

Best Spots for Catfish in the Detroit Area



For a free copy of the Michigan Family Fish Consumption Guide,
call the Michigan Department of Community Health at:

1-800-648-6942

or visit: www.michigan.gov/fishandgameadvisory

These lakes in southeast Michigan have been stocked with channel catfish

The catfish in these lakes are a healthier choice than the catfish in the Detroit River.
Check the Michigan Family Fish Consumption Guide for advice on eating catfish from these lakes.

1. PONTIAC LAKE, OAKLAND COUNTY

Access: Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area, Williams Lake Rd., north of M-59, four miles west of Pontiac. Boat launch and fishing piers in Recreation Area. State park sticker required.

Additional Information: Excellent catfish population with 2007 survey showing many fish in the 18-24 inch size range. Good walleye, bluegill and largemouth bass as well.

Contact: Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area at 248-666-1020; or MDNR Southfield Service Center Fish Division at 248-359-9040.

2. BELLEVILLE LAKE, WAYNE COUNTY

Access: Two public boat access sites: Huron River Drive one mile west of Haggerty Rd.; and Rawsonville Rd. half mile south of I-94. Shore fishing at both access sites and fishing pier near dam on east end of lake.

Additional Information: Good catfish population with many larger fish reported by anglers. Latest DNR survey found many catfish in 18-24 inch range with fish up to and over 30 inches caught. Good walleye, smallmouth bass and crappie.

Contact: South Street Tackle Store in Belleville at 734-697-0990; or MDNR Southfield Service Center Fish Division at 248-359-9040.

3. FORD LAKE, WASHTENAW COUNTY

Access: Ypsilanti Township Park with boat access site and shore fishing at east end of lake off Huron River Dr. Other local parks provide some shore fishing as well.

Additional Information: DNR 2006 survey caught over 600 catfish averaging 22 inches with fish up to 30 inches. Also good walleye, smallmouth bass, black crappie and some yellow perch.

Contact: Ypsilanti Township Recreation Department at 734-544-3800; or MDNR Southfield Service Center Fish Division at 248-359-9040.

4. GEDDES LAKE, WASHTENAW COUNTY

Access: City of Ann Arbor boat launch off Geddes Rd. west of US-23. Shore fishing in Gallup Park off Fuller Rd. west of Huron Parkway and along paved path on south side of lake.

Additional Information: DNR 2008 survey showed good numbers of catfish averaging 22 inches with many in the 20-25 inch range. Also largemouth bass, northern pike and bluegill.

Contact: Ann Arbor Department of Parks and Recreation at 734-994-2780; or MDNR Southfield Service Center Fish Division at 248-359-9040.

5. NEWBURGH LAKE, WAYNE COUNTY

Access: Two fishing piers off Hines Drive on north side of lake. Shore fishing along most of north shore. Paddleboat and row boat rental available. Canoe or carry-in boat access at central parking and pier location.

Additional Information: DNR 2005 survey found fair numbers of catfish up to 25 inches. Largemouth bass, bluegill and northern pike also present. The previous "no consumption" advisory for all fish has been removed by Michigan Department of Community Health.

Contact: Wayne County Division of Parks at 734-261-2025; or MDNR Southfield Service Center Fish Division at 248-359-9040.

6. STONY CREEK IMPOUNDMENT, MACOMB COUNTY

Access: Stony Creek Metropark provides public boat launch and shore fishing around much of the lake. Speed limit of 10 mph on lake. Metropark sticker required for park entry.

Additional Information: Last DNR survey found a fair population of catfish averaging 16 inches and up to 26 inches. Good walleye, largemouth bass and some large crappie also present.

Contact: Stony Creek Metropark at 586-781-4242; or MDNR Southfield Service Center Fish Division at 248-359-9040.

For more information on fishing these lakes, call the
Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) at:

1-248-359-9040

