



Dear Neighbors,

Warm and sunny summer days are here, and with them the endless recreation options for some fantastic Pure Michigan experiences for you and your family.

Michigan has 154 species of fish and more than 11,000 inland lakes, along with 1,220 public beaches and more than 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline. It's no wonder Michigan is the place to be for everyone looking to enjoy the great outdoors, especially in the summer.

As you plan your adventures throughout the Mitten State, keep in mind the fishing and boating information in this newsletter. Our great state truly has something for everyone!



Sincerely,

JASON SHEPPARD

Your State Representative

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Want to start planning your next Michigan getaway?



Download Your 2017 Official Pure Michigan Travel Guide

www.michigan.org/travel-guide

MICHIGAN

FISHING & BOATING 2017



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ONLINE RESOURCES

Michigan DNR Fishing Information
www.michigan.gov/fishing

Michigan Recreational Boating Information System (MRBIS)
www.mcgi.state.mi.us/MRBIS

Renew Watercraft Registrations
www.ExpressSOS.com

Weekly Fishing Report
www.michigan.gov/fishingreport

LEARNING TO FISH WITH THE DNR

The Hook, Line and Sinker Program offers people the option to learn how to fish. This is a weekly fishing program conducted by the DNR at more than 30 state parks and fish hatcheries in Michigan. Visit michigan.gov/hooklineandsinker for more information.

Michigan fishing licenses are available to purchase at your local license retailer or online at www.mdnr-elicense.com.



IN MICHIGAN THERE ARE **154** SPECIES OF FISH

Michigan has the most diverse and highest quality freshwater fishery in the United States.

¹National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, & Wildlife-Associated Recreation (FHWAR) <https://www.census.gov/prod/www/fishing.html>

REMEMBER TO BE SAFE WHEN ON THE WATER!

Michigan offers a free boating handbook with valuable information on being safe and responsible when on the water.

Download the handbook at:
boat-ed.com/michigan/handbook/book.html

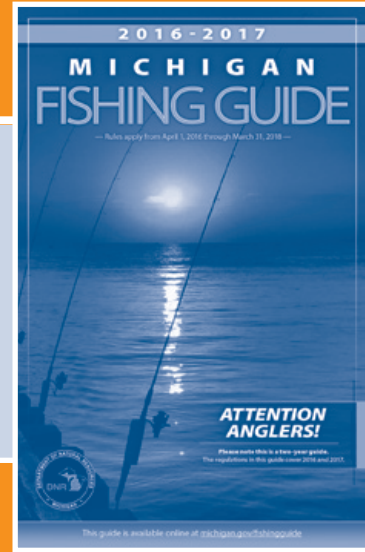
INVASIVE SPECIES: YOU CAN HELP

Boaters and anglers, you can help keep our waters clean and free of invasive species by following some basic guidelines:

- ▶ **CLEAN** boats, trailers and equipment
- ▶ **DRAIN** live wells, bilges and all water
- ▶ **DRY** boats and equipment
- ▶ **DISPOSE** of unwanted bait in the trash

For more information on how you can help keep our waters clean and free of invasive species visit www.michigan.gov/invasives.

2017 GENERAL HOOK-AND-LINE FISHING SEASON



Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass (Pages 12-13*)

- Catch-and-immediate-release on all waters Open All Year
- Catch-and-keep on all waters, including Great Lakes May 27 – December 31, 2017
- Catch-and-keep on Lake St. Clair & St. Clair & Detroit rivers June 17 – December 31, 2017

Muskellunge (Pages 12, 14*)

- Lower Peninsula Great Lakes Open All Year
- Lower Peninsula inland waters April 29, 2017 – March 15, 2018
- Upper Peninsula Great Lakes, inland waters & St. Marys River March 15, 2017 – May 15, 2018
- Lake St. Clair & St. Clair & Detroit rivers June 3 – December 15, 2017

Northern Pike & Walleye (Pages 12, 14*)

- Lower Peninsula Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair & St. Clair & Detroit rivers Open All Year
- Lower Peninsula inland waters April 29, 2017 – March 15, 2018
- Upper Peninsula Great Lakes, inland waters & St. Marys River May 15, 2017 – March 15, 2018

Salmon & Trout

- Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, St. Marys River, St. Clair & Detroit rivers Open All Year (Pages 18, 20-21*)
- (Inland) Type 3 & 4 streams and Type B, C, E & F lakes Open All Year (Pages 38-58*)
- (Inland) Type 1 & 2 streams and Type A & D lakes April 29 – September 30, 2017 (Pages 38-58*)

Channel Catfish, Flathead Catfish, Cisco (Lake Herring), Lake Whitefish, Smelt, Sunfishes, White Bass, Yellow Perch & Other Species (Pages 12, 14*)

- All waters open for fishing Open All Year

Lake Sturgeon (See Table 2 on page 15*)

*Please refer to the 2016 – 2017 Michigan Fishing Guide (available online – www.michigan.gov/fishing) for regulations concerning size limits, possession limits, and other restrictions.

LIFEJACKET SAFETY

Whether you are enjoying Michigan's waterways for the first time or you've been doing it for years, it is always important to remember to stay safe by staying afloat.

Michigan law requires all watercraft to have appropriately sized personal flotation devices (PFD), also known as lifejackets, for each person on board. Sizes are designed to accommodate individuals based on body weight and chest size.

ADDITIONAL LIFEJACKET REQUIREMENTS:



- ▶ Children less than 6 years of age must wear a Type I or Type II PFD when riding in the open deck area of a boat.
- ▶ Each person less than 12 years of age riding or being towed behind a personal watercraft (jet ski) must wear a Type I or Type II PFD.



- ▶ Each person 12 years of age or older operating, riding on or being towed behind a personal watercraft (jet ski) must wear a Type I, Type II or Type III PFD that is not an inflatable device.

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