chinook salmon, Coho salmon, Lake trout (Note**

4), Pink salmon, Rainbow trout (steelhead), and Splake (Note 4). For regulations that pertain to fishing for trout and salmon on inland waters, please refer to the *Inland Trout & Salmon Guide*.

Seasons by water type	Minimum Size	Daily/Possession Limit (Notes 2, 3)
Open all year: (Note 4) L. Superior, L. Michigan, L. Erie, L. Huron, L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R. Detroit R.	10" (Note 2, 4) (also see Table 1)	Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R., and Detroit R.: 5 in any combination, but no more than 3 of any one species (UP TO 5 pink salmon allowed). EXCEPTION: St. Marys R.: 5 additional pink salmon allowed from last Sat. in April - Sept. 30.

Note 1 - All Trout and Salmon: For waters that have regulations that differ from those shown above, refer to **Exceptions to General Regulations by County** (p. 16-19).

Note 2 - Brook Trout: For L. Superior, the minimum size limit for brook trout is 20 inches and possession limit is one fish. Within 4.5 miles of Isle Royale (Isle Royale National Park waters), catch and release only; no possession.

Note 3 - Drowned River Mouth Lakes: On the following inland waters trout and

salmon regulations are as follows: 5 trout and salmon in any combination; no more than 3 of any one species; no more than 2 lake trout or splake; minimum size limit is 10 inches, open all year **except** the lake trout season is open May 1 - Labor Day. **Allegan:** Kalamazoo and Silver Lks. **Benzie:** Betsie L. **Manistee:** Arcadia, Manistee, and Portage Lks. **Mason:** Pere Marquette L. **Muskegon:** Duck, Mona, Muskegon, and White Lks. **Oceana:** Pentwater, Silver, and Stony Lks. **Ottawa:** Macatawa and Pigeon Lks.

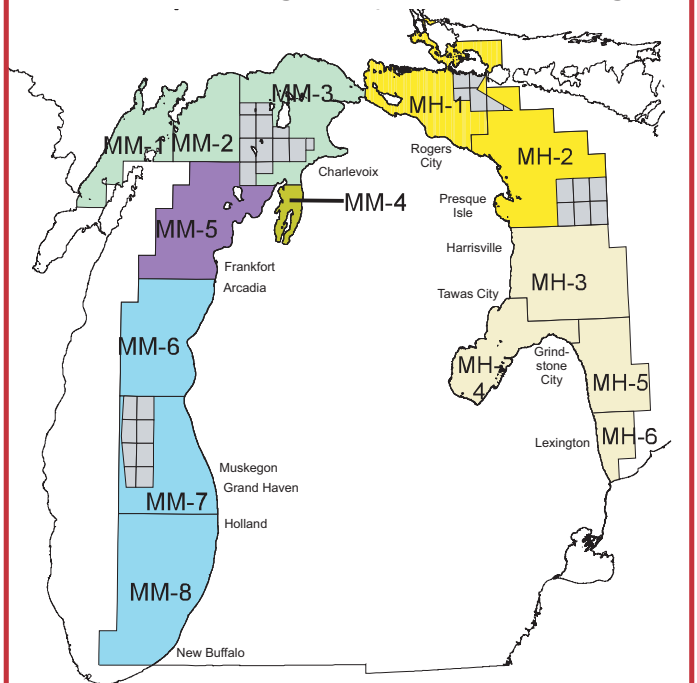
Note 4 - Lake Trout and Splake Regulations: Lake trout and splake regulations for the Great Lakes are listed by Lake Trout Management Unit (see Table 1). To help identify Management Unit boundaries, a few major ports are listed for each. The map below provides a graphic to further define the boundaries. For a complete description of Management Unit boundaries, ask for FO-200 at any DNR Operations Service Center (p. 31) or check online www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Table 1 Great Lakes Lake Trout and Splake Regulations

For splake, the minimum size limit is 10" and the season is open all year **unless otherwise noted** in the table below. The daily possession limit for lake trout and splake is 5 in any combination, but no more than 3 of any one species.

Management Unit, Major Ports	Open Season	Size Restrictions
Lake Superior: (no map provided)		
All Lake Superior Management Units	Open all year	The minimum size limit for lake trout is 15 inches.
Lake Huron: (map color coded by unit regulations)		
MH 1-2: DeTour, Cedarville, St. Ignace, Mackinaw City, Cheboygan, Rogers City, Presque Isle, Rockport, Alpena, Black R.	May 1-Sept. 30 (lake trout and splake)	The minimum size limit is 22 inches for lake trout and splake.
MH 3-6: Harrisville, Tawas, Grindstone, Harbor Beach, Lexington		The minimum size limit is 15 inches for lake trout and splake.
Lake Michigan: (map color coded by unit regulations)		
MM 1-3: Menominee, Escanaba, Manistique, Harbor Springs, Charlevoix	Jan. 1-Sept. 30 (splake open all year)	The minimum size limit for lake trout is 24 inches. NOTE: The minimum size for splake is 15 inches in the L. Michigan waters of Delta and Menominee Cos.
MM 4: Elk Rapids, Traverse City, Northport		The minimum size limit for lake trout is 20 inches and the maximum size limit is 25 inches, EXCEPT, one fish in the daily possession limit of three may be 34 inches or greater.
MM 5: Leland, Frankfort, Platte Bay	May 1-Sept. 30 (splake open all year)	The maximum size limit for lake trout is 23 inches, EXCEPT, one fish in the daily possession limit of three may be 34 inches or greater.
MM 6-8: Arcadia, Manistee, Ludington, Grand Haven, Holland, New Buffalo		The minimum size limit for lake trout is 20 inches.

Lake Trout Management Units and Refuges



For a complete description of refuge and management unit boundaries, see FO-200 available online or at any DNR Operations Service Center.

Legend

Lake Trout Refuge
 Note: All refuges are closed to lake trout harvest.

Great Lakes Boundary Data provided by ESRI

Great Lakes Commercial Fishing Nets

Anglers and boaters on the Great Lakes may encounter commercial trap nets, gill nets and hook lines in most Michigan waters. All state-licensed or Native American commercial gear are required to be marked with floats or staff/flag combinations. Anglers and boaters should give wide berth to any markers, since anchor lines may extend several hundred feet in any direction from the floats or flags and along the length of the gear. The diagrams below can assist sport anglers and boaters in avoiding entanglement of fishing gear or boat propellers.

Tampering with commercial fishing gear is illegal. Removal or destruction of marker buoys and flags or other disturbance of gear often results in the waste of a valuable resource, since the nets continue to catch fish. They also can create safety problems for others on the water.

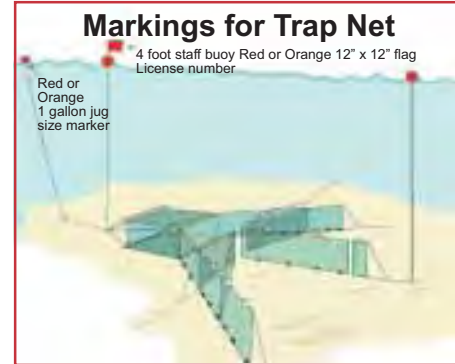


Table 2 Amphibians and Reptiles

Regulations for Frogs, Toads, Salamanders, Turtles, Lizards and Snakes

Amphibians and reptiles **MAY NOT** be shot with firearms (including spring, air, or gas propelled) or bow and arrow. The following **shall not be taken or possessed** except as authorized by the Director of the Department of Natural Resources: Blandings, spotted, wood, and eastern box turtle; black rat snake, eastern fox snake, copperbelly watersnake, kirtlands snake and massasauga rattlesnake; boreal chorus frog, Blanchards cricket frog; smallmouth salamander, marbled salamander; all reptile eggs; and amphibians and reptiles protected under Part 365 (Endangered Species) of 1994 P.A. 451. For further information, ask for list FO-224. **Personal Use:** A fishing license is required to take frogs and turtles for personal use and as

such may not be bought, sold, or offered for sale. Hand, trap, nets, seines (up to 12 x 4 feet overall dimensions), and hook and line may be used. Set lines may not be used to take turtles. Frogs may be speared but NOT with the aid of an artificial light. Traps used (or possessed) in areas frequented by reptiles must have a plate or tag attached bearing the name and address of the user in legible English. For taking turtles, no more than three (3) traps may be used, mesh traps must be no less than one (1) inch mesh, and traps must be set to allow turtles to surface and breathe. **The commercial harvest of amphibians and reptiles is prohibited.**

Species	Season	Minimum Size (inches)	Daily Possession Limit	Total Possession Limit
Frogs, toads, salamanders, mudpuppies	Last Sat. in May - Nov. 15	none	10 in any combination	10 in any combination
Snapping turtles	July 15-Sept. 15	13" minimum carapace length	2 in combination (no more than 1 of either species)	4 total in combination (no more than 2 of either species)
Softshell turtles		none		
All other turtles (painted, musk, map, red-eared slider); snakes and lizards	Open all year	none	3 in combination (However, no more than 2 turtles and no more than 1 of any one turtle species)	6 total in combination (However, no more than 4 turtles and no more than 2 of any one turtle species)

Fish Consumption Advisory

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) advises women of childbearing age and children under 15 to use caution when eating certain kinds and sizes of fish from the Great Lakes and from some inland lakes and streams. Fish in these waters contain levels of toxic chemicals that may be harmful if those fish are eaten too often. The Michigan Fish Advisory, compiled by MDCH, shows you which fish are okay to eat and how often they can be eaten. The Fish Consumption Advisory is available online at: www.michigan.gov/mdch or by contacting the MDCH, SIXTH FLOOR, LEWIS CASS BUILDING, 320 SOUTH WALNUT STREET, LANSING MI 48913, phone: 517-373-3740 or TTY 517-373-3573.

Table 3 General Hook & Line Regulations (Note 1)

This table provides general statewide regulations for the species listed. However, there are many waters in the state that have fishing regulations which differ from those in this table. Please refer to the

Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters (p. 13), Sylvania Wilderness Area (p. 14), and Exceptions to General Regulations by County (p. 16-19).

Species	Minimum Size	Daily/Possession Limit	Seasons
Largemouth bass Smallmouth bass (Note 2)	14"	5 in any combination but no more than 2 northern pike (Note 7)	3rd. Sat. in June - Dec. 31: L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., Detroit R. (See p. 22) Sat. before Memorial Day - Dec. 31: All other waters including Great Lakes (except those listed in Note 2) May 15 - March 15: On Upper Pen. inland waters not otherwise closed to fishing, Gr. Lakes waters and St. Marys R. Last Sat. in April - March 15: On Lower Pen. inland waters not otherwise closed to fishing. Open all year: Lower Pen. Gr. Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., Detroit R. (See p. 22)
Walleye (Note 3)	15" except 13" on L. St. Clair St. Clair R.		
Northern pike (Note 7 & 8)	24"		
Flathead catfish	15"		
Channel catfish	12"		
Muskellunge (Note 7 & 8)	42"	1	May 15 - March 15: Upper Pen. inland and Gr. Lakes waters St. Marys R. Last Sat. in April - March 15: Lower Pen. inland waters Open all year: Lower Pen. waters of L. Michigan, Lower Pen. waters of L. Huron, L. Erie 1st Sat. in June - Dec. 15: L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., Detroit R. (See p. 22)
Yellow perch (Note 4)	No size limit	50	
Sunfishes (Note 5)		25 in any combination of the listed species	
White bass		25 on Gr. Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R., and Detroit R. 10 on inland	
Lake whitefish Lake herring (cisco)		12 in any combination	
Lake Sturgeon		Please see Table 4, p. 11 for Lake Sturgeon Regulations	
All others (Note 6)	No size limit	No possession limit	Open all year

Notes for Table 3

Note 1 - All Coolwater fish

Coolwater fish include all species listed in this table. **Regulations for trout and salmon on inland waters are included in a separate publication, Michigan Inland Trout & Salmon Guide.**

Note 2 - Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

On **L. Michigan**, within one-half mile of the following islands of the Beaver Island Archipelago: Beaver, Garden, High and Hog, (**Charlevoix Co.**) the open season is July 1 - Dec. 31, (see p. 17).

Catch and immediate release seasons:

On the following waters, bass may be caught and released on the dates listed. All bass caught must be immediately (see common terms p. 22) returned to the water: **L. St. Clair, St. Clair R. and Detroit R.**, from the last Sat. in April - Fri. before the

3rd. Sat. in June; **All Lower Pen. waters including Great Lakes:** Last Sat. in April - Fri. before Memorial Day; **All Upper Pen. waters including Great Lakes:** May 15 - Fri. before Memorial Day.

Note 3 - Walleye

Little Bay de Noc (Delta Co.): No more than 1 walleye over 23" may be possessed north of a line drawn from Peninsula Point lighthouse to the mouth of the Ford R.
St. Joseph R. No more than 1 walleye over 23" may be possessed from the St. Joseph R. below Berrien Springs Dam to the mouth at St. Joseph/Benton Harbor.
L. St. Clair and St. Clair R.: The daily possession limit for walleye is 6 on these waters.
Michigan waters of Green Bay: from the mouth of the Menominee R. northward to the latitudinal line (45 degrees/15 minutes) located approximately 3 miles south of

Rochereau Point: from March 2 - Fri. before 1st Sat. in May the daily possession limit is 1 walleye and from the 1st Sat. in May - March 1 the daily possession limit is 5 walleye.

Note 4 - Yellow perch

L. Huron waters of Mackinac and Chippewa Cos. and the **St. Marys R.**, the minimum size limit is 7".
L. Michigan south of the 45th parallel (excluding the Grand Traverse Bays) the possession limit is 35 perch.

Note 5 - Sunfishes

Includes: black and white crappies, bluegill, green and hybrid sunfish, longear, pumpkin-seed, redear, rock bass, and warmouth.

Note 6 - All others

Those species not listed above and not listed in Table 1 (p.8).

Note 7 - Special Northern Pike & Muskellunge Regulations

Lakes with no size limit on northern pike, daily limit of 5 northern pike:

ALCONA: Badger L. **ALGER:** Nawakwa, Trout, and 16 Mile Lks.
ALLEGAN: Pine Creek Flooding **BARAGA:** Vermillac (Worm) L.
CHARLEVOIX: Deer, Fox, Geneserath, Hoffman and Six Mile Lks.
CHEBOYGAN: Black R. upstream of Tower Dam (includes Tower Pond) and tributary streams only, Silver and Wildwood Lks.
CHIPPEWA: Frenchman L. **CLARE:** L. Thirteen **CRAWFORD:** Big Creek Impoundment, River and Pickerel Lks. **DELTA:** Carr, Chicago, and Hamilton Lks. and Escanaba R. (upstream from first dam at US-2) **DICKINSON:** Sawyer L. **EMMET:** French Farm and O'Neal L. Floodings **GLADWIN:** L. Lancer **GOGEBIC:** African (Big and Little), Chaney, Cisco, Clearwater, East Bay, Fishhawk, Indian, Lindsley, Morley, Poor, Record, and Thousand Island Lks. **GRAND TRAVERSE:** Boardman L., Brown Bridge Pond and L. Dubonnet **HOUGHTON:** Rice L. **IRON:** Bone, Buck, Indian, Runkle and Winslow Lks., Hemlock Falls and Michigamme Reservoirs, Michigamme Falls and Peavy Reservoirs, Lake St. Kathryn, Deer R., Net R., and Net R. Wide Waters. **KENT:** Bass L. **LEELANAU:** Florence L. (S. Manitou Is.), artificial lures only **LUCE:** East and Muskallonge Lks. **MACKINAC:** East L. **MANISTEE:** Bar L. **MARQUETTE:** Cedar L., Engman L., Dead R. Storage Basin, Witch L., Middle Br. Escanaba R., Big West Br. Escanaba R., and Escanaba R. (upstream from first dam at US-2) **MASON:** Hackert L. (Crystal L.) **MECOSTA:** Haymarsh L. **MENOMINEE:** Westman Impoundment **MISSAUKEE:** Missaukee L. **MONTMORENCY:** East and West Town Corner Lks., Black River and tributary streams only **MUSKEGON:** Big Blue L. **OCEANA:** Round (Wykoff) L. and Silver L. **OGEMAW:** L. Ogemaw **OSCEOLA:** L. Miramichi, Rose L. and Wells L. **OSCODA:** Pickerel L. **OTSEGO:** Black R. and tributaries **PRESQUE ISLE:** Francis L., Ocqueoc R. and tributary streams upstream of, but not including Ocqueoc Lk., Ocqueoc Watershed Lakes (Ann, Bullhead, Ella, Emma, Ferdelman, Gorman, Horseshoe, Lost, Louise, Lower and Upper Barnhart, May, McIntosh, Moore, Mud and Nettie), Black R. and tributary streams only (not including Tomahawk Flooding) **ROSCOMMON:** L. St. Helen, Backus Cr., Mud L., and Little Mud L. Waterfowl Flooding **SCHOOLCRAFT:** Boot, Crooked, Kennedy, Stanley and Thunder Lks.; **Seney National Wildlife Refuge Pools** - contact Refuge office (906-586-9851).

Lakes with 30" minimum size on Northern Pike:

ALGER: Duck and Echo Lks. (Grand Island) possession limit of 1 northern pike. **BARRY:** Fish L. **IRON:** Cable and Porter Lks. **KEWEENAW:** Gratiot L. **MARQUETTE:** Fish L. **SCHOOLCRAFT:** Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks.

Lakes with Northern Pike and Muskellunge possession seasons the last Sat. in April - Nov. 30:

BARRY: Thornapple L. (from McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.) minimum size on muskellunge is 50".
LENAWEE: L. Hudson **VAN BUREN:** Bankson L., Brownwood L., and Round L. (Keeler Twp. T4S, R16W, Sec. 13).

Note 8 - Restricted Spearing Lakes

The following lakes are closed to spearing, except that carp may be taken with a spear or bow from May 1 – Aug. 15 and northern pike may be speared on waters as marked(†) from Jan. 1 - end of February. Be sure to check the Exceptions to General Regulations by County (p. 16-19).

Lakes closed to spearing (except carp may be speared May 1 – Aug. 15):

ALLEGAN: Osterhout L.
ALPENA: Fletcher Floodwaters
BARRY: Fish L. and Thornapple L. (from McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.)
CHEBOYGAN: Cornwall Impoundment
CHIPPEWA: Caribou L.
CLARE: Budd L.
CLINTON: Ovid L.
DELTA: †Dana L.
IRON: Cable, Emily, Porter, Stanley, †Brule, †Chicago, †Chief Edwards, †Paint, †Paint Pond, and †Violet Lks.
KENT: Campau and Murray Lks.
KEWEENAW: Gratiot L.
LAPEER: Nepessing L.
LENAWEE: L. Hudson
LIVINGSTON: Whitmore and Woodland Lks.
MACKINAC: Brevoort L.
MARQUETTE: Fish L.
MONTMORENCY: Fletcher Floodwaters and West Twin Lks.
MUSKEGON: Mona L.
OAKLAND: Heron and Tipsico Lks.
OTSEGO: Big Bear and Otsego Lks.
OTTAWA: L. Macatawa
ST. JOSEPH: Long L. (Fabius Twp. T6S, R12W, Sec 7)
SCHOOLCRAFT: Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks.
VAN BUREN: Bankson, Brownwood, and Round Lks. (Keeler Twp. T4S, R16W, Sec. 13)
WASHTENAW: Whitmore L.

Table 4 Lake Sturgeon
Hook & Line only (*Except Black L. Cheboygan Co., special spearing season)

Open Season (Note 1)	Gear, Harvest, and Size Restrictions	
July 16 - Nov. 30 Great Lakes and connecting waters (except L. St. Clair and St. Clair R.), all inland waters except Otsego L. & Black L. (Cheboygan Co.)	Catch and release only. No possession	
July 16 - Sept. 30 L. St. Clair and St. Clair R. (Harvest Season) Oct. 1 - Nov. 30 (Catch and release only).	Between 42" - 50". All fish less than 42" and greater than 50" must be released immediately.	1 per season
July 16 - March 15 Otsego L. (Otsego Co.)	50" minimum	
1st Sat. in Sept. - Sept. 30 All MI-WI boundary waters (see Note 2, p. 13)	60" minimum (See Table 7, p. 13)	
1st Sat. in February - Sun. following the 2nd Sat. in February Black L. (Cheboygan Co.)	Lottery Draw Only - 5 fish quota for the season Tags will be issued by random drawing. Contact DNR Gaylord office 989-732-3541 for details	

*Spearing for lake sturgeon is prohibited, except in Black L. (Cheboygan Co.) under special lottery permit.

Note 1: A non-transferable sturgeon tag must be obtained prior to all sturgeon fishing, including catch and release. Successful anglers must tag the fish and register it immediately (within 24 hrs.) at a designated registration station, contact DNR for locations and to obtain a tag. Fish being released should not be tagged. Information is available online: www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Table 5 General Netting Regulations

The following gear restrictions apply for the species, seasons and water listed below:

- Hand Nets may be of any circumference and handle length.
- Dip Nets may not exceed 9 x 9 feet square nor be erected or fished within 100 feet of any dam.
- Seines may only be used for minnows except under a scientific collector's permit issued by the DNR. FO-229 is available from DNR Operations Service Centers (page 31).

Species	Seasons	Nets and Waters
Bowfin Carp Gar Smelt Suckers	March 1 - May 31	Hand Nets: South of M-72 Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., and Detroit R., and all tributaries from the mouth to 1/2 mile upstream. Selected inland streams (list FO-229)
	April 1 - May 31	Hand Nets: North of M-72 (including Upper Peninsula) Great Lakes, St. Marys R. and all tributaries from the mouth to 1/2 mile upstream. Selected inland streams (list FO-229)
	April 1 - May 31	Dip Nets: All Lower Peninsula non-trout streams
	May 1 - May 31	Dip Nets: All Upper Peninsula non-trout streams
Burbot	Dec. 15 - end of February	Hoop Nets: Permit required from DNR office. Peshekee R. (Marquette Co.); AuTrain R. (Alger Co.) from AuTrain L. to mouth; Sturgeon R. (Baraga Co.) from M-38 bridge to mouth; Sturgeon R. (Houghton Co.)

Table 6 Bow and Spear Fishing

A hand-propelled spear may be used on the following waters. In addition, a bow, light, spring-propelled or rubber-propelled spear may be used as indicated. Size and possession limits are the same as for General Hook and Line Regulations – Table 3 (p. 10); inland non-trout waters are those inland waters except Designated Trout

Lakes (*see FO-200) and Designated Trout Streams (see FO-210); For exceptions to these regulations, see Note 8 - Restricted Spearfishing Lakes (p.11), Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Regulations (p.13), Sylvania Wilderness Area (p. 14), and Exceptions to General Regulations by County (p.16-19).

Season	Waters	Species
January - February	All waters (through the ice) except: Designated Trout Lakes (*see above), and Streams (FO-200), and Note 8 waters (p.11). No muskellunge spearing on L. St. Clair, L. Erie, Detroit R., and St. Clair R.	Northern Pike Muskellunge
	L. St. Clair (bow may be used)	Yellow perch
January - February	(bow and light may be used) Inland non-trout waters (through the ice): See Note 8 (p. 11)	Bowfin Bullheads Carp Cattfish Drum Gar Lake herring (cisco) Smelt Suckers Whitefish
All year (Note 1)	(bow and light may be used) Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R., and Detroit R.	Suckers Whitefish
All year	Great Lakes	Burbot
April 1 - May 31 South of Hwy. M-46	(bow and light may be used) All non-trout streams or Trout streams listed in FO-219	Bowfin Carp Gar Suckers
April 15 - May 31 Between M-46 and M-72		
May 1 - 31 North of Hwy. M-72		
All Year	Waters listed in FO-219 as open to the use of rubber-propelled or spring-propelled spears when used as noted in FO-219 list.	
May 1 - Aug. 15	(bow and light may be used) Inland non-trout waters	Bowfin Carp Gar
Oct. 15 - Dec. 31	(light may be used) Hubbard L. (Alcona Co.), Ottawa, Chicagon L. (Iron Co.)	Carp
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	(light may be used) Elk L., Torch L., Clam R. (Grand Traverse, Antrim, Kalkaska Cos.); Crystal L. (Benzie Co.) All inland non-trout waters in lower peninsula counties wholly south of M-20 (including all of Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola Cos.)	Lake herring (cisco) Suckers Whitefish

Note 1: In Little Bay de Noc, bowfin, carp, and gar may be speared only in January and February. In Lakes Superior, Huron, and Michigan, whitefish may not be speared during November.

Take a Kid Fishing!

Enjoy These Free Fishing Weekends

June 7-8, 2008 & Feb. 14-15, 2009

Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Water Regulations

These rules and regulations supersede all others governing fishing on Michigan/Wisconsin boundary waters that in any way conflict. Where regulations of Michigan and Wisconsin differ, persons shall comply with the regulations of the state in whose territorial waters they are fishing.

The interstate boundary waters in which fishing is to be governed by the special regulations are: **The L. Michigan waters between the breakwalls at the mouth of the Menominee R. beginning at an imaginary line drawn between the most lakeward point of each breakwall. Menominee R., its sloughs and impoundments** (Menominee, Dickinson, Iron Counties, Michigan; Florence, Marinette Counties, Wisconsin); **Brule R.** (Iron County, Michigan; Florence and

Forest Counties, Wisconsin); **Brule Island Impoundment**, upstream to a line running east-west through the first island upstream from the junction of the **Brule and Paint Rivers** (Iron County, Michigan; Florence County, Wisconsin); **Smoky L.** (Iron County, Michigan; Vilas County, Wisconsin); **Norwood L., Lac Vieux Desert, Crystal L., Mill L., Big Bateau L., Mamie L., West Bay L., Big L., Crampton L., Plum L., Tenderfoot L., Roach L., Little Presque Isle L., Cyrus L., Basin L., Staline L.** (Gogebic County, Michigan; Vilas County, Wisconsin); **East Fork Montreal R. up to the mouth of Layman Cr.** (Gogebic County, Michigan; Iron County, Wisconsin); **Montreal R.**, (Gogebic County, Michigan; Iron County, Wisconsin).

Legal fishing methods

- Up to three lines per person with a total of three (3) hooks or baits may be used.
- Lines must be attended at all times.
- Dip nets not exceeding nine (9) feet square or in diameter, without walls may be used in the Menominee R. from April 1- May 14 for taking of suckers, redhorse, carp, smelt, and burbot (**except** from Hattie Street Bridge in Marinette-Menominee to the first dam upstream and within 200 feet of all other dams).
- Fish shanties used in ice fishing must be legibly marked with the name and address of owner. In Wisconsin boundary waters, fish shanty doors cannot be locked from inside during occupancy.
- You may fish from a motorboat with the motor running or a sailboat under sail only on the Michigan portions of the waters of Lac Vieux Desert in Gogebic Co.
- All persons holding a valid resident or nonresident sport fishing license issued by Michigan or Wisconsin may fish the entire area of a border water regardless of the state-line boundary.
- Crayfish may not be possessed or used for bait on Michigan-Wisconsin boundary waters.

Table 7 Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (Hook & Line)

Species ^{Note 1}	Water	Season	Minimum Size (inches)	Possession Limit
Trout, Salmon	Smoky L., Montreal R., and Menominee R. mouths to 1st dam.	Open all year	10"	5
	Menominee R. and Montreal R. above 1st dam. Brule R. mouth to US-2	Last Sat. in April - Sept. 30	7"	
	Brule R. above US-2 bridge		Brook Trout 8" Brown Trout 12"	
Smallmouth bass Largemouth bass	All boundary waters	1st Sat. in May - Fri. before 3rd Sat. in June	catch and release	
		3rd Sat. in June - Nov. 30	14"	5 in combination
Walleye, Sauger	All boundary waters except rivers and impoundments	1st Sat. in May - March 1	15"	5 in combination
	All rivers and impoundments	March 2 - Fri. before 1st Sat. in May		1
		1st Sat. in May - March 1		5 in combination
Northern pike	All boundary waters	1st Sat. in May - March 1	none	5
Bluegills, Crappies, Sunfish, Yellow perch	All boundary waters	Open all year	none	25 in combination
Muskellunge^{Note2}	All boundary waters	May 15 - Nov. 30	40"	1
Lake Sturgeon^{Note2,3}	All boundary waters	1st Sat. in Sept. - Sept. 30	60"	1 per season
Channel catfish	All boundary waters	Open all year	none	10
All others	All boundary waters	Open all year	none	none

Note 1: No fishing during the closed season on trout in the **Brule R.** upstream from U.S. Hwy 2 bridge (T41N, R32W, Sec. 9) Iron Co., MI and the **Montreal R.** above Superior Falls flowage. **Note 2:** For the Menominee R. (from Hattie St. Dam to the end of the breakwalls in Green Bay) the minimum size limit for Muskellunge is 50" and daily possession limit of lake sturgeon is 0. **Note 3: A non-transferable sturgeon tag must be obtained prior to all sturgeon fishing, including catch and release.** Successful anglers must tag the fish and register it immediately (within 24 hrs.) at a designated registration station, contact DNR for locations and to obtain a tag. Fish being released should not be tagged.

Michigan-Indiana Bordering Lakes

Residents of either the state of Indiana or the state of Michigan, fishing in any of the waters listed below and who possess a valid fishing license for either state, shall be permitted to fish therein only in accordance with the laws and regulations of the state having jurisdiction over that portion of the waters in which fishing is done.

Clear Lake - Indiana, St. Joseph Co./**South Clear Lake** - Michigan, Berrien Co.

Indian Lake - Indiana, Elkhart Co./Michigan, Cass Co.

Fish Lake - Indiana, La Grange Co./Michigan, St. Joseph Co.

Lake George - Indiana, Steuben Co./Michigan, Branch Co.

Long Lake - Indiana, Steuben Co./Michigan, Hillsdale Co.

Sylvania Wilderness Area Regulations

The following special provision lakes in Gogebic County are subject to the regulations that follow: Banks, East Bear, West Bear, Clark, Corey, Cub, Deer Island, Dorothy, Elsie, Fisher, Florence, Germain, Glimmerglass, Golden Silence, Hay, Helen, High, Honey, Jay, Johnston Springs, Katherine, Kerr, Liluis, Lois, Loon, Louise, Marsh, Moss, Mountain, Snap Jack, Trapper, and Whitefish Lakes.

Seasons

Statewide seasons apply on all fish species **except that no fishing shall be allowed before the last Sat. in April or after Oct. 31 of each year.**

Size Limits

- Lake trout: not less than 30 inches.
- Walleye: not less than 20 inches.
- Northern pike: not less than 30 inches.
- All other species: no size limit.

Possession Limits

- Largemouth or smallmouth bass must be returned immediately to the water without injury, and may not be possessed on the special provision lakes of the Sylvania Wilderness Area.
- Northern pike, walleye, lake trout: not more than 1 fish of any of these species.
- All other species: 10 singly or in any combination of species.

Method of Take

- Hook and line fishing only, not to exceed 2 single lines, or 2 single rods and lines, or a single line and a single rod and line, to which may be attached not to exceed a total of 4 hooks on all lines. All hooks attached to a manufactured artificial lure shall be counted as 1 hook.
- Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. "Artificial lure" means any lure that is man-made, in imitation of or as a substitute for natural bait, used to attract fish for the purpose of taking them, and shall include artificial flies.
- Live bait, dead or preserved bait, organic or processed food, or scented material **may not be used or possessed** at any time on special provision Sylvania Wilderness Area lakes.

Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus Statewide Regulations Anglers We Need Your Help in Slowing the Spread of Fish Diseases!

A fish disease known as Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus was discovered in Michigan waters. The following regulations have been put in place to slow the spread of the disease. Check www.michigan.gov/dnrfishing for the official lists and changes.

DEFINITIONS

As used in these regulations, specific terms are defined as follows:

Baitfish – live or dead species of fish, or parts of fish excluding roe, that are used by anglers to catch fish.

Baitfish and Roe Exclusion Zone - waters designated as critical to hatchery operations where possession and use of baitfish and roe as defined is prohibited.

Certification Process – a process used by the DNR to grant or deny applications from individuals who want to conduct certain activities that are regulated by the department.

Inland Waters – all public waters of the state except for the Great Lakes and their connecting waters.

Pathogen – viruses, bacteria, fungi and parasites that cause disease in living organisms.

Prohibited Fish Species – Baitfish and other species of fish identified by the department as infected with VHSV.

Roe – eggs of fish.

VHSV Free Management Area - Lake Superior and all Inland waters in the watersheds of Lake Superior are classified as a VHSV Free Management Area (VHSV has not been found in these waters). All Inland waters in the watersheds of Lake Michigan including Grand Traverse bays and bays de Noc, and of the St. Mary's River are classified as a VHSV Free Management Area, except for those tributaries to Lake Michigan including Grand Traverse bays and

bays de Noc, and to the St. Marys River that are classified as a VHSV Surveillance Area.

VHSV Positive Management Area - Lake Huron including Saginaw Bay, the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River, and Lake Erie are classified as a VHSV Positive Management Area (VHSV has been confirmed in these waters). All tributaries to Lake Huron including Saginaw Bay, to the St. Clair River, to Lake St. Clair, to the Detroit River, and to Lake Erie are classified as a VHSV Positive Management Area in their entirety or from their confluence upstream to the first barrier that prevents the upstream passage of fish if such a barrier exists. **VHSV has been documented in Budd Lake (Clare County) resulting in its addition to the VHSV Positive Management Area.**

VHSV Surveillance Management Area - Lake Michigan including Grand Traverse bays and bays de Noc, and the St. Marys River are classified as a VHSV Surveillance Management Area. All tributaries to Lake Michigan including Grand Traverse bays and bays de Noc, and to the St. Marys River are classified as a VHSV Surveillance Management Area in their entirety or from their confluence upstream to the first barrier that prevents the upstream passage of fish if such a barrier exists. All Inland Waters in the watersheds of Lake Huron including Saginaw Bay, of the St. Clair River, of Lake St. Clair, of the Detroit River, and of Lake Erie are classified as a VHSV Surveillance Management Area, except for those tributaries to Lake Huron including Saginaw Bay, to the St. Clair River, to Lake St. Clair, to the Detroit River, and to Lake Erie that are classified as a VHSV Positive Management Area.

BAITFISH AND ROE EXCLUSION ZONES

The DNR has identified locations vital to the protection of hatchery operations in an effort to control or contain pathogen movement and reduce disease risks to these facilities. In these critical areas restrictions on the possession and subsequent use of baitfish and

roe must be implemented. **Therefore, baitfish and roe shall not be possessed on the following waters in Benzie, Chippewa and Marquette counties:**

Benzie County: Brundage Creek and tributaries Kinney Creek and Stanley Creek, from its confluence with the Platte River (T26N, R13W, S7), to their headwaters, including Brundage Spring Pond.

Chippewa County: Pendills Lake (T47N, R4W, S25, 26) including tributary Pendills Creek downstream to its confluence with Lake Superior (T47N, R4W, S28). Sullivan Creek from its headwaters (T46N, R4W, S32) downstream to its confluence with the North Branch of the Pine River (T45N, R4W, S23). Viddian Creek from its headwaters (T47N, R4W, S32) downstream to its confluence with Pendills Creek (T47N, R4W, S28).

Marquette County: Cherry Creek from the location of the Cherry Creek Road (T47N, R24W, S18) to the headwaters at County Road 480 (T47N, R25W, S22).

GENERAL STATEWIDE PROVISIONS

1. A person shall not stock baitfish or live fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, or roe taken from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, in public waters of the state prior to receiving a Fish Stocking Permit from the department permitting such activity.
2. If an approved Fish Stocking Permit is issued by the department, the permittee shall carry that Fish Stocking Permit with them when transporting and stocking baitfish or live fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, or roe taken from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, in public waters of the state.
3. A retail customer shall retain and show upon request the receipt for purchases of baitfish or roe from a state-licensed baitfish retail operation. A receipt shall be valid for seven days from the date of sale. Required only when prohibited fish species are involved.
4. A person who catches fish in a lake or a Great Lake shall not release those fish alive in any public waters of the state if those fish are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, except that those fish may be released alive in that lake, or that Great Lake, or in a connecting body of water to that lake, or that Great Lake, so long as those fish can freely move between the original location of capture and the location of release. This provision does not apply to baitfish.
5. A person who catches fish in a stream shall not release those fish alive in any public waters of the state if those fish are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, except that those fish may be released alive in any part of that stream, or in a connecting body of water to that stream, so long as those fish can freely move between the original location of capture and the location of release. This provision does not apply to baitfish.
6. A person shall not use or otherwise release baitfish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, or roe harvested from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, in any public waters of the state, unless that person is fishing and those baitfish or that roe are attached to a hook.
7. A person who moves a boat over land between bodies of water shall drain all water from the live well(s) and the bilge of their boat upon leaving any body of water.

MANAGEMENT AREA REGULATIONS FOR VIRAL HEMORRHAGIC SEPTICEMIA VIRUS (VHSV)

VHSV Positive Management Area: On all waters designated within the VHSV Positive Management Area, the following regulations further

restrict the transportation, sale, use, and release of baitfish and fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, and roe taken from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, that have not been approved as required under the department's certification process.

- | A person who catches baitfish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, or harvests roe from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, in a body of water that is included in the VHSV Positive Management Area shall not use or otherwise release those baitfish or that roe in any public waters of the state, except that those baitfish or that roe may be used in any waters included in the VHSV Positive Management Area subject to Provision 6 above.
- | A person who purchases baitfish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, or purchases roe from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, shall not use or otherwise release those baitfish or that roe in any public waters of the state, except that those baitfish or that roe may be used in any waters included in the VHSV Positive Management Area subject to Provision 6 above.

VHSV Surveillance Management Area: On all waters designated within the VHSV Surveillance Management Area, the following regulations further restrict the transportation, sale, use, and release of baitfish and fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, and roe taken from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, that have not been approved as required under the department's certification process.

- | A person who catches baitfish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, or harvests roe from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species in a body of water that is included in the VHSV Surveillance Management Area shall not use or otherwise release those baitfish or that roe in any public waters of the state, except that those baitfish or that roe may be used in any waters included in either the VHSV Positive Management Area or the VHSV Surveillance Management Area subject to Provision 6 above.
- | A person who purchases baitfish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, or purchases roe from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, shall not use or otherwise release those baitfish or that roe in any public waters of the state, except that those baitfish or that roe may be used in any waters included in either the VHSV Positive Management Area or the VHSV Surveillance Management Area subject to Provision 6 above.

VHSV Free Management Area: On all waters designated within the VHSV Free Management Area, the following regulations apply to the transportation, sale, use, and release of baitfish and fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, and roe taken from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, that have not been approved as required under the department's certification process.

- | A person who catches baitfish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, or harvests roe from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species in a body of water that is included in the VHSV Free Management Area may use those baitfish or that roe in any public waters of the state, subject to Provision 6 above.
- | A person who purchases baitfish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, or purchases roe from fish that are listed as Prohibited Fish Species, that has been harvested from a body of water included in the VHSV Free Management Area may use those baitfish or that roe in any public waters of the state, subject to Provision 6 above.

The official lists indicating Management Area designations and Prohibited Fish Species are located online at www.michigan.gov/dnr/fishing.

This table lists the Prohibited Fish Species for VHSV as identified by the department as of Nov. 8, 2007.

Black crappie	Chinook salmon	Muskellunge	Round goby	White bass
Bluegill	Coho salmon	Northern pike	Shorthead redhorse	White perch
Bluntnose minnow	Emerald shiner	Pacific herring	Silver redhorse	Yellow perch
Brown bullhead	Freshwater drum	Pink salmon	Smallmouth bass	White sucker
Brown trout	Gizzard shad	Pumpkinseed	Spottail shiner	
Burbot	Lake whitefish	Rainbow trout	Trout perch	
Channel catfish	Largemouth bass	Rock bass	Walleye	

Join us for some fun, Fishing in the Parks!

Catch some fishing fun with friends and family this summer at a Michigan State Park, Recreation Area or State Harbor that is hosting a weekly Fishing in the Parks program.

Our experienced, friendly instructors will help you learn all the basics. After the 20- to 30-minute lesson, you'll be ready to go fishing!



The instruction and fishing is **FREE!** Persons under age 17 don't need a license. You can bring your own equipment or if you don't have a rod and reel, don't worry, we'll supply everything you'll need.

The program begins in June and runs through the summer.



For more details and a list of participating parks, visit www.michigan.gov/dnr and click on the **Recreation & Camping** link.

Exceptions to General Regulations by County

Many water bodies have special regulations that differ from the general regulations for Hook and Line Fishing (Table 3, p. 10), General Netting Regulations (Table 5, p. 12), and Bow and Spear Fishing (Table 6 p. 12). The following is a list of waters, organized by county, with special regulations **that are NOT included in the following sections of the Fishing Guide:** General Regulations tables cited above; Special Northern Pike and Muskellunge Regulations (p. 11); Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Regulations (p. 13); and Sylvania Wilderness Area Regulations (p. 14).

ALGER: **Towes Cr. and W. Br. Whitefish R.** from lamprey barrier to signs 500 ft. downstream open to dipping April 1 - May 31. **Au Train R. to Au Train L.** open to burbot netting Dec. 15 - end of February **Rock R.** closed to fishing from dam to lower foot bridge downstream from M-28 (T47N, R21W, Sec. 15) April 1 - June 30. **Duck and Echo Lks.** (Grand Island) No spearing permitted; fishing restricted to artificial lures only; live, dead, or preserved baits, scented material, or organic food may not be used; catch and release on smallmouth bass; possession limit on all other species is 5 fish in any combination.

ALLEGAN: **Swan Cr.** from mouth to dam at 118th Ave. fishing restricted to one single-pointed unweighted hook not more than 3/8" from point to shank; from mouth upstream to diversion dam ("The Tubes," T2N, R14W, Sec. 9) closed to fishing Sept. 1 - Nov. 30. **Osterhout L.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

ALPENA: **Beaver L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Fletcher Floodwaters** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to spearing all other species.

ANTRIM: **Birch L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Intermediate R.** closed to fishing from Bellaire Dam to M-88 Bridge April 1 - May 14.

ARENAC: **Saganing Cr.** (upstream from State Rd.) and **Pine R.** (upstream from State Rd.) closed to fishing March 16 - Fri. before last Sat. in April. **Au Gres R. and Rifle R.** from end of Steve's Rd., (T19N, R5E, Sec. 9), upstream are closed to dip netting.

BARAGA: **CRAIG LAKE STATE PARK** waters (**Clair, Craig, Crooked, Keewayden, Nelligan, Teddy, and Thomas Lks.**) artificial lures only; northern pike, muskellunge, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass must be released, minimum size on walleye is 13", no size limit on other species; possession limit on walleye is 2; otherwise, all general rules apply. Motorboats of all types prohibited on all except Thomas and Keewayden Lks.; **Sturgeon R.** from Prickett Dam downstream to mouth of Clear Cr. (T50N, R35W, Sec. 12) closed to all fishing April 1 - June 30; open to burbot netting downstream from the M-38 Bridge Dec. 15 - end of February.

BARRY: **Williams L.** open season is **last Sat. in April - Dec. 15**, catch and release only. **Thornapple L.** (from McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.) and **Fish L.** closed to all spearing except carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15.

BAY: **Kawkawlin R.** and all tributaries upstream of Euclid Ave., and **Saganing Cr.** (upstream from State Rd.) and **Pine R.** (upstream from State Rd.) closed to fishing March 16 through the Fri. before the last Sat. in April. On the **Kawkawlin R.** downstream from Euclid Ave. and the **Saginaw R.** and all tributaries, the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows (except that minnows may be used on both the **Saginaw R.** main stem and **Kawkawlin R. main stem**); natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be attached rigidly to hooks; no hook may

Exceptions to General Regulations by County

be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

BENZIE: Platte R. restricted to only one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank; closed to fishing within 300 ft. of upper (hatchery) and lower weir all year; closed to fishing from upper weir downstream to Platte L. Jan. 1 - March 31. **Betsie R.** closed to fishing all year within 100 feet of lamprey barrier and fish passage facility (T25N, R15W, Sec. 2). **Cold Cr.** closed to dip netting.

BERRIEN: No more than 1 walleye 23" or larger may be possessed from the **St. Joseph R.** below Berrien Springs Dam to the mouth at St. Joseph/Benton Harbor. **Townsend Cr. (T6S, R17W, Sec. 19, and the mouth area of Lake Chapin, to a point 100 yards below the Townsend Cr. mouth into Lake Chapin), it is unlawful to use other than one single-pointed, unweighted hook measuring 3/8" or less from point to shank.**

CASS: Corey and Stone Lks., minimum size limit on largemouth bass is 10".

CHARLEVOIX: L. Charlevoix and tributaries to 1/2 mile above their mouth open to hand nets for bowfin, carp, gar, smelt, and suckers, April 1 - May 31. **Medusa Cr.** and area of L. Michigan for a radius of 100' of mouth closed to fishing when weir is in place. **Boyne R.** from mouth upstream to dam in T32N, R5W, Sec. 5 restricted to one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank. On L. Michigan, within one-half mile of the following islands of the **Beaver Island Archipelago: Beaver, Garden, High and Hog** the open season for largemouth and smallmouth bass is July 1 - Dec. 31 (no catch and release season prior to July 1).

CHEBOYGAN: Cheboygan R., Indian R., or Black R. unlawful to fish during **April 1 - June 15** with spear, bow and arrow, dip net, or gaff. **Black R.** between Kleber Dam and Red Bridge (T35N, R1E, Sec. 5) unlawful to fish in any manner during **April 1 - June 15.** **Lower Black R.** from Alverno Dam down to Mograin Bridge, no fishing April 1 - May 15. **Black L.** and tributaries no commercial minnow take; sturgeon fishing prohibited except under special lottery permit (see p. 11). **Douglas L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing when marsh is in operation. **Cornwall Impoundment** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Tower Pond** northern pike spearing permitted during January - February through the ice.

CHIPPEWA: Potagannissing R. from Potagannissing Dam downstream to Maxton Rd. (T42N, R6E, Sec. 15) closed to fishing March 16 - May 14. **L. Huron and St. Marys R.,** yellow perch minimum size is 7". **Caribou L.,** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

CLARE: Budd L., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

CLINTON: L. Ovid, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

CRAWFORD: Wakeley L. open season June 15 - Aug. 31, catch and release fishing with artificial lures; live bait in possession is unlawful. **Jones L.** open season June 1 - Sept. 30, catch and release fishing with artificial lures; live bait in possession is unlawful.

DELTA: Dana L., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; and northern pike may be speared Jan. 1 - end of February; closed to all other spearing. **Days R.** from lamprey barrier downstream 500', **Escanaba R.** from mouth upstream to 1st dam, **Ford R.** downstream from Jaeger Rd., **Rapid R.** from Rapid R. falls down to County Rd. S. 15, open to

(continued on page 18)

Visit a State Fish Hatchery!

State Fish Hatchery Visitor Centers are dedicated to providing visitors with the opportunity to learn about fish, their life cycles and habitats; and the history of Great Lakes fish hatcheries and the vital role they play in helping to protect and restore our aquatic ecosystems.



- * See and feed chinook salmon, steelhead trout, walleye and many more species from viewing piers at the hatchery "show ponds."
- * Interpretive exhibits and interactive displays
- * Self-guided hiking and nature trails



With full-time interpreters at Wolf Lake and Oden, visitors can take a guided hatchery tour, enjoy summer fishing days, attend year-round programs and special events, and have a great time discovering that fishing is fun!

Go to www.michigan.gov/dnr and click on **Education and Outreach**

Exceptions to General Regulations by County

hand nets for smelt and suckers April 1 - May 31. **Whitefish R.** down-stream from US-2 walleye season May 15 - March 15; possession limit 5, but no more than 1 over 23". **Little Bay de Noc** north of the Saunders Pt.-Squaw Pt. line and tributaries, spearing is permitted only during January and February. **Little Bay de Noc** north of a line from Peninsula Point lighthouse to the mouth of the Ford R.; walleye possession limit 5, but no more than 1 over 23". **Garden Corners Borrow Pit** (T40N, R18W, Sec. 3) and **Rapid R. Borrow Pit** (T41N, R21W, Sec. 5) closed to fishing all year. **L. Michigan** the minimum size limit on splake is 15" on the L. Michigan waters of Delta County.

DICKINSON: See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.13). **Fumee L.** county ordinance currently prohibits access for the purpose of fishing. However, the following regulations remain in effect: open season July 1 - Sept. 30; catch and release only; artificial lures with barbless hooks only; live bait, dead or prepared bait, organic or processed food, or scented material may not be used or possessed on the waters or shore. **Hamilton, Louise, and Mary Lks.**, possession limit for largemouth and smallmouth bass from the last Sat. in May - June 20 is 0.

EMMET: **Bear R.** from mouth upstream to Lake Street Dam (T34N, R5W, Sec. 6) restricted to one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank.

GENESEE: **Flint R.** downstream from the Holloway Dam and all tributaries, the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows (except that minnows may be used upstream of Hamilton St. Dam and all respective tributaries T7N, R7E, S7); natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be rigidly attached to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

GOGEBIC: See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.13). **Sylvania Wilderness Area** regulations (see p. 14).

GRAND TRAVERSE: **Boardman R.** closed to fishing whenever weir is in place from 300' above to 300' below; closed to fishing Sept. 1 - Oct. 31 from north Union Street Bridge in Traverse City downstream to US-31 Bridge. **Unnamed Cr.** closed to dip netting from Green L. upstream to Bridges L.

HOUGHTON: **Portage L. Ship Canal** spearing permitted in January, February only. **Portage L.** and canal, **Torch L.** for 1/2-mile above mouth open to dip netting Apr. 1 - May 31. **Sturgeon R.** open to burbot netting Dec. 15 - end of February.

IONIA: **Woodard L.** possession limit for walleye is 0.

IOSCO: **Au Gres R.** from M-65 to mouth dip netting prohibited. **Au Gres R.** from 50' upstream of Allen Rd. bridge to 500' downstream closed to all fishing March 16 - Fri. before last Sat. in April. **E. Br. Au Gres R.** between DNR lamprey barrier and Legget Rd. closed to fishing Dec. 1 - Fri. before last Sat. in April. **Au Sable R.** from Foote Dam (including the apron) to 175' downstream from the dam closed to fishing all year. **Van Etten Cr.** from dam at Van Etten L. to mouth at Au Sable R. closed to fishing Aug. 15 - Nov. 30.

IRON: **Brule, Chicagon, Chief Edwards, Paint, and Violet Lks., and Paint Pond,** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; and northern pike may be speared Jan. 1 - end of February; closed to all other spearing. **Cable, Emily, Porter, Stanley Lks.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Winslow L.** walleye possession limit is 0. See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.13). **Chicagon and Ottawa Lks.,**

Exceptions to General Regulations by County

daily limit of 5 whitefish. **Ottawa L.** possession of largemouth and smallmouth bass is 0.

ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK (phone 906-482-0984): Michigan fishing laws apply and state license required on L. Superior waters of park. Artificial baits only on inland waters. On L. Superior, within 4.5 miles of Isle Royale, the possession of brook trout is 0.

KENT: **Campau and Murray Lks.,** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

KEWEENAW: **Gratiot L.,** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

LAKE: **Baldwin R.** from Upper Dam at Old Baldwin Hatchery site downstream to the P.A.S. south boundary fence, including raceways (T17N, R13 W, Sec. 3), closed to all fishing Tues. following Labor Day until the last Sat. in April.

LAPEER: **Nepessing L.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

LEELANAU: **Leeland R.** closed to fishing Oct. 1 - Nov. 30. **North Manitou L.** bass minimum size length is 18", the possession limit is 1; artificial lures only. **Florence L.** (S. Manitou Is.) artificial lures only. **Houdek Cr.** closed to dip netting.

LENAWEE: **L. Hudson,** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

LIVINGSTON: **Spring Mill Pond** (Island Lake Recreation Area) March 15 - March 31 no fishing; April 1 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April, catch and release of trout with artificial lures only; last Sat. in April - March 14 statewide regulations apply. **Whitmore and Woodland Lks.,** carp may be speared May 1- Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

LUCE: **Twin Lks.** minimum size limit on largemouth and smallmouth bass is 18", possession limit is 1. Unlawful to launch or retrieve motorized vessel (greater than 5 horsepower) from state land on the **E. Branch Fox R.** from M-28 to the mouth of **Cold Cr.**

MACKINAC: **Brevoort L.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Les Cheneaux Channels** spearing permitted January and February only. **Mackinac, Shephard, and Flower Bays** closed to fishing March 15 - May 14. **L. Huron** yellow perch minimum size is 7".

MANISTEE: **Little Manistee R.** 300' either side of weir closed to fishing all year; from 300' above weir to Spencers Bridge closed to fishing Jan. 1 - March 31; also from 300' below DNR weir to mouth closed to fishing Sept. 1-Nov. 14 and Jan. 1 - March 31. **South end of Manistee L.** (south of a line from red post 110 ft. south of boat launch on east side of lake to a red post near south end of Packaging Corp. on west side of lake), closed to fishing Sept. 6 - Oct. 15 or to when the quota of chinook eggs has been taken.

MARQUETTE: **Peshekee R.** open to burbot netting Dec. 15 - end of February. **Deer L. Basin, Carp R.** downstream from M-28 (T47N, R27W, Sec. 4), and all other tributaries to Deer L. Basin, possession limit is 0. Fishing restricted to artificial lures, catch and release only; live bait, dead or prepared bait, organic or processed food, or scented materials may not be possessed on the water or the shore. **Fish L.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing; largemouth and smallmouth bass minimum size 18" and possession limit is 1 bass only. **Salmon-Trout R.,** from Lower Falls to mouth closed to fishing Aug. 15 - Fri. before last Sat. in April.

MASON: **Pere Marquette R.** from 300 feet below lamprey barrier (T18N, R16W, Sec. 21) upstream to Black Cr. closed to fishing when lamprey barrier is in operation. **Sable R.** (from mouth upstream to Hamlin L. Dam) restricted to 1 single - pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank.

Exceptions to General Regulations by County

MECOSTA: Muskegon R./Hardy Impoundment from Roger's Dam downstream to below the south-bound lane of US-131 is closed to all fishing from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April.

MENOMINEE: Big Cedar R. down from mouth of Elwood Cr. (T35N, R25W, Sec. 11) open to dipping, April 1 - May 31. See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.13).

L. Michigan the minimum size limit on splake is 15" on the L. Michigan waters of Menominee County.

MIDLAND: Tittabawassee R. between Sanford Dam and mouth of the **Salt R.** and between Dow Dam and Gordonville Bridge, closed to fishing from March 16 - Fri. before last Sat. in April. **On the Chippewa, Pine, Salt, and Tittabawassee R. and all their tributaries** the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows; natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be rigidly attached to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

MONROE: Huron R. and Stony Cr. (downstream from Finzel Rd., T5S, R8E, Sec. 23) closed to dip netting.

MONTMORENCY: East Fish, West Fish, and Middle Fish Lks., Fuller Cr. Pond, Hunt Cr. (above Section Z bulkhead T29N, R2E, Sec. 25), and **Fuller Cr.** (in the Hunt Cr. Trout Research Station Area), no fishing. **Fletcher Floodwaters and West Twin L.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **North and South Blue Lks. and Robarge L.**, open season is the last Sat. in April - Sept. 30, catch and release only, artificial lures only.

MUSKEGON: Mona L. carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

NEWAYGO: Baptist L., possession limit for walleye, channel catfish, flathead catfish, and all bullheads is 0; **Brush and Sand Lks.**, possession limit for channel catfish, flathead catfish, and all bullheads is 0.

OAKLAND: Heron and Tipsico Lks. carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

OGEMAW: Jewett L. open season is May 15 - Sept. 30, and fishing is restricted to artificial lures only and catch and release; permit needed in addition to license.

ONTONAGON: W. Br. Ontonagon R. from confluence with Victoria Hydro tailrace upstream to Victoria Dam is closed to fishing April 1 - June 10. **Union Springs** closed to all fishing. **Lake of the Clouds** fishing restricted to artificial lures only, no bait of any type may be used or possessed, no spearing, catch and release on smallmouth bass (possession of smallmouth prohibited regardless of where taken).

OTSEGO: Big Bear and Otsego Lks., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Otsego L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Otsego L.** see sturgeon regulations (p. 11).

OTTAWA: L. Macatawa, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

PRESQUE ISLE: Black L. and tributaries no commercial minnow take. **Clinton Cr.** closed to fishing April - May. **Grand L. Pike Marsh** unlawful for any person other than state employee to use or operate a motorized vehicle on the access road leading from US-23 to the Grand L. Pike Marsh during March, April, and May. **Grand L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Rainy R.** from confluence with Black L. upstream to N. Allis Rd. Bridge (T35N,

Exceptions to General Regulations by County

R2E, Sec. 15) closed to fishing April 1 - May 14. **Shuberts Cr.** from Long L. upstream to Clinton Cr. Rd. (T33N, R7E, Sec 14), closed to fishing April 1 - May 31. **Swan R.** from 300' above weir to mouth closed to fishing whenever weir is in place.

ROSCOMMON: Backus Cr. from confluence with Cut R. upstream to Little Mud L. Dam closed to fishing March 23 - April 23. **Cut R.** from confluence with Backus Cr. upstream to outlet at Marl L. closed to fishing March 23 - April 23. **Houghton L.** no spearing. **Denton Cr.** closed to fishing March 23 - April 23.

ST. JOSEPH: Big Pleasant and Corey Lks., minimum size limit for largemouth bass is 10". **Long L.** (Fabius Twp.) carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Sand L.**, flathead catfish possession limit is 0.

SAGINAW: On the Bad, Cass, Flint, Saginaw, Shiawassee and Tittabawassee Rivers and all their tributaries the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows (except that minnows may be used on the Saginaw R., Swan Cr. and tributaries, and the Bad R. and tributaries upstream from confluence with Pickerel Cr. T10N, R3E, Sec. 4); natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be attached rigidly to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

SCHOOLCRAFT: Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks. carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Thompson Cr.** closed to use of handnets; closed to fishing upstream of US-2 from Sept. 1 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April. **Seney National Wildlife Refuge** waters have limited fishing, contact Refuge office (906-586-9851). On the **BIG ISLAND COMPLEX LAKES (Big Island, Bluegill, Blush, Byers, Coattail, Klondyke, McInnes, Mid, Townline, and Vance)** no wheeled or motorized vehicles (including electric or outboard motors); artificial lures only; spearing, netting, and use of live bait prohibited; muskellunge or northern pike open season May 15 - Nov. 30, minimum size limit 42", and possession limit is 1; bass open season Sat. before Memorial Day - Nov. 30, minimum size limit 18", and possession limit is 1; perch, bluegill, and pumpkinseed sunfish open season last Sat. in April - Nov. 30, possession limit is 5 fish in combination; all other fish open season last Sat. in April - Nov. 30. Unlawful to launch or retrieve motorized vessel (greater than 5 horsepower) from state land on the **E. Branch Fox R.** from M-28 to the mouth of **Cold Cr.**

VAN BUREN: Dowagiac R. and tributaries above 50th St. and Lake of Woods outlet to confluence of Dowagiac R. open to spears, bow and arrow, and hand net. **Bankson, Brownwood, and Round Lks.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

WASHTENAW: Whitmore L. carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Huron R.** from Mast Rd. Bridge in Dexter (T1S, R5E, Sec. 32) downstream to Delhi Rd. Bridge (T2S, R5E, Sec. 2) catch and release only on largemouth and smallmouth bass. **Horseshoe L.** largemouth bass possession limit is 1, minimum size is 14"; northern pike possession limit is 1, sunfish (Note 5 p.10) possession limit is 10.

WAYNE: Huron R. from Belleville Dam downstream to mouth, closed to dip netting.

*You can now advertise in the States
Hunting & Fishing Regulations!*



**STATE HUNTING & FISHING
REGULATIONS**

LIBERTY PRESS PUBLICATIONS

1180 N. MOUNTAIN SPRINGS PKWY. SPRINGVILLE, UT 84663

1-800-296-6402

WE HAVE YOUR TARGET MARKET!

www.huntandfishregs.com

1.3 Million of these publications are distributed annually in Michigan and the surrounding states. Advertisers are thrilled with the tremendous response from advertising in these publications. Reserve your space for 2009

Four Seasons of Fun

Recreation opportunities plentiful in Michigan's state parks and state forests

State parks and state forests are more than just campgrounds. Anyone can visit to take a walk, cast out a fishing line or go hunting during designated seasons. Day-users of state parks and state forests have access to millions of acres of land in the woods, along lakeshores and riverbanks. These lands provide space and resources to enjoy a variety of outdoor recreation.

The DNR's Web site contains a wealth of information about recreation opportunities that allow you to search by specific features and amenities. Be sure to visit www.michigan.gov/dnrrecreationcamping for more information.



Let's go fishing

When you're on your way to a Michigan State Park or state forest campground this year, don't forget to take your fishing gear along. More than two-thirds of Michigan's 97 state parks and recreation areas feature good fishing opportunities, ranging from undeveloped shore access

fishing to parks complete with fishing piers, boat rentals and universally accessible fishing sites.

Or if access to good fishing with lots of space between rustic campsites is what you're looking for, head for a state forest campground. All state forest campgrounds are located on a lake or river, providing excellent access to fishing and boating.

All you need is a fishing rod, tackle, bait and a Michigan fishing license. Youngsters under age 17 can fish for free.



Michigan is a water wonderland

With four Great Lakes touching our borders, more than 11,000 inland lakes, 7,000 miles of canoeable streams,

13,000 miles of trout waters and more than 700 boating access sites, water recreation in Michigan is as good as it gets. Fishing, boating, canoeing, kayaking, waterskiing and tubing are just a small sampling of what's available.

One of the fastest ways to find access to water recreation is to use the DNR's online Michigan Recreational Boating Information System. Along with fish-stocking reports, maps, local water controls and accessibility features, this resource uses cutting-edge technology to make boating opportunities available for everyone. Check it out at www.mcgi.state.mi.us/MRBIS.



Plenty of hunting opportunities, too

Anyone who has spent much time in Michigan's North Country understands the important role forests play in maintaining the wildlife diversity that sets Michigan apart from other states. Healthy populations of deer, bear, turkey, grouse and furbearers thrive in our state forests, which provide millions

of user-days for hunters each year.

Wildlife also abounds in state parks. More than 200,000 acres of park land are open to hunting during hunting seasons in designated areas.

Small-game hunters can be licensed at age 10. Special deer hunting and waterfowl hunting opportunities also are available for youth 10-14. For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Trails and Pathways

Hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, off-road trail riding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling are among the options available on a state forest pathway or a state park trail. Mushroom hunting, berry picking and wildlife viewing are added attractions along trails and pathways.



Camping

Michigan's network of rustic state forest campgrounds in the northern Lower and Upper Peninsulas rely on a self-registration system and sites are available

on a first-come, first-served basis. The campgrounds at Michigan State Parks and Recreation Areas are more developed and draw more visitors. Although there are a handful of rustic camping options, most state parks offer modern and semi-modern camping amenities with electric hookups at most sites and toilet/shower buildings.

Thank you for visiting Michigan's state parks and state forests. All fees collected from camping and motor vehicle permits are returned to the state park and state forest systems so the DNR can continue to offer you quality recreation opportunities.



Great Lakes, Great Times, Great Outdoors
www.michigan.gov/dnr

Common Terms

Artificial Fly means any commonly accepted single hook wet and dry flies, streamers, and nymphs without spinner, spoon, scoop, lip or any other fishing lure or bait attached. The fly or leader may be weighted but no weight shall be attached to the fly or to the terminal tackle in a manner that allows the weight to be suspended from or below the hook.

Artificial Lure means a manmade lure manufactured to imitate natural bait. Artificial lures include spoons, spinners and plugs made of metal, plastic, wood and other non-edible materials. They also include plastic products made to resemble worms, eggs, fish and other aquatic organisms.

Cast Net means a net not exceeding eight feet in diameter without walls or sides that is thrown to take minnows, alewives, smelt and shad in the Great Lakes and connecting waters.

Catch and Immediate Release means each fish must be returned immediately to the water without injury, and may not be possessed. When practicing catch and release, please follow these suggestions to reduce the risk of injury to the fish:

- Land your catch carefully and quickly. Avoid handling the fish at all and remove the hook with pliers.
- Use a landing net made of soft or knotless mesh and always try to net your fish head first.
- Try to keep the fish in the water and gently cradle it while carefully removing the hook.
- Leave your fish in the water until you are ready to take a photo.
- Keep your fingers out of the fish's gills since a torn gill could cause the fish to bleed to death.
- Touch your fish as little as possible. Always wet your hands when touching your fish.
- Cut the line near the hook if a fish is deeply hooked. A steel hook will rust away leaving the fish unharmed.
- Release your fish, pointing it into a slow current or gently moving it back and forth until its gills are working properly and the fish regains its balance. Once fully recovered, allow the fish to swim from your hands (big fish may take longer to recover).

Daily Limit means the total number of fish, amphibians or reptiles that you are permitted to catch and keep in one day. Also see Possession Limit.

Designated Trout Lake means any lake so designated by the state in which trout are the predominant game fish (ask for FO-200) and **Designated Trout Stream**: any stream so designated by the state that contains a significant population of trout or salmon (ask for FO-210). You must have an all-species license to fish these waters.

Detroit R. begins at the imaginary line extending due south of the Windmill Point Light, Wayne County and ends at the imaginary east-

west line drawn through the most southerly point of Celeron Island.

Dropper Line is a line in addition to the main fishing line, that contains a hook. Dropper lines usually are attached to the main line.

Drop-shotting involves using a weight suspended below a hook that is tied directly to the main fishing line.

Drowned River Mouth Lakes are considered inland waters and all are listed in Note 3 on p. 8.

FO is a Fisheries Order issued by the DNR Director that implements fishing regulations. FO's can be found online at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Great Lakes Connecting Waters means specific bodies of water in Michigan that connect the Great Lakes. Designated connecting waters are L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R. (St. Clair R. begins at the Ft. Gratiot Light) and the Detroit R.

Hand and Landing Net means a mesh bag of webbing or wire, suspended from a circular, oval or rectangular frame attached to a handle. These are the most common fishing nets used in Michigan.

Hook means a single, double or treble pointed hook. A hook, single, double or treble pointed and attached to a manufactured artificial lure shall be counted as 1 hook.

Inland Waters means all waters in Michigan except the Great Lakes and the Great Lakes connecting waters.

Minnows are chubs, shiners, dace, stonerollers, sculpins (muddlers), mudminnows and suckers of a size used for bait in "hook and line" fishing. See page 6 and pages 14-15.

Possession Limit is equal to the Daily Limit. Except a person may possess up to two (2) additional limits of coho, chinook, or pink salmon taken during previous fishing days provided that the additional limits are processed fish (canned, cured by smoking or drying, or frozen). Anglers who have not attained the age of 17 are entitled to the possession limit even though they do not have a fishing license. A person fishing waters bordered by other states or provinces AND possessing multiple fishing licenses may possess the limit allowed for ONLY ONE license while in transit, but while fishing in Michigan waters, must comply with Michigan possession and size limits.

Snagging means attempting to take fish in a manner that the fish does not take the hook voluntarily in its mouth. It is unlawful to snag fish.

Trapping means to catch or take by use of a device, such as a cage or net, designed to capture a fish or animal.

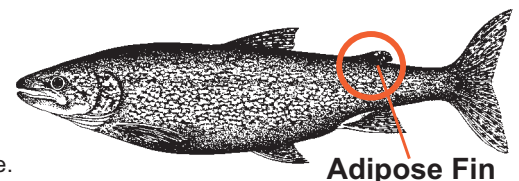
Weir means a fence or enclosure set in water to block or retain fish.

Marked and Tagged Fish



In evaluating fish stocks, the DNR often marks fish with a visible tag, an internal tag or fin clips. **If you catch a tagged fish, please record the tag number and as much of the following information as possible: species, length, weight, sex, and date and location caught.** Enter the data online at www.michigan.gov/dnr on the Marked and Tagged Fish page under Fishing, or notify the nearest DNR Operations Service Center (see p. 31). **If releasing the fish, carefully remove and retain the tag from all species except lake sturgeon.** This will allow for more accurate recording of the tag number.

Many Great Lakes trout/salmon have been marked with a microscopic coded-wire tag implanted in the head of the fish. Fish with these tags can be identified by the absence of the adipose fin (see diagram). If you catch a trout or salmon with ONLY its adipose fin missing, that fish could have such a tag. Please record the information listed above, freeze only the head and take it to your nearest drop site location. A list of drop sites can be found online (see above) or by calling 517-373-1280. Thank you for your assistance.



Angler Rights On Public Streams

On fenced or posted property or farm property, a fisherman wading or floating a navigable public stream may, without written or oral consent, enter upon property within the clearly defined banks of the stream or, without damaging farm products, walk a route as closely proximate to the clearly defined bank as possible when necessary to avoid a natural or artificial hazard or obstruction, including, but not limited to, a dam, deep hole, or a fence or other exercise of ownership by the riparian owner.

Railroad Rights-Of-Way

Railroad rights-of-way are private property. Trespassing on railroad property, including trestles and bridges, is a misdemeanor. You must have written permission of the railroad company to be exempt from railway trespass.

Angler Harassment Information

Anglers in Michigan have the right to enjoy their sport free from unreasonable and deliberate interference. Michigan law prohibits individuals from obstructing or interfering with the lawful taking of aquatic species. The DNR supports fishing as a legitimate form of recreation and as a useful tool in the management of aquatic resources. Michigan Conservation Officers are committed to protecting anglers from the intentional disruption of the fishing experience. Individuals whose fishing is being obstructed should promptly report the violation to the DNR by calling a local conservation officer, the nearest DNR office (see p.31) or toll free 800-292-7800 (RAP hotline).

Personal Flotation Devices (PFD)

When selecting a PFD, read the label to make sure it is for a person of your size and weight. Try your PFD on to make sure it fits properly and check to make sure it is U.S. Coast Guard approved.

Craft under 16 feet long:

If your boat is less than 16 feet long or it is a canoe or kayak, you must choose either wearable or throwable PFDs. You must still have one PFD for each person on board. The U.S. Coast Guard requires all vessels less than 16 feet, used on the Great Lakes or connecting waterways, to carry one wearable approved Type I, II, or III device for each person on board.

Craft 16 feet or longer:

If your boat is 16 feet or longer, you must have on board at least one Throwable Device (Type IV PFD), **PLUS** one of any of these wearable PFDs for each person on board:

- Offshore Life Jacket (Type I PFD)
- Near-shore Buoyant Vest (Type II PFD)
- Flotation Aid (Type III PFD)

Michigan law requires:

- Everyone operating, riding on, or being towed by a personal watercraft must wear Type I, II, or III PFD.
- Persons less than six years old must wear a Type I or Type II PFD when riding on the open deck area of a boat underway.

Master Angler Awards

Patches are awarded to all entries meeting established minimum weights, or, in the case of Catch and Release, minimum lengths. However, no more than one patch per species will be awarded to each angler per year. Master Angler Certificates are awarded to anglers who catch State Record fish or one of the top 5 fish of each species in both the Catch and Keep and Catch and Release category.

To enter the Master Angler Program, complete an application form and send it to: Fisheries Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Box 30446, Lansing MI 48909. This information is required under the Authority of Part 487 of 1994 P.A. 451, as amended.

Applications are available at all locations and on our Web site. The deadline for submitting an entry is Jan. 10, 2009. Be sure to include a photo of your fish if it has not already been identified by a DNR fisheries biologist.

Minimum Entry Lengths/Weights and Current State Records

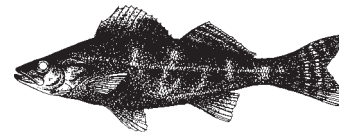
Catch and Release Entries must meet minimum length

Catch and Keep Entries must meet minimum weight

Species	Minimum Entry Length (inches)	Minimum Entry Weight (lbs. -oz.)	Current State Record (lbs.-oz.)
American Eel	32"	3-0	7-7
Bass, Largemouth	22"	6-0	11-15
Bass, Rock	11"	1-0	3-10
Bass, Smallmouth	21"	5-0	9-4
Bass, Warmouth	9"	1-0	1-6
Bass, White	16"	2-0	6-7
Bluegill	10"	1-0	2-12
Buffalo, Big Mouth	32"	20-0	---
Buffalo, Black	26"	10-0	33-4
Bullhead, Black	14"	1-4	3-7
Bullhead, Brown	14"	1-8	3-10
Bullhead, Yellow	14"	1-8	3-9.6
Bowfin	27"	7-0	14-0
Burbot	26"	5-0	18-4
Carp	30"	20-0	61-8
Carp			45-0
Carp sucker	19"	3-0	8-0
Catfish, Channel	27"	8-0	40-0
Catfish, Flathead	29"	10-0	47-8
Crappie, Black	14"	1-12	4-2
Crappie, White	14"	1-12	3-6
Freshwater Drum	21"	7-0	26-0
Gizzard Shad	16"	1-8	4-2
Lake Herring	16"	2-8	5-6
Lake Sturgeon	50"	70-0	193-0
Longnose Gar	32"	5-0	18-0
Musky, Great Lks.	42"	20-0	48-0
Musky, Northern	42"	20-0	49-12
Musky, Tiger	42"	20-0	51-3
Northern Pike	40"	18-0	39-0
Perch, White	10"	0-8	1-14
Perch, Yellow	14"	1-13	3-12
Salmon, Atlantic	33"	12-0	32-10
Salmon, Chinook	41"	27-0	46-1
Salmon, Coho	32"	12-0	30-9
Salmon, Pink	21"	3-0	8-9
Smelt	10"	None	12"
Splake	25"	6-0	17-8
Sucker, Longnose	17"	2-0	6-14
Sucker, N. Hog	13"	1-8	2-8
Sucker, Redhorse	22"	4-0	12-14.2
Sucker, White	20"	3-0	7-3
Sunfish, Green	9"	0-12	1-8
Sunfish, P.Seed	9"	0-12	1-5.6
Sunfish, Redear	10"	1-0	1-15.5
Trout, Brook	17"	2-0	9-8
Trout, Brown	33"	16-0	36-13
Trout, Lake	34"	18-0	61-8
Trout, Rainbow (Steelhead)	34"	17-0	26-8
Walleye	29"	11-0	17-3
Whitefish, Lake	23"	6-0	14-4.5
Menominee	15"	1-0	4-0

Length Measurement Directions: Measure fish from tip of nose (or lower jaw) to tip of tail in a straight line (DO NOT measure in a curve around the body from nose to tail). Measure to the closest 1/8th inch. Tail and jaw should be pinched together.

Pinch mouth closed



Pinch tail to form a point

Lead Alternatives

The DNR would like to remind anglers that lead can cause mortality when ingested by mammals and birds. There are nontoxic alternatives to lead such as tin, bismuth, steel, and tungsten-nickel alloy for use in jigs, sinkers and other gear. These materials can be found at established sporting goods retailers and on the Internet.

Fishing Tournament Information

Fishing tournament permits can be obtained by visiting www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mrbis. Click on the water body search link then enter a water body name and click on the access site name for information.

Boat Registration

For information about boat registration, please see "The Handbook of Michigan Boating Laws & Responsibilities" available online www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Ice Shanties

A person placing a shanty on the ice for fishing shall permanently affix their name and address on ALL SIDES of the shanty in legible letters at least 2 inches in height. The letters shall be readily visible and consist of material not soluble in water. The name and address must be on the shanty and may not be placed on a board or other material that is then attached to the shanty. Tents or other temporary shelters that are removed from the ice each day do not require identification.

Persons placing a shanty on the waters of the **Upper Peninsula** shall remove the shanty by midnight of March 31 of any year.

Persons placing a shanty on waters in the counties of **Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Arenac, Bay, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Clare, Crawford, Emmet, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, Iosco, Isabella, Kalkaska, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Midland, Missaukee, Montmorency, Newaygo, Oceana, Ogemaw, Osceola, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, or Wexford** shall remove the shanty by midnight of March 15 of any year. Persons placing a shanty upon the waters of the remaining portion of the Lower Peninsula shall remove the shanty by midnight on March 1 of any year. Shanties placed on L. St. Clair shall be removed before sunset on the first Sunday after February 20 of any year. **In all areas, a shanty must be removed if ice conditions become unsafe, regardless of the date. After the above dates, a shanty must be removed at the end of each day's fishing activity.**

Parasites and Diseases of Fish

Occasionally anglers catch fish with black, pinhead-size spots which cause the fish to have a peppered appearance, or a fish may be caught which has white-to-yellow-colored grubs under the skin or in the flesh. Yellow perch taken from the shallower waters of the Great Lakes often contain red worms coiled within the body cavity. All these conditions are caused by common fish parasites. Fish with these parasites are safe to eat, as all these (and any other parasites) are killed by cooking. Black spot and yellow grub parasites are most common in bass, sunfish (all species) and northern pike, and red worm is specific to yellow perch. These and related parasites may be found in other species of fish as well.

It is not unusual for anglers to catch walleye with pink, whitish or yellowish wart-like growths on their bodies and fins. These are caused by fish viruses, the most common of which is called lymphocystis. This is primarily a skin disease, and the flesh is usually not affected. Lymphocystis is harmless to humans and affected fish are safe to eat. Skinning the fish usually removes all diseased tissue. If a legal-size fish is heavily affected and appears aesthetically unpleasing, it should be kept for disposal because a fish that is released will only spread more virus.

Northern pike from some waters occasionally are caught with various size and colors of external tumors which may be whitish, creamy, pink or red. In advanced stages, the tumors are ugly open sores tinged with red and often are referred to as red sore. These tumors are caused by a naturally occurring virus which is specific to northern pike and muskellunge. The disease is not known to be infectious to other

animals or man; however, affected fish are not aesthetically pleasing and should not be eaten. Affected fish (of legal size) should be kept for disposal because a fish that is released will only serve to spread the infection to other fish.

Seasonal Fish Mortalities

During the late spring and early summer months, it is not uncommon to witness dead or dying fish in ponds and lakes across the state. Often it is presumed that fish kills are caused by the negligence of some person, industry or community. However, many, if not most, such incidents stem from natural causes. Among these causes are: so-called winter kill, brought about by a depletion of oxygen supplies coincident with heavy snow and ice cover; stress (brought about by these low oxygen levels); periods of unusually rapid temperature increase; lake inversions and natural stresses associated with spawning.

The deaths, while unsettling, may be viewed as nature's way of reducing the fish population, selecting those fish which are most fit for survival and providing the most favorable conditions for the growth of the survivors.

If you suspect a fish kill is caused by non-natural causes, please call your nearest DNR location (see page 31) or Michigan's Pollution Emergency Alert System (800) 292-4706.

Aquatic Invasive Plants and Animals

Michigan's waters are threatened by numerous nonnative aquatic invasive plants and animals already here, such as the zebra mussel, round goby, sea lamprey, Eurasian ruffe, Eurasian watermilfoil, rusty crayfish, and spiny water flea. A number of species also are knocking at the door, including several species of Asian carp coming up the Chicago diversion that could potentially enter Lake Michigan and snakehead fish that already are found in other Midwest states. These species and others are harmful to recreational fishing and do extensive economic and natural resource damage.

Anglers and boaters can help prevent the spread of fish diseases and other aquatic nuisance species by taking the following steps:

- Clean boats, trailers, and other equipment thoroughly between fishing trips to keep from transporting undesirable fish pathogens and organisms, from one water body to another with special care to clean fishing equipment when you are done fishing known locations of the fish diseases. A light bleach solution is an excellent disinfectant for cleaning your equipment.
- After cleaning allow boats, trailers, and other equipment to fully dry for 4 to 6 hours in the sun.
- Do not move fish or fish parts from one body of water to another.
- Do not release live bait into any water body.
- Handle fish as gently as possible if you intend to release them and release them as quickly as possible.
- Refrain from hauling the fish for long periods in live wells if you intend to release them.
- Report unusual numbers of dead or dying fish to Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division offices.
- Educate other anglers about the measure they can take to prevent the spread of fish diseases and other aquatic nuisance species.

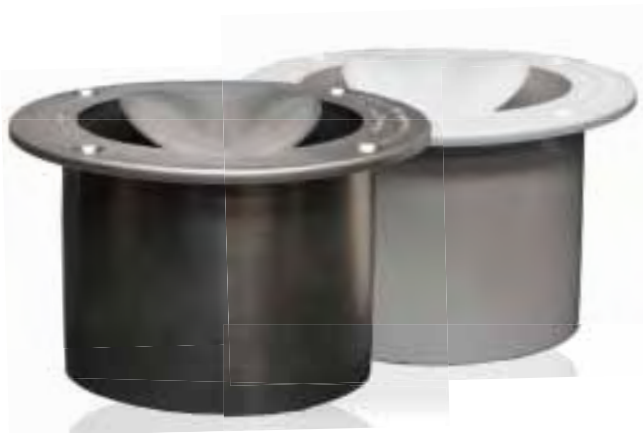
Natural resource managers are concerned about introduction of new species and have set up an Angler's Monitoring Network to report any discoveries. Anglers should save and report unidentified fish to the nearest DNR Operations Service Center listed on page 31 of this booklet. If you have any questions, contact an Operations Service Center or visit www.michigan.gov/deq-anglers-monitoring-network.



Livewell & Baitwell Ventilator

The V-T2 Livewell & Baitwell Ventilator uses the laws of nature to provide a more fish healthier livewell and baitwell environment. The V-T2 is an all natural, environmentally safe, and affordable method for cooling livewell/baitwell water, increasing dissolved oxygen, and reducing harmful metabolic waste (CO2).

The V-T2 creates a fresh air flow throughout the livewell or baitwell. This air flow cools livewell/baitwell water and interiors, provides more oxygen, and expels harmful gases created by metabolic waste.



Cools livewell & baitwell water
Increases dissolved oxygen
Eliminates harmful gas (CO2)
All natural processes
Environmentally safe
Freshwater & Saltwater uses
No maintenance
No battery power needed
Easy to install on every style boat
Patent pending
Made in USA

AFFORDABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE
VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.v-t2.com

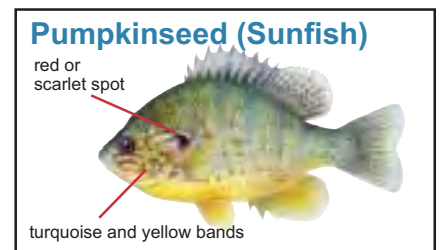
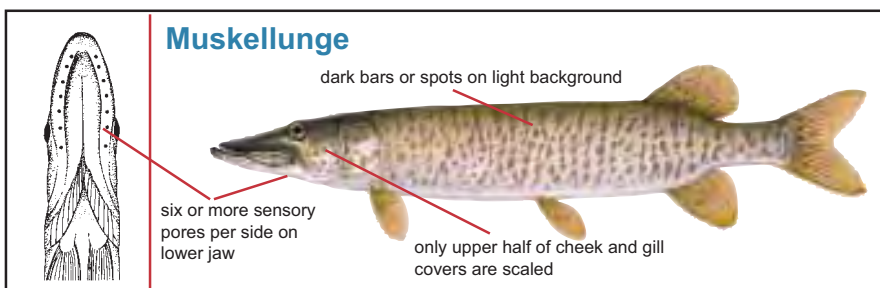
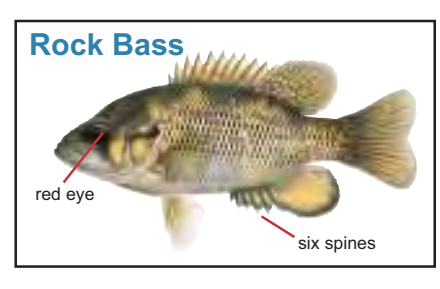
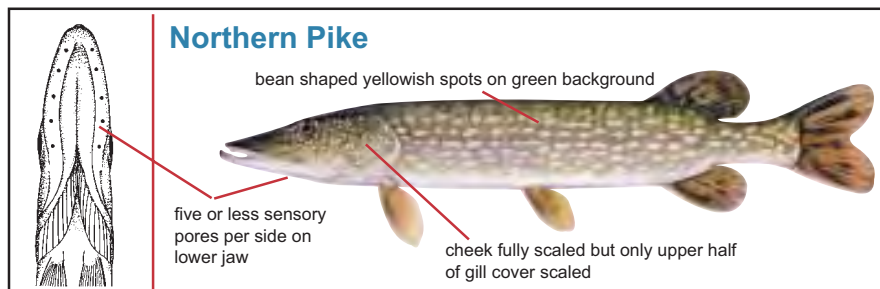
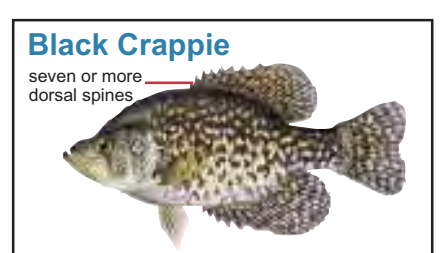
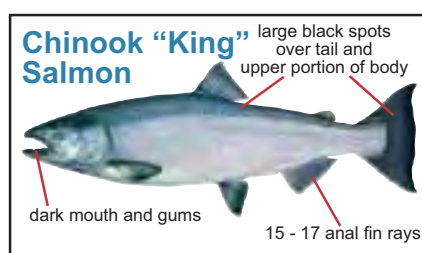
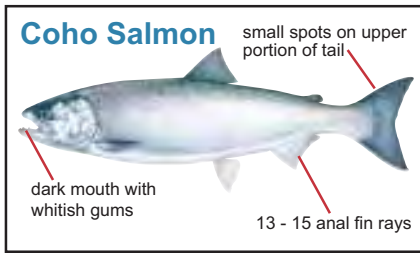
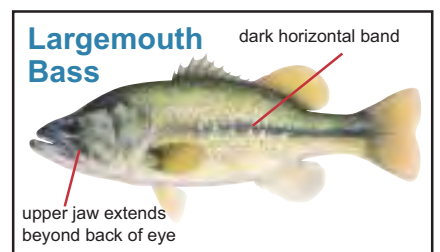
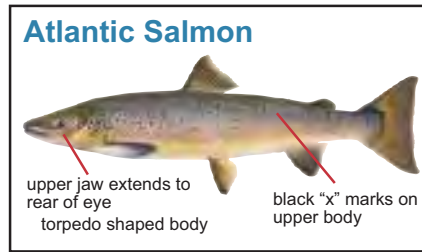
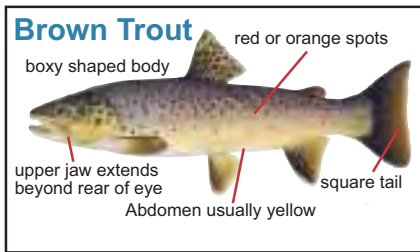
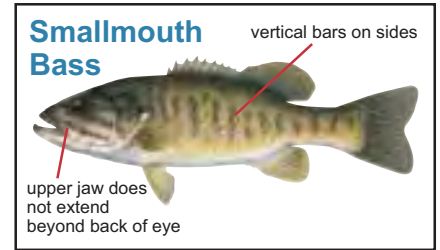
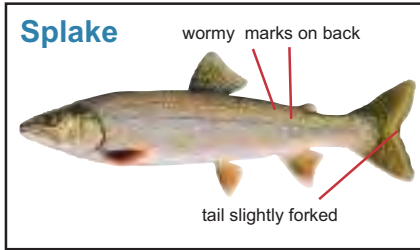
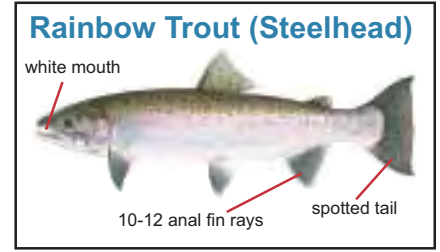
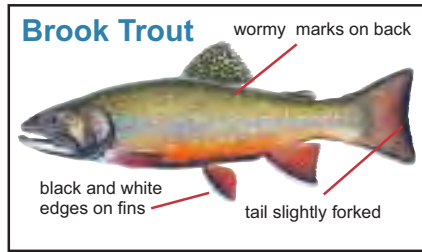
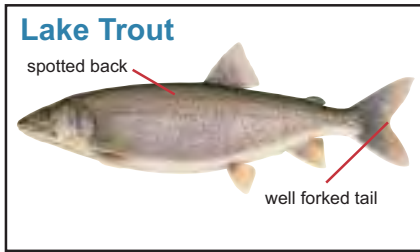
OR CALL :
502.747.8052



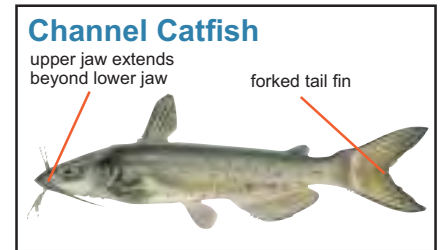
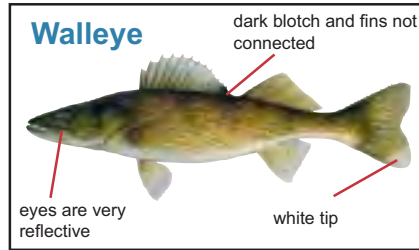
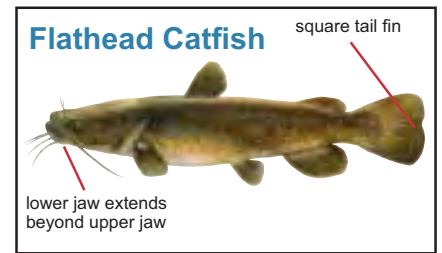
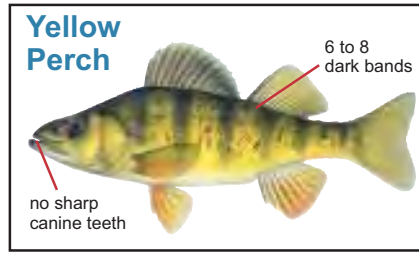
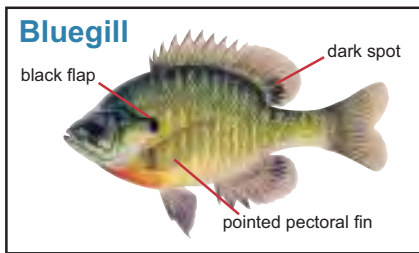
V-T2 technology provided by:



Know Your Fish — Common Fish Species



Illustrations by — Joseph R. Tomelleri



Asian Carp Pose Threat to Great Lakes



Bighead Carp

Photos courtesy U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Silver Carp

Four species of Asian carp, including the bighead carp and silver carp shown above, are threatening to arrive in Michigan. Asian carp were imported by catfish farmers in the 1970s to remove algae and suspended matter out of their ponds. During large floods in the early 1990s, many of these ponds overflowed their banks, and the Asian carp were released into the Mississippi River basin. The carp have steadily made their way northward up the Mississippi. Bighead carp can grow to 100 pounds and are so voracious they leave nothing for native species. The silver carp is a safety hazard because it can jump high enough to hit people in boats. Anglers should be alert for any carp that appears to have its eyes looking down. If you find an unidentified carp in any inland or Great Lakes waters, freeze it and take it to a DNR Operations Service Center.

This Year, Reconnect with Someone You Care About...
TAKE THEM FISHING
 Get information and get going at: takemefishing.org



Angler Access Guide to Lake Michigan

Even if you don't own a boat to go fishing on the big lake, many sites along the Michigan public shoreline provide exciting angling options. These public access sites, many of which provide opportunities for persons with disabilities, include breakwaters, fishing piers and platforms along harbors, river mouths and stretches of beach. The Angler Access Guide to Lake Michigan, published by the Great Lakes Fishery Trust, is a web-based guide designed to help anglers fish the Lake Michigan shoreline, from New Buffalo to Mackinaw City.

Shore fishing is a basic, inexpensive sport that is fun and produces food for the table. You do not need costly electronics. Requirements include standard rods and reels, a handful of spoons or jigs, a good net, a comfortable chair, and the essentials for catching fish: hooks, sinkers, line and bait. To the shore-bound angler, however, pastures often seem greener in the trolling lanes far out into Lake Michigan. But sometimes the fishing is better close to shore, occasionally in water so shallow boat anglers can't reach it. This phenomenon is especially true in early spring and again in fall when trout, salmon and other game fish cruise shoreward to feed or to spawn.



During summer, steelhead begin to enter many southern Lake Michigan rivers, such as the Galien and St. Joseph. A combination of water temperature and flow volume attracts these exciting fish from early July through September. In addition, chinook salmon make commando-like raids on river mouths, where they seek minnows, insects and other food sluicing along with the current. Breakwater anglers catch them in the inky darkness before dawn.

The Angler Access Guide to Lake Michigan, which can be accessed at www.glft.org, includes detailed information about access and locations complete with maps; how to shore fish, including tips; and relevant links.

Guarantee!

You'll never fish with another bait!

New lure tripled catch rate in test... won "Best of Show" in Europe, earned Seal of Approval from *North American Fisherman* magazine.

Must double your catch, or you pay nothing!

Swims like a real fish – with its tail.

Member tested and recommended by *NORTH AMERICAN FISHERMAN*.

Three hundred lures tested.

by Charlie Allen

ORLANDO, FL— A small company in Connecticut has developed a new lure that mimics the motion of a real fish so realistically eight professionals couldn't tell the difference between it and a live shad when it "swam" toward them on retrieval. The design eliminates wobbling, angled swimming and other unnatural motions that problem other hard bait lures. It swims upright and appears to propel itself with its tail.

Curiously, the company may have designed it too well. Tournament fishermen who have used it said it's possible officials will not allow it in contests where live bait is prohibited. They claim it swims more realistically than anything they have ever seen. If so, that would hurt the company's promotional efforts. Winning tournaments is an important part of marketing a new lure.



Inventor Scott Wilson lands a 10-pounder.

Fish would probably prefer to see it restricted. Eight veteran fishermen tested the new lure (called The KickTail® XL-5) on a lake outside Orlando FL for about four hours. Four used the KickTail® XL-5 and four used a combination of their favorite lures and shiners (live bait). The four using the KickTail® XL-5 caught 41 fish versus 14 for the other four. In one boat the KickTail® XL-5 won 19 to 4. The KickTail® XL-5 also caught bigger fish, which suggests it triggers larger, less aggressive fish to strike.

The KickTail® XL-5's magic comes



from a patented technology that breaks the tail into five segments. As water rushes by on retrieval, a little-known principle called aeronautical flutter causes the tail to wag left and right, as if the lure were propelling itself with its tail. Unlike other hard baits, the head remains stationary—only the tail wags. A company spokesman told me this.

Increases catch almost 3 to 1.

"Fish attack live things, and they determine if something is alive by watching its movements. Marine biologists will tell you that the more a lure swims like a real fish, the more fish it will catch. Well, the only live thing the KickTail® XL-5 doesn't do is breathe. It's better than live bait! It lasts longer and it never hangs half-dead from a hook. It's always swimming wild and free. Fish can't stand it. We've seen fish that have just eaten go for the KickTail® XL-5. It's like having another potato chip.

"To make the KickTail® XL-5 even more lifelike, we gave it a natural shad color and shaped it like the most prevalent bait fish of all, the threadfin. Game fish gobble up more threadfin shad

than any other baitfish.

"I tell you, anyone who has fished a day in his life knows this little swimmer is a home run.

"Here, reel it in and watch it swim toward you. Can you tell the difference between it and a live fish? (I said no.) Neither can the fish.

"The flutter technology also allows the KickTail® XL-5 to swim at the water's surface. Other top water lures must be worked to have any live action, or have a bill that makes them dive on retrieval. Our diver version is the only deep crank bait that let's you do tricks like 'walk the dog.' Twitch it at deep levels and it gives an irresistible, lifelike action. Other lures 'dig.' The company says the dying

shad model with a weed guard is the only hard bait of its kind in existence. And there's no need for rattles. The five tail segments click together as you pull it through the water, calling fish from a distance."

Whether you fish for fun or profit, I would recommend you give this lure a try. Three hundred were tested by *North American Fisherman*, magazine readers, and they recommend it. What's more, the distributor guarantees you will double your catch, and will refund the price if you don't (30-day trial limit). To order call or click...

1-800-873-4415
www.ngcsports.com.

(Ask for item # kt), or mail your name, address and a check or M.O. (or cc number and exp. date) to **NGC Sports (Dept. KT-1202)**, 60 Church St., Yalesville CT 06492. S/h is \$7.00 no matter how many you order. CT add sales tax.

Choose Floater, Diver, Dying Shad w/weed guard.
\$9.95 each. Must order two or more

Super 10-Pack \$79.95 \$20.00 Savings

Super 10-Pack has all three models in an assortment of colors. The floater is four inches long, the diver five. Works in salt and fresh water. Lure is patented.

CLASSIFIED

LAKESIDE FISHING SHOP

NO Guns - NO Bows - NO Jogging Bras
Just TACKLE, TACKLE and LOTS MORE TACKLE!

**EXPERT SALES STAFF
AWESOME SELECTION
GREAT PRICES**

Store: 1-586-777-7003
Fishing Report: 586-777-7008

We have Canadian and Walpole Licenses
available on a pre-ordered basis.
Order online, or by fax at 586-777-1730

Special orders are our specialty!!

www.lakesidefishingshop.com

Ludington Charter Service

Ludington, Michigan: April - October

"We Specialize in Fish & Fun!"

1-888-379-3474 Boat/Cell:
989-289-9554

Capt. Glen www.raptorcharters.com
Buehner www.ludingtoncharter.com

Lake Erie-Walleye and Perch



**24 Years Great Lakes Experience
30' Charter Boat**

**Fish
Guaranteed!
(586) 739-1595**

www.hollywoodcharter.com

BASSYAKS

MOTORIZED FISHING KAYAK KITS



WWW.BASSYAKS.COM

860-848-4799
1058 RT 32 UNCASVILLE, CT. 06382



Clem's Inland Marine

**& Wyoming Sporting Goods
1-313-933-6777**

•Bait •Tackle 7920 Wyoming
•Repairs Dearborn, MI 48126

The State of Michigan allows appropriate advertising in its annual regulations to eliminate costs of printing. Many states have adopted a similar strategy. Promotional advertising does not constitute endorsement by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Michigan's Best Salmon Fishing

www.fishmanistee.com

- Since 1941 -
THE ORIGINAL

WOODMAN'S PAL[®]
BOYERTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA MADE IN USA

- Ideal Personal/Business Gift!
- Handcrafted in PA since 1941
- Brush Axe - Sickle Hook
- Clear Brush/Prune
Landscape/Blaze Trails



- Landowners
- Sportsmen
- Campers

**custom
engraving**

MG

Free Information - Dealers Welcome

1-800-708-5191 M-F/9-5
www.woodmanspal.com

EVERY SEASON STARTS AT



FEEL THE RUSH OF THE OUTDOORS

We have all you need for your next fishing trip.



Coupon valid through 8/31/08

TAKE \$10 OFF

any Hunting, Camping and/or Fishing purchase of \$50 or more*



* Limit one coupon per customer. Minimum purchase of \$50 before sales tax. Total amount of coupons must be redeemed at one time. Cannot be combined with any other offers, coupons or Guaranteed in Stock markdown, or used for licenses or previously purchased merchandise. Coupon valid on in-store purchases only. Not redeemable for cash, gift cards or store credit. No reproductions or rain checks accepted. Excludes ammunition, canoes, kayaks, boats, trolling motors, fish locators, Under Armour and The North Face. Some additional restrictions may apply. See store for details. ASSOCIATE: Scan barcode and take a group discount markdown. Valid through 8/31/08.

STORE HOURS: Monday-Saturday 9AM-9:30PM, Sunday 10AM-7PM

TO FIND A STORE NEAR YOU:
1.866.819.0038 | DicksSportingGoods.com

Ice Safety

More than one million anglers fish through the ice each winter in Michigan. Ice fishing offers a great winter recreational opportunity, but if you do go out on the ice, always observe these safety guidelines:

- Before venturing out onto the ice, check with local sources for the most up-to-date information on ice conditions.
- Do not go out on any ice unless you test the thickness and quality with a spud first.
- Pay attention to wind direction especially when fishing on large bodies of waters. If the wind direction is just right, it can blow the ice out and away from shore leaving anglers stranded.
- Be especially cautious in areas where air temperatures have fluctuated or heavy snowfall has occurred in recent days.
- Be especially wary of river ice, as it can be highly variable in thickness due to the erosive action of the underlying river current. Also, avoid ice formed over flowing water near shore, around inlets and outlets of rivers and streams, off points of land, near docks or on lakes with springs.
- Avoid aeration devices, such as warmwater bubblers used near marinas.
- Stay away from structures, docks or pilings in the ice.
- Wear a personal flotation device. Also, carry a couple of large nails and a length of nylon rope. If you should go through the ice, the nails could help provide a grip on the slippery surface and aid in getting you out.
- If you do break through the ice, try not to panic. Remember to turn toward the direction you came from -- toward the ice that supported you. Use the nails or your hands to gain a hold on the unbroken surface as an aid in getting out.
- Once you are out of the water and are lying on the ice, don't stand. Roll away from the point where you broke through until you are on solid ice.
- If you see someone fall through the ice, do not run toward the person. Carefully extend a rope, ladder, pole or line to the victim.
- Always get the victim to a hospital emergency room as soon as possible for treatment.

The **Operations Service Centers** shown below are open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

RAP (Report All Poaching) 800-292-7800

Weekly Fishing Report...517-373-0908 On the Web at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Fisheries Division's organizational structure is based on Great Lakes Basins using watersheds as the fundamental ecological management unit.

Baraga
427 US-41 North
Baraga, MI 49908
906-353-6651

Marquette
1990 US-41 South
Marquette, MI 49855
906-228-6561

Newberry
5100 M-123
Newberry, MI 49868
906-293-5131

Gaylord
1732 W M-32
Gaylord, MI 49735
989-732-3541

Roscommon
8717 N. Roscommon Rd.
Roscommon, MI 48653
989-275-5151

Bay City
503 N. Euclid Ave.,
Suite 1
Bay City, MI 48706
989-684-9141

Cadillac
8015 Mackinaw Trail
Cadillac, MI 49601
231-775-9727

Plainwell
621 N. 10th St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
269-685-6851

Southfield
26000 W. Eight Mile Rd.
Southfield, MI 48034
248-359-9040

Escanaba
6833 Hwy 2, 41 & M-35
Gladstone, MI 49837
906-786-2351

Management Units:
Western Lake Superior Management Unit
Eastern Lake Superior Management Unit
Northern Lake Michigan Management Unit
Central Lake Michigan Management Unit
Southern Lake Michigan Management Unit
Northern Lake Huron Management Unit
Southern Lake Huron Management Unit
Lake Erie Management Unit

NOTICE: This brochure is not a legal notice or a complete collection of fishing regulations and laws. It is a condensed guide issued for anglers' convenience. Copies of fisheries orders can be obtained from our Web site, www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Thank you for purchasing a 2008 Michigan Fishing License

Each year an estimated two million Michigan residents and nonresident tourists fish Michigan waters. Recreational fishing is the largest and highest-valued use of the state's fishery resources. The economic impact of sport fishing is in excess of \$2 billion annually and provides more than 15,000 jobs.

The mission of the DNR Fisheries Division is to protect and enhance fish environments, habitat, populations, and other forms of aquatic life and promote optimum use of these resources for the benefit of the people of Michigan.

Your purchase of a fishing license supports the work of department employees who manage and protect Michigan's abundant aquatic resources. We encourage you to keep fishing and to share your experiences with others. In doing so, you can do your part to keep our state's fishing heritage alive for future generations.

Full Library of Hunting, Fishing, Shooting and Outdoor Programming



www.XONtv.TV
OUTDOOR TV... YOUR WAY

XONtv is an Exciting, New Internet-Based Outdoor Television Network Giving Sportsmen & Women the most User-Friendly, High Quality Programming Possible. And, it's available All Day-Every Day!



ON DEMAND WHEN IT'S CONVENIENT FOR YOU!

www.XONtv.TV