

## **OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **DIVISION OF WILDLIFE**

#### **Weekly Fish Ohio Fishing Report!**

#### **CENTRAL OHIO**

Deer Creek Lake (Fayette/Pickaway counties) - This 1,287-acre lake southwest of Columbus provides good largemouth bass and crappie fishing. Fish shoreline cover and riprap for largemouth bass; throwing creature baits, tubes and crankbaits is popular. When crappie fishing, use a minnow suspended under a bobber around wood for best results; these must be 9 inches-plus to keep. Channel catfish are being caught using cut shad, shrimp or catfish baits.

O'Shaughnessy Reservoir (Delaware County) - Saugeye can be caught using trolling worm harnesses and small crankbaits in the south end of the reservoir; try the flats at dawn and dusk for good results. Bluegill are being caught in the north end and on shallow flats of the lake using wax worms and nightcrawlers. Largemouth bass are being found lake-wide around shoreline cover, plus secondary points and riprap areas; try crankbaits, spinner baits and tube baits in the morning and evening for best results. Crappie have moved to deeper water; target drop-offs into the old river channel.

### **NORTHWEST OHIO**

Resthaven Wildlife Area, Pond 7 (Erie County) - Located just outside Castalia on SR 269, the site has 444 acres of water contained in 10 different ponds. Anglers should still be able to hook into some largemouth bass this time of year; typical lures include plastic worms and crankbaits. Pond 7 is also excellent for carp; for something new, try bow-fishing from the access roads or from a boat. Boats may be used here; however, no ramps are available at most of the ponds. Pond 8 does have a ramp and a handicapped-accessible fishing pier. Gasoline motors up to 9.9 HP may be used on all ponds.

Bressler Reservoir (Allen County) - Located outside the city of Lima, a mile south of SR 81 and a mile north of SR 117 on Kemp and Grubb roads, it has a surface area of 582 acres. Its maximum depth is 44 feet near the northeast corner, with an average depth of 27 feet. An underwater island adjacent to the conservation pool along the southern shoreline has shallower depths to 10 feet. These depths provide better food production than the deeper waters and serves as a fish-concentration device. The only aquatic vegetation beds here are around this underwater island and in the shoreline area south of the boat ramp. Bluegill can be caught along the entire shoreline; however, anglers usually have the best success at the east end of the north shore. Walleye can be caught along the drop-off all along the shoreline, or near the underwater island; try drifting or trolling worm harnesses or crankbaits in the morning and evenings.

### **NORTHEAST OHIO**

Deer Creek (Stark County) - The bass fishing has picked up at this scenic, electric-only lake; try crankbaits near the causeway or soft plastics around wood cover for the chance at a big one. Bluegill continue to bite along the shoreline on worms or wax worms suspended under bobbers. The catfish action has slowed a little, with the bite switching to nightcrawlers fished off the bottom.

Tappan Lake (Harrison County) - Bass fishing has also picked up at this larger lake, with fast-moving lures triggering strikes; try spinnerbaits or crankbaits near weeds, wood or rock cover. Saugeye also continue to bite, with crawler harnesses being the top bait; some anglers are reporting success on crankbaits as well.

Highlandtown Lake (Columbiana County) - The bass bite has been explosive at this remote, Wildlife Area lake. Top-waters and crankbaits have been producing tremendous catches of schooling fish chasing gizzard shad; focus on the dam area and offshore structure. Anglers continue to catch good numbers of sunfish off the fishing pier on bobbers; some catfish continue to be caught off the bottom on chicken livers. Common carp have moved shallow to spawn and are making a ruckus in the lily pads, providing a great opportunity for bow-fishing anglers.

### **SOUTHEAST OHIO**

Seneca Lake (Guernsey/Noble counties) - Trophy striped bass can be targeted using artificial lures trolled near the first small island outside of the no-wake zone. Saugeye can be caught by drift-fishing jigs tipped with a twister tail and a minnow, or twister jigs tipped with a nightcrawler and fished slow retrieve along the bottom; the area around the upper island and submerged humps near the mouth of Cadillac Bay are always popular with anglers. Channel cats can be caught off the banks near Briar Hill Road past the last island in the upper section of the lake; try chicken livers or nightcrawlers.

Hocking River (Hocking/Athens counties) - Smallmouth bass fishing is usually popular this time of year; the best fishing tends to be in pools and near submerged structure, rocks, or root systems using minnows, roostertails, soft craws and twisters. Any of these can be effective when fished from canoes or the shoreline. Channel catfish can also be found throughout; try cut bait, bluegill and minnows.

### **SOUTHWEST OHIO**

East Fork Lake (Clermont County) - Crappies are being caught using live minnows or jigs tipped with PowerBait below nine feet; try in and around structure such as brush piles and fallen trees. Channel catfish are being caught using chicken liver under a bobber and off of the bottom off of Tunnel Mill.

CJ Brown (Clark County) - Walleye anglers are reporting success trolling deep-diving lures, keeping them between 9-14 feet.

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Written by Nancy Spencer  
Saturday, July 06, 2013 12:41 AM -

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Paint Creek Lake (Highland County) - Anglers are reporting success with crappie; try chartreuse jigs near the shore at about 3-10 feet.

## OHIO RIVER

Racine Dam area - Live bait has been the hot choice this week for catching both hybrid-striped and smallmouth bass; try creek chubs, shiners, or your favorite variety of live bait fished near the dam.

Meldahl Dam area - Fishing pressure was pretty slow all along the river this week due to warm weather and scattered storms. Anglers are having the most success catching hybrid-striped bass, channel catfish and flatheads on chicken livers and nightcrawlers; best times will be at dawn and dusk when the temperature is not too high.

## LAKE ERIE

**Regulations to Remember:** The daily bag limit for walleye on Ohio waters of Lake Erie is 6 fish per angler (minimum size limit is 15 inches). ... The daily bag limit for yellow perch is 30 fish on all Ohio waters of Lake Erie. ... The trout and salmon daily bag limit is 5 (minimum size limit is 12 inches). ... The black bass (largemouth and smallmouth) daily bag limit is 5 fish (minimum size limit is 14 inches).

**Western Basin:** Walleye fishing was good over the past week until recent windy weather limited opportunities; the best areas were N of West Sister Island, Northwest Reef (W of North Bass Island) and American Eagle Shoal (SW 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 fishing was good over the past week until recent windy weather limited opportunities; the best areas have been around the

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Toledo water intake, NE of West Sister Island, "C" can of the Camp Perry firing range, between South Bass and Green islands and 1 mile E of the Kelleys Island airport. Perch-spreaders with shiners fished near the bottom produce the most. ... Smallmouth bass fishing has been very good around South Bass Island; anglers are using soft-craws, tube jigs and crankbaits. Largemouth bass fishing has also been good in harbors and nearshore areas around Catawba and Marblehead.

**Central Basin:** Walleye fishing has been good W of the Huron dumping grounds, at the weather buoy, 1.5 miles N of Beaver Creek, nearshore from Sheffield to Avon Point, in 61-65' of water N of Gordon Park in Cleveland and in 40-42' of water NE of Chagrin River. Fishing has been excellent in 68-70' NE of Geneva and in 65-72' NW of the Ashtabula; anglers are trolling dipsy- and jet-divers with worm harnesses and yellow, orange, pink, copper and purple spoons. There has also been excellent fishing nearshore in 12-24' oNW of Ashtabula and off Conneaut; anglers are drifting Erie Dearies. ... Yellow perch fishing has been excellent in 37' N of Wildwood State Park, in 33' N of Chagrin River, in 39-47' NW of Fairport Harbor (the hump) and in 45-48' N of the Conneaut. Shore anglers are catching a few fish off the East 55 Street pier in Cleveland and the long pier on the Grand River; spreaders with shiners fished near the bottom produce the most fish. ... Smallmouth bass fishing has been excellent in 15-25' around harbor areas in Cleveland, Fairport Harbor, Geneva, Ashtabula and Conneaut. Largemouth bass are also being caught in the same areas using soft-craws and leeches. ... White bass has been good in the evenings off Euclid Beach and Sims Park in Euclid using agitators with jigs and small spoons. ... Rock bass are being caught off the breakwalls in Fairport Harbor. ... Channel catfishing has been very good along the Grand River using chicken livers and large chubs. ... The water temperature is 69 degrees off of Toledo and 68 degrees off of Cleveland, according to the nearshore marine forecast. ... Anglers are encouraged to always wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device while boating.