

# MINNESOTA Fishing REGULATIONS 2012



Effective **March 1, 2012** through **February 28,**



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Photo courtesy of Take Me Fishing

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

# PAGE

Trespass Law .....	2
Definitions .....	3
NEW Regulations for 2012 .....	4
Fishing License .....	5
General Regulations .....	9
Angling Methods and Tackle .....	9
Possessing Fish .....	10
Transporting Fish .....	11
Bait .....	12
Other .....	12
Aquatic Invasive Species .....	14
Seasons, Limits, and Regulations for Various Waters .....	26
Inland Waters, Excluding Stream Trout .....	26
Inland Waters, Stream Trout .....	28
Lake Superior and Its Tributaries .....	29
Intensive Management Lakes .....	33
Waters with Experimental and Special Regulations .....	34
Lakes .....	34
Streams and Rivers .....	48
Border Waters .....	55
Licensing, Dates .....	55
Canada–Minnesota .....	56
Iowa–Minnesota .....	59
North Dakota–Minnesota .....	61
South Dakota–Minnesota .....	62
Wisconsin–Minnesota .....	64
Spearing, Archery, and Dip Nets .....	67
Bowfishing .....	68
Ice Angling and Spearing .....	69
Illustrated Fish of Minnesota .....	74
Other Aquatic Species .....	78
Online Information .....	79
Record Fish .....	81
Health Advisory .....	82
Addresses and Telephone Numbers .....	86
Sunrise/Sunset Timetable .....	87
Free Fishing Weekends .....	88

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## Trespass Law

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



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

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

## Rules of Thumb for Water Access and Recreational Use

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

### What is lawful access?

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

### What waters are open to recreational use?

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

### Can I take my dog with me on an Aquatic Management Area?

*On an Easement Aquatic Management Area (AMA), a person must always get permission from the landowner to take a dog with them, unless otherwise posted. You may not enter a **Restricted or General Use Aquatic Management Area** with a dog except (1) under permit by the commissioner or (2) the dog is accompanied by or under control of the owner. Dogs must be on a leash from April 16 through July 14.*

## DEFINITIONS

*Some anglers might not be familiar with the following terms used in this regulations booklet:*

**Designated stream trout lakes**– These waters have been stocked with trout that are native to streams: rainbow, brown, or brook trout. Some also have splake, a cross between a lake trout and a brook trout.

**Inland waters**– Lakes and rivers within Minnesota not bordering Canada or another state.

**Immediately released or returned to the water**– Fish must not be retained longer than is needed at the site of capture to unhook, identify, measure, and photograph. Placing the fish in any type of container or on a stringer is not immediately released. Any fish not immediately released is considered to be “reduced to possession.”

**Daily and possession limits (bags)**– For most species of fish, the daily and possession limit is the same. One exception would be the inland limit on yellow perch, which is 20 per day and 40 in possession. The daily and possession limits include fish possessed by the person at all locations including such places as livewell, cold storage, at home, or at a resort. Daily limit is the number of fish an angler can take in one calendar day. Eating those fish or gifting them away on the same day does not allow an angler to possess additional fish taken in the same calendar day.

**Harvest slot limit**– Allows the harvest of fish from a designated size range.

**Maximum size limit**– Prohibits the harvest of fish from some specified length and larger.

**Minimum size limit**– Prohibits harvest of fish less than a specified length.

**Minnows**– Members of the minnow family, except carp and goldfish; bullheads, ciscoes, lake whitefish, goldeyes, and mooneyes (not over 7 inches long); suckers (not over 12 inches long); mud minnows, leeches, tadpole madtoms and stonecats. (Note: border water regulations may vary.)

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

**Protected slot limit**– Prohibits harvest of fish from a designated size range. Fish within this size range must be immediately released.

**Rough fish**– Carp, buffalo, sucker, sheepshead, bowfin, burbot, cisco (tullibee), gar, goldeye, and bullhead. (Note: border waters regulations may vary.)

**Under-utilized fish**– Carp, buffalo, sucker, sheepshead, bowfin, burbot, cisco, gar, goldeye, and redhorse.

## NEW REGULATIONS FOR 2012



### New Regulations for 2012

- Multiple hooks allowed on a single line (page 9)
- Artificial lures/bait may have an additional hook (page 9)
- The carcass of any fish with size restrictions consumed on water or ice must be retained (page 10)
- Labeling from purchased dead bait must be retained (page 12)
- Bait buckets must have water exchanged prior to leaving **any** waterbody (page 12)
- Drain plugs must be removed from **all** boating-related equipment prior to transporting (page 13)
- New list of infested waters (pages 16-25)
- New restrictions on using fish taken from Lake Superior and its tributaries as bait (page 33)

### New Experimental/Special Regulations

Added or modified 6 lakes and 1 stream with quality walleye, sunfish, crappie, brook trout, or bass regulations (pages 34-54). Dropped special regulations on northern pike on 21 lakes.

Changes include: Lake Vermilion (St. Louis Co.), walleye slot limit modified; Long Lake (Kandiyohi Co.), largemouth bass slot limit modified; Splithand, Little Splithand, and Dixon lakes (Itasca Co.), added panfish bag limits; Lester Lake (Hubbard Co.), added catch and release for all species; and Lawndale Creek (Wilkin Co.), added catch and release for brook trout.

### Clarification to Synopsis

- It is unlawful to take fish by hand (page 10)

Note: Regulations may change after this booklet goes to print. Check DNR Web site for additions or corrections.

## For Your Information

### Total Length

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

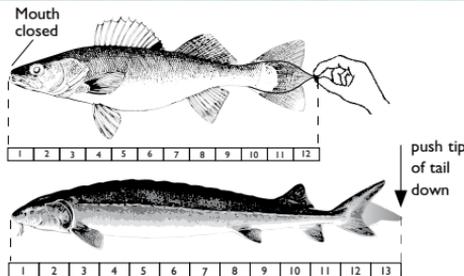


Diagram image by Murrell Rivers

# FISHING LICENSES

## 2012 FISHING LICENSES

**(Price does not include additional issuing fees.)**

Duplicate licenses and stamps can be purchased from any ELS agent for \$2.50 each.

### RESIDENT LICENSES (for fishing the license is valid March 2012-April 30, 2013)

Angling, Individual (age 16 and older)	\$17.00
Angling, Conservation Individual ( <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> limit)	11.00
Angling, Combination (husband and wife <sup>1</sup> )	25.00
Angling, Conservation Combination ( <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> limit)(husband & wife)	17.00
Angling, Individual 24 Hour	8.50
Sports, Individual <sup>3</sup>	29.50
Sports, Combination (husband and wife <sup>1</sup> ) <sup>2</sup>	38.50
Dark House Spearing <sup>4</sup>	17.00
Trout and Salmon Stamp Validation	10.00
Fish House, Dark House, or Shelter if left unattended overnight	11.50
• 3 year license	34.50
Whitefish and Cisco Netting <sup>4</sup>	10.00
Rental Fish House, Dark House, or Shelter	26.00
• 3 year license if rented	78.00
Recreational Turtle License <sup>4</sup>	25.00
Sturgeon Tag <sup>4</sup>	5.00
Walleye Stamp Validation (Voluntary)	5.00

LIFETIME LICENSE <sup>5</sup>	Fishing	Small Game <sup>6</sup>	Sports <sup>6</sup>	<i>Must be a Minnesota resident for one year.</i>
age 3 and under	\$227	\$217	\$357	
age 4 to 15	\$300	\$290	\$480	
age 16 to 50	\$383	\$363	\$613	
51 and over	\$203	\$213	\$413	
	Spearing only	Spearing/Angling	Sports/Spearing <sup>6</sup>	
age 3 and under	\$258	\$485	\$615	
age 4 to 15	\$320	\$620	\$800	
age 16 to 50	\$372	\$755	\$985	
51 and over	\$173	\$376	\$586	

### NONRESIDENT LICENSES (for fishing the license is valid March 2012-April 30, 2013)

Angling, Individual	\$39.50 <sup>7</sup>
Angling, Family (one or both parents and children under age 16)	52.50 <sup>7</sup>
Angling, Individual 7 Day	28.50 <sup>7</sup>
Angling, Individual 24 Hour	8.50
Angling, Individual 72 Hour	24.00 <sup>7</sup>
Angling, Husband and Wife <sup>1</sup> 14 Day	40.50 <sup>7</sup>
Angling, Youth (under age 16)	17.00
Trout and Salmon Stamp Validation	10.00
Fish House, Dark House, Shelter	33.00
Fish House, Dark House, Shelter 7 Day	19.00
• 3 year license	99.00
Sturgeon Tag <sup>4</sup>	5.00
Walleye Stamp Validation (Voluntary)	5.00
Dark House Spearing <sup>4</sup>	39.50 <sup>7</sup>

LIFETIME LICENSE <sup>5</sup>	Fishing	Small Game
age 3 and under	\$447	\$947
age 4 to 15	\$600	\$1,280
age 16 to 50	\$773	\$1,633
51 and over	\$513	\$1,083

1 The marriage must be legal as recognized by Minnesota law.

2 A combination sports license is one small game hunting license and two fishing licenses.

3 An individual sports license includes fishing and small game hunting.

4 Also requires the purchase of an angling license, unless specifically exempted.

5 Applications available through the DNR Information Center 1-888-646-6367.

6 Includes trapping if requested.

7 Includes \$2.00 surcharge for invasive species work.

## 2012 Minnesota Fishing Regulations

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

**Instant Licenses** (except lifetime) and stamp validations are also available online or by telephone at 1-888-665-4236. An additional convenience fee is added for sales via the Web site or telephone (see Web site for details).

### Lifetime License

First time purchase of lifetime license is only available at DNR License Center in St. Paul.

### Conservation Licenses

- Conservation Licenses are available only to residents of Minnesota.
- Daily and possession limits are half of what can be taken with a standard angling license. Fractions are rounded down to next whole number (see page 29 for list). People bowfishing, spearing, or using other approved harvest methods under a Conservation License are limited to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the daily and possession limit for that method.
- Sturgeon harvest tag may not be used with a Conservation License.

### Trout Stamp

Trout stamp validations are printed on the ELS license. This is the only verification needed to prove purchase of the trout stamp. Purchasers may request the actual pictorial stamp for an additional \$0.75.

Except as noted, anglers need a trout stamp validation and a fishing or sports license when fishing in designated trout streams, designated trout lakes, Lake Superior, or when possessing trout on waters that are not designated trout water. All trout in possession require a trout validation, unless received as a gift. Trout stamps are not required for children less than 16 years old, adults who are 65 and older, people fishing with a 24-hour license, or people who are exempt from fishing license requirements or who receive a fishing license at no charge.



2012 Trout Stamp. Artist: Markell

### Walleye Stamp

- Purchase of a walleye stamp is voluntary; it is not needed for fishing.
- Revenues from the sale of a walleye stamp will be used for walleye stocking and related activities.
- Walleye stamp validations are printed on the ELS license. Purchasers may request the actual pictorial stamp for an additional \$0.75.



2012 Walleye Stamp. Artist: House

## License Requirements

**All people 16 years and older need a license unless otherwise noted. To purchase a noncommercial game or fish license, nonresidents and residents must have their social security number on file with DNR or must provide it.**

### Residents

- To qualify as a resident, a person must maintain a legal residence in Minnesota for at least 60 consecutive days before purchasing a license. In addition, residents 21 or older must provide a current Minnesota Driver's License or ID card, unless exempt under the Religious Freedom Act.
- A nonresident under age 21 whose parent is a Minnesota resident is considered a resident.
- All residents age 15 and younger are allowed to take their own limit of fish without purchasing a license.
- Residents age 16 through 64 must have a dark house spearing license and an angling license to spear. Residents age 65 years old and older are exempt from the dark house spearing license, but must have an angling license to spear.

### Nonresidents

All nonresidents age 16 and older are required to have an appropriate fishing license while angling. Nonresidents under age 16 do not need a license if the parent or guardian is licensed. Children of an adult who has a Minnesota nonresident family license may possess their own limit of fish. However, if the adult has an individual license, the child's fish are included in the adult's limit. Nonresidents under age 16 may purchase a nonresident youth license and possess their own limit of fish.

### Nonresident Students and Military

- A person in the U.S. Armed Forces who is stationed or training in the state may purchase a resident fishing license (must show proof).
- A nonresident that is a full-time student at an educational institution in the state and resides in the state during the school year may obtain a resident license to take fish with proof of student status.
- The spouse of a resident who is on active military duty may obtain a resident fishing license.

### Refund Policy

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

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

### License Revocation

Fishing privileges may be revoked for one year for two or more convictions of fishing violations in three years. Violations of fishing laws in other states may affect your ability to fish in Minnesota.

Under the gross over-limits penalty provisions, privileges can be revoked for three or five years, depending on the number of fish involved in the violation.

### Exempt from License Requirement

- Minnesota residents in the U.S. Military who are stationed outside the state and home on leave (must carry leave or furlough papers).
- In-patients of a U.S. Veterans Administration hospital, residents of a Minnesota licensed nursing or boarding care home, and residents of a licensed board and lodging facility with written consent from the institution.
- Residents who have served in federal active service outside the U.S. during the preceding 24 months and are now discharged from overseas duty. (Discharge papers must be in possession while fishing or transporting fish.)
- A resident may take fish by angling (in open water) without an angling license when shore fishing or wading on state-owned land within a state park. When angling from a boat or float, this exemption applies only to those water bodies completely encompassed within the statutory boundary of the state park. The exemption from an angling license does not apply to waters where a trout stamp is required.
- Residents 90 years and older in age.
- Residents under age 16 may net cisco (tullibee) and whitefish for personal use.
- Residents receiving disability benefits under the Federal Railroad Retirement Act or U.S. Postal Service. Person must carry proof of disability retirement benefits.

### Licenses Issued without a Fee (agents may charge an issuing fee)

- Permanent angling license will be issued to any Minnesota resident over age 16 who is developmentally disabled or a veteran with a 100 percent service-connected disability. Available only from the DNR License Center.
- Annual angling and/or spearing license may be issued to Minnesota residents who are legally blind, receiving SSI or SSDI, receiving worker's compensation for total and permanent disability, a ward of the Commissioner of Human Services, or a resident of a state institution that has an approved application. SSI or SSDI benefit verification is available online at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), by calling 1-800-772-1213 or at your local Social Security office. Must have current letter from Social Security stating disability or SSI benefits.
- Foreign exchange students may receive a free annual angling license with proof of their foreign exchange student status.

An unlicensed person may assist a disabled angler who has a disability license, provided that only the number of lawful lines are in use.

**Note: All persons required to have a license (including stamp validations) must have it in their possession while fishing and while traveling from an area where they fished.**

## GENERAL REGULATIONS

*The following regulations apply to all Minnesota waters unless noted otherwise in this booklet.*

### Hooks, Lures and Tackle Configurations

**Single Tackle Configuration.** Anglers may use up to three single or multiple-pronged (example - treble) hooks *on a line* used as a single tackle configuration attached to the end of a fishing line (*Examples – crawler harness, quick-strike rig. See pictures on page 63*). Note: a single tackle configuration cannot be used on designated trout streams and lakes.

- The total length of the single tackle configuration from the first hook to the last hook must be nine inches or less.
- Anglers may use live, artificial, preserved, or dead bait that is lawful to use (see page 12).
- This single tackle configuration is not considered an artificial fly or lure/bait, and no additional hooks may be used. Adding a bead, blade, or spinner does not make it into an artificial lure/bait.
- **Artificial Lure/Bait.** A single artificial lure/bait may contain more than one hook (Example - a crankbait).
  - An angler may have one additional single or multiple hook *on a line* as part of the artificial lure/bait as long as it is within three inches of the artificial lure/bait (Example - a stinger hook (often a treble hook) can be trailed behind a jig).
  - Note: An extra single or multiple hook is not allowed on artificial lures/baits used on designated trout streams and lakes.
- **Artificial Fly.** Three artificial flies may be used when angling for trout, crappie, sunfish, and rock bass.
- **Designated Trout Streams and Lakes.** Other than 3 artificial flies or a single artificial lure/bait, a tackle configuration with more than one single hook is not allowed on designated trout streams and lakes. Note: See special tackle restrictions for **Lake Superior and Its Tributaries** - page 32.

### Angling Methods

- Anglers may use only one line during the open water season and two through the ice (other than on designated trout lakes and streams) unless otherwise noted.
- You may not intentionally fish for any species during its closed season.
- Angling with an unattended line, a setline, or a trotline is unlawful.
- Using an artificial light to lure or attract fish is unlawful. Exception: While angling, a person may affix to the end of a fishing line a lighted artificial bait with hooks attached. Any battery that is used in lighted fishing lures must not contain mercury.

- A party is defined as a group of two or more persons:
  - angling from a single watercraft; or
  - if not in a watercraft, maintaining unaided visual and vocal contact with each other.
- The total number of fish possessed by the party may not exceed the combined limits of the numbers of the party.
- Each party member may transport only an individual limit of fish.
- The use of explosives, firearms, chemicals (not including fish scents), spring devices, or electricity for taking fish is unlawful.
-  • It is unlawful to take a fish by snagging or noodling (taking fish by hand).

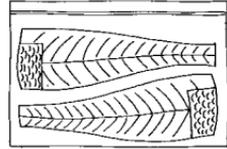
### Possessing Fish

- Daily and possession limits are the same unless otherwise noted. Fish are in an angler's possession whether on hand, in cold storage, in transport, or elsewhere.
- Once a daily or possession limit of fish has been reached, no culling or live well sorting is allowed. No culling is allowed on Mille Lacs or Wisconsin border waters (see pages 33 and 64-66).
- While on or fishing waters with size restrictions it is illegal to possess any fish outside legal length limits.
-  • When fish are consumed on the ice or on a watercraft that is docked or moored to shore, the carcass of a fish with size limits (other than statewide size limits) must be retained in such a way that the carcass may be readily unpacked, unwrapped, and separated so that the carcass may be examined, measured, and counted to ensure compliance with size restrictions for that day. The fish carcasses must be retained with head, dorsal fin, and tail intact, and the carcass will be counted and included in a person's daily possession limit.
- Depositing fish entrails or fish parts into public waters or onto lake or stream shores is prohibited.
- If legally taken from a connected water or having been packaged by a licensed fish packer, a person who is in transit and taking the most direct route back to their lodging or docking, and not fishing, may possess fish outside of or in excess of the limits for that water body.
- When on or fishing experimental, special, border or other waters with size restrictions different from statewide regulations, all fish for which the size restriction applies must have their heads, tails, fins, and skin intact and be measurable except as follows:
  - (1) Fish that are legally taken on that water body may be used in the preparation of a meal while docked or moored to shore or while on the ice of that waterbody. Fish used for a meal still count towards the daily possession limit. Fillets may be possessed only if the person is in the act of preparing a meal or have been packaged by a licensed fish packer.
  - (2) On the shore or ice of experimental and special management waters a person may prepare fish for a meal that have been packaged by a licensed fish packer. The total number of fish in possession may not exceed the statewide possession limit.

- Possessing or transporting white perch, ruffe, round goby, black carp, bighead carp, grass carp, or silver carp is unlawful, except when taking them to the DNR. If you catch a black, bighead, grass, or silver carp, you must report it to the DNR within seven days. A picture or specimen is desired when reporting your catch to the DNR.

## Transporting Fish

- Except while on the body of water where taken, live fish may not be transported in a quantity of water sufficient to keep them alive unless the fish are bait minnows or the person is authorized to do so by the DNR.
- Transport of fish for display in a home aquarium is legal under the following conditions:
  - Game fish purchased from an authorized licensee transported with the necessary documents (such as a sales receipt).
  - Anglers 16 or under may transport legally caught largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, yellow perch, rock bass, black crappie, white crappie, bluegill, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, orangespotted sunfish, and black, yellow, and brown bullhead. No more than four of each species may be transported at any one time, and any individual fish can be no longer than 10 inches. **At no time may water from any lake or stream be transported.** (See page 15 or DNR Web site).
- Fish prepared for transportation, shipment, or storage are defined as follows:
  - Undressed fish** must have heads, tails, fins, and skin intact. Entrails, gills, and scales may be removed.
  - Dressed fish** may have heads and scales or skin removed, in addition to gills and entrails.
  - Fillets** are fish flesh, excluding cheeks, that have been removed from a fish. Scales or skin may be removed or intact. **A fish may not be reduced to more than two fillets.**
- Fish must be packaged or transported in such a way that they can be readily unwrapped, separated, identified, and counted.
- Muskellunge, sturgeon, catfish, salmon, splake, brook trout, brown trout, and rainbow trout, which have statewide length limits, must be transported with head and tail intact so the fish can be measured. Northern pike and walleye may be dressed or filleted.
- All dressed fish and fillets must have a 1-square-inch patch of skin with scales intact from a portion of the body other than the belly. Bullhead, sunfish, and crappie may be completely filleted and skinned.
- Dressed sauger count as walleye unless packaged by a licensed fish packer.
- Stocking live fish or fish eggs or transferring fish or fish eggs from one body of water to another is prohibited without a DNR permit.



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

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

### Storage and shipments

- Fish can be prepared, packed, and labeled by a licensed fish packer.
- A person who stores fish for another must plainly mark the package, in ink, with the name, address, and fishing license number (or DNR number or transaction number) of the owner, and the number of fish by species in the package.
- Licensed anglers may make three shipments of fish per year. A permit issued by a conservation officer is required for each shipment. A shipment cannot contain more than a possession limit of one species.

### Bait

- Using whole or parts of game fish, goldfish, or carp for bait is unlawful.
- Suckers larger than 12" may only be transported alive in containers that are not a livewell or other part of a boat and if bought from a licensed facility. Person must have valid receipt from the facility on their person.
- Live bullheads, regardless of size, may not be transported north of State Highway 210, except under a commercial license.
- Up to 100 bullheads, 7-10 inches in length, may be taken and possessed for use as live bait. Legal methods of taking include dip net, angling or minnow seines. Live bullheads must be transported in a container with a locking lid to prevent escape. These bullheads are considered part of the possession limits on pages 27, 60-62, and 67-68. Bullheads less than 7 inches in length are considered minnows and fall under those regulations.

-  • Imported dead bait\* can only be used if it is: (1) from water bodies with negative fish health certification; or (2) preserved under a Minnesota DNR bait preservation permit. All imported dead bait must be labeled, and the labeling must be retained on the person when angling until the bait is gone. \*Bait includes fish (examples: smelt or cisco), aquatic worms, amphibians, invertebrates, and insects that are lawful to use for bait.

-  • Dead bait originating in MN harvested under a commercial minnow license (smelt, cisco, and VHS susceptibles species\*\* only) must also be labeled. Labeling must be retained on the person when angling until the bait is gone. For specific regulations pertaining to Lake Superior, see page 33. For additional information about dead bait, please contact DNR information at 651-296-6157. \*\* Visit [www.focusonfishhealth.org](http://www.focusonfishhealth.org) to learn more about VHS, including which species are susceptible to VHS.

- Only preserved rainbow smelt and cisco may be used as bait, unless harvested, packaged, and labeled under a commercial license from certified VHS negative waterbody. Freezing is not a preservation method. Preservation can only be done by permit from the DNR. All labeling from the preserved smelt and cisco must be carried on the person when angling until all that preserved bait is gone.
-  • If keeping bait, you must exchange water in bait buckets with tap or bottled water prior to leaving any waterbody to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species or fish diseases.

### Other

- A permit is required for transplanting aquatic plants, applying chemicals, and some types of cutting to control vegetation in any public waters. (See page 66

for more information).

- Dragging boat anchors or other weights with a motor-propelled boat through aquatic vegetation is unlawful.
- Littering of any materials and depositing rubbish, poisonous substances, or chemicals harmful to aquatic life into public waters, onto ice, or lake or stream shores is illegal. Fish line and various packaging materials can be harmful to wildlife.
- Marking or tagging fish and then releasing them without a DNR permit is unlawful.
- A DNR permit is required for some fishing contests. Visit [mndnr.gov/fishing/tournaments](http://mndnr.gov/fishing/tournaments) online for more information and to get costs for a permit.
- A permit from the county sheriff is required for most organized events on the water or ice, including fishing contests.
- Buying or selling game fish, whitefish, or cisco is unlawful. The exceptions are smelt taken from Lake Superior and fish obtained under a commercial, private hatchery, or aquatic farm license.
- Some fish spawning areas are posted to prohibit motorized boat travel. Landowners or lease holders adjacent to these areas may use the shortest route when traveling to and from their property, provided they operate their boat at no more than 5 mph.
- **Notice to fall anglers: Lakes classified as Waterfowl Feeding and Resting Areas and Wildlife Management Areas are closed to motorboats as posted during the fall waterfowl hunting season. Refer to the most current hunting regulations for a complete list of these lakes. Please give resting flocks of birds and hunting decoys a wide berth when boating and fishing.**
- Some ponds and lakes are licensed for private aquaculture use. Trespassing to gain access to these waters may be in violation of fishing laws in addition to trespassing laws.
- Any fish that is caught and will not be utilized must be immediately returned alive back into the water. A person cannot wantonly waste a fish that is caught by leaving it or any usable portion on the ice, thrown up on the bank, or intentionally killing it and returning it back into the water unless authorized.
- Lawfully taken fish may be transferred as a gift if accompanied by a receipt containing: name and address of the owner, name and address of recipient, date of transfer, description of the gift, and license number (DNR number or transaction number) under which the fish was taken. The receipt must remain with the gift. The recipient cannot possess more than the statewide possession limit.
-  Drain plugs must be removed from bilges and livewells at the water access. Drain plugs must be out and all other water draining devices must remain open while trailering or transporting boats.

## AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Aquatic invasive species are threatening Minnesota waters. These nonnative species harm fish populations, water quality, and water recreation including fishing. The aquatic invasive species below have become established or been reported in some Minnesota waters (see pages 16 through 25).

You can help prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species by following both the required and recommended actions listed on page 15 before moving equipment, bait, and boats from one waterbody to another.

**Report and provide samples of aquatic invasive species to DNR fisheries offices or the Invasive Species Program if found in inland waters.**

### NEW ZEALAND MUDSNAIL

**Identification:** Up to 1/5" long, light to dark brown, cone-shaped shell, 5-6 whorls



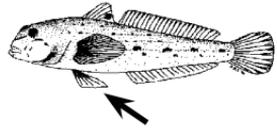
### EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL

**Identification:** 12 to 21 leaflet pairs per leaf



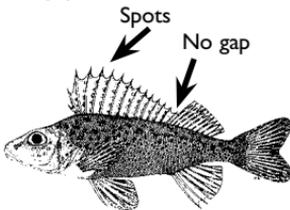
### ROUND GOBY

**Identification:** Single scallop-shaped pelvic fin, fish is usually 3"-6" long



### RUFFE

**Identification:** Spots between rays of dorsal fin, no gap between fins



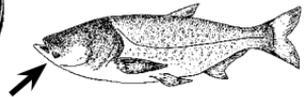
### ZEBRA & QUAGGA MUSSEL

**Identification:** Only freshwater mollusks that attach to objects with byssal threads (up to 1 1/2")



### BIGHEAD & SILVER CARP

**Identification:** Eye located at lower part of head below the mouth; adults can weigh 60 pounds or more; Silver can jump over 10 ft. high



### SPINY WATER FLEA

**Identification:** Long tail, white with black spots, looks like gelatinous globs on fishing line, small (up to 3/8")



### FAUCET SNAIL

**Identification:** Up to 1/2" long, light brown to black, 4-5 whorls





## Required Actions—It’s the law!

✓ **Clean** visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species off watercraft, trailers, and equipment *before* leaving any water access. It is illegal to transport them once you leave the water access.



**new** ✓ **Drain** water from boat, livewell, bilge, and other boating equipment holding water *before* leaving any water access. Drain plugs must be removed from bilges and livewells at the water access. Drain plugs and all other water draining devices must remain open while trailering or transporting boats. Portable bait containers must be drained when leaving *all* waters. If you want to keep your live bait when leaving a lake or river, you must replace water in bait containers with tap or bottled water.



✓ **Dispose** of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches and worms, in the trash. It is illegal to release bait into a waterbody, release worms on the ground, and to release aquatic animals from one waterbody into another.



**new** ✓ **Display** an Aquatic Invasive Species Rules decal, issued by DNR, on watercraft before launching, entering into, or operating on any waters of the state.

## Recommended Actions — Protect our Waters

**Spray, rinse, or dry** boats and recreational equipment *before* transporting to another water body, especially after leaving zebra mussel and spiny waterflea infested waters.

Do one or more of these actions:

- **rinse** with very hot tap water;
- **spray** with high-pressure;
- **dry** for at least 5 days.



**Prohibited Invasive Species:** Several species are designated including silver and bighead carp, Eurasian watermilfoil, New Zealand mudsnail, round goby, ruffe, zebra mussel. Complete list of prohibited invasive species can be found at [mndnr.gov/invasives](http://mndnr.gov/invasives) or by calling the DNR information line.

## Infested Waters

A list of Minnesota's designated infested waters as of March 1, 2012 is arranged alphabetically by the name of the waterbody, on pages 16 through 25. Additional waters may be designated throughout the year as new infestations are discovered—look for orange Invasive Species Alert signs at the access and check the DNR Web site for these updates. Minnesota lakes, rivers, and wetlands, which are designated as infested waters, contain specific invasive species that have a risk of being spread. Regulations restricting bait harvest and transport of water apply at these waters.

### DESIGNATED WATERBODY (COUNTY) AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

#### A

- ALEXANDER** (Morrison) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**ALVIN** (Douglas) Zebra mussel  
**ANN** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**ARBOR NORTH** located in the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of S23, T119N, R22W (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**ARBOR SOUTH** located in the south 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of S23, T119N, R22W (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**ARBOR WEST** located in the SW 1/4 of S23, T119N, R22W DOW # 27-1130 (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**ARROWHEAD** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**ASH RIVER**, downstream of the northern section line of Section 8, Township 68 North, Range 19 West (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea  
**AUBURN** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**AUGUSTA** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

#### B

- BALD EAGLE** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BASS** (Cass) Zebra mussel  
**BASS** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BASS** (Otter Tail) Zebra mussel  
**BASS [RAY]** located in T135N, R29W, Sec 9, 10 (Cass) Zebra mussel  
**BAUDETTE RIVER** from Highway 11 downstream to the Rainy River (Lake of the Woods) Spiny waterflea  
**BAVARIA** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BAY** (Crow Wing) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BEAVER** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BEEBE** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BIG** (Sherburne) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BIG FORK RIVER** from the public water access on Highway 11 downstream to the Rainy River (Koochiching) Spiny waterflea  
**BIG MARINE** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BIG SANDY** (Aitkin) Flowering rush  
**BIRCH** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BISHOP CREEK** between Round and Gull lakes located in section 35, Township 135N, Range 29W (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel  
**BLACK RIVER** the south branch downstream of Highway 11 and the west branch downstream of Highway 147 (Koochiching) Spiny waterflea  
**BONE** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BOOM** (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel  
**BROPHY** (Douglas) Zebra mussel  
**BROWNIE** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil



- BRYANT** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BUCK** (Becker) Flowering rush  
**BUFFALO** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BURANDT** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**BURNSIDE** (St. Louis) Spiny Waterflea  
**BURNSIDE RIVER**, between Burntside Lake and Shagawa Lake (St. Louis) Spiny Waterflea  
**BUSH** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

**C**

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- CALHOUN** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CALHOUN** (Kandiyohi) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CAMP GALILEE** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CANNON** (Rice) Flowering rush  
**CANNON RIVER** from Lower Sakatah to the confluence with the Straight River (Goodhue and Rice) Flowering rush  
**CARIBOU** in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, just west of Pine Lake (Cook) Spiny waterflea  
**CARLOS** (Douglas) Zebra mussel  
**CAROLINE** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CATE'S** (Scott) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CEDAR** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CEDAR** (Rice) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CEDAR** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CENAICO** (Anoka) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CENTERVILLE** (Anoka) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CHARLEY** (Ramsey) Zebra mussel  
**CHISAGO** (Chisago) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CHRISTMAS** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CHUB** (Carlton) Eurasian watermilfoil  
 **CIRCLE** (Rice) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CLEAR** (Waseca) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CLEAR** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
 **CLEARWATER** (Crow Wing) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CLEARWATER** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CLEARWATER RIVER** downstream of Clearwater Lake (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CLOQUET RIVER**, from Island Lake to the St. Louis River (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea  
**COBBLESTONE** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**COLBY** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**COON** (Anoka) Eurasian watermilfoil  
 **COWDRY** (Douglas) Zebra mussel  
**CRANE** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea  
**CROOKED** (Anoka) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CROSS** (Pine) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CROW WING RIVER** downstream of the confluence with the Long Prairie River to the Mississippi River (Cass and Morrison) Zebra mussel  
 **CROW WING RIVER** from Highway 87 in Hubbard County downstream to the confluence with the Mississippi River (Cass, Hubbard, Morrison, Todd, and Wadena) Faucet snail  
**CRYSTAL** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**CRYSTAL** (Otter Tail) Zebra mussel  
**CURFMAN** (Becker) Flowering rush  
**CUT FOOT SIOUX** (Itasca) Faucet snail

**D**

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- DARLING** (Douglas) Zebra mussel

## 2012 Minnesota Fishing Regulations

**DEAD RIVER** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea  
**DEER** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**DEMONTREVILLE** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**DETROIT** (Becker) Flowering rush  
**DEVIL TRACK** (Cook) Spiny waterflea  
**DUTCH** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

### E

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**EAGLE** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**EAGLE** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**EAGLE** (Sherburne) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**EARLEY** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**EAST SYLVIA** was Twin (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**EAST JEFFERSON** (LeSueur) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**EAST TWIN** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea  
**EDINA MILL POND** (Hennepin) Zebra mussel  
**EGG** (Itasca) Faucet snail  
**ELLEN** (Chisago) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**ELMO** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**EMMA** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

### F

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**FIREMEN'S** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**FIRST CROW WING** (Hubbard) Faucet snail  
**FIRST RIVER** (Itasca) Faucet snail  
**FISH** (Chisago) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**FISH** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**FISH** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**FISH** (Otter Tail) Zebra mussel  
**FISH** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea  
**FISH** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel  
**FLORIDA** (Kandiyohi) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**FLOUR** (Cook) Spiny waterflea  
**FOREST** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel  
**FOREST** (Washington) Flowering rush  
**FOX** (Rice) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**FRENCH** (Rice) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**FRENCH** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

### G

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**GALPIN** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GENEVA** (Douglas) Zebra mussel  
**GEORGE** (Anoka) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GEORGE** (Olmstead) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GERMAN** (LeSueur) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GERVAIS** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GILBERT PIT** (St. Louis) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GILCHRIST** (Pope) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GLEASON** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GOOSE** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GRANITE** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GRAY'S BAY OUTLET WETLAND** (Hennepin) Zebra mussel  
**GREEN** (Chisago) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GREEN** (Isanti) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GREEN** (Kandiyohi) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**GREEN'S** (Cass) Zebra mussel

**GREENWOOD** (Cook) Spiny waterflea

**GULL** (Cass) Zebra mussel

**GULL RIVER** (Cass) Zebra mussel

**GUNFLINT** (Cook) Spiny waterflea

## H

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**HALF-MOON** (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**HARRIET** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

**HART** (Itasca) Flowering rush

**HIAWATHA** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel

**HOLLAND** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil

**HOLMAN** (Itasca) Flowering rush

**HOOPER CREEK** downstream of State Highway 172 (Lake of the Woods) Spiny waterflea

**HORSESHOE** (St. Louis) Eurasian watermilfoil

**HOWARD** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

## I

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**ICE** (Itasca) Eurasian watermilfoil

**INDEPENDENCE** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

 **INDIAN** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

**IRENE** (Douglas) Zebra mussel

**ISLAND** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil

**ISLAND** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea

## J

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 **JESSIE** (Douglas) Zebra mussel

**JOHN** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

**JOHNSON CREEK** from the Rainy River upstream to the first road crossing (Lake of the Woods) Spiny waterflea

## K

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**KABETOGAMA** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea

**KELLER** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil

**KELLER** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil

**KIMBALL** (Crow Wing) Eurasian watermilfoil

**KLEZER'S POND** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil

**KNIFE** (Kanabec) Eurasian watermilfoil

**KOHLMANS** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil

## L

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**LAC LA CROIX** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea

**LAC LAVON** (Dakota) Brittle naiad, Eurasian watermilfoil

**LAKE OF THE ISLES** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

**LAKE OF THE WOODS** (Lake of the Woods) Spiny waterflea

**LAKEWOOD CEMETERY** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

**LANGTON** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil

**LE HOMME DIEU** (Douglas) Zebra mussel

**LEECH** (Cass) Eurasian watermilfoil

**LEECH LAKE RIVER** between Mud Lake and Miss. River (Cass) Faucet snail

**LIBBS** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel

**LITTLE BIRCH** (Todd) Eurasian watermilfoil

**LITTLE CUT FOOT** (Itasca) Faucet snail

**LITTLE ELK** (Sherburne) Eurasian watermilfoil

**LITTLE FORK RIVER** from 100 feet upstream of Highway 11 downstream to the Rainy River (Koochiching) Spiny waterflea

**LITTLE JOHN** (Cook) Spiny waterflea

**LITTLE LONG** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

## 2012 Minnesota Fishing Regulations

**LITTLE MARY** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LITTLE MUD** (Meeker) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LITTLE PELICAN** (Otter Tail) Zebra mussel  
**LITTLE RABBIT** (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel  
**LITTLE ROCK** (Benton) Zebra mussel  
**LITTLE ROCK LAKE CHANNEL** (Benton) Zebra mussel  
**LITTLE VERMILION** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea  
**LITTLE WAVERLY** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LITTLE WINNIBIGOSHISH** (Itasca) Faucet snail  
**LIZZIE** (Otter Tail) Zebra mussel  
**LOCKE** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LOEB** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LONG** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LONG** (Isanti) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LONG** located in S30 & 31, T30, R20 (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LONG** located in S5 & 32, T29, R20 (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LONG** located in S17, 20 & 21, T30, R21 (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LONG** (Crow Wing) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LONG PRAIRIE RIVER** (Douglas) Zebra mussel  
**LOON** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea  
**LOTTIE** (Taylor) (Douglas) Zebra mussel  
**LOTUS** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LOUISE MINE PIT** (Crow Wing) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LOVE** (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel  
**LOWER MISSION** (Crow Wing) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LOWER PRIOR** (Scott) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel  
**LOWER TWIN** (Wadena) Faucet snail  
**LUCY** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**LURA** (Blue Earth) Eurasian watermilfoil

## M

**MADISON** (Blue Earth) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MANUELLA** (Meeker) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MAPLE** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MARGARET** (Cass) Zebra mussel  
**MARION** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MARSHAN** (Anoka) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MARY** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MAZASKA** (Rice) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MCCARRON** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MCCOLL** (Scott) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MCFARLAND** (Cook) Spiny waterflea  
**MCKINNEY** (Itasca) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MCPMAHON** (Scott) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MEADOWBROOK** (Hennepin) Zebra mussel  
**MEDICINE** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MELISSA** (Becker) Flowering rush  
**MIDDLE JEFFERSON** (LeSueur) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**MILL** (Becker) Flowering rush  
**MILLE LACS** (Mille Lacs) Eurasian watermilfoil, Spiny waterflea, Zebra mussel  
**MILLE LACS TRIBUTARIES** from their mouth upstream to the first public road (Aitkin, Crow Wing, and Mille Lacs) Eurasian watermilfoil, Spiny waterflea, Zebra mussel  
**MILLER** (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel  
**MILLER CREEK** downstream of State Highway 172 (Lake of the Woods) Spiny waterflea

**MINK** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

**MINNEHAHA CREEK** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil, Flowering rush, Zebra mussel

**MINNEHAHA MARSH** (Hennepin) Zebra mussel

**MINNETONKA** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil, Flowering rush, Zebra mussel

**MINNEWASHTA** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil

**MINNEWASKA** (Pope) Eurasian watermilfoil

**MINNIE-BELLE** (Meeker) Eurasian watermilfoil

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER** from Knutson Dam to the confluence with the White Oak Lake Branch (Cass and Itasca) Faucet snail

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER** downstream of St. Anthony Falls (Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Ramsey, Wabasha, Washington, and Winona) Eurasian watermilfoil

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER** from the mouth of the Pine River in Crow Wing County to the Minnesota-Iowa border (Anoka, Benton, Crow Wing, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Morrison, Ramsey, Sherburne, Stearns, Wabasha, Washington, Winona, and Wright) Zebra mussel

**MITCHELL** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

**MITCHELL** (Sherburne) Eurasian watermilfoil

**MUD** (St. Louis) Zebra mussel

**MUD** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil

**MUSKRAT** (Becker) Flowering rush

## N

**NAMAKAN** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea

**NICCUM'S POND** located in the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of S10, T117N, R24W (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

**NISSWA** (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**NOKOMIS** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel

**NORTH CENTER** (Chisago) Eurasian watermilfoil

**NORTH FOWL** (Cook) Spiny waterflea

**NORTH LINDSTROM** (Chisago) Eurasian watermilfoil

**NORTH TWIN** (Itasca) Eurasian watermilfoil, Flowering rush

**NORTH TWIN** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

**NORTH UNION** (Douglas) Zebra mussel

**NORWAY** (Kandiyohi) Eurasian watermilfoil

## O

**O'DOWD** (Scott) Eurasian watermilfoil

**OGECHIE** (Mille Lacs) Zebra mussel

**OLSON** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil

**ONAMIA** (Mille Lacs) Zebra mussel

**OSCAR** (Douglas) Eurasian watermilfoil

**OSSAWINNAMAKEE** (Crow Wing) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel

**OTTER** (Anoka) Eurasian watermilfoil

**OTTER** (Stearns) Eurasian watermilfoil

**OWASSO** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil

## P

**PARKER'S** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

**PARLEY** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil

**PEAVEY** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel

**PELICAN** (Otter Tail) Zebra mussel

**PELICAN** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

**PELICAN BROOK** from the source at Ossawinnamakee Lake to the Pine River (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**PELICAN RIVER** from Detroit Lake to Muskrat Lake (Becker) Flowering rush

**PELICAN RIVER** from Fish Lake downstream to the Otter Tail River (Otter Tail) Zebra

## 2012 Minnesota Fishing Regulations

mussel

**PELTIER** (Anoka) Eurasian watermilfoil

**PEPIN** (Goodhue) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel

**PHALEN** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil

**PICKERAL** (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**PIERSON** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil

**PIGEON RIVER** downstream of South Fowl Lake (Cook) Spiny waterflea

**PIGEON RIVER** from the Pigeon Dam Lake's dam to Lake Winnibigoshish (Itasca) Faucet snail

**PIKE** (St. Louis) Zebra mussel

**PINE** (Cook) Spiny waterflea

**PINE RIVER** from the mouth of Pelican Brook to the Mississippi River (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**PLEASANT** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel

**POKEGAMA** (Pine) Eurasian watermilfoil

**POND SIX** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil

**POND THREE** located in the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of S4, T28N, R22W (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil

**POWDERHORN** (Hennepin) Brazilian elodea, Eurasian watermilfoil

**POWERS** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil

**PRAIRIE** (Otter Tail) Zebra mussel

**PULASKI** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

## Q

**QUARRY** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil

## R

**RABBITS** (Itasca) Faucet snail

**RAINY** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea

**RAINY RIVER**, from Rainy Lake to Lake of the Woods (Koochiching and Lake of the Woods) Spiny waterflea

**RAMSEY** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

**RAPID RIVER** downstream of Highway 11 to Clementson Bay of the Rainy River (Lake of the Woods) Spiny waterflea

**RAVENS** (Itasca) Faucet snail

**RAVENS FLOWAGE** (Itasca) Faucet snail

**RAY'S** (LeSueur) Eurasian watermilfoil

**REBECCA** (Dakota) Zebra mussel

**REBECCA** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

**REITZ** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil

**RICE** (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**RICE** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

**RILEY** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil

**RIPLEY** (Meeker) Eurasian watermilfoil

**RIPPLE RIVER** between Bay Lake and Tame Fish Lake (Crow Wing) Eurasian watermilfoil

 **ROCK** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

**ROSE** (Otter Tail) Zebra mussel

**ROUND** (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**ROUND** (Hennepin) Brittle naiad, Eurasian watermilfoil

**ROUND** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil

**ROUND** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil

**ROY** (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**ROYAL** (Cook) Spiny waterflea

**ROYAL RIVER** between Little John and North Fowl (Cook) Spiny waterflea

**RUM RIVER** (Anoka, Isanti, Mille Lacs, and Sherburne) Zebra mussel

**RUSH** (Chisago) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**RUTH** (Crow Wing) Eurasian watermilfoil

**S**

**SAGANAGA** (Cook) Spiny waterflea  
**SALLIE** (Becker) Flowering rush  
**SAND** (Pine) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SAND POINT** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea  
**SARAH** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SAUK** (Todd) Eurasian watermilfoil, Flowering rush  
**SAUK RIVER**, from Juergens Lake to Mud Lake (Todd) Flowering rush  
**SCHMIDT** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SCHULTZ** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil  
 **SCHUTZ** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SECOND CROW WING** (Hubbard) Faucet snail  
**SENSKY CREEK** downstream of State Highway 172 (Lake of the Woods) Spiny waterflea  
**SHAKOPEE** (Mille Lacs) Zebra mussel  
**SHELL RIVER** from Lower Twin downstream to the Crow Wing River (Hubbard and Wadena) Faucet Snail  
 **SILVER** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SILVER** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SILVER CREEK** downstream of Highway 11 (Lake of the Woods) Spiny waterflea  
**SNAIL** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SNAKE RIVER** between Lake Pokegama and Cross Lake (Pine) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SNELLING** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SOUTH CENTER** (Chisago) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SOUTH COON** (Anoka) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SOUTH FOWL** (Cook) Spiny waterflea  
**SOUTH LINDSTROM** (Chisago) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SOUTH TWIN** (Itasca) Flowering rush  
**SPECTACLE** (Isanti) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SPIDER** (Cass) Zebra mussel  
**SPOON CREEK** between Keller and Phalen lakes (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**ST. CROIX RIVER** downstream of the Chisago and Washington County Line (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**ST. CROIX RIVER** downstream of the St. Croix Boomsite Recreation Area at river mile 25.4 (Washington) Zebra mussel  
**ST. LOUIS RIVER** downstream of the Cloquet River (Carlton and St. Louis) Spiny waterflea  
**ST. LOUIS RIVER** downstream of the Fond du Lac dam (St. Louis) New Zealand mud snail, Round goby, Ruffe, VHS, White perch  
**ST. LOUIS RIVER** downstream of the mouth of the White Pine River in St. Louis County (St. Louis) Zebra mussel  
**STEIGER** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**STELLA** (Meeker) Eurasian watermilfoil  
 **STONE** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**STONEY** (Douglas) Zebra mussel  
**STURGEON** (Pine) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SUCKER** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel  
**SUGAR** (Itasca) Faucet snail  
**SUGAR** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SUNSET** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SUNSET POND** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil  
**SUPERIOR** (Cook, Lake, and St. Louis) Eurasian watermilfoil, New Zealand mud snail,

## 2012 Minnesota Fishing Regulations

Round goby, Ruffe, Spiny waterflea, VHS, White perch, Zebra mussel

**SUSAN** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil

**SWAN** located in the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of S4, T117N, R23W (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil



**SWEDE** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil

**SWIFT DITCH** downstream of Highway 12 (Roseau) Spiny waterflea

**SYLVIA** (Stearns) Eurasian watermilfoil

### T

**TANAGER** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel

**TETONKA** (LeSueur) Flowering rush

**THIRD RIVER FLOWAGE** (Itasca) Faucet snail

**THIRD RIVER** downstream of Highway 33 (Itasca) Faucet snail

**THOLE** (Scott) Eurasian watermilfoil

**THOMAS** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil

**TOWN LINE** (Cass) Eurasian watermilfoil

**TRIBUTARIES TO SUPERIOR** (Cook, Lake, and St. Louis) Round goby, Ruffe, VHS, White perch

**TURTLE** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil

**TWIN LAKES** (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil

### U

**UNION** (Polk) Eurasian watermilfoil

**UNNAMED [lake]** (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED [quarry]** (Steele) Eurasian watermilfoil

**UNNAMED GRAVEL PIT** located in S 1/2 of S14, T41N, R21W (Pine) Eurasian watermilfoil

**UNNAMED LAKE** (Dakota) Flowering rush

**UNNAMED LAKE** in Springbrook Nature Center (Anoka) Eurasian watermilfoil

**UNNAMED POND** in the NW 1/4 of S14, T117, R22 (Hennepin) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED POND** in Valley Park (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil

**UNNAMED WETLAND** located in S33, T117N, R23W (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

**UNNAMED WETLAND** located in S20, T115N, R22W (Scott) Eurasian watermilfoil

**UNNAMED WETLAND** known as Heine Pond (Dakota) Eurasian watermilfoil

**UNNAMED WETLAND** located in the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of S33, T135, R27 (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED WETLAND** located in the NE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of S3T135, R27 (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED WETLAND** located in the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of S33, T31N, R22W (Anoka) Flowering rush

**UNNAMED WETLAND** located in the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of S33, T46, R30 (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED WETLAND** located in the NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of S2, T46, R30 (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED WETLAND** along Clearwater River (Stearns) Eurasian watermilfoil

**UNNAMED WETLAND** in NE 1/4 of S20 T117N, R21W (Hennepin) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED WETLAND** in the E 1/2 of S13, T117N R22W (Hennepin) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED WETLAND** in the NW 1/4 of S19, T117N, R21W (Hennepin) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED WETLAND** in the SE 1/4 of S11 and NE 1/4 of S14 T117N R22W (Hennepin) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED WETLAND** in the SW 1/4 of S20, T117N, R21W (Hennepin) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED WETLAND** located in the NE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of S2, T46, R30 (Crow Wing) Zebra mussel

**UNNAMED WETLAND** NW 1/4 of S18 T117N, R21W (Hennepin) Zebra mussel

- UPPER GULL** (Cass) Zebra mussel
- UPPER MISSION** (Crow Wing) Eurasian watermilfoil
- UPPER PRIOR** (Scott) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel
- UPPER SAKATAH** (LeSueur) Flowering rush
- UPPER TWIN** (Hubbard) Faucet snail

**Y**

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- VADNAIS** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussel
- VICTORIA** (Douglas) Zebra mussel
- VIRGINIA** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil

**W**

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- WABASSO** (Ramsey) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WABAICA CREEK** downstream of State Highway 172 (Lake of the Woods) Spiny waterflea
- WACONIA** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WARROAD RIVER** from State Highway 11 downstream of Highway 11 (Roseau) Spiny waterflea
- WASHBURN** (Cass) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WASHINGTON** (Meeker) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WASSERMAN** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WAVERLY** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WEIGAND** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WELLS** (Rice) Flowering rush
- WEST SYLVIA** (Wright) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WEST TWIN** (St. Louis) Spiny waterflea
- WHALETAIL** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WHITE BEAR** (Ramsey and Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WHITE PINE RIVER** (St. Louis) Zebra mussel
- WILMES** (Washington) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WINNIBIGOSHISH** (Cass) Faucet snail
- WINONA** (Winona) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WINTER ROAD RIVER, DOWNSTREAM OF STATE HIGHWAY 172** (Lake of the Woods) Spiny waterflea
- WIRTH** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WOLF** (Meeker) Eurasian watermilfoil
- WOLFE** (Hennepin) Eurasian watermilfoil

**Z**

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- ZUMBRA** (Carver) Eurasian watermilfoil
- ZUMBRO** (Olmstead) Zebra mussel
- ZUMBRO RIVER** downstream of Lake Zumbro (Wabasha) Zebra mussel

**Note:** Lakes are listed in the county according to the public waters lists. Some lakes may be located in more than one county.

# SEASONS AND LIMITS

## Inland Waters

- All calendar dates are for 2012 unless noted otherwise.
- Daily and possession limits are the same unless otherwise noted.
- Most species have experimental or special regulations on some waters. See pages 33-54.
- For Lake Superior, Canada, Wisconsin, Iowa, South Dakota, and North Dakota border water regulations, see pages 29-33, 55-66.
- Different limits for conservation license apply (see page 29).

SEASONS AND LIMITS—INLAND WATERS			
SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)	
<b>WALLEYE</b> and <b>SAUGER</b> (either or combined)	May 12, 2012- Feb. 24, 2013	6* (Not more than 1 walleye over 20" in possession)	
<i>*(Minimum size limit 15" for walleye on the inland waters of Pool 3 [dam at Hastings to railroad tracks on the Minnesota–Wisconsin border]).</i>			
<b>NORTHERN PIKE</b>	May 12 2012- Feb. 24, 2013	3 (Not more than 1 over 30" in possession)	
<b>MUSKELLUNGE</b> including <b>HYBRID</b> <b>MUSKELLUNGE</b>	June 2, 2012- Dec. 1, 2012	1 combined (Minimum size 48")	
Exception: 1 combined Minimum size 40" on lakes listed below			
<b>CARVER CO.</b> Eagle Pierson Wasserman	<b>HENNEPIN CO.</b> Bryant Bush Calhoun Cedar	<b>RAMSEY CO.</b> Gervais Island Johanna Phalen Silver	<b>SCOTT CO.</b> Cedar
<b>DAKOTA CO.</b> Crystal Orchard	Crystal Isles Nokomis Weaver		<b>WASHINGTON CO.</b> Clear Elmo
<b>LARGEMOUTH</b> and <b>SMALLMOUTH</b> <b>BASS</b> (either or combined)	May 26, 2012- Feb. 24, 2013 (May 12, 2012- Feb. 24, 2013, north and east of U.S. Hwy. 53 from Duluth to International Falls and Pelican and Ash lakes in St. Louis County.)	6	
<b>SMALLMOUTH BASS</b>	Sept. 10, 2012- Feb. 24, 2013	Catch and Release only (Statewide)	
<b>CRAPPIE</b>	Continuous	10	

*continued on next page*

<b>SEASONS AND LIMITS—INLAND WATERS <i>continued</i></b>		
<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>OPEN SEASON</b>	<b>POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)</b>
<b>SUNFISH*</b> (either or combined) <i>*(bluegill, pumpkinseed, green, orangespotted, longear, warmouth, and their hybrids)</i>	Continuous	20
<b>ROCK BASS</b>	Continuous	30
<b>WHITE BASS</b>	Continuous	30
<b>CHANNEL and FLATHEAD CATFISH</b> (either or combined)	Continuous	5 (Only 1 fish over 24". Not more than 2 can be flathead.)
<b>PERCH</b>	Continuous	20 daily and 40 in possession
<b>BULLHEAD</b>	Continuous	100
<b>WHITEFISH and UNDER-UTILIZED FISH</b> Exception: On Leech Lake Indian Reservation whitefish limit 25 and cisco limit 50. For more information see the DNR Web site.	Continuous	No limit
<b>SMELT</b>	Continuous	No limit
<b>LAKE STURGEON or SHOVELNOSE STURGEON</b> (including Lake Superior and St. Louis River) <i>See pages 55, 56, 58, and 65 for other sturgeon waters and regulations.</i>	Closed	
<b>PADDLEFISH</b>	No open season	
<b>LAKE TROUT</b> <b>Summer,</b> statewide	May 12, 2012- Sept. 30, 2012	2
<b>Winter</b> <i>Lakes outside or partly outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area wilderness (BWCAW) includes all of Clearwater, East Bearskin, Magnetic, Saganaga, Seagull, and Snowbank</i>	Jan. 14, 2012- April 1, 2012 and Jan. 12, 2013- March 31, 2013	2
<i>Lakes entirely within the BWCAW</i>	Dec. 31, 2011- April 1, 2012 Dec. 29, 2012- March 31, 2013	2

OPENER DATES for Walleye, Bass, and Muskie			
	Walleye	Bass	Muskie
2012	May 12	May 26	June 2
2013	May 11	May 25	June 1
2014	May 10	May 24	June 7

- **Cook County:** Gull Lake, Sea Gull River, and Cross River from County Rd 12 to Gunflint Lake are closed to fishing April 1-May 25, 2012.

## Stream Trout

The following regulations apply only to *stream trout* (splake, brook, brown, and rainbow trout) in inland lakes and streams. They *do not* include *lake trout* which are listed under **Inland Waters** (page 27). **Lake Superior tributaries** (pages 29-33) **and Experimental and Special Regulations** (pages 33-54) **are also not covered in this section.**

Calendar dates refer to 2012 unless noted otherwise.

Daily and possession limits are the same.

See page 29 for Conservation License Limits

SEASONS AND LIMITS—STREAM TROUT		
STREAM TROUT	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
<b>STREAMS-Summer</b> Statewide except <i>Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue counties</i>	April 14-Sept. 30	5 combined (Not more than 1 over 16")
<i>Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue counties</i>	April 1-13	Catch-and-release only; barbless hooks only
	April 14-Sept. 14	5 combined (Not more than 1 over 16")
	Sept. 15-Sept. 30	Catch-and-release only; barbless hooks only
<b>STREAMS-Winter</b> <i>Southeast winter catch-and-release season</i>	Jan. 1-March 31	See listing in <i>experimental and Special Regulations page section</i>
<b>LAKES-Summer</b> Statewide	May 12-Oct. 31	5 combined (Not more than 3 over 16")
<b>LAKES-Winter</b> Statewide <i>except below</i>	Jan. 14, 2012- April 1, 2012 and Jan. 12, 2013- March 31, 2013	5 combined (Not more than 3 over 16")
Becker, Beltrami, Cass, Crow Wing, and Hubbard (except for Blue Lake) counties	Winter season closure on lakes in these counties. Does not include lake trout.	

## Stream Trout Regulations

- Fishing hours for stream trout on inland waters are from one hour before sunrise to 11 p.m.
- Only one line is allowed winter or summer when fishing on designated stream trout lakes and designated trout streams.
- Possessing live minnows or using them for bait on designated stream trout lakes is prohibited. Only dried, frozen, or pickled (brined) minnows are allowed. Live leeches are legal to use.
- Taking of any species, including catch and release angling, in designated trout waters during the closed trout season is prohibited.
- Taking minnows or leeches from designated trout waters, except under special permit, is prohibited.
- All stream trout must have head, tail, fins, and skin intact when being transported.
- Rough fish may not be taken by spear, harpoon, archery, or dip net in designated trout lakes or streams.
- The list of Designated Trout Lakes and Streams can be found on the DNR Web site.

## Lake Superior and Its Tributaries

The following regulations have been expanded to clarify for anglers the fishing seasons and limits for Lake Superior and the streams and rivers flowing into it.

Daily and possession limits are the same.

All other species not named are subject to inland regulations.

Posted upstream boundaries on Lake Superior tributaries generally correspond to the areas accessible to anadromous trout and salmon. The boundaries, as well as fish sanctuary areas, are marked with signs. (For boundary locations, see maps on DNR Web site titled “Trout Angling Opportunities in Northeastern Minnesota.”)

Calendar dates refer to 2012 unless noted otherwise.

See below for Conservation License Limits.

### How to figure your bag limit for a Conservation License

- Applies to bag limits established for inland lakes, experimental and special management waters, and border waters.
- Does not apply to size restrictions, but may only have up to the corresponding bag limit. For example: 5 fish with 3 over 10 inches for a Conservation License would be 2 fish with only 2 over 10 inches.

Current daily or possession bag limit	1 fish	Conservation daily or possession bag limit	Catch-and-release
	2 fish		1 fish
	3 fish		1 fish
	4 fish		2 fish
	5 fish		2 fish
	6 fish		3 fish
	8 fish		4 fish
	10 fish		5 fish
	20 fish		10 fish
	25 fish		12 fish
	30 fish		15 fish
	40 fish		20 fish
	50 fish		25 fish
	100 fish		50 fish

## SEASONS AND LIMITS—Lake Superior and Its Tributaries

<b>Brook Trout and Splake combined</b>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Possession Limit</i>	<i>Aggregate Limit with Brown and Rainbow Trout</i>	<i>Size Limit</i>
Lake Superior tributaries in Carlton County (including Nemadji River system and all its tributaries)	April 14- Sept. 30	10	10	Only 1 over 16"
St. Louis River and its tributaries upstream of Fond du Lac Dam	April 14- Sept. 30	5	5	Only 1 over 16"
Lake Superior and other tributaries (not mentioned above) below posted boundaries (including St. Louis River below the Minnesota Highway 23 bridge)	April 14- Sept. 3	1	5	Minimum size limit 20"
Other Lake Superior tributaries above posted boundaries	April 14- Sept. 30	10	10	Only 1 over 16"

<b>Rainbow Trout, including Steelhead</b>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Possession Limit</i>	<i>Aggregate Limit with Brown and Brook Trout, and Splake</i>	<i>Size Limit</i>
Lake Superior tributaries in Carlton County (including Nemadji River system and all its tributaries)				
Clipped Fish*	Continuous	3	10	Minimum size limit: 16"
Unclipped Fish	Continuous	Catch-and-release only		
Lake Superior and other tributaries below posted boundaries (including St. Louis River below Minnesota Highway 23 bridge)				
Clipped Fish*	Continuous	3	5	Minimum size limit: 16"
Unclipped Fish	Continuous	Catch-and-release only		
Lake Superior tributaries above posted boundaries	April 14- Sept. 30	Catch-and-release only		

\*Clipped fish have their adipose fin removed and must show a healed scar (see illustration on page 32).

**SEASONS AND LIMITS—Lake Superior and Its Tributaries**

<b>Brown Trout</b>	<b>Open Season</b>	<b>Aggregate Limit</b> with Brook Trout, Splake, and clipped Rainbow Trout	<b>Size Limit</b>	
Lake Superior tributaries in Carlton County (including Nemadji River system and all its tributaries)	April 14-Sept. 30	5	10	Only 1 over 16"
St. Louis River and its tributaries upstream of Fond du Lac Dam	April 14-Sept. 30	5	5	Only 1 over 16"
Lake Superior and other tributaries below posted boundaries (including St. Louis River below the Minnesota Highway 23 bridge)	Continuous	5	5	Only 1 over 16" Min. size limit 10"
Lake Superior tributaries above posted boundaries	April 14-Sept. 30	5	10	Only 1 over 16"

**SEASONS FOR LAKE SUPERIOR AND ITS TRIBUTARIES  
BELOW POSTED BOUNDARIES\***

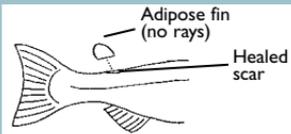
<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>OPEN SEASON</b>	<b>POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)</b>
LAKETROUT	Dec. 1, 2011-Oct 7, 2012 Dec. 1, 2012-Oct. 6, 2013	3
CHINOOK, COHO, PINK, ATLANTIC SALMON	Continuous	5 combined, (only 1 can be an Atlantic salmon) minimum size limit 10"
WALLEYE	May 12, 2012-March 1, 2013	2 (minimum size limit 15")
NORTHERN PIKE	May 12, 2012-March 1, 2013	2
SMELT	Continuous	No Limit

\*Refer to **Inland Waters** (page 26-27) for all species not listed in this section.

## Lake Superior Regulations

- Two lines may be used on Lake Superior, except only one is allowed within 100 yards from where a tributary stream enters the lake. Also, only one line may be used in tributary streams.
- Anglers are restricted to a single hook only—no treble hooks—on Lake Superior tributary streams and rivers up to the posted boundaries. Exceptions are the St. Louis River (St. Louis and Carlton counties) and the Pigeon River (Cook County).
- Angling hours on Lake Superior tributaries below the posted boundaries are from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset. Exceptions are the St. Louis River (St. Louis and Carlton counties) and the Pigeon River (Cook County).
- Special regulations on North Shore streams include posted sanctuaries on the French River, Knife, Little Knife, Devil Track, and Kadunce Rivers and on Gauthier Creek. (See Experimental and Special Regulations, pages 33-54.)
- Unclipped steelhead (rainbow trout) must be immediately released on Lake Superior and its tributaries. A clipped adipose fin, used to identify stocked trout, must show a healed scar (see diagram below). Marking, tagging, or finclipping fish and then releasing them without a DNR permit is unlawful.
- From the mouth of Chester Creek to the outermost portion of the northwest arm of the Duluth ship channel is closed to fishing from boats from Oct. 1 through Nov. 30.
- While on the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior, persons may possess only one daily limit of fish.
- Anyone fishing on the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior must possess a Minnesota angling license and trout stamp validation except as listed on page 6.
- A guide's license is required to operate a charter boat for the purpose of guiding or assisting anglers on the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior and the St. Louis River estuary.
- A person cannot fish on Wisconsin waters of Lake Superior with a Minnesota angling license.
- Smelt may be taken night or day. Artificial lights may not be used to lure or attract smelt. There is no limit on smelt, and smelt from Lake Superior may be bought or sold. However, live smelt may not be possessed or transported.
- Dip nets may be used for taking smelt. Minnow seines not more than 25 feet long or 4 feet deep may be used to take smelt in the St. Louis River and in Lake Superior when more than 100 feet from the mouth of any stream.
- Taking of smelt at any time is prohibited in the following streams tributary to Lake Superior: French River, Sucker River, Little Sucker River (St. Louis County); Silver Creek, Encampment Creek, Crow Creek (Lake County).
- On Lake Superior tributaries below the posted boundaries, a fish that is hooked in any part of the body, except the mouth, must be immediately returned to the water.

**Clipped Adipose Fin**



new

- No fish taken from Lake Superior or its tributaries below the posted boundaries, or the St. Louis River downstream of the Fond Du Lac dam, may be used as bait, except cisco or smelt taken from Lake Superior can be used: 1) fresh or frozen in Lake Superior or its tributaries below the posted boundaries; or 2) on other waterbodies, but only after being preserved under a DNR-issued bait preservation permit. Permit applications are available from the DNR, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155-4020.

## SPECIAL REGULATIONS

### Intensive Management Lakes

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

Different limits apply for Conservation License see page 29.

**MILLE LACS LAKE** including **tributaries** to posted boundaries (Aitkin, Crow Wing, and Mille Lacs counties). No one may fish for any species or possess fishing gear on the lake from 10 p.m.-6 a.m. starting at 10 p.m. on May 14 and ending at 12:01 a.m. on June 11. Closed to winter spearing for all species. Fish reduced to possession may not be culled or live-well sorted.

new

**Northern pike:** All 27-40" must be immediately released. Only one over 40" allowed in possession. **Tullibee (cisco):** possession limit 10. **Walleye:** Restrictions or changes will be posted at public access sites and on DNR Web site. **Smallmouth bass:** all less than 21" must be immediately released. Possession limit one.

**RED LAKE, UPPER** including **Shotley Brook** and **Tamarack River** (Beltrami Co.). **Northern pike:** all from 26-44" must be immediately released. Only one over 44" allowed in possession. **Walleye:** Restrictions or changes will be posted at public access sites and on the DNR Web site.

- A person's statewide bag limit may not include more than current daily bag limit of Red Lake walleye.
- Those portions of Red Lake located within the Red Lake Indian Reservation are closed to non band members except by special authorization of the tribal council.
- The fish carcass retention requirements for these water bodies are still in effect—see page 10.

**NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES** may have differing regulations. Please check with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK** In response to the threat of nonnative/AIS species introductions, the park only allows artificial bait in the interior lakes and prohibits the use of privately owned watercraft and the landing of float planes in these lakes. These regulations do not apply to Rainy, Kabetogama, Namakan, Crane, and Sand Point Lakes. Contact Voyageurs National Park for more information.

## Experimental and Special Regulations

These regulations differ from statewide or border water regulations for those species identified and take precedence. **Unless otherwise specifically mentioned, all general regulations, seasons, limits, border water regulations, possession, and transportation apply to these waters. Please check regulation booklets from other states and other sections of this booklet.**

Regulations are posted at access sites. Your compliance is needed to ensure that these regulations are successful. The regulations help improve fishing quality, protect unique fisheries, provide additional fishing opportunities, or protect threatened species. The DNR regularly evaluates regulations to determine their success.

## Individual Waters

### LAKES (Make sure to also check pages 26-27, 29-32, 48-54, 55-66)

Different limits apply for Conservation License see page 29.

#### A

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**ADA LAKE** (Cass County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**AGNES LAKE** (Douglas County) **bass:** All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

**AITKIN LAKE** including area known as Aitkin Flowage (Aitkin County): see Big Sandy Lake (page 35).

**ALEXANDER LAKE** (Morrison County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**ALICE LAKE** (Itasca County) **northern pike:** All from 22-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession. Possession limit nine.

**ANN LAKE** (Carver County) **largemouth bass:** Catch-and-release only. **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**ANNIE BATTLE LAKE** (Otter Tail County) Use of gas and electric motors, aqua-views, augers, and other electronic fish-finding devices is prohibited. **sunfish:** Possession limit five. **northern pike and largemouth bass:** Catch-and-release only. **black crappie:** Minimum size limit 11". Possession limit five.

**ANNIE BATTLE LAKE INLET** to Molly Stark Lake and **OUTLET** to Blanche Lake (Otter Tail County) **sunfish:** Possession limit five. **northern pike and largemouth bass:** Catch-and-release only. **black crappie:** Minimum size limit 11". Possession limit five.

**ASH LAKE** (St. Louis County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

#### B

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**BALM LAKE** (Beltrami County) **bass:** All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

- BALSAM LAKE** (Itasca County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- BASS LAKE** near Cohasset (Itasca County) **sunfish**: Possession limit five.
- BASS LAKE** near Burtrum (Todd County) north of Long Lake. **walleye**: Possession limit two. **largemouth bass**: Possession limit one. **northern pike**: Minimum size limit 40". Possession limit one.
- BASSWOOD LAKE** (Lake County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession. Protected slot applies to all Minnesota waters of Basswood Lake.
- BATTLE LAKE** (Itasca County) **sunfish**: possession limit 10. **walleye**: All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.
- BATTLE LAKE, WEST** (Otter Tail County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- BEAR CREEK RESERVOIR** [Chester Woods] (Olmsted County) See Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 44.
- BELTRAMI LAKE** (Beltrami County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- BIG BASS LAKE** (Beltrami County) **bass**: All must be immediately released.
- BIG BIRCH** (Todd and Stearns counties) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- BIG LAKE** (Beltrami County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- BIG CARNELIAN LAKE** (Washington County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- BIG FISH LAKE** (Stearns County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- BIG MANTRAP** (Hubbard County) **crappie**: Minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five. **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. Only one over 36" allowed in possession.
- BIG SAND LAKE** (Hubbard County) **walleye**: All from 20-28" must be immediately released. One over 28" allowed in possession.
- BIG SANDY LAKE** and connected waters (Aitkin County): **Aitkin Lake** including area known as Aitkin Flowage, **Davis Lake** including bay known as Steamboat Lake, **Flowage Lake**, **Sandy River Lake**, **Prairie River** from confluence with Tamarack River downstream to confluence with Big Sandy Lake, **Sandy River** from State Highway 210 downstream to confluence with the Mississippi River, and **West Savanna River** from County Highway 14 downstream to confluence with the Prairie River. **Sunfish**: Possession limit five. **Walleye**: All less than 14" or greater than 18" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

- BIG STONE LAKE** (Big Stone County) **walleye:** Possession limit four. One 20" or larger allowed in possession. **crappie:** Possession limit 10. **sunfish:** Possession limit 10.
- BIG SWAN LAKE** (Todd County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- BIRCH LAKE RESERVOIR** (St. Louis and Lake counties) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- BLACKDUCK LAKE** (Beltrami County) **sunfish:** possession limit five.
- BLACKWATER LAKE** (Cass County) **largemouth and smallmouth bass:** All 12" and larger must be immediately released.
- BLACK BASS LAKE** (Mille Lacs County) Use of gas or electric augers, aqua-views, and other electronic fish-finding devices is prohibited. **largemouth and smallmouth bass:** Catch-and-release only. **northern pike:** Catch-and-release only. **sunfish:** Possession limit five.
- BLUEBERRY LAKE** (Wadena County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- BOWSTRING LAKE** including **BOWSTRING RIVER** downstream to County Road 35 bridge (Itasca County) **northern pike:** All from 22-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession. Possession limit nine.

## C

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- CARNELIAN LAKE** (Stearns County) **sunfish:** Possession limit five.
- CASCADE LAKE (Cascade Ponds)** (Olmsted County) see Rochester-Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 44.
- CEDAR LAKE** (Morrison County) **walleye:** Possession limit two. **black crappie:** Possession limit five. **northern pike:** Possession limit one. Minimum size limit 40".
- CENTER LAKE, NORTH and SOUTH** (Chisago County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- CHARLEY LAKE** (Ramsey County) Closed to fishing.
- CHILD LAKE** (Cass County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- CHISAGO LAKE** (Chisago County) **largemouth bass:** All 12" and larger must be immediately released
- CHRISTINA LAKE** (Douglas County) Closed to fishing.
- CLEAR LAKE** (Waseca County) **largemouth bass and smallmouth bass:** Catch-and-release only.
- CLEAR LAKE** (Washington County) **Walleye:** Minimum size limit 17". Possession limit three.
- CLITHERALL LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **smallmouth bass:** Catch-and-release only.
- COON LAKE** (Anoka County) **walleye:** Minimum size limit 17"

- COON-SANDWICK LAKE** (Itasca County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- COTTONWOOD LAKE** (Grant County) **sunfish:** Possession limit five. **walleye:** possession limit three.
- CRANE LAKE** including **VERMILION GORGE** (St. Louis County) **walleye:** All from 17-28" must be immediately released. One over 28" allowed in possession. **sauger/walleye:** Possession limit 6 combined only 4 may be walleye.
- CRAWFORD LAKE** (Wright County) **largemouth bass:** Catch-and-release **sunfish:** Possession limit five. **crappie:** Possession limit five. **walleye:** Possession limit two. **perch:** Possession limit 10.
- CROOKED LAKE** (Anoka County) **largemouth bass:** Catch-and-release only.
- CROOKED LAKE** (Stearns County) **bass:** All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.
- CROW WING LAKES**, 5th and 6th (Hubbard County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- CROW WING LAKES**, 8th, 9th, and 10th (Hubbard County) **northern pike:** Minimum size limit 40". Possession limit one.

## D

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- DAVIS LAKE** (Aitkin County): see Big Sandy Lake (page 35).
- DEEP LAKE** (Ramsey County) Closed to fishing.
- DEER LAKE** (Beltrami County) **bass:** All must be immediately returned to the water. **northern pike:** All from 24" through 36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- DEER LAKE** near Effie (Itasca County) **sunfish:** Possession limit 10. **walleye:** All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.
- DEMONTREVILLE LAKE** (Washington County) **largemouth bass:** Catch-and-release only.
-  **DIXON LAKE** (Itasca County) **sunfish:** Possession limit five.
- DYERS LAKE** (Cook County) **crappie:** Possession limit five. **sunfish:** Possession limit five.

## E

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- ELEPHANT LAKE** (St. Louis County) **northern pike:** Minimum size limit 40". Possession limit one.
- ELK LAKE** (Clearwater County) **muskellunge:** catch-and-release only. **northern pike:** Minimum size limit 40". Possession limit one.
- EUNICE LAKE** (Becker County) **sunfish:** Possession limit five. **black crappie:** Minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five. **largemouth and smallmouth bass:** All from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

## F

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- FARM LAKE** (Lake County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession. **walleye:** (includes the **NORTH BRANCH KAWISHIWI RIVER** from Farm Lake 4.8 miles east to the long portage) All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.
- FARM ISLAND LAKE** (Aitkin County) **walleye:** All from 16-19" must be immediately released.
- FISH TRAP LAKE** (Morrison County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- FLADMARK LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **sunfish:** Possession limit 10. **northern pike and bass:** Catch-and-release only. **crappie:** Possession limit five.
- FLOUR LAKE** (Cook County) **smallmouth bass:** All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.
- FLOWAGE LAKE** (Aitkin County): see Big Sandy Lake (page 35).
- FOSTER AREND LAKE** (Olmsted County) **trout:** Continuous season. Possession limit three. One over 16" allowed in possession. Sunfish, black and white crappie, yellow perch, largemouth bass, northern pike: see Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 44.
- FOX LAKE** (Beltrami County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- FRANKLIN LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **crappie:** Minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five.

## G

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- GAMEHAVEN (Boy Scout Lake WILLOW RESERVOIR NO. 4)** (Olmsted County) See Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 44.
- GARDEN LAKE** (Lake County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession. **walleye:** All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" is allowed in possession.
- GEORGE LAKE** (Hubbard County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- GILBERT LAKE** (Crow Wing County) **crappie:** Possession limit five. **sunfish:** Possession limit five.
- GIRL LAKE** (Cass County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.
- GOODRICH LAKE** (Crow Wing County) **crappie:** Possession limit five. **sunfish:** Possession limit five.
- GOOSE LAKE** (Chisago County) **crappie:** Possession limit five. **walleye:** Minimum size limit 17".
- GRAVE LAKE** (Itasca County) **sunfish:** Possession limit five.
- GREEN LAKE** (Chisago County) **walleye:** Minimum size limit 17".

**GULL LAKE** (Beltrami County) **sunfish**: Possession limit five.

**GULL LAKE** (Cook County) **walleye**: Possession limit is six. One over 19½" allowed in possession.

## H

**HENRY LAKE** (Douglas County) **bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

**HORSESHOE LAKE** (Cass County) near Backus. **crappie**: Possession limit five. **largemouth** and **smallmouth bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released. **northern pike**: Minimum size limit 30". Possession limit one. **sunfish**: Possession limit five. **walleye**: Possession limit three.

**HOVDE LAKE** (Cass County) **largemouth bass**: Catch-and-release only.

**HUBERT LAKE** (Crow Wing County) **largemouth and smallmouth bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released.

**HUNGRY JACK LAKE** (Cook County) **smallmouth bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

## I

**INGUADONA LAKE** and connected **RICE LAKE** (Cass County) **sunfish**: Possession limit ten. **crappie**: Possession limit five.

**ISLAND LAKE** near Northome (Itasca County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession. **walleye**: All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

**ITASCA LAKE** (Clearwater County) **crappie**: Possession limit five. **sunfish**: Possession limit 10.

## J

**JANE LAKE** (Washington County) **largemouth bass**: Catch-and-release only.

**JEWETT LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **largemouth and smallmouth bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

## K

**KABEKONA LAKE** (Hubbard County) **walleye**: All from 18-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession. Possession limit four.

**KABETOGAMA LAKE** including **SULLIVAN BAY** and **ASH RIVER** to Ash River Falls (St. Louis County) **walleye**: All from 17-28" must be immediately released. One over 28 allowed in possession. **sauger/walleye**: Possession limit 6 combined, only 4 may be walleye.

**KALMAR RESERVOIR** (Olmsted County) See Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 44.

**KNIFE LAKE** (Kanabec County) **walleye**: All from 18-24" must be immediately released. **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

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

**LAC QUI PARLE LAKE** upstream to Marsh Lake Dam, including the **Watson Sag** upstream to the diversion dam (Lac Qui Parle and Chippewa counties). **walleye:** Possession limit four. One 20" or larger allowed in possession.

**LAKE OF THE WOODS** including the **Rainy River** from the mouth upstream to the dam in International Falls, **Baudette** and **Winter Road Rivers** (Lake of the Woods and Koochiching counties), and **Warroad River** (Roseau County). **northern pike:** Possession limit is three, with one over 40". All from 30-40" must be immediately released. **walleye and sauger:** See page 57.

**LAKE THIRTEEN** (Cass County) **largemouth bass:** All 12" and larger must be immediately released.

**LEECH LAKE** (Cass County) **walleye:** All from 18-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession. Possession limit four. (See page 27 for whitefish.)

 **LESTER LAKE** (Cass County) **all species:** Catch and release only.

**LIDA LAKE SOUTH and NORTH** including connecting **Mud Lake** (Otter Tail County) **crappie:** Minimum size limit is 11". **walleye:** All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" is allowed in possession.

**LIND LAKE** (Cass County) **sunfish:** Possession limit five.

**LITTLE BOY LAKE** (Cass County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession

**LITTLE CASCADE LAKE** (Cook County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**LITTLE CORMORANT LAKE** (Becker County) **sunfish:** Possession limit five. **black crappie:** Minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five. **walleye:** Minimum size limit 17".

**LITTLE FLOYD LAKE** (Becker County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

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

**LITTLE MCDONALD LAKE INCLUDING KERBS LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **walleye:** All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

**LITTLE SAUK LAKE** (Todd County) **walleye:** Possession limit is two. **largemouth bass:** Possession limit is one. **sunfish:** Possession limit is five.

**crappie:** Possession limit is five. **yellow perch:** Possession limit is 10.

 **LITTLE SPLITHAND LAKE** (Itasca County) **sunfish:** Possession limit five.

**LITTLE TOAD LAKE** (Becker County) **sunfish:** Possession limit 10.

**northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**LITTLE VERMILION LAKE** including **LOON RIVER** to Loon River Falls portage (St. Louis County). **walleye:** All from 17-28" must be immediately released. One over 28" allowed in possession.

**sauger/walleye:** Possession limit 6 combined, only 4 may be walleye.

**LITTLE WOMAN LAKE** (Cass County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**LONG LAKE** near Glen (Aitkin County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

 **LONG LAKE** near Hawick (Kandiyohi County) **largemouth bass:** All 14" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

**LONG LAKE** (Stearns County near Clearwater) **bass:** All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

**LONG LAKE** near Bertrum (Todd County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**LOON LAKE** (Cook County) **northern pike:** Minimum size limit 30". Possession limit one.

## M

**MANDALL LAKE** (Chisago County) **crappie:** Possession limit five. **walleye:** Minimum size limit 17".

**MANOR WOODS POND (Country Club Pond)** (Olmsted County) See Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 44.

**MAPLE LAKE** (Douglas County) **crappie:** Possession limit five, with a minimum size limit of 10".

**MARY LAKE** (Hubbard County) **bass:** Catch-and-release only. **crappie:** Possession limit five. **sunfish:** Possession limit five.

**MAUD LAKE** (Becker County) **sunfish:** Possession limit five. **black crappie:** Minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five. **largemouth and smallmouth bass:** All from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**MEDICINE LAKE** (Beltrami County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**MELISSA LAKE** (Becker County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

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

**MILLE LACS** (See page 33.)

**MINK-SOMERS LAKE** near Maple Lake (Wright County) **sunfish:**

Possession limit five. **crappie:** Possession limit five. **walleye:** Minimum size limit 17". Possession limit three. **largemouth bass:** All from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession. Possession or use of live minnows is prohibited.

**MINNEWASHTA LAKE** (Carver County) **largemouth bass:** Catch-and-release only.

**MINNIE BELLE LAKE** (Meeker County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**MISSION LAKE, LOWER and UPPER** (Crow Wing County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**MITCHELL LAKE** (Crow Wing County) **northern pike:** Minimum size limit 40". Possession limit one.

**MOCCASIN LAKE** (Cass County) **largemouth bass:** Catch-and-release only.

**MOODY LAKE** (Crow Wing County) Closed to fishing.

**MOOSE LAKE** near Deer River (Itasca County) **walleye:** All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

**MOOSE LAKE** (Todd County) **largemouth bass:** All 12" and larger must be immediately released.

**MOVIL LAKE** (Beltrami County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**MULE LAKE** (Cass County) **largemouth and smallmouth bass:** All 12" and larger must be immediately released. **walleye:** Possession limit three.

## **N**

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**NAMAKAN LAKE** (St. Louis County) **walleye:** All from 17-28" must be immediately released. One over 28" allowed in possession.

**sauger/walleye:** Possession limit 6 combined, only 4 may be walleye.

**NORTH SHADY LAKE** (Cook County) **trout:** Catch-and-release only.

Artificial lures and flies with a single hook only. Use and possession of bait prohibited. Closed to winter fishing.

**NORTH STAR LAKE** including **LITTLE NORTH STAR LAKE** (Itasca County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**NORTH TURTLE LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **bass:** All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. **crappie:** Minimum size limit 10".

**NORTH TWIN LAKE** (Beltrami County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**NORWAY LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **largemouth bass:** Catch-and-release only. **walleye:** Possession limit three. **crappie:** Possession limit five. **sunfish:** Possession limit five. **yellow perch:** Possession limit 10.

**O**

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

**OSAKIS and LITTLE OSAKIS LAKES** (Douglas and Todd counties) **walleye**: Minimum size limit 15".

**OTTER TAIL LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **northern pike**: Minimum size limit 30". Possession limit one.

**OX YOKE LAKE** (Cass County) **sunfish**: Possession limit 10.

**OZAWINDIB LAKE** (Clearwater County) **bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. **crappie**: Minimum size limit 10".

**P**

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

**PEARL LAKE** (Stearns County) **walleye**: Possession limit three. Minimum size limit 17". **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**PELICAN LAKE** (St. Louis County) **largemouth and smallmouth bass**: All from 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession. **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**PICKEREL LAKE** (Itasca County) **sunfish**: possession limit 10. **walleye**: All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

**PICKEREL LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **largemouth and smallmouth bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

**PIERZ LAKE (Fish)** (Morrison County) **largemouth bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

**PIMUSHE LAKE** (Beltrami County) **sunfish**: Possession limit five.

**PINE LAKE, BIG and LITTLE** (Otter Tail County) **walleye**: All from 18-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

**PLEASANT LAKE** (Ramsey Co.) Closed to fishing.

**PLEASANT LAKE** (Stearns County) **sunfish**: Possession limit five.

**PORTAGE LAKE** North of Ten Mile Lake (Cass County) **largemouth and smallmouth bass**: Catch-and-release only.

**PRAIRIE LAKE** (St. Louis County) **northern pike**: Minimum size limit 30". Possession limit one.

**Q**

**QUARRY HILL NATURE CENTER POND** (Olmsted County) See Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 44.

**R**

**RABBIT LAKES, BIG and EAST BIG** (Crow Wing County) **northern**

**pike:** From 24" to 36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**RABOUR LAKE** (Chisago County) **crappie:** Possession limit five.  
**walleye:** Minimum size limit 17".

**RACHEL LAKE and LITTLE RACHEL LAKE** (Douglas County)  
**northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**RAINY LAKE** including the **Rainy River** above the dam at International Falls, all of Rainy Lake to the dam at Kettle Falls, **Black Bay** including **Gold Portage** below the rapids, all of the **Rat Root River**, and **Rat Root Lake** (Koochiching and St. Louis counties) **walleye and sauger:** Possession limit eight (not more than four can be walleye). Walleye from 17-28" must be immediately released; One walleye over 28" allowed in possession.)

**RED LAKE** (See page 33)

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

**RICE LAKE** and connected **INGUADONA** (Cass County) **sunfish:** Possession limit ten. **crappie:** Possession limit five.

**ROCHESTER-OLMSTED COUNTY AREA LAKES (OLMSTED COUNTY) INCLUDES:** **BEAR CREEK RESERVOIR** (Chester Woods), **CASCADE LAKE** (Cascade Ponds), **FOSTER AREND LAKE**, **GAMEHAVEN LAKE** (Boy Scout Lake or Willow Reservoir No. 4), **KALMAR RESERVOIR**, **QUARRY HILL NATURE CENTER POND**, **MANOR WOODS POND** (Country Club Pond), **SILVER LAKE**, **SILVER CREEK RESERVOIR**, **WILLOW CREEK RESERVOIR**. The daily and possession limits for the following species apply to the waters listed above as a whole, that is, only one daily and possession limit may be taken from the group of waters that comprise the Rochester-Olmsted County Area Lakes. **Sunfish, black and white crappie, yellow perch:** combined possession limit 10, and only 5 may be black or white crappie. **Largemouth or smallmouth bass:** possession limit one. **Northern pike:** daily and possession limit one applies collectively to a subset of the Rochester-Olmsted County lakes: **CASCADE LAKE, GAME HAVEN LAKE, MANOR WOOD, SILVER LAKE, SILVER CREEK RESERVOIR**

**ROGERS LAKE** (Crow Wing County) **crappie:** Possession limit five.  
**sunfish:** Possession limit five.

**ROUND LAKE** (Crow Wing County) **northern pike:** Minimum size limit 30". Possession limit one.

**ROUND LAKE** near Squaw Lake including the **POPPLE RIVER** downstream to State Highway Bridge 46 (Itasca County) **walleye:** All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession. **northern pike:** All from 22-36" must be immediately



released. One over 36" allowed in possession. Possession limit nine.

**RUSH LAKE, EAST and WEST** (Chisago County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

## S

**SAGANAGA LAKE** (Cook County) **walleye**: Possession limit six. One over 19½" allowed in possession.

**SALLIE LAKE** (Becker County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**SANBURN LAKE** (Cass County) **sunfish**: Possession limit 10.

**SAND LAKE** including connecting **BIRDS EYE LAKE, LITTLE SAND LAKE, PORTAGE LAKE, and BOWSTRING RIVER** upstream to County Road 35 bridge and downstream to mouth of Rice Lake (Itasca County) **northern pike**: All from 22-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession. Possession limit nine.

**SAND LAKE** (Lake County) **sunfish**: Possession limit five.

**SAND POINT LAKE** (St. Louis County) **walleye**: All from 17-28" must be immediately released. One over 28" allowed in possession. **sauger/walleye**: Possession limit 6 combined, only 4 may be walleye.

**SANDY RIVER LAKE** (Aitkin County): see Big Sandy Lake (page 35).

**SEWELL LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **largemouth and smallmouth bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

**SHAMINEAU LAKE** (Morrison County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**SILVER CREEK RESERVOIR** (Olmsted County) See Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 44.

**SILVER LAKE** (Olmsted County) See Rochester–Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 44.

**SISSABAGAMAH LAKE** (Aitkin County) **northern pike**: All from 20-30" must be immediately released. One over 30" allowed in possession.

**SOUTH FARM LAKE** (Lake County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession. **walleye**: All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

**SOUTH LINDSTROM LAKE** (Chisago County) **largemouth bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released.

**SOUTH TWIN** (Beltrami County) **bass**: All must be immediately released.

**SPIDER LAKE** (Hubbard County) **crappie**: Minimum size limit 10".

**SPIDER LAKE** (Itasca County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

new

**SPLITHAND LAKE** (Itasca County) **walleye**: All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession. **black crappie**: Possession limit five. **sunfish**: possession limit five.

**SQUARE LAKE** (Washington County) **trout**: Catch-and-release from May 12 through June 9 and from October 1 through October 31. Remainder of the summer and winter seasons the possession limit for trout is two.

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

**ST. OLAF LAKE** (Waseca County) **northern pike**: Minimum size limit 30". Possession limit one.

**STAR LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **sunfish**: Possession limit 10.

**STIEGER LAKE** (Carver County) **northern pike and largemouth bass**: Catch-and-release only.

**STONY LAKE** (Cass County) **largemouth bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

**STUART LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **black crappie**: Minimum size limit 10".

**STURGEON LAKE** (Pine County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession

**SUGAR LAKE** (Wright County) **crappie**: Possession limit five. **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**SWAN LAKE** (Itasca County) **walleye**: All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

**SYLVAN LAKE** (Cass County) near Pillager. **crappie**: Possession limit five. **sunfish**: Possession limit five.

**SYLVIA LAKE, EAST AND WEST** (Wright County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**T**

**TEN MILE LAKE** (Cass County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**TEN MILE LAKE, NORTH and SOUTH** (Otter Tail County) **largemouth and smallmouth bass**: Minimum size limit 21". Possession limit one.

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

**THREE ISLAND LAKE** (Beltrami County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

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

**TOMATO LAKE** (Cook County) **trout**: Catch-and-release only. Artificial

lures and flies with a single hook only. Use and possession of bait prohibited. Closed to winter fishing.

**TROUT LAKE** Near Coleraine (Itasca County) **walleye**: All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

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

**TURTLE LAKE** (Itasca County) **smallmouth bass**: All from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

**TURTLE LAKE** (Ramsey County) **largemouth bass**: Catch-and-release only.

**TURTLE, BIG and LITTLE LAKE** (Beltrami County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**TURTLE RIVER LAKE** (Beltrami County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**TWENTYONE LAKE** (Otter Tail County) **sunfish**: Possession limit 10. **northern pike and bass**: Catch-and-release only. **crappie**: Possession limit five.

**TWO ISLAND LAKE** (Cook County) **smallmouth bass**: All 12" and larger must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

## V

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

**VERMILION LAKE** (St. Louis County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**walleye**: All from 18-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession. Possession limit four.

## W

**WABEDO LAKE** (Cass County) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

**WACONIA LAKE** (Carver County) **walleye**: Minimum size 16".

**WHITE IRON LAKE** (St. Louis and Lake counties) **northern pike**: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. Only one over 36" allowed in possession. **walleye**: All from 17-26" must be immediately released. Only one over 26" allowed in possession.

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

**WILLOW CREEK RESERVOIR** (Olmsted County) See Rochester-Olmsted County Area Lakes on page 44.

**WINNIBIGOSHISH LAKE** and connected waters (Beltrami, Cass, Itasca counties): **Mississippi River** to Knutson Dam, **Third River Flowage** to Little Dixon Lake, **Pigeon River** to Pigeon Lake Dam, **First River**,

**Egg Lake through Cut Foot Sioux Lake, Raven Flowage** to Raven Lake, and **Sugar Lake. walleye:** All from 17-26" must be immediately released. One over 26" allowed in possession.

**WOMAN LAKE** (Cass County) **northern pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 36" allowed in possession.

## STREAMS AND RIVERS

(Make sure to check pages 26-27, 29-32, 34-48, 55-66.)

Different limits apply for Conservation License see page 29.

### A

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**ASH RIVER:** See Kabetogama Lake page 39.

### B

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**BAUDETTE RIVER** See Lake of the Woods page 40.

**BEAVER CREEK** (Wabasha and Winona counties) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on the entire stream, a 6.3-mile posted section from the mouth to the source. All hooks must be barbless.

**BEAVER CREEK, EAST** (Houston County) **trout:** All from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream (Beaver Creek Valley State Park). **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on the entire stream (Beaver Creek Valley State Park). All hooks must be barbless during winter season.

**BEAVER CREEK, WEST** (Houston County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31, on a 1.9-mile posted section from the point where West Beaver Creek joins East Beaver Creek in Beaver Creek Valley State Park upstream to the posted boundary. All hooks must be barbless.

**BEE CREEK** (Houston County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31, on a 1.6-mile posted section from the Minnesota State Line in Bee, upstream to the posted boundary at a driveway crossing. All hooks must be barbless.

**BELLE CREEK** (Goodhue County) **trout:** Catch-and-release on a 7.3 mile posted section from the confluence with the Cannon River upstream to Hwy 19.

**BOWSTRING RIVER:** See Bowstring Lake (page 36) and Sand Lake (page 45).

### C

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**CAMP CREEK** (Fillmore County) **trout:** catch-and-release on a 2.7-mile posted section from 0.8 miles above the confluence with the Root River, South Branch upstream 2.7 miles. Artificial lures and flies only. Note: On the third Saturday in May statewide regulations apply to the posted section of the stream. **winter:** catch-and-release for trout from Jan. 1-March 31, on posted section from mouth upstream 3½ miles. All hooks must be barbless during the winter season.

**CANFIELD CREEK (South Branch Creek)** (Fillmore County) **trout:** All from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream. Artificial lures and flies only. **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on the entire section (Forestville State Park). All hooks must be barbless.

**COOLRIDGE CREEK** (Winona County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 0.13-mile posted section from Pine Creek to the posted boundary. All hooks must be barbless.

**CROOKED CREEK** (Houston County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 6.4-mile posted section from the first township bridge 1 mile upstream of Freeburg to the posted boundary near the source, 1½ miles upstream of the uppermost Hwy. 249 bridge crossing. All hooks must be barbless

**CROOKED CREEK, SOUTH FORK** (Houston County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 1½-mile posted section from the junction with Crooked Creek to the posted boundary downstream of the reservoir. All hooks must be barbless.

## D

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**DALEY CREEK** (Houston County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 2½-mile posted section from the Hwy. 16 crossing upstream to the posted boundary at the fourth stream crossing. All hooks must be barbless.

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

**DIAMOND CREEK** (Fillmore County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 5.25-mile posted section from third stream crossing upstream of the Hwy. 16 bridge to the source of both branches. All hooks must be barbless.

**DUSCHEE CREEK** (Fillmore County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on the posted section from mouth upstream 5½-miles. All hooks must be barbless

## E

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**EAGLE CREEK** (Scott County) **trout:** Catch-and-release only.

## F

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**FERGUSON CREEK** (Winona County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 1.25-mile posted section beginning where Ferguson Creek enters Rush Creek and continuing upstream to the posted boundary at the spring source. All hooks must be barbless.

**FIRST RIVER:** See Winnibigoshish Lake (page 47).

**FORESTVILLE CREEK** [North Branch Creek] (Fillmore County) **trout:** All from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream. **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on the entire stream. All hooks must be barbless during winter season.

**FRENCH RIVER:** (St. Louis County) Fish sanctuary: Lake Superior to the new Hwy. 61 are closed to fishing.

**G**

**GARVIN BROOK** (Winona County) **trout:** All from 12-16" must be immediately released from the Hwy. 14 crossing to the source. Artificial lures and flies only. **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 1-mile posted section from Farmers Park to the end of State Forest land. All hooks must be barbless.

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

**GRIBBEN CREEK** (Fillmore County) **trout:** All from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream. Artificial lures and flies only. **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1- March 31 on a 3.8-mile posted section from the Hwy. 16 bridge to the source. All hooks must be barbless during winter season.

**H**

**HAY CREEK** (Goodhue County) **trout:** All from 12-16" must be immediately released on a 4-mile posted section from 325th Street downstream. Artificial lures and flies only. **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 7.6-mile posted section, from 325th Street bridge to the boundary of State Forest land in Section 12. All hooks must be barbless.

**HEMINGWAY CREEK** (Winona County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 0.8-mile posted from Pine Creek to the posted boundary where the State Forest land ends. All hooks must be barbless.

**K**

**KADUNCE RIVER** (Cook County) **fish sanctuary:** Mile 0.2 (lower falls) to Mile 0.4 open to fishing from June 1-August 31.

**KEDRON CREEK** (Fillmore County) **trout:** Catch-and-release on the entire stream. Artificial lures and flies only.

**KNIFE RIVER** (St. Louis and Lake counties) **fish sanctuary:** River and tributaries upstream from Lake County Road 9 open to fishing from May 15-Sept. 30. The river between the cables upstream of the U.S. Highway 61 bridge open to fishing from June 1-August 31. U.S. Highway 61 bridge downstream to the cable below the fish trap is permanently closed to fishing.

**KNIFE RIVER, LITTLE** (St. Louis County) **fish sanctuary:** From the weir upstream to the source, fishing is allowed from June 1-August 31.

**L**

 **LAWNDALE CREEK** (Wilkin County) **brook trout:** Catch and release only for brook trout on a 3.5-mile posted section within Atherton Wildlife Management Area. Artificial lures and flies only. All hooks must be barbless.

**LOGAN CREEK** (Olmsted County) **trout:** All from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream from the confluence with the

Whitewater River, North Branch upstream to the source. Artificial lures and flies only.

**LOON RIVER** See Little Vermilion Lake (page 41).

## M

**MAHOODS CREEK** (Fillmore County) **trout**: All from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream.

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER VALLEY** (Ramsey, Washington, Hennepin, and Dakota counties) **walleye, sauger, smallmouth bass, and largemouth bass**: Catch-and-release with a continuous season in the following stretches: a) Minnesota River downstream from the Mendota Bridge; b) Minnehaha Creek downstream from Minnehaha Falls; and c) Pool 2 of the Mississippi River between the Hastings Dam and the Ford Dam, including all backwater lakes and connecting waters except Crosby Lake, Pickerel Lake, Upper Lake, Little Pigs Eye Lake, and North Star Steel Lake.

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER** from Blandin Dam downstream to Coon Rapids Dam (Itasca, Aitkin, Crow Wing, Morrison, Benton, Sherburne, Wright, Anoka, and Hennepin counties) **muskellunge**: Catch-and-release only.

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER** (Sherburne, Stearns and Wright counties) **smallmouth bass**: From the confluence of the Crow River upstream to the St. Cloud Dam, including tributaries to the posted boundaries, the possession limit is three, with one over 20". All from 12-20" must be immediately released.

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER POOLS 5, 5A, AND 8** (Wabasha, Houston, and Winona counties) MN waters only **sunfish**: Possession limit 10.

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER** See Winnibigoshish Lake (page 47).

**MONEY CREEK, WEST BRANCH** (Winona County) **winter**: Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 3.14-mile posted section upstream from the County Road 19 stream crossing to the source. All hooks must be barbless.

## O

**OTTER TAIL RIVER** (Otter Tail, Becker, and Wilkin counties) **smallmouth bass**: Catch-and-release from Wilkin County Road 19 crossing upstream to the Friberg Dam including all impoundments, and from Otter Tail County Highway 51 upstream to the Hubbel Pond Dam including Mud, Rice, and Town Lakes.

## P

**PIGEON RIVER**: See Winnibigoshish Lake (page 47).

**PINE CREEK** (Winona County) **trout**: Winter catch-and-release season Jan. 1-March 31, on a 5.6-mile posted section from Rush Creek to the posted boundary where State Forest land ends. All hooks must be barbless.

**PRAIRIE RIVER** (Aitkin County): see Big Sandy Lake (page 35).

**PRAIRIE RIVER** from Prairie Lake Dam downstream to Mississippi River (Itasca County) **muskellunge**: Catch-and-release only.

## R

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**RAINY RIVER: northern pike**: See Lake of the Woods (page 40).  
**walleye and sauger**: See Rainy Lake (page 44) and border water (page 57).

**RAT ROOT RIVER**: See Rainy Lake (page 44).

**RAVEN FLOWAGE**: See Winnibigoshish Lake (page 47).

**RED LAKE TRIBUTARIES**: See Red Lake (page 33).

**ROOT RIVER, MIDDLE BRANCH** (Fillmore County) **trout**: Catch-and-release on the entire stream.

**ROOT RIVER, SOUTH BRANCH** (Fillmore County) **trout**: All from 12-16" must be immediately released on a 4.8-mile posted section within Forestville State Park. **winter**: Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 from the mouth to the dam in Lanesboro, and from the historic bridge (Meighen's Store) to the park boundary. All hooks must be barbless during winter season.

**ROOT RIVER, SOUTH FORK** (Fillmore County) **trout**: Catch-and-release on a 7.7-mile section from County Road 12 upstream to the source. Artificial lures and flies only. **winter**: Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 from Nepstad (Shattuck) Creek to the upper boundary of the Hvoself W.M.A. All hooks must be barbless during winter season.

**RUSH CREEK** (Winona County) **winter**: Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 6.4-mile posted section from the southern-most County Road 25 bridge crossing to the posted boundary. All hooks must be barbless.

## S

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**SANDY RIVER** (Aitkin County): see Big Sandy Lake (page 35).

**SEA GULL RIVER** (Cook County) **walleye**: Possession limit is six. One over 19½" allowed in possession.

**SHOTLEY BROOK** (from Hwy 72 West to Upper Red Lake): See Red Lake (page 33).

**ST. CROIX RIVER** (see pages 64-66).

**ST. LOUIS RIVER** (St. Louis County) **fish sanctuary**: No fishing allowed at any time from the Fond du Lac Dam downstream to the Minnesota–Wisconsin boundary cable. No fishing allowed from the boundary cable downstream to the Hwy. 23 bridge from March 4-May 18. **muskellunge**: Minimum size limit 50" on only the Minnesota–Wisconsin border waters. **sturgeon**: closed

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

**SPRING VALLEY CREEK** (Fillmore County) **trout:** All from 12-16" must be immediately released on a 6.8-mile posted section from Deer Creek upstream to Fillmore Township Road 359.

**SWEDES BOTTOM CREEK** (Houston County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 1-mile posted section from the township road bridge to the source. All hooks must be barbless.

## T

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**TAMARACK RIVER** (from the Beltrami County line west to Upper Red lake. See Red Lake (page 33).

**THIRD RIVER FLOWAGE:** See Winnibigoshish Lake (page 47).

**TORKELSON CREEK** (Fillmore County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on the 2.1-mile posted section from the North Branch Root River to the source. All hooks must be barbless.

**TROUT RUN CREEK** (Fillmore County) **trout:** All from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream. Artificial lures and flies only.

**TROUT RUN CREEK** (Winona County—Whitewater State Park) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 1-mile posted section from the mouth to the end of State Park property. All hooks must be barbless.

**TROUT VALLEY CREEK** (Winona County) **brook trout:** Minimum size limit 12". Possession limit one. Artificial lures and flies only. **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 1.25-mile posted section from the uppermost Winona County Road 31 bridge crossing downstream to the next Winona County Road 31 bridge. All hooks must be barbless.

## V

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**VERMILION GORGE** See Crane Lake (page 37).

**VERMILION RIVER** including all tributaries to their source (Dakota County) **trout:** All must be immediately returned to the water within a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile reach from the Highview Avenue bridge in Eureka Township to the posted boundary 1.1 miles downstream from the U.S. Hwy. 52 bridge. Except statewide regulations will apply on the 2-mile reach of the main stem from Denmark Avenue to the State Hwy. 3 bridge in Farmington.

## W

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**WARROAD RIVER** See Lake of the Woods (page 40).

**WATSON SAG** See Lac Qui Parle (page 40).

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

**WEST SAVANNA RIVER** (Aitkin County): see Big Sandy Lake (page 35).

**WHITEWATER RIVER, MAIN BRANCH** (Winona County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 11.9-mile posted section from the Wabasha County line upstream to the Middle and North branches of the Whitewater River. All hooks must be barbless.

**WHITEWATER RIVER, MIDDLE BRANCH** (Winona and Olmsted counties) **trout:** Catch-and-release on a 9.2-mile posted section from the group camp in Whitewater State Park upstream to the source. Artificial lures and flies only. **winter:** Catch-and-release season for trout from Jan. 1 through March 31 on a 11.2-mile posted section from the mouth upstream to Olmsted County Road 9. All hooks must be barbless.

**WHITEWATER RIVER, NORTH BRANCH** (Wabasha, Olmsted and Winona counties) **trout:** All from 12-16" must be immediately released on a 12.1 mile posted section from Township Road 29 upstream to County Road 4. Artificial lures and flies only. **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 7.7-mile posted section from the mouth upstream to Logan Creek. All hooks must be barbless during winter season

**WHITEWATER RIVER, SOUTH BRANCH** (Winona County) **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on a 3.8-mile posted section from the mouth to 1 mile upstream of County Road 112. All hooks must be barbless.

**WINTER ROAD RIVER** See Lake of the Woods (page 40).

**WISEL CREEK** (Fillmore County) **trout:** All from 12-16" must be immediately released on the entire stream. **winter:** Catch-and-release for trout Jan. 1-March 31 on the 4-mile posted section from County Road 18 downstream to the South Fork of the Root River. All hooks must be barbless.

## Z

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

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

## For Your Information

### Fish Diseases

Diseases, such as VHS, largemouth bass virus, and heterosporis can harm game fish populations. These diseases can be moved from one lake to another in the water. To prevent the spread or introduction of diseases you are required to drain water from livewells and bilges before transporting boats and equipment. See DNR Web site for more information.

# BORDER WATERS

## Licensing

**Canada-Minnesota Border Waters:** Anglers who have a Minnesota resident or nonresident license may fish only the Minnesota portion of Canada's border waters.

**Other Borders:** Minnesota shares border waters with each of its bordering states: Wisconsin, Iowa, South Dakota, and North Dakota. Residents of Minnesota or a bordering state may fish throughout the waters bordering the two states only if they possess a valid resident license from their resident state. Nonresident anglers who have a nonresident license from either Minnesota or the bordering state may also fish throughout the border waters between the two states. Anglers may launch, fish waters from shore to shore, and may transport their catch by the most direct route to the state in which they are licensed. This includes children who are not required to have a license. Lake Superior is not covered under this agreement and is not considered a border water. (See pages 29-33 for Lake Superior regulations.)

When Minnesota's fishing regulations differ from a bordering state's regulations, Minnesota residents and persons fishing under a Minnesota nonresident license must comply with the Minnesota regulations. They may only exercise the other state's more liberal fishing privileges in the territorial waters of that state with that state's license. **Please check other state regulation booklets and the Experimental and Special Regulations section of this booklet (pages 33-54) for different regulations that might apply.**

Unless otherwise noted, all general regulations relating to angling methods, licensing, seasons, limits, possession and transportation of fish, apply to border waters (see pages 9-13). While on or fishing these waters, all fish must be within the specified length limits regardless of where caught.

The bowfishing regulations on page 68 are allowed only on Minnesota's portion of the border waters when they differ from those of the border state. If the bowfishing regulations are the same then they may be exercised from shore to shore.

## Lake Sturgeon Tags

**Lake sturgeon tags and mail-in registration cards are required for anyone\* who wishes to harvest and possess a lake sturgeon.** The following requirements apply:

- An angler may take and possess only one lake sturgeon per calendar year.
- Lake sturgeon may not be possessed or transported without a tag. Validate and attach the tag immediately upon reducing the fish to possession.
- Tag must be attached to the narrow portion of the body in front of the tail fin.

- Tags must be attached so that they cannot be easily removed.
- Tags are not transferable and no duplicate tags will be issued.
- **Registration cards must be completed and mailed within 48 hours after harvesting a fish.** Send to: Regional Fisheries, 2115 Birchmont Beach Rd NE, Bemidji, MN 56601.
- Lake sturgeon must be transported intact (gills and internal organs may be removed).
- Members of a fishing party may not take sturgeon for other anglers limits.

**Note:** Catch-and-Release can be done where seasons are open with only a valid fishing license.

\* Including those otherwise exempt from angling license requirements.

### Dates

All calendar dates refer to 2012 unless noted otherwise.

## CANADA-MINNESOTA

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

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

**Koochiching and Lake of the Woods counties:** Rainy River.

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

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

**Lake and St. Louis counties:** Crooked Lake.

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

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

Daily and possession limits are the same unless otherwise noted. See page 29 for Conservation License limits.

## Tax time is your time to help wildlife



Look for the line with the loon on your Minnesota tax form and donate to the Nongame Wildlife Checkoff. It's fast, easy, and tax deductible. Be part of a wildlife success story.

## BORDER WATERS—CANADA—MINNESOTA

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
<b>WALLEYE</b> and <b>SAUGER</b> (either or combined)	May 14, 2011 - April 15, 2012 May 12, 2012 - April 14, 2013	6 (No size restriction.)
<b>Exceptions:</b> <i>Lake of the Woods</i>	May 12, 2012 - Nov. 30, 2012	6 (Not more than 4 can be walleye; only 1 walleye over 28"; walleye 19½" through 28" must be immediately released.)
	Dec. 1, 2011 - April 15, 2012 Dec. 1, 2012 - April 14, 2013	8 (Not more than 4 can be walleye; only 1 walleye over 28"; walleye 19½" through 28" must be immediately released.)
<i>Four Mile Bay (SE bay of Lake of the Woods)</i>	March 1, 2012 - April 15, 2012	2 (Walleye 19½" and larger must be immediately released.)
	May 12, 2012 - Nov. 30, 2012	6 (Not more than 4 can be walleye; only 1 walleye over 28"; walleye 19½" through 28" must be immediately released.)
	Dec. 1, 2012 - Feb. 28, 2013	8 (Not more than 4 can be walleye; only 1 walleye over 28"; walleye 19½" through 28" must be immediately released.)
<i>Namakan, Sand Point, and Little Vermilion</i>	May 14, 2011 - April 15, 2012 May 12, 2012 - April 14, 2013	6 (Not more than 4 can be walleye; walleye from 17" through 28" must be immediately released; only 1 walleye over 28".)
<i>Rainy Lake</i>	May 14, 2011 - April 15, 2012 May 12 2012 - April 14, 2013	8 (Not more than 4 can be walleye; walleye from 17" to 28" must be immediately released; only 1 walleye over 28".)
<i>Rainy River</i>	March 1, 2012 - April 15, 2012	2 (Walleye 19½" and larger must be immediately released.)
	May 12, 2012 - Feb. 28, 2013	6 (Only 1 walleye over 28".) Not more than 4 can be walleye; walleye 19½"-28" must be immediately released.
<i>Saganaga Lake</i>	May 12, 2012 - April 14, 2013	6 (Only 1 walleye over 19½".)

**BORDER WATERS—CANADA—MINNESOTA**

<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>OPEN SEASON</b>	<b>POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)</b>
<b>NORTHERN PIKE</b>	Continuous	3 (Only 1 over 30".)
<b>Exceptions:</b> <i>Lake of the Woods, the Rainy River to the dam at International Falls and the Warroad, Baudette, and Winter Road Rivers (tributaries to Lake of the Woods and Rainy River)</i>		3 (Only 1 over 40"; all northern pike from 30" through 40" must be immediately released.)
<i>Basswood Lake Including Jackfish Pipestone, Hoist, and Back bays.</i>	May 12, 2012-Feb. 24, 2013	3 (Only 1 over 36".) All northern pike from 24" through 36" must be immediately released.
<b>MUSKELLUNGE</b>	June 16-Nov. 30	1 (Minimum size 40".)
<b>LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS</b> (either or combined)	Continuous	6
<b>LAKE STURGEON</b>	April 24-May 7 and July 1-Sept. 30	1 per calendar year. (Fish must be 45-50", inclusive, or over 75".) Immediately upon reducing a fish to possession, you must validate and attach your sturgeon tag. Harvested sturgeon must be registered within 48 hours. See page 55-56 for more details.
	May 8-May 15 and Oct. 1, 2012- April 23, 2013	Catch-and-release only. (No tag needed.)
<b>CRAPPIE</b>	Continuous	10
<b>LAKE TROUT</b>	May 12, 2012- Sept. 30, 2012	2
<b>Winter</b> <i>Lakes outside or partly outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) includes all of Clearwater, East Bearskin, Magnetic, Saganaga, Seagull, and Snowbank.</i>	Jan 14, 2012 April 1, 2012 Jan. 12, 2013- March 31, 2013	2
<i>Lakes entirely within the BWCAW</i>	Dec. 31, 2011- April 1, 2012 Dec. 29, 2012- March 31, 2013	2
<b>STREAM TROUT</b>	April 28-Sept. 30	5 (Not more than 3 over 16".)
<b>ALL OTHER SPECIES</b>	Continuous	Inland limits apply

## CANADA–MINNESOTA Regulations

- One line per angler is allowed, except two lines may be used when ice fishing.
- Saganaga Narrows is closed to fishing April 1-May 25, 2012.
- Saganaga Falls (Granite River mouth) and the channel between Little Gunflint and Little North lakes are closed to fishing April 1-May 31, 2012.
- Dark houses, fish houses, and shelters see pages 69-72.
- While in Minnesota, anglers may not possess more than a Minnesota limit of fish from Canada-Minnesota border waters. Fish from Canadian inland waters may be possessed in Minnesota in excess of the Minnesota limit only if the angler has proof—such as lodging receipts or verification through U.S. Customs—that the fish were taken from inland Canadian waters.
- A person cannot possess or use a gaff while fishing on the Rainy River.
- Dressed sauger count as walleye (see page 11).
- Bowfishing (Minnesota’s portion of the waters only) see page 68.

## IOWA–MINNESOTA

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

**Jackson County:** Little Spirit Lake.

**Jackson and Nobles counties:** Iowa Lake.

**Martin County:** Okamanpeedan (Tuttle), Iowa, and Swag lakes.

Daily and possession limits are the same.

See page 29 for Conservation License limits.

### BORDER WATERS—IOWA–MINNESOTA

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
<b>WALLEYE</b>	April 28, 2012- Feb. 15, 2013	6
<b>NORTHERN PIKE</b>	April 28, 2012- Feb. 15, 2013	3
<b>LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS</b> (either or combined)	April 28, 2012- Feb. 15, 2013	6
<b>CATFISH</b>	April 28, 2012- Feb. 15, 2013	8
<b>SUNFISH*</b> (either or combined) <i>*(bluegill, pumpkinseed, green, orangespotted, longear, warmouth, and their hybrids)</i>	Continuous	30
<b>CRAPPIE</b>	Continuous	15
<b>PERCH</b>	Continuous	30

**BORDER WATERS—IOWA—MINNESOTA** (continued)

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
<b>WHITE BASS</b>	Continuous	30
<b>BULLHEAD</b>	Continuous	No Limit
<b>UNPROTECTED FISH</b> ( <i>carp, sucker, redhorse, sheepshead, buffalo, burbot, bowfin, gar, and quillback</i> )	Continuous	No Limit

All species not listed above are covered by the inland regulations of the state where taken.

**IOWA—MINNESOTA Regulations**

- Anglers may use up to two lines with two hooks per line.
- Setlines, trotlines, or unattended lines are unlawful.
- Spearing or archery may be used to take carp, buffalo, sheepshead, dogfish, gar, or quillback from sunrise to sunset May 1, 2012 through Feb. 15, 2013. 🐟 The bowfishing regulations on page 68 are allowed only on Minnesota's portion of the border waters when they differ from those of the border state. If the bowfishing regulations are the same then they may be exercised from shore to shore.
- Spearing game fish is unlawful.
- Dark house, fish house, and shelters see pages 69-72.

## NORTH DAKOTA–MINNESOTA

Seasons and regulations apply to the Bois de Sioux River and the Red River of the North. Daily and possession limits are the same.

See page 29 for Conservation License limits.

<b>BORDER WATERS—NORTH DAKOTA–MINNESOTA</b>		
<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>OPEN SEASON</b>	<b>POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)</b>
<b>WALLEYE</b> and <b>SAUGER</b> (either or combined)	Continuous	3
<b>NORTHERN PIKE</b>	Continuous	3
<b>SUNFISH</b>	Continuous	30
<b>PERCH</b>	Continuous	50
<b>CRAPPIE</b>	Continuous	30
<b>LARGEMOUTH</b> and <b>SMALLMOUTH BASS</b>	Continuous	3
<b>MUSKELLUNGE</b>	Continuous	1 (Minimum size 40".)
<b>ROCK BASS</b>	Continuous	20
<b>BULLHEAD</b>	Continuous	100
<b>CATFISH</b>	Continuous	5 (only 1 over 24".)
<b>STURGEON</b>	No open season	
<b>UNPROTECTED FISH</b> (carp, sucker, redhorse, sheepshead, buffalo, burbot, bowfin, gar, white bass.)	Continuous	No limit

All species not listed are covered by the inland regulations of the state where taken.

### NORTH DAKOTA–MINNESOTA Regulations

- Two lines are permitted, and two hooks are permitted on each line.
- Spearing from a fish house or a dark house is unlawful.
- It is unlawful to possess a spear or bow and arrow on or adjacent to any water body where the spearing and archery season is closed.
- Rough fish, except burbot (eelpout), may be taken between sunrise and sunset by spearing or archery May 1 through December 31. The bowfishing regulations on page 68 are allowed only on Minnesota's portion of the border waters when they differ from those of the border state. If the bowfishing regulations are the same then they may be exercised from shore to shore.
- It is illegal to cull fish that have been reduced to possession.
- Dark house, fish house, and shelters see pages 69-72.

## SOUTH DAKOTA–MINNESOTA

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

**Big Stone County:** Big Stone Lake.

**Lincoln County:** Hendricks Lake.

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

Daily and possession limits are the same.

See page 29 for Conservation License limits.

### BORDER WATERS—SOUTH DAKOTA–MINNESOTA

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
<b>WALLEYE</b> and <b>SAUGER</b> (either or combined)	April 21, 2012- Feb. 28, 2013	4 (only 1 walleye 20" or larger)
<b>NORTHERN PIKE</b>	April 21, 2012- Feb. 28, 2013	6
<b>LARGEMOUTH</b> and <b>SMALLMOUTH BASS</b> (either or combined)	April 21, 2012- Feb. 28, 2013	6
<b>CRAPPIE</b>	Continuous	10
<b>SUNFISH*</b> (either or combined) <i>(bluegill, pumpkinseed, green, orangespotted, longear, warmouth, and their hybrids)</i>	Continuous	10
<b>ROCK BASS</b>	Continuous	20
<b>BULLHEAD</b>	Continuous	100
<b>PERCH</b>	Continuous	25
<b>CATFISH</b>	Continuous	5 (Only 1 over 24")
<b>STURGEON</b>	No Open Season	
<b>UNPROTECTED FISH</b> <i>(carp, sucker, redhorse, sheepshead, buffalo, burbot, bowfin, gar, white bass.)</i>	Continuous	No Limit

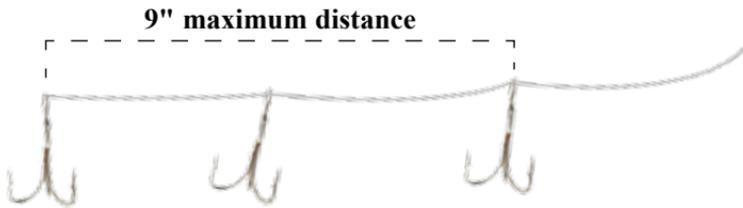
All species not listed above are covered by the inland regulations of the state where taken.

### SOUTH DAKOTA–MINNESOTA Regulations

- Anglers may use two lines with up to three hooks per line.
- Setlines, trotlines, or unattended lines are unlawful.
- Unprotected fish, except white bass, may be taken by spearing from sunrise to sunset from April 28 through November 30.

- The bowfishing regulations on page 68 are allowed only on Minnesota's portion of the border waters when they differ from those of the border state. If the bowfishing regulations are the same then they may be exercised from shore to shore.
- It is unlawful to possess a spear, spring gaff, or bow and arrow on or adjacent to any body of water where the spearing and archery season is closed.
- Spearing from a fish house or dark house is unlawful.
- Spearing game fish is unlawful.
- Mud Lake in Traverse County is open to liberalized fishing (use of snagging, spears, dip nets, and legal minnow seines permitted; maximum of 6 lines; possession limit is three times the normal possession limit) December 1, 2012 through February 28, 2013.
- The following waters in Traverse County are closed to fishing from March 1 to April 27: Mud Lake within 500 feet downstream of Reservation Dam at State Highway 117; and Bois de Sioux River within 500 feet downstream of White Rock Dam at State Highway 236.
- It is illegal to cull fish that have been reduced to possession.
- Dark house, fish house, and shelters see pages 69-72.

**SINGLE TACKLE CONFIGURATION -Example**



**ARTIFICIAL LURE/BAITS -Examples**



## WISCONSIN-MINNESOTA

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

Mississippi River (downstream of Prescott, Wisconsin and all waters between the Burlington Northern [Wisconsin] and Chicago Milwaukee [Minnesota] railroad tracks), Lake Pepin, St. Croix River, Lake St. Croix, St. Louis River, St. Louis Bay, and Superior Bay.

Daily and possession limits are the same.

See page 29 for Conservation License limits.

### BORDER WATERS—WISCONSIN-MINNESOTA

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)
<b>WALLEYE and SAUGER</b> (either or combined)		
St. Louis River	May 12, 2012- March 1, 2013	2 (15" minimum size for walleye)
St. Croix River	April 28, 2012- March 1, 2013	6 (15" minimum size for walleye)
Mississippi River and Lake Pepin	Continuous	6 (15" minimum size for walleye)
<b>LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS</b> (either or combined)		
St. Louis River	May 26, 2012- March 1, 2013	5 (14" minimum size)
St. Croix River Upstream of Taylors Falls Dam	May 26, 2012- Sept. 9, 2012 Sept. 10, 2012- March 1, 2013	5 (14" minimum size)  Catch-and-release only
Downstream of Taylors Falls Dam to U.S. Hwy. 10 Bridge	May 26, 2012- March 1, 2013	5 (14" minimum size)
Mississippi River and Lake Pepin	Continuous	5 (14" minimum size)
<b>NORTHERN PIKE</b>		
St. Louis River	May 12, 2012- March 1, 2013	2
St. Croix River	April 28, 2012- March 1, 2013	5
Mississippi River and Lake Pepin	Continuous	5

<b>BORDER WATERS—WISCONSIN—MINNESOTA</b>		
<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>OPEN SEASON</b>	<b>POSSESSION LIMIT (SIZE)</b>
<b>MUSKELLUNGE</b> <i>St. Louis River 50" minimum size.</i>	May 26, 2012- March 1, 2013	1 (40" minimum size)
<b>PERCH</b>	Continuous	25
<b>CHANNEL and FLATHEAD CATFISH</b> (either or combined)	Continuous	10
<b>BULLHEAD</b>	Continuous	No Limit
<b>ROUGH FISH</b>	Continuous	No Limit
<b>WHITE BASS and YELLOW BASS</b> (either or combined)	Continuous	25
<b>CRAPPIE</b>	Continuous	25
<b>ROCK BASS</b>	Continuous	25
<b>SUNFISH</b> (either or combined) <i>(bluegill, pumpkinseed, green, orangespotted, longear, warmouth, and their hybrids)</i> <i>**Except for Mississippi River Pools 5, 5A and 8: possession limit 10. MN side only.</i>	Continuous	25**
<b>PADDLEFISH</b>	No Open Season	
<b>LAKE STURGEON</b> All waters except those listed below	Closed	
St. Croix (Taylors Falls Dam Downstream to mouth at Prescott, WI)	Sept. 1-Sept. 30 Oct. 1-Oct. 15	1 per calendar year (minimum size 60") Catch-and-release only
<i>Sturgeon tag needed, see page 55-56 for details.</i>		
<b>SHOVELNOSE STURGEON</b> Downstream from Red Wing Dam only. <i>All species not listed above are covered by the inland regulations of the state where taken.</i>	Continuous	10 (No minimum size)

### **WISCONSIN—MINNESOTA Regulations**

- Two lines with a single lure or bait on each are permitted. If fishing with one line you may use two baits.
- Fish hooked in any part of the body except the mouth must be returned to the water immediately.
- Angler must be within 400 feet of their tip-ups.
- Rough fish may be taken by spearing and dip-netting during daylight hours from April 28, 2012 through March 1, 2013. Dip net hoops cannot exceed 24 inches in diameter.

- The bowfishing regulations on page 68 are allowed only on Minnesota's portion of the border waters when they differ from those of the border state. If the bowfishing regulations are the same then they may be exercised from shore to shore.
- Spearing game fish is prohibited. It is unlawful to have a spear on or adjacent to any body of water where the spearing season is closed.
- It is illegal to cull fish that have been reduced to possession.
- No fishing allowed within 300 feet below Mississippi River Lock and Dam 3 (near Red Wing) and Lock and Dam 4 (Alma, WI) from March 1-April 30.
- No fishing from Taylors Falls (St. Croix Falls on the St. Croix River) dam to 50 feet downstream from the pier in center of river.
- Dark house, fish house, and shelters see pages 69-72.

## For Your Information

### Aquatic Plant Permit Requirements

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

#### **DNR permit not required**

For underwater plants only, you may cut or pull plants as long as:

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

#### **DNR permit is required to:**

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

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

For more information, call your regional DNR office (page 86) or visit our Web site at [mndnr.gov](http://mndnr.gov).

## SPEARING, ARCHERY, AND DIP NETS

Rough fish are defined as carp, buffalo, sucker, redhorse, sheepshead, bowfin, burbot (eelpout), cisco (tullibee), gar, mooneye, and bullhead. The regulations below apply to spearing rough fish in state waters unless noted otherwise in this booklet.

- Rough fish may not be taken by spear, harpoon, archery, or dip net in designated trout lakes or streams.
- Licensed anglers and children under 16 may take rough fish by spearing, harpooning, archery, and hand-held dip nets on all inland waters, except where taking fish is prohibited. All rough fish, except cisco (tullibee), may be bought and sold.
- Hand-held dip nets shall not have hoops exceeding 24 inches in diameter. (For more on smelt, see pages 12 and 32).
- Harpoons (spears) must have a tethered line not more than 20 feet long, may be discharged only when the equipment and the operator are entirely under the surface of the water, and may not be used within 1,000 feet of a swimming beach.
- A person may not release carp or buffalo taken by netting back into the water.
- It is unlawful to possess on or near waters a net or any device that can take fish. The exceptions are angling equipment and landing nets used for angling, seines and traps for taking minnows for bait, and as otherwise specifically authorized.
- It is unlawful to possess a spear, harpoon, dipnet, or archery equipment on or near any waters from March 1-April 30.
- Speared or dead rough fish may not be returned to the water or left on the ice or banks of any lake or stream.

### SPEARING, HARPOONING, AND DIP NET SEASON AND POSSESSION LIMIT

SPECIES	SPEARING SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT
<b>BULLHEAD</b>		100
<b>SUCKER</b>	From sunrise to sunset, May 1, 2012-	50
<b>REDHORSE</b>	Last Sunday in February. (See pg. 69 for dark house spearing laws.)	50
<b>OTHER ROUGH FISH SPECIES</b>		No limit

*continued on next page*

## BOWFISHING SEASON AND POSSESSION LIMIT

SPECIES	BOWFISHING SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT
BULLHEAD		100
SUCKER	May 1, 2012- Last Sunday in February.	50
REDHORSE		50
OTHER ROUGH FISH SPECIES		No limit

- A bow may be transported uncased and discharged while taking rough fish in a boat powered by an electric motor.
- Crossbows may not be used to take rough fish except by disabled persons who have a valid crossbow permit. Permit applications are available from the DNR Information Center or through the DNR Web site.
- Arrows must be attached to the bow with a tethered line. *Broadheads must have barbs for bowfishing.*
- Night bowfishing total noise levels may not exceed 65 decibels on the “A” scale at a distance of 50 ft from the boat.
- From sunset to sunrise, a person bowfishing with the assistance of a gasoline-powered motor must use a four-stroke powered generator.
- Bowfishing can be done from open water or through the ice in a fish house or shelter day or night with or without lights.
- Must take reasonable measures to retrieve arrows and wounded fish.
- Cannot discharge an arrow while bowfishing within 150 ft. of occupied structures or within 300 ft. of campsite from sunset to sunrise.
- Possession of bows and arrows for bowfishing is subject to local firearms and archery ordinances.
- Rough fish taken by bowfishing shall not be returned to the water or left on the banks of any water.

**WEAR IT** 

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

## ICE ANGLING AND SPEARING

### General Regulations

- Two lines may be used through the ice (other than on designated trout lakes and streams).
- Ice anglers must remain within sight of their lines or within 200 feet of their tip-up.

DARK HOUSE SPEARING SEASON		
SPECIES	SPEARING SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT
NORTHERN PIKE	From sunrise to sunset, Nov. 15, 2012- last Sunday in February except where prohibited.	3 (only 1 over 30") (unless special regulations apply)
CATFISH		5 (only 1 over 24") (not more than 2 flathead)
WHITEFISH		No limit

For other species see table on page 67.

- Residents age 16 through 64 and all nonresidents must have a dark house spearing license and an angling license. Residents age 65 years old and older are exempt from the dark house spearing license, but must have an angling license to spear.
- Party fishing does not apply while spearing.
- While spearing, a person may take fish by angling in a dark house if only one angling line is in use and any fish caught is immediately released or placed on the ice. For more information see the DNR Web site.
- Using an artificial light to see fish when spearing is unlawful. Lighted decoys are legal to use. Any battery that is used in lighted decoys must not contain mercury.

### Shelters (fish houses and dark houses)

The following regulations apply to all shelters used on all Minnesota waters, unless otherwise noted elsewhere in this booklet.

- All shelters placed on the ice of Minnesota waters must have either the (1) complete name and address, (2) driver's license number, or (3) the nine-digit Minnesota DNR number on the license of the owner plainly and legibly displayed on the outside in letters, and figures at least 2 inches in height.
- A shelter may not be left unattended anytime between midnight and one hour prior to sunrise unless the shelter is licensed.

**Note:** The Dept. of Public Safety–DVS requires trailers used to haul fish houses or dark houses and enclosed trailers or recreational trailers used for fishing to be registered. See your local Deputy Registrar for trailer registration.

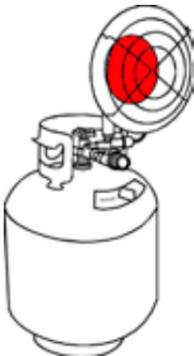
*continued on page 72*

# Ice Fishing - A Minnesota Tradition



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

## WARNING !!!



**Sunflower type heaters are not recommended** for use in fish houses. Most are approved for outdoor use only, and have no safety systems to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning. **Use outdoors only!**

**Keep Propane Cylinders Outside!** Propane cylinders used to heat your fish house should always be kept outside of the fish house and connected to the heater using approved piping and fittings.

### Quick Tips for Safety

- Use only heaters that are listed and approved for indoor use in your fish house.
- Follow manufacturers installation recommendations.
- Check all gas connections for leaks.
- Keep propane cylinders OUTSIDE.

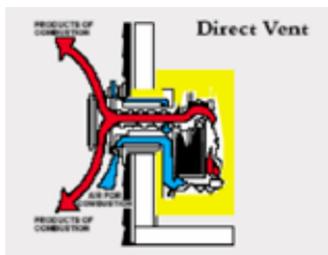
A message from the:  
Minnesota Propane Association  
[www.mnpropane.org](http://www.mnpropane.org)



# Heating Fish Houses Safely

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

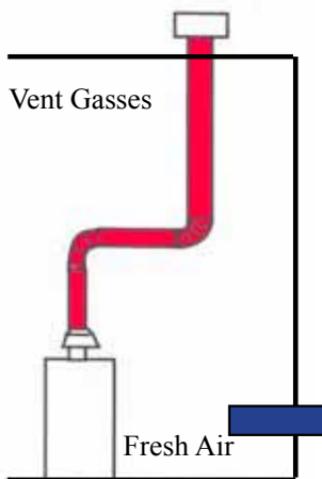
- **Conventional Vent Heaters** - These heaters have a vent that goes up through the roof of a fish house and require fresh air for combustion.
- **Direct Vent Heaters - Direct Vent (DV)** heaters have a sealed combustion chamber and vent all combustion products thru the sidewall and use combustion air from outside the fish house.
- **Vent Free with Oxygen Depletion Sensor (ODS)** - These heaters usually use infrared technology for the heating element. The ODS will shut off the heating unit if oxygen levels get low.



*Direct Vent Heater*



*Vent Free Heater  
with ODS System*



*Conventional Vent Heater*

## 2012 Minnesota Fishing Regulations

- A tag, furnished with a license, must be attached to the exterior in a readily visible location.
- Shelters left on the ice overnight need to have at least 2 square inches of reflective material on each side of the house.
- No person may erect a shelter within 10 feet of an existing shelter.
- A shelter license is not required on border waters with WI, IA, ND, and SD.
- Shelters must comply with the identification requirements of the state for which the angler is licensed.
- Shelters may be used for fishing within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), but must be removed from the ice each night. The structure must be removed from the BWCAW each time the occupant leaves the BWCAW.

### Shelter Removal Dates

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

#### Inland Waters

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

#### Border Waters

Minnesota-Iowa Feb. 20  
Minnesota-Wisconsin March 1  
Minnesota-North and South Dakota March 5  
Minnesota-Canada March 31



- If shelters are not removed, owners will be prosecuted, and the structure and contents may be confiscated and removed, or destroyed by a conservation officer.
- After removal dates, shelters may remain on the ice between midnight and one hour before sunrise only when occupied or attended.
- Storing or leaving shelters on a public access is prohibited.

## Lead Tackle

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



Here's what you can do to help:

- Ask local sporting good stores to stock nonlead fishing tackle.
- Spread the word by telling other anglers about the problem.
- Dispose of old lead sinkers and jigs properly by locating a drop-off location. See DNR Web site for more information.

## Spearing Prohibited

Winter spearing for northern pike is prohibited on the following lakes:

Baby\* (Cass County)  
Bald Eagle (Anoka, Ramsey, and Washington counties)  
Beers\* (Otter Tail County)  
Big\* (Beltrami County)  
Big Mantrap\* (Hubbard County)  
Cross and its Snake River  
Flowage\* (Pine County)  
Deer\* (Itasca County)  
Eagle (Hennepin County)  
Forest (Hennepin County)  
Libbs (Hennepin County)  
Lobster\* (Douglas County)  
Mille Lacs (Aitkin, Crow Wing, and Mille Lacs counties)

Minnetonka (Hennepin and Carver counties)  
Moose\* (Itasca County)  
North Star\* and Little North Star\* (Itasca County)  
Owasso (Ramsey County)  
Peavey (Hennepin County)  
Rebecca (Hennepin County)  
Rush \* (Chisago County)  
Spider\* (Itasca County)  
Stieger (Carver County)  
Sugar\* (Wright County)  
Tanager (Hennepin County)  
Wabedo\* (Cass County)  
West Battle\* (Otter Tail County)

\*Denotes lakes where no spearing is allowed at any time.



**Alexandria**  
You're going to need  
a stronger stringer.



***Fish On!***

Fishing Reports. Lake Facts. Lodging.  
**ExploreAlex.com/FishingGuide**  
ALEXANDRIA, MINNESOTA

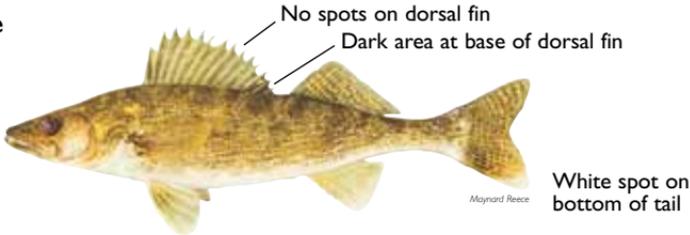
PAID ADVERTISEMENT

# ILLUSTRATED FISH OF MINNESOTA

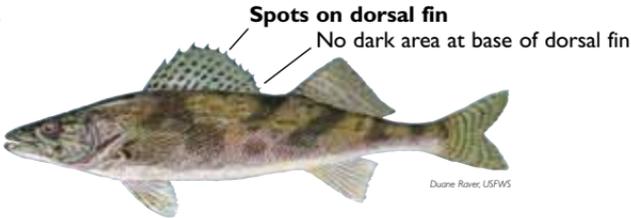
Knowing what fish species you are catching is not only fun, but in many cases it's required by law. It is particularly important to know how to distinguish walleye from sauger, to know the difference between northern pike and muskellunge, and to be able to tell what species of trout or salmon you catch.

## Walleye and Sauger

### Walleye



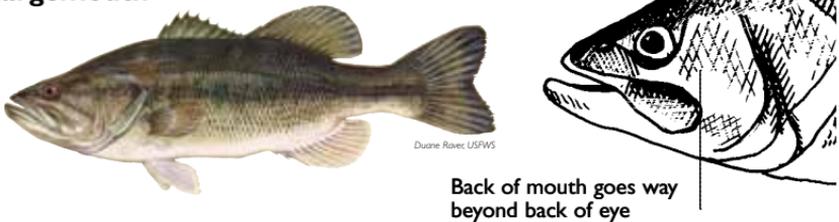
### Sauger



Walleye/sauger (saugeye) hybrid fillets are counted as part of a walleye possession limit during transportation.

## Largemouth and Smallmouth bass

### Largemouth



### Smallmouth



## Northern Pike and Muskellunge

### Muskellunge



Clear

Paired fins having more pointed tips

Tail with pointed tips

6 or more pores on each side under jaw



Spotted

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



Barred

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

Tail with rounded tips

### Tiger (hybrid) Muskellunge

(*Esox masquinongy* X *Esox lucius*)



Paired fins having rounded tips

### Northern Pike

(*Esox lucius*)

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

Tail with more rounded tips

5 or fewer pores on each side under jaw



Paired fins having more rounded tips



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

Illustrations ©1986 by Virg Beck

## Catfish

### Flathead Catfish



©MN DNR, C. Iverson

### Channel Catfish



©MN DNR, C. Iverson

# Trout and Salmon

## Rainbow trout

Pinkish stripe on silvery body



Small black dots throughout the body that extend into tail

*Duane Raver, USFWS*

## Brown trout

Large dark spots and red dots on brown body



Square tail

*Duane Raver, USFWS*

## Brook trout

White leading edge on lower fins

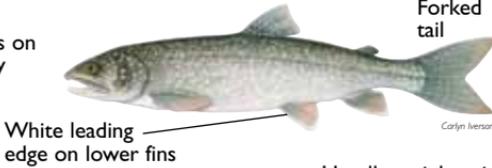


Light, wormlike markings on dark upper body

*Duane Raver, USFWS*

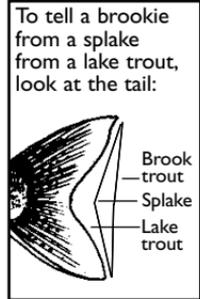
## Lake trout

White spots on grayish body



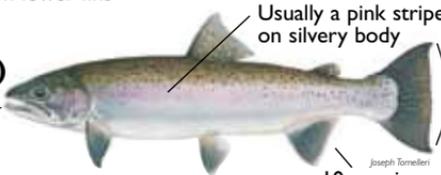
Forked tail

*Carlyn Iverson*



## Steelhead (Rainbow Trout)

Inside mouth is white



Usually a pink stripe on silvery body

Small spots throughout tail

10 rays in anal fin

*Joseph Tomelleri*

## Chinook salmon

Inside mouth is dark



Spots throughout tail

*Joseph Tomelleri*

## Coho salmon

Inside mouth is gray

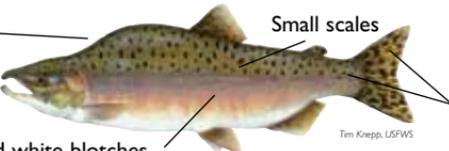


Spots in top half of tail only

*Tim Koeppe, USFWS*

## Pink salmon

Spawning male has hump on back.



Small scales

Some eye-sized spots in tail and on back

Green and white blotches on spawning fish

*Tim Koeppe, USFWS*

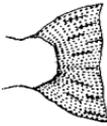
## Rainbow Trout-Salmon Identification Guide

**RAINBOW TROUT**  
= white mouth



**COHO SALMON AND CHINOOK SALMON**  
= grayish to black mouth

**RAINBOW TROUT**  
Tail has many small spots in distinct rows.



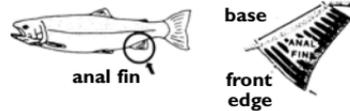
**COHO SALMON**  
Tail has some large spots mostly on the upper half.



**CHINOOK SALMON**  
Tail has large spots throughout, especially in the silver area at the base of the tail.



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



**RAINBOW TROUT** Tip falls to or beyond end of base



**COHO SALMON** Tip falls slightly past middle



**CHINOOK SALMON** Tip falls short of middle



### Weigh Your Fish With a Ruler

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

<b>CRAPPIE</b>		<b>TROUT</b>		<b>BASS</b>		<b>WALLEYE</b>		<b>NORTHERN</b>	
length (inches)	weight (lbs.)								
8	0.3	8	0.2	12	1.0	14	1.0	24	3.2
9	0.4	9	0.3	13	1.3	15	1.2	25	3.6
10	0.6	10	0.4	14	1.7	16	1.5	26	4.0
11	0.8	11	0.6	15	2.1	17	1.8	27	4.6
12	1.1	12	0.8	16	2.5	18	2.2	28	5.2
13	1.4	13	0.9	17	3.0	19	2.5	29	5.8
14	1.8	14	1.1	18	3.6	20	3.0	30	6.4
15	2.2	15	1.4	19	4.2	21	3.5	31	7.1
16	2.7	16	1.6	20	5.0	22	4.1	32	7.8
17	3.3	17	1.8	21	5.7	23	4.7	33	8.6
		18	2.3	22	6.6	24	5.4	34	9.4
				23	7.6	25	6.1	35	10.3
						26	6.9	36	11.2
						27	7.8	37	12.2
						28	8.8	38	13.3
						29	9.8	39	14.4
								40	15.6
								41	16.8
								42	18.1

<b>SUNFISH</b>		<b>MUSKIE</b>	
length (inches)	weight (lbs.)	length (inches)	weight (lbs.)
8	0.4	48	29
9	0.6	49	32
10	0.8	50	34
11	1.1	51	36
12	1.5	52	39
13	1.9	53	41
14	2.4	54	44
15	3.0	55	47
16	3.7	56	50

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

## OTHER AQUATIC SPECIES

The following regulations apply to the taking and possession of mussels (clams), crayfish, frogs, minnows, leeches, and turtles for personal or commercial use.

**Mussels (Clams):** It is illegal to possess live mussels. All of Minnesota's 50 species of mussels are protected by law, and 20 are endangered or threatened species. Licensed anglers and children under 16 may take or possess up to 24 whole shells or 48 shell halves from dead mussels of species that are not endangered or threatened. It is illegal to take dead mussel shells from the St. Croix River, or to possess zebra mussels.

**Crayfish:** From April 1-Nov. 30 licensed anglers and children under 16 may take and possess up to 25 pounds of crayfish longer than 1 inch for personal use. A DNR permit\* is required to import, transport, or sell crayfish. Crayfish may be used as bait only in the body of water where they were captured. The use of live crayfish as bait on the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway (north of the Boomsite Boat Launch) and within Voyageurs National Park, units of the National Park System, is prohibited.

**Frogs:** From May 16 to March 31 licensed anglers and children under age 16 may take, use, buy, and sell an unlimited number of frogs up to 6 inches long for bait. A DNR license is required to take frogs for purposes other than bait. Bullfrogs are native to SE corner of MN, but are invasive and destructive elsewhere in the state. Do not release bullfrogs outside of Winona and Houston counties.

**Minnows and Leeches:** Licensed anglers may take minnows or leeches for their own use with dip nets, traps, or seines.

- Taking of wild animals for bait from designated infested waters (see pages 16-25) is unlawful, except for minnows and leeches taken for personal use from waters infested SOLEY with Eurasian watermilfoil. At these waters, harvested bait may ONLY be used at the water where taken and may only be taken using a cylindrical trap not exceeding 16" in diameter and 32" long. Taking of bait from other infested waters and using them is unlawful.
- Seines may not be over 25 feet long or more than 148 meshes deep with ¼-inch bar measure, or more than 197 meshes deep with  $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch bar measure.
- Traps used on waters, other than infested, may not exceed a width and length of 30 inches, height may not exceed 15 inches, the diameter or width of the opening may not exceed 1½ inches, and mesh size may not exceed ½-inch bar measure. Traps must have a waterproof tag bearing the name and address of the owner.
- It is unlawful to use throw nets.
- A DNR commercial minnow license\* is required to possess more than 24 dozen minnows or leeches; to sell, export or import; or to take minnows or leeches from designated trout waters.

\*License and permit applications are available from the DNR, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4020.

- Unwanted minnows and leeches cannot be dumped in the water.
- All streams and associated tributaries and connected waters of the Missouri River watershed in Lincoln, Pipestone, Murray, Rock, or Nobles counties that lie south of U.S. Highway 14 to the Iowa border and west of U.S. Highway 59 to South Dakota are closed to minnow harvest. Minnows may be taken by angling for personal use.
- *A permit from the DNR, 500 Lafayette Rd. St. Paul is required to take madtoms and stonecats in Dodge, Freeborn, or Mower counties.*

**Turtles:** Resident licensed anglers and children under 16 may take, possess, and transport turtles for personal use. Western painted, snapping, and spiny softshell turtles are the only harvestable species and may be taken. Harvest by explosives, drugs, poisons, lime, and other harmful substances is prohibited. Harvest by traps, nets, or other commercial equipment requires a recreational turtle license in addition to an angling license. A DNR permit is required to collect turtle eggs from natural nests. Residents under age 18 may take, possess, rent, or sell up to 25 turtles for use in a nonprofit turtle race.

- The snapping turtle possession limit is 3. Minimum size limit is 12" in shell length. Snapping turtles may not be taken during May and June.
- Spiny softshell minimum size limit is 12" in shell length. Spiny softshells may not be taken June 1-July 15.
- Western painted turtle maximum size limit is 5½" in shell length, except that those used in turtle races may be of any length greater than 4".

## ONLINE INFORMATION

More information on the following subjects can be found online at the DNR Web site.

### Boat and Water Safety

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

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

It's always a good idea to wear your life jacket, since most fatal boating mishaps are capsizings or fall-overboard accidents that happen without any warning to adults on boats 16 feet or less on calm waters, while traveling at slow speed or stopped.

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

## Aquatic Management Areas

The DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife acquires land along lakes and streams to provide fishing opportunities and to protect critical fish habitat. These areas, known as Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs), are posted with signs to indicate allowable uses. Each sign is marked with a letter to easily identify permitted activities.

## Catch-and-Release

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

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

## Managing Minnesota's Fisheries

The DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife is responsible for managing the state's diverse fisheries resources (5,400 fishable streams and 15,000 fishable lakes). Each year, roughly 2 million people fish in Minnesota, and sport fishing generates approximately \$1.9 billion in direct expenditures, making angling one of the state's largest industries.

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

## Master Angler Program

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

For more information on becoming a Master Angler, visit the DNR Web site or [www.minnesotafishinghalloffame.com](http://www.minnesotafishinghalloffame.com).

## State Record Fish

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

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

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

**Bass, Largemouth:** 8-15, Auburn Lake (Carver). **Bass, Rock:** 2-0, Osakis Lake (Todd); and 2-0, Lake Winnibigoshish (Cass). **Bass, Smallmouth:** 8-0, West Battle Lake (Otter Tail). **Bass, White:** 4-2.4, Mississippi River Pool 5 (Wabasha). **Bluegill:** 2-13, Alice Lake (Hubbard). **Bowfin:** 11-4, St. Croix River (Washington). **Buffalo, Bigmouth:** 41-11, Mississippi River (Goodhue). **Buffalo, Black:** 20-0, Minnesota River (Nicollet). **Buffalo, Smallmouth:** 20-0, Big Sandy (Aitkin). **Bullhead, Black:** 3-13, Reno Lake (Pope). **Bullhead, Brown:** 7-1, Shallow Lake (Itasca). **Bullhead, Yellow:** 3-10, Osakis Lake (Todd). **Burbot:** 19-3, Lake of the Woods (Lake of the Woods). **Carp:** 55-5, Clearwater Lake (Wright). **Carp sucker, River:** 3-15, Mississippi River (Ramsey). **Catfish, Channel:** 38-0, Mississippi River (Hennepin). **Catfish, Flathead:** 70-0, St. Croix River (Washington). **Crappie, Black:** 5-0, Vermilion River (Dakota). **Crappie, White:** 3-15, Lake Constance (Wright). **Drum, Freshwater:** 35-3, Mississippi River (Winona). **Eel, American:** 6-9, St. Croix River (Washington). **Gar, Longnose:** 16-12, St. Croix River (Washington). **Gar, Shortnose:** 4-10, Mississippi River (Hennepin). **Goldeye:** 2-13, Root River (Houston). **Hogsucker, Northern:** 1-15, Sunrise River (Chisago). **Mooneye:** 1-15, Minnesota River (Redwood). **Muskellunge:** 54-0, Lake Winnibigoshish (Itasca). **Muskellunge, Tiger:** 34-12, Lake Elmo (Washington). **Perch, Yellow:** 3-4, Lake Plantaganette (Hubbard). **Pike, Northern:** 45-12, Basswood Lake (Lake). **Pumpkinseed:** 1-6, Leech Lake (Cass). **Quillback:** 7-5, Upper Red Lake (Beltrami). **Redhorse, Golden:** 3-15.5, Root River (Fillmore). **Redhorse, Greater:** 12-11, Sauk River (Stearns). **Redhorse, River:** 12-10, Kettle River (Pine). **Redhorse, Shorthead:** 7-15, Rum River (Anoka). **Redhorse, Silver:** 9-15, Bigfork River (Koochiching). **Salmon, Atlantic:** 12-13, Baptism River (Lake). **Salmon, Chinook:** 33-4, Poplar River (Cook); and 33-4, Lake Superior (St. Louis). **Salmon, Coho:** 10-7, Lake Superior (Lake). **Salmon, Kokanee:** 2-15, Caribou Lake (Itasca). **Salmon, Pink:** 4-8, Cascade River (Cook). **Sauger:** 6-3, Mississippi River (Goodhue). **Splake:** 13-6, Larson Lake (Itasca). **Sturgeon, Lake:** 94-4, Kettle River (Pine). **Sturgeon Shovelnose:** 5-9, Mississippi River (Goodhue). **Sucker, Blue:** 14-3, Mississippi River (Wabasha). **Sucker, Longnose:** 3-11, Brule River (Cook). **Sucker, White:** 9-1, Big Fish Lake (Stearns). **Sunfish, Green:** 1-5, North Arbor Lake (Hennepin). **Sunfish, Hybrid:** 1-12, Zumbro River (Olmsted). **Trout, Brook:** 6-5, Pigeon River (Cook). **Trout, Brown:** 16-12, Lake Superior (St. Louis). **Trout, Lake:** 43-8, Lake Superior (Cook). **Trout, Rainbow (Steelhead):** 16-6, Devil Track River (Cook). **Trout, Tiger:** 2-9, Mill Creek (Olmsted). **Tullibee (Cisco):** 5-12, Little Long (St. Louis). **Walleye:** 17-8, Seagull River (Cook). **Walleye-Sauger Hybrid:** 9-13, Mississippi River (Goodhue). **Warmouth:** 0-6.6, Bartlet Lake (Winona). **Whitefish, Lake:** 12-5, Leech Lake (Cass). **Whitefish, Menominee:** 2-8, Lake Superior (Cook).

# Eat Fish Often?

**Most fish are healthy to eat.** And fish are a great way to get low-fat protein.

But any fish (store-bought or sport-caught) could have contaminants such as mercury and PCBs that can harm human health—especially children and fetuses.

The Minnesota Department of Health lets people know how often fish can be safely eaten.

The Safe Fish Eating guidelines on the following pages are based on mercury measured in fish from lakes across the state.

Guidelines for waters where fish have been tested are on the DNR Web site.

For more information, call the Minnesota Department of Health at 651.201.4911, toll-free at 800.657.3908 or visit [www.health.state.mn.us/fish](http://www.health.state.mn.us/fish)

## Tips for safe fish eating

- Eat smaller fish. Bigger fish have more contaminants.
- Eat more panfish (sunfish, crappies) and less fish that eat other fish (walleyes, northern pike, lake trout).
- Trim skin and fat, especially belly fat. Also, eat fewer fatty fish such as carp, catfish, and lake trout.

## Consejos para el consumo saludable de pescado

- Coma pescados mas pequenos. Pescados grandes pueden contener mas contaminantes.
- Coma mas peces como Pomosios y Pez Sol y menos pescados que comen otros peces como Lucioperca, Lucio Norteño y Trucha de Lago.
- Remueva la piel y la grasa, especialmente la grasa alrededor de la barriga. Tambien coma menos pescados que tienen mas grasa como Bagre, Carpa y Trucha de Lago.

## Tej yam ghia noj ntse kom txhob muaj teeb meem

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

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

- Nên ăn cá nhỏ. Cá lớn chứa nhiều chất ô nhiễm.
- Nên ăn loại cá nhỏ cỡ có thể chiên trong chảo như cá sunfish, cá rô (crappie), và ăn ít các loại cá như walley, cá pike, và cá hồi sống ở hồ (lake trout).
- Bỏ không nên ăn da và mỡ cá, nhất là phần mỡ ở bụng cá. Mặt khác, nên ăn ít những loại cá có nhiều mỡ như cá chép, cá trê hoặc cá bông lau, và cá hồi sống ở hồ.

# SAFE EATING GUIDELINES

## Statewide Guidelines for Fish Caught in Minnesota For Children and Women of Child-Bearing Age:



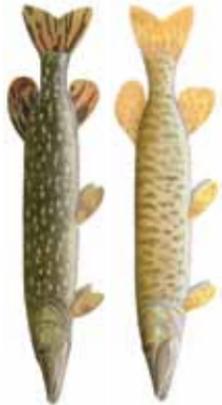
- Sunfish
- Crappie
- Perch
- Bullhead

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



- Walleye shorter than 20 inches
- Northern shorter than 30 inches
- All sizes of species not listed

One meal per month  
 Una comida al mes  
 lb hli, ib pluag  
 Một tháng ăn một lần



- Walleye longer than 20 inches
- Northern longer than 30 inches
- Muskellunge

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

*Fish Illustrations by Carlyn Iverson*

# SAFE EATING GUIDELINES

## Statewide Guidelines for Fish Caught in Minnesota (continued)

### For Other Adults:



- Sunfish
- Crappie
- Perch
- Bullhead

Unrestricted  
No tiene restricciones  
Tsis txwv hlos lis  
Không hạn chế



- All sizes of other species

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

## Addresses and Telephone Numbers

### Licenses

DNR License Center  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4026  
Watercraft Registration:  
1-800-285-2000  
Phone License Sales:  
1-888-665-4236  
Internet Sales: [mndnr.gov](http://mndnr.gov)

### Lake Maps

Minnesota Bookstore  
660 Olive Street  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(651) 297-3000 or  
1-800-657-3757  
[www.minnesotasbookstore.com](http://www.minnesotasbookstore.com)

### Conservation Officer Locator

[mndnr.gov/officerpatrolareas](http://mndnr.gov/officerpatrolareas)

### Tamarack NWR

(218) 847-2641

### US Fish and Wildlife Service

(612) 713-5360

### Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness

Note: Permits and reservations are *not* under DNR jurisdiction. This is a *national* forest wilderness area. For information, contact:  
Superior National Forest  
8901 Grand Avenue Place  
Duluth, MN 55808  
Information (218) 626-4300  
Reservations 1-877-550-6777  
[www.bwcaw.org](http://www.bwcaw.org)

### Information on and Reporting Harmful Invasive Species

(651) 259-5100 or  
1-888-646-6367

### Voyageurs National Park

(218) 283-6600

## DNR FISHERIES OFFICES

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TDD (651) 296-5484 or MN toll free TDD 1-800-657-3929

### NORTHWEST REGION

#### Bemidji Headquarters

(218) 308-2623

#### Baudette Area Office

(218) 634-2522

#### Bemidji Area Office

(218) 308-2339

#### Detroit Lakes Area Office

(218) 846-8340

#### Fergus Falls Area Office

(218) 739-7576 ext. 238

#### Glenwood Area Office

(320) 634-4573

#### Park Rapids Area Office

(218) 732-4153

#### Walker Area Office

(218) 547-1683

### NORTHEAST REGION

#### Grand Rapids Headquarters

(218) 327-4414

#### Aitkin Area Office

(218) 927-3751

#### Brainerd Area Office

(218) 828-2550

#### Duluth and Lake

#### Superior Area Office

(218) 525-0853 ext. 200

#### Finland Area Office

(218) 353-7591

#### Grand Marais Area Office

(218) 387-3056

#### Grand Rapids

#### Area Office

(218) 327-4430

#### International Falls

#### Area Office

(218) 286-5220

#### Tower Area Office

(218) 753-2580 ext. 221

### CENTRAL REGION

#### Central Headquarters

(651) 259-5831

#### Hinckley Area Office

(320) 384-7721

#### Lake City Area Office

(651) 345-3365

#### Lanesboro Area Office

(507) 467-2442

#### Little Falls Area Office

(320) 616-2450 ext. 225

#### Metro East Area Office

(651) 259-5831

#### Metro West Area Office

(952) 496-4141

#### Montrose Area Office

(763) 675-3301

### SOUTH REGION

#### South Headquarters

(507) 359-6047

#### Hutchinson Area Office

(320) 234-2550

#### Ortonville Area Office

(320) 839-2656

#### Spicer Area Office

(320) 796-2161

#### Waterville Area Office

(507) 362-4223

#### Windom Area Office

(507) 831-2900 ext. 232

## Sunrise/Sunset Table

- The following table is provided primarily for trout and salmon anglers who need to know the sunrise and sunset times on the waters they fish.
- Times shown are Central Daylight Saving Time beginning March 11, 2012 through Nov. 3, 2012. Central Standard Time for all other dates.
- The times in the table below are for the longitudinal line running north and south through Minneapolis/St. Paul. To find the sunrise or sunset hours on the water you fish, go to [mndnr.gov/sunrise-sunset/](http://mndnr.gov/sunrise-sunset/)

DAY	MAR. 2012		APR. 2012		MAY 2012		JUNE 2012		JULY 2012		AUG. 2012	
	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM
1	6:52	6:00	6:55	7:41	6:03	8:18	5:30	8:52	5:30	9:04	5:58	8:40
2	6:50	6:02	6:53	7:42	6:02	8:20	5:29	8:53	5:31	9:03	5:59	8:39
3	6:48	6:03	6:51	7:43	6:00	8:21	5:29	8:54	5:31	9:03	6:00	8:38
4	6:46	6:04	6:49	7:44	5:59	8:22	5:28	8:55	5:32	9:03	6:01	8:36
5	6:45	6:06	6:47	7:46	5:57	8:23	5:28	8:56	5:32	9:02	6:03	8:35
6	6:43	6:07	6:45	7:47	5:56	8:24	5:28	8:56	5:33	9:02	6:04	8:34
7	6:41	6:08	6:43	7:48	5:55	8:26	5:27	8:57	5:34	9:02	6:05	8:32
8	6:39	6:10	6:42	7:49	5:53	8:27	5:27	8:58	5:35	9:01	6:06	8:31
9	6:37	6:11	6:40	7:51	5:52	8:28	5:27	8:58	5:35	9:01	6:07	8:29
10	6:36	6:12	6:38	7:52	5:51	8:29	5:26	8:59	5:36	9:00	6:08	8:28
11	7:34	7:14	6:36	7:53	5:49	8:30	5:26	8:59	5:37	9:00	6:10	8:26
12	7:32	7:15	6:34	7:54	5:48	8:32	5:26	9:00	5:38	8:59	6:11	8:25
13	7:30	7:15	6:33	7:56	5:47	8:33	5:26	9:01	5:39	8:59	6:12	8:23
14	7:28	7:18	6:31	7:57	5:46	8:34	5:26	9:01	5:39	8:58	6:13	8:22
15	7:26	7:19	6:29	7:58	5:45	8:35	5:26	9:01	5:40	8:57	6:14	8:20
16	7:25	7:20	6:27	7:59	5:43	8:36	5:26	9:02	5:41	8:56	6:16	8:18
17	7:23	7:21	6:26	8:01	5:42	8:37	5:26	9:02	5:42	8:56	6:17	8:17
18	7:21	7:23	6:24	8:02	5:41	8:38	5:26	9:03	5:43	8:55	6:18	8:15
19	7:19	7:24	6:22	8:03	5:40	8:40	5:26	9:03	5:44	8:54	6:19	8:14
20	7:17	7:25	6:21	8:05	5:39	8:41	5:26	9:03	5:45	8:53	6:20	8:12
21	7:15	7:27	6:19	8:06	5:38	8:42	5:26	9:03	5:46	8:52	6:22	8:10
22	7:13	7:28	6:17	8:07	5:37	8:43	5:27	9:04	5:47	8:51	6:23	8:09
23	7:11	7:29	6:16	8:08	5:36	8:44	5:27	9:04	5:48	8:50	6:24	8:07
24	7:10	7:30	6:14	8:10	5:36	8:45	5:27	9:04	5:49	8:49	6:25	8:05
25	7:08	7:32	6:12	8:11	5:35	8:46	5:27	9:04	5:50	8:48	6:26	8:03
26	7:06	7:33	6:11	8:12	5:34	8:47	5:28	9:04	5:51	8:47	6:28	8:02
27	7:04	7:34	6:09	8:13	5:33	8:48	5:28	9:04	5:52	8:46	6:29	8:00
28	7:02	7:35	6:08	8:15	5:32	8:49	5:29	9:04	5:54	8:45	6:30	7:58
29	7:00	7:37	6:06	8:16	5:32	8:50	5:29	9:04	5:55	8:44	6:31	7:56
30	6:58	7:38	6:05	8:17	5:31	8:51	5:30	9:04	5:56	8:43	6:32	7:55
31	6:56	7:39			5:30	8:52			5:57	8:41	6:33	7:53

## Free Fishing Weekends

### Take A Mom Fishing Weekend—May 12-13

Minnesota resident moms fish free.

### Take A Kid Fishing Weekend—June 8-10

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

### Take A Kid Ice Fishing Weekend—February 16-18, 2013

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

SEPT. 2012		OCT. 2012		NOV. 2012		DEC. 2012		JAN. 2013		FEB. 2013		DAY
Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM	
6:35	7:51	7:11	6:54	7:51	6:02	7:31	4:33	7:52	4:42	7:33	5:21	1
6:36	7:49	7:12	6:52	7:53	6:00	7:32	4:33	7:52	4:43	7:32	5:22	2
6:37	7:47	7:13	6:51	7:54	5:59	7:33	4:33	7:52	4:44	7:31	5:24	3
6:38	7:45	7:14	6:49	6:55	4:58	7:34	4:32	7:52	4:45	7:30	5:25	4
6:39	7:44	7:16	6:47	6:57	4:56	7:35	4:32	7:51	4:46	7:29	5:27	5
6:41	7:42	7:17	6:45	6:57	4:56	7:36	4:32	7:51	4:47	7:27	5:28	6
6:42	7:40	7:18	6:43	6:59	4:54	7:37	4:32	7:51	4:48	7:26	5:29	7
6:43	7:38	7:19	6:41	7:01	4:53	7:38	4:32	7:51	4:49	7:25	5:31	8
6:44	7:36	7:21	6:40	7:02	4:51	7:39	4:32	7:51	4:50	7:23	5:32	9
6:45	7:34	7:22	6:38	7:04	4:50	7:40	4:32	7:50	4:52	7:22	5:34	10
6:47	7:32	7:23	6:36	7:05	4:49	7:41	4:32	7:50	4:53	7:20	5:35	11
6:48	7:30	7:25	6:34	7:06	4:48	7:42	4:32	7:50	4:54	7:19	5:37	12
6:49	7:28	7:26	6:32	7:08	4:47	7:43	4:32	7:49	4:55	7:18	5:38	13
6:50	7:27	7:27	6:31	7:09	4:46	7:44	4:32	7:49	4:56	7:16	5:39	14
6:51	7:25	7:28	6:29	7:10	4:45	7:44	4:32	7:48	4:58	7:15	5:41	15
6:53	7:23	7:30	6:27	7:12	4:44	7:45	4:32	7:48	4:59	7:13	5:42	16
6:54	7:21	7:31	6:25	7:13	4:43	7:46	4:33	7:47	5:00	7:12	5:44	17
6:55	7:19	7:32	6:24	7:14	4:42	7:46	4:33	7:46	5:01	7:10	5:45	18
6:56	7:17	7:34	6:22	7:16	4:41	7:47	4:33	7:46	5:03	7:08	5:46	19
6:57	7:15	7:35	6:20	7:17	4:40	7:48	4:34	7:45	5:04	7:07	5:48	20
6:59	7:13	7:36	6:19	7:18	4:39	7:48	4:34	7:44	5:05	7:05	5:49	21
7:00	7:11	7:38	6:17	7:20	4:39	7:49	4:35	7:43	5:07	7:04	5:51	22
7:01	7:09	7:39	6:16	7:21	4:38	7:49	4:35	7:42	5:08	7:02	5:52	23
7:02	7:08	7:40	6:14	7:22	4:37	7:50	4:36	7:42	5:10	7:00	5:53	24
7:03	7:06	7:42	6:12	7:24	4:36	7:50	4:37	7:41	5:11	6:59	5:55	25
7:05	7:04	7:43	6:11	7:25	4:36	7:50	4:37	7:40	5:12	6:57	5:56	26
7:06	7:02	7:44	6:09	7:26	4:35	7:51	4:38	7:39	5:14	6:55	5:58	27
7:07	7:00	7:46	6:08	7:27	4:35	7:51	4:39	7:38	5:15	6:53	5:59	28
7:08	6:58	7:47	6:06	7:28	4:34	7:51	4:39	7:37	5:17			29
7:09	6:56	7:48	6:05	7:30	4:34	7:51	4:40	7:36	5:18			30
		7:50	6:03			7:51	4:41	7:35	5:19			31

**VALIDATED** Ask for your walleye stamp validation on your angling license every year.



**Anglers support Minnesota's walleye**

A validation is not needed to catch or keep walleyes but flows into a dedicated account to support providing walleyes in various lakes throughout Minnesota. (For an additional \$0.75 a pictorial stamp can be mailed to you. Request code 135.)



**MARSHALL MINNESOTA**

*Make us your Overnight Headquarters for all your FISHING expeditions!*

For information: Marshall CVB  
Phone 507-537-1865

[www.visitmarshallmn.com](http://www.visitmarshallmn.com)

Paul Acker/Environment

**Stop Invasive Hitchhikers!**

Invasive species can occur on land too. Taking a few simple steps can help prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals.

**BEFORE leaving...BEFORE returning:**

- ✓ Inspect and remove mud, plants and animals from equipment and vehicles.
- ✓ Brush seeds and mud from clothes, boots, gear, and pets.
- ✓ Burn local or certified firewood.

**Help keep your favorite recreation areas healthy.**

# A fishing trip may last only a day,



## but zebra mussels can live in a lake forever.

### **Protect your waters from aquatic invasive species – take these actions required by law:**

- **Clean** visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species off watercraft, trailers, and equipment before leaving any water access.
- **Drain** water from boat, livewell, bilge, and portable bait containers before leaving any water access. Drain plugs must be removed at the water access must remain open while transporting boats.
- **Dispose** of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches and worms, in the trash. It is illegal to release live bait into a waterbody and to release worms on the ground.



[mndnr.gov](http://mndnr.gov)



**STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!**