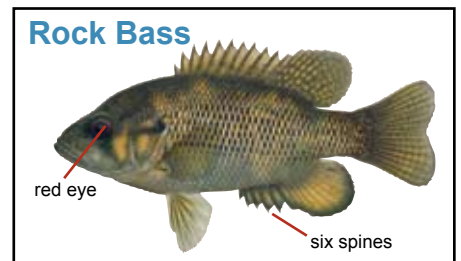
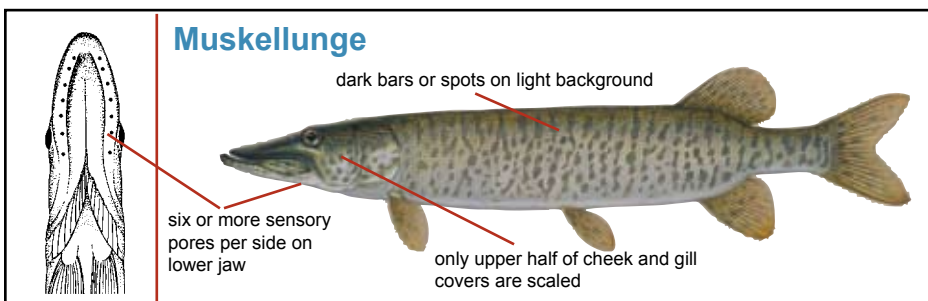
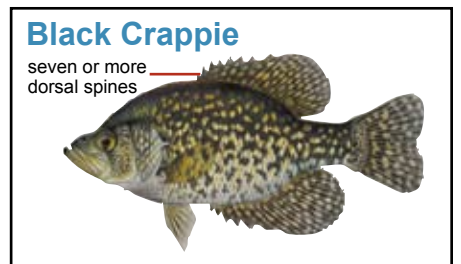
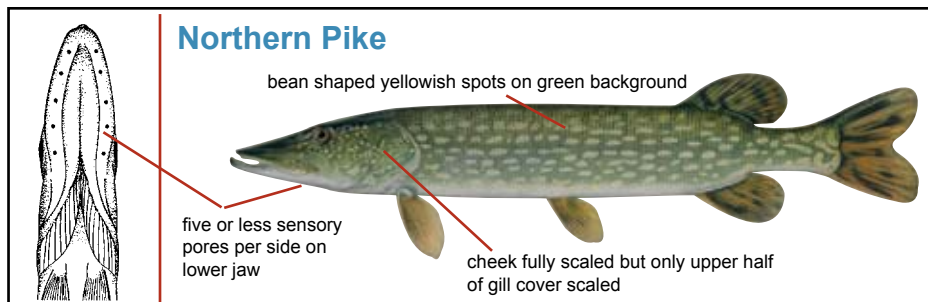
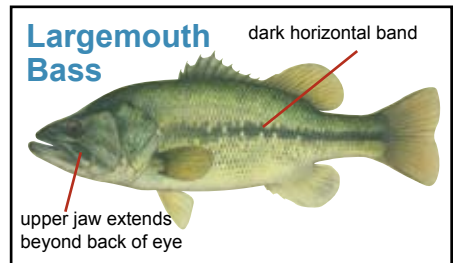
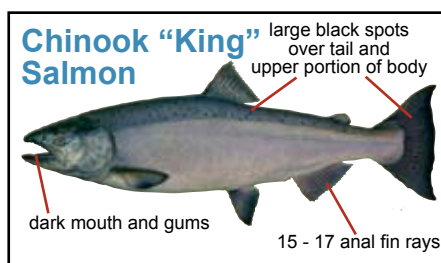
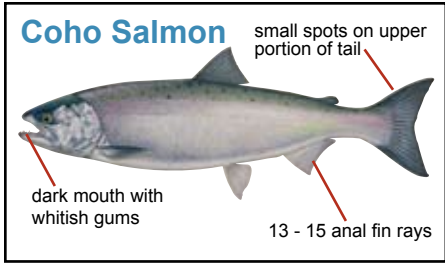
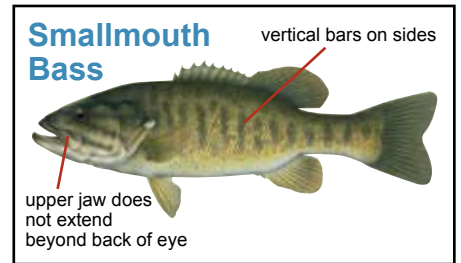
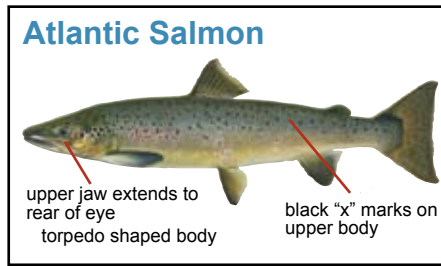
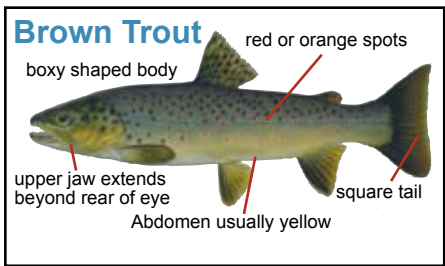
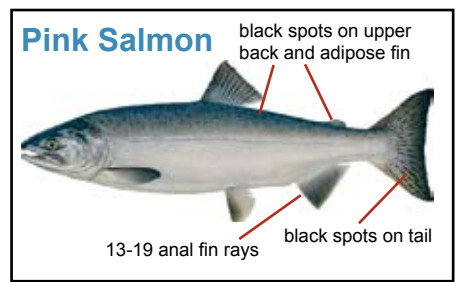
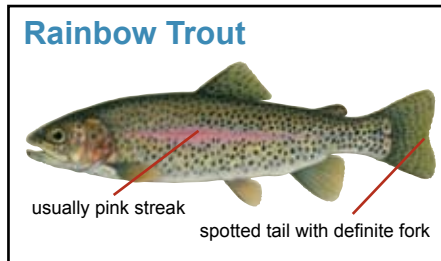
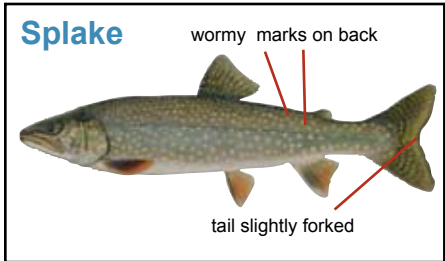
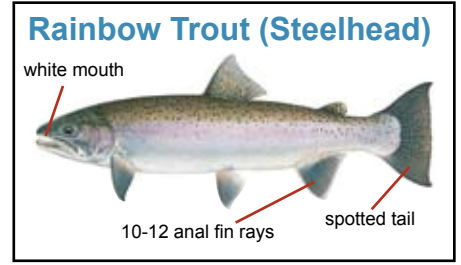
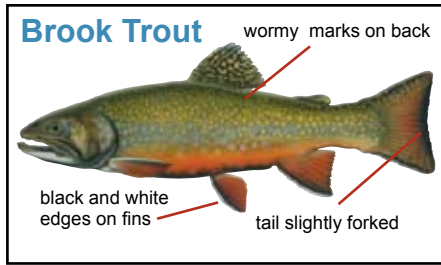
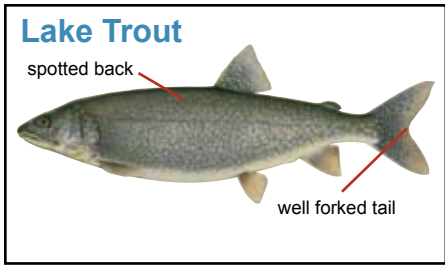
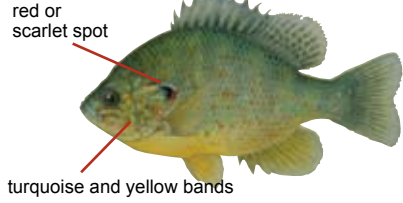


# Know Your Fish — Common Fish Species



Illustrations by — Joseph R. Tomelleri

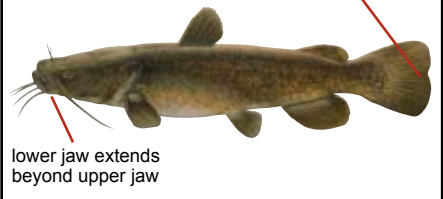
### Pumpkinseed (Sunfish)



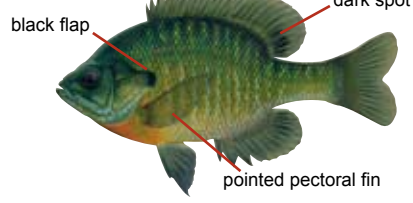
### Yellow Perch



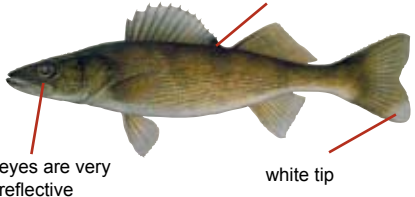
### Flathead Catfish



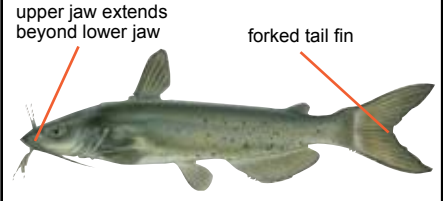
### Bluegill



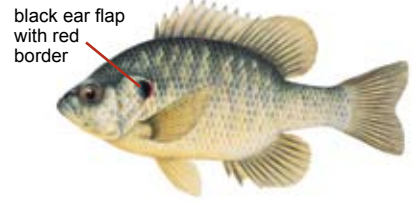
### Walleye



### Channel Catfish



### Redear Sunfish (female)



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### Asian Carp Pose Threat to Great Lakes

### Bighead Carp



Photos courtesy U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### Silver Carp



Four species of Asian carp, including the bighead carp and silver carp shown above, are threatening to arrive in Michigan. Bighead carp are so voracious they leave nothing for native species. The silver carp is a safety hazard because it can jump high enough to hit people in boats. Anglers should be alert for any carp that appears to have its eyes looking down. If you find an unidentified carp in any inland or Great Lakes waters, freeze it and take it to a DNR Operations Service Center.

### Angler Access Guide to Lake Michigan

Even if you don't own a boat to go fishing on the big lake, many sites along the Michigan public shoreline provide exciting angling options. These public access sites, many of which provide opportunities for persons with disabilities, include breakwaters, fishing piers and platforms along harbors, river mouths and stretches of beach. The Angler Access Guide to Lake Michigan, published by the Great Lakes Fishery Trust, is a web-based guide designed to help anglers fish the Lake Michigan shoreline, from New Buffalo to Mackinaw City.

Shore fishing is a basic, inexpensive sport that is fun and produces food for the table. You do not need costly electronics. Requirements include standard rods and reels, a handful of spoons or jigs, a good net, a comfortable chair, and the essentials for catching fish: hooks, sinkers, line and bait. To the shore-bound angler, however, pastures often seem greener in the trolling lanes far out into Lake Michigan. But sometimes the fishing is better close to shore, occasionally in water so shallow boat anglers can't reach it. This phenomenon is especially true in early spring and again in fall when trout, salmon and other game fish cruise shoreward to feed or to spawn.



During summer, steelhead begin to enter many southern Lake Michigan rivers, such as the Galien and St. Joseph. A combination of water temperature and flow volume attracts these exciting fish from early July through September. In addition, chinook salmon make commando-like raids on river mouths, where they seek minnows, insects and other food sluicing along with the current. Breakwater anglers catch them in the inky darkness before dawn.

The Angler Access Guide to Lake Michigan, which can be accessed at [www.glft.org](http://www.glft.org), includes detailed information about access and locations complete with maps; how to shore fish, including tips; and relevant links.