



**SALMON IN THE CLASSROOM (SIC) PROGRAM  
PROCEDURES FOR PICKING UP SALMON EGGS**

1. Adhering to the procedures laid out below is the teacher's responsibility. Failure to do so may result in eggs not being released to teachers, due to concern for the health of the eggs.
2. Pick-up your eggs at a weir or a fish hatchery.
  - Returning teachers have a choice of picking up green eggs from a weir or eyed eggs from a hatchery.
  - New teachers are required to pick up eyed eggs from a hatchery in their first year of participation in the program, because eyed eggs are not as fragile as green eggs.

**GREEN EGGS VS. EYED EGGS**

- Obtaining green eggs from the weir will allow your students to see the entire development of the fish whereas if you obtain eyed eggs from a hatchery, students will not be able to observe the first month of development.
- Teachers will receive 300 eggs from the weir or 200 eggs from the hatchery. Fewer eggs are given at the hatchery because at this stage, one month into the development, the eggs have been treated several times to discourage fungus and bacteria growth.
- Eggs that reach the eyed stage at the hatchery have a greater potential to survive because all non-viable eggs that died in the first month of development have been removed.

*GREEN eggs from a weir (only the weirs listed below distribute eggs).*

Typically, green eggs are ready to be picked up at weirs during the first and second weeks of October. Important: the ripeness of the fish dictates when the eggs will be available and as such, these dates may be subject to change.

It is your responsibility to schedule your egg pick up from the weir you plan on obtaining eggs from by contacting the biologist at that location. Please contact them by mid-September. They will keep you informed about any changes. A map of the following weirs can be found here:

<http://www.michigandnr.com/publications/pdfs/fishing/hatcheries/hatcherymap.asp>

Little Manistee Weir, Manistee

Scott Heintzelman, Fisheries Technician Supervisor  
(231) 389-2551, [heintzes@michigan.gov](mailto:heintzes@michigan.gov)

Swan River Weir, Rogers City

Brian Hoxie, Fisheries Technician  
(989) 732-3541, [hoxieb@michigan.gov](mailto:hoxieb@michigan.gov)

*EYED eggs from a hatchery (only the hatcheries listed below distribute eggs).*

Teachers, or a representative for that teacher, should plan to pick up eggs from the appropriate hatchery at the dates and times listed below. If you are unable to pick up your eggs from one of these hatcheries at the dates and times listed, you will forfeit your egg allotment for this year. A map of the hatcheries can be found here:

<http://www.michigandnr.com/publications/pdfs/fishing/hatcheries/hatcherymap.asp>

Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery, Mattawan, MI (No pre-scheduled appointment is necessary)

Matt Hughes, Hatchery Biologist, [hughesm6@michigan.gov](mailto:hughesm6@michigan.gov)

2010 Egg Pick Up Dates, Weekdays 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Monday, November 8

Tuesday, November 9

Wednesday, November 10

Friday, November 12

Saturday, November 13

Platte River State Fish Hatchery, Beulah, MI (No pre-scheduled appointment is necessary)

Janice Sapak, Hatchery Biologist, [sapakj@michigan.gov](mailto:sapakj@michigan.gov)

2010 Egg Pick Up Dates from 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 9

Wednesday, November 10

Thompson State Fish Hatchery, Manistique, MI

Randy Espinoza, Hatchery Biologist, [espinozar@michigan.gov](mailto:espinozar@michigan.gov)

2010 Egg pick up dates from 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 17

Thursday, November 18

Friday, November 19

3. Be ready on the day of your egg pick-up.
  - ▣ Teachers may wish to work together to pick up eggs collectively for several participating schools in a specific geographic region in the state. **The teacher or teacher representative picking up the eggs is required to have the permits of all those teachers they are picking up eggs for, no exceptions.** The fall season is a very busy time for Fisheries staff, please be considerate of their time.
  - ▣ Scientific Collector's Permit. Those attending the November workshop at Wolf Lake will receive their permit at the workshop, otherwise the permit will be mailed to you. You wouldn't forget to bring your tickets to a baseball game, so don't forget to bring your Permit, this is your ticket to pick up your eggs.
  - ▣ Please remember to bring the following:
    - Clean cooler (lunch box size is sufficient)
    - Small Tupperware container with lid
    - Ice
4. Acclimate your eggs to your aquarium
  - ▣ After you have obtained your eggs, whether from the weir or the hatchery, it is important that you acclimate the eggs to the temperature of your aquarium. Introducing the eggs into water that is a substantially different temperature can be stressful and even deadly to the eggs.
  - ▣ Once you get home, open the top of the bag and remove about 25% of the water from the bag. Replace this water with the same amount of water from your tank. Float the bag in your tank and bring down the hood opening on the open end of the bag to help keep the bag secure. Every 10 minutes add about 1 measuring cup (use less if the bag is smaller) of your tank water to the bag. Repeat this process for about an hour. By slowly adding small amounts of water from the tank you are slowly acclimating the fish.
5. Additional information
  - ▣ Information on dead eggs, replacement eggs and a feeding guide can be found in the "Salmon Care" section of the curriculum manual or on the web at [www.michigan.gov/sic](http://www.michigan.gov/sic).
  - ▣ Fish food will be distributed when the eggs are picked up.
  - ▣ For tank or egg questions please direct your questions to either:
    - Natalie Elkins, Office of Communications, [elkinsn@michigan.gov](mailto:elkinsn@michigan.gov), (517) 373-1547
    - OR
    - Shana McMillan, Wolf Lake Hatchery Interpreter, [mcmillans1@michigan.gov](mailto:mcmillans1@michigan.gov), (269) 668-2876

We hope you enjoy having Salmon in the Classroom!