

## STATEWIDE REGULATIONS

These regulations apply to all public waters in Ohio, **EXCEPT** that site-specific regulations apply to water areas included in the Specific Water Areas, Lake Erie and its Tributaries, Ohio River, and Pymatuning Lake regulation sections.

SPECIES	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM SIZE
Muskellunge	<b>1</b>	None
Yellow Perch	<b>40</b>	None
Trout ( <i>all species</i> )	<b>5</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	None
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	<b>5</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	None
Walleye, Sauger, & Saugeye	<b>6</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	None
Channel Catfish ( <i>under 28 inches</i> )	<b>6</b> ( <i>public lakes less than 700 acres</i> ) <b>None</b> ( <i>all other public waters</i> )	None
Channel Catfish ( <i>28 inches or larger</i> )	<b>1</b> ( <i>Statewide</i> )	28 inches
Blue & Flathead Catfish ( <i>under 35 inches</i> )	<b>None</b>	None
Blue & Flathead Catfish ( <i>35 inches or larger</i> )	<b>1</b> ( <i>of each Statewide</i> )	35 inches
All other fish	<b>None</b>	None



## OHIO RIVER REGULATIONS AND AGREEMENTS

The following Ohio River fishing regulations are the result of negotiations between the fish and wildlife agencies of Ohio, West Virginia, and Kentucky. Some regulations differ between the Kentucky/Ohio border (Western Unit) and the West Virginia/Ohio border (Eastern Unit). Anglers must abide by regulations in each state's fishing digest for regulations not specified below.

**WESTERN UNIT • Kentucky / Ohio border only** • Lawrence County west of South Point, and Scioto, Adams, Brown, Clermont, and Hamilton counties. Ohio and Kentucky will honor the other state's fishing licenses along their common borders on the mainstem and from the banks of the Ohio River, excluding embayments and tributaries.

The following regulations are the only unified regulations in this agreement and must be followed when fishing within the Western Unit.

SPECIES	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM SIZE
Walleye, Sauger, & Saugeye	<b>10</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	None
Striped, Hybrid, & White Bass	<b>30</b> ( <i>no more than 4 over 15 inches</i> )	None
Muskellunge	<b>2</b>	30 inches
Black & White Crappie	<b>30</b>	None

The following Ohio regulations apply only to boat anglers when fishing in Ohio waters, shoreline anglers when fishing on the Ohio shoreline, and all anglers in Ohio embayments and tributaries within the Western Unit.

SPECIES	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM SIZE
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	<b>6</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	12 inches ( <b>now includes spotted bass</b> )

\*The following **Kentucky** regulations apply to boat anglers fishing the mainstem of the Ohio River, shore anglers fishing the **Kentucky** shoreline, and boat and shore anglers fishing **Kentucky** embayments and tributaries within the Western Unit.

SPECIES	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM SIZE
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	<b>6</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	12 inches (except for spotted bass)

## SPECIFIC WATER AND SITE REGULATIONS

These regulations apply only to the water areas listed under the LOCATION column.

SPECIES	LOCATION	LIMIT	MINIMUM SIZE
Crappies	Acton • Alum Creek • Atwood • Berlin • Buckeye • Caesar Creek • C. J. Brown • Clear Fork • Clendening • Deer Creek ( <i>Fayette-Pickaway Co.</i> ) • Delaware ( <i>including the Olentangy River upstream to the Waldo dam and Whetstone Creek upstream to St. Rt. 229</i> ) • Dillon • East Fork • Ferguson • Grand Lake St. Marys • Griggs • Hargus • Hoover • Indian • Kiser • Knox • Leesville • Loramie • Madison • Mahoning River: <i>from the dam at Lake Milton to the Mahoning-Trumbull Co. line and between Berlin Lake and Lake Milton (Mahoning-Portage Co.)</i> • Metzgor • Lake Milton • Mosquito • Nimsisila • O'Shaughnessy • Portage Lakes: East, Long, North, Turkeyfoot, and West • Paint Creek • Piedmont • Pleasant Hill • Rocky Fork • Rush Creek • Salt Fork • Seneca • Springfield ( <i>Summit County</i> ) • Tappan • Veterans Memorial • West Branch Lakes	<b>30</b>	9 inches
Crappies	Killdeer Plains • Oxbow • St. Joseph River Wildlife Area Lakes	<b>10</b>	none
Sunfish ( <i>all species</i> )	Killdeer Plains • Oxbow • St. Joseph River Wildlife Area Lakes	<b>10</b>	none
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	Killdeer Plains • Knox • Oxbow • St. Joseph River Wildlife Area • Tycoon Lakes	<b>5</b>	18 inches
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	Acton • Adams • Blue Rock • Caesar Creek • Caldwell • Cowan • Dale Walborn • Greenfield • Hancock County Wetlands • Hargus • Kenton • Lake Milton including the Mahoning River connecting Berlin Lake and Lake Milton • Monroeville Reservoir • Monroe • New Lyme • Ohio-Erie Canal • Paint Creek • Pike • Pine • Ross • Rush Creek • Rush Run • Salt Fork • Seneca • Silver Creek • Sippo • Spencer • Vesuvius • Wellington Reservoir South • Zepernick Lakes	<b>5</b>	15 inches
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	Alum Creek • Atwood • Berlin • Bresler • Buckeye • Charles Mill • C.J. Brown • Clear Fork • Clendening • Deer Creek (Fayette-Pickaway Co.) • Delaware • Dillon • East Fork • Findlay #2 • Grand Lake St. Marys • Hoover • Indian • LaDue • Leesville • Loramie • Mogadore • Mosquito • Nimsisila • O'Shaughnessy Reservoir • Piedmont • Pleasant Hill • Rocky Fork • Tappan • Turkeyfoot • West Branch • Wills Creek Lakes	<b>5</b>	12 inches
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	Belmont • Burr Oak • Dow • Findley • Fox • Hammertown (Jackson City Reservoir) • Highlandtown • Lake Rupert (Wellston City Reservoir) • Slope Creek (Barnesville #3) • Snowden • Timbre Ridge • Turkey Creek • Wolf Run • AEP ReCreation Lands, MB40, MB41, MB42, MM29, MM34, NB43 Lakes	<b>5</b>	none may be taken between 12 & 15 inches
Largemouth Bass	La Su An • Resthaven Pond #8	<b>Special Limits are Posted</b>	
Striped Bass	Kiser • Seneca Lakes	<b>1</b>	26 inches
Hybrid Striped Bass	East Fork Lake	<b>4</b>	15 inches
Walleye, Saugeye, & Sauger	Acton • Alum Creek • Atwood • Berlin • Buckeye • C.J. Brown • Caesar Creek • Ferguson • Findlay 1 & 2 • Indian • Lake Milton including the Mahoning River connecting Berlin Lake and Lake Milton • Lake Snowden • Metzger • Piedmont • Pleasant Hill • Rocky Fork • Seneca • Tappan • West Branch Lakes	<b>6</b>	15 inches
Trout ( <i>all species</i> )	Mad River and its tributaries • Clear Fork River and its tributaries • Clear Creek from the first Fairfield County Road 69 bridge (east of the junction of County Roads 26 and 69) to U.S. Rt. 33 bridge in Hocking County	<b>2</b>	12 inches
Brook Trout	Chagrin River and its tributaries (Geauga Co.) • Rocky River and its tributaries (Medina Co.)	<b>Possession is Prohibited</b>	

## HOW TO MEASURE A FISH

The measurement of the length of a fish is taken in a **straight line** from the utmost end of the snout with the mouth **closed** to the utmost end of the caudal (tail) fin when the tail fin is **compressed** so that the upper and lower lobes touch or overlap.

**Measure fish with mouth closed and tail compressed to determine total length.**

## LAKE ERIE AND ITS TRIBUTARIES

### LAKE ERIE REGULATIONS FOR WALLEYE, YELLOW PERCH, AND BLACK BASS

These regulations apply to the Ohio waters of Lake Erie, its embayments including Maumee Bay, Sandusky Bay, East Harbor, Middle Harbor, and West Harbor, and tributaries to the first dam, or designated landmark as follows: Vermilion River to St. Rt. 2 bridge • Black River to St. Rt. 611 bridge • Rocky River to Detroit Rd. bridge • Cuyahoga River to Harvard Rd. bridge • Euclid Creek and Chagrin River to St. Rt. 283 bridge • Arcola Creek, Wheeler Creek, Cowles Creek, and Indian Creek to U. S. Rt. 20 bridge • Grand River to St. Rt. 535 bridge • Conneaut Creek to Main St. bridge (*downtown Conneaut*) • Ashtabula River to E. 24th St. bridge. All "statewide" regulations apply to Ohio waters of Lake Erie except for those listed below:

#### LAKE ERIE WALLEYE AND YELLOW PERCH LIMITS

**In these waters, regulations for walleye and yellow perch are set on May 1 each year.** Prior to that time, regulations from the previous season will apply. A special publication announcing current limits for walleye and yellow perch will be available at wildlife district offices and license outlets beginning in April. The updated limits will also be announced through a statewide news release and posted on the Division of Wildlife Web site at wildohio.com.

**\*\*The minimum size for walleye is 15 inches.\*\***

#### LAKE ERIE BLACK BASS DAILY BAG LIMITS

SPECIES	DATES	DAILY LIMIT	MIN. SIZE
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	last Saturday in <b>June</b> to <b>April 30</b>	<b>5</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	14 inches
	<b>May 1</b> to last Friday in <b>June</b>	<b>illegal to possess</b>	-

#### LAKE ERIE REGULATIONS FOR TROUT AND SALMON

These regulations apply to the Ohio waters of Lake Erie, its embayments (except Cold Creek in Erie County and Beaver Creek in Seneca County) including Maumee Bay, Sandusky Bay, East Harbor, Middle Harbor, and West Harbor, and the entire length of its tributaries.

SPECIES	DATES	DAILY LIMIT	MIN. SIZE
Trout & Salmon	<b>May 16</b> thru <b>August 31</b>	<b>5</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	12 inches
	<b>September 1</b> thru <b>May 15</b>	<b>2</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	

The following regulations apply in Cold Creek upstream of Rt. 2 in Erie County and Beaver Creek in Seneca County for trout and salmon.

SPECIES	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM SIZE
Trout & Salmon	<b>5</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	None

**EASTERN UNIT • West Virginia / Ohio border only** • Lawrence County east of South Point, and Gallia, Meigs, Athens, Washington, Monroe, Belmont, Jefferson, and Columbiana counties. West Virginia and Ohio will honor the other state's fishing licenses along their common borders on the mainstem of the Ohio River, including its banks and embayments and tributaries to the landmark location listed in Publication 404, Waterfowl Hunting and Fishing on the Ohio River ([http://www.wvdnr.gov/fishing/PDFFiles/ohio\\_river\\_hunt\\_fish.pdf](http://www.wvdnr.gov/fishing/PDFFiles/ohio_river_hunt_fish.pdf)) or call 1-800-WILDLIFE. Boundaries for areas not listed in this publication extend to the first riffle. This agreement applies to West Virginia and Ohio residents only.

The following regulations are the only unified regulations in this agreement and must be followed when fishing within the Eastern Unit.

SPECIES	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM SIZE
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	6 (singly or in combination)	<b>12 inches</b>
Striped, Hybrid, & White Bass	<b>30</b> ( <i>no more than 4 over 15 inches</i> )	None
Muskellunge	2	30 inches

The following Ohio regulations apply only to shore anglers when fishing on the Ohio shoreline and all anglers in Ohio embayments and tributaries within the Eastern Unit.

SPECIES	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM SIZE
Walleye, Sauger, & Saugeye*	10 (singly or in combination)	None
<b>Northern Pike</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Black &amp; White Crappie</b>	<b>30</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	<b>None</b>

\*The following **West Virginia** regulations apply to boat anglers fishing the mainstem of the Ohio River, shore anglers fishing the **West Virginia** shoreline, and boat and shore anglers fishing **West Virginia** embayments and tributaries within the Eastern Unit.

SPECIES	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM SIZE
Walleye	2	18 inches
Sauger & Saugeye	10 (singly or in combination)	None
Northern Pike	2	28 inches

## PYMATUNING LAKE REGULATIONS

Either an Ohio or Pennsylvania fishing license may be used when fishing from a boat; however, a Pennsylvania fishing license is required to take fish, frogs, or turtles from the shore of the Pennsylvania side or from any island. Walleye, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, and muskellunge cannot be filleted before the angler has completed fishing. Fish may be taken only by angling, except carp and suckers may be taken with longbow and arrow or spears. Special regulations apply to frogs, turtles, tadpoles, minnows, and ice fishing — see the Pennsylvania regulations for specific information.

**Pymatuning Lake anglers, fishing in either Ohio or Pennsylvania waters may not use more than 3 fishing lines, whether fastened to a pole, a rod and reel, or hand held. Anglers may use up to three hooks on each line.**

SPECIES	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM SIZE
Walleye	<b>6</b>	15 inches
Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass	<b>5</b> ( <i>singly or in combination</i> )	12 inches
Muskellunge	<b>2</b>	30 inches
All other fish	<b>None</b>	None

## MAUMEE, PORTAGE, MAHONING, AND SANDUSKY RIVERS REGULATIONS

**The following regulation is in effect from March 1 to May 1:** Fishing is allowed from sunrise to sunset only in the following areas: **(1)** the Maumee River from the Ohio Turnpike bridge to the Old Waterville interurban bridge at the end of Forst Road in Wood County and from the St. Rt. 578 bridge to the Grand Rapids Providence dam • **(2)** the Portage River from St. Rt. 19 to the dam at Elmore • **(3)** the Mahoning River from the dam at Berlin Lake to Lake Milton • **(4)** the Sandusky River from where the Toledo Edison power line, Old Ballville and Fifth St. Line, crosses the Sandusky River at the southeast corner of Rodger Young Park in Fremont to the northern tip of Brady's Island. All fishing is prohibited in the Sandusky River from the Ballville dam to the Toledo Edison power line, Old Ballville and Fifth St. Line, at the southeast corner of Rodger Young Park in Fremont.

**The following regulations are in effect from March 1 to May 1: (1) No fishing with a line with more than a single hook.** The line may not have a hook larger than one-half inch from shank to point, or lure having more than a single hook larger than one-half inch from shank to point. **(2)** Treble hooks are prohibited.

**The above regulations are in effect in the following areas: (1)** In the Maumee River from the Grand Rapids Providence dam to a line in the Maumee Bay from Little Cedar Point to Turtle Island • **(2)** In the Sandusky River from where the power line, "Toledo Edison," Old Ballville and Fifth Street line crosses the Sandusky River at the southwest corner of Rodger Young park, city of Fremont, Sandusky County to a line running a quarter-mile east of and parallel to the Conrail railroad bridge in Sandusky Bay • **(3)** In the Portage River from State Route 19 to the dam at Elmore • **(4)** In the Mahoning River from the dam at Berlin Reservoir to Lake Milton.

## SETLINES, BANKLINES, TROTTLINES, AND FLOATLINES

### REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF SETLINES, BANKLINES, TROTTLINES, AND FLOATLINES IN THE INLAND FISHING DISTRICT

**SETLINES or BANKLINES** • Setlines or banklines may be used to catch turtles and fish. The name and address of the user must be attached to each line. The maximum is 50 lines, each having a single hook. Treble hooks may not be used. The lines must be attached to the shore above water, but not to a boat, dam, dock, pier, pole, rod, or wall. No more than six setlines or banklines may be used in public waters of the state of Ohio less than 700 surface acres in size. All lines must be checked once every 24 hours. All lines must be removed after completion of use.

**TROTTLINES** • Trotlines must be marked with the name and address of the user. Trotlines must be anchored. Wire or cable may not be used. Not more than three trotlines are permitted in any one body of water in the Inland Fishing District. Not more than 50 hooks per trotline are permitted in any tributary of Lake Erie. Trotlines may not be used within 1,000 feet downstream of any dam.

**Trotlines may be used only in (1)** streams • **(2)** Mosquito Lake north of the causeway and south of a line of buoys designating the wildlife refuge • **(3)** Charles Mill Lake north of Old St. Rt. 30 • **(4)** Clendening Lake east of St. Rt. 799 • **(5)** Seneca Lake south of St. Rt. 147 • **(6)** Tappan Lake above the gas line causeway and St. Rt. 646 • **(7)** Atwood Lake north and east of St. Rt. 542 north at Dellroy • **(8)** Piedmont Lake in sections 11 and 12 of Kirkwood Township • **(9)** Wills Creek Lake except in the area directly in front of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District boat landing • **(10)** that part of Berlin Lake lying south and west of St. Rt. 225 • **(11)** the inland part of Sandusky Bay commonly called Mud Creek Bay • **(12)** the area of Grand Lake St. Marys bounded on the west by Prairie Creek, on the east by Big Chickasaw Creek, and on the north by a line of buoys extending east to west between Big Chickasaw and Prairie creeks.

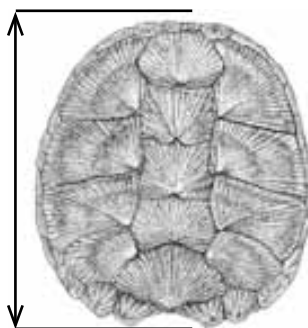
Trotlines may not be set in channels or across the mouths of channels or streams in Grand Lake St. Marys. **A special trotline license is required in the Lake Erie Fishing District.** This license may be obtained at the Sandusky Fisheries Research Unit, 305 East Shoreline Drive, Sandusky, Ohio 44870 (Phone: 419-625-8062). All trotlines must be checked once every 24 hours.

**FLOATLINES** • Floatline or jug fishing is permitted in **(1)** all streams • **(2)** Sandusky Bay west of the Conrail Railroad bridge • **(3)** Berlin Lake south and west of St. Rt. 225 • **(4)** Mosquito Lake north of the causeway and south of a line of buoys designating the waterfowl refuge • **(5)** Charles Mill Lake north of Old St. Rt. 30 • **(6)** Clendening Lake east of St. Rt. 799 • **(7)** Seneca Lake south of St. Rt. 147 • **(8)** Tappan Lake above the gas line causeway and St. Rt. 646 • **(9)** Atwood Lake north and east of St. Rt. 542 north at Dellroy • **(10)** Piedmont Lake in Sections 11 and 12 of Kirkwood Township • **(11)** Wills Creek Lake except in the area directly in front of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District boat landing • **(12) ALL PUBLIC WATERS EXCEPT WHERE PROHIBITED BY THE OWNER IN AUTHORITY.** It is unlawful to set, use, or maintain more than six floatlines in all public waters of the state of Ohio less than 700 surface acres in size. Floats must be of nonshatterable material and bear the name and address of the user. Floats must be freely adrift and be attended by the user at all times. Treble hooks are unlawful.



## FROG AND TURTLE REGULATIONS

**TURTLE SEASON** • Turtle season is open from July 1 through April 30. Turtles may not be taken by shooting with a gun or crossbow, or by use of a spring or steel trap. Only snapping and softshell turtles may be legally taken. Snapping turtles and softshell turtles must have a straight-line carapace length of 13 inches or greater to be taken and there is no daily limit on the number that may be taken. A turtle trap with mesh less than 4 inches square must have an opening at least 6 inches in diameter leading from it. Wings and leads are unlawful. The trap must be marked with the name and address of the owner or user in English language.



**FROG SEASON** • Frog season is open from 6 p.m. the second Friday in June through April 30. Only bullfrogs and green frogs may be legally taken. Not more than 15 (*singly or in combination*) may be taken or possessed at any time. Frogs may not be shot except with a longbow and arrow.

