

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Weekly Fish Ohio Fishing Report!

CENTRAL OHIO

Hoover Reservoir (Delaware/Franklin counties) - Crappie fishing is slowing down as fish move to deeper water. Saugeye are becoming more active as the summer pattern starts to set up; trolling worm harnesses and crankbaits along the middle and lower basins' east shore can be productive. Bluegill are active now in shallower areas, flats and the back of coves; try wax worms or nightcrawlers suspended by a bobber. Channel catfish are becoming active again; fish the north basin and cove openings using shrimp, nightcrawlers, or chicken livers. There is a 10-HP limit here.

Kokosing Lake (Knox County) - This lake of 149 acres is limited to outboard motors of 10 HP or less. Largemouth bass are being caught around shoreline cover and along the dam using crankbaits and tubes. Bluegill are in shallow areas; try wax worms or nightcrawlers under a bobber. Crappies have moved to deeper water; use minnows or crappie jigs under a slip bobber around cover or the old creek channel for best results. Channel catfish can be caught on chicken livers, shrimp, or nightcrawlers fished on the bottom.

NORTHWEST OHIO

Sandusky Bay (Ottawa and Erie Counties) - Anglers are getting nice catches of channel catfish in the Bay. Fishing accesses include the Willow Point Wildlife Area off of Wahl Road, Pipe Creek, Pickerel Creek and the Sandusky Bay Bridge Fishing Access off of SR 2; try worms, shrimp, or chicken livers fished on the bottom. Evenings have produced the best catch rates.

Lost Creek Reservoir (Allen County) - This reservoir is located on the east side of Lima, at the intersection of Reservoir and Roush roads. Anglers have been catching a mixed bag of saugeye, crappie, rock bass, white bass, smallmouth and largemouth bass and catfish; try drifting or trolling worm harnesses and crankbaits. Anglers can also cast crankbaits from the shoreline. Anglers can use boats with electric motors; however, there is no boat ramp, so boats must be carried over the dike on the west side.

Fostoria Reservoir #2 (Hancock County) - This reservoir is located between Fostoria Reservoir #3 and the city water treatment plant. Anglers have still been catching some crappie in the early afternoons; try the northwest corner of the reservoir. Anglers have had the best luck using minnows fished under a slip bobber. No boats are allowed.

NORTHEAST OHIO

Deer Creek Reservoir (Stark County) - Fishing for catfish has been hot, with fish getting active before they spawn; anglers have been using nightcrawlers and chicken livers to catch fish across the lake. Some crappie are still being caught near the shore on minnows fished under slip bobbers.

LaDue Reservoir (Geauga County) - The catfish bite has slowed a bit but some large fish were reported being caught last week; tactics that have been working here are similar to other lakes. Walleye continue to be caught on crankbaits and trolled minnow baits. Sunfish have been on the beds where they can be caught on wax worms fished 2-3 feet below a bobber.

SOUTHEAST OHIO

Lake Hope (Vinton County) - Located in the Zaleski State Forest region, this scenic lake can be fished from both shore and boat. There is shoreline and boat access near the picnic and shelter areas. Both bluegill and crappie can be caught on minnows or worms. Late-evening fishing for channel catfish should be done with chicken livers fished with a sinker on the lake bottom. A variety of artificial baits will catch bass in the 1- to 1 1/2-pound range.

Lake Alma (Vinton County) - Bluegill are always a popular fish for anglers, whether experts or beginners. This 74-acre lake provides some excellent opportunities for these common sunfish; try wax worms and nightcrawlers under a bobber. Largemouth bass can also be caught using artificial baits, including jigs with twister tails and rattletails; try the back side of the lake and under the bridge. Electric motors only.

SOUTHWEST OHIO

C. J. Brown Reservoir (Clark County) - Walleye fishing is excellent. Early-morning boat anglers fishing jigs tipped with a nightcrawler over the mid-lake humps and in the north end of the lake are catching some nice walleye; recent reports indicate that anglers trolling deep-diving crankbaits are beginning to catch some larger fish. Remember there is a 15-inch minimum size limit and daily bag limit of six. Bluegill are being caught around the rocky shorelines of the dam and the marina. Also, try the wooden piling structures near the boat ramp and campground; use wax worms or red worms under a bobber. A few crappie are still being caught on minnows and wax worms around the marina.

Acton Lake (Preble County) - Good numbers of channel catfish are being caught by anglers using shrimp, cut bait and chicken livers fished on the bottom under a bobber or by tight-lining baits on the bottom. Successful areas include the more shallow waters near the boat ramp or along the dam; night fishing produces the best results. Bluegill, 6-8 inches in length, are being taken on red worms and wax worms fished around woody cover found in 6- to 15-foot depths.

OHIO RIVER

Meldahl Dam to Cincinnati (Clermont and Hamilton counties) - Channel catfish are being taken in good numbers all along the river; try chicken livers, shrimp, or nightcrawlers fished on the bottom.

Racine Dam (Meigs County) - Just below the Racine tailwaters is an excellent location for the early-morning anglers; try trolling shad, minnows, wiggle-warts and rooster-tails to reel in white bass and hybrid-striped bass. Early-morning fishing can also be productive for channel cats and

flatheads using nightcrawlers or cut bait. For the adventurous angler, try twister tails, plastic grubs, crank baits and minnows both at the dam and in the tailwater sections downstream. These baits may land you anything from catfish to hybrids.

LAKE ERIE

Regulations to Remember:

The daily bag limit for walleye on Ohio waters of Lake Erie is 6 fish per angler; the minimum size limit is 15 inches. ... The daily bag limit for yellow perch is 30 fish per angler on all Ohio waters of Lake Erie. ... The trout and salmon daily bag limit is 5; the minimum size limit is 12 inches. ... Black bass (largemouth and smallmouth bass) fishing is closed to possession (no harvest) through June 28. On June 29, the daily bag limit returns to 5 fish per angler with a 14" minimum size limit.

Western Basin: Walleye fishing was excellent over the past week (as of Tuesday); the best areas were west of West Sister Island, south of Middle Sister Island, around the northern reefs and "A" and "B" cans of the Camp Perry firing range, around Rattlesnake Island, south of Middle Island in Ohio waters, Gull Island Shoal along the border and east of Kelleys Island. Trollers have been catching fish on worm harnesses or with divers and spoons. Drifters are using worm harnesses with bottom-bouncers or are casting mayfly rigs. ... Yellow perch has been picking up, with good catches over the past week. The best areas have been around West Sister Island, near Rattlesnake Island and between North Bass and Kelleys islands; perch-spreaders with shiners fished near the bottom produce the most fish. ... Smallmouth bass fishing has also been very good in 10-20 feet of water around the Bass Islands; anglers are using soft-craws, tube jigs and crankbaits. ... Channel catfish catches have been good throughout the western basin, with anglers catching several during each outing.

Central Basin: Walleye have been caught nearshore from Cranberry Creek to Vermilion, including Ruggles Reef, on the dumping grounds north of Lorain, in 38-42 feet of water north of Edgewater Park and in 50-60 feet of water north of Chagrin River. Fishing has been good in 61 feet of water northwest of Fairport Harbor. There was excellent fishing this past week in 52-60 feet of water northwest of Geneva and in 50-60 feet of water northwest of Ashtabula. Anglers are trolling dipsy- and jet-divers with worm harnesses and spoons. ... Yellow perch fishing has been very good in 35 feet of water northeast of Gordon Park, in 33 feet of water northeast of Chagrin River, in 40-56 feet of water northwest of Fairport Harbor and in 36-48 feet of water

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north to northeast of the Conneaut. Spreaders with shiners fished near the bottom produce the most fish. Shore fishing has been good off the East 55th Street and East 72nd Street piers in Cleveland and off the Fairport Harbor Pier. Anglers are using spreaders with shiners; mornings have been best. ... Smallmouth bass fishing has been very good in 15-25 feet of water around harbor areas in Cleveland, Fairport Harbor, Geneva, Ashtabula and Conneaut. Largemouth bass are also being caught in the same areas; anglers are using soft-craws, leeches, tube jigs and crankbaits. ... Channel catfish have been very good along the Grand River; anglers are using chicken livers and large chubs. ... The water temperature is 64 degrees off of Toledo and 54 degrees off of Cleveland, according to the nearshore marine forecast.

Ohio Watercraft field locations extending hours

Ohio Watercraft field locations are extending their office hours to accommodate boaters who find limited time to get their paperwork in order.

The 11 Watercraft field offices are located across the state in Ashtabula, Cleveland, Sandusky, Maumee Bay, Wapakoneta, Akron, Cambridge, Delaware, Springfield, East Fork and Scioto County. They offer a variety of services that are not available at the independent registration agent locations, including verifying hull ID numbers and selling the popular Alternative Registration for hand-powered vessels.

For a listing of extended hours, visit the [Watercraft Field Office](#) page.