

# OHIO

## FISHING REGULATIONS 2013-2014

Effective MARCH 1, 2013 to  
FEBRUARY 28, 2014



**MAY 4TH & 5TH ARE FREE FISHING DAYS**

On May 4 and 5, 2013, all Ohio residents are invited to take the opportunity to experience Ohio's fantastic fishing without purchasing a fishing license.



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
**DIVISION OF WILDLIFE • [wildohio.com](http://wildohio.com)**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

LICENSE INFORMATION	2
GENERAL INFORMATION	4
STATEWIDE REGULATIONS	5
OHIO RIVER REGULATIONS	6
MAUMEE, PORTAGE, MAHONING, & SANDUSKY RIVER REGS	7
SPECIFIC WATER & SITE REGULATIONS	8
LAKE ERIE & ITS TRIBUTARIES REGULATIONS	10
PYMATUNING LAKE REGULATIONS	11
FROG & TURTLE REGULATIONS	11
BANKLINE, SETLINE, FLOATLINE, & TROTLINE REGULATIONS	12
TAKE A KID FISHING	13
WILDLIFE OFFICER BY COUNTY/CONTACT INFORMATION	15



## CHANGES FOR THIS YEAR!

- New fillet regulations, page 4
- New bass regulations, pages 5, 8 and 9
- New AEP regulations, pages 8 and 9

## LICENSE FEES

### LICENSES VALID MARCH 1, 2013 to FEBRUARY 28, 2014

- **RESIDENT FISHING LICENSE** ..... \$19.00  
For persons age 16 through 65 who have resided in Ohio for the past six months.
- **RESIDENT SENIOR FISHING LICENSE** ..... \$10.00  
For persons age 66 and older born on or after January 1, 1938 who have resided in Ohio for the past six months.
- **ONE-DAY FISHING LICENSE** ..... \$11.00  
For residents and nonresidents, the One-Day Fishing License may be exchanged for credit towards the purchase of an annual fishing license (minus writing fee).
- **LAKE ERIE CHARTER ONE-DAY FISHING LICENSE** ..... \$11.00  
For residents and nonresidents, the license may be purchased in advance of scheduled charter trip. To validate the license, anglers must sign it and fill in the date at the beginning of the trip. If the trip is postponed, anglers keep the unvalidated license until they are able to reschedule the trip.
- **ANNUAL NONRESIDENT LICENSE** ..... \$40.00
- **THREE-DAY NONRESIDENT TOURIST'S LICENSE** ..... \$19.00
- **DUPLICATE LICENSE** ..... \$4.00  
A fishing license that has been lost, stolen, or destroyed can be reissued from any license vendor or via the Internet.

◆ ALL ABOVE COSTS INCLUDE A \$1.00 WRITING FEE ◆

## LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ A fishing license is required to take fish, frogs, or turtles from Ohio waters.
- ◆ Persons fishing in privately owned ponds, lakes, or reservoirs to and from which fish do not migrate, are not required to have a license to take fish, but must have one to take frogs or turtles.
- ◆ Persons fishing in privately owned ponds, lakes, or reservoirs that are open to public fishing through an agreement or lease with the Division of Wildlife are required to have a fishing license.
- ◆ Anglers must have their license in their possession while fishing and must show the license to anyone on request.
- ◆ Members of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty stationed in Ohio, but NOT on leave or furlough are required to purchase a resident license.

## LICENSE EXEMPTIONS

### A FISHING LICENSE IS NOT REQUIRED OF PERSONS WHO ARE:

- ◆ Less than 16 years of age
- ◆ Giving assistance to an angler who is physically disabled, provided the two persons together are using only one line
- ◆ Fishing in a private pond
- ◆ Fishing on land and water which they or their parents own except where the land is in or borders on state parks or state owned lakes
- ◆ Fishing on land and water where they or their parents are tenants on which they reside and from which they derive the majority of their income from agricultural production on that land (except state-owned lakes)
- ◆ Members of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty while on leave or furlough
- ◆ On **May 4 and 5, 2013**, all Ohio residents may fish without a license as part of **Free Fishing Days**

## FREE LICENSE

- ◆ Ohio residents born on or **before December 31, 1937** can obtain a free license at any license outlet, or online at **wildohio.com**.
- ◆ The following Ohio residents are also eligible for a free license, but must submit a formal application (**Form DNR 9032**), which is available by calling **1-800-WILDLIFE** (1-800-945-3543):
  - Persons who are mobility impaired and require the assistance of another person to cast and retrieve
  - Holders of "Veteran" license plates displaying the international wheelchair symbol
  - Certain veterans who are permanently disabled
  - Residents of state and county institutions
  - Former prisoners of war

## ONLINE FISHING LICENSE

For complete information about the web-based fishing license sales system go to **wildohio.com** and click on the link "Buy Your License" under the Wild Ohio Customer Center heading.

## PHONE-IN FISHING LICENSE

Customers have additional options to purchase a last-minute one- or three-day fishing license using a credit card:

- ◆ Calling **1-866-703-1928** between 5 a.m. and midnight to reach a live operator. A **\$5.50** fee is added to the license cost.
- ◆ Calling **1-855-765-3474** any time for an Interactive Voice Response system. Callers need their nine-digit customer ID number, which can be obtained from the Wild Ohio Customer Center at **wildohio.com**. A **\$3.25** fee is added to the license cost.

Sign up for the weekly Fish Ohio Report and Wild Ohio eNewsletter at **wildohio.com**.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

- ◆ It is unlawful to buy or sell any fish taken by sport fishing, including angling, bankline, setline, floatline, and trotline, fishing taken from any water area in the state.
- ◆ It is unlawful to transport and introduce any aquatic species (fish, invertebrate, plant) from one body of water to another.
- ◆ It is unlawful for the public to tag and release fish into any public water area.
- ◆ It is unlawful for any person to possess a fish in any form or condition other than whole while on or when unloading the fish from a boat, while wading, or while fishing from shore on any waters in this state where a fishing license is required.

### In addition:

- Fillets must be kept whole until an angler reaches their permanent residence or until the fish are prepared for immediate consumption.
- There is no requirement to keep any skin on fillets.
- This does not apply to anglers with a receipt from a fish cleaning house or charter captain which states the date, number, and type of fish possessed.
- Fish may be transported whole or as a complete fillet while returning from the Lake Erie islands on a commercial ferry boat.

■ **ARCHERY ANGLERS** • Archery anglers may use bows of any draw weight. A fishing license is required. Longbows may be used to take bullfrogs, green frogs, snapping and softshell turtles, and forage fish. Crossbows may be used to take forage fish.

■ **BAIT** • It is unlawful for any person except licensed bait dealers to possess more than 100 crayfish or in combination 500 crayfish, minnows, and other bait fish. A bait dealer's permit is required of persons buying or selling minnows, crayfish, and hellgrammites. This permit may be obtained from any wildlife district office.

■ **CAST NETS** • Forage fish and minnows may be taken with cast nets. It is unlawful to use a cast net with a square mesh less than ¼-inch or larger than one inch on a side, or with a diameter greater than 10 feet. It is illegal to use a cast net within a distance of

1,000 feet downstream from any dam posted with Division of Wildlife signs indicating cast net use is prohibited.

### ■ CLAMS, MUSSELS, & MUSSEL SHELLS

• Clams, mussels, or mussel shells may not be taken, possessed, or collected for any purpose.

■ **FISHING LINES** • Anglers may not use more than two fishing lines, whether fastened to a pole, a rod and reel, or hand held. Anglers may use up to three hooks on each line, except as provided in the Ohio Administrative Code.

■ **FORAGE FISH** • Forage fish means freshwater drum, carp, quillback, suckers, bowfin, gar, buffalo, gizzard shad, and goldfish. These species may be taken by any method except by means of explosives, poisons, firearms, electricity, chemicals, nets, seines, or traps, or by snagging within 1,000 feet downstream of a dam. Gizzard shad and smelt may be taken with a minnow seine, minnow dip net, or hand landing net.

■ **ICE ANGLERS** • Ice anglers may use holes no larger than 12 inches in diameter. In Lake Erie ice anglers may use holes no larger than 12 inches in width. Ice anglers may not use more than six tip-ups and two rods per person. All shelters and tip-ups must display the name and address of the owner or user in English lettering.

■ **LAKE STURGEON** • The lake sturgeon is an endangered species in Ohio and must be returned unharmed to the water as soon as possible if caught.

■ **LIVE RELEASE OF FISH** • Any fish not of legal size or not legally caught must be released immediately. Handle it carefully with a wet hand or a wet towel so it can be freed unharmed. If the fish is hooked deeply and the hook can't easily be removed, cut the line to release the fish. Tearing a hook out can harm a fish so badly that it may not live.

■ **MINNOW OR BAIT FISH TRAPS** • It is illegal for anglers to possess or use a minnow or bait fish trap larger than 24 inches in length and 12 inches in width. Additionally, possessing or using a minnow or bait fish trap with an opening larger than one inch is illegal. A tag must be attached to the trap(s) with the owners name and address, or the customer identification number, in English language.

■ **MINNOW SEINES AND DIP NET REGULATIONS** • Square mesh must not be larger than ½-inch on a side. Seine and net size limits and places where they may be used are as follows:

Fishing District	Maximum Size	Where And When They May Be Used
Minnow Seine: Inland	4 X 8 feet	Streams only, 4 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Minnow Seine: Lake Erie *	No size limit	No limit
Minnow Dip Net: Inland	4 feet, each side	All public fishing waters
Minnow Dip Net: Lake Erie *	6 feet, each side	All public fishing waters

\*Including East and West harbors in Ottawa County and waters where fishing with nets is licensed by law.

■ **SNAGGING** • Snagging with a hook to pierce and hook a fish in a part of the body other than the inside of the mouth is illegal for all fish except forage fish. In Lake Erie, it is also illegal to snag freshwater drum. Snagging is illegal from September 1 to April 30 in the Ash-tabula River, Chagrin River, Grand River, Rocky River, Vermilion River, Arcola Creek, Conneaut Creek, Cowles Creek, Euclid Creek, Indian Creek, Turkey Creek, and Wheeler Creek. Hooks may not be larger than five-eighths inch from shank to point.

## FISH OHIO AWARD

APPLICATIONS FOR THE FISH OHIO PIN WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED ONLINE AT [FISHOHIO.ORG](http://FISHOHIO.ORG)

Anglers will receive a Fish Ohio pin for their first entry each year, and a Master Angler pin for qualifying entries in four different species categories in the same year.

- Fish must be taken by legal angling and not from pay lakes.
- Deadline for online application entry is January 15.
- Possible state-record fish must be kept frozen for verification by the Outdoor Writers of Ohio ([outdoorwritersofohio.org](http://outdoorwritersofohio.org)).



### BELOW IS A LIST OF QUALIFYING SIZES FOR A FISH OHIO CATCH

Blue Catfish . . . . .35 In.	Hyb Striped Bass . . . . .21 In.	Saugeye . . . . .21 In.
Brown Trout . . . . .25 In.	Largemouth Bass . . . . .21 In.	Smallmouth Bass . . . . .20 In.
Carp . . . . .26 In.	Muskie . . . . .36 In.	Sunfish . . . . .9 In.
Channel Catfish . . . . .26 In.	Northern Pike . . . . .32 In.	Walleye . . . . .28 In.
Crappie . . . . .13 In.	Rainbow Trout . . . . .28 In.	White Bass . . . . .16 In.
Flathead Catfish . . . . .35 In.	Rock Bass . . . . .10 In.	Yellow Perch . . . . .13 In.
Freshwater Drum . . . . .22 In.	Sauger . . . . .16 In.	

## STATEWIDE REGULATIONS

These regulations apply to **ALL** public waters in Ohio, with a few site-specific exceptions. These site-specific exceptions include those bodies of water included in the Specific Water Areas table, Lake Erie and its Tributaries, Ohio River, and Pymatuning Lake regulation sections.

Species	Daily Limit	Min. Size
Muskellunge	1	None
Yellow Perch	40	None
Trout (all species)	5 (singly or in combination)	None
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	5 (singly or in combination)	12 inches
Walleye, Sauger, & Saugeye	6 (singly or in combination)	None
Channel Catfish (under 28 inches)	6 (public lakes under 700 acres) None (all other public waters)	None
Channel Catfish (28 inches or larger)	1 (statewide)	28 inches
Blue & Flathead Catfish (under 35 inches)	None	None
Blue & Flathead Catfish (35 inches or larger)	1 (of each statewide)	35 inches
All other fish	None	None

# OHIO RIVER REGULATIONS

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.

## OHIO RIVER AGREEMENT REGULATIONS

### ■ EASTERN UNIT • West Virginia / Ohio

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** ([wvdnr.gov/fishing/PDF-Files/ohio\\_river\\_hunt\\_fish.pdf](http://wvdnr.gov/fishing/PDF-Files/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	Min. Size
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	6 (singly or in combination)	12 inches
Striped, Hybrid, & White Bass	30 (no more than 4 over 15 inches)	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	Min. Size
Walleye, Sauger, & Saugeye*	10 (singly or in combination)	None
Northern Pike	None	None
Black & White Crappie	30 (singly or in combination)	None

\*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	Min. Size
Walleye	2	18 inches
Sauger & Saugeye	10 (singly or in combination)	None
Northern Pike	2	28 inches

## 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.



### ■ WESTERN UNIT • Kentucky / Ohio

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	Min. Size
Walleye, Sauger, & Saugeye	10 (singly or in combination)	None
Striped, Hybrid, & White Bass	30 (no more than 4 over 15 inches)	None
Muskellunge	2	30 inches
Black & White Crappie	30	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	Min. Size
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	6 (singly or in combination)	12 inches (includes spotted bass)

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	Min. Size
Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass	6 (singly or in combination)	12 inches (except for spotted bass)

## MAUMEE, PORTAGE, MAHONING, & 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.

# SPECIFIC WATER & SITE REGULATIONS

THESE REGULATIONS APPLY ONLY TO THE WATER AREAS LISTED UNDER THE LOCATION COLUMN

Species	Location	Limit	Min. Size
<b>Crappie</b>	Acton • Alum Creek • Atwood • Berlin • Buckeye • Caesar Creek • C. J. Brown • Clear Fork • Clendening • Deer Creek (Fayette-Pickaway Co.) • Delaware (including the Olentangy River upstream to the Waldo dam and Whetstone Creek upstream to St. Rt. 229) • Dillon • East Fork • Ferguson • Grand Lake St. Marys • Griggs • Hargus • Hoover • Indian • Kiser • Knox • Leesville • Loramie • Madison • Mahoning River: from the dam at Lake Milton to the Mahoning-Trumbull Co. line and between Berlin Lake and Lake Milton (Mahoning-Portage Co.) • Metzgor • Lake Milton • Mosquito • Nimisila • O'Shaughnessy • Portage Lakes: East, Long, North, Turkeyfoot, and West • Paint Creek • Piedmont • Pleasant Hill • Rocky Fork • Rush Creek • Salt Fork • Seneca • Springfield (Summit County) • Tappan • Veterans Memorial • West Branch Lakes	<b>30</b>	<b>9 inches</b>
	Killdeer Plains • Oxbow • St. Joseph River Wildlife Area Lakes	<b>10</b>	none
<b>Sunfish (all species)</b>	Killdeer Plains • Oxbow • St. Joseph River Wildlife Area Lakes	<b>10</b>	none
	All American Electric Power Company waters*	<b>20 (singly or in combination)</b>	none
<b>Largemouth, Smallmouth, &amp; Spotted Bass</b>	Knox	<b>5</b>	<b>18 inches</b>
	Adams • Blue Rock • Caldwell • Cowan • Dale Walborn • Greenfield • Hancock County Wetlands • Ohio-Erie Canal • Pine • Ross • Rush Creek • Rush Run • Seneca • Wellington Reservoir South • Zepernick Lakes	<b>5</b>	<b>15 inches</b>
	Acton • Findley • Hargus • Highlandtown • New Lyme • Paint Creek • Salt Fork • Snowden • Silver Creek • Upper Sandusky No. 2	<b>4 fish split daily limit</b>	<b>2 fish less than 15 inches and 2 fish greater than or equal to 15 inches</b>
	All American Electric Power Company waters* • Belmont • Guilford • Killdeer Plains • Kiser • Long • Oxbow • Spencer • St. Joseph Wildlife Area • Wingfoot • Tycoon • Wolf Run	<b>3 fish split daily limit</b>	<b>2 fish less than 14 inches and 1 fish greater than or equal to 20 inches</b>
	Burr Oak • Dow • Fox • Hammertown (Jackson City Reservoir) • Lake Rupert (Wellston City Reservoir) • Slope Creek (Barnesville #3) • Turkey Creek	<b>5</b>	none may be taken between <b>12 &amp; 15 inches</b>
<b>Largemouth Bass</b>	La Su An • Resthaven Pond No. 8	Special limits are posted	
<b>Striped Bass</b>	Kiser • Seneca Lakes	<b>1</b>	<b>26 inches</b>
<b>Hybrid Striped Bass</b>	East Fork Lake	<b>4</b>	<b>15 inches</b>
<b>Walleye, Saugeye, &amp; Sauger</b>	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>	<b>15 inches</b>
<b>Trout (all species)</b>	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>	<b>12 inches</b>
<b>Brook Trout</b>	Chagrin River and its tributaries (Geauga Co.) • Rocky River and its tributaries (Medina Co.)	Possession is prohibited	

\* includes all AEP ReCreation Lands, Conesville, and Avondale



## CONSUMPTION ADVISORY

For fantastic fish recipes go to [wildohiocookbook.com](http://wildohiocookbook.com)

Fish are nutritious and good to eat. Fish are low in fat, high in protein, and provide substantial health benefits when eaten in place of high-fat foods. While most sportfish taken in Ohio are safe to eat, chemicals such as mercury and PCBs have been found in some fish from certain waters. In general, people should eat no more than one meal per week of any fish caught in Ohio.

You can obtain a free copy of Ohio's Fish Consumption Advisory by contacting Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, OH, 43216-1049, or by telephone at (614) 644-2160, or online at [epa.state.oh.us](http://epa.state.oh.us).

# LAKE ERIE & 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

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

**In these waters, regulations for walleye and yellow perch are set on MAY 1 each year.**

Prior to **May 1** of each year, 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 website at [wildohio.com](http://wildohio.com).



## LAKE ERIE BLACK BASS DAILY BAG LIMITS (Largemouth, Smallmouth, & Spotted Bass)

Dates	Daily Limit	Min. Size
last Saturday in June (June 29) to April 30	5 (singly or in combination)	14 inches
May 1 to last Friday in June (June 28)	illegal to possess	-

## LAKE ERIE TROUT AND SALMON DAILY BAG LIMITS

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.

Dates	Daily Limit	Min. Size
May 16 through August 31	5 (singly or in combination)	12 inches
September 1 through May 15	2 (singly or in combination)	12 inches

## COLD CREEK & BEAVER CREEK TROUT AND SALMON DAILY BAG LIMITS

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	Min. Size
Trout & Salmon	5 (singly or in combination)	None

# 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 three fishing lines, whether fastened to a pole, a rod and reel, or hand held. Anglers may use up to three hooks on each line.

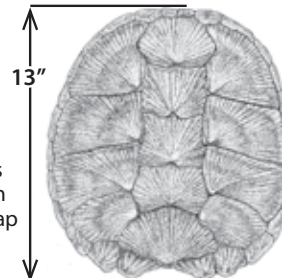
Species	Daily Limit	Min. Size
Walleye	6	15 inches
Largemouth Bass	5 (singly or in combination)	12 inches
Smallmouth Bass	5 (singly or in combination)	12 inches
Muskellunge	2	30 inches
All other fish	None	None

## FROG & TURTLE REGULATIONS

**FROG SEASON** • Frog season is open from **6 p.m. the second Friday in June (June 14) 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.

Species	Daily Limit	Min. Size
Bullfrogs & Green Frogs	15 (singly or in combination)	none

**TURTLE SEASON** • Turtle season is open **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.



Species	Daily Limit	Carapace Size
Snapping & Softshell Turtle	none	13 inches or greater



Are you up to the challenge of a career in law enforcement, wildlife conservation and public service? If so, think about becoming a State Wildlife Officer with the Division of Wildlife. The Division of Wildlife is looking for exceptional men and women for our next cadet academy and the hiring process will begin in March 2013.

If you are interested or to learn more, including minimum qualifications, contact the Law Enforcement or Human Resources Section at **614-265-6300**. You can view information about wildlife law enforcement and other Division of Wildlife career opportunities at [wildohiocareers.com](http://wildohiocareers.com).

# BANKLINES, SETLINES, FLOATLINES, & TROT LINES

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

■ **BANKLINES OR SETLINES** • Setlines or banklines may be used to catch turtles and fish. The name and address or customer identification number 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.

■ **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 or customer identification number of the user. Floats must be freely adrift and be attended by the user at all times. Treble hooks are unlawful.

■ **TROT LINES** • Trotlines must be marked with the name and address or customer identification number 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.

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# TAKE A KID FISHING



■ Don't become frustrated if their minds wander or they become bored. Fill slow times with teachable moments about what you're doing. Try discussing and handling the bait you are using, or take advantage of whatever is interesting now.

■ Let them reel in every fish - even yours.

## FIND A PLACE TO FISH

■ Farm ponds are usually an easy place to fish. Remember to get permission and follow the landowners' rules.

■ Public waters offer more access, but the fishing tends to be more seasonal. Great seasonal bites include crappie, white bass, saugeye, and rainbow trout.

## PROPER TACKLE AND RIGGING

■ Resist the urge to attract young fishermen with toy equipment. You can get a quality rod and reel for less than \$20. Use catching fish as the attractor.

■ Use size-appropriate tackle. Smaller hooks, weights, and bobbers generally catch more fish.

■ Use live bait. Bait shops can help you find the appropriate bait, depending on what fish you are after.

■ Learn proper bait presentations so you are using the right rig in the right place at the right time.

## CREATE AND PRESERVE THE MEMORY

■ **Be enthusiastic!** Celebrate all successes, no matter how big or small. All catches deserve applause, as do good casts, baiting hooks, and tying knots.

■ Take pictures and display them. It is amazing what children can recall from a picture.

■ Keep a journal. This will not only help accurately preserve your memories, but it will also help make them, and you, a better angler.

■ Keep their catch. A great sense of accomplishment can come from harvesting and eating something they caught.

Introducing a child to fishing can lead to a lifetime of discovery and respect towards the environment and our natural resources. While introducing kids to fishing can be quite rewarding, there are also many challenges in making those crucial first trips successful. For most kids, early success is what leads to future participation.

Following a few simple steps can help ensure good experiences that create lifelong memories.

## DO YOUR HOMEWORK

■ Review the current fishing regulations online at [wildohio.com](http://wildohio.com) or by calling 1-800-WILDLIFE.

■ Learn about the fish you are after. Look up seasonal tendencies, preferred natural foods, and lures and baits used to catch them.

■ Scout and pre-fish. Do not take the kids looking for fish. Find the fish first, and then take the kids.

■ Bait shops, Division of Wildlife fishing reports, and online forums are great resources for finding quality fishing on public waters.

## MAKE IT FUN

■ Check your ego at the door. The trip is not about you - your attention should be directed towards helping.

■ Dress for the occasion. Wear comfortable clothing. Nothing ruins a trip faster than being too hot or too cold!

■ Pack drinks and food.

# DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICES

## WILDLIFE HEADQUARTERS

2045 Morse Road  
Columbus, OH 43229-6693  
(614) 265-6300 (Voice)  
1-800-750-0750 (Ohio Relay-TTY)  
1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543)

## FAIRPORT FISHERIES UNIT

1190 High Street  
Fairport Harbor, OH 44077  
(440) 352-4199

## SANDUSKY FISHERIES & ENFORCEMENT UNITS

305 E. Shoreline Drive  
Sandusky, OH 44870  
(419) 625-8062

## INLAND FISHERIES RESEARCH UNIT

10517 Canal Road SE  
Hebron, OH 43025  
(740) 928-7034

## WILDLIFE DISTRICT ONE

1500 Dublin Road  
Columbus, OH 43215  
(614) 644-3925

## WILDLIFE DISTRICT TWO

952 Lima Avenue  
Findlay, OH 45840  
(419) 424-5000

## WILDLIFE DISTRICT THREE

912 Portage Lakes Drive  
Akron, OH 44319  
(330) 644-2293

## WILDLIFE DISTRICT FOUR

360 E. State Street  
Athens, OH 45701  
(740) 589-9930

## WILDLIFE DISTRICT FIVE

1076 Old Springfield Pike  
Xenia, OH 45385  
(937) 372-9261

LAKE ERIE FISHING FORECAST  
**1-888-HOOKFISH**  
(466-5347)

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The Ohio Division of Wildlife offers equal opportunity regardless of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex (in education programs). If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, you should contact:

#### The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Diversity & Civil Rights Programs-External Programs,  
4040 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 130, Arlington, VA 22203  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources, EEO Office  
2045 Morse Road, Bldg. D, Columbus, OH 43229-6695.



**wildohio.com**  
**1-800-WILDLIFE**

On Facebook, you can share insight and feedback with Ohio Division of Wildlife staff and other outdoor enthusiasts and find important information, and tips. To join the Ohio Division of Wildlife's Facebook page, go to

[facebook.com/ohiodivisionofwildlife](https://www.facebook.com/ohiodivisionofwildlife) and click the "Like" button at the top of the page.

On Twitter, the division will post news releases, important deadlines and need-to-know messages. To follow the Ohio

Division of Wildlife on Twitter, go to  
[twitter.com/OhioDivWildlife](https://twitter.com/OhioDivWildlife)  
and click "Follow."



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# STATE WILDLIFE OFFICERS BY COUNTY

Current wildlife officer county assignments found at [wildohio.com](http://wildohio.com)

<b>Adams</b> Mark Schemmel (937) 372-5639 X5205	<b>Guernsey</b> Roby Williams (740) 589-9984	<b>Morrow</b> Vince Untied (614) 644-3929 X1211
<b>Allen</b> Craig Barr (419) 429-8379	<b>Hamilton</b> Ryan Schock (937) 372-5639 X5217	<b>Muskingum</b> Jeffrey Berry (740) 589-9991
<b>Ashland</b> Brennan Earick (330) 245-3044	<b>Hancock</b> Scott Sharpe (419) 429-8384	<b>Noble</b> Brad St. Clair (740) 589-9992
<b>Ashtabula</b> Jason Hadsell (330) 245-3036	<b>Hardin</b> Ryan Kennedy (419) 429-8385	<b>Ottawa</b> Reid Van Cleve (419) 429-8389
<b>Athens</b> Dan Perko (740) 589-9980	<b>Harrison</b> Nick Turner (330) 245-3049	<b>Paulding</b> Mike Ohlrich (419) 429-8390
<b>Auglaize</b> Matthew Hoehn (937) 372-5639 X5218	<b>Henry</b> Troy Reimund (419) 429-8386	<b>Perry</b> Eric Lane (740) 589-9993
<b>Belmont</b> Brian Baker (740) 589-9981	<b>Highland</b> Jim Carnes (937) 372-5639 X5214	<b>Pickaway</b> Josh Elster (614) 644-3929 X1212
<b>Brown</b> Eric Lamb (937) 372-5639 X5220	<b>Hocking</b> Chris Dodge (740) 589-9985	<b>Pike</b> Matt Van Cleve (740) 589-9994
<b>Butler</b> Aaron Ireland (937) 372-5639 X5207	<b>Holmes</b> Jeremy Carter (330) 245-3045	<b>Portage</b> Barry Hennig (330) 245-3040
<b>Carroll</b> Dan Shroyer (330) 245-3048	<b>Huron</b> Josh Zientek (419) 429-8387	<b>Preble</b> Brad Turner (937) 372-5639 X5219
<b>Champaign</b> Jeffrey Tipton (614) 644-3929 X1201	<b>Jackson</b> Ted Witham (740) 589-9986	<b>Putnam</b> Jason Porinchok (419) 429-8391
<b>Clark</b> Byron Rice (937) 372-5639 X5212	<b>Jefferson</b> Craig Porter (330) 245-3050	<b>Richland</b> Gregory Wasilewski (419) 429-8392
<b>Clermont</b> Gus Kiebel (937) 372-5639 X5209	<b>Knox</b> Mike Miller (614) 644-3929 X1206	<b>Ross</b> Bob Nelson (740) 589-9995
<b>Clinton</b> VACANT (937) 372-5639 X5206	<b>Lake</b> Jason Keller (330) 245-3034	<b>Sandusky</b> Brian Bury (419) 429-8393
<b>Columbiana</b> Scott Angelo (330) 245-3039	<b>Lawrence</b> Darin Abbott (740) 589-9987	<b>Scioto</b> Matt Clark (740) 589-9996
<b>Coshocton</b> Jerrod Allison (740) 589-9982	<b>Licking</b> Chris Rice (614) 644-3929 X1207	<b>Seneca</b> Matthew Leibengood (419) 429-8394
<b>Crawford</b> Jason Parr (419) 429-8380	<b>Logan</b> Adam Smith (614) 644-3929 X1208	<b>Shelby</b> Tim Rourke (937) 372-5639 X5213
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<b>Darke</b> Jeff Wenning (937) 372-5639 X5208	<b>Lucas</b> Eric VonAlmen (419) 429-8388	<b>Summit</b> Aaron Brown (330) 245-3042
<b>Defiance</b> Matthew Smith (419) 429-8381	<b>Madison</b> Matt Teders (614) 644-3929 X1209	<b>Trumbull</b> Hollie Fluharty (330) 245-3037
<b>Delaware</b> Justus Nethero (614) 644-3929 X1225	<b>Mahoning</b> Tom Frank (330) 245-3038	<b>Tuscarawas</b> Wade Dunlap (330) 245-3047
<b>Erie</b> Kevin Good (419) 429-8382	<b>Marion</b> Chad Grote (614) 644-3929 X1210	<b>Union</b> Josh Shields (614) 644-3929 X1213
<b>Fairfield</b> Tony Zerkle (614) 644-3929 X1203	<b>Medina</b> Eric Moore (330) 245-3043	<b>Van Wert</b> Brad Buening (419) 429-8395
<b>Fayette</b> John Coffman (614) 644-3929 X1204	<b>Meigs</b> Chris Gilkey (740) 589-9988	<b>Vinton</b> Jared Abele (740) 589-9997
<b>Franklin</b> Brad Kiger (614) 644-3929 X1205	<b>Mercer</b> Ryan Garrison (937) 372-5639 X5210	<b>Warren</b> Rick Rogers (937) 372-5639 X5216
<b>Fulton</b> Robert Wolfrum (419) 429-8383	<b>Miami</b> Jasmine Grossnickle (937) 372-5639 X5215	<b>Washington</b> Eric Bear (740) 589-9998
<b>Gallia</b> Roy Rucker (740) 589-9983	<b>Monroe</b> Wes Feldner (740) 589-9989	<b>Wayne</b> Jason Warren (330) 245-3046
<b>Geauga</b> Scott Denamen (330) 245-3035	<b>Montgomery</b> Trent Weaver (937) 372-5639 X5211	<b>Williams</b> Thomas Kochert (419) 429-8396
<b>Greene</b> Matthew Hunt (937) 372-5639 X5204	<b>Morgan</b> Todd Stewart (740) 589-9990	<b>Wood</b> Cody Klima (419) 429-8397
		<b>Wyandot</b> Brad Baaske (419) 429-8398



# Teach a kid to fish at a DNR Youth Fishing Area

Kid-friendly ponds for youth-only fishing are offered at these locations:

- Caesar Creek State Park – near Wilmington
- Delaware State Park – near Columbus
- Maumee Bay State Park – near Toledo
- Sycamore State Park – near Dayton
- Portage Lakes, Wildlife District Three Headquarters – near Akron

Check our calendar of events at [ohiostateparks.org](http://ohiostateparks.org) for special youth fishing events at these locations, and state parks all around Ohio.



If you plan on letting your kids operate your boat, Ohio law requires boaters born after 1981 to successfully complete an approved boating safety course or proficiency exam. Information on Ohio boating is available at [ohiodnr.com/watercraft](http://ohiodnr.com/watercraft) or by calling **877-4BOATER**.



## Take Me Fishing!