

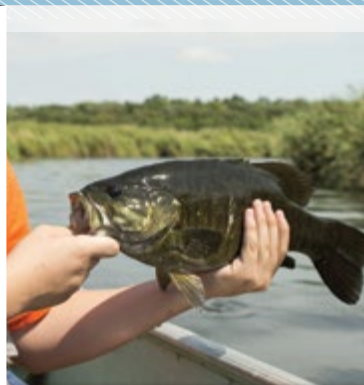
Effective March

2020

through February 28, 2021

A background image showing two people, a man and a woman, wearing fishing gear like hats and sunglasses, smiling while holding fishing rods. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

MINNESOTA FISHING REGULATIONS



DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

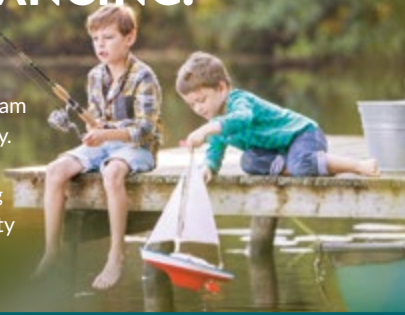
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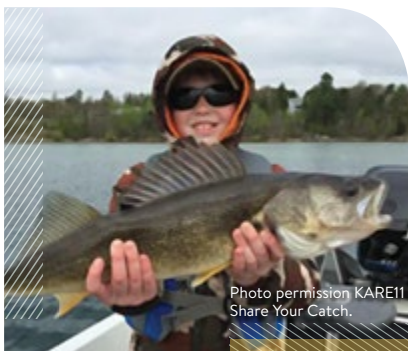


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- Mobile regulations
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> mndnr.gov/fishmn

mn DEPARTMENT OF
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Angling for Large Bluegill

Anglers have noticed the average size of bluegills decreasing in many Minnesota lakes over the last 50 years. Overharvest, especially of large bluegills, appears to be a big factor. Reducing bag limits has been shown to reverse this downward trend or at least protect the remaining large bluegills. DNR is considering reducing bag limits on many lakes across Minnesota.

Take these voluntary steps now for better bluegill fishing in the future:

- Release large male bluegills, especially during spawning—they influence the size of other fish in the population.
- Protect bluegill habitat by maintaining native plants along shore and in the lake. Leave other natural fish habitat like downed trees in the lake.



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ON THE COVER: Anglers fishing the Mississippi in a boat, the metropolitan Mississippi shoreline, Minnesota DNR staff photographer. Lower right, a young man releases a smallmouth bass.

TRESPASS LAW

The trespass law applies to all outdoor recreation, including but not limited to: hunting, boating, fishing, trapping, hiking, and camping. When taking part in any outdoor recreation, you may not enter legally posted land or agricultural land without permission.

Landowners, lessees, or authorized managers need only post their land once a year. The signs must be placed at intervals of 1,000 feet (500 feet in wooded areas) or signs may be placed at primary corners and at access points to the property. Signs must state “No Trespassing,” or similar words, in 2-inch high letters and have the signature or name and telephone number of the landowner, lessee, or manager.

There can be civil or criminal penalties for violation of the trespass laws with maximum fines up to \$3,000 and license revocation. All conservation officers and peace officers enforce trespass laws.

Rules of thumb for water access and recreational use

These are simple rules of thumb and are not intended to address all water access and recreational use situations. If you have doubts about whether you may be trespassing on private land, you should ask the landowner for permission.

What is lawful access?

A stream or lake is lawfully accessible if there is a public access, or if public land or a public road right-of-way borders the surface of the water, or if you have permission to cross private land to reach the surface of the water. This includes walking in the water or on the ice in connection with such activities regardless of who owns the land beneath the surface of the water.

What waters are open to recreational use?

A stream or lake is open to recreational use over its entire surface if it is capable of recreational use and if it is lawfully accessible. Any water that will float a canoe is capable of recreational use, but other waters may also qualify depending upon the circumstances.

What about road right-of-ways?

For more information on road right-of-way and use of a road ditch area go to page 87.

Fishing Ethics

As fishing pressure continues to grow, the DNR offers these suggestions to make fishing safe and enjoyable for all anglers:

- Don't litter with fishing line, Styrofoam, plastic bags, six-pack holders, and other plastics (can kill fish and wildlife that eat or get tangled up in these products).
- Prepare your boat and trailer before you are on the ramp so that you can launch quickly.
- Ask for permission before entering private land.
- Respect others by maintaining a reasonable distance from other anglers, boaters, swimmers, and anyone enjoying the water.
- Keep only the amount of fish you can use.

NEW REGULATIONS FOR 2020

Modified Special Regulations

- The 17-26" protected slot limit for walleye on the following Itasca County lakes has changed to a 20-24" protected slot with only one over 24" allowed: Moose, Split Hand, Swan, and Trout lakes.
- The 40" minimum length limit for northern pike in Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Crow Wing lakes (Hubbard County) and Mitchell Lake (Crow Wing County) has changed to a 24-36" protected slot, with only one over 36" allowed and a possession limit of three.
- The 26-44" protected slot limit for northern pike on Upper Red Lake has changed to a 30-40" protected slot, with only one over 40" allowed and a possession limit of three.
- The catch and release regulations for largemouth bass on Turtle Lake (Ramsey County), has changed to a 14-20" protected slot, with only one over 20" allowed.
- The 12-20" protected slot limit for smallmouth bass on Turtle Lake (Itasca County) has changed to a 14-20" protected slot, with only one over 20" allowed.

New Special Regulations

- The possession limits for walleye on Green Lake (Kandiyohi County), Horseshoe and Minnewawa lakes (Aitkin County), have been reduced to three.
- The possession limit for black crappie in Mound Lake (Todd County) has been reduced to five.

Dropped Special Regulations

- Special regulations for northern pike have been dropped on the following lakes: Ada (Cass County), Big (Beltrami County), Big Carnelian (Washington County), Elephant (St. Louis County), Elk (Clearwater County), Eunice (Becker County), Little Cascade (Cook County), Loon (Cook County), Maud (Becker County), Prairie (St. Louis County), Ten Mile (Cass County).
- Special regulations for muskellunge on Elk Lake (Clearwater County) have been dropped.
- The 17-26" protected slot limit for walleye on Deer, Battle, and Pickerel lakes in Itasca County has been dropped.

Changes to Wisconsin-Minnesota Mississippi River portion of border waters

- Lower possession limits and some changes to length limits for walleye, sauger, crappie, sunfish, yellow perch, catfish, white and yellow bass. See page 63-65 or DNR website for details.

Fishing Season Opener Dates

An opener does not mean fish may be harvested, more details can be found on pages 22-24.

YEAR	WALLEYE, PIKE, BASS	MUSKIE	STREAM TROUT
2020	May 9	June 6	April 18
2021	May 15	June 5	April 17
2022	May 14	June 4	April 16

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are nonnative animals and plants that do not naturally occur in our waters and cause ecological or economic harm. See images below of some AIS that have been found in Minnesota.

You can help prevent the introduction and spread of AIS by following both the required and recommended actions listed on page 9 before moving your boat, bait or other equipment from one waterbody to another.

Report new infestations: If you suspect a new infestation of an AIS, note the exact location, take a photo or keep the specimen, and call a DNR AIS Specialist: 888-MINNDNR.

Invasive carp captures must be immediately reported to the DNR, call 651-587-2781 or email invasivecarp.dnr@state.mn.us. Please take a photo and make arrangements with the DNR to transport the carp to the nearest area fisheries office. You may keep invasive carp for personal use with a special permit, which is available on the DNR website at mndnr.gov/invasive-carp.

Red swamp crayfish

2 to 5" long. Raised bright red spots on claws.



Starry stonewort

Grass-like algae with a small, star-shaped structure called a "bulbil" less than ¼-inch in diameter.



Spiny waterflea

Long tail, white with black spots, looks like gelatinous globs on fishing line, small (up to ⅜").



Zebra and quagga mussel

The only freshwater mollusks that attach to objects with byssal threads (up to 1½"); larvae float in water and are too small to see.



Faucet snail

Up to ½" long, light brown to black, 4-5 whorls.



New Zealand mudsnail

Up to ⅓" long, light to dark brown, cone-shaped shell, 5-6 whorls.



Eurasian watermilfoil

12 to 21 leaflet pairs per leaf.



Bighead and silver carp

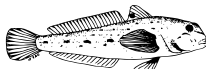
Eye located at lower part of head below the mouth; adults can weigh 60 pounds or more and be 30-45"; Silver can jump more than 10 feet high.



Bighead

Round goby

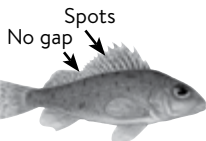
Single scallop-shaped pelvic fin, fish is usually 3-6" long.



Silver

Ruffe

Spots between rays of dorsal fin, no gap between fins.



Ruffe illustration
©C. Iverson, MN DNR

Required Actions—It's the Law!

Most anglers and boaters follow Minnesota's Clean, Drain, Dispose laws to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species:

✓ **Clean** all visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other prohibited invasive species from watercraft, trailers and other water-related equipment before leaving any water access or shoreland.

- It is illegal to transport prohibited invasive species—including zebra mussels—whether dead or alive.
- You can find a complete list of prohibited invasive species by visiting dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/laws.html#prohibited

✓ **Drain** water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait container, motor) and drain bilge, livewell and baitwell by removing drain plugs before leaving any water access or shoreland property.

- Keep drain plugs out and water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft.

✓ **Dispose** of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches and worms, in the trash.

- It is illegal to release bait into a waterbody or release aquatic animals from one waterbody to another.
- It is illegal to release worms in the state; worms are not native to Minnesota.
- If you want to keep your live bait, you must drain all lake or river water and refill the bait container with bottled or tap water.

Recommended Actions— Protect Your Waters

To further decontaminate your watercraft and equipment, it's important to spray, rinse or dry everything before going to another waterbody, especially if your boat has been in the water or moored for more than 24 hours—or if you have recently been in zebra mussel or spiny waterflea infested waters. Do one or more of the following:

- Dry for at least five days.
- Spray with high-pressure water.
- Rinse with very hot water. To reduce the risk of spreading zebra mussels, use water that is 120 °F at the point of contact and spray each area for at least two minutes, or use 140 °F water for at least 10 seconds on each area.



Watercraft Inspections

The Minnesota DNR has had a watercraft inspection program since 1992 to help prevent the spread of AIS. With the help of our partners, today nearly 1,000 authorized watercraft inspectors are working at lakes and rivers across Minnesota. The information below will help you prepare for a watercraft inspection. In 2019, 97 percent of boaters surveyed by inspectors arrived following Minnesota's Clean, Drain, Dispose laws.

What should I expect from an inspection?

Inspectors are trained to:

- Introduce themselves as a watercraft inspector.
- Provide you tips on how to inspect your own equipment (page 9).
- Physically inspect your boat, trailer and any other water-related equipment—meaning they may touch your boat or trailer to feel for tiny attached zebra mussels or other invasive species.
- Physically inspect compartments that may hold water, such as live wells or bilge areas.
- Deny launch if: 1) the inspector finds invasive species or any plants attached, and until the invasive species or plants are removed; or 2) you refuse an inspection.
 - › Although inspectors have the authority to deny launch, they will work with you to try to bring your watercraft into compliance.
 - › Inspectors will not deny launch based solely on where, or when, you last used your watercraft.
- Ask you questions to help improve the DNR's inspection program. You are not required to answer these questions.

How should I prepare for an inspection?

When entering an access:

- Always follow all state laws regarding AIS and arrive in compliance with Clean, Drain and Dispose laws (page 9).
- Open the lids of closed compartments that could hold water, like live wells, so the inspector can see they are drained. Your drain plugs should all be open while you transport your boat.
- Remember to install the drain plug after the inspection and before launching.

When exiting an access:

- Remove any plants, mud, and invasive animals.
- Pull all drain plugs.
- Open water-holding compartments to allow inspection.

What about on-site watercraft decontamination?

An inspector may require your watercraft to be decontaminated prior to launching or before leaving an access, if a unit is on-site. Most decontaminations can be done quickly. Trained inspectors use hot water to target areas to kill AIS. An inspector may also use high-pressure water. The DNR performs watercraft decontaminations free of charge.

How do I find a decontamination station?

The DNR posts decontamination unit locations online at mndnr.gov/decon. At these sites, inspectors will perform a courtesy inspection and determine if any decontamination is required.

Tell us how we're doing at: wip.dnr@state.mn.us

The DNR Lists Lakes and Rivers as “Infested” With Certain Aquatic Invasive Species

What do I need to do when I visit a lake or river on the infested waters list?

You should follow the same aquatic invasive species regulations—Clean, Drain, Dispose—every time you visit any lake or river, whether or not it is on the infested waters list.

You can help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species by taking the required and recommended actions on page 9.

If you are harvesting bait, commercial fishing, or diverting or taking water, you need to follow special regulations in infested waters. More details about bait harvest can be found on pages 31-33.

How do I know which waters are listed as infested?

- For the most complete and current infested waters list, visit mndnr.gov/AIS.
- You can use LakeFinder to find out if a particular lake is listed as infested: mndnr.gov/lakefind.
- You can request a copy from AIspublications@dnr.state.mn.us or 651-259-5100.
- Infested waters are posted with orange Invasive Species Alert signs at the public access.

A Message from DNR Conservation Officers

Each of us needs to take personal responsibility to prevent the spread of invasive species!

Minnesota law requires that all boaters and anglers:

- Clean plants and invasive species off all watercraft, trailers, and other water-related equipment.
- Drain water-related equipment, remove drain plugs and keep water-draining devices open while transporting.
- Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash.
- For the most complete and current infested waters list, visit mndnr.gov/AIS.



Anglers contribute to good fishing every time they purchase a rod, reel or most other manufactured fishing products.

Not apparent at the checkout counter, these purchases quietly raise revenue through a 10 percent federal excise tax paid by the manufacturers.

Granting these dollars to Minnesota and other states is the responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through its Wildlife and Sports Fish Restoration program.

Last year, the Minnesota DNR received \$13 million through this program.

Every one of these dollars is used to maintain and improve fishing, boating and angling access, and help create the next generation of environmentally enlightened anglers.

Read more about this important funding source at <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov>.

Spread the word so more people know how manufacturers, anglers, and natural resource agencies work together.

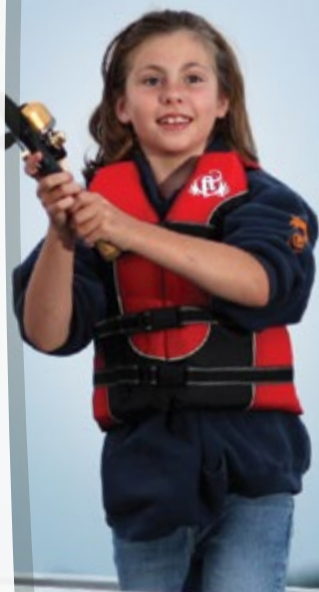


Photo courtesy of Take Me Fishing

DEFINITIONS

Culling (sorting)

The act of replacing one fish with another fish (see possession information on pages 33-34). See border waters with North Dakota on page 60.

Daily verses possession limits (bag limits)

For most species of fish, daily and possession limits are the same. Yellow perch are the exception with a daily limit of 20 and 40 in possession. The daily and possession limits include fish possessed by the person at all locations including a livewell, cold storage, at home, or at a resort. Daily limit is the number of fish an angler can take in one calendar day and includes those that are consumed or gifted.

Designated stream trout lakes

These waters have been listed in Minnesota Rule and have been stocked with trout that are typically found in streams: rainbow, brown, or brook trouts. Some also have splake, a cross between a lake trout and a brook trout.

Harvest slot limit

Allows the harvest of fish from a designated size range.

Immediately released or returned to the water

Fish retained longer than is needed to unhook, measure, and photograph at the site of capture are not considered immediately released and will be counted as part of an angler's possession limit. Fish placed in any type of container or on a stringer are not considered immediately released.

Inland waters

Lakes and rivers within Minnesota not bordering Canada or another state.

Maximum size limit

Prohibits the harvest of fish from some specified length and larger.

Minimum size limit

Prohibits harvest of fish less than a specified length.

Minnows

Members of the minnow family, except carp and goldfish; bullheads, cisco (tullibee), lake whitefish, goldeyes, and mooneyes (not over 7 inches long); suckers (not over 12 inches long); mud minnows, leeches, tadpole madtoms and stonecats. Border water regulations may vary.

One-over the size limit

Allows the harvest of one fish over a set size limit as part of the daily or possession limit.

Protected slot limit

Prohibits harvest of fish from a designated size range. Fish within this size range must be immediately released.

NEW—Rough fish

Carp, buffalo, sucker, sheepshead, bowfin (dogfish), gar, goldeye, and bullhead. Burbot (eelpout) and cisco (tullibee) are no longer considered rough fish. Border waters regulations may vary.

Under-utilized fish

Carp, buffalo, sucker, sheepshead, bowfin, burbot, cisco (tullibee), gar, goldeye, and redhorse.

FISHING LICENSES

- Resident youth younger than 16 do not need a fishing license.
- There is a \$1 agent fee associated with each license or stamp sold, including some free licenses.
- Purchase online at: mndnr.gov/buyalicense
- Duplicate licenses and stamps can be purchased from any ELS agent for \$2.50 each.
- License year begins March 1 and ends the last day of February unless otherwise noted.
- Fish house, dark house or shelter licenses valid March 1 to April 30 the following year (or 3-year period).
- A fishing license continues to be valid for the balance of the license period if the licensee's age, residency, or student qualification status changes.
- Super Sports licenses include: 50 cents for wolf management; 50 cents for emergency feeding and wild cervidae-deer health management; \$1 deer/bear management account; and \$2 for deer management.
- In the table below, the 3-digit code refers to the license identification code.

Resident Angling Licenses

YOUTH ANGLING Resident Individual Age 16 and 17	138	Youth Annual (Age 16 and 17)	Youth Individual Angling (exempt from trout/salmon stamp and spearing license)	\$5
ADULT ANGLING Resident Individual Ages 18 through 89	111	Adult Annual	Individual Angling	\$25
	110	24-hour	Individual Angling (no trout/salmon stamp required) Consecutive 24-hour	\$12
	140	72-hour	Individual Angling (no trout/salmon stamp required) Consecutive 72-hour	\$14
	141	3-year	Individual Angling Consecutive 3-years	\$71
	105	½ Bag Limit Conservation	Individual Angling ½ bag limits	\$17
	216	Sports	Individual Angling and Small Game (\$34.50 plus \$6.50 surcharge “paid by hunters for the acquisition and development of wildlife lands”)	\$41
	142	Super Sports	Individual Angling including trout/salmon stamp, Small Game including pheasant and waterfowl stamps, a deer tag (archery, firearms or muzzleloader) (\$93.50 plus \$6.50 surcharge “paid by hunters for the acquisition and development of wildlife lands”)	\$100

Continued on page 15

Resident Angling Licenses *Continued from page 14*

ANGLING LICENSES Additional Options	134	Walleye Stamp	Voluntary Individual Validation	\$5
	135		Pictorial Stamp mailed	+ 75 cents
	128	Trout/Salmon Stamp (required for anglers age 18-64; see page 18 for exemptions)	Individual Trout and Salmon Validation (required for designated trout lakes, Lake Superior and to harvest trout)	\$10
	129		Pictorial Stamp mailed	+ 75 cents
	130	Sturgeon Tag	Required to harvest a sturgeon	\$5
	113	Spearing/ Annual	Individual dark house spearing (angling license required for ages 18 through 89)	\$6
	119	House or Shelter Annual	Fish House, Dark House, or Shelter, see page 68 for details	\$15
	131	House or Shelter 3-year	Fish House, Dark House, or Shelter, see page 68 for details	\$42
	120	House or Shelter Rented Annual	Fish House, Dark House, or Shelter, see page 68 for details	\$30
	132	House or Shelter Rented 3-year	Fish House, Dark House, or Shelter, see page 68 for details	\$87
	115	Netting	Whitefish and cisco (tullibee) Lakes open to sport gillnetting, the seasons and regulations are online at mndnr.gov/regulations/fishing or by calling the DNR Information Center.	\$10
MARRIED ANGLING Resident Married Couple	112	Married Combination Annual	Married Couple Angling, each person may have their own possession limit.	\$40
	106	Married ½ Bag Limit Conservation Combination	Married ½ bag limit Conservation Combination, each person may keep half their regular limit.	\$27
	217	Married Combination Sports	Two Angling and one Small Game (\$50.50 plus \$6.50 surcharge “paid by hunters for the acquisition and development of wildlife lands”)	\$57

Resident Angling Licenses *Continued from page 15*

MARRIED ANGLING Resident Married Couple <i>Continued</i>	143	Married Combination Super Sports	A combination angling license including two trout/salmon stamps, and for the primary licensee an individual small game including pheasant and state waterfowl stamps and a single individual deer tag (archery, firearm or muzzleloader) (\$119.50 plus \$6.50 surcharge “paid by hunters for the acquisition and development of wildlife lands”)	\$126
LIFETIME ANGLING Resident Individual	411	Lifetime Angling	Renewal	FREE
			Age 3 and younger	\$344
			Age 4 to 15	\$469
			Age 16 to 50	\$574
			Age 51 and older	\$379
	407	Lifetime Angling and Spearing	Renewal	FREE
			Age 3 and younger	\$432
			Age 4 to 15	\$579
			Age 16 to 50	\$678
			Age 51 and older	\$439
	413	Lifetime Sports	Renewal	FREE
			Age 3 and younger	\$522
			Age 4 to 15	\$710
			Age 16 to 50	\$927
			Age 51 and older	\$603

FREE FISHING WEEKENDS

Take a Mom Fishing Weekend—May 9-10, 2020

Minnesota resident moms fish free.

Take a Kid Fishing Weekend—June 5-7, 2020

Minnesota residents 16 and older fish free with children younger than 16.

Take a Kid Ice Fishing Weekend—January 16-18, 2021

Minnesota residents 16 and older fish free with children younger than 16.

Nonresident Angling Licenses

A \$5 surcharge on nonresident licenses is included with the applicable fee.

Non-resident youth under age 16, see page 21.

YOUTH ANGLING Nonresident Individual age 16 and 17	205	Youth Annual age 16 and 17	Youth Individual Angling (exempt from trout/salmon stamp and spearing license)	\$5
ADULT ANGLING Nonresident Individual age 18 and over	121	Annual	Individual Angling	\$51
	139	24-hour	Individual Angling (no trout/salmon stamp required) Consecutive 24-hour	\$14
	127	72-hour	Individual Angling (no trout/salmon stamp required) Consecutive 72-hour	\$36
	126	7-Day	Individual Angling, Consecutive 7-day	\$43
ANGLING LICENSES Nonresident additional options	134	Walleye Stamp	Voluntary Individual Validation	\$5
	135		Pictorial stamp mailed	+ 75 cents
	128	Trout/Salmon Stamp (required for anglers age 18-64)	Individual Trout and Salmon Validation	\$10
	129		Pictorial stamp mailed	+ 75 cents
	130	Sturgeon Tag	Required to harvest a sturgeon	\$5
	118	Spearing Annual Age 18 and over	Individual Dark house Spearing (angling license required)	\$17
	116	House or Shelter Annual	Fish House, Dark House, or Shelter, see page 68 for details	\$37
	117	House or Shelter 7-Day	Fish House, Dark House, or Shelter, see page 68 for details	\$21
	133	House or Shelter 3-year	Fish House, Dark House, or Shelter, see page 68 for details	\$111
FAMILY ANGLING Nonresident Married Couple	124	Combination Annual Family	One or both parents and dependent children under age 16. Trout/salmon stamp not included.	\$68
	125	Combination 14-Day	Married Couple Consecutive 14-Day Angling	\$54
LIFETIME ANGLING Nonresident Individual	415	Lifetime Angling	Renewal	Free
			Age 3 and under	\$821
			Age 4 to age 15	\$1,046
			Age 16 to age 50	\$1,191
			Age 51 and over	\$794

Electronic Licensing Information

The Electronic Licensing System (ELS) issues licenses and stamp validations through 1,600 license agent locations statewide. Agents charge an issuing fee for each license and stamp sold.

Instant Licenses

Customers may purchase instant licenses and stamp validations online or by telephone at 888-665-4236. An additional convenience fee is added for sales via the website or telephone (see website for details). A self-printed or electronic license is sufficient proof of licensing. Lake sturgeon harvest tags may not be purchased online.

Lifetime Licenses

First-time purchase of lifetime licenses is only available at the DNR License Center in St. Paul. Application forms are available online or through the DNR Information Center 888-646-6367. A lifetime license holder who is required by law to have a game and fish license, must authorize their participation by obtaining an annual license each year the lifetime license is used. These annual licenses are issued at no fee.

Conservation Licenses

- Conservation Licenses are available only to residents of Minnesota.
- Daily and possession limits are half of what can be taken with a standard angling license. Fractions are rounded down to next whole number (see chart on page 21 for list).
- People bowfishing, spearing, or using other approved harvest methods under a Conservation License are limited to one half of the daily and possession limit for that method.
- Sturgeon harvest tag may not be used with a Conservation License.

Trout/Salmon Stamp

Trout/salmon stamp validations are printed on the ELS license. This is the only verification needed to prove purchase of the trout/salmon stamp. Purchasers may request the actual pictorial stamp for an additional 75 cents.



2020 Trout Stamp, Melissa Mickelson

Except as noted, anglers need a Minnesota trout/salmon stamp validation and a fishing or sports license when fishing in designated trout streams, designated trout lakes, Lake Superior, or when possessing trout on waters that are not designated trout water. All trout and salmon in possession require a trout/salmon validation, unless received as a gift, (see giving fish on page 34). Trout/salmon stamps are not required for children younger than 18 years old, adults who are 65 and older, people fishing with a 24-hour or 72-hour license or people who are exempt from fishing license requirements or who receive a fishing license at no charge.

Walleye Stamp

- Purchase of a walleye stamp is voluntary; it is not needed for fishing.
- Revenues from the sale of walleye stamps are used for stocking walleyes purchased from the private sector.
- Walleye stamp validations are printed on the ELS license. Purchasers may request the actual pictorial stamp for an additional 75 cents.



2020 Walleye Stamp, Josh Evan

LICENSE GUIDE

Do I need a fishing license?

To legally fish in Minnesota, all residents of Minnesota, age 16 to 89, must have a current Minnesota fishing license unless an exemption applies (see below “Who doesn’t need a fishing license?”). You must carry your license when fishing or traveling from an area where you were fishing. All nonresidents need a license except those younger than 16 do not need a license if a parent or guardian is licensed. More details can be found on page 21.

Did you buy a 3-year license in 2017?

Three-year angling licenses bought in 2017 are due for renewal. Stop by any license agent, buy on your smartphone at mndnr.gov/buyalicense, visit the [main DNR fishing license page](#) or call 888-665-4236 (888-MNLICENSE) to buy your new license today.

Who is a resident?

- To qualify as a resident, a person must maintain a legal residence in Minnesota for at least 60 consecutive days before purchasing a license.
- Residents 21 years of age or older must provide a current Minnesota driver’s license or Minnesota public safety ID card or have a receipt for an application for a Minnesota driver’s license or Minnesota public safety ID that is at least 60 days old.
- A nonresident under age 21 whose parent is a Minnesota resident is considered a resident.

Who is a nonresident?

Nonresidents include anyone who does not meet the definition of a resident.

Who doesn’t need a fishing license?

- Residents younger than 16, or residents 90 and older.
- Minnesota residents enlisted in the U.S. Armed Forces, stationed outside the state, and home on leave (you must carry leave or furlough papers while fishing or transporting fish).
- Minnesota residents who have served in federal active service outside the U.S. during the preceding 24 months who are now discharged from overseas duty (must carry discharge papers while fishing or transporting fish).

Licenses by phone. Purchase an e-license today!

Minnesota fishing licenses can be purchased via most mobile devices. No more waiting in line. No more stops on the way to your favorite fishing spot.

Purchasing an e-license on your smartphone or tablet means that you won’t receive a paper copy of your license. Instead, you elect to receive a text message, email or both that displays your valid license.

Only fishing and hunting licenses that don’t require a tag can be purchased as e-licenses. The text or email confirming your valid license must be presented to a conservation officer upon request.



mndnr.gov/buyalicense



Do I need a free fishing license?

mndnr.gov/regulations/fishing/exemptions.html. Anglers who meet certain qualifications must obtain a free license, required for:

- Foreign exchange students with proof of foreign exchange student status. Available from any agent.
- Residents 16 and older who have a developmental disability or veterans with a 100 percent service-connected disability. Available only from the DNR by calling 877-348-0498.
- Residents who are legally blind, receiving SSI or SSDI, receiving worker's compensation for total and permanent disability. Must present current letter from Social Security stating disability or SSI benefits to any license agent to receive free license. SSI/SSDI benefit verification is available online at socialsecurity.gov, by calling 800-772-1213 or at your local Social Security office.
- Residents receiving disability benefits under the Federal Railroad Retirement Act or U.S. Postal Service. Must present proof of disability benefits. Available at any agent.
- Residents of a Minnesota licensed nursing or boarding care home, wards of the Minnesota Commissioner of Human Services, residents of state institutions, or inpatients of a U.S. Veterans Administration hospital. Must use application available from the DNR (888-646-6367).

Do I need a license to fish in Minnesota State Parks?

Minnesota residents may fish without a license for any species except trout when:

- Shore fishing or wading on state-owned land within a state park.
- Fishing from a boat or on the ice on water bodies that are completely inside the boundaries of a state park.
- People who want to keep trout, or fish in waters specifically managed for trout, must have a fishing license and trout/salmon stamp validation.

What if I'm helping a child fish?

If an adult is showing a child younger than 16 how to bait, cast, and remove fish, no license is needed. The child must hold the rod, set the hook and reel in the fish.

What if I'm helping someone fish who has a developmental disability?

You do not need a license to assist a disabled person, who must have a valid license unless an exemption applies. You may only fish with the number of lines allowed for all licensed or exempt anglers fishing.

What if I don't have a paper license because it was purchased on a mobile device?

Licenses purchased on a mobile device are issued in electronic format. Purchasers choose to receive an email, text message or both. The email and/or text message stored electronically on your mobile device serves as your license. You must carry your mobile device or a printed copy of the email or text message you received when fishing or traveling from an area where you were fishing.

Can I get a refund?

Check your license for accuracy prior to leaving the license agent location. All sales are final. Refunds can only be issued if the:

- Licensee dies before the opening of the licensed season;
- Licensee is unable to participate in the licensed activity because the licensee is called to active military duty or military leave is canceled during the entire open season of the licensed activity; or
- Licensee purchased two licenses for the same license season in error.

What are license requirements for nonresident youth?

Nonresidents under 16 may either fish under a parent or guardian’s license (including a family license) or must purchase a nonresident youth license. If fishing under a family license or their own youth license, youth may possess their own limit; if fishing under a parent or guardian’s individual license any fish kept are counted towards the parent’s possession limit.

What if I lose or can’t find my license?

You can go to any license agent and have them print a duplicate license. The cost is \$2.50, which includes a 50-cent fee charged by the vendor.

What if I’m not a state resident but am a full-time student at a Minnesota school, college or university?

You may purchase fishing licenses at the resident rate if you reside in Minnesota and show the license agent a fee statement showing full-time enrollment.

What if I’m not a state resident but serve in the U.S. Armed Forces and am stationed in Minnesota or the spouse of a Minnesota resident on active military duty?

By showing proof, you may purchase fishing licenses and stamps at the resident rate.

How can my license be revoked?

- Fishing privileges may be revoked for one year for two or more convictions of fishing violations in three years. Violations of fishing laws in other states may affect your ability to fish in Minnesota.
- Violating the gross over-limits penalty provisions can result in privileges being revoked for three or five years, depending on the number of fish involved in the violation.
- Failure to pay fines or to appear in court on a violation can result in revocation of all game and fish licenses until the fines are paid.

How to Figure Your Bag Limit for a Conservation License

- Applies to bag limits established for inland waters, experimental and special management waters, and border waters.
- Does not apply to size restrictions, but may only have up to the corresponding bag limit. For example: five fish with three over 10 inches for a Conservation License would be two fish with only two over 10 inches.
- Divide the regular limit in half. If necessary, round down to the nearest whole number. For example: nine fish regular limit would be a four fish conservation limit.

Conservation License Bag Limits

REGULAR DAILY OR POSSESSION BAG LIMIT	1 fish	2 fish	3 fish	4 fish	5 fish	6 fish	8 fish	10 fish	20 fish	25 fish	50 fish
CONSERVATION DAILY OR POSSESSION BAG LIMIT	Catch-and-release	1 fish	1 fish	2 fish	2 fish	3 fish	4 fish	5 fish	10 fish	12 fish	25 fish

SEASONS AND LIMITS—INLAND AND LAKE SUPERIOR

- All calendar dates are for 2020 unless noted otherwise.
- Daily and possession limits are the same unless otherwise noted.
- Most species have experimental or special regulations on some waters. See pages 38-54.
- For Canada, Wisconsin, Iowa, South Dakota, and North Dakota border water regulations see pages 55-65. For Lake Superior see pages 27-29.
- Different limits for Conservation License apply, chart is on page 21.
- Northern pike dark house spearing limits differ, see page 68.
- Cook County: Gull Lake, Sea Gull River and Cross River from County Road 12 to Gunflint Lake are closed to fishing April 1 - May 24.

INLAND WATERS


Inland Seasons and Limits

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	ZONE AND ANGLING POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Northern pike	May 9, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	<p>Northeast Zone: 2 (not more than 1 over 40" in possession. All from 30-40" must be immediately released.)</p> <p>North-central Zone: 10 (not more than 2 over 26". All from 22-26" must be immediately released.)</p> <p>Southern Zone: 2 (minimum size 24")</p> <p>See Zone Map on page 24. Dark house spearing limits differ, see page 68.</p>

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Walleye and sauger	May 9, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	6 combined total (not more than 1 walleye over 20" in possession)
Muskellunge/hybrid muskellunge	June 6 - Dec. 1	1 combined total (minimum size 54")
SIZE EXCEPTION: the following Twin Cities area lakes: Eagle, Pierson and Wasserman, Carver County; Crystal and Orchard, Dakota County; Gervais, Island, Johanna, Phalen and Silver, Ramsey County; Bryant, Bush, Bde Maka Ska, Cedar, Crystal, Isles, Nokomis and Weaver, Hennepin County; Cedar, Scott County; Clear and Elmo, Washington County.		1 combined total (minimum size 40")

Continued on page 23

Inland Seasons and Limits *continued from page 22*

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Largemouth bass—Statewide (except Northeast Zone)	May 9 - 22	Catch-and-release only
	May 23, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	6 combined total largemouth or smallmouth bass
Largemouth bass—Northeast Zone (Pelican and Ash lakes in St. Louis County are part of the Northeast Zone for bass. See Zone Map on page 24.)	May 9, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	6 combined total largemouth or smallmouth bass
Smallmouth bass—Statewide (except Northeast Zone)	May 9 - 22	Catch-and-release only
	May 23 - Sept. 13	6 combined total largemouth or smallmouth bass
	Sept. 14, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	Catch-and-release only
Smallmouth bass—Northeast Zone	May 9, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	6 combined total largemouth or smallmouth bass
Crappie (white or black and their hybrids)	Continuous	10 combined total
Sunfish (bluegill, pumpkinseed, green, orangespotted, longear, warmouth, and their hybrids)	Continuous	20 combined total
Rock bass	Continuous	30
White bass	Continuous	30
Catfish (channel and flathead)	Channel catfish: continuous Flathead catfish: April 1 - Nov. 30	5 combined total. No more than 2 can be flathead (only 1 catfish over 24").
Perch	Continuous	20 daily, 40 in possession.
Bullhead	Continuous	100
Whitefish and under-utilized fish. Sport netting regulations effective each fall are available on the DNR website.	Continuous	No limit. EXCEPTION: On Leech Lake Indian Reservation whitefish limit 25 and cisco (tullibee) limit 50.
 NEW—Rough fish (definition on page 13).	Continuous	No limit.
Smelt	Continuous	No limit.

Continued on page 24

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Lake or shovelnose sturgeon Includes Lake Superior and the St. Louis River. (See pages 55-65 for other sturgeon waters and regulations.)	March 1 - April 14 June 16, 2020 - April 14, 2021	Catch-and-release only; no tag needed.
Paddlefish	No open season	
Lake trout (SUMMER) Statewide	May 9 - Sept. 30	2
Lake trout (WINTER) Outside or partly outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW).	2020 Season: Jan. 18 - March 31 2021 Season: Jan. 16 - March 31	2
Lakes entirely within the BWCAW.	2020 Season: Jan. 1 - March 31 2021 Season: Jan. 1 - March 31	2

Northern Pike Possession Limits for Inland Waters

The state is divided into three zones for northern pike—Northeast, North-central, and Southern—each with a specific regulation for angling and for spearing. Waters with special regulations (pages 38-54), and border waters (pages 55-65), are not covered by the zone regulations and the special regulation is in effect for both spearing and angling. Details can be found at mndnr.gov/pike.



Zone Map

The Northeast Zone is defined as north and east of U.S. Highway 53 from Duluth to International Falls.

North-central/Southern Boundary: from the South Dakota Border—State Highway 7 at Ortonville—east past Hutchinson, south on State Highway 22 to Glencoe, east on U.S. Highway 212 to Chaska, south on State Highway 41 to the Minnesota River to the Mississippi River to the Wisconsin border.

The waters of the Minnesota or Mississippi rivers where those waters create the North-central/Southern Boundary are included in the Southern Zone.

What is the statewide possession limit for northern pike?

The maximum number of northern pike that you may possess is 10 fish. The statewide possession limit may include fish from different zones but may not exceed the possession limit or size restrictions of the zone where the fish are taken, regardless of where those fish are possessed. For example, you cannot possess 10 pike taken from the North-central and also two pike taken from the Southern or Northeast zone.

How do possession limits apply to lakes with special regulations on northern pike?

If the possession limit on a special regulation lake or stream is different than the zone limit, the special regulation limit applies. For example, if the special regulation limit is less than the statewide regulation, you may only have one daily limit from that lake included in your possession limit.

TROUT—BROOK, BROWN, RAINBOW AND SPLAKE

The following regulations apply to stream trout species (brook, brown, rainbow and splake trout species) living in lakes and streams. They do not include lake trout which are listed under Inland Waters (page 24). Lake Superior tributaries (pages 27-29) and Experimental and Special Regulations (pages 38-54) are also not covered in this section.

Calendar dates refer to 2020 unless noted otherwise. Daily and possession limits are the same.

Trout fishing is a sport for everyone. You don't need a boat and motor, a depth locator, or any expensive tackle. All you need is a trout/salmon stamp (page 18), fishing pole, some basic tackle like small spinning lures or worms to go on hooks, and—optionally—a pair of hip boots.

Learn more about stream trout fishing at mndnr.gov/fishing/trout_streams.

General Regulations

- Fishing hours for stream trout on inland waters are from one hour before sunrise to 11 p.m.
- Only one line is allowed winter or summer when fishing on designated stream trout lakes and designated trout streams.
- For legal tackle, more details can be found on page 30.
- Possessing live minnows or using them for bait on designated stream trout lakes is prohibited. Only dried, frozen, or pickled (brined) minnows are allowed. Live leeches, worms, and wax worms are legal to use.
- Taking of any species, including catch-and-release angling, in designated trout waters during the closed trout season is prohibited.
- Taking minnows or leeches from designated trout waters, except under special permit, is prohibited.
- All stream trout must have head, tail, fins, and skin intact when being transported.
- Rough fish may not be taken by spear, harpoon, archery, or dip net in designated trout lakes or streams. However, dark house spearing (page 68) is allowed.
- The list of Designated Trout Lakes can be found on the DNR website mndnr.gov/fishing/trout_lakes/index.html. A link to a list of designated trout streams is found on the same page.

Stream Trout Species Seasons and Limits (Incudes Lakes)

WATERS	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Streams—Statewide Except Southeast Minnesota	April 18 - Sept. 30	5 combined total (not more than 1 over 16")
Streams—Southeast Minnesota Includes Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue counties.	Jan. 1 - April 17	Catch-and-release only
	April 18 - Sept. 14	5 combined total (not more than 1 over 16")
	Sept. 15 - Oct. 15	Catch-and-release only
	Jan. 1, 2021 - April 16, 2021	Catch-and-release only
	Sept. 15, 2019 - April 17, 2020	Catch-and-release only
EXCEPTIONS: Within these state parks: Beaver Creek Valley (East Beaver Creek); Forestville (Forestville Creek, Canfield Creek, South Branch Root River) and Whitewater (Middle Branch Whitewater River, Trout Run Creek). Also within city boundaries of Chatfield, Lanesboro, Preston, Rushford, and Spring Valley.	April 18 - Sept. 14	5 combined total (not more than 1 over 16"). See special regulations for these streams, pages 50-54.
	Sept. 15, 2020 - April 16, 2021	Catch-and-release only
Lakes (SUMMER) Statewide	May 9 - Oct. 31	5 combined total (not more than 3 over 16")
Lakes (WINTER) Outside or partly outside the BWCAW	2020 Season: Jan. 18 - March 31 2021 Season: Jan. 16 - March 31	5 combined total (not more than 3 over 16")
Lakes entirely within the BWCAW	2020 Season: Jan. 1 - March 31 2021 Season: Jan. 1 - March 31	5 combined total (not more than 3 over 16")
Lakes EXCEPTIONS: Little Andrus (Snowshoe), Cass County; Allen and Pleasant, Crow Wing County; Bad Medicine, Becker County.	Winter season closed for stream trout.	

LAKE SUPERIOR AND ITS TRIBUTARIES

The following regulations clarify the fishing seasons and limits for Lake Superior and the streams and rivers flowing into it. While fishing Minnesota waters, anglers must follow Minnesota regulations.

Licensing

Anyone fishing on the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior must possess a Minnesota angling license and a Minnesota trout/salmon stamp validation except as listed on page 18. A person cannot fish on Wisconsin waters of Lake Superior with only a Minnesota angling license except when fishing the St. Louis River.

Location

- There are two sets of fishing regulations for Lake Superior and its tributaries based on whether you are above or below a posted boundary, which corresponds to areas accessible to migratory fish. A [list of boundary locations](#) on tributaries can be found on the DNR website by searching for “north shore upstream boundaries.”
- Some tributary streams have special regulations. Additionally, some streams have sanctuary areas closed to fishing, including the French, Knife, Lester, Devil Track and Kadunce rivers, and Gauthier Creek. (See Experimental and Special Regulations, page 50.)
- Angling from boats is closed October 5 - November 30 on the portion of Lake Superior from the outermost portion of the north arm of the Duluth ship channel to the mouth of Chester Creek.

Hours

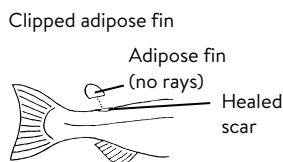
Angling hours on Lake Superior tributaries below the posted boundaries are from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset. Exceptions are the St. Louis River (St. Louis and Carlton counties) and the Pigeon River (Cook County).

Methods

- Anglers are restricted to a single hook or fly only—no treble hooks—on Lake Superior tributary streams and rivers below the posted boundaries. Exceptions are the St. Louis River (St. Louis and Carlton counties) and the Pigeon River (Cook County).
- Treble hooks and two lines may be used on Lake Superior and on the St. Louis estuary, except only one is allowed within 100 yards from where a tributary stream enters the lake. Also, only one line may be used in tributary streams.
- On Lake Superior tributaries below the posted boundaries, a fish that is hooked in any part of the body, except the mouth, must be immediately returned to the water.

Possession and Transportation

- Unclipped steelhead (rainbow trout) must be immediately released on Lake Superior and its tributaries. A clipped adipose fin, used to identify stocked trout, must show a healed scar (see diagram right). Marking, tagging, or fin clipping fish and then releasing them without a DNR permit is unlawful.



Continued on page 29

Lake Superior and Tributaries Below Posted Boundaries

Including St. Louis River below the Minnesota–Wisconsin boundary cable and Lake Superior tributaries with no posted boundaries.

Calendar dates refer to 2020 unless noted otherwise. More details can be found on page 24 for lake sturgeon regulations in Lake Superior. For other species not listed see inland waters.

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT	SIZE LIMIT
Brook trout and splake	April 18 - Sept. 7	1 (combined total brook trout, splake, brown trout and rainbow trout is 5).	Minimum size limit 20"
Rainbow trout—clipped	Continuous	3 (combined total brook trout, splake, brown trout and rainbow trout is 5).	Minimum size limit 16"
Rainbow trout—unclipped	Continuous	Catch-and-release only	
Brown trout	Continuous	5 (combined total brook trout, splake, brown trout and rainbow trout is 5).	Minimum size limit 10". Only 1 over 16".
Lake trout	Dec. 1, 2019 - Oct. 4, 2020 Dec. 1, 2020 - Oct. 3, 2021	3	
Salmon (Chinook, coho, pink, and Atlantic)	Continuous	5 combined total (only 1 can be Atlantic salmon)	Minimum size limit 10"
Walleye	May 9, 2020 - March 1, 2021	2	Minimum size limit 15"
Northern pike	May 9, 2020 - March 1, 2021	2	
Smelt	Continuous	no limit	

Lake Superior Tributaries Above Posted Boundaries

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT	SIZE LIMIT
Brook and brown trout	April 18 - Sept 30	5 combined total	Not more than 1 over 16"
Rainbow trout	April 18 - Sept 30	Catch-and-release only	

Possession and Transportation *continued from page 27*

- While fishing or while on the water, brook, brown and rainbow trout, splake, salmon, muskellunge, and catfish must be transported with head and tails intact.
- While transporting fish on land, 1) rainbow, brown and brook trout, and splake must be transported with head and tail intact; and 2) salmon, lake trout, and walleye may be filleted but must retain a 1-inch square patch of skin with scales. See pages 34-35 for additional general information on transporting fish.
- Rough fish or other species not named in the Lake Superior section are subject to inland regulations.

Taking of Smelt

- Smelt may be taken night or day. Artificial lights may not be used to lure or attract smelt. There is no limit on smelt, and smelt from Lake Superior may be bought or sold; however, live smelt may not be possessed or transported.
- Dip nets may be used for taking smelt. Minnow seines not more than 25 feet long or 4 feet deep may be used to take smelt in the St. Louis River and in Lake Superior when more than 100 feet from the mouth of any stream.
- Taking of smelt at any time is prohibited in the following Lake Superior Tributaries: French River, Sucker River, Little Sucker River (St. Louis County); Silver Creek, Encampment Creek, Crow Creek (Lake County).

Taking of Smelt and Cisco (Tullibee), and Trout Eggs, for Bait

- Anglers may take cisco (tullibee) or smelt from Lake Superior or its tributaries below the posted boundaries to use as bait only on Lake Superior.
- To use cisco (tullibee) or smelt taken from Lake Superior or its tributaries as bait on other water bodies, the fish must be preserved under a DNR-issued bait preservation permit. Permit applications are available from the DNR, 500 Lafayette, St. Paul, MN 55155-4026. Freezing is not a preservation method.
- No other fish species from Lake Superior or its tributaries below the posted boundaries, or the St. Louis River downstream of the Fond du Lac dam, may be used as bait except trout eggs (see next bullet).
- Eggs of trout harvested from Lake Superior or its tributaries below the posted boundaries may be used as bait (spawn bags). Spawn bags from Lake Superior trout may only be used on Lake Superior and its tributaries below the posted boundaries, and no other waters in the state.
- Spawn bags can be bought or sold only if they are made from either 1) fish eggs from a licensed aquaculture facility; or 2) fish eggs taken from a source outside Minnesota that has been certified disease free and are preserved and labeled under a Minnesota bait preservation permit. These spawn bags may only be used in Lake Superior and tributaries below posted boundaries.

Guide Licenses

A guide's license is required to operate a charter boat for the purpose of guiding or assisting anglers on the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior and the St. Louis River Estuary.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

TACKLE AND LINES

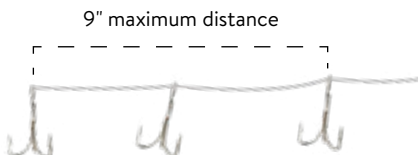
How many lines can I fish with?

- You may use only one line during the open water season.
- You may use two lines through the ice except on designated trout lakes and streams.
- On designated trout lakes and streams, only one line is allowed at any time.
- Border waters (page 55) and Lake Superior (page 27) may allow more than one line.

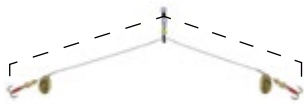
How many hooks can I use on the end of line?

- You may use up to three single- or multiple-pronged hooks as a single tackle configuration on the end of one fishing line.
- With the exception of multiple artificial flies, the total length from the first hook to the last hook must be 9 inches or less.
- You may use up to three artificial flies on one fishing line when you are fishing for bass, crappie, rock bass, sunfish, or trout. There are no restrictions on distance between the flies.
- Unless fishing on a designated trout stream or lake, you may add one additional single or multiple hook on a line as part of a single artificial lure or bait. The hook must be within 3 inches of the artificial lure or bait.

Single Tackle Configuration Examples



Both sides combined length cannot exceed 9"



Artificial Lure/Baits Examples



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Can I use bait in Minnesota waters?

- You can fish with a variety of live or dead bait including worms, night crawlers, insects and larva. If you are fishing with minnows or leeches, a number of restrictions apply.
- If you choose to keep your bait when done fishing, you must exchange water in bait buckets with tap or bottled water prior to leaving any water body, except when you are fishing through the ice. The exception for ice fishing does not apply when fishing on Lake Superior.
- You can't dispose of unwanted minnows and leeches in Minnesota waters. Unused bait, including worms and night crawlers, should be disposed of in the garbage.
- You can't use whole or parts of game fish, goldfish, carp, or salamanders (including mudpuppies) for bait.

What are the rules for live minnows and leeches?

- You can't import live minnows or leeches into Minnesota from outside the state.
- You can't transport more than 12 dozen minnows or leeches without a commercial minnow license.

Can I take my own minnows and leeches?


Yes, if you have a fishing license, you can take an unlimited number of minnows and leeches for personal use only. However, you can only transport up to 12 dozen at a time.

Where can I take minnows and leeches?

With some exceptions, you can take them from all waters of the state where you can legally access the water. Exceptions include:

- Within the boundaries of state parks.
- Within designated trout waters, except under permit.
- Most aquatic invasive species infested waters. See mndnr.gov/AIS for a current list of infested waters.
- All streams and connected waters in Lincoln, Pipestone, Murray, Rock and Nobles counties south of U.S. Highway 14 and west of U.S. Highway 59 to the South Dakota border.
- A harvest permit is required to take madtoms and stonecats in Dodge, Freeborn and Mower counties.

When can I harvest bait from infested waters?

- Minnows and leeches may be taken for personal use from waters infested solely with Eurasian watermilfoil using a cylindrical trap not exceeding 16 inches in diameter and 32 inches long. At these waters, harvested bait may only be used on the water where taken. The harvest and use of bait from other infested waters is prohibited.
- Bullhead, sucker, mooneye, goldeye and sheepshead may be taken by hook and line from infested rivers or streams for personal use as bait on the same water with the exception of St. Louis River in Carlton and St. Louis counties downstream of the Fond du Lac dam but may not be transported live from the river or stream. Where the river or stream is divided by barriers such as dams, fish for bait must be caught and used on the same section of the river or stream.
-  **NEW**—You can obtain a DNR permit to take gizzard shad by cast net for personal use as bait for fishing from Minnesota portions of the Mississippi River downstream of St. Anthony Falls, the Minnesota River downstream of Granite Falls, and the St. Croix River downstream of the dam at Taylors Falls.

How can I take minnows and leeches?

You can use dip nets, seines and traps. See restrictions below:

- Seines may be up to 25-feet long with bar mesh up to ¼-inch. The depth of the seine may be up to 37 inches deep if the bar mesh is between ¼-inch and ⅜-inch, or up to 48 inches of material for bar mesh sizes smaller than ⅜-inch.
- Traps may not exceed a width of 30 inches and length of 30 inches, height may not exceed 15 inches, the diameter or width of the opening may not exceed 1½ inches, and mesh size may not exceed ½-inch bar measure. Traps must have a waterproof tag bearing the name and address of the owner.
- Certain rough fish may be taken from rivers using hook and line (more details can be found on page 31). At these waters, harvested bait may only be used on the water where taken.
- You can't use throw nets (cast nets).

Do I have to bring in fresh or bottled water to transport minnows taken from a water body?

Yes. You can't transport water from a lake or stream at any time in Minnesota (exception for ice fishing, see page 31). See the transportation section on pages 34-35.

After I've kept minnows, leeches or bait, can I dispose of what I don't want back into the lake or stream?

No. You can't dispose of unused or unwanted minnows or leeches in any Minnesota water. Dispose of unused and unwanted bait, including worms, in the trash. For more information see the bait section on page 31 of these regulations.

When do I need to get a commercial license to take and sell minnows and leeches?

- If you want to transport more than 12 dozen.
- If you want to sell minnows or leeches at retail or wholesale.

What are the rules for live suckers?

Suckers 12 inches and shorter are considered minnows and regular bait rules for minnows apply. However, suckers longer than 12 inches may only be transported alive if they are in containers that are not livewells or other parts of a boat and only if bought from a licensed commercial vendor. You must have a valid sales receipt from the vendor on your person.

What are the rules for live bullheads?

- Live bullheads, regardless of size, may not be transported north of Minnesota Highway 210.
- Bullheads must be transported in a container with a locking lid to prevent escape.
- Bullheads less than 7 inches in length are considered minnows and may be possessed in any quantity but may not be transported north of Minnesota Highway 210.
- You may take and possess bullheads, 7-10 inches in length, for use as live bait. They are counted as part of your daily and possession limit of 100.
- Legal methods of taking bullheads are dip net, angling or minnow seines.

What rules apply to dead bait from Minnesota?

- Dead bait originating in Minnesota (for Lake Superior, see page 29) must be labeled if it is smelt, cisco (tullibee) or a VHS-susceptible species such as spottail or emerald shiners, or bluntnose minnows. You must keep the labeling on your person when angling with that bait.

Continued on page 33

- If you are using rainbow smelt, cisco (tullibee), or a VHS-susceptible species as bait, it must have been harvested from a waterbody that was tested negative for VHS, or have been preserved and labeled under bait preservation permit issued to a commercial licensee.
- You must keep labeling from preserved bait on your person when angling with that bait.
- Freezing is not a bait preservation method because freezing doesn't kill VHS.

What rules apply to dead bait imported from outside Minnesota?

- The bait must be from water bodies with negative fish health certification or the bait has been preserved under a Minnesota DNR bait preservation permit.
- Bait includes any baitfish, aquatic worms, amphibians, invertebrates and insects that are lawful to use for bait.
- You must keep labeling from imported bait on your person when angling with that bait.

Where can I get more information about bait?

Check the Other Species section of the online regulations or contact the Minnesota DNR Information Center at 888-MINNDNR.

METHODS

What if people are fishing together from a boat or on shore?

- A party is two or more people fishing together from a single watercraft or on shore while maintaining unaided visual and vocal contact.
- The number of fish your party possesses can't be more than the combined limits of all party members. You can only transport your individual limit of fish.

What fishing methods are illegal?

- Intentionally fishing for a species during its closed season.
- Using an artificial light to lure, attract or spot fish. However, you may use a lighted artificial lure. Batteries used in lighted fishing lures must not contain mercury.
- Leaving your fishing rod or any type of line with hooks attached in the water unattended. Notifications or messages from electronic devices is not a legal means of attending fishing equipment.
- Using explosives, firearms, chemicals (not including a scented bait), spring (or automatic hook setting) devices that impale or hook fish, or electricity to take fish.
- Taking fish by hand (noodling) or by snagging.

POSSESSION

How many fish can I keep?

- Your daily and possession limits are the same unless otherwise noted.
- A fish is in your possession once you have caught and kept it. Your possession limit includes any fish you have kept that day plus any fish in storage from a previous day.
- Processed fish (e.g. pickled) are considered still in possession and count towards your limit.
- Culling is allowed in most waters until you reach your daily or possession limit.
- Culling is not allowed on North Dakota border waters or on Mille Lacs Lake (except bass may be culled). See culling definition on page 13.

Continued on page 34

What are length limits?

Some waters have fish length restrictions, such as slot limits, that require fish to be immediately released if they are not within a certain size range. There also can be maximum size limits or minimum size limits.

You can't possess any fish outside the legal length limits of the waters on which you are traveling or fishing, unless all of the following conditions are true: 1) The fish was legally taken from a connected water body or packaged by a licensed fish packer; 2) You are traveling back to your lodging or docking and taking the most direct route; and 3) You are not fishing while you are in transit.

What if I've caught fish on waters with size restrictions different from statewide regulations (e.g. waters with special and experimental regulations)?

If you are on or fishing in waters with size restrictions that are different from the statewide size restrictions, fish that have size restrictions should not be filleted and must be kept so that they can be examined, measured and counted. The fish must have their heads, tails, fins and skin intact and be measurable. Fish with size restrictions must not be filleted.

When I'm on waters with size restrictions different from statewide regulations, can I eat fish that I caught and kept?

You may do so if:

- You are on the ice, docked or moored to shore, and you are in the act of preparing and using the fish for a meal, you can fillet the fish but must retain the intact carcass, which must contain the head, dorsal fin and tail.
- You also may prepare a meal of fish using fillets packaged by a licensed fish packer.
- Any fish caught and eaten on the same day count toward your daily bag limit.

Can I give away fish that I've kept?

If you have kept a fish and want to transfer it as a gift, it must be accompanied by a receipt that must remain with the gift. The person receiving the gift can't possess more than the statewide limit including your gift. The receipt must contain all of the following information:

- Name and address of the owner.
- Name and address of recipient.
- Date of transfer.
- Description of the gift (number and species).
- License number (DNR number or transaction number) under which the fish were taken.

TRANSPORTATION

Can I transport live fish other than bait?

In most instances, the answer is no.

- You may not transport fish over land in enough water to keep them alive.
- You can't transfer or stock live fish or fish eggs from one body of water to another.
- You can never transport water taken from any lake or stream.

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What about fish for an aquarium?

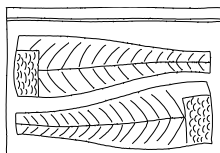
If you are older than 16, you can transport live fish for display in a home aquarium only if you purchase the fish from an authorized aquaculture licensee and have documents such as a sales receipt to prove it.

Youth age 16 and younger can legally transport certain live fish for display in a home aquarium if:

- They have legally caught the fish from among the following species: largemouth, smallmouth or rock bass; yellow perch; crappie; bluegill, pumpkinseed, green or orange-spotted sunfish; black, yellow, and brown bullhead.
- No more than four fish of each species are transported at any one time.
- All fish are 10 inches or less in length.
- Fish are not transported in water taken from any lake or stream. You must bring bottled or tap water for transport.

How do I prepare fish I've caught for transport?

- You must package and transport fish in such a way that they can be readily unwrapped, separated, identified and counted.
- A fish may not be cut into more than two fillets.
- If you are transporting muskellunge, catfish, splake or brook, brown and rainbow trout, you must transport them with the head and tail intact so the fish can be measured.
- Bullhead, sunfish and crappie may be filleted without leaving a patch of skin.
- Fillets from all other species must have a 1-inch square patch of skin with scales intact from a portion of the body other than the belly.
- Sauger without head and tail intact will be counted as walleye unless they are packaged by a licensed fish packer.



One of the best ways to transport your fish so they can be counted and identified is in clear plastic freezer bags.

Fillets and dressed fish must show at least a 1-inch square patch of skin with scales so fish species can be identified.

OTHER SPECIES

Crayfish

Can I take my own crayfish?

Yes, people with a fishing license and children younger than 16 can take and possess up to 25 pounds of live crayfish for personal use. However, you cannot possess red swamp crayfish, as they are a prohibited invasive species (more details on page 8).

When can I take crayfish?

From April 1 to November 30. Traps may be left overnight but may only be tended from one hour before sunrise through one hour after sunset.

Where can I use crayfish as bait?

- Crayfish may not be used for bait in the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway north or upstream of the St. Croix Boom Site boat launch, or within Voyageurs National Park.
- Except as noted above, preserved crayfish may be used in all waters of the state and live crayfish may be used in the water where they were captured.

Do I need a DNR permit to sell or move crayfish?

You need a DNR permit to transport them in water, sell them or import them.

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Frogs and Salamanders

Can I take my own frogs?

In most cases, yes:

- People with a fishing license and children younger than 16 can take, use, buy and sell an unlimited number of frogs up to 6 inches long for bait.
- A special frog license is required to take frogs for any purpose other than bait.
- You must have an endangered species permit to possess Blanchard's cricket frogs.

When can I take frogs for bait?

From May 16 to March 31 the following year.

Can I release frogs or tadpoles?

No. Unused frogs or tadpoles can't be released in any Minnesota water.

Can I use Salamanders (including mudpuppies) as bait?

No. Salamanders are protected wild animals and cannot be used as bait. Several salamander species including mudpuppies are species of special concern.

Mussels (Clams)

Can I take live mussels?

No. State law prohibits the harvest of live mussels. Twenty-four of Minnesota's 50 native mussel species are endangered or threatened.

Can I take dead mussel shells?

People with a fishing license and children younger than 16 may hand-pick or possess up to 24 whole shells or 48 half shells from dead mussels of species that are not endangered or threatened.

- Shell collection is allowed from May 16 through the last day in February the following year.
- You can't take mussel shells from the St. Croix River.
- You can't possess zebra mussels.
- Mussel shells can't be bought or sold.

Turtles

Can I take my own turtles?

Residents with a resident fishing license and resident children younger than 16 can take, possess and transport certain species of turtles for personal use.

What kind of turtles can I take?

- Western painted, maximum size limit is 5½ inches in shell length, except those used in turtle races may be any length greater than 4 inches.
- Snapping, minimum size is 12 inches in shell length, possession limit is three. You can take snapping turtles from July 1 through April 30 the following year.
- Spiny softshell, minimum size is 12 inches in shell length. You can take spiny softshell turtles from July 16 through May 31 the following year.

What about turtle races?

Residents younger than 18 may take, possess, rent or sell up to 25 turtles for use in a non-profit turtle race. Each turtle must be greater than 4" in length.

How do you measure turtle shell length?

Measure the top shell length (the hard upper shell of the turtle) from above the neck to above the tail. The measuring device should measure a straight line above the curvature of the shell.

How can I take turtles?

If you want to use traps, nets or other commercial equipment, you will need a recreational turtle license in addition to an angling license. You may not use explosives, drugs, poisons, lime or other harmful substances to take turtles.

Can I take turtle eggs?

A DNR permit is required to take turtle eggs.

Can I release turtles in Minnesota?

No. Unused or unwanted turtles can't be released in any Minnesota water.

Where do I get a recreational turtle license?

Licenses and permit applications are available from the Minnesota DNR, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN, 55155-4026. Phone 888-665-4236.

ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

- You can't drag boat anchors or other weights through aquatic vegetation with a motor-propelled boat.
- You can't dispose of any rubbish (including parts of fish, fish guts or other animals), poisonous substances, fish line or chemicals harmful to aquatic life into public waters, onto ice, or onto lake and stream shores.
- You can't deposit fish parts or other material (chum) into waters to attract fish.
- You can't possess or transport white perch, ruffe, round goby, black carp, bighead carp, grass carp or silver carp, unless you are taking them to a DNR office. If you catch a black, bighead, grass or silver carp, you must report it to the DNR within 7 days and, if possible, provide a picture of it.
- You can't buy or sell game fish, whitefish, or cisco (tullibee) unless you buy fish from a commercial, private hatchery, or aquatic farm licensee. You may buy or sell smelt taken from Lake Superior.
- If you catch a fish and you don't intend to use it for anything, you must return it immediately back into the water alive. You can't waste a fish by leaving it, or any usable portion of it, on the ice, on the bank, or by intentionally killing it and returning it back into the water.
- You must remove drain plugs from bilges, livewells, and bait buckets at the water access. All aquatic vegetation must be removed from trailers prior to leaving the access.

PERMITS

Permit applications are available from the Minnesota DNR, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN, 55155-4026. Phone 888-665-4236.

A Minnesota DNR permit is required to:

- Transplant aquatic plants, apply chemicals and perform certain types of cutting to control vegetation in any public water.
- Mark or tag fish and then release them.
- Harvest minnows from designated trout lakes or streams or from most infested waters.
- Conduct some fishing contests. For more information, review the DNR website.

A permit from the county sheriff is required for most organized events on the water or ice, including fishing contests.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT LAKES

A number of lakes in Minnesota are managed under both treaties and DNR regulations. Angling harvest on these intensive management lakes may change throughout the year to maintain sustainable fish populations. If regulations change, information will be posted at public boat ramps, the DNR website, and in newspapers.

Mille Lacs Lake including tributaries to posted boundaries (Aitkin, Crow Wing and Mille Lacs counties).

Walleye, northern pike, smallmouth bass, tullibee (cisco), and other fishing rules: these regulations and any future changes will be posted at public access sites and the DNR website at mndnr.gov/millelacslake.

 **NEW—Red Lake, Upper** including Shotley Brook and Tamarac River (Beltrami County).

Northern pike: all from 30-40 inches must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 40" allowed. Walleye: Restrictions or changes will be posted at public access sites and on the DNR website.

- A person's statewide bag limit may not include more than the current daily bag limit of Red Lake walleye.
- Those portions of Red Lake located within the Red Lake Indian Reservation are closed to non-band members except by special authorization of the tribal council.
- The fish carcass retention requirements for these water bodies are still in effect—more details can be found on page 34.

National Wildlife Refuges may have differing regulations. Please check with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. More details can be found on page 86.

Voyageurs National Park

In response to the threat of invasive species introductions, the park only allows artificial bait in the interior lakes and prohibits the use of privately owned watercraft and the landing of float planes in these lakes. These regulations do not apply to Rainy, Kabetogama, Namakan, Crane, and Sand Point lakes. Contact Voyageurs National Park for more information. More details can be found on page 86.


Superior National Forest

Off-highway vehicle policy. Go to fs.usda.gov/superior for maps and details.

WATERS WITH EXPERIMENTAL AND SPECIAL REGULATIONS

These regulations differ from statewide or border water regulations for those species identified and take precedence. Unless otherwise specifically mentioned, all general regulations, seasons, limits, border water regulations, possession, and transportation regulations apply to these waters. Regulations are posted at access sites but be sure to also check other sections of this booklet and other states' regulations when on border waters.

These regulations are intended to improve fishing quality or provide unique opportunities. The DNR regularly evaluates the regulations and needs your compliance to ensure success.

A  **NEW—ADA LAKE (Cass County)** Northern pike: special regulation repealed.

AGNES LAKE (Douglas County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

AITKIN LAKE including area known as Aitkin Flowage (Aitkin County): See Big Sandy Lake (page 40).

ALEXANDER LAKE (Morrison County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

ANN LAKE (Carver County) Largemouth bass: catch-and-release only. Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

ANNIE BATTLE LAKE including inlet to Molly Stark Lake and outlet to Blanche Lake (Otter Tail County) Use of gas and electric motors, underwater cameras, augers, and other electronic fish-finding devices is prohibited. Sunfish: possession limit five. Northern pike, largemouth and smallmouth bass: catch-and-release only. Crappie: possession limit five.

ASH LAKE (St. Louis County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".


B **BALM LAKE (Beltrami County)** Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

BALSAM LAKE (Itasca County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

BASS LAKE near Cohasset (Itasca County) Sunfish: possession limit five.

BASS LAKE near Burtrum (Todd County) north of Long Lake. Walleye: possession limit two. Largemouth bass: possession limit one. Northern pike: possession limit three, all larger than 26" must be immediately released.

BASSWOOD LAKE (Lake County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36". Protected slot and possession limit applies to all Minnesota waters of Basswood Lake.


 **NEW—BATTLE LAKE (Itasca County)** Sunfish: possession limit 10. Walleye: special regulation repealed.

BATTLE LAKE, WEST (Otter Tail County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".


BEAR CREEK RESERVOIR (Chester Woods) (Olmsted County) See Rochester—Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 47.

BECKER LAKE (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

BELTRAMI LAKE (Beltrami County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

 **NEW—BIG LAKE (Beltrami County)** Northern pike: special regulation repealed.

BIG BASS LAKE (Beltrami County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

 **NEW—BIG CARNELIAN LAKE (Washington County)** Northern pike: special regulation repealed.

BIG MANTRAP (Hubbard County) Crappie: possession limit five. Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

BIG SAND LAKE (Hubbard County) Walleye: all from 20-28" must be immediately released. One over 28" allowed in possession.

BIG SANDY LAKE and connected waters (Aitkin County): Aitkin Lake including area known as Aitkin Flowage, Davis Lake including bay known as Steamboat Lake, Flowage Lake, Sandy River Lake, Prairie River from confluence with Tamarack River downstream to confluence with Big Sandy Lake, Sandy River from State Highway 210 downstream to confluence with the Mississippi River, and West Savanna River from County Highway 14 downstream to confluence with the Prairie River. Sunfish: possession limit five. Walleye: all less than 14" or greater than 18" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

BIG SWAN LAKE (Todd County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit six, only one over 36".

BIRCH LAKE RESERVOIR including the South Kawishiwi River upstream to the first rapids north of Minnesota Highway 1 bridge (St. Louis County). Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

BLACKDUCK LAKE (Beltrami County) Sunfish: possession limit five.

BLACKWATER LAKE (Cass County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

BLACK BASS LAKE (Mille Lacs County) Use of gas or electric augers, underwater cameras, and other electronic fish-finding devices is prohibited. Largemouth and smallmouth bass: catch-and-release only. Northern pike: catch-and-release only. Sunfish: possession limit five.

BLUEBERRY LAKE (Wadena County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

BOLFING LAKE (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

C CARNELIAN LAKE (Stearns County) Sunfish: possession limit five.

CASCADE LAKE (Cascade Ponds) (Olmsted County) See Rochester-Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 47.

CEDAR LAKE (Morrison County) Walleye: possession limit two. Crappie: possession limit five. Northern pike: possession limit three, all larger than 26" must be immediately released.

CEDAR ISLAND LAKE (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

CENTER LAKE, NORTH AND SOUTH (Chisago County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

CHARLEY LAKE (Ramsey County) Closed to fishing.

CHILD LAKE (Cass County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

CHISAGO LAKE (Chisago County) Largemouth bass: all 12" and larger must be immediately released.

CHRISTINA LAKE (Douglas County) Closed to fishing.

CLEAR LAKE (Waseca County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: catch-and-release only.

CLEAR LAKE (Washington County) Walleye: minimum size limit 17". Possession limit three.

CLITHERALL LAKE (Otter Tail County) Smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

COON LAKE (Anoka County) Walleye: minimum size limit 17"

COON-SANDWICK LAKE (Itasca County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

CRANE LAKE including Vermilion Gorge and Echo River from mouth upstream to County Highway 424 bridge (St. Louis County) Walleye: all from 18-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession. Walleye and sauger: possession limit six combined, only four may be walleye.

CRAWFORD LAKE (Wright County) Largemouth bass: catch-and-release only. Sunfish: possession limit five. Crappie: possession limit five. Walleye: possession limit two. Yellow perch: possession limit 10.

CROOKED LAKE (Anoka County) Largemouth bass: catch-and-release only.

CROOKED LAKE (Stearns County) Largemouth bass: all from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

CROW WING LAKES, 5TH AND 6TH (Hubbard County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

★ **NEW—CROW WING LAKES, 8TH, 9TH, AND 10TH (Hubbard County)** Northern pike (regulation modified): all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

CUT FOOT SIOUX and Little Cut Foot Sioux (Itasca County): Walleye: see Winnibigoshish on page 50.

D **DAVIS LAKE (Aitkin County)** See Big Sandy Lake (page 40).

DEEP LAKE (Ramsey County) Closed to fishing.

DEER LAKE (Beltrami County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

★ **NEW—DEER LAKE near Effie (Itasca County)** Sunfish: possession limit 10. Walleye: special regulation repealed.

DEMONTREVILLE LAKE (Washington County) Largemouth bass: catch-and-release only.

DIXON LAKE (Itasca County) Sunfish: possession limit five. Walleye: see Winnibigoshish on page 50.

DYERS LAKE (Cook County) Crappie: possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five.

E **EDEN LAKE (Stearns County)** See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

★ **NEW—ELEPHANT LAKE (St. Louis County)** Northern pike: special regulation repealed.

★ **NEW—ELK LAKE (Clearwater County)** Muskellunge: special regulation repealed. Northern pike: special regulation repealed.

EUNICE LAKE (Becker County) Sunfish: possession limit five. Crappie: minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five. Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. Northern pike: special regulation repealed.

F FARM LAKE (Lake County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36". Walleye: (includes the North Branch Kawishiwi River from Farm Lake 4.8 miles east to the long portage) All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

FARM ISLAND LAKE (Aitkin County) Walleye: all from 16-19" must be immediately released.

FISH LAKE RESERVOIR (St. Louis County) Walleye: all less than 13" or greater than 17" must be immediately released, except one over 26" allowed in possession. Possession limit three.

FISH TRAP LAKE (Morrison County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

FLADMARK LAKE (Otter Tail County) Sunfish: possession limit 10. Northern pike, largemouth and smallmouth bass: catch-and-release only. Crappie: possession limit five.

FLOUR LAKE (Cook County) Smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

FLOWAGE LAKE (Aitkin County) See Big Sandy Lake (page 40).

FOSTER AREND LAKE (Olmsted County) Trout: continuous season. Possession limit three. One over 16" allowed in possession. Sunfish, crappie, yellow perch, largemouth and smallmouth bass, see Rochester-Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 47.

FOX LAKE (Beltrami County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

FRANKLIN LAKE (Otter Tail County) Crappie: minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five.

G GAMEHAVEN (BOY SCOUT LAKE OR WILLOW RESERVOIR NO. 4) (Olmsted County) See Rochester-Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 47.

GARDEN LAKE (Lake County) Northern pike: all from 24"-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36". Walleye: all from 17"-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" is allowed in possession.

GEORGE LAKE (Hubbard County) Northern pike: all from 24"-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36". Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

GILBERT LAKE (Crow Wing County) Crappie: possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five.

GIRL LAKE (Cass County) Northern pike: all from 24"-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

GOODRICH LAKE (Crow Wing County) Crappie: possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five.

GOOSE LAKE (Chisago County) Crappie: possession limit five. Walleye: minimum size limit 17".

GRAVE LAKE (Itasca County) Sunfish: possession limit five.

GREAT NORTHERN LAKE (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

GREEN LAKE (Chisago County) Walleye: minimum size limit 17".

 **NEW—GREEN LAKE (Kandiyohi County)** Walleye: possession limit three.

GREEN PRAIRIE LAKE (Morrison County) Sunfish: possession limit 10.

GRINDSTONE LAKE (Pine County) Smelt: seines may not be used within 100' of any inflow or outflow of the lake.

GULL LAKE (Beltrami County) Sunfish: possession limit five.

GULL LAKE (Cook County) Walleye: see Saganaga Lake (page 48).

H HENRY LAKE (Douglas County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

 **NEW—HORSESHOE LAKE (Aitkin County)** Walleye: possession limit three.

HORSESHOE LAKE (Cass County) Near Backus. Sunfish: possession limit five.

HORSESHOE LAKE (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

HOVDE LAKE (Cass County) Largemouth bass: catch-and-release only.

HUBERT LAKE (Crow Wing County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all 12" and larger must be immediately released.

HUNGRY JACK LAKE (Cook County) Smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

I INGUADONA LAKE AND CONNECTED RICE LAKE (Cass County) Sunfish: possession limit 10. Crappie: possession limit five.

ISLAND LAKE near Northome (Itasca County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36". Walleye: all from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

ITASCA LAKE (Clearwater County) Crappie: possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five.

J JANE LAKE (Washington County) Largemouth bass: catch-and-release only.

K KABEKONA LAKE (Hubbard County) Walleye: all from 20-26" must be immediately released. Possession limit four, only one over 26".

KABETOGAMA LAKE including Sullivan Bay and Ash River to Ash River Falls (St. Louis County) Walleye (regulation modified): all from 18-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession. Walleye and sauger: possession limit six combined, only four may be walleye.

KALMAR RESERVOIR (Olmsted County) See Rochester-Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 47.

KNAUS LAKE (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

KNIFE LAKE (Kanabec County) Walleye: all from 18-24" must be immediately released. One over 24" allowed in possession. Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

KRAYS LAKE (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

L LA SALLE LAKE (Hubbard County) Walleye: possession limit two. Largemouth and smallmouth bass: catch-and-release only. Crappie: possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five. Yellow perch: possession limit 10.

LAC QUI PARLE LAKE upstream to Marsh Lake Dam, including the Watson Sag upstream to the diversion dam (Lac qui Parle and Chippewa counties) Walleye: possession limit four, only one walleye over 20".

LAKE OF THE WOODS including the Rainy River from the mouth upstream to the dam in International Falls (Roseau County) Northern pike: all from 30-40" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 40". Walleye and sauger: all from 19½-28" must be immediately released. Possession limit six in combination, not more than four can be walleye, only one walleye over 28". Lake sturgeon, see [page 58](#).

LEECH LAKE (Cass County) Walleye: Possession limit four, only one over 20". See page 23 for whitefish.

LESTER LAKE (Hubbard County) All species: catch-and-release only.

LIDA LAKE SOUTH AND NORTH, including Connecting Mud Lake (Otter Tail County) Crappie: minimum size limit is 11". Walleye: all from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

LIND LAKE (Cass County) Sunfish: possession limit five.

LITTLE BOY LAKE (Cass County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36". Walleye: all from 18-26" must be immediately released. Possession limit four, only one over 26".

 **NEW—LITTLE CASCADE LAKE (Cook County)** Northern pike: special regulation repealed.

LITTLE CORMORANT LAKE (Becker County) Sunfish: possession limit five. Crappie: minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five. Walleye: minimum size limit 17".

LITTLE FLOYD LAKE (Becker County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

LITTLE MANTRAP LAKE (Hubbard County) Largemouth bass: all from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

LITTLE MCDONALD LAKE including Kerbs Lake (Otter Tail County) Walleye: all from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

LITTLE SAUK LAKE (Todd County) Walleye: possession limit two. Largemouth bass: possession limit one. Sunfish: possession limit five. Crappie: possession limit five. Yellow perch: possession limit 10.

LITTLE SPLITHAND LAKE (Itasca County) Sunfish: possession limit five.

LITTLE TOAD LAKE (Becker County) Sunfish: possession limit 10. Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

LITTLE TROUT LAKE (St. Louis County) Lake trout: catch-and-release only.

LITTLE VERMILION LAKE including Loon River to Loon River Falls portage (St. Louis County) Walleye (regulation modified): all from 18-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession. Walleye and sauger: possession limit six combined, only four may be walleye.

LITTLE WEBB LAKE (Cass County) Crappie: possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five.

LITTLE WOMAN LAKE (Cass County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

LONG LAKE near Hawick (Kandiyohi County) Largemouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

LONG LAKE near Clearwater (Stearns County) Largemouth bass: all from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

LONG LAKE south of Richmond (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

LONG LAKE near Burtrum (Todd County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

LONG LAKE near Spaulding (Todd County) Sunfish: possession limit 10.

 **NEW—LOON LAKE (Cook County)** Northern pike: special regulation repealed.

M MANDALL LAKE (Chisago County) Crappie: possession limit five. Walleye: minimum size limit 17".

MANOR WOODS POND (Country Club Pond) (Olmsted County) See Rochester-Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 47.

MAPLE LAKE (Douglas County) Crappie: minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five.

MAPLE LAKE (Todd County) Sunfish: possession limit 10.

MARY LAKE (Hubbard County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. Crappie: possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five.

MAUD LAKE (Becker County) Sunfish: possession limit five. Crappie: minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five. Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. Northern pike: special regulation repealed.

MEDICINE LAKE (Beltrami County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

MELISSA LAKE (Becker County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

MIDDLE LAKE (Otter Tail County) Largemouth bass: all from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

MILLE LACS (see page 38).


MINK-SOMERS LAKE near Maple Lake (Wright County) Sunfish: possession limit five. Crappie: possession limit five. Walleye: minimum size limit 17". Possession limit three. Largemouth bass: all from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36". Possession or use of live minnows is prohibited.

MINNEWASHTA LAKE (Carver County) Largemouth bass: catch-and-release only.

 **NEW—MINNEWAWA LAKE (Aitkin County)** Walleye: possession limit three.

MINNIE BELLE LAKE (Meeker County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

MISSION LAKE, LOWER AND UPPER (Crow Wing County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

 **NEW—MITCHELL LAKE (Crow Wing County)** Northern pike (regulation modified): all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

MOCCASIN LAKE (Cass County) Largemouth bass: catch-and-release only. Crappie: possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five.

MOODY LAKE (Crow Wing County) All species: catch-and-release only.

★ **NEW—MOOSE LAKE NEAR DEER RIVER (Itasca County)** Walleye (regulation modified): all from 20-24" must be immediately released. One over 24" allowed in possession.

MOOSE LAKE (Todd County) Largemouth bass: all 12" and larger must be immediately released. Sunfish: possession limit 10.

★ **NEW—MOUND LAKE (Todd County)** Crappie: possession limit five.

MOVIL LAKE (Beltrami County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

MUD LAKE (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

MUKOODA LAKE (St. Louis County) Lake trout: catch-and-release only.

MULE LAKE (Cass County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. Walleye: possession limit three.

NAMAKAN LAKE (St. Louis County) Walleye (regulation modified): all from 18-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession. Walleye and sauger: possession limit six combined, only four may be walleye.

NORTH BROWNS LAKE (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

NORTH STAR LAKE including Little North Star Lake (Itasca County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

NORTH TURTLE LAKE (Otter Tail County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. Crappie: minimum size limit 10".

NORTH TWIN LAKE (Beltrami County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

NORWAY LAKE (Otter Tail County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. Crappie: minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five.

OLSON LAKE (Washington County) Largemouth bass: Catch-and-release only.

OSAKIS AND LITTLE OSAKIS LAKES (Douglas and Todd counties) Walleye: minimum size limit 15".

OTTER TAIL LAKE (Otter Tail County) Northern pike: minimum size limit 30". Possession limit one.

OX YOKE LAKE (Cass County) Sunfish: possession limit 10.

OZAWINDIB LAKE (Clearwater County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. Crappie: possession limit five.

PEARL LAKE (Stearns County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36". Walleye: special regulation repealed.

PELICAN LAKE (St. Louis County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

 **NEW—PICKEREL LAKE (Itasca County)** Sunfish: possession limit 10.

Walleye: special regulation repealed.

PIERZ LAKE (FISH) (Morrison County) Largemouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

PIMUSHE LAKE (Beltrami County) Sunfish: possession limit five.


PINE LAKE, BIG AND LITTLE (Otter Tail County) Walleye: all from 18-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

PLATTE LAKE (Crow Wing County) Sunfish: possession limit 10.

PLEASANT LAKE (Ramsey County) Closed to fishing.

PLEASANT LAKE (Stearns County) Sunfish: possession limit five.

PORTAGE LAKE North of Ten Mile Lake (Cass County) largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

 **NEW—PRAIRIE LAKE (St. Louis County)** Northern pike: special regulation repealed.

Q QUARRY HILL NATURE CENTER POND (Olmsted County) See Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 47.

R RABBIT LAKES, BIG AND EAST BIG (Crow Wing County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

RABOUR LAKE (Chisago County) Crappie: possession limit five. Walleye: minimum size limit 17".

RACHEL LAKE AND LITTLE RACHEL LAKE (Douglas County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

RAINY LAKE including the Rainy River above the dam at International Falls, all of Rainy Lake to the dam at Kettle Falls, Black Bay including Gold Portage below the rapids, all of the Rat Root River, and Rat Root Lake (Koochiching and St. Louis counties) Walleye and sauger: possession limit eight (not more than four can be walleye). All walleye from 18-26" must be immediately released. One walleye over 26" allowed in possession.

RED LAKE (see page 38).

RED WING POTTERY POND (Goodhue County) Trout: Continuous season. Possession limit three. One over 16" allowed in possession.

RICE LAKE and connected Inguadona Lake (Cass County) Sunfish: possession limit 10. Crappie: possession limit five.

ROCHESTER–OLMSTED COUNTY AREA LAKES (Olmsted County) includes: Bear Creek Reservoir (Chester Woods), Cascade Lake (Cascade Ponds), Foster Arend Lake, Gamehaven Lake (Boy Scout Lake or Willow Reservoir No. 4), Kalmar Reservoir, Quarry Hill Nature Center Pond, Manor Woods Pond (Country Club Pond), Silver Lake, Silver Creek Reservoir, Willow Creek Reservoir. The daily and possession limits for the following species apply to the waters listed above as a whole, that is, only one daily and possession limit may be taken from the group of waters that comprise the Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes. Sunfish, crappie, yellow perch: combined possession limit 10, and only five may be crappie. Largemouth or smallmouth bass: possession limit of one. Northern pike: daily and possession limit one applies collectively to a subset of the Rochester–Olmsted County lakes: Cascade Lake, Game Haven Lake, Manor Woods, Silver Lake, Silver Creek Reservoir.

ROGERS LAKE (Crow Wing County) Crappie: possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five.

ROUND LAKE (Crow Wing County) Northern pike: minimum size limit 30". Possession limit one.

ROUND LAKE near Squaw Lake including the Popple River downstream to State Highway Bridge 46 (Itasca County) Walleye: all from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

RUSH LAKE, EAST AND WEST (Chisago County) Northern pike: all from 26-40" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 40".

S SAGANAGA LAKE including Gull Lake and the Sea Gull River (Cook County) Walleye: minimum size limit 17". Possession limit three, only one over 20".

SALLIE LAKE (Becker County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

SANBORN LAKE (Cass County) Sunfish: possession limit 10.

SAND LAKE including connecting Birds Eye Lake, Little Sand Lake, Portage Lake and Bowstring River upstream to County Road 35 bridge and downstream to the County Road 145 bridge (Itasca County) Walleye: all 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

SAND LAKE (Lake County) Sunfish: possession limit five.

SAND POINT LAKE (St. Louis County) Walleye (regulation modified): all from 18-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession. Walleye and sauger possession limit six combined, only four may be walleye.

SANDY RIVER LAKE (Aitkin County) See Big Sandy Lake (page 40).

SAUK RIVER CHAIN OF LAKES (Stearns County) from Highway 23 downstream to the Cold Spring Dam include connecting lakes Becker, Bolting, Cedar Island, Eden, Great Northern, Horseshoe, Knaus, Krays, Long, Mud (Vails), North Browns, Schneider and Zumwalde. Channel catfish and flathead catfish: combined possession limit 10, not more than two may be flathead catfish. Only one over 24" allowed in possession.

SCHNEIDER LAKE (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

SEA GULL LAKE including Alpine River between Alpine Lake and Sea Gull Lake (Cook County) walleye: minimum size limit 17". Possession limit three, only one over 20".

SEWELL LAKE (Otter Tail County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

SHAMINEAU LAKE (Morrison County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

SILVER CREEK RESERVOIR (Olmsted County) See Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 47.

SILVER LAKE (Olmsted County) See Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 47.

SOUTH FARM LAKE (Lake County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36". Walleye: all from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

SOUTH LINDSTROM LAKE (Chisago County) Largemouth bass: all 12" and larger must be immediately released.

SOUTH TWIN LAKE (Beltrami County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

SPIDER LAKE (Hubbard County) Crappie: minimum size limit 10".

SPIDER LAKE (Itasca County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

★ **NEW—SPLITHAND LAKE (Itasca County) including Moody's Creek upstream to County Road 432.** Walleye (regulation modified): all from 20-24" must be immediately released. One over 24" allowed in possession. Crappie: possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five.

ST. OLAF LAKE (Waseca County) Northern pike: minimum size limit 30". Possession limit one.

STAR LAKE (Otter Tail County) Sunfish: possession limit 10.

STEIGER LAKE (Carver County) Northern pike and largemouth bass: catch-and-release only.

STUART LAKE (Otter Tail County) Crappie: minimum size limit 10".

SUGAR LAKE (Wright County) Crappie: possession limit five. Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

SULLIVAN LAKE (Morrison County) Sunfish: possession limit 10.

★ **NEW—SWAN LAKE including Swan River downstream to dam, upstream to County Road 12, and connected streams. (Itasca County)** Walleye (regulation modified): all from 20-24" must be immediately released. One over 24" allowed in possession.

SYLVAN LAKE (Cass County) Near Pillager. Crappie: possession limit five. Sunfish: possession limit five.

T ★ **NEW—TEN MILE LAKE (Cass County)** Northern pike: special regulation repealed.

TEN MILE LAKE, NORTH AND SOUTH (Otter Tail County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

THIRTEEN LAKE (Cass County) Largemouth and smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. Sunfish: possession limit five.

THOMPSON LAKE (Cook County) Trout: catch-and-release only. Artificial lures and flies with a single hook only. Use and possession of bait prohibited. Closed to winter fishing.


THREE ISLAND LAKE (Beltrami County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

THRUSH LAKE (Cook County) Trout: catch-and-release only. Artificial lures and flies with a single hook only. Use and possession of bait prohibited. Closed to winter fishing.

★ **NEW—TROUT LAKE near Coleraine (Itasca County)** Walleye (regulation modified): all from 20-24" must be immediately released. One over 24" allowed in possession.

TURNIP LAKE (Cook County) trout: catch-and-release only. Artificial lures and flies with a single hook only. Use and possession of bait prohibited. Closed to winter fishing.

★ **NEW—TURTLE LAKE (Itasca County)** Smallmouth bass (regulation modified): all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

 **NEW—TURTLE LAKE (Ramsey County)** Largemouth bass (regulation modified): all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

TURTLE, BIG AND LITTLE LAKE (Beltrami County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

TURTLE RIVER LAKE (Beltrami County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

TWENTYONE LAKE (Otter Tail County) Sunfish: possession limit 10. Northern pike, largemouth and smallmouth bass: catch-and-release only. Crappie: possession limit five.

TWO ISLAND LAKE (Cook County) Smallmouth bass: all from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

V **VENSTROM LAKE (Otter Tail County)** Crappie: minimum size limit 11". walleye: all from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

VERMILION LAKE (St. Louis County) Walleye: all from 20-26" must be immediately released. Possession limit four, only one over 26".

W **WABEDO LAKE (Cass County)** Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36". Walleye: all from 18-26" must be immediately released. Possession limit four, only one over 26".

WACONIA LAKE (Carver County) Walleye: minimum size limit 16".

WHITE IRON LAKE (St. Louis and Lake counties) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36". Walleye: all from 17-26" must be immediately released. Only one over 26" allowed in possession.

WILKINSON LAKE (Anoka and Ramsey counties) Closed to fishing.

WILLOW CREEK RESERVOIR (Olmsted County) See Rochester-Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 47.

WINNIBIGOSHISH LAKE and connected waters (Beltrami, Cass, Itasca counties): Mississippi River to Knutson Dam, Third River Flowage to Little Dixon Lake, Pigeon River to Pigeon Lake Dam, First River, Egg Lake through Cut Foot Sioux Lake, Raven Flowage to Raven Lake, and Sugar Lake. Walleye: all from 18-23" must be immediately released. One over 23" allowed in possession.

WOMAN LAKE (Cass County) Northern pike: all from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".

Z **ZUMWALDE LAKE (Stearns County)** See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

Streams and Rivers

A **ASH RIVER** See Kabetogama Lake page 43.

B **BAUDETTE RIVER** mouth upstream to State Highway 11 bridge (Lake of the Woods County) Northern pike: see Lake of the Woods, page 44. Walleye and sauger, see Lake of the Woods, page 44. Lake Sturgeon, see page 58.

BEAVER CREEK, EAST (Houston County) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream (Beaver Creek Valley State Park). See page 26 for special angling seasons within the boundaries of Beaver Creek Valley State Park.

BELLE CREEK (Goodhue County) Trout: catch-and-release on a 7.3 mile posted section from the confluence with the Cannon River upstream to Highway 19.

BOWSTRING RIVER see Sand Lake (page 48).

C CAMP CREEK (Fillmore County) Trout: catch-and-release on a 2.7-mile posted section from 0.8 miles above the confluence with the Root River, South Branch upstream 2.7 miles. Artificial lures and flies only. On the third Saturday in May, statewide regulations apply to the posted section of the stream.

CANFIELD CREEK (South Branch Creek) (Fillmore County) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream. Artificial lures and flies only. See page 26 for special angling seasons within the boundaries of Canfield Creek in Forestville/Mystery Cave State Park.

D DEVIL TRACK RIVER (Cook County) Fish sanctuary: mile 1.1 to Mile 1.6 open to fishing from June 1 - August 31.

E EAGLE CREEK (Scott County) Trout: catch-and-release only.

ECHO RIVER (St. Louis County) See Crane Lake page 41.

F FIRST RIVER See Winnibigoshish Lake (page 50).

FORESTVILLE CREEK (North Branch Creek) (Fillmore County) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream. See page 26 for special angling seasons within the boundaries of Forestville/Mystery Cave State Park.

FRENCH RIVER (St. Louis County) Fish sanctuary: all fishing closed from the river's mouth at Lake Superior to the State Highway 61 four-lane expressway, including that portion of old Highway 61 that crosses the French River.

G GARVIN BROOK (Winona County) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released from the Highway 14 crossing to the source. Artificial lures and flies only.

GAUTHIER CREEK (Cook County) Fish sanctuary: entire stream open to fishing from June 1 - August 31 only.

GRIBBEN CREEK (Fillmore County) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream. Artificial lures and flies only.

H HAY CREEK (Goodhue County) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on a 4-mile posted section from 325th Street downstream. Artificial lures and flies only.

HOOPER CREEK mouth upstream to State Highway 172 bridge (Lake of the Woods County) Northern pike: see Lake of the Woods, page 44.

K KADUNCE RIVER (Cook County) Fish sanctuary: mile 0.2 (lower falls) to mile 0.4 open to fishing from June 1 - August 31 only.

KEDRON CREEK (Fillmore County) Trout: catch-and-release only on the entire stream. Artificial lures and flies only.

KELLY CREEK mouth upstream to State Highway 172 bridge (Lake of the Woods County) Northern pike: see Lake of the Woods, page 44.

KNIFE RIVER (St. Louis and Lake counties) Fish sanctuary: between the signs from the top of the second falls 100 feet downstream, and from State Highway 61 bridge downstream to the sign below the fish trap is permanently closed to fishing.

- L LAWNDALE CREEK (Wilkin County)** Brook trout: catch-and-release only for brook trout on a 3.5-mile posted section within Atherton Wildlife Management Area. Artificial lures and flies only. All hooks must be barbless.
- LESTER RIVER (St. Louis County)** Immediately downstream from the Superior Street bridge to the bottom of the first falls is closed to fishing.
- LOGAN CREEK (Olmsted County)** Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream from the confluence with the Whitewater River, North Branch, upstream to the source. Artificial lures and flies only.
- LOON RIVER** See Little Vermilion Lake page 44.
- M MAHOODS CREEK (Fillmore County)** Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream.
- MILL CREEK (Fillmore and Olmsted Counties)** Trout: special catch-and-release season October 16 - December 31 on posted reach in Chatfield from the confluence with the North Branch Root River upstream to Sprau's tributary.
- MISSISSIPPI RIVER (Dakota County)** From the Hastings dam downstream to the Minnesota-Wisconsin border (inland waters of Pool 3) walleye: minimum size limit 15".
- MISSISSIPPI RIVER VALLEY (Ramsey, Washington, Hennepin, and Dakota counties)** Walleye, sauger, smallmouth bass, and largemouth bass: catch-and-release with a continuous season in the following stretches: a) Minnesota River downstream from the Mendota Bridge; b) Minnehaha Creek downstream from Minnehaha Falls; and c) Pool 2 of the Mississippi River between the Hastings Dam and the Ford Dam, including all backwater lakes and connecting waters except Crosby, Pickerel, Upper, Little Pigs Eye, and North Star Steel lakes.
- MISSISSIPPI RIVER from Blandin Dam downstream to Coon Rapids Dam (Itasca, Aitkin, Crow Wing, Morrison, Benton, Sherburne, Wright, Anoka, and Hennepin counties)** Muskellunge: catch-and-release only.
- MISSISSIPPI RIVER (Sherburne, Stearns and Wright counties)** Smallmouth bass: all from 12-20" must be immediately released from the confluence of the Crow River upstream to the St. Cloud Dam, including tributaries to the posted boundaries. Possession limit is three, with one over 20".
- MISSISSIPPI RIVER** See Winnibigoshish Lake page 50.
- O OTTER TAIL RIVER (Otter Tail, Becker, and Wilkin counties)** Smallmouth bass: catch-and-release from Wilkin County Road 19 crossing upstream to the Friberg Dam including all impoundments, and from Otter Tail County Highway 51 upstream to the Hubbel Pond Dam including Mud, Rice, and Town lakes.
- P PIGEON RIVER** See Winnibigoshish Lake (page 50).
- PRAIRIE RIVER (Aitkin County)** See Big Sandy Lake (page 40).
- PRAIRIE RIVER from Prairie Lake Dam downstream to Mississippi River (Itasca County)** Muskellunge: catch-and-release only.
- R RAINY RIVER** See pages 57-58.
- RAPID RIVER mouth upstream to State Highway 11 bridge (Lake of the Woods County)** Northern pike: see Lake of the Woods, page 44. Walleye and sauger, see page 44. Lake Sturgeon, see page 58.
- RAT ROOT RIVER** See Rainy Lake (page 47).

RAVEN FLOWAGE See Winnibigoshish Lake (page 50).

RED LAKE TRIBUTARIES See Red Lake (page 38).

ROOT RIVER, MIDDLE BRANCH (Fillmore County) Trout: catch-and-release on the entire stream.

ROOT RIVER, SOUTH BRANCH (Fillmore County) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on a 4.8-mile posted section within Forestville State Park. See page 26 for special angling seasons within the boundaries of Forestville/Mystery Cave State Park. Trout: special catch-and-release season October 16 - December 31 on posted reach in Preston from the River Place West bridge downstream to the U.S. Highway 52 bridge. Trout: special catch-and-release season October 16 - December 31 on posted reach in Lanesboro from the Lanesboro Dam downstream to the confluence with the Root River.

ROOT RIVER, SOUTH FORK (Fillmore County) Trout: catch-and-release on a 7.7 mile section from County Road 12 upstream to the source. Artificial lures and flies only.

RUSH CREEK (Fillmore County) Trout: special catch-and-release season October 16 - December 31 on posted reach in Rushford.

S **ST. CROIX RIVER** See pages 63-65.

ST. LOUIS RIVER (St. Louis County) Fish sanctuary: no fishing allowed at any time from the Fond du Lac Dam downstream to the Minnesota-Wisconsin boundary cable. No fishing allowed from the boundary cable downstream to the Highway 23 bridge from February 28 - May 18. Muskellunge: minimum size limit 50" on only the Minnesota-Wisconsin border waters.

SANDY RIVER (Aitkin County) See Big Sandy Lake (page 40).

SAUK RIVER (Stearns County) See Sauk River Chain of Lakes (page 48).

SEA GULL RIVER (Cook County) Walleye: see Saganaga Lake (page 48).

SHOTLEY BROOK (from Highway 72 West to Upper Red Lake) See Red Lake (page 38).

SILVER CREEK mouth upstream to State Highway 11 bridge (Lake of the Woods County) Northern pike: see Lake of the Woods, page 44.

SPRING VALLEY CREEK (Fillmore County) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on a 6.8-mile posted section from Deer Creek upstream to Fillmore Township Road 359. Trout: special catch-and-release season October 16 - December 31 on posted reach in Spring Valley from West Park Street downstream to Minnesota State Highway 16 bridge.

STONEY BROOK (Cass County) Brook trout: all must be immediately released on the posted section beginning at the mouth at Upper Gull Lake upstream to the road crossing at County Road 29 (Minor's Corner).

T **TAMARACK RIVER** (from the Beltrami County line west to Upper Red lake) See Red Lake (page 38).

THIRD RIVER FLOWAGE See Winnibigoshish Lake (page 50).

TROUT RUN CREEK (Fillmore and Winona counties) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream. Artificial lures and flies only.

TROUT RUN CREEK (in Whitewater State Park) See page 26 for special angling seasons within the boundaries of Whitewater State Park.

TROUT VALLEY CREEK (Winona County) Brook trout: minimum size limit 12". Possession limit one. Artificial lures and flies only.

V VERMILION GORGE See Crane Lake (page 41).

VERMILLION RIVER within a 19.5-mile reach from the Highview Avenue bridge in Eureka Township in Farmington to the posted boundary 1.1 miles downstream from the U.S. Highway 52 bridge, including all tributaries to their source (Dakota County) Brown trout: catch-and-release only. Rainbow trout: Regular statewide regulations apply. From September 15 - October 15, angling for brown trout and rainbow trout is allowed but catch-and-release only (all trout must be immediately released).

W WABANICA RIVER mouth upstream to State Highway 172 bridge (Lake of the Woods County) Northern pike: see Lake of the Woods, page 44. Walleye and sauger, see page 44. Lake Sturgeon, see page 58.

WARROAD RIVER mouth upstream to Warroad City Beach (Roseau County) northern pike: see Lake of the Woods, page 44. Walleye and sauger, see page 44. Lake Sturgeon, see page 58.

WATSON SAG See Lac qui Parle (page 43).

WEST INDIAN CREEK (Wabasha County) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released from the upstream Wabasha County Road 4 crossing to the source.

WEST SAVANNA RIVER (Aitkin County) See Big Sandy Lake (page 40).

WHITEWATER RIVER, MIDDLE BRANCH (Winona and Olmsted counties) Trout: catch-and-release on a 9.2-mile posted section from the group camp in Whitewater State Park upstream to the source. Artificial lures and flies only. See page 26 for special angling seasons within the boundaries of Whitewater State Park.

WHITEWATER RIVER, NORTH BRANCH (Wabasha, Olmsted and Winona counties) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on a 12.1 mile posted section from Township Road 29 upstream to County Road 4. Artificial lures and flies only.

WINTER ROAD RIVER mouth upstream to State Highway 172 bridge (Lake of the Woods County) Northern pike: see Lake of the Woods, page 44.

WISEL CREEK (Fillmore County) Trout: all from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream.

Z ZUMBRO RIVER, NORTH FORK (Goodhue and Wabasha counties) Trout: catch-and-release on an 11.9 mile posted section from the Zumbro River, Main Branch upstream to Highway 10.

ZUMBRO RIVER (Wabasha County) Smallmouth bass: catch-and-release along a 12-mile posted section from Highway 63 at Zumbro Falls upstream to the Zumbro Lake Dam.

BORDER WATERS

This section covers Minnesota's border waters with Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota, as well as the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Manitoba. It does not include the waters of Lake Superior, which are not covered under border water rules. More details can be found on pages 27-29 for Lake Superior. All calendar dates refer to 2020 unless noted otherwise.

LICENSING

What license do I need to fish border waters?

- Minnesota residents must have a Minnesota license.
- Residents of a state bordering that water must have their state's license.
- Other nonresidents may purchase a Minnesota or the bordering state's nonresident license.

Can I fish anywhere on the border waters with a Minnesota license?

- In Canadian border waters, Minnesota residents or nonresidents fishing with a Minnesota nonresident license, may only fish the Minnesota portion of the Canadian border waters. To fish the Canadian portion, you must have a Canadian license.
- In other border waters, Minnesota residents or nonresidents fishing with a Minnesota license, may fish throughout the defined waters bordering the two states.

What if I don't see a particular regulation listed in this section?

Unless otherwise noted, all general regulations relating to angling methods, licensing, season, limits, fish possession and transportation apply to border waters (pages 30-37). Also, all fish must be within length limits regardless of where caught (more details can be found on page 34). Please check the Experimental and Special Regulations section (pages 38-54) for different regulations that may apply.

If fishing regulations differ between the border states, what regulations do I follow?

You must obey the regulations of the state in which you are fishing. More permissive regulations are limited to that state's waters. Using number of lines as an example: In Wisconsin waters anglers may use three lines, but in Minnesota waters anglers may only use two lines.

Can I launch my boat or transport my catch back home from the adjacent state's boat launch?

Yes, you can both launch your boat and transport your catch by the most direct route back to the state that you are licensed.

Do bowfishing regulations allowed for inland waters apply to border waters?

The bowfishing regulations covered on page 66 are only allowed on Minnesota's portion of the border waters. If the bordering state's bowfishing regulations are the same, bowfishers may take legal fish shore to shore under a Minnesota license.

LAKE STURGEON TAGS

Lake sturgeon tags and mail-in registration cards are required for anyone who wishes to harvest and possess a lake sturgeon. However, a tag is not required to catch and release lake sturgeon.

The following requirements apply:

- An angler may take and possess only one lake sturgeon per calendar year.
- Lake sturgeon may not be possessed or transported without a tag.
- Validate and attach the tag immediately upon reducing the fish to possession.
- Tag must be attached to the narrow portion of the body in front of the tail fin.
- Tags must be attached so that they cannot be easily removed.
- Tags are not transferable and no duplicate tags will be issued.
- Registration cards must be completed and mailed within 48 hours after harvesting a fish. Send to: Regional Fisheries, 2115 Birchmont Beach Road NE, Bemidji, MN 56601.
- Lake sturgeon must be transported intact (gills and internal organs may be removed).
- Members of a fishing party may not take sturgeon for other anglers' limits; party fishing is not allowed for sturgeon.

CANADA-MINNESOTA

The seasons and regulations listed below apply to the Minnesota portions of the following waters. Daily and possession limits are the same unless otherwise noted.

Cook County: Clove Lake, Devils Elbow Lake, North Fowl Lake, South Fowl Lake, Gneiss (Round) Lake, Granite Lake, Granite River, Gunflint Lake, Little Gunflint Lake, Lily Lake (Fan, Vaseux), Magnetic Lake, Marabaeuf Lake, Moose Lake, Mountain Lake, North Lake, Little North Lake, Pigeon River, Pine River, Rat Lake, Rose Lake, Rove Lake, Saganaga Lake, South Lake, and Watap Lake.

Koochiching and Lake of the Woods counties: Rainy River.

Koochiching and St. Louis counties: Rainy Lake (including Black Bay).

Lake County: Basswood Lake (except Jackfish, Pipestone, Hoist, and Back Bays, which are considered inland waters), Basswood River, Birch Lake, Carp Lake, Cypress Lake, Knife Lake (except South Arm), Little Knife Lake, Knife River, Melon Lake, Seed Lake, Sucker Lake, and Swamp Lake.

Lake and St. Louis counties: Crooked Lake.

Lake of the Woods and Roseau counties: Lake of the Woods.

St. Louis County: Bottle Lake, Iron Lake, Lac La Croix, Loon Lake, Loon River to Loon River Falls, Namakan Lake, Sand Point Lake, and Little Vermilion Lake.

Canada-Minnesota Regulations

- One line per angler is allowed, except two lines may be used when ice fishing.
- Parts of Saganaga, Little Gunflint, and Little North lakes are closed to fishing in May.
- While in Minnesota, anglers may not possess more than a Minnesota limit of fish from Canada-Minnesota border waters. Fish from Canadian inland waters may

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be possessed in Minnesota in excess of the Minnesota limit only if the angler has proof—such as lodging receipts or verification through U.S. Customs—that the fish were taken from inland Canadian waters.

- A person cannot possess or use a gaff while fishing on the Rainy River.
- Dressed sauger count as walleye (see page 35).
- Bowfishing (Minnesota's portion of the waters only) see page 66.
- Dark houses, fish houses and shelters, see pages 68-72.
- Dark house spearing season November 15, 2020 - February 28, 2021. Canada–Minnesota border water possession limits apply.

Canada–Minnesota Seasons and Limits

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Walleye and sauger	May 11, 2019 - April 14, 2020 May 9, 2020 - April 14, 2021	6 combined total (not more than 1 over 20" in possession).
EXCEPTIONS: Lake of the Woods	March 1 - April 14, 2020 May 9, 2020 - April 14, 2021	6 (not more than 4 can be walleye; only 1 walleye over 28"; walleye 19½" through 28" must be immediately released).
Four Mile Bay (Southeast bay of Lake of the Woods)	March 1 - April 14 each year	Catch-and-release only.
	May 9, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	6 (not more than 4 can be walleye; only 1 walleye over 28"; walleye 19½" through 28" must be immediately released).
Namakan, Sand Point and Little Vermilion	May 11, 2019 - April 14, 2020 May 9, 2020 - April 14, 2021	6 (not more than 4 can be walleye; walleye from 18" through 26" must be immediately released; only 1 walleye over 26").
Rainy Lake	May 11, 2019 - April 14, 2020 May 9, 2020 - April 14, 2021	8 (not more than 4 can be walleye; walleye from 18" to 26" must be immediately released; only 1 walleye over 26").
Rainy River (Mouth to the dam at International Falls)	March 1 - April 14 each year	Catch-and-release only.
	May 9, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	6 (not more than 4 can be walleye; only 1 walleye over 28"; walleye 19½" through 28" must be immediately released).
Saganaga Lake	May 9, 2020 - April 14, 2021	3 (17" minimum size limit. Only 1 walleye over 20").

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SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Northern pike	Continuous	3 (only 1 over 30" in possession).
EXCEPTION: Lake of the Woods and Rainy River to the dam at International Falls	Continuous	3 (All from 30" through 40" must be immediately released. Only 1 over 40" allowed in possession.)
EXCEPTION: Basswood Lake (includes Jackfish, Pipestone, Hoist, and Back bays)	May 9, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	3 (All northern pike from 24" through 36" must be immediately released. Only 1 over 36" allowed in possession.)
Muskellunge	June 20 - Nov. 30	1 (minimum size 50").
Largemouth and smallmouth bass	Continuous	6 combined total
Lake sturgeon Immediately validate and attach your sturgeon tag. Register your sturgeon within 48 hours. (See page 56.)	April 24 - May 7	1 per calendar year (fish must be 45-50" inclusive, or over 75").
	May 8 - 15	Catch-and-release only. No tag needed.
	Closed: May 16 - June 30	Closed
	July 1 - Sept. 30	1 per calendar year (fish must be 45-50" inclusive, or over 75").
	Oct. 1, 2020 - April 23, 2021	Catch-and-release only. No tag needed.
Crappie	Continuous	10
Lake trout (SUMMER)	May 9 - Sept. 30	2
Lake trout (WINTER) Lakes outside or partly outside the BWCAW. Includes all of Clearwater, East Bearskin, Magnetic, Saganaga, Seagull and Snowbank.	2020 Season: Jan. 18 - March 31	2
	2021 Season: Jan. 16 - March 31	
Lakes entirely within the BWCAW.	2020 Season: Jan. 1 - March 31	2
	2021 Season: Jan. 1 - March 31	
Stream trout	May 2 - Sept. 30	5 (not more than 3 over 16").
All other species	Continuous	Inland limits apply.

IOWA-MINNESOTA

The seasons and regulations listed below apply to the following waters:

- Jackson County: Little Spirit Lake.
- Jackson and Nobles counties: Iowa Lake.
- Martin County: Okamanpeedan (Tuttle), Iowa, and Swag lakes.

Daily and possession limits are the same. All species not listed are covered by the inland regulations of the state where taken.

Iowa-Minnesota Regulations

- Anglers may use up to two lines with two hooks per line.
- Setlines, trotlines, or unattended lines are unlawful.
- Spearing may be used anytime to take carp, buffalo, sheepshead, dogfish, gar, or quillback.
- Spearing game fish is unlawful.
- Bowfishing regulations, page 66.
- Dark house, fish house, and shelters, pages 68-72.

Iowa-Minnesota Seasons and Limits

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Walleye	Continuous	3
Northern pike	Continuous	3
Largemouth and smallmouth bass	Continuous	3 combined total
Muskellunge	May 21 - Dec. 1	1 (minimum size 40")
Catfish (channel and flathead)	Channel catfish: continuous Flathead catfish: April 1 - Dec. 1	8 combined total
Sunfish (bluegill, crappie, pumpkinseed, green, orangespotted, longear, warmouth, and their hybrids)	Continuous	25 combined total
Perch	Continuous	25
White bass and yellow bass	Continuous	No limit
Bullhead	Continuous	No limit
Unprotected fish (carp, sucker, redhorse, sheepshead, buffalo, burbot, bowfin, gar, and quillback)	Continuous	No limit

NORTH DAKOTA-MINNESOTA

Seasons and regulations apply to the Bois de Sioux River and the Red River of the North. Daily and possession limits are the same. All species not listed are covered by the inland regulations of the state where taken.

North Dakota–Minnesota Regulations

- Two lines are permitted, and two hooks are permitted on each line.
- Dark house spearing is legal; however, catfish may not be speared at any time. Other rules can be found on pages 68-72.
- It is unlawful to possess a spear or bow and arrow on or adjacent to any water body where the spearing and archery season is closed.
- Rough fish may be taken by spearing or archery between sunrise and sunset from May 1 through December 31. The bowfishing regulations on page 66 are allowed only on Minnesota’s portion of the border waters when they differ from those of the border state. If the bowfishing regulations are the same, then they may be exercised from shore to shore.
- Once you possess a fish caught by angling, you cannot replace it with another fish. However, at the end of your fishing day you may release live fish before leaving the water.
- Dark house, fish house, and shelters (pages 68-72).
- Check North Dakota regulations regarding fishing from North Dakota’s shore.

North Dakota–Minnesota Seasons and Limits

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Walleye and sauger	Continuous	3 combined total
Northern pike	Continuous	3
Sunfish (bluegill, pumpkinseed, green, orangespotted, longear, warmouth, and their hybrids)	Continuous	30
Perch	Continuous	50
Crappie	Continuous	30
Largemouth and smallmouth bass	Continuous	3 combined total
Lake sturgeon	March 1 - April 14	Catch-and-release only
	April 15 - June 15	Closed
	June 16 - April 14	Catch-and-release only
Muskellunge	Continuous	1 (minimum size 50")
Rock bass	Continuous	20
Bullhead	Continuous	100
Catfish	Continuous	5 (only 1 over 24")
Unprotected fish (carp, sucker, redhorse, sheepshead, buffalo, burbot, bowfin, gar and white bass)	Continuous	No limit

SOUTH DAKOTA-MINNESOTA

The seasons and regulations listed below apply to the following waters:

- Big Stone County: Big Stone Lake.
- Lincoln County: Hendricks Lake.
- Traverse County: Lake Traverse, Mud Lake, Bois de Sioux River to North Dakota border, and Mustinka River from the mouth to the Minnesota State Highway 117 bridge.

Daily and possession limits are the same unless otherwise noted. All species not listed are covered by the inland regulations of the state where taken.

South Dakota–Minnesota Regulations

- Anglers may use two lines with up to three hooks per line.
- Setlines, trotlines, or unattended lines are unlawful.
- Unprotected fish, except white bass, may be taken by spearing from sunrise to sunset from May 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021.
- The bowfishing regulations on page 66 are allowed only on Minnesota’s portion of the border waters when they differ from those of South Dakota. If the bowfishing regulations are the same, then they may be exercised from shore to shore.
- It is unlawful to possess a spear, spring gaff, or bow and arrow on or adjacent to any body of water where the spearing and archery season is closed.
- Spearing game fish is unlawful except northern pike and catfish may be speared from a dark house.
- Northern pike limit for dark house spearing is three. Other rules can be found on pages 68-72.
- Catfish may not be taken by spearing anytime on the Bois De Sioux River from White Rock Dam to the North Dakota border.
- Dark house, fish house and shelters (pages 68-72).
- Once you possess a fish caught by angling, on the Bois de Sioux River from the White Rock Dam to the North Dakota border, you cannot replace it with another fish. However, at the end of your fishing day you may release live fish before leaving the water.

South Dakota–Minnesota Seasons and Limits

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Walleye and sauger	Continuous	4 combined total (only 1 walleye over 20")
Northern pike	Continuous	6, spearing limit 3
Largemouth and smallmouth bass	Continuous	6 combined total
Crappie	Continuous	10
Sunfish (bluegill, pumpkinseed, green, orangespotted, longear, warmouth, and their hybrids)	Continuous	10 combined total

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SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Rock bass	Continuous	20
Bullhead	Continuous	100
Perch	Continuous	15 daily and 30 in possession
Catfish (channel and flathead)	Channel catfish: continuous Flathead catfish: April 1 - Nov. 30	5 combined total. No more than 2 can be flathead (only 1 catfish over 24").
Lake sturgeon	April 15 - June 15	Closed
	June 16, 2020 - April 14, 2021	Catch-and-release only
Unprotected fish (carp, sucker, redhorse, sheepshead, buffalo, burbot, bowfin, gar, and white bass)	Continuous	No Limit

Lead Tackle

The tackle industry, recognizing a growing awareness and concern about lead in the environment, has begun to create tungsten, glass, copper, steel, tin, bismuth, or plastic sinkers. Consider using non-lead tackle when you go fishing.

Here’s what you can do to help:

- Ask local sporting good stores to stock non-lead fishing tackle.
- Spread the word by telling other anglers about the problem.
- Dispose of old lead sinkers and jigs properly by locating a drop-off location.




WISCONSIN-MINNESOTA

The seasons and regulations listed below apply to the following waters:

Mississippi River (downstream of the Highway 10 bridge in Prescott, Wisconsin and all waters between the Burlington Northern [Wisconsin] and Canadian Pacific [Minnesota] railroad tracks). Lake Pepin, St. Croix River, Lake St. Croix, St. Louis River, St. Louis Bay, and Superior Bay.

Daily and possession limits are the same. All species not listed are covered by the inland regulations of the state where a fish is taken. Anglers may fish shore to shore with either a Minnesota or Wisconsin fishing license.

Wisconsin-Minnesota Regulations






- Two lines with a single lure or bait on each are permitted. If fishing with one line, you may use two baits.
- Fish hooked in any part of the body, except the mouth, must be returned to the water immediately.
- Angler must be within 400 feet of their tip-ups.
- Rough fish may be taken by spearing and dip-netting between sunrise and sunset from May 2, 2020, through March 1, 2021. Dip net hoops cannot exceed 24 inches in diameter.
- Spearing game fish is prohibited. It is unlawful to have a spear on or adjacent to any body of water where the spearing season is closed.
- The bowfishing regulations on page 66 are allowed only on Minnesota's portion of the border waters when they differ from those of Wisconsin. If the bowfishing regulations are the same, then they may be exercised from shore to shore.
- No fishing allowed within 300 feet below Mississippi River Lock and Dam 3 (near Red Wing) and Lock and Dam 4 (Alma, Wisconsin) from March 1 - April 30.
- No fishing from Taylors Falls (St. Croix Falls on the St. Croix River) dam to 50 feet downstream from the pier in center of river.
- Dark house, fish house, and shelters (more details can be found on pages 68-72).
-  **NEW**—Possession limits and length restrictions for multiple species on the Mississippi River portion of Minnesota-Wisconsin border waters are set to change in 2020 but an effective date was not known at the time this edition went to print. Be sure to check the DNR website for the most up to date information.




Wisconsin-Minnesota Seasons and Limits

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Walleye and sauger St. Louis River	May 9, 2020 - March 1, 2021	2 combined total (15" minimum size for walleye)
St. Croix River	May 2, 2020 - March 1, 2021	6 combined total (15" minimum size for walleye)
 NEW —Mississippi River, border water portion of Pool 3 and Pools 4-8 including Lake Pepin	Continuous	4 combined total (15" minimum size for walleye, only 1 walleye or sauger over 20")

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Wisconsin–Minnesota Seasons and Limits *continued from page 63*

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Walleye and sauger <i>continued</i>  NEW —Mississippi River downstream of Lock and Dam 8	Continuous	6 combined total (15" minimum size for walleye, all walleye from 20-27" must be immediately released, only 1 walleye over 27")
Largemouth and smallmouth bass St. Louis River	May 23, 2020 - March 1, 2021	5 combined total (14" minimum size)
St. Croix River upstream of Taylors Falls Dam	May 23 - Sept. 13	5 (14" minimum size)
	Sept. 14, 2020 - March 1, 2021	Catch-and-release only
St. Croix River downstream of Taylors Falls Dam to U.S. Hwy. 10 Bridge	May 23, 2020 - March 1, 2021	5 (14" minimum size)
Mississippi River and Lake Pepin	Continuous	5 (14" minimum size)
Northern pike St. Louis River	May 9, 2020 - March 1, 2021	2
St. Croix River	May 2, 2020 - March 1, 2021	5
 NEW —Mississippi River and Lake Pepin	Continuous	3 (only 1 over 30")
Muskellunge	May 23 - Nov. 30	1 (50" minimum size)
Perch  NEW —Mississippi River and Lake Pepin	Continuous	15
St. Louis River and St. Croix		25
Catfish (channel and flathead)  NEW —Mississippi River and Lake Pepin	Channel catfish: continuous Flathead catfish: April 1 - Nov. 30	10 combined total (only 1 catfish over 30")
St. Louis River and St. Croix		10 combined total
Bullhead	Continuous	No limit
Rough fish	Continuous	No limit
White bass and yellow bass  NEW —Mississippi River and Lake Pepin	Continuous	10 combined total
St. Louis River and St. Croix		25 combined total

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Crappie		
 NEW —Mississippi River and Lake Pepin	Continuous	15
St. Louis River and St. Croix		25
Rock bass	Continuous	25
Sunfish (bluegill, pumpkinseed, green, orangespotted, longear, warmouth, and their hybrids)	Continuous	
 NEW —Mississippi River and Lake Pepin		15
St. Louis River and St. Croix		25
Paddlefish	No open season	
Lake sturgeon St. Louis River and the Mississippi River below the Red Wing dam and Lake Pepin	March 1 - April 14 June 16, 2020 - April 14, 2021	Catch-and-release only; no tag needed.
Mississippi River above the Red Wing dam to the mouth of the St. Croix River	June 16, 2020 - March 1, 2021	Catch-and-release only; no tag needed.
St. Croix River above Taylors Falls	June 16, 2020 - March 1, 2021	Catch-and-release only; no tag needed.
St. Croix River below Taylors Falls to mouth including Lake St. Croix	June 16 - Sept. 4	Catch-and-release only; no tag needed.
	Sept. 5 - 30	1 per calendar year (60" minimum size). A sturgeon tag is needed to harvest a lake sturgeon. Details on page 56.
	Oct. 1, 2020 - March 1, 2021	Catch-and-release only; no tag needed.
Shovelnose sturgeon St. Croix River including Lake St. Croix and Mississippi River above Red Wing dam	June 16, 2020 - March 1, 2021	Catch-and-release only
 NEW —Mississippi River below Red Wing dam	Continuous	3

SPEARING, ARCHERY AND DIP NETS

BOWFISHING

Seasons and Limits

SPECIES	SEASONS (DAY AND NIGHT)	POSSESSION LIMIT
Bullhead	2020 Early Season: Feb. 24 - April 24, 2020 Regular Statewide: April 25, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021 2021 Early Season: Feb 28 - April 23, 2021	100
Sucker and redhorse	(Early Seasons are south of Hwy 210, only on lakes and on Minnesota, Mississippi, or St. Croix rivers. You must bowfish from a boat during the early season.	50 each
Carp, buffalo, sheepshead, bowfin, gar		No limit

Can I fish with a bow and arrow?

You can bowfish for rough fish over open water or through the ice in a fish house or shelter, day or night, with or without lights, during the open season.

- You need a fishing license if you're 16 or older unless you qualify for an angling license exclusion.
- Arrows must have a barb and be attached to the bow with a tethered line.
- To possess a bow, you need to follow local ordinances. You can use a bow while taking rough fish from a watercraft with or without a motor.
- From sunset to sunrise you cannot discharge a bow within 300 feet of a campsite or within 150 feet of an occupied structure.
- You cannot make more than 65 decibels of noise on the "A" scale measured at a distance of 50 feet from the boat.
- If you shoot a fish you have to try to retrieve the fish and your arrow.
- You can't shoot a fish and throw it back in the water, leave it on any bank of any waterway or any access site or otherwise illegally dispose of the fish.
- You can't bowfish in designated trout lakes and streams.
- You can't bowfish in posted spawning areas.

Can I fish with a crossbow?

You cannot unless:

- You are age 60 or older; or
- You are disabled and have a valid crossbow permit. Permit applications are available from the DNR website.

What species may I take when bowfishing?

You may only bowfish for rough fish, which include carp, buffalo, sucker, redhorse, sheepshead, bowfin, gar, goldeye and bullhead.

If I take fish by bowfishing can I also take fish by spearing, harpooning, dip netting or seining?

Yes, but you cannot exceed the daily limit for each species taken with any combination of archery, spearing, harpooning, dip netting or seining equipment to reach the limit.

SPEARING, HARPOONING AND DIP NETS

Seasons and Limits

SPECIES	SEASONS (FROM SUNRISE TO SUNSET)	SEASONS (FROM SUNRISE TO SUNSET)	POSSESSION LIMIT
Sucker	Spearing: April 25, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	Harpooning, dip net and seine: May 1, 2020 - Feb. 14, 2021	50
Bullhead	Spearing: April 25, 2020 - Feb. 14, 2021		100
Redhorse			50
Carp, buffalo, sheepshead, bowfin, gar			No limit

Can I spear, harpoon or dip net for rough fish?

You can harpoon or dip net for rough fish from most inland waters (exceptions below), from sunrise to sunset provided:

- You have a fishing license if you're 16 or older unless you qualify for an angling license exclusion.
- Speared or dead rough fish are not returned to the water or left on the banks or ice of any water.

What equipment can I use for rough fish?

- You can only use spears, underwater harpoons, dip nets, seines used for taking smelt, traps used for taking minnows for bait or angling equipment and nets associated with angling.
- You can use any spear.
- You can use an underwater harpoon or spear that is discharged by a rubber-powered gun, spring gun or air gun and attached with a tethered line not more than 20 feet long and discharged only when the equipment and the operator are entirely under water.
- Harpoons may not be carried in a cocked position while out of the water.
- The hoops on hand-held dip nets cannot exceed 24 inches in diameter.
- During a closed season, you cannot possess spears, traps, dip nets, seines or harpoons on or near any waters.

Where can I spear, harpoon or dip net for fish?

- All inland waters except Baby Lake (Cass County) and where taking fish is prohibited.
- You cannot harpoon within 1,000 feet of swimming beach.
- You can't spear, harpoon or dip net in a designated trout stream.

Can I sell or buy rough fish?

Yes. All rough fish can be bought or sold.

Can I take a limit of fish for each method?

No. You cannot exceed the daily limit for each species taken with any combination of spearing, harpooning, dip netting or seining equipment to reach the limit. Fish taken by archery (bowfishing) also are included in this limit.

DARK HOUSE SPEARING, ICE ANGLING AND ICE SHELTERS

DARK HOUSE SPEARING

Seasons and Limits

SPECIES	SPEARING SEASON	ZONES AND POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
Northern pike Angling limits differ, see page 22.	From sunrise to sunset Nov. 15, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021 except where prohibited.	See Zone Map on page 24. For Canadian or state border waters, or lakes with special northern pike regulations, refer to those sections. Northeast Zone: 2 (not more than 1 northern pike over 26") North-central Zone: 10 (either 2 northern pike over 26" and none from 22 to 26" or 1 from 22 to 26" and 1 over 26") Southern Zone: 2 (minimum size 24")
Catfish		5 (only 1 over 24") (not more than 2 flathead); flathead season closed Dec. 1, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021.
Whitefish and rough fish For other species see table on page 66.		No limit

What is a dark house?

Any structure that is darkened to view fish under the ice. Holes in the ice are cut inside these structures so fish can be speared. Please mark your holes upon leaving.

Do I need a license to spear from a dark house?

Residents age 18 to 89 and nonresidents age 18 and older need a spearing license and an angling license. Youth age 16 and 17 need an angling license but do not need a spearing license.

When can I spear fish from a dark house?

From sunrise to sunset, November 15 to the last Sunday in February. Check border waters regulations for each state or province if on border waters.

What methods can I use while spearing in a dark house?

- You can use spears.
- You also may take fish by angling or with a tip-up if you use only one line. All fish you catch must be immediately released or placed on the ice and not dangled in the water.
- You cannot use artificial lights to see or attract fish when spearing.
- You can use lighted decoy fish but any battery in the lighted decoy must not contain mercury.

What species of fish can I spear from a dark house?

Northern pike, catfish, whitefish and rough fish.

If more than one person is spearing in a dark house, how many fish can you spear?

Party fishing does not apply to spearing. Each person can only spear their own fish.

Where can I spear fish in a dark house?

Most inland waters. Only Baby Lake (Cass County) is closed to dark house spearing.

For border waters, more details can be found on pages 55-65.

ICE ANGLING

How many lines can I use through the ice?

Two, except on designated trout lakes and streams you can only use one line.

How far away can I go from my lines?

You must remain within sight of your line. If you're using a tip-up (a device with spooled line and a flag that pops up to indicate when a fish bites) you need to be within 200 feet.

Does ice fishing have any other regulations that differ from open water fishing besides the number of lines I can use?

No, but anglers must follow all general and special regulations.

ICE SHELTERS

What is a shelter?

A fish house, dark house, or other structure that is set on the ice to provide shelter.

What is a portable shelter?

A portable shelter is one that collapses, folds, or is disassembled for transportation.

Portable shelters do not include trailer/campers with or without slide-outs.

Do I need a license for my fish house or dark house?

- All shelters, except portable shelters, placed on the ice in inland and Canadian border waters need a shelter license.
- However, portable shelters in inland and Canadian border waters need a license if a person 1) leaves the portable shelter unattended any time between midnight and one hour before sunrise, or 2) is not within 200 feet of the portable shelter.
- The fish house license tag must be readily visible from the exterior of the shelter.
- A shelter license is not required on the border waters between Minnesota or Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota.
- A shelter license is valid from March 1 through April 30 of the following year.

Do I need any kind of identification on my shelter?

All shelters need identification, except portable shelters that are occupied. Occupying a shelter means staying within 200 feet of it. Identification means:

- One of the following: owner's name and address; owner's driver's license number; or owner's Minnesota DNR identification number.
- Identification must be readily visible from the exterior of the shelter with characters at least 2 inches high.

Where can I place my shelter?

- Anywhere on Minnesota waters. Shelters must be no closer than 10 feet apart.
- In the BWCAW you can use a shelter but must remove it from the ice each night and each time you leave the BWCAW.

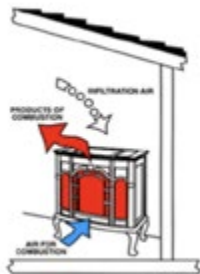
Continued on page 72

HEAT YOUR FISH HOUSE - SAFELY!

The following types of heaters are recommended for heating fish houses:

Vent Free Heater with Oxygen Depletion Sensor (ODS)

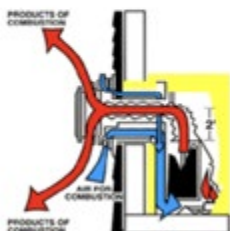
This heater usually uses infrared technology for the heating element. The ODS will shut off the heating unit if oxygen levels get low.



Vent -Free

Direct Vent Heater - Direct Vent (DV)

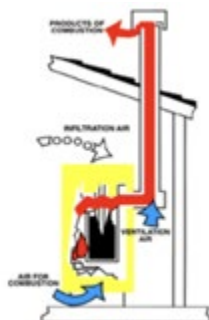
This heater has a sealed combustion chamber and vents all combustion products through the sidewall and uses combustion air from outside the fish house.



Direct Vent

Conventional Vent Space Heater

This heater has a vent that goes up through the roof of a fish house and requires fresh air for combustion to be brought in from the outside.



Conventional Vent





Thousands of Minnesotans take to the ice for recreational fishing every year. However, annually sportsmen are needlessly injured or killed by improper use of heaters in fish houses. These injuries and deaths are often caused by carbon monoxide from unvented or poorly vented propane heaters. Used correctly, propane is a safe and effective fuel for home and recreational use.

QUICK TIPS FOR FISH HOUSE SAFETY



- NEVER USE -sunflower type heaters. They are **not recommended** for use in fish houses. Most are approved for outdoor use only and have no safety systems to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning. **Use outdoors only!**
- **Only use heaters that are listed as or approved for indoor use in your fish house.**
- **Follow manufacturers' installation recommendations.**
- **Check all gas connections for leaks.**
- **Keep propane cylinders OUTSIDE.**

HAPPY FISHING!

A message from the Minnesota Propane Association
www.mnpropane.org



Paid Advertisement

Are there any regulations about shelters I must comply with?

If you leave your shelter out overnight, you need at least 2 square inches of reflective material on each side.

Are there different shelter regulations for border waters for adjacent states?

If you are on border waters between Minnesota and Wisconsin, Iowa or North and South Dakota, the regulations for the state that issues your fishing license apply for your shelter.

Does the trailer I use to haul my fish house, fishing equipment or fish house on wheels need to be registered?

Yes. See your local deputy registrar for trailer registration.

Can I use a fish shelter after the removal date?

Yes, but the fish shelter must be removed at the end of fishing. You can use it overnight, but it must be occupied between midnight and one hour before sunrise.

What happens if I don't remove my shelter before the deadline?

The owners of the shelter will be prosecuted, and the structure and contents may be confiscated or destroyed by a conservation officer.

Can I leave my shelter on a public access site after I take it off the ice?

No.

What happens if I don't remove fish house blocking materials placed under a fish house to keep it from freezing to the ice surface or trash that was generated during ice fishing activities?

- Anglers are required to remove all litter or trash generated during ice fishing activities.
- Anglers can be issued a citation for littering or a civil citation for a solid waste violation or products left on the ice due to ice fishing activities.

Shelter Removal Dates

All shelters must be off the ice no later than midnight for each of the dates given in the following categories below.

Inland Waters

Dates of removal are determined by an east-west line formed by U.S. Highway 10, east along Highway 34 to Minnesota Highway 200, east along Highway 200 to U.S. Highway 2, and east along Highway 2 to the Minnesota–Wisconsin border.

Border Waters

- Minnesota–Iowa, February 20
- Minnesota–Wisconsin, March 1
- Minnesota–North and South Dakota, March 5
- Minnesota–Canada, March 31

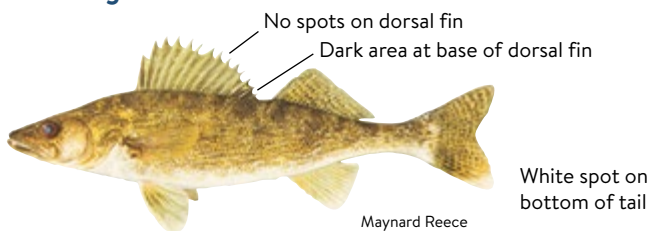


ILLUSTRATED FISH OF MINNESOTA

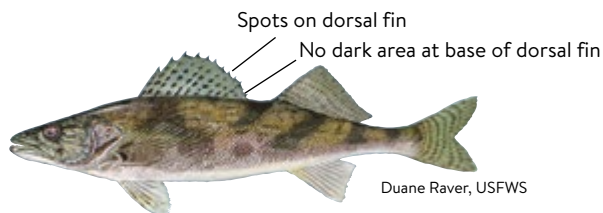
Knowing what fish species you are catching is not only fun, but in many cases it's required by law. It is particularly important to know how to distinguish walleye from sauger (saugeye), to know the difference between northern pike and muskellunge, and to be able to tell what species of trout or salmon you catch.

Walleye and Sauger

Walleye



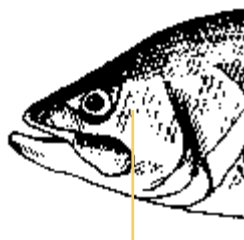
Sauger



Walleye and sauger hybrid fillets are counted as part of a walleye possession limit during transportation.

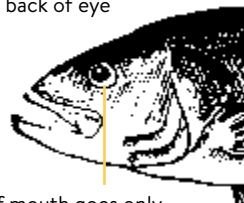
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

Largemouth



Back of mouth goes way beyond back of eye

Smallmouth



Back of mouth goes only to middle of eye

Northern Pike and Muskellunge

Muskellunge

Clear



Paired fins having more pointed tips

Tail with pointed tips

Six or more pores on each side under jaw

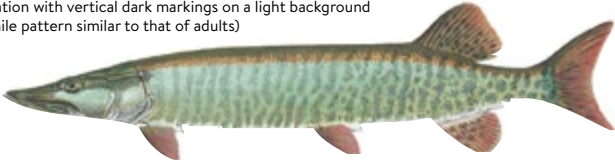


Spotted



Barred

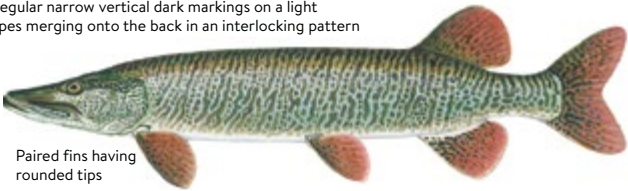
Coloration with vertical dark markings on a light background (Juvenile pattern similar to that of adults)



Tiger (hybrid) Muskellunge (*Esox masquinongy* X *Esox lucius*)

Coloration having irregular narrow vertical dark markings on a light background with stripes merging onto the back in an interlocking pattern

Tail with rounded tips



Paired fins having rounded tips

Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*)

Tail with more rounded tips

Coloration with pattern of horizontal rows of light round to oval spots on a dark background

Five or fewer pores on each side under jaw



Paired fins having more rounded tips



(Juvenile pattern has white, oblique bars which extend from the white belly)

©MN DNR, C. Iverson

Catfish

Flathead Catfish



©MN DNR, C. Iverson

Channel Catfish



©MN DNR, C. Iverson

Trout and Salmon

Brown Trout

Large dark spots and red dots on brown body



Duane Raver, USFWS

Square tail

Brook Trout

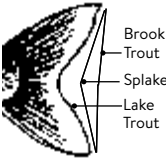
White leading edge on lower fins



Duane Raver, USFWS

Light, wormlike markings on dark upper body

To tell a brook trout from a splake from a lake trout, look at the tail. A splake is a cross between a brook trout and a lake trout.



Lake Trout

White spots on grayish body



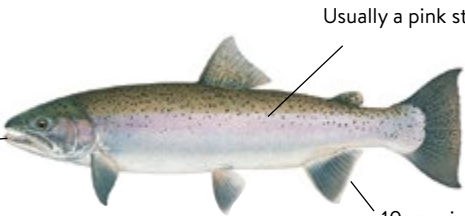
White leading edge on lower fins

©MN DNR, C. Iverson

Forked tail

Steelhead (Rainbow Trout)

Inside mouth is white



Usually a pink stripe on silvery body

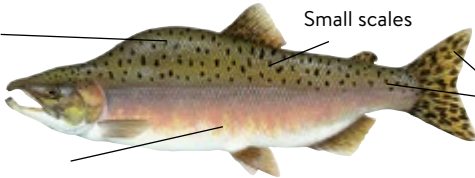
Small spots throughout tail

10 rays in anal fin

Joseph Tomelleri

Pink Salmon

Spawning male has hump on back.



Small scales

Some eye-sized spots in tail and on back

Green and white blotches on spawning fish

Tim Knepp, USFWS

Chinook Salmon

Inside mouth
is dark



15-17 rays in anal fin
Joseph Tomelleri

Spots
throughout
tail

Coho Salmon

Inside mouth
is gray



13-15 rays in anal fin
Tim Knepp, USFWS

Spots in top half
of tail only

Rainbow Trout

Pinkish stripe
on silvery body



Duane Raver, USFWS

Small black dots
throughout the body
that extend into tail

Rainbow Trout and Salmon Identification Guide

Rainbow trout:
white mouth

Coho salmon and
Chinook salmon:
grayish to black mouth



Rainbow trout: tail has
many small spots in
distinct rows.

Coho salmon: tail has
some large spots mostly
on the upper half.

Chinook salmon: Tail has
large spots throughout,
especially in the silver
area at the base of
the tail.



The shape of the anal fin is another way to identify these species. This can easily be seen by depressing the front edge of the anal fin to its base.



Rainbow trout: tip falls to or beyond end of base



Coho salmon: tip falls slightly past middle



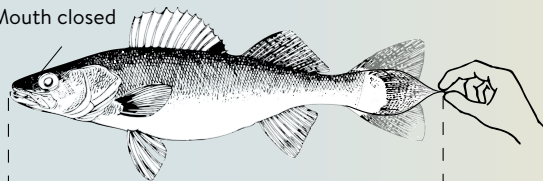
Chinook salmon: tip falls short of middle



How to Measure the Total Length of a Fish

To determine the legal length of a fish, lay it flat on its side, squeeze the tail from tip to tip, and measure from the nose or jaw, whichever is longer, to the farthest tip of the tail when fully extended.

Mouth closed



Push tip
of tail
down



Sturgeon image by Maynard Reece

Weigh Your Fish With a Ruler

Fish are sometimes injured when weighed. With this chart, you can quickly determine the approximate weight of your fish using a ruler or tape measure.

Crappie length (inches)	Crappie weight (lbs.)
8	0.3
9	0.4
10	0.6
11	0.8
12	1.1
13	1.4
14	1.8
15	2.2
16	2.7
17	3.3

Sunfish length (inches)	Sunfish weight (lbs.)
6	0.2
7	0.3
8	0.4
9	0.6
10	0.9
11	1.1
12	1.5
13	1.9
14	2.4

Trout length (inches)	Trout weight (lbs.)
8	0.2
9	0.3
10	0.4
11	0.6
12	0.8
13	0.9
14	1.1
15	1.4
16	1.6
17	1.8
18	2.3

Muskie length (inches)	Muskie weight (lbs.)
48	29
49	32
50	34
51	36
52	39
53	41
54	44
55	47
56	50

Bass length (inches)	Bass weight (lbs.)
12	1.0
13	1.3
14	1.7
15	2.1
16	2.5
17	3.0
18	3.6
19	4.2
20	5.0
21	5.7
22	6.6
23	7.6

Walleye length (inches)	Walleye weight (lbs.)
14	0.9
15	1.1
16	1.3
17	1.6
18	2
19	2.3
20	2.7
21	3.2
22	3.6
23	4.2
24	4.8
25	5.4
26	6.2
27	6.9
28	7.9

Northern length (inches)	Northern weight (lbs.)
18	1.2
19	1.4
20	1.6
21	1.9
22	2.2
23	2.5
24	2.9
25	3.3
26	3.8
27	4.2
28	4.7
29	5.3
30	5.8
31	6.5
32	7.1
33	7.9
34	8.7
35	9.3
36	10.4
37	11.5
38	12.2
39	13.2
40	16

These figures are rough estimates only. Actual weights vary slightly by lake and stream.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See mndnr.gov for more information.

Boat and Water Safety

Everyone on your boat needs to have an accessible, U.S. Coast Guard-approved life vest of the proper size and type. In addition, if the boat is 16 feet or longer, there must also be an approved throwable device such as a boater's seat cushion or ring buoy.

Children under the age of ten must wear a life jacket on board any boat underway. Underway means not attached to a permanent mooring or tied to a dock. There are exceptions to the law for: children who are below the top deck, or in an enclosed cabin, or on a boat operated by a licensed captain, or on a boat that is anchored for the purpose of swimming or diving.

It's always a good idea to wear your life jacket. Most fatal boating mishaps occur when boats capsize or people fall overboard, especially on small boats. These types of accidents can happen even on calm waters, while traveling at slow speed or stopped.

For a complete summary of the boating regulations and safety information, contact the DNR Information Center for a copy of the Minnesota Boating Guide, or find it online. For rules pertaining to the use of motorboats within Wildlife Management Areas, refer to the Minnesota Hunting and Trapping Regulations Handbook or call the DNR.



**THAT'S
a LIFE
JACKET?**



**You
BETCHA!**

**9 out of 10 boating deaths
could be prevented
by wearing a life jacket.**

Aquatic Management Areas

The DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife acquires land along lakes and streams to protect critical fish habitat and to provide fishing opportunities. These areas, known as Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs), have specific use types (easement, restricted use and general use) and are posted with signs that indicate allowable and unauthorized uses for each use type. As a reminder it is always unlawful to leave any personal equipment, such as tree stands, unattended on AMA's. For more information on AMA's please go to the AMA Finder at: mndnr.gov/amas.

Catch-and-Release

Improved fishing technology and increasing fishing pressure have caused fishing quality to decline in many waters. Catch-and-release fishing offers anglers a way to enjoy their sport with less harm to the resource. Find more information online.

- Do not plan to release fish that have been on a stringer or in a livewell.
- Play and land the fish quickly.
- Don't angle for fish in very deep water, unless you plan to keep what you catch. Fizzing of fish, or the act of inserting a needle into a fish intended to deflate the gas bladder, caught from deep water can do more harm than good and is not legal.
- Handle the fish gently and keep it in the water as much as possible.
- Do not hold the fish by the eye sockets or gills, but rather by the lower lip or under the gill plate and also support the belly of the fish.
- Wet your hands before touching a fish to prevent removing its protective coating.
- If a hook is deeply embedded, cut the line so that at least 1 inch hangs out of the mouth. This helps the hook to lay flush when the fish takes in food.
- Circle hooks may help in reducing deeply hooked fish. They are made to hook fish in the mouth.
- A fish that can be legally kept should not be released if it is bleeding heavily, which indicates its chance of survival is poor.
- You cannot target a species during its closed season, even if you plan to release it.

Managing Minnesota's Fisheries

The DNR Fish and Wildlife Division is responsible for managing the state's diverse fisheries resources (4,500 fishable lakes and 16,000 miles of fishable streams). Each year, roughly 2 million people fish in Minnesota, and sport fishing generates approximately \$2.4 billion in direct expenditures, making angling one of the state's largest industries.

Much of Minnesota's fisheries program is reimbursed by the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program (federal excise tax), administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Master Angler Program

The Fishing Hall of Fame of Minnesota in partnership with DNR recognizes anglers who catch large fish of various species. Categories include adult, youth, and catch-and-release.

For more information on becoming a Master Angler, visit the DNR website or fishinghalloffamemn.com

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program

Habitat Money Available. Funding for projects to restore, enhance, and protect Minnesota's fish, game, and wildlife habitat. See mndnr.gov/cpl for details.

STATE RECORD FISH PROGRAM

Catch-and-Release Length

Why a record length program?

To track and record angler catches based on the measured total length of a fish rather than the certified weight, allowing anglers to preserve large fish by immediately releasing them.

What fish are eligible?

Muskellunge, northern pike, lake sturgeon, and flathead catfish. These fish are large, typically targeted as trophies and commonly caught and released by anglers. Records are updated at the end of each calendar year. As of January 2020, the catch-and-release records are: muskellunge, 57¼", Lake Vermilion (St. Louis County); lake sturgeon, 78", St. Croix River (Washington County); flathead catfish, 53", St. Croix River (Washington County); northern pike, 45¼", Rainy River (Koochiching County).

How do I submit an application?

Complete rules and an application are available on the DNR website at mndnr.gov/recordfish. Each application must include a photo of the fish being measured next to a ruler and be witnessed.

Certified Weight

If you catch and keep a fish that you think could be a record weight, follow these steps:

- Take the fish to a DNR fisheries office for positive identification and a state record fish application.
- Weigh the fish on a state-certified scale (found at most bait shops and butcher shops), witnessed by two observers.
- Complete the application and send it along with a clear, full-length photo of your fish to the address listed on the form.
- DNR does not keep line class records.

The following is a complete list of Minnesota's state record certified weight fish and the county where they were caught. Weights given are in pounds and ounces (example: 55-5 is 55 pounds, 5 ounces). No additional species or hybrids are being considered for certified weight state record fish.

Bass, Largemouth: 8-15, Auburn Lake (Carver).

Bass, Rock: 2-0, Osakis Lake (Todd); and 2-0, Lake Winnibigoshish (Cass).

Bass, Smallmouth: 8-0, West Battle Lake (Otter Tail).

Bass, White: 4-8, Vadnais Lake (Ramsey).

Bowfin: 12-9, Mississippi River (Wabasha).

Buffalo, Bigmouth: 41-11, Mississippi River (Goodhue).

Buffalo, Black: 20-0, Minnesota River (Nicollet).

Buffalo, Smallmouth: 20-0, Big Sandy (Aitkin).

Bullhead, Black: 3-13, Reno Lake (Pope).

Bullhead, Brown: 7-1, Shallow Lake (Itasca).

Bullhead, Yellow: 3-10, Osakis Lake (Todd).

Burbot: 19-10, Lake of the Woods (Lake of the Woods).

Carp, Common: 55-5, Clearwater Lake (Wright).

Carp sucker, Quillback: 7-4, Upper Red Lake (Beltrami).

Carp sucker, River: 4-6, Minnesota River (Carver).

Catfish, Channel: 38-0, Mississippi River (Hennepin).

Catfish, Flathead: 70-0, St. Croix River (Washington).

Cisco (Tullibee): 5-13, Sybil Lake (Otter Tail).

Crappie, Black: 5-0, Vermillion River (Dakota).

Crappie, White: 3-15, Lake Constance (Wright).

Drum, Freshwater (Sheepshead): 35-3, Mississippi River (Winona).

Eel, American: 6-9, St. Croix River (Washington).

Gar, Longnose: 16-12, St. Croix River (Washington).

Gar, Shortnose: 5-4, Minnesota River (Renville).

Goldeye: 2-13, Root River (Houston).

Hogsucker, Northern: 1-15, Sunrise River (Chisago).

Mooneye: 1-15, Minnesota River (Redwood).

Muskellunge: 54-0, Lake Winnibigoshish (Itasca).

Muskellunge, Tiger: 34-12, Lake Elmo (Washington).

Perch, Yellow: 3-4, Lake Plantagenet (Hubbard).

Pike, Northern: 45-12, Basswood Lake (Lake).

Redhorse, Golden: 4-8, Otter Tail River (Otter Tail).

Redhorse, Greater: 12-11, Sauk River (Stearns).

Redhorse, River: 12-10, Kettle River (Pine).

Redhorse, Shorthead: 7-15, Rum River (Anoka).

Redhorse, Silver: 10-6, Rainy River.

Salmon, Atlantic: 12-13, Baptism River (Lake).

Salmon, Chinook: 33-4, Poplar River (Cook); and 33-4, Lake Superior (St. Louis).

Salmon, Coho: 10-6, Lake Superior (Lake).

Salmon, Kokanee: 2-15, Caribou Lake (Itasca).

Salmon, Pink: 4-8, Cascade River (Cook).

Sauger: 6-2, Mississippi River (Goodhue).

Saugeye (Walleye-Sauger Hybrid): 9-13, Mississippi River (Goodhue).

Sturgeon, Lake: 94-4, Kettle River (Pine).

Sturgeon Shovelnose: 6-7, Mississippi River (Goodhue).

Sucker, Blue: 14-3, Mississippi River (Wabasha).

Sucker, Longnose: 3-10, Brule River (Cook).

Sucker, White: 9-1, Big Fish Lake (Stearns).

Sunfish Bluegill: 2-13, Alice Lake (Hubbard).

Sunfish, Green: 1-4, North Arbor Lake (Hennepin).

Sunfish, Green Bluegill Hybrid: 1-12, Zumbro River (Olmsted).

Sunfish, Pumpkinseed: 1-5, Leech Lake (Cass).

Trout, Brook: 6-5, Pigeon River (Cook).

Trout, Brown: 16-12, Lake Superior (St. Louis).

Trout, Lake: 43-8, Lake Superior (Cook).

Trout, Rainbow (Steelhead): 16-6, Devil Track River (Cook).

Trout, Splake: 13-5, Larson Lake (Itasca).

Trout, Tiger: 2-9, Mill Creek (Olmsted).

Walleye: 17-8, Seagull River (Cook).

Warmouth: 0-9, Bartlett Lake (Winona).

Whitefish, Lake: 13-9, Lake of the Woods (Roseau).

Whitefish, Menominee: 2-7, Lake Superior (Cook).

SUNRISE/SUNSET TABLE

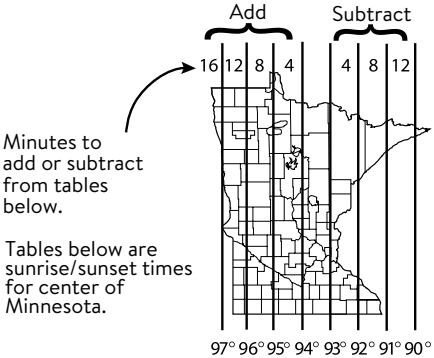
The following table is provided primarily for trout and salmon anglers who need to know the sunrise and sunset times on the waters they fish. Times shown are approximations of sunrise and sunset and vary by where you are located. Times shown are Central Daylight Saving Time beginning March 8, 2020 through November 1, 2020. Central Standard Time for all other dates.

Sunrise/Sunset Table—March 2020 though August 2020

DATE	MAR. SUN- RISE	MAR. SUN- SET	APR. SUN- RISE	APR. SUN- SET	MAY. SUN- RISE	MAY SUN- SET	JUNE SUN- RISE	JUNE SUN- SET	JULY SUN- RISE	JULY SUN- SET	AUG. SUN- RISE	AUG. SUN- SET
1	6:52	6:00	6:55	7:41	6:03	8:18	5:30	8:52	5:30	9:04	5:58	8:40
2	6:50	6:02	6:53	7:42	6:02	8:20	5:29	8:53	5:31	9:03	5:59	8:39
3	6:48	6:03	6:51	7:43	6:00	8:21	5:29	8:54	5:31	9:03	6:00	8:38
4	6:46	6:04	6:49	7:44	5:59	8:22	5:28	8:55	5:32	9:03	6:01	8:36
5	6:45	6:06	6:47	7:46	5:57	8:23	5:28	8:56	5:32	9:02	6:03	8:35
6	6:43	6:07	6:45	7:47	5:56	8:24	5:28	8:56	5:33	9:02	6:04	8:34
7	6:41	6:08	6:43	7:48	5:55	8:26	5:27	8:57	5:34	9:02	6:05	8:32
8	7:36	7:10	6:42	7:49	5:53	8:27	5:27	8:58	5:35	9:01	6:06	8:31
9	7:35	7:12	6:40	7:51	5:52	8:28	5:27	8:58	5:35	9:01	6:07	8:29
10	7:34	7:12	6:38	7:52	5:51	8:29	5:26	8:59	5:36	9:00	6:08	8:28
11	7:33	7:13	6:36	7:53	5:49	8:30	5:26	8:59	5:37	9:00	6:10	8:26
12	7:32	7:15	6:34	7:54	5:48	8:32	5:26	9:00	5:38	8:59	6:11	8:25
13	7:30	7:16	6:33	7:56	5:47	8:33	5:26	9:01	5:39	8:59	6:12	8:23
14	7:28	7:18	6:31	7:57	5:46	8:34	5:26	9:01	5:39	8:58	6:13	8:22
15	7:26	7:19	6:29	7:58	5:45	8:35	5:26	9:01	5:40	8:57	6:14	8:20
16	7:25	7:20	6:27	7:59	5:43	8:36	5:26	9:02	5:41	8:56	6:16	8:18
17	7:23	7:21	6:26	8:01	5:42	8:37	5:26	9:02	5:42	8:56	6:17	8:17
18	7:21	7:23	6:24	8:02	5:41	8:38	5:26	9:03	5:43	8:55	6:18	8:15
19	7:19	7:24	6:22	8:03	5:40	8:40	5:26	9:03	5:44	8:54	6:19	8:14
20	7:17	7:25	6:21	8:05	5:39	8:41	5:26	9:03	5:45	8:53	6:20	8:12
21	7:15	7:27	6:19	8:06	5:38	8:42	5:26	9:03	5:46	8:52	6:22	8:10
22	7:13	7:28	6:17	8:07	5:37	8:43	5:27	9:04	5:47	8:51	6:23	8:09
23	7:11	7:29	6:16	8:08	5:36	8:44	5:27	9:04	5:48	8:50	6:24	8:07
24	7:10	7:30	6:14	8:10	5:36	8:45	5:27	9:04	5:49	8:49	6:25	8:05
25	7:08	7:32	6:12	8:11	5:35	8:46	5:27	9:04	5:50	8:48	6:26	8:03
26	7:06	7:33	6:11	8:12	5:34	8:47	5:28	9:04	5:51	8:47	6:28	8:02
27	7:04	7:34	6:09	8:13	5:33	8:48	5:28	9:04	5:52	8:46	6:29	8:00
28	7:02	7:35	6:08	8:15	5:32	8:49	5:29	9:04	5:54	8:45	6:30	7:58
29	7:00	7:37	6:06	8:16	5:32	8:50	5:29	9:04	5:55	8:44	6:31	7:56
30	6:58	7:38	6:05	8:17	5:31	8:51	5:30	9:04	5:56	8:43	6:32	7:55
31	6:56	7:39			5:30	8:52			5:57	8:41	6:33	7:53

The times in the table below are for the longitudinal line running north and south through Minneapolis/St. Paul.

To find the sunrise or sunset hours on the water you fish, go to mndnr.gov/sunrise-sunset/



Sunrise/Sunset Table—September 2020 though February 2021

DATE	SEPT. SUN-RISE	SEPT. SUN-SET	OCT. SUN-RISE	OCT. SUN-SET	NOV. SUN-RISE	NOV SUN-SET	DEC. SUN-RISE	DEC. SUN-SET	JAN. SUN-RISE	JAN. SUN-SET	FEB. SUN-RISE	FEB. SUN-SET
1	6:35	7:51	7:11	6:54	6:52	4:59	7:31	4:33	7:52	4:42	7:33	5:21
2	6:36	7:49	7:12	6:52	6:54	4:57	7:32	4:33	7:52	4:43	7:32	5:22
3	6:37	7:47	7:13	6:51	6:54	4:59	7:33	4:33	7:52	4:44	7:31	5:24
4	6:38	7:45	7:14	6:49	6:55	4:58	7:34	4:32	7:52	4:45	7:30	5:25
5	6:39	7:44	7:16	6:47	6:57	4:57	7:35	4:32	7:51	4:46	7:29	5:27
6	6:41	7:42	7:17	6:45	6:58	4:55	7:36	4:32	7:51	4:47	7:27	5:28
7	6:42	7:40	7:18	6:43	6:59	4:54	7:37	4:32	7:51	4:48	7:26	5:29
8	6:43	7:38	7:19	6:41	7:01	4:53	7:38	4:32	7:51	4:49	7:25	5:31
9	6:44	7:36	7:21	6:40	7:02	4:51	7:39	4:32	7:51	4:50	7:23	5:32
10	6:45	7:34	7:22	6:38	7:04	4:50	7:40	4:32	7:50	4:52	7:22	5:34
11	6:47	7:32	7:23	6:36	7:05	4:49	7:41	4:32	7:50	4:53	7:20	5:35
12	6:48	7:30	7:25	6:34	7:06	4:48	7:42	4:32	7:50	4:54	7:19	5:37
13	6:49	7:28	7:26	6:32	7:08	4:47	7:43	4:32	7:49	4:55	7:18	5:38
14	6:50	7:27	7:27	6:31	7:09	4:46	7:44	4:32	7:49	4:56	7:16	5:39
15	6:51	7:25	7:28	6:29	7:10	4:45	7:44	4:32	7:48	4:58	7:15	5:41
16	6:53	7:23	7:30	6:27	7:12	4:44	7:45	4:32	7:48	4:59	7:13	5:42
17	6:54	7:21	7:31	6:25	7:13	4:43	7:46	4:33	7:47	5:00	7:12	5:44
18	6:55	7:19	7:32	6:24	7:14	4:42	7:46	4:33	7:46	5:01	7:10	5:45
19	6:56	7:17	7:34	6:22	7:16	4:41	7:47	4:33	7:46	5:03	7:08	5:46
20	6:57	7:15	7:35	6:20	7:17	4:40	7:48	4:34	7:45	5:04	7:07	5:48
21	6:59	7:13	7:36	6:19	7:18	4:39	7:48	4:34	7:44	5:05	7:05	5:49
22	7:00	7:11	7:38	6:17	7:20	4:39	7:49	4:35	7:43	5:07	7:04	5:51
23	7:01	7:09	7:39	6:16	7:21	4:38	7:49	4:35	7:42	5:08	7:02	5:52
24	7:02	7:08	7:40	6:14	7:22	4:37	7:50	4:36	7:42	5:10	7:00	5:53
25	7:03	7:06	7:42	6:12	7:24	4:36	7:50	4:37	7:41	5:11	6:59	5:55
26	7:05	7:04	7:43	6:11	7:25	4:36	7:50	4:37	7:40	5:12	6:57	5:56
27	7:06	7:02	7:44	6:09	7:26	4:35	7:51	4:38	7:39	5:14	6:55	5:58
28	7:07	7:00	7:46	6:08	7:27	4:35	7:51	4:39	7:38	5:15	6:53	5:59
29	7:08	6:58	7:46	6:07	7:28	4:34	7:51	4:39	7:37	5:17	6:51	6:00
30	7:09	6:56	7:48	6:05	7:30	4:34	7:51	4:40	7:36	5:18		
31			7:50	6:03			7:51	4:41	7:35	5:19		

HEALTH ADVISORY AND FISH EATING GUIDELINES

Most fish are healthful to eat and a great way to get low-fat protein, but any fish (store-bought or sport-caught) could have contaminants such as mercury and PCBs that can harm human health—especially children and fetuses. The Minnesota Department of Health lets people know how often fish can be safely eaten.

The guidelines on the following page are based on contaminants measured in fish from lakes across the state. For more information, call the Minnesota Department of Health at 651-201-4911, toll-free at 800-657-3908 or visit health.state.mn.us/fish

Tips for safe fish eating

- For consumption advice on individual waters that have been tested visit mndnr.gov/lakefind.
- Older and larger predator fish (walleyes, northern pike, lake trout) contain more mercury—eat smaller predators.
- Eat more panfish (sunfish, crappies) and less fish that eat other fish (walleyes, northern pike, lake trout).
- Trim skin and fat, especially belly fat. Also, eat fewer fatty fish such as carp, catfish, and lake trout.

Consejos para el consumo saludable de pescado

- Los peces depredadores mayores y más grandes (Lucioperca, Lucio Norteño, Trucha de Lago) contienen más mercurio, comen depredadores más pequeños.
- Coma más peces como Pomosios y Pez Sol y menos pescados que comen otros peces como Lucioperca, Lucio Norteño y Trucha de Lago.
- Remueva la piel y la grasa, especialmente la grasa alrededor de la barriga. También coma menos pescados que tienen más grasa como Bagre, Carpa y Trucha de lago.

Tej yam qhia noj ntse kom txhob muaj teeb meem

- Cov ntse loj xws li (walleyes, northern pike, lake trout) nws muaj cov kua hlau ntau nyob rau hauv nws lub cev, yog li nej yuav tsum noj cov ntse me.
- Noj cov ntse pluav xws lis (xafiv = sunfish, kabpib = crappies) thiab yog cov ntse uas tom lwm yam ntse no ces noj kom tsawg xws lis (vaulais = walleyes, novtaw phajj = northern pike, lej rhauj = lake trout).
- Yim cov tawv thiab roj, qhov tseem ceeb tshaj yog cov roj tawm npluag plab. Tsis tag lis xwb yuav tsum noj cov ntse rog kom tsawg lis tsawg tau xws lis pamnais, ntse tuajkub, thiab (lej rhauj = lake trout).

Vài lời nên chú ý khi ăn cá để được an toàn

- Cá lớn và trưởng thành chứa nhiều chất ô nhiễm (mercury). Thì dụ như cá walleye, cá hồi, cá trê.
- Nên ăn loại nhỏ cỡ như cá rô (sunfish), cá hồi (lake trout).
- Không nên ăn da và mỡ cá, nhất là phần mỡ ở bụng cá. Mặt khác, nên ăn ít những loại cá có nhiều mỡ như cá chép, cá trê hoặc cá bông lau, và cá hồi.

STATEWIDE CONSUMPTION GUIDELINES FOR FISH CAUGHT IN MINNESOTA

For consumption advice on individual waters that have been tested visit mndnr.gov/lakefind

Children and Women of Child-bearing Age:



- Sunfish
- Crappie
- Perch
- Bullhead
- Stream trout
- Cisco
- Whitefish

One meal per week
Una comida por semana
Ib as thiv, ib pluag
Một tuần ăn một lần



- Walleye
- Northern
- Catfish
- Lake trout
- All sizes of other species

One meal per month
Una comida por mes
Ib hli, ib pluag
Một tuần ăn một lần



- Muskellunge

Do not eat
No comer
Tsis txhob noj hlos lis
Không nên ăn

Other Adults:



- Sunfish
- Crappie
- Perch
- Bullhead
- Stream trout
- Cisco
- Whitefish

Check health.state.mn.us/fish for current guidance

Consulte health.state.mn.us/fish para obtener información actualizada

Saib health.state.mn.us/fish rau cov lus qhia tam sim no

Tham khảo health.state.mn.us/fish để biết thêm thông tin



- All sizes of other species

One meal per week
Una comida por semana
Ib as thiv, ib pluag
Một tuần ăn một lần

CONTACT INFORMATION

Licenses

DNR License Center
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4026
Watercraft registration: 800-285-2000
Phone license sales: 888-665-4236
Internet sales: mndnr.gov

DNR general information

888-646-6367 or 651-296-6157
info.dnr@state.mn.us

Information on and reporting harmful invasive species

651-259-5100 or 888-646-6367

Lake maps

Minnesota Bookstore
660 Olive Street
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-297-3000 or 800-657-3757
minnesotasbookstore.com

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

612-713-5360

Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness

Permits and reservations are not under DNR jurisdiction. This is a national forest wilderness area.

For information, contact:

Superior National Forest 8901
Grand Avenue Place Duluth, MN 55808
Information: 218-626-4300
Reservations: 877-444-6777
recreation.gov

Voyageurs National Park

218-283-6600

Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge

218-847-2641

DNR Fisheries Headquarters and Offices

Northwest Region

Bemidji
Headquarters
218-308-2623

Baudette Area
218-634-2522

Bemidji Area
218-308-2339

Detroit Lakes Area
218-846-8290

Fergus Falls Area
218-739-7576 ext.
238

Glenwood Area
320-634-7321

Park Rapids Area
218-732-4153

Walker Area
218-547-1683

Northeast Region

Grand Rapids
Headquarters
218-328-8831

Aitkin Area
218-429-3033

Brainerd Area
218-203-4302

Duluth and Lake
Superior Area
218-302-3264

Finland Area
218-353-8840

Grand Marais Area
218-387-6021

Grand Rapids Area
218-328-8836

International Falls Area
218-286-5220

Tower Area
218-300-7802

Central Region

Central Headquarters
651-259-5831

Garrison Area
(Mille Lacs)
320-692-0085

Hinckley Area
320-384-7721

Lake City Area
651-299-4010

Lanesboro Area
507-467-2442

Little Falls Area
320-299-4010

Metro East Area
651-259-5831

Metro West Area
952-496-4141

Sauk Rapids Area
320-223-7878

South Region

South Headquarters
507-233-1215

Hutchinson Area
320-234-2550

Ortonville Area
320-839-2656

Spicer Area
320-796-2161

Waterville Area
507-497-1830

Windom Area
507-832-6020

Conservation Officer

888-MINNDNR (888-646-6367)

Call the DNR Information Center for easy access to DNR information and to connect with a Conservation Officer.



Turn in Poachers (TIP)

800-652-9093

If you witness a violation in progress or need to contact a Conservation Officer immediately, call the Turn in Poachers 24-hour hotline.



Fishing From the Side of the Road—Road Right-of-Way Rules

Some road right-of-ways are not owned by a unit of government. In these instances the landowner has granted an easement for vehicle and foot travel. The landowner generally retains authority to restrict access for angling and may prohibit trespass by posting the land or by verbally directing anglers to leave the easement. It's always best to ask permission if in doubt about the ownership of a road ditch area. County or township offices also may be able to help determine the ownership status of a road ditch.

Helpful examples of road right-of-way ownership and public use include:

- Interstate highways are normally owned by the government, but angling or taking fish is not allowed.
- State highways are most often owned by the state, but there may be a mix of easements and state ownership.
- County roads may be owned by the county, or there may be easements. Roadways with easements tend to be gravel, while roads owned by the county tend to be paved. Road surface is a visual indicator of the ownership but is not an absolute condition.
- Township roads are generally easement and not owned by the township, but some township roads are owned by the township. As is the case with county roads, road surface can sometimes be a visual indicator of the ownership.
- The ownership or easement status can vary on any one stretch of road, and can vary from road to road.

Visually, the road right-of-way is improved and maintained, and you will normally notice a change in the property—including such things as ditches, fence lines, etc. The actual distance from the center of the road that is improved and maintained can vary under ownership or easement, and from one location to another.

LICENSE DOLLARS AT WORK



Minnesota has some of the best outdoor opportunities in the country. Mother Nature gave us a uniquely diverse canvas, but world-class outdoor recreation exists because the state's anglers and hunters are passionate about the outdoors and support it with their time, commitment and dollars.

HOW DNR SPENDS A LICENSE DOLLAR



- Fisheries - 35 cents
- Wildlife - 35 cents
- Conservation officers - 23 cents
- Clean water - 4 cents
- Boat ramps and accesses - 2 cents
- Sustainable forests - 1 cent

License dollars create outdoor recreation opportunities

Your license dollars pay for fish and wildlife management, public land infrastructure maintenance and habitat management that DNR fish and wildlife staff perform across Minnesota.

Their work creates some of the nation's most sought-after outdoor experiences. You'll find them fishing or boating on one of Minnesota's 4,500 fishing lakes, paddling or wading its 16,000 miles of fishable rivers and streams or a foot in field or forest at one of its 1,500+ Wildlife Management Areas.

Visit mndnr.gov/LicenseDollarsAtWork to discover how the biologists who staff area fisheries and wildlife offices across Minnesota use their knowledge and expertise to manage fish, wildlife and habitat for the benefit of 1.5 million anglers, 580,000 hunters and 1.6 million bird and wildlife watchers.

Lottery and legacy dollars off limits

Minnesota State Lottery and Legacy Amendment dollars are not available for basic year-to-year fish and wildlife management or conservation officer funding. Those dollars can only be used for specifically approved projects. Since state law prohibits lottery and legacy dollars from paying the regular costs of doing enforcement, fish, wildlife and habitat management and maintenance work across Minnesota, license fee dollars have to support the necessary and growing amount of work DNR staff must do to allow lottery and legacy funds to be put to use.

Strict rules on spending; citizens oversee what's spent

Hunting and fishing license dollars are kept separate from other DNR funds in a dedicated state treasury account called the Game and Fish Fund. These dollars can only be used for fish, wildlife, law enforcement and certain other related activities.

State law requires that the Legislature allocate dollars from this special state fund to DNR for specific expenses detailed in a governor's budget request. DNR cannot access dollars from this fund without legislative authorization and gubernatorial approval.

As DNR spends these dollars, groups of citizens who serve on the fisheries, wildlife and budget oversight committees monitor why and how the DNR spends your license dollars on game, fish and habitat management and maintenance.

License fees leverage more dollars for the outdoors

Maintaining an adequate flow of license dollars allows Minnesota to get more bang for its conservation buck. Federal excise taxes paid on certain types of outdoor gear and marine fuels are allocated to each state based on the number of people who buy hunting and fishing licenses and the geographic size of the state. Minnesota deposits its federal dollars into the Game and Fish Fund.

For every \$100 Minnesota spends on allowed game and fish expenses, the federal government reimburses \$75, effectively allowing DNR to spend three times more than it could if it only used money from license sales for fish, game and habitat management and maintenance.



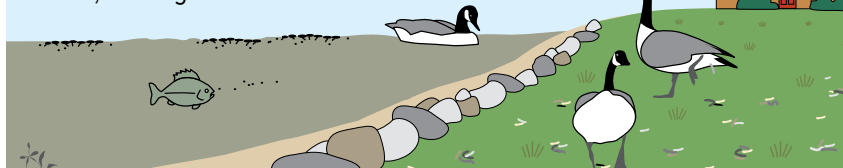
LEARN HOW YOUR LICENSE DOLLARS

- Improve fishing, hunting, wildlife and habitat.
- Maintain and create outdoor recreation opportunities.

mndnr.gov/LicenseDollarsAtWork

POOP PROBLEMS?

Manicured lawns extending to the water's edge attract nuisance geese and contribute to erosion, murky water, and algae blooms.



Natural vegetation provides habitat, filters runoff, and protects against wave action.



Aquatic Plant Permit Requirements

Water plants such as bulrushes are essential for healthy lake ecosystems. They reduce wave erosion, provide fish and wildlife habitat, and purify water. Because lake plants can interfere with swimming and boating by lakeshore owners—but are also vital to lake health—the DNR allows removal under the following conditions.

DNR permit is NOT required to cut or pull submersed (underwater) plants as long as:

- The area does not extend along more than 50 feet of your shoreline or one-half the length of your frontage, whichever is less;
- The total area is less than 2,500 square feet (except for boat channels); and
- The plants are immediately and permanently disposed of on high ground where they can't re-enter the water.

DNR permit IS required to:

- Remove emergent plants (such as bulrushes, cattails, and wild rice).
- Use herbicides or algicides in Minnesota lakes.
- Install or use an automated device such as the Crary WeedRoller®
- Remove water lilies (other than in a narrow channel extending to open water).
- Remove plants in an area larger than 2,500 square feet or wider than 50 feet.

A person who illegally destroys plants can be cited and made to pay for the restoration of those plants.

For more information, call your regional DNR office (page 87) or visit our website at mndnr.gov/apm/aquatic-plant-management-permits.html



WAIT 21 DAYS

You can protect Minnesota waters from aquatic invasive species by leaving docks and lifts out of the water for at least 21 days before placing in another waterbody.

- ✓ **Clean** all visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species from watercraft, trailers, docks, lifts, and other water-related equipment.
- ✓ **Drain** water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait container, motor) and drain bilge, livewell and baitwell by removing drain plugs before leaving any water access or shoreland property.
- ✓ **Dispose** of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches and worms, in the trash.

mndnr.gov/ais

mn DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

CALL US

Interpreters are available to answer all of your questions.

License, titling and registration: M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

General information: M-F 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

888-MINNDNR or 651-296-6157

info.dnr@state.mn.us



[mnfish](https://www.facebook.com/mnfish)



[mn_fish](https://twitter.com/mn_fish)

TURN IN POACHERS

24-hour hotline, 800-652-9093



500 Lafayette Road

St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

888-MINNDNR or 651-296-6157

mndnr.gov

The Minnesota DNR prohibits discrimination in its programs and services based on race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, and status with regard to public assistance. Individuals with a disability who need a reasonable accommodation to access or participate in DNR programs and services please contact the DNR ADA Title II Coordinator at info.dnr@state.mn.us, 651-296-6157, or through MN Relay Service 711. Discrimination inquiries should be sent to Minnesota DNR, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4049.

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting info.dnr@state.mn.us, 651-296-6157. For TTY/TDD communication contact us through the Minnesota Relay Service at 711 or 800-627-3529.

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