



INDIANA FISHING REGULATIONS GUIDE

2021-2022

INSIDE

- **FREE** Fishing Days
- 2020 Fish of the Year Winners & Updated Record Fish
- Asian Carp: Managing for Healthy Ecosystems
- Responsible Outdoor Recreation

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Asian Carp

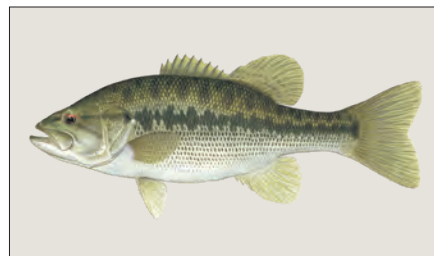
Why Asian carp are a problem and how you can help.



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Indiana's Fish of the Year

Lena Kim caught the hybrid striped bass of the year in Johnson County.



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What Fish Is It?

Color illustrations are a handy tool to help ID common Indiana fish.

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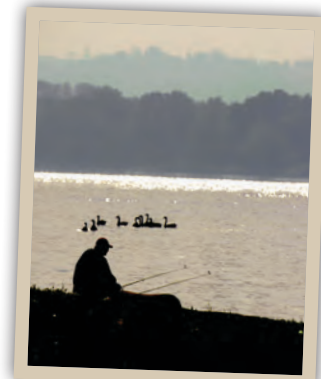
Indiana Department of Natural Resources

402 W. Washington St. RM 273

Indianapolis, IN 46204

The Indiana Fishing Regulation Guide is a publication of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. It is a summary of Indiana fishing regulations. It is designed as a service to anglers and is not intended to be a complete digest of all fishing regulations. Most regulations are subject to change by administrative rule. For questions on the regulations, call 317-232-4200. To seek permission to reproduce any part of this booklet, call 317-233-3853.

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Photographed by – Frank Oliver on the Ohio River

MESSAGES



Hanging a "Gone Fishing" sign in a window was once a common way of announcing you were unavailable, trying your luck with rod and reel.

In other words, relaxing and getting away for a bit, either alone or with friends or family.

We don't see many signs like that anymore, but the many benefits fishing provides remain constant, something we need more than ever these days. A day on the water leaves stress in your wake as you reconnect with nature and spend peaceful time with companions or yourself.

And maybe return with a main dish for a meal, too.

Fishing is for anyone and everyone, of virtually any age, race, religion, ability or skill level. Even so, some folks may not realize the waters are open to all. They could use an invitation. Resolve this year to invite one new person, someone different from you in one of the ways mentioned, to wet a line with you. One of the Free Fishing Days listed on page 9 is the perfect chance, when no Indiana resident needs a license. And remember, those under 18 never need a license.

If you or someone else doesn't know where to go near you, on.IN.gov/where2fish has ideas, including many urban locations we stock.

Yes, taking someone different fishing requires a step out of your comfort zone, but it's well worth bringing someone else to the sport you love as another supporter of conservation. Maybe one day they too will be announcing they've Gone Fishing, sharing like you shared.

I hope they're biting for you, yours, and your new friends every time you hit the water.

Dan Bortner

Director, Indiana Department of Natural Resources



Consider this an invitation to the outdoors. Indiana's waterbodies provide all Hoosiers an opportunity to unplug and unwind. Whether you are fishing, boating, or enjoying another outdoor pastime, there is an outdoor space for you.

At the Division of Fish & Wildlife, we are committed to keeping our natural resources safe and healthy for all while increasing access to those special places. In 2020, we opened our 439th public access site, near Madison. Public access sites are available any time of day, any day of the week, at no cost to you.

The removal of non-native, harmful fish species is one focal area as we work toward sustainable populations. Last year we received federal funds to research important unknowns about Asian carp, including information about their reproduction, habitats, and impacts to Indiana's native fish. We have also partnered with other state agencies to remove Asian carp from our waterways.

Above all, Fish & Wildlife staff work tirelessly to provide more and better fishing opportunities for you to enjoy. Whether improving public access, managing fish populations, or raising fish from fry, we want to ensure every person has an opportunity to get on the water and find what they're looking for.

You may be looking for a big catch, a special challenge, or just a chance to take it all in.

No matter why you're on the water, no matter who you are, we are here for you. When you purchase a license, fishing equipment, or boat fuel, or volunteer on a clean-up effort, you are supporting Fish & Wildlife's commitment to sustainable fish and wildlife populations. Together, our efforts mean that everyone can enjoy Indiana's safe and healthy waters.

Amanda Wuestefeld

Director, DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife



The Indiana DNR receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, and the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination the basis of race, color, nation origin, age, disability (or sex in education programs). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you need more information, please write to: Chief, Public Civil Rights; Office of Civil Rights; U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW; Washington, DC 20240.



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available online at
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To Our Anglers

Welcome to the 2021 Indiana DNR Fishing Regulations Guide. We hope you find it helpful as you prepare to set out on your next fishing journey.

This guide provides a summary of Indiana fishing regulations. These regulations apply only to fish that originate from or are taken from Indiana's public waters. Fish from public waters that migrate into or from private waters are still covered by these regulations. These regulations do not apply to fish in private waters that did not originate from public waters.

This guide is not intended to be a complete digest of regulations. If you need complete versions of Indiana rules and regulations for fishing, they can be found in Indiana Code (iga.IN.gov) or in Indiana Administrative Code (IN.gov/legislative/iac).

Information in the guide includes bag limits, species identification, license requirements and costs, approved fishing equipment, and more. Any corrections or updates to information published in this guide will be made to the online version at fishing.IN.gov

All funds made from selling Indiana hunting and fishing licenses go directly back to conservation. Your license funds are used for wildlife management and research, habitat management and restoration, land acquisition, public access, shooting ranges, fish stocking, DNR law enforcement, and more. We thank all anglers, hunters, trappers, boaters, and recreational shooters in Indiana for their continued support of the Division of Fish & Wildlife. The funding stream you provide helps make conservation of Indiana's natural resources a success.

Finally, we wish you luck in your 2021 fishing endeavors. We hope you get your best catch, yet.

Looking for a place to fish?

Our Where to Fish Map can help:

- Find Public Access Sites and Public Fishing Areas.
- See if sites have a boat ramp, motor restrictions, and launch fees.
- See what's biting where.



VISIT ON.IN.GOV/WHERE2FISH
TO FIND A PERFECT SPOT NEAR YOU!

Important Updates

Cisco are now a state endangered species under 312 IAC 9-6-9. Cisco can no longer be fished or possessed. Be advised that under IC 14-22-34-12, it is unlawful to take, harass, or possess state endangered species. For additional information on cisco, visit on.IN.gov/animals or contact a fisheries biologist (page 31).

Find all of Indiana Division of Fish & Wildlife's news releases and other important updates at dnr.IN.gov.

Cisco: State Endangered



As of December 17, 2020, cisco may not be fished or possessed. Cisco is a coldwater species that is found in a small number of northern Indiana lakes with exceptional water quality. Cisco are small, slender, silver-colored fish. Adult cisco can range in size from 7 inches to 19 inches. To learn more about cisco and other animals, visit on.IN.gov/animals.

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Who Needs a Fishing License

With a few exceptions, a valid fishing license issued by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources is required to fish in public lakes, streams, rivers, tributaries, and boundary waters in Indiana.

A licensee must hold an ink-signed copy of a license while fishing. Signed printed copies and signed electronic copies are acceptable. You must present the license to an Indiana Conservation Officer (or any other authorized law enforcement official) upon request. There are fines and penalties for fishing without a license. To legally fish for or take trout and salmon from public waters, you must also have a valid trout/salmon stamp and a valid fishing license.

To qualify for resident fishing licenses, a person must have established a true fixed and permanent home and primary residence in Indiana for 60 consecutive days prior to purchasing a license or permit and may not claim residency for fishing, hunting, or trapping in another state or country. All other people are considered non-residents.

Indiana residents who were born after March 31, 1943 and are at least 64 years of age are eligible to buy a Senior Annual or Senior Fish for Life License. The Senior Fish for Life License is valid for the rest of the holder's life and includes the trout/salmon stamp.

A fishing license may be revoked if the license holder is convicted of violating fish and wildlife regulations. Any equipment used in the violation of Indiana fish and wildlife laws may be seized for evidence and be confiscated upon conviction.

How to Purchase a License

Online

Go to on.IN.gov/INHuntFish. Online license purchases have a \$1 per license fee for system support maintenance, and an additional \$1 plus 1.99% credit card company fee on each transaction.

In Person

Visit one of more than 500 retailers statewide listed at on.IN.gov/INHuntFish or visit the DNR Customer Service Center from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday.

By Mail

Send a check or money order (payable to DNR) or credit card information (include card number and expiration date) to:

Licenses

DNR Customer Service Center
402 W. Washington St., W160
Indianapolis, IN, 46204

Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery. Include:

- The licenses you need and dates for one-day or multi-day licenses

LICENSES	Resident ¹	Non-Resident	Resident Apprentice
Annual Fishing	\$17	\$35	N/A
One-Day Fishing (includes Trout/Salmon)	\$9	\$9	N/A
Seven-Day Fishing	N/A	\$20	N/A
Senior Annual Fishing (includes Trout/Salmon) ²	\$3	N/A	N/A
Senior Fish for Life ² (includes Trout/Salmon)	\$17	N/A	N/A
Trout/Salmon Stamp	\$11	\$11	N/A
Annual Hunting and Fishing	\$25	N/A	\$25
Disabled American Veterans Hunt/Fish	\$2.75	N/A	N/A
DAV 10-Year Hunt/Fish	\$27.50	N/A	N/A

All 2021 annual licenses and stamps are valid from April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022. 2021 license fees are subject to change by the Natural Resources Commission. For a list of current license fees, go to wildlife.IN.gov or call 317-232-4200.

¹ See resident description located at the left of this chart.

² Must have been born after March 31, 1943 and be at least 64 years old.

N/A = not available

- Name, date of birth, Indiana Driver's License number, and Social Security Number (required by IC 14-22-11-3)
- Complete address, city, state, ZIP code, and phone number
- Height, weight, sex, color of hair, and eyes

By Phone

Call 317-232-4200

License Exemptions

A fishing license and trout/salmon stamp are not required for:

- Indiana residents born before April 1, 1943. Such residents should carry their driver's license or other identification to verify age and residency.
- Residents and non-residents under age 18.
- Residents who are legally blind. Proof of being legally blind is not required while fishing.
- Residents of a state-owned mental rehabilitation facility.
- Residents of any licensed health care facility in Indiana taking part in a supervised fishing activity sponsored by the facility.
- Residents who have a developmental disability as defined by IC 12-7-2-61. Proof of the disability is not required while fishing.
- Fishing in a private pond that does not allow fish entry from or exit to public waters. An angler must have permission from the property owner to fish.

- Residents of Indiana engaged in full-time military service while on approved military leave. The angler must carry leave orders and a valid Indiana Driver's License or voter registration card.
- Resident owners or lessees of Indiana farmland who farm that land and their spouses and children living with them while fishing on the farmland they own or lease. This exemption does not apply to land owned by a business, corporation, or partnership unless the shareholders, partners, members, or owners are composed solely of an immediate family and farm that land. Farmland means agricultural land that is devoted to or best adaptable to the production of crops, fruits, timber, raising livestock, or is assessed as agricultural land for property tax purposes.
- Some non-resident landowners, while fishing in public waters from the farmland they own, according to the exemptions that their state provides to Indiana residents.

Military & Veterans

Non-resident military personnel on active duty and stationed in Indiana may purchase an Indiana resident license. Indiana disabled American veterans can get a DAV fishing and hunting license application form from the County Service Officer where they live or they can download the application form at fishing.IN.gov by clicking "Buy online, in person or by mail" then "Disabled Veterans' (DAV) License." Mail the completed form to the DNR Customer Service Center: 402 W. Washington St., W160, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

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INDIANA'S STATEWIDE SIZE & BAG LIMITS

Species	Daily Bag Limit	Minimum Size
Bluegill	None (exceptions: page 11)	None
Redear Sunfish	25 (exceptions: page 11)	None
Black Bass: largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass (in lakes)	5, any combination of largemouth, smallmouth, or spotted bass	14 inches (exceptions: page 12)
Black Bass: largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass (in rivers and streams)	5, any combination of largemouth, smallmouth, or spotted bass	No fish 12 to 15 inches may be kept and no more than two fish over 15 inches may be kept (exceptions: page 13)
Black Bass: largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass (in Lake Michigan)	3, any combination of largemouth, smallmouth, or spotted bass	14 inches
Yellow Bass	None	None
White Bass, Hybrid Striped Bass	12, any combination of white bass or hybrid striped bass	No more than two fish may exceed 17 inches
Striped Bass	2	None
Rock Bass	25	None
Crappie	25 (exceptions: page 11)	None ¹
Walleye, Walleye-Sauger Hybrid (Saugeye), Sauger	6, any combination of walleye, walleye-sauger hybrid, and sauger	For Walleye: 14 inches south of SR 26; 16 inches north of SR 26 For sauger and saugeye: No size limit (exceptions: page 11 & 20)
Muskellunge and Tiger Muskellunge	1 muskellunge or 1 tiger muskellunge	36 inches ²
Northern Pike	3 ⁴	24 inches; no more than one 30 inches or longer ⁵
Yellow Perch	None (15 only on Lake Michigan)	None
Catfish: Channel, Blue, Flathead (in streams)	None	13 inches; no more than one blue or one flathead catfish 35 inches or longer and no more than one channel catfish 28 inches or longer may be kept
Catfish: Channel, Blue, Flathead (in lakes, reservoirs)	10 ³ (exceptions: page 11)	None; no more than one blue or one flathead catfish 35 inches or longer and no more than one channel catfish 28 inches or longer may be kept
Bullhead	None	None
Lake Whitefish	12	None
Shovelnose Sturgeon	None	25 inches

¹ 9-inch minimum size at Dogwood Lake (Davies County) and Hardy Lake (Scott County).

² 44-inch minimum size at Backwater, Kiser, and Webster lakes (Kosciusko County).

³ No bag limit for catfish at Turtle Creek Reservoir.

⁴ No more than 6 per day from Hamilton Lake (Steuben County).

⁵ No minimum size limit for Northern pike at Hamilton Lake (Steuben County), with no more than 1 per day more than 30 inches long.

Bag & Possession Limits

It is illegal to take more than the daily bag limit of a wild fish in a calendar day.

The possession limit is two times the daily bag limit.

The possession limit does not apply to a wild fish that is processed and stored at an individual's primary residence.

It is illegal to carry, transport, or ship outside Indiana, in open season, in one day, a wild fish that the individual has taken in open season in excess of the possession limit.

Illegal Stocking, Aquarium Release

It is illegal to take any live fish (native or non-native) and release it into any other

public waters without a stocking permit. DNR fisheries biologists approve stocking of fish only after careful consideration of the potential impacts of new fish on the existing habitat and fish population. The release of fish from an aquarium would be considered the stocking of fish, which a permit is required for.

Hooks for Pole Fishing or Hand Lines

You may not fish with more than three poles or hand lines at any one time. Each line may have no more than three single or multi-pronged hooks, three artificial lures, or no more than three of a combination of hooks and artificial lures.

A multi-prong hook or two or more single-prong hooks used to hold a single bait is considered one hook.

Single or multi-barbed hooks may be used for hand or pole lines, float or jug fishing, limb, drop, or trot lines. Special hook size and barb regulations apply to Lake Michigan and its tributaries (page 18).

Gaffs, Grab Hooks, & Landing Nets

Landing nets, gaff hooks, or grab hooks may be used only to assist in the landing of legally caught fish. They may not be used as the method of catching fish. See page 18 for Lake Michigan tributary restrictions.

Snares

You may use no more than one snare to take suckers, carp, gar, and bowfin. Snaring these fish may be done only between sunrise and sunset.

Limb Lines

A limb line (also known as a drop line or bank pole) is a passive fishing device consisting of a line with not more than one hook that is affixed to a stationary object suspended over the water. Stationary objects may include stumps, trees, tree branches, or poles constructed of artificial or natural material anchored into the bank.

You may fish with no more than 10 limb lines or drop lines at any one time. Each line may have no more than one single or multi-barbed hook attached to it. Each line must have a readable tag showing the name and address of the user or the user's DNR issued Customer ID number. All lines must be checked at least every 24 hours. It is illegal to use a limb or drop line within 300 yards of a partial or full dam structure located on any stream, river, ditch, canal, or reservoir.

Snagging Fish

Snagging is the practice of dragging or jerking a hook (or hooks), baited or unbaited, through the water with the intention of hooking a fish on contact. It is illegal to snag fish from public waters in Indiana, including the Ohio River. Trout and salmon that are foul-hooked (not caught in the mouth) must be released to the water and not kept.

Trot Lines

A trot line (also known as a set line or throw line) is a passive fishing device consisting of a main line attached to a stationary object that is affixed to an anchor in a body of water. The main line has hooks attached via droppers (or snoods). Droppers may be attached to the main line with knots, clips, or swivels. Floats and weights may be added to the main line to suspend it at desired depths. You may fish with no more than one trot line at any one time. The trot line must have no more than

50 single or multi-barbed hooks. Each drop line on a trot line may have only one hook. Trot lines must bear a readable tag showing the name and address of the user or the user's DNR issued Customer ID number. Trot lines must be checked at least once every 24 hours. It is illegal to use a trot line in Lake Michigan or within 300 yards of any partial or full dam structure located on any stream, river, ditch, canal, or reservoir.

Umbrella Rigs

You may use an umbrella rig (sometimes referred to as an Alabama rig), but hooks or lures can be attached to only three arms. Any additional arms must be left empty or can be fitted with a hookless attractor.

Float Fishing

Float or jug fishing is the use of an active fishing device consisting of a line with not more than 1 hook (single or multi-barbed) that is affixed to a float. Floats are often constructed from empty jugs, bottles, pool noodles, or other floating materials, but cannot be constructed of glass.

As many as five floats may be used, but only one hook may be attached to each float line. Each float must be marked with the user's name and address or the user's DNR issued Customer ID number. All lines must be in constant visual contact of the person using them. Float fishing is not allowed on lakes and reservoirs for public safety reasons.

Ice Fishing

When ice fishing, no more than three lines may be used at any one time. Each line may contain no more than three hooks (single, double, or treble) or three artificial lures.

Holes cut for ice fishing cannot be more than 12 inches in diameter.

Tip-ups must be identified with the name and address of the user or the user's DNR issued Customer ID number. Tip-ups must be in constant visual contact of the person using them.

Ice shanties or portable ice fishing shelters must have the owner's name and address or the owner's DNR issued Customer ID number in 3-inch block letters on the outside of the door. Between sunset and sunrise, any ice fishing shelter or portable shelter must have at least one red reflector or a 3-inch by 3-inch reflector strip on each side of the structure.

Ice shanties and portable shelters must be removed from public waters before ice-out. If used before Jan. 1 and after Feb. 15, all structures must be removed daily.

Freshwater Mussels

It is illegal to collect or take live native mussels or dead native mussel shells from public waters. A ban on harvesting shells has been in effect since 1991 to protect against a rapid decrease in the abundance and distribution

of freshwater mussels. Please do not disturb living mussels.

Bow Fishing

A bow and arrow or crossbow can be used year-round at any time of day to take Asian carp, bowfin, buffalo fish, common carp, gar, shad, and suckers from streams, rivers, and non-flowing waters (including lakes, ponds, and reservoirs). A fishing license is required to use a bow and arrow or crossbow as fishing equipment.

Spear Fishing

A gig, fish spear, spear gun, or underwater spear can be used year-round at any time of day to take Asian carp, bowfin, buffalo fish, common carp, gar, shad, and suckers from non-flowing waters (including lakes, ponds, and reservoirs) and the following large streams:

- Kankakee River, upstream to the State Road 55 bridge
- Maumee River, upstream to the Anthony Boulevard bridge in Fort Wayne
- St. Joseph River, upstream from Twin Branch Dam in Elkhart and St. Joseph counties
- Tippecanoe River, upstream to one-half mile below its confluence with Big Creek in Carroll County (Fish spears and fish gigs cannot be used in, on, or adjacent to Tippecanoe River from a half-mile below its juncture with Big Creek in Carroll County upstream to the Oakdale Dam)
- Wabash River, upstream to State Road 13 in Wabash
- White River, upstream from the Wabash River to the junction of East and West forks
- White River/East Fork, upstream to the dam at the south edge of Columbus
- White River/West Fork, upstream to the dam below Harding Street in Indianapolis

Fishing Near Dams

State law does not allow the taking of fish by trot line, set line, throw line, net, trap, or seine within 300 yards of a dam on an Indiana waterway or boundary water (which includes the Ohio River). Minnows may not be taken within 500 yards of a dam. Minnows can only be taken by seines, minnow traps, cast nets and dip nets meeting all legal requirements (page 10).

Wanton Waste

The intentional waste and destruction of fish is prohibited unless the fish is required by law to be killed. Fish must not be mutilated and returned to the water unless the fish is lawfully used as bait. Fish parts, including entrails, must not be discarded into any state waters but should be disposed of in a sanitary manner that does not pollute the water or become detrimental to public health or comfort.

Free Fishing Days

Indiana residents can enjoy four free fishing days in 2021 without having to buy a fishing license — May 2, June 5–6, and Sept. 25.

All other fishing rules and regulations apply.

See dnr.IN.gov/fishfree for more information.

Sale of Aquatic Life

No fish, frogs, turtles, or other reptile or amphibian taken under a fishing or hunting license may be bought, sold, or bartered. You may keep fish that you catch for an aquarium if that fish meets legal size and bag limit requirements.

If you give your catch away, it's a good idea to provide the recipient a note identifying the fish you gave them. This avoids confusion with exceeding the daily bag limit or possessing fish without a fishing license.

Smelt Fishing

Smelt may be taken from Lake Michigan from March 1 through May 30. Smelt may be taken only with a single seine or net. The seine or net may not exceed 12 feet in length and 6 feet in depth, nor have a stretch mesh larger than 1½ inches. A dip net may not exceed 12 feet in diameter.

Endangered Fish

The following fish species are classified as endangered in Indiana: cisco, bantam sunfish, Hoosier cavefish (formerly Northern cavefish), channel darter, gilt darter, greater redhorse, lake sturgeon (see page 13), Western sand darter, pallid shiner, redbreast dace, and variegated darter.

It is illegal to take or possess these fish at any time. Most of these species are small and would not be caught while angling.

If captured, immediately return them unharmed to the water in which they were found.

Species Illegal to Possess

The following fish and mussels are illegal to possess alive: Asiatic clam, bighead carp, black carp, silver carp, quagga mussel, round goby, rudd, snakehead, stone moroko, tubenose goby, walking catfish, Wels catfish, white perch (not freshwater drum), zander, golden mussel, and zebra mussel.

If any of these exotic species are taken into possession, they must be killed immediately by either removing their head, removing gills from at least one side of the fish, or gutting. Your cooperation is essential to protect Indiana's native species.

Boating

All motorboats used in public waters must be registered. For a copy of Indiana boating laws, visit boat-ed.com/Indiana/handbook.

On state-owned, leased, or licensed lakes smaller than 300 acres, only electric motors may be used. No more than two 12-volt batteries can be used to power trolling motors on these waters.

Life Preservers

A U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved wearable personal flotation device (PFD) is required for each person on any boat. Boats 16 feet and longer, except for canoes or kayaks, must also have one USCG approved throwable PFD on board.

Lake Michigan, the Ohio River, and Indiana-Illinois boundary waters of the Wabash River have special regulations. Call the USCG at 219-879-8371 for Lake Michigan, 502-779-5400 for southern Indiana, or see uscgboating.org for a copy of federal boating regulations.

Sinkers

Consider using lead free fishing sinkers to reduce exposure to lead. Alternative sinkers are made of steel, bismuth, tungsten, and resin. Fish and wildlife health may be affected if lead or zinc sinkers are ingested.

Tagging & Marking

Anyone interested in marking or tagging fish in public water must get approval from the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) before marking or tagging occurs.

An application, available from DFW, must be processed 21 days before the scheduled start date. Call 317-232-4200 for more information.

Lake Michigan Trout & Salmon

Trout or salmon with a missing adipose fin contain a small microwire tag in the head of the fish with information important to DNR research. Please save the head from your marked (adipose fin-clipped) trout and salmon and call the Indiana Division of Fish & Wildlife at 219-874-6824 for instructions on drop-off locations.

Only trout and salmon with a missing adipose fin have micro tags. The adipose fin is along the fish's spine between the dorsal fin and caudal (tail) fin.

Illegal Devices

It is illegal to use the following devices to take fish from public waters: a weir, electric current, dynamite or other explosive, a firearm, hands alone, or any substance that may weaken or poison fish.

Sorting Fish

Anglers are responsible for maintaining fish in a healthy condition if they wish to return fish to the water. Dead and dying fish cannot be released back into the water. At no time may anglers have more than a bag limit in their possession while engaged in a day's fishing. However, sorting of fish may be allowed within the bag limit if fish are in healthy condition at the time of release. For example, if you catch five largemouth bass (daily bag limit is five) and catch a bigger largemouth bass later that day, it is legal to release any of the other fish in good condition in order to keep the larger one. Fish must be released into the water from which they were taken and be able to swim away normally. All fish in possession must meet legal size limits.

Gifting Fish

A person cannot gift fish taken under a sport fishing license to another person knowingly or intentionally for the purpose of stocking a private lake for which customers pay for the opportunity to fish.

Holding Baskets, Live Boxes, Live Nets, Etc.

A fish holding basket, live box, live net, or any other structure in which fish or other aquatic life are contained or held and left unattended must be plainly labeled with the name and address of the owner or the owner's DNR issued Customer ID number. This does not include live wells or other devices that hang over the side of a boat or are located within the boat.

Minnows & Crayfish

Minnows and crayfish may be collected any time through the year if a valid sport fishing license is possessed. Minnows and crayfish collected from public waters cannot be sold.

"Minnow" is defined as a species of the minnow family *Cyprinidae*, except for exotic species identified in 312 IAC 9-6-7 and endangered species identified in 312 IAC 9-6-9, as well as sucker, brook stickleback (*Culaea inconstans*), gizzard shad, threadfin shad, and alewife. Live gizzard shad, threadfin shad, and alewife may only be collected, used, possessed, and disposed of in accordance with 312 IAC 9-6-8.

You cannot transport more than 100 crayfish across the state line in a 24-hour period unless you are commercially raising crayfish. You may use artificial lighting to take crayfish.

If you plan to catch your own minnows or crayfish, the following rules apply:

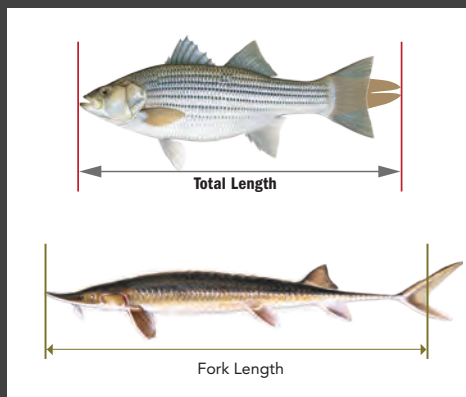
- Seines cannot be larger than 12 feet in length and 4 feet deep with mesh no larger than ½ inch stretch. Stretch is the distance between two opposite knots of a net mesh when the net is stretched tight.
- Minnow dip nets cannot exceed 3 feet square (without sides or walls) and may not have mesh larger than ½ inch stretch.
- Minnow traps cannot exceed 24 inches in length with the opening of the trap no larger than 2 inches in diameter. Traps for crayfish also must comply with these requirements.
- Cast nets may be used, provided the net is no larger than 20 feet in diameter and the mesh stretch is no larger than ¾ inch.
- Minnows may not be taken within 500 yards of a dam and may only be taken by seines, minnow traps, cast nets, and dip nets meeting all legal requirements.
- See page 20 for special minnow and crayfish collecting regulations on the Ohio River.

Do not release minnows into the water after you finish fishing. Emptying bait buckets can

How To Measure Your Fish

To determine the accurate length of a fish, measure a straight line from the tip of the jaw (mouth closed) to the tip of the compressed tail fin. Measure with mouth closed and tail compressed to determine total length.

Measure shovelnose sturgeon from nose to fork in tail fin to determine length.



contaminate a body of water with undesirable fish. In addition, bait and bait buckets exposed to lake or stream water could get contaminated with zebra mussel larvae, fish pathogens, or other aquatic invasive species. Anglers are encouraged to dispose of baitfish in the trash after each outing and buy new bait for the next outing. Fishing worms should be discarded in trash containers.

Wild fish may be used as live bait as long as the fish was caught legally and meets any size, catch, or possession limits established for that species. Goldfish may be used as live bait. Carp cannot be used as live bait at any location.

Live alewives may be collected, possessed, and used on Lake Michigan only. Alewives may not be transported away from Lake Michigan. Any unused alewives must be killed. You must immediately kill alewives collected from waters other than Lake Michigan.

Gizzard Shad & Threadfin Shad

Gizzard shad and threadfin shad can be collected and used as live bait on the following waters: Brookville, Cecil M. Harden (Raccoon SRA), Freeman, Hardy, Monroe, Patoka, and Shafer lakes, and the Ohio River mainstream (excluding all embayments). Live gizzard shad and threadfin shad may not be transported away from the location where collected.

Cast nets with a maximum mesh size of 2 inches stretch can be used to collect live gizzard shad and threadfin shad at these bodies of water.

Live gizzard shad or threadfin shad collected from the tailwaters of a lake or collected from other water bodies must be killed immediately upon capture and cannot be possessed alive.

Hooks on East Fork White River

Hook restrictions are in place from March 15 through April 20 on the East Fork White River from Williams Dam to the Huron and Williams Road bridge in Lawrence County.

During that time, fishing cannot occur with more than one single hook per line or one artificial lure. Single hooks, including those on artificial lures, shall not exceed ½ inch from point to shank. Double and treble hooks on artificial lures shall not exceed ¾ inch from point to shank.

Walleye Size Limits

Walleye taken from all public waters (lakes, rivers, and streams) north of State Road 26 must be 16 inches in length or longer, except for:

- Bass Lake (Starke County) and Wolf Lake (Lake County); minimum size 14 inches

- Lake George (Steuben County); minimum size 15 inches
- Wall Lake (LaGrange County); minimum size 16 inches with a daily bag limit of two walleye taken from public waters (lakes, rivers, and streams). Walleye taken south of State Road 26 must be 14 inches or longer.

There is no minimum size requirement for saugeye on all state waters, except for Huntingburg Lake (Dubois County), Glenn Flint Lake (Putnam County), and Sullivan Lake (Sullivan County), where saugeye must be 14 inches in length or longer.

Except for the Ohio River, sauger are added to the aggregate bag limit for walleye and saugeye.

Special Regulation Waters

On Fidler Pond in Elkhart County, Failing Lake (also known as Gentian Lake) in Steuben County, and Flat Fork Creek Park ponds A and B in Hamilton County, a person cannot take more than:

- 5 channel catfish per day
- 2 largemouth bass per day, and the largemouth bass must be at least 18 inches long
- 15 of any combination of bluegill, redear sunfish, and crappie per day



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The Winamac Fish and Wildlife Area, in northern Pulaski County, along U.S. 35, offers tremendous opportunities for hunting deer, wild turkey, rabbit, quail, squirrel, woodcock, dove, and furbearers. Waterfowl hunting is offered, but is limited due to the small amount of wetlands, and opportunities exists for pheasant, quail and dove hunting. Wetland trapping is always permitted. Two two-acre ponds are home to bluegill, channel catfish, and largemouth bass waiting to challenge master anglers and recreational fishers alike.

Northwestern Pulaski County's Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area is home to the Ryan Ditch (shoreline fishing), two gravel pits with boat ramps, and numerous small ponds to provide plenty of diversity as you seek the catch of the day — or just a day out of the office, communing with nature. Deer, quail, rabbit, squirrel, snipe, dove, sora rails, woodcock, waterfowl and wild turkey all inhabit the area, challenging mature marksmen and first-timers alike.

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BASS REGULATIONS

STATEWIDE BLACK BASS REGULATIONS

Type of Water	Daily Bag Limit	Minimum Size
Lakes	5, any combination of largemouth, smallmouth, or spotted bass	14 inches
Rivers/Streams	5, any combination of largemouth, smallmouth, or spotted bass	No fish 12 to 15 inches may be kept and no more than two fish over 15 inches may be kept
Lake Michigan	3, any combination of largemouth, smallmouth, or spotted bass	14 inches

The possession limit is two times the daily bag limit. The possession limit does not apply to fish that are processed and stored at an individual's primary residence.

Special Lake Regulations

Special largemouth bass regulations are in effect for many Indiana waters.

The expected benefits of size limits are an increase in the number of bass caught (although many must be released), an increase in bass size, and in some cases, improvement in bluegill size and increased predation on abundant prey like gizzard shad.

Regulations on bass fishing differ on the Ohio River (page 20).

Lake Limits by County

15-inch minimum size limit:

- Patoka Lake (Orange, Dubois, and Crawford counties)

16-inch minimum size limit:

- Cecil M. Harden Lake (Parke County)

18-inch minimum size limit and two fish daily bag limit:

- Ball Lake (Steuben County)
- Blue Grass, Loon Pit (Warrick County)
- Fidler Pond (Elkhart County)
- Failing Lake, also known as Gentian Lake (Steuben County)
- Flat Fork Creek Park ponds A and B (Hamilton County)
- Kunkel Lake (Wells County)
- Robinson Lake (Whitley and Kosciusko counties)

- All lakes at Tri-County Fish & Wildlife Area (Kosciusko, Noble, and Elkhart counties)
- Bixler Lake, Henderson Lake, Little Long Lake, and Round Lake (Noble County)

20-inch minimum size limit and one fish daily bag limit:

- Turtle Creek Reservoir (Sullivan County)

12- to 15-inch slot size limits:

At the following lakes, largemouth bass that are from 12 to 15 inches in length may not be harvested. The daily bag limit applies to bass under 12 inches and over 15 inches.

- Buffalo Trace Lake (Harrison County)
- Ferdinand State Forest Lake (Dubois County)
- Montgomery City Park Lake (Daviness County)

12- to 15-inch slot size limit (no more than two bass larger than 15 inches):

- Big Long Lake (LaGrange County)

No minimum size limit waters:

- Brownstown Pit (Jackson County)
- Burdette Park lakes (Vanderburgh County)
- Chandler Town Lake (Warrick County)
- Cypress Lake (Jackson County)
- Deming Park lakes (Vigo County)




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- Garvin Park Lake (Vanderburgh County)
- Glen Miller Pond (Wayne County)
- Hayswood Lake (Harrison County)
- Henry County Memorial Park Lake (Henry County)
- Hovey Lake at Hovey Lake Fish & Wildlife Area (Posey County)
- Krannert Lake (Marion County)
- Lake Sullivan (Marion County)
- Ruster Lake (Marion County)
- Schnebelt Pond (Dearborn County)

Special Regulations for Rivers & Streams

20-inch minimum size limit and one fish daily bag limit:

- Sugar Creek (Montgomery, Parke, Boone, Clinton, and Tipton counties)

12-inch minimum size limit (5 bass daily limit):

- All rivers and streams in Posey, Vanderburgh, Warrick, Spencer, Perry, Crawford, Harrison, Floyd, Clark, Jefferson, Switzerland, Ohio, and Dearborn counties (with the exception of the Blue River, where the slot limit applies in Crawford, Harrison, and Washington counties).

Endangered Lake Sturgeon vs. Shovelnose Sturgeon

Lake Sturgeon-endangered

Mouth: Upper lip without lobes, lower lip with two lobes.



Snout: Cone-shaped, rounded.

Tail: Rounded, thick caudal peduncle not fully scaled; smooth areas between rows of bony plates.

Size: Adults normally caught at 45–55 inches and 25–45 lbs.; can reach lengths greater than 6 feet and weights over 100 lbs.

Range: Lower Wabash and White rivers and Lake Michigan, possibly in other large lakes or rivers.



Lake sturgeon: may have small metal tag with number on base of dorsal fin.

Shovelnose Sturgeon

Mouth: Upper lip with four lobes, lower lip with four lobes.



Snout: Shovel-shaped, flattened.

Tail: Long, thin caudal peduncle fully scaled with bony plates.

Size: Adults normally caught at 30–40 inches and 3–7 lbs., rarely larger.

Range: Wabash and White rivers and occasionally in other large rivers.



Shovelnose sturgeon.

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INLAND TROUT REGULATIONS

Indiana anglers have two options when it comes to trout fishing: inland waters and Lake Michigan and its tributaries. The following information covers regulations for inland trout fishing. Lake Michigan trout and salmon regulations can be found on page 18.

Lakes: There is no closed season for taking trout from inland lakes.

Streams: The opening day of trout season for inland streams, other than Lake Michigan tributaries, is the last Saturday in April. The season runs through Dec. 31. The start time is 6 a.m. local time. For a list of trout stockings, see fishing.IN.gov

Catch-and-release applies to all trout streams from Jan. 1 through April 14. See page 18 for special tributary restrictions and closure information for Lake Michigan streams.

A closed season for selected trout streams runs from April 15 to the last Saturday in April (opening day) while DNR staff complete the annual trout stockings. These streams include:

- Pigeon River and Pigeon Creek in LaGrange County from the Steuben County line to CR 410 E (Troxel's Bridge). This does not include the impoundment known as Mongo Mill Pond.
- Harding Run, Curtis Creek, Bloody Run, and Graveyard Run (tributaries of Pigeon River) in LaGrange County
- Turkey Creek north of CR 100 S in LaGrange County

INLAND TROUT SIZES & LIMITS

Species	Daily Bag Limit	Minimum Size
Brook Trout	5, any combination of brook, rainbow, or brown trout; no more than one may be brown trout	7 inches*
Rainbow Trout		
Brown Trout		

*18-inch minimum size limit for brown trout at Oliver, Olin, and Martin lakes in LaGrange County, and Brookville Lake tailwater in Franklin County

- Rainbow Pit located on Pigeon River Fish & Wildlife Area, approximately one mile east of Ontario in LaGrange County
- Little Elkhart River and Rowe-Eden Ditch in LaGrange County
- Solomon Creek and Cobus Creek in Elkhart County
- Little Kankakee River in LaPorte County from CR 800 E upstream to Division Road
- Spy Run Creek within Franke Park in Allen County
- Mississinewa River within the boundaries of the Randolph County Wildlife Management Area
- Big Blue River within the boundaries of Wilbur Wright Fish & Wildlife Area in Henry County

The following three streams in Elkhart County (totaling 2.8 miles) are designated as year-round "catch-and-release only" and "artificial lures or flies only" trout fishing areas:

- Little Elkhart River from CR 43 downstream to CR 16, except for waters along Riverbend Park from CR 16 upstream to the pedestrian footbridge
- Solomon Creek from CR 33 downstream to the Elkhart River
- Cobus Creek from Old U.S. 20 downstream to the St. Joseph River

Brown Trout Minimum Size Limit Waters:

An 18-inch minimum size limit exists at Oliver, Olin, and Martin lakes in LaGrange County, and the Brookville Lake tailwater in Franklin County.

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ASIAN CARP

AN INVASIVE SPECIES

David Riecks, UIUC/Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant



Asian carp are a group of fish in the minnow family that are native to Asia. The term “Asian carp” refers to Bighead carp, Silver carp, Grass carp, and Black carp.

Why are Asian carp in Indiana and where can they be found?

Asian carp were originally imported to the southern United States to help aquaculture and wastewater treatment facilities keep retention ponds clean. Flooding and accidental releases allowed these fish to escape into the Mississippi River system. Asian carp have since migrated into the Ohio, White, and Wabash rivers where they are now common.

Why are Asian carp a problem?

- **Threaten human health:** Asian carp, specifically Silver carp which can weigh upwards of 60 pounds, often jump out of the water when disturbed by boat motors, causing damage to boats and potential harm to passengers.
- **Negatively impact native species, including those that are imperiled:** An adult Bighead or Silver carp can eat up to 40% of its body weight every day. Over time, Asian carp can drastically change the food chain and potentially displace other species.

What is DNR doing about Asian carp?

- Created a full time Asian Carp Specialist position to focus on the problem.
- Secured \$1.3 million in federal funding for research and removal of Asian carp.
- Works with other states to implement regional, cross border approaches to Asian carp management.

How can I help?

- **It is illegal to possess live Asian carp.** If you catch one or if one jumps into your boat, eat it, put it in the trash, or use it as cut bait.
- **Never** release fish caught from one body of water into another body of water.
- **Drain** your live wells before leaving the lake or river. Asian carp eggs might be floating in the water.
- **Put unused live bait in the trash;** don't dump it into the lake or river. Young Asian carp resemble other common baitfish and they might have invaded your bait bucket without you realizing it.



For more information, visit asiancarp.dnr.IN.gov

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LAKE MICHIGAN REGULATIONS

LAKE MICHIGAN & TRIBUTARIES SIZES AND LIMITS

Species	Daily Bag Limit	Minimum Size
Atlantic Salmon	5 total salmon and trout No more than 3 may be lake trout	14 inches for Lake Michigan, streams, and St. Joseph River
Chinook Salmon		
Coho Salmon		
Pink Salmon		
Brown Trout		
Lake Trout		
Steelhead Trout		
Yellow Perch	15 on Lake Michigan only	None
Lake Whitefish	12 (statewide)	None

Lake Michigan and its tributaries in Indiana provide a number of fishing opportunities for salmon, trout, perch, whitefish, and other species.

Any trout or salmon taken from the Lake Michigan tributaries defined in this section must be hooked in the mouth. Foul-hooked fish must be returned to the water.

- The bag limit for yellow perch is 15 while fishing Indiana waters (even if you have a fishing license from a neighboring state).
- Bowfin, buffalo fish, carp, gar, shad, and sucker from Lake Michigan can be taken with a bow and arrow.
- A trot line, set line, or throw line cannot be used to take fish from Lake Michigan.

Lake Michigan bass regulations can be found on page 12.

Tributary Restrictions

Possession of a fish spear, gig, gaff, bowfishing equipment, crossbow, grab hook, spear gun, club, snag hook, or underwater spear is prohibited in the following water bodies: in or adjacent to the Galena River (LaPorte County), Trail Creek (LaPorte County), the East Branch of the Little Calumet River (LaPorte and Porter counties), Salt Creek (Porter County), the West Branch of the Little Calumet River (Lake and Porter counties), Burns Ditch (Lake and Porter counties), Deep River downstream from the dam at Camp 133 (Lake County), or the tributaries to these waters.

Hook Restrictions

Fishing with more than one single hook or artificial lure is prohibited in the following waters:

- Lake Michigan tributaries

- St. Joseph River and its tributary streams from the Twin Branch Dam downstream to the Michigan state line (St. Joseph County).

Single hooks, including those on artificial lures, cannot exceed ½ inch from point to shank. Double and treble hooks are allowed only on artificial lures and shall not exceed ¾ inch from point to shank.

St. Joseph River

Special regulations apply to fishing the St. Joseph River and its tributaries from Twin Branch Dam in Mishawaka downstream to the Michigan state line. These regulations include:

- The minimum size limit for trout and salmon is 14 inches.
- No fishing is allowed at any time in the East Race Waterway in South Bend. No fishing is allowed within 100 feet of the entrance and exit of the East Race.
- No fishing is allowed at any time from the fish ladders located on the South Bend or Mishawaka Central Park dams.
- No fishing is allowed within 100 feet of the entrances and exits of the fish ladders.
- No fishing is allowed by boat or other watercraft in the St. Joseph River below the South Bend Dam for a distance of 200 feet, and from the Mishawaka Central Park Dam downstream to the Main Street Bridge, Mishawaka.

Tributary Closures

No fishing is allowed within 100 feet upstream of the Trail Creek sea lamprey barrier or downstream to the Pottawattomie Country Club Golf Course property line located adjacent to Springland Avenue in Michigan City.

Fishing is not allowed within 100 feet above or below the Praxair Dam on the East Branch of the Little Calumet River.

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Creating & Maintaining Public Access

Indiana Division of Fish & Wildlife's (DFW) 439 public access sites provide you with free access to hundreds of miles of rivers and thousands of acres of lakes. DFW has created and maintained public access sites since 1953 and continues to provide free access today.

Funding comes from the sale of fishing licenses and excise taxes on motorboat fuel and fishing equipment through the federal Sport Fish Restoration Program.

DFW is committed to increasing and improving access for boaters and anglers. Some access sites have been in the program for more than 60 years. DFW evaluates site improvement needs across the state annually and rehabilitates sites that need work due to general wear and heavy usage.

Everyone deserves the opportunity to fish. Many of our sites have been rehabilitated with ADA accessible upgrades that meet federal and state requirements.

In 2020, DFW rehabilitated seven sites and built three new ones. The locations of the new sites are Knightstown (Henry County), which provides access to the Big Blue River; Brooksbury (Jefferson County), which provides access to the Ohio River; and Gas City Park (Grant County), which adds access to the Mississinewa River.

While DFW maintains access at many sites, free public access remains unavailable or inadequate for many state waters. DFW continues to seek ways to expand free access by purchasing waterside property at fair market value from willing sellers, accepting suitable donations, and leasing property from individuals, nonprofit organizations, and/or local government agencies.

For additional information on public access sites and other fishing sites across Indiana, see the Where to Fish map at on.IN.gov/where2fish. Learn more about public access at wildlife.IN.gov.



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OHIO RIVER DAILY BAG AND SIZE LIMITS

Species	Daily Bag Limit	Minimum Size
Largemouth Bass	6, any combination of largemouth, smallmouth, or spotted bass	12 inches No size limit on spotted bass
Smallmouth Bass		
Spotted Bass		
Hybrid Bass	30, any combination of hybrid, white, or yellow bass	No more than four fish may be 15 inches or longer
Striped Bass		
White Bass		
Yellow Bass		
Rock Bass	15	None
Blue Catfish	None	13 inches; no more than one may be 35 inches or longer
Channel Catfish	None	13 inches; no more than one may be 28 inches or longer
Flathead Catfish	None	13 inches; no more than one may be 35 inches or longer
Crappie	30	None
Muskellunge	2, any combination of muskellunge or tiger muskellunge	30 inches
Tiger Muskellunge		
Walleye	6, any combination of walleye, sauger, or hybrid walleye	14 inches
Sauger		
Walleye-Sauger Hybrid (Saugeye)		
Shovelnose Sturgeon	None	25 inches

Fishing on the Ohio

These regulations are the result of a cooperative effort by Indiana and five other Ohio River states. In many cases, these rules differ significantly from other laws and regulations in Indiana. These rules and regulations apply only to the main stem of the Ohio River and do not include any tributaries or embayments where general Indiana fishing regulations apply.

An agreement between Indiana and Kentucky allows that each state will recognize the fishing license issued by the other state on the main stem of the Ohio River, excluding embayments and tributaries. This means anglers can fish the Ohio River bank to bank with a license issued by either state. To fish Indiana or Kentucky embayments or tributaries, a license from that state must be obtained. An angler must abide by the regulations of the state by which they are licensed, except when fishing from the bank. When fishing from the bank, anglers shall

follow the regulations of the state in which they are fishing.

Only the following can be used for sport fishing: an unlimited number of poles, hand lines, or free-float lines, and not more than 2 trot lines per individual. Each trot line can have no more than 50 droppers attached that are placed no closer together than 18" and have no more than 1 single or multi-barbed hook.

Trot lines must be checked at least once every 24 hours. Each set line and trot line must have affixed at least one legible tag marked with the name and address of the user or the individual's DNR issued Customer ID number.

Trot lines can be attached only to a tree limb, a tree trunk, a bank pole, or the bank itself. Each drop line on a trot line can bear only one single or multi-barbed hook.

Snagging is prohibited as a sport fishing method on the Ohio River.

Paddlefish may not be taken from any portion of Indiana waters of the Ohio River on a

sport fishing license. It is illegal to take paddlefish from any waters of Indiana on a sport fishing license.

Asian carp, bowfin, buffalo fish, common carp, gar, shad, and suckers may also be taken with the following methods:

- Long bow, compound bow, and crossbow with an arrow having one or more barbs and attached to a line.
- Gigging from Feb. 1 to May 10 with any pronged or barbed instrument attached to the end of a rigid object. You cannot take a fish by gigging from either a boat or platform.
- Fish spear, spear gun, and underwater spear.

Where to Fish on the Ohio

Fishing within 200 yards below any dam on the Ohio River can only be done with a fishing pole or hand line. Fishing sites include:

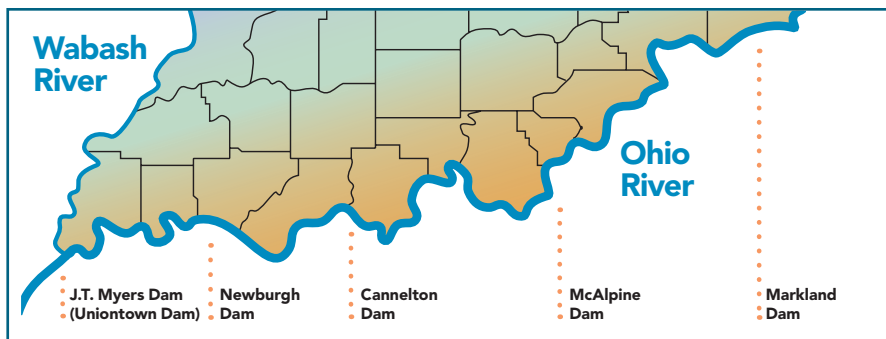
- J.T. Myers Dam (Uniontown Dam)—15 miles southwest of Mount Vernon in Posey County, accessible at Hovey Lake Fish & Wildlife Area
- Newburgh Dam—in the town of Newburgh off State Road 66
- Cannelton Dam—follow Taylor Street south from State Road 66 in Cannelton
- McAlpine Dam—located at Clarksville
- Falls of the Ohio State Park—accessible boat ramp located at George Rogers Clark Homesite in Clarksville (Access at New Albany off of Water Street in Jaycee Riverfront Park)
- Markland Dam—near Markland in Switzerland County. Accessible at DamVue River Camp or Vevay boat ramp

Access fees may be charged at some sites. See map below for dam locations.

Minnows & Crayfish

Minnows and crayfish can be taken from the Ohio River by the following methods only:

- A minnow trap that does not exceed 3 feet long and 18 inches in diameter and does not have a throat opening greater than 2 inches in diameter
- A dip net no more than 3 feet in diameter
- A minnow seine no more than 30 feet long and 6 feet deep that does not have a mesh size larger than ¼ inch bar mesh
- A cast net not to exceed 20 feet in diameter that does not have a mesh size larger than ¾ inch stretch
- Legal sport fishing methods listed on this page



REPTILES/AMPHIBIANS SEASONS & LIMITS

Species	Season	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit	Restrictions
Game turtles				
Eastern Snapping Turtle	July 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022	4, 12 inch minimum carapace length	8, 12 inch minimum carapace length	Turtle traps may be used, but may not have an opening below the water surface.
Smooth Softshell Turtle				
Spiny Softshell Turtle				
Game frogs				
Bull Frog	June 15, 2021 to April 30, 2022	25, any combination of bull or green frog	50, any combination of bull or green frog	Frogs may be taken with gig or spear with a head not more than 3 inches in width and a single row of tines; long bow and arrow; club; hands alone; or pole or hand line with not more than one hook or artificial lure attached. Firearms for frog hunting are restricted to .22-caliber loaded with bird shot only or an air rifle that fires a lead pellet (.177 diameter minimum) at least 500 feet per second.
Green Frog				

All reptiles and amphibians native to Indiana are regulated species.

A license is required to take a reptile or amphibian from the wild. Species of frogs, lizards, salamanders, snakes, toads, or turtles on the state or federally endangered species list may not be taken at any time. Eastern box turtles cannot be collected from the wild at any time.

Eastern snapping turtles, smooth softshell turtles, and spiny softshell turtles can be taken only between July 1 and March 31 of the following year and must have a carapace (shell) length of at least 12 inches.

Carapace length is the straight line measurement along the top surface of the shell

from the central point of the front edge directly behind the turtle's neck to a central point on the back edge directly above the turtle's tail.

Indiana residents 18 years of age or older must possess a valid hunting license while collecting species of reptiles or amphibians from the wild.

All non-resident adults and non-resident youth must possess a non-resident annual hunting license while collecting reptiles or amphibians from the wild.

License holders must obey season dates and bag limits, and use legal methods. An individual with a valid fishing or hunting license may take game frog and turtle species from a DNR

property where fishing and hunting is authorized. Other species of reptiles and amphibians may not be taken from any DNR property.

The daily bag limit is 25 for game frog species and 4 for game turtle species. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Reptiles and amphibians collected from the wild in Indiana may not be sold.

Only legally collected amphibians or reptiles held for fewer than 30 days may be released at their original capture site if they have never been housed with another animal.

Help protect these rare salamanders!

If caught, please cut the line, release unharmed, and contact 812-334-1137.

Hellbenders

- A giant aquatic salamander that can reach 2 ½ feet in length
- Found in the tributaries of the Wabash and Ohio Rivers in Southern Indiana
- Prefer cool, rocky, swiftly flowing streams
- Their presence indicates good water quality
- Feed mainly on crayfish, not fish
- They are NOT venomous
- Their slime is not poisonous
- They have no negative effects on fish populations
- Endangered in Indiana

Mudpuppies

- A large aquatic salamander that can reach 16 inches in length
- Found throughout Indiana
- Live in lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams
- Their presence indicates good water quality
- Feed on crayfish, larval insects, and small fish
- They are NOT venomous
- Their slime is not poisonous
- They have no negative effects on fish populations
- Special concern in Indiana

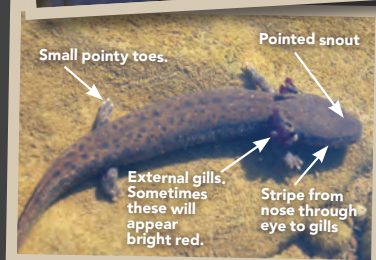


Photo courtesy of Greg Lipps

Keep Outdoor Spaces Healthy, Beautiful, & Safe

DNR manages more than 500,000 acres of public land for the benefit of Hoosiers across the state. Miles and miles of Indiana's lakes, rivers, and streams are waiting to be explored. Come out and enjoy the water.

While on the water, remember to practice responsible recreation. Responsible recreation means doing your part to keep outdoor spaces healthy, beautiful, and safe for Hoosiers and Indiana's fish and wildlife.

Be prepared and plan ahead. Know where you're going. If you are going to a specific property but are unsure of the best location for your activities there, consider calling the property office ahead of time for pointers. If you want to fish but don't have a specific destination in mind, use our interactive fishing map at on.IN.gov/where2fish to find a spot. Along with any activity-specific gear and a trash bag, remember to bring water, hand sanitizer, and paper towels with you. Some outdoor places have trash cans, and others do not. Be prepared to carry out bait, discarded fishing line, and other trash with you when you leave. Finally, think ahead about an alternative location—if your initial destination is crowded, you need a backup plan.

Be safe. While visiting, be sure to follow all posted rules and regulations. Park only in designated areas. When driving through properties, be mindful of your speed. When on the water, remember to wear a personal flotation device.

Recreate locally. Commit to visiting a place close to home a few times this year to benefit your overall well-being. If you'd like to find a place to fish close to home, consult our interactive map at on.IN.gov/where2fish. You may be surprised to learn about fishing opportunities nearby.

If you enjoy fishing, share your passion with someone new. Indiana's four Free Fishing Days (page 9) give Hoosiers the chance

to try fishing before buying a license. Invite a friend, neighbor, or family member along with you to stretch their legs and cast their line. Share your memories on social media with us by using #INResponsibleRecreation.

Learn more about responsible recreation at responsible-recreation.org and its pledge to practice responsible recreation and support efforts to get people outside, and, we hope, fishing.

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VISIT [ON.IN.GOV/WILDBULLETIN](https://on.IN.gov/wildbulletin) TO SIGN UP

Fishing at Summit Lake State Park
near New Castle

Two New Records Set in 2020

Duncan Fischer caught his record redbfin pickerel at Coffee Creek Park in Chesterton on July 29. The little giant from the pike family bit on a night crawler that Fischer offered. Despite weighing less than a pound, Fischer's catch is the first certified record catch of the species. Of the more than 6,600 redbfin pickerel collected in DNR surveys dating back to 1960, only one was longer than Fischer's catch.

On June 24, a new skipjack herring record was set for just the second time. Colt Little caught a skipjack measuring nearly 19 inches. Little's fish broke the previous mark by a wide margin, weighing nearly three times the previous record-holder. That fish was caught in 2017 from the Wabash River in Huntington County. Little also caught his skipjack from the Wabash River, but in Carroll County, using a #9 jointed Rapala.

If you think you've caught a state record fish, follow the steps below to get it certified:

- Both weight and length measurements are required for Record Fish entries. The weight measurement must be taken before the fish is frozen, on a scale certified by the State of Indiana to be accurate to 1 ounce. If you can't find a certified scale at a grocery, hardware, grain store, or propane distributor, call the Indiana Division of Weights and Measures at 317-356-7078 for the nearest location of such a scale.
- Obtain and submit a copy of the Scale Inspection Report from the owner of the store where the fish is weighed.
- Submit a photo or printed meat packaging label (if available) showing the weight of the fish and the location where it was weighed.
- After weighing it, you may gut and ice the fish, but do not fillet it or otherwise cut it up. The fish must be available for inspection and identification and may require verification by a DFW fisheries biologist. It is the responsibility of the angler to schedule a time to have the fish examined by a DFW fisheries biologist.
- Two witnesses who are not relatives of the angler and who observed the weight and length measurement must sign the entry form (fishing.IN.gov).
- Provide side-view photograph(s) of the fish and a copy of the angler's fishing license, if you are required by law to have a license.

INDIANA FISH RECORDS

Species	Weight	Water, County	Angler	Year
Atlantic Salmon	14 lb., 4 oz.	Lake Michigan (Lake)	Gene Tarrant	1979
Bighead Carp	53 lb., 8 oz.	White River (Pike)	Duane Stafford	2000
Blue Catfish	104 lb.	Ohio River	Bruce Midkiff	1999
Bluegill	3 lb., 4 oz.	Pond (Greene)	Harold L. Catey	1972
Bowfin (Dogfish)	16.52 lb.	Mutton Creek (Jackson)	Paul Huber	2009
Brook Trout	3 lb., 15 1/2 oz.	Lake Gage (Steuben)	Sonny Bashore	1973
Brown Trout	29.3 lb.	Lake Michigan (Lake)	Glen Duesing	2006
Buffalo Fish	53.9 lb.	Oak Hill Pond (Gibson)	Kenneth Houchin	2002
Bullhead	4.9 lb.	Potato Creek SP (St. Joseph)	Darren Robertson	1994
Burbot	7 lb., 11 oz.	Lake Michigan	Larry Malicki	1990
Channel Catfish	37 lb., 8 oz.	Lake (Vanderburgh)	Randy E. Jones	1980
Chinook Salmon	38 lb.	Trail Creek (LaPorte)	Rich Baker	1980
Coho Salmon	20 lb., 12 oz.	Lake Michigan (LaPorte)	John Beutner	1972
Common Carp	43 lb., 4 oz.	Pike Lake (Kosciusko)	Russell Long	1989
Crappie	4 lb., 11 oz.	Private Lake (Jennings)	Willis Halcomb	1994
Flathead Catfish	79 lb. 8 oz.	White River (Lawrence)	Glen T. Simpson	1966
Flier	3 1/2 oz.	Stream (Jackson)	Harold H. Otte	1983
Freshwater Drum	30 lb.	White River (Martin)	Garland Fellers	1963
Goldeye	2.3 lb.	Wabash River (Vermillion)	Brock Marietta	2008
Grass Carp	69.0 lb.	Pond (Hamilton)	Daniel Goss	2018
Green Sunfish	1 lb., 10 oz.	Pit (Fountain)	Terry Keller	1987
Hybrid Striped Bass	22 lb., 2 oz.	Tippecanoe River (Carroll)	David G. Coffman	2005
Hybrid Walleye	8 lb., 8 oz.	Scottsburg Reservoir (Scott)	Doug Young	1999
Lake Trout	37.55 lb.	Lake Michigan	Tyler Kreighbaum	2016
Lake Whitefish	7.69 lb.	Lake Michigan (Porter)	Brian Belke	2019
Largemouth Bass	14 lb., 12 oz.	Lake (Harrison)	Jenifer Schultz	1991
Longnose Gar	22.32 lb.	White River/East Fork (Pike)	Mark Brittain	2008
Mooneye	0.36 lb.	Ohio River (Clark)	Gerald Gallagher	2019
Muskellunge	42 lb., 8 oz.	James Lake (Kosciusko)	Darrin Conley	2002
Northern Pike	30 lb., 2 oz.	Clear Lake (Steuben)	Jack Barnes	1992
Pink Salmon	2 lb., 12 1/2 oz.	Lake Michigan (Lake)	Richard J. Lisac	1985
Rainbow Trout	18 lb., 8 oz.	Clear Lake (Steuben)	Bill Bigger	1988
Redear Sunfish	3 lb., 10 oz.	Lake (Brown)	R. Peckman	1974
Redfin Pickerel	0.86 lb.	Coffee Creek Park Pond (Porter)	Duncan Fischer	2020
Rock Bass	3 lb.	Sugar Creek (Hancock)	David Thomas	1969
Sauger	6 lb., 1 oz.	Tippecanoe River (Carroll)	Mark Bigger	1983
Shortnose Gar	1.58 lb.	Wabash River (Wabash)	Lindsey Fleshood	2010
Shovelnose Sturgeon	14 lb., 8 oz.	Wabash River (Fountain)	Mike Latoz	1999
Silver Carp	15 lb. 8 oz.	White River/West Fork (Greene)	Daniel Keller	2003
Skipjack Herring	1.53 lb.	Wabash River (Carroll)	Colt Little	2020
Smallmouth Bass	7 lb., 4 oz.	Twin Lake (LaGrange)	Dana Yoder	1992
Spotted Bass	5 lb., 5 oz.	(Vigo)	Larry Hinesley Jr.	2006
Spotted Gar	6.78 lb.	Gravel Pit (Vermillion)	Nick Waugh	2017
Steelhead Trout	26.62 lb.	Trail Creek (LaPorte)	Evan Nicholson	1999
Striped Bass	39.08 lb.	Cecil M. Harden Lake (Parke)	Jonathan VanHook	2010
Sucker	12 lb., 3.3 oz	White River (Bartholomew)	John Britton	1991
Tiger Muskellunge	24 lb.	Wolf Lake (Lake)	Michael Senics	1995
Tiger Trout	3 lb.	Lake Michigan (Lake)	Mike Ratter	1978
Walleye	14 lb., 4 oz.	Kankakee River (Lake)	Leon Richart	1974
	14 lb., 4 oz.	Tippecanoe River (Pulaski)	Donald Tedford	1977
Warmouth	1.4 lb.	North Dugger Pit (Sullivan)	Jack Tolbert	2002
White Bass	4 lb., 3 oz.	Lake Freeman (Carroll)	James Wagner	1965
White Catfish	9.72 lb.	Pond (Wabash)	Melissa Grimes	1985
Yellow Bass	2 lb., 15 oz.	Morse Reservoir (Hamilton)	Jim Raymer	2000
Yellow Perch	2 lb., 8 oz.	Gravel Pit (Vigo)	Roy W. Burkel Jr.	1981

2020: A Big Year for Big Fish

2020 FISH OF THE YEAR CONTEST WINNERS

Family	Species	Length (inches)	Location	Angler
Black Bass	Largemouth Bass	25.9	Patoka River NWR (Pike)	Mark Browning
	Smallmouth Bass	23.0	Tippecanoe River (White)	Richmond Sekach
	Spotted Bass	14.8	Monroe Lake (Monroe)	Michael Sturgill
Sunfish	Black Crappie (tie)	18.0	Geist Reservoir (Hamilton)	Jacob Yonts
	Black Crappie (tie)	18.0	Bushong Lake (Noble)	Benjamin Kish
	Bluegill	10.5	Glendale FWA (Davies)	Dennis Thompson
	Flier	5.0	Mud Creek (Davies)	Will Burch
	Hybrid Sunfish	10.8	Private Lake (Warrick)	Brian Ranes
	Northern Sunfish	4.0	unnamed ditch (Newton)	Ron Anderson
	Pumpkinseed	9.3	Round Lake (Steuben)	Keyth Voirol
	Redear Sunfish	11.1	Geist Reservoir (Marion)	Min Lu
	Rock Bass	9.8	White River (Madison)	Randall Keiser
	Warmouth	9.0	Chrisney Lake (Spencer)	Brian Ranes
	White Crappie	20.0	Geist Reservoir (Hamilton)	Jacob Yonts
Catfish	Brown Bullhead	14.5	Clear Lake (Steuben)	Rhys Morgan
	Channel Catfish	37.5	Worster Lake (St. Joseph)	Cameron Sly
	White catfish	14.0	Bischoff Reservoir (Ripley)	Ron Anderson
	Yellow Bullhead	13.0	Private Pond (Tippecanoe)	Mark Walker
Perch	Sauger	23.0	Tippecanoe River (Fulton)	Douglas Dohl
	Walleye	30.5	Tippecanoe River (Pulaski)	Mark Holbrook
	Yellow Perch	15.3	Lake Michigan (Lake)	Benjamin Pierce
	Logperch	5.5	Tippecanoe River (Carroll)	Mark Walker
Trout	Brown Trout	31.5	St. Joseph River (St. Joseph)	Chris Peabody
	Cisco	17.3	Little Crooked Lake (Whitley)	Robert Ecenbarger, Sr.
	Lake Trout	41.3	Lake Michigan (LaPorte)	Don Urbas
	Rainbow Trout	24.5	Capital City Cons. Club (Johnson)	Jeremy Gruner
	Steelhead Trout	39.0	Lake Michigan (Porter)	Theodore Fenicle II
True Bass	Hybrid Striped Bass	32.0	White Lake (Johnson)	Lena Kim
	Striped Bass	40.3	Hardy Lake (Scott)	Mason Neece
	White Bass	18.3	Hoffman Lake (Kosciusko)	Richard Hicks
	Yellow Bass	8.5	Catawact Lake (Putnam)	Jim Butts
Pike	Muskellunge	45.0	Bruce Lake (Fulton)	Mark Holbrook
	Northern Pike	43.0	Adams Lake (LaGrange)	Scott Hebble
	Redfin Pickerel	7.0	Heilsher Ditch (Jasper)	Jeff Armstrong
Minnow	Black Buffalo	32.3	Tippecanoe River (Carroll)	Craig Hulsey
	Common Carp	40.5	Tippecanoe River (Pulaski)	Mark Holbrook
	Creek Chub	8.8	Campbell Creek (Delaware)	Chris Gray
	Golden Shiner	10.3	Glendale FWA (Davies)	Blake Thompson
Sucker	Golden Redhorse	25.5	Tippecanoe River (Pulaski)	Mark Holbrook
	Northern Hog Sucker	13.0	West Fork White River (Hamilton)	Craig Bambrough
	Quillback	18.0	Cicero Creek (Tipton)	Craig Bambrough
	River Redhorse	29.0	East Fork White River (Martin)	Robert Lee
	Silver Redhorse	23.0	Muscatatuck River (Jennings)	Lane Kelley
	White Sucker	19.5	Lake of the Woods (Marshall)	Robert Ecenbarger, Sr.
Herring	Gizzard Shad	14.3	Wabash River (Tippecanoe)	Liu He
	Goldeye	16.5	Wabash River (Fountain)	Mark Walker
	Skipjack Herring	16.5	Ohio River (Warrick)	Keith Rollins
Other	Bowfin	29.0	Tippecanoe River (Pulaski)	Mark Holbrook
	Longnose Gar	43.0	Wabash River (Tippecanoe)	Liu He
	Shovelnose Sturgeon	29.0	Ohio River (Clark)	Joe Johnson
	Spotted Gar	34.0	Lake Webster (Kosciusko)	Tom Tymorek

With many activities canceled in 2020, Hoosiers looked to fishing for entertainment and a retreat.

More anglers usually means more fish caught, and the Fish of the Year (FOTY) program saw a big increase in the number of entries and species submitted.

In 2020, 78 anglers submitted 113 fish for consideration, a new program record and a 15% increase over 2019 numbers. Fifty species were entered, up from 44 last year. Notably absent from the list of species submitted were chinook salmon, coho salmon, flathead catfish, blue catfish, and hybrid walleye (saugrey).

The winning entry for longest fish was a 45-inch muskellunge caught from Bruce Lake by Mark Holbrook. The shortest was a 4-inch Northern sunfish submitted by Ron Anderson, who also won for the white catfish. While not a required measurement for FOTY entries, the largest girth reported for a winner (26.25 inches) belonged to a channel catfish submitted by Cameron Sly.

The Tippecanoe River was the 2020 hot spot for FOTY winners. The Tippy, which winds 160 miles through northern Indiana before merging with the Wabash River, yielded 15 entries, including eight top prizes. Holbrook, now a winner of 16 FOTY awards, garnered four of those (common carp, bowfin, walleye, and golden redhorse).

Robert Ecenbarger continued his streak of nine wins in a row for cisco, Indiana's only native salmonid outside of those in Lake Michigan. Unfortunately, the streak will end there. Cisco were listed as endangered in Indiana in December 2020, making them ineligible for FOTY.



Tom Tymorek, Spotted Gar

One change has been made for the entry requirements for 2021 and future years. All entries are required to include a photo showing the fish's length measurement. The measurement photo will replace the need for a witness and make entering easier for anglers who fish alone. Anglers who enter FOTY are also encouraged to submit a second photo of themselves hoisting their fish to commemorate the catch. Visit fishing.IN.gov for more information.

If you think you've caught a winner, there are three easy ways to enter:

- **Online:** Enter the required information using the online entry form (fishing.IN.gov; click Record Fish) and submit a photo of the fish showing the measurement and a copy of your fishing license (if required by law) to recordfish@dnr.IN.gov.
- **By mail:** Print and complete an entry form (fishing.IN.gov and click Record Fish) and include a photo of the fish showing the measurement and a copy of your fishing license (if required by law) to Record Fish Program, Division of Fish & Wildlife, 402 W. Washington St., Room 273, Indianapolis, IN 46204.
- **By email:** Submit an electronic version of the entry form and attach a photo of the fish and a copy of your fishing license (if required by law) to recordfish@dnr.IN.gov.



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- **DRY** everything for at least five days before going into another body of water.
- **NEVER** release organisms from one waterbody into another.



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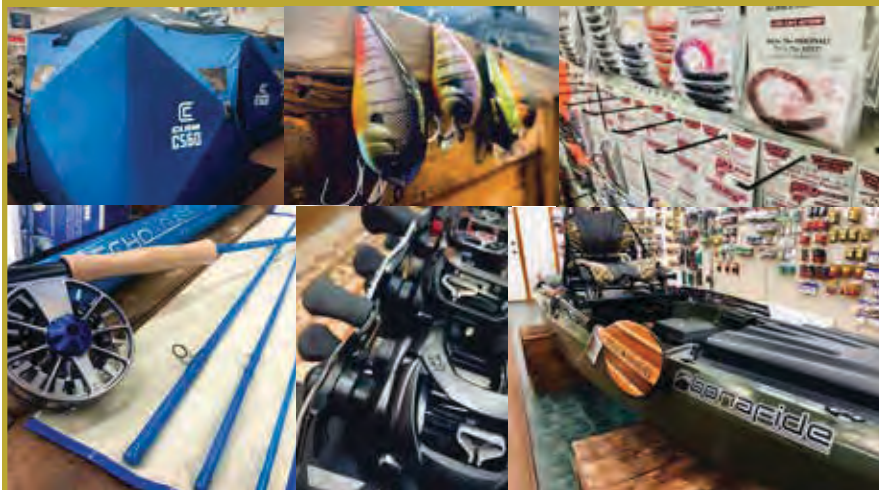


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Sunfish



Bluegill

5 to 9 vertical bars on sides, black opercular flap (ear) with no margin, dark spot at rear of dorsal fin.



Redear

Opercular flap (ear) is tipped with red or orange margin.



Black Crappie

7 to 8 dorsal spines, random blotches on sides.



White Crappie

6 dorsal spines, black side markings form vertical bars rather than random spots.

Black Bass



Largemouth Bass

Upper jaw extends beyond back of eye.



Smallmouth Bass

Upper jaw does not extend beyond back of eye.



Spotted Bass

Red eye, horizontal lines of dark spots on lower sides, upper jaw does not extend beyond back of eye.

True Bass



Hybrid Striped

Two tooth patches on back of tongue are joined, first stripe below lateral line complete to tail, stripes above lateral line usually broken.



White Bass

Single tooth patch on back of tongue, first stripe below lateral line not complete to tail.



Striped Bass

Tooth patches on back of tongue in two parallel patches, first stripe below lateral line complete to tail, stripes above lateral line are unbroken.

Catfish



Blue Catfish

30 to 35 anal fin rays, anal fin margin is straight, caudal fin is deeply forked.



Channel Catfish

24 to 29 rays in rounded anal fin, caudal fin is deeply forked, dark spots on sides when young.



Flathead Catfish

14 to 17 anal fin rays, caudal fin slightly rounded or slightly notched.

Perch



Sauger

3 or 4 saddle shaped blotches on back and sides, spotted dorsal fin.



Walleye

No spots on dorsal fin, dusky spot at rear of spiny dorsal fin, lower tip of tail and anal fin are white.

Salmon



Chinook Salmon or King Salmon

Teeth are set in dark gums, black spots on back and both lobes of square caudal fin, 15 to 17 anal fin rays.



Coho Salmon

Teeth are set in light color gums, black spots on upper lobe of slightly forked caudal fin, 12 to 15 anal fin rays.

Trout



Brown Trout

White mouth, teeth and gums; caudal fin margin square with no spots on upper or lower lobe; stream dwelling browns possess some orange/red spots on sides; resident brown trout in Lake Michigan possess black X-shaped markings on sides.



Rainbow Trout or Steelhead

White mouth, teeth and gums; small black spots on back, sides, caudal and dorsal fins, caudal fin margin is square; 9 to 12 anal fin rays.



Lake Trout

White mouth, teeth and gums; caudal fin deeply forked, body color light to dark gray with light spots.

Northern Pike & Muskellunge



Northern Pike

Elongated body and head with tooth-filled mouth shaped like a duck bill; white belly with green to yellow sides featuring rows of lighter horizontal spots or streaks. Coloration can vary depending on habitat — light green from lake to dark green from river.



Muskellunge

Elongated body and head with tooth-filled mouth shaped like a duck bill; coloration varies but typically dark vertical bar markings on green or brown background.

Fish Identification Form

Caught a fish and need help identifying the species?

If you have caught a fish and cannot determine what species it is, we can help. Email a photo of the fish to fishid@dnr.IN.gov. Visit fishing.IN.gov for more information.

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Is it Safe to Eat Your Fish?

Eating recreationally caught fish from Indiana waters can be healthy and tasty when you have the proper information.

Anyone can eat fish. Fish is a lean protein that is a major source of omega-3 fatty acids, vitamin D, selenium, and other vitamins and minerals. Omega-3 fatty acids are linked with reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease and are important for brain and eye development. Fish is a part of a healthy diet, but should be consumed in moderation. To ensure safe eating, consult the full Indiana fish consumption advisory for wild-caught and commercial fish found at IN.gov/isdh/FCA.

It's all about a person's exposure to contaminants over time. The two contaminants that primarily drive the fish consumption advisory are mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Some advisories are driven by perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), which is a chemical in the per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) family. These contaminants are generally persistent in the environment at low enough levels that they do not pose a health risk from direct contact with the water. However, these contaminants accumulate in fish tissue. The contaminants accumulate in human tissue like they do in fish and can build to levels that could pose a health risk.

These risks are based on the consumption of fish over a lifetime of exposure. A determination can then be made from concentrations of contaminants in fish tested as to how frequently they can be safely eaten (see the wild fish consumption advisory groups table). The consumption recommendation groups range from 1 to 5 with 1 being unrestricted consumption and 5 being do not eat.

When it comes to fish consumption, the primary concern is for the sensitive population. This population comprises women of childbearing years, nursing and pregnant mothers, and children age 15 and younger. There is evidence of developmental problems in infants and young children from consuming contaminants at levels lower than what can safely be eaten by the general population.

WILD FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORY GROUPS

Group	Meal Frequency Categories
1	Unrestricted consumption
2	1 meal per week
3	1 meal per month
4	1 meal every 2 months
5	Do not eat

Fish Consumption Advisory Interactive Map

The Indiana Fish Consumption Advisory is available as a mobile friendly, interactive map at IN.gov/isdh/FCA. Users can search by address, waterbody, or county to find advisories.

MAJOR LAKES & RIVERS WITH GROUP 4 & 5 SPECIES ADVISORIES*

Water	County	Species	Size (inches)	Group
East Fork White River	Daviess/Dubois/Lawrence/Martin	Largemouth Bass	All	4
Lake Michigan	Lake/LaPorte/Porter	Lake Trout	30+	5
Mississinewa River	Randolph	Channel Catfish	All	5
		Common Carp	30+	4
Delaware/Grant/Miami/Wabash	Delaware/Grant/Miami/Wabash	Flathead Catfish	29+	4
Muscatatuck River	Jackson/Washington	Channel Catfish	18+	4
Ohio River	All counties	Channel Catfish	18+	4
		Hybrid Striped Bass	All	4
		Striped Bass	All	4
St. Joseph River	St. Joseph (Baugo Bay Area to the Twin Branch Dam)	Channel Catfish	20+	4
	St. Joseph (Twin Branch Dam to IN/MI State Line)	Channel Catfish	All	5
		Common Carp	All	5
Wabash River	Fountain/Parke/Tippecanoe/Vermillion/Warren	Redhorse Species	All	4
West Fork White River	Delaware/Hamilton (to Stony Creek)/Madison	Carp sucker Species	All	4
	Marion (downstream of Broad Ripple dam)/Morgan	Channel Catfish	All	5
		Flathead Catfish	23+	4

*Consult the fish consumption advisory for a complete listing.

Combining consumption of wild-caught fish with frequently eaten commercial sources of fish containing contaminants could pose a health risk. Making the best choices in both sources of fish can help women and children obtain the benefits from fish while avoiding the health risks. Remember to follow the advisories for all the fish you eat.

Eating fish from lakes and reservoirs is generally less of a concern. Contaminant levels are generally very low in lakes and reservoirs.

Eating fish from rivers and streams is generally a much higher concern. Most waterbodies carrying do-not-eat consumption advisories for all species are streams. The fish consumption advisory has an extensive

list of rivers and streams that have species with group 4 and 5 consumption advisories; however, many streams contain species with low levels of contaminants. Several of the major fished rivers that have some group 4 and 5 species are listed. Many of these rivers and streams contain catch and release fishing.

Information on the Commercial Fish Consumption Advisory and the full Indiana Fish Consumption Advisory can be found at IN.gov/isdh/FCA. There, users can search by address, waterbody name, or county to find advisories. If a waterbody is not listed in the advisory or if a fish species is not listed for a waterbody that was sampled, consult with the statewide Safe Eating Guidelines.

STATEWIDE SAFE EATING GUIDELINES

When a waterbody has not been sampled for a particular species use these recommendations. Fish at or below the size listed should be safe for consumption once per week. Visit IN.gov/isdh/FCA to view the complete Statewide Safe Eating Guide.

Fish Species	Sensitive Population	General Population
Bullhead	All	All
Buffalo Fish	< 23"	< 27"
Carp suckers	< 16"	< 16"
Channel Catfish	< 21"	< 21"
Common Carp	< 20"	< 20"
Crappie	All	All
Flathead Catfish	< 19"	< 30"
Freshwater Drum	< 15"	All
Largemouth Bass	< 16"	All
Northern Pike	< 30"	All
Redhorse	< 23"	All
Rock Bass	All	All
Sauger	< 14"	< 20"
Silver Carp	All	All
Smallmouth Bass	< 14"	All
Spotted Bass	< 10"	All
Sunfish	All	All
Walleye	< 19"	All
White, Striped, Hybrid Striped Bass	< 12"	< 24"

Guidelines to reduce risks of eating fish include consuming smaller, less fatty fish like panfish and removing fat near the skin of the fish before cooking. Baking, broiling, and grilling fish also allows fat from the fish to drip away. To view some healthy recipes, visit chooseyourfish.org/fish/recipe.

For more information on the fish consumption advisory or for answers to questions concerning the advisory, contact the Indiana State Department of Health at 317-233-9264.

STATE WATERS CARRYING DO-NOT-EAT ADVISORIES FOR ALL SPECIES

Water	County
Clear Lake	Laporte, in City of Laporte
Elliot Ditch	Tippecanoe
Government Ditch/Little Deer Creek	Cass
Grand Calumet River/Indiana Harbor Canal	Lake
Kokomo Creek	Howard/Tipton
Little Sugar Creek/Walnut Fork	Montgomery
Salt Creek	Lawrence
Marquette Lagoon (West Basin)	Lake
Wea Creek	Tippecanoe
Wildcat Creek	Howard/Carroll-downstream from the Waterworks Dam in Kokomo to the Tippecanoe County line

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Improving Patoka Lake's Fish Habitat

Like many of Indiana's large reservoirs, Patoka Lake is more than 40 years old. This southern Indiana lake was built in 1972 for flood control and is Indiana's second largest reservoir. When the lake was created, much of the flooded timber and submerged vegetation provided excellent fish habitat. But four decades of degradation has left a barren lake bottom that is not ideal for aquatic life.

To supplement fish habitat, the DNR added Patoka Lake to its program that enhances aquatic habitat through shoreline stabilization, dredging, and the installation of underwater structures.

In December 2019, 33 independent volunteers and members of the Indiana Bass Federation and the Bass Unlimited Foundation helped DNR build 130 pallet fish habitat structures. Also in 2019, the Tri-County Bass Anglers Club built 40 fish habitat structures with a grant from the Friends of Reservoirs group. The club received the grant again in 2020 and plans to create even more fish habitat structures to help improve aquatic life in Patoka this year.

In March 2020, DNR built 88 more pallet structures. Between the 2019 and 2020 build events, 243 fish habitat structures were placed. Additionally, DNR State Parks staff felled 253 dead and hazardous trees into the water to increase fish habitat close to shore.

These habitat improvements would not be possible without the help of those who volunteered their time and donated materials.

All pallets were donated by one or more of the following organizations:

- Jasper Group
- Dubois County Sportsmen's Club
- French Lick Resort
- Bass Unlimited Foundation
- Indiana Bass Federation's (IBF) Tri-County Bass Anglers Club
- IBF's River City Bassmasters Club
- Patoka Hills Chapter of Quail and Upland Game Alliance

- Kimball Electronics
- Peak Toolworks

More than 1,500 cinderblocks were donated by Dubois County Block and Brick to sink the pallet structures.

Thanks to all who contributed. Once complete, the project will have placed a total of more than 400 structures. At wildlife.IN.gov, one can navigate to a final map with structure and felled-tree locations, information about past projects, structure location maps, and work plans for future fish habitat projects.

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DNR
Indiana Department
of Natural Resources

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District Fisheries Biologists

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>1. District 1
Tom Bacula
Kankakee FWA
4320 W. Toto Road
North Judson, IN 46366
574-896-3673</p> <p>2. District 2
Matt Horsley
Fawn River State Fish Hatchery
6889 N. SR 327
Orland, IN 46776
260-829-6241</p> <p>3. District 3
Tyler Delauder
Northeast Regional Office
1353 S. Governors Drive
Columbia City, IN 46725
260-244-6805</p> | <p>4. District 4
Corey DeBoom
Cikana State Fish Hatchery
2650 SR 44
Martinsville, IN 46151
765-342-5527</p> <p>5. District 5
Dave Kittaka
Bloomington Field Office
5596 E. SR 46
Bloomington, IN 47401
812-287-8300</p> <p>6. District 6
Andy Buelmann
Sugar Ridge FWA
2310 E. SR 364
Winslow, IN 47598
812-789-2724</p> | <p>Lake Michigan Office
Ben Dickinson
Lake Michigan Office
100 W. Water St.
Michigan City, IN 46360
219-874-6824</p> <p>Big Rivers Fisheries Program
Craig Jansen
Sugar Ridge FWA
2310 E. SR 364
Winslow, IN 47598
812-789-2724</p> <p>Nongame Fisheries Program
Brant Fisher
Atterbury FWA
7970 S. Rowe St.
Edinburgh, IN 46124
812-526-5816</p> |
|--|---|--|

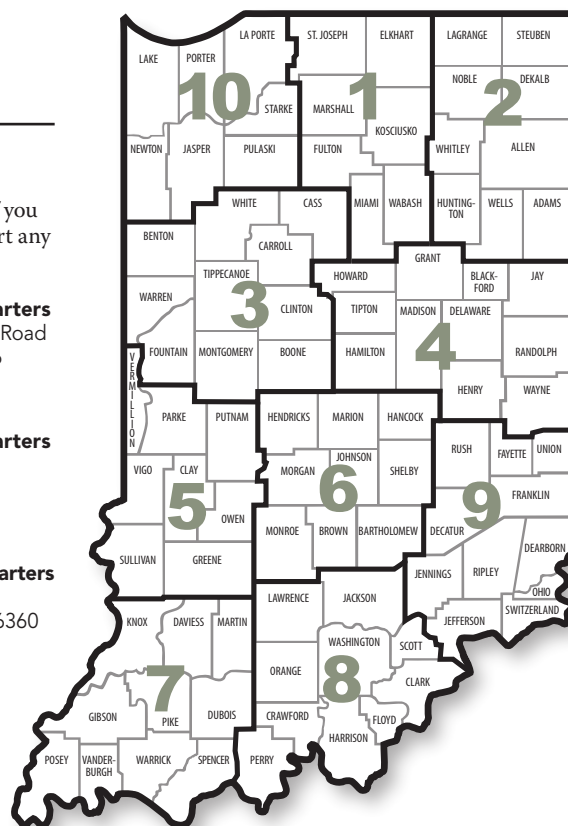
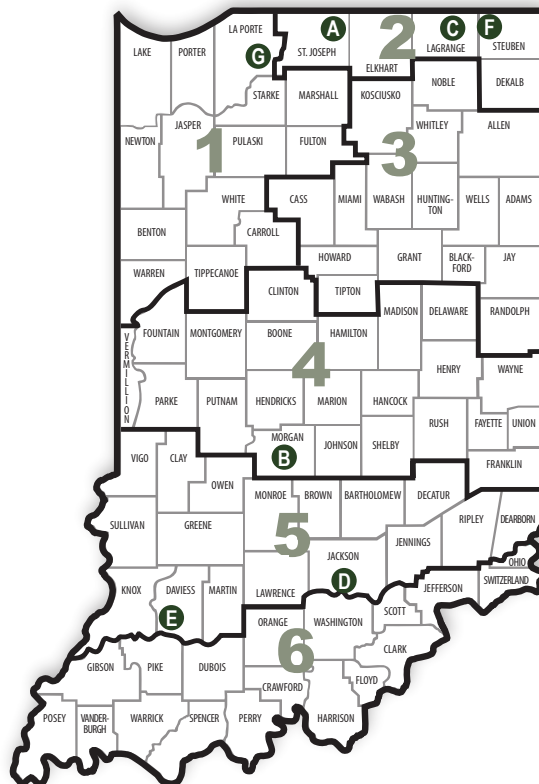
State Fish Hatcheries

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>A. Bodine State Fish Hatchery
13200 Jefferson Blvd.
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574-255-4199</p> <p>B. Cikana State Fish Hatchery
2650 SR 44
Martinsville, IN 46151
765-342-5527</p> <p>C. Curtis Creek Trout Rearing Station
4250 E. CR 410 N.
Howe, IN 46746
260-562-3855</p> | <p>D. Driftwood State Fish Hatchery
4931 S. CR 250 W.
Vallonia, IN 47281
812-358-4110</p> <p>E. East Fork State Fish Hatchery
5807 E. 825 S.
Montgomery, IN 47558
812-644-7717</p> <p>F. Fawn River State Fish Hatchery
6889 N. SR 327
Orland, IN 46776
260-829-6241</p> | <p>G. Mixsawbah State Fish Hatchery
5500 S. CR 675 E.
Walkerton, IN 46574
219-369-9591</p> |
|---|---|---|

DNR Law Enforcement Districts

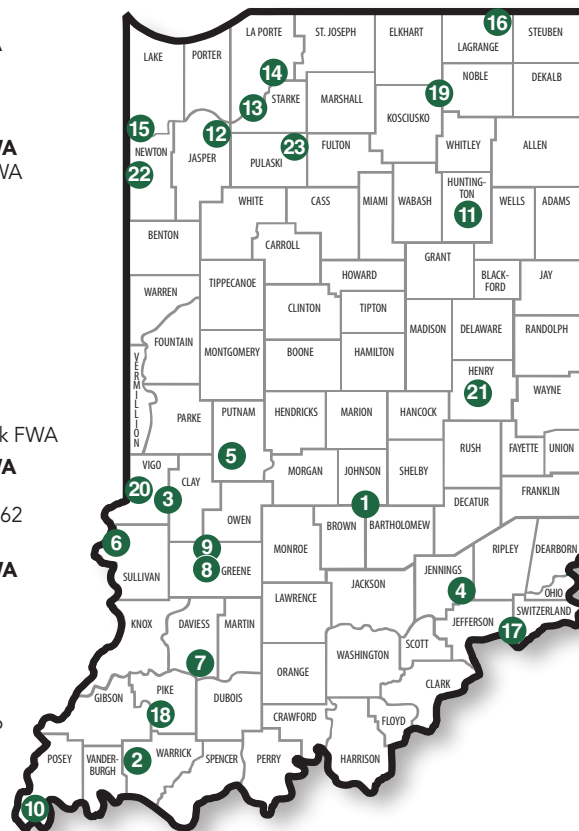
Contact DNR Law Enforcement Central Dispatch (24 hours) to report violations or if you need assistance from an Indiana Conservation Officer. Call 1-800-TIP-IDNR to report any poaching activities.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Central Dispatch
4850 S. SR 446
Bloomington, IN 47401
812-837-9536</p> <p>1. District 1 Headquarters
9822 N. Turkey Creek Road
Syracuse, IN 46567
574-457-8092</p> <p>2. District 2 Headquarters
1353 S. Governors Drive
Columbia City, IN 46725
260-244-3720</p> <p>3. District 3 Headquarters
4112 E. SR 225
West Lafayette, IN 47906
765-567-7859</p> | <p>4. District 4 Headquarters
3734 Mounds Road
Anderson, IN 46017
765-649-1062</p> <p>5. District 5 Headquarters
1317 W. Lieber Road Suite 2
Cloverdale, IN 46120
765-795-3534</p> <p>6. District 6 Headquarters
7937 Durbin St. Bldg. 9a
Edinburgh, IN 46124
812-526-4101</p> <p>7. District 7 Headquarters
2310 E. SR 364
Winslow, IN 47598
812-789-9538</p> | <p>8. District 8 Headquarters
1504 Schlamm Lake Road
Henryville, IN 47126
812-639-4148</p> <p>9. District 9 Headquarters
1387 E. U.S. 50
Versailles, IN 47042
812-689-4370</p> <p>10. District 10 Headquarters
100 W. Water St.
Michigan City, IN 46360
219-879-5710</p> |
|---|--|---|



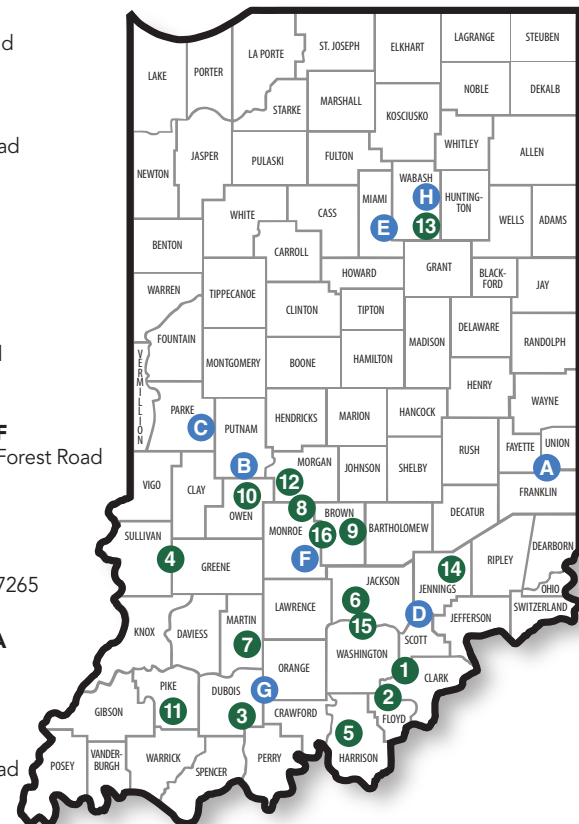
Fish & Wildlife Areas

- 1. Atterbury FWA**
7970 S. Rowe St.
Edinburgh, IN 46124
812-526-2051
- 2. Blue Grass FWA**
Contact Sugar Ridge FWA
- 3. Chinook FWA**
Contact Deer Creek FWA
- 4. Crosley FWA**
2010 S. SR 3
North Vernon, IN 47265
812-346-5596
- 5. Deer Creek FWA**
2001 W. CR 600 S.
Greencastle, IN 46135
765-653-0453
- 6. Fairbanks Landing FWA**
Contact Goose Pond FWA
- 7. Glendale FWA**
6001 E. 600 S.
Montgomery, IN 47558
812-644-7711
- 8. Goose Pond FWA**
13540 W. CR 400 S.
Linton, IN 47441
812-512-9185
- 9. Hillenbrand FWA**
Contact Goose Pond FWA
- 10. Hovey Lake FWA**
8401 SR 69 S.
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620
812-838-2927
- 11. J.E. Roush Lake FWA**
517 N. Warren Road
Huntington, IN 46750
260-468-2165
- 12. Jasper-Pulaski FWA**
5822 Fish & Wildlife Ln
Medaryville, IN 47957
219-843-4841
- 13. Kankakee FWA**
4320 W. Toto Road
North Judson, IN 46366
574-896-3522
- 14. Kingsbury FWA**
5344 S. Hupp Road
LaPorte, IN 46350
219-393-3612
- 15. LaSalle FWA**
4752 W. 1050 N.
Lake Village, IN 46349
219-992-3019
- 16. Pigeon River FWA**
8310 E. 300 N.
Howe, IN 46746
260-367-2164
- 17. Splinter Ridge FWA**
Contact Crosley FWA
- 18. Sugar Ridge FWA**
2310 E. SR 364
Winslow, IN 47598
812-789-2724
- 19. Tri-County FWA**
8432 N. 850 E.
Syracuse, IN 46567
574-834-4461
- 20. Wabashiki FWA**
Contact Deer Creek FWA
- 21. Wilbur Wright FWA**
2239 N. SR 103
New Castle, IN 47362
260-468-2165
- 22. Willow Slough FWA**
1803 S. 700 W.
Morocco, IN 47963
219-285-2704
- 23. Winamac FWA**
1493 W. 500 N.
Winamac, IN 46996
574-946-4422



State Reservoirs & State Forests

- A. Brookville Lake**
14108 SR 101
PO Box 100
Brookville, IN 47012
765-647-2657
- B. Cagles Mill Lake (Lieber & Cataract Falls)**
1317 W. Lieber Road
Suite 1
Cloverdale, IN 46120
765-276-0194
- C. Cecil M. Harden (Raccoon) Lake**
1588 S. Raccoon Parkway
Rockville, IN 47872
765-344-1412
- D. Hardy Lake**
5620 Hardy Lake Road
Scottsburg, IN 47170
812-794-3800
- E. Mississinewa Lake**
4673 S. 625 E.
Peru, IN 46970
765-473-6528
- F. Monroe Lake**
4850 S. SR 446
Bloomington, IN 47401
812-837-9546
- G. Patoka Lake**
3084 N. Dillard Road
Birdseye, IN 47513
812-685-2464
- H. Salamonie Lake**
9214 W. Lost Bridge W.
Andrews, IN 46702
260-468-2125
- 1. Clark SF**
P.O. Box 119
#2 Service Road
Henryville, IN 47126
812-294-4306
- 2. Deam Lake SRA**
1217 Deam Lake Road
Borden, IN 47106
812-246-5421
- 3. Ferdinand SF**
6583 E. SR 264
Ferdinand, IN 47532
812-827-2857
- 4. Greene-Sullivan SF**
2551 S. SR 159
Dugger, IN 47848
812-648-2810
- 5. Harrison-Crawford SF**
7240 Old Forest Road S.W.
Corydon, IN 47112
812-738-7694
- 6. Jackson-Washington SF**
1278 E. SR 250
Brownstown, IN 47220
812-358-2160
- 7. Martin SF**
14040 Williams Road
Shoals, IN 47581
812-247-3491
- 8. Morgan-Monroe SF**
6220 Forest Road
Martinsville, IN 46151
765-792-4654
- 9. Mountain Tea SF**
Pumpkin Ridge Road
Nashville, IN 47448
812-988-7945
- 10. Owen-Putnam SF**
2153 Fish Creek Road
Spencer, IN 47460
812-829-2462
- 11. Pike SF**
5994 E. SR 364
Winslow, IN 47598
812-827-2857
- 12. Ravinia SF**
N. Duckworth Road
Paragon IN, 46166
765-792-4654
- 13. Salamonie River SF**
5400 E. Salamonie Forest Road
Lagro, IN 46941
260-782-0430
- 14. Selmer SF**
905 E. CR 350 N.
North Vernon, IN 47265
812-346-2286
- 15. Starve Hollow SRA**
4345 S. 275 W.
Vallonia, IN 47281
812-358-3464
- 16. Yellowwood SF**
772 Yellowwood Road
Nashville, IN 47448
812-988-7945



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 Steuben County Tourism Bureau
lakes101.org