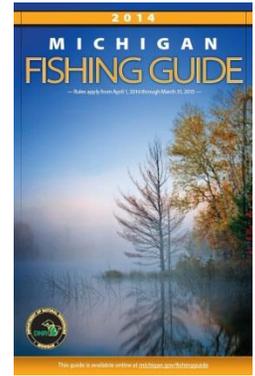




## Michigan Fishing Guide Excerpts



### **Fishing License Requirements and Special Provisions:**

- You must purchase a license if you are 17 years of age or older.
- If you are under 17, you may fish without a license, but you are required to observe all fishing rules and regulations.
- When fishing, you must carry your license and the identification used to purchase that license and exhibit both upon demand of a Michigan Conservation Officer, a Tribal Conservation Officer or any law enforcement officer.
- Your fishing license is valid from March 1 of a given year through March 31 of the following year.

### **To purchase a fishing license you must have:**

- A valid Michigan Driver License; or
- A valid Michigan ID Card (issued by the Secretary of State) with additional proof of Michigan residency, such as a Michigan voter registration card; or
- A DNR Sportcard (issued by any license dealer for \$1.00) which is required for all non-residents. If the information on your DNR Sportcard from a previous year is still accurate, you may continue to use it.
- Your license can be purchased at one of over 1500 licensed dealers statewide (for example any sporting goods store).

### **To qualify for a resident fishing license, you must:**

- Be a person who resides in a settled or permanent home or domicile within the boundaries of this state with the intention of remaining in this state, or
- Be a full-time student at a Michigan college or university, or
- Serve full-time in the U.S. Military and be either officially stationed in Michigan or maintain residency in Michigan.

### **Hook-and-Line Fishing:**

Fish taken must be hooked in the mouth. Fish not hooked in the mouth must be returned to the water immediately. No more than 3 lines per person (including tip-ups) nor more than 6 hooks or lures may be used. All hooks attached to an artificial bait or "night crawler harness" are counted as 1 hook. Hooks must be baited or attached to an artificial bait. Any number of hooks may be used on 1 line for taking smelt in recognized smelt waters (visit [www.michigan.gov/fishing](http://www.michigan.gov/fishing)). All tip-ups and other similar devices must be marked with the name and address of the owner in legible English, either directly on the object or securely fastened to it by a plate or tag. All lines must be under immediate control. Hook and size regulations exist on certain streams (see Exceptions to General Regulations by County, pages 34-38).

### **Free Fishing Weekend**

Get outside and go fishing! Enjoy these Free Fishing Weekends every year where no fishing license is required. 2014 dates; June 7-8 and February 14-15. [www.michigan.gov/freefishing](http://www.michigan.gov/freefishing)

### **Weekly Fishing Report**

Each week discover the latest fishing hot spots and tips used to catch specific species all throughout Michigan. Access the weekly report either by phone at 1-855-777-0908 or online at [www.michigan.gov/fishingreport](http://www.michigan.gov/fishingreport).

## License Types & Fees

<u>License Type</u>	<u>Cost</u>
DNR Sportcard .....	\$1.00
 <b><u>Resident</u></b>	
24 hr. (Good for all species for a designated 24-hour period) .....	\$10.00
72 hr. (Good for all species for a designated 72-hour period) .....	\$30.00
Annual (Good for all species).....	\$26.00
Senior (65 or older) .....	\$11.00
 <b><u>Nonresident</u></b>	
24 hr. (Good for all species for a designated 24-hour period) .....	\$10.00
72 hr. (Good for all species for a designated 72-hour period) .....	\$30.00
Annual (Good for all species).....	\$76.00
 <b><u>Specialty Items and Tags</u></b>	
Lake Sturgeon Fishing Tag (Required to fish for Lake Sturgeon) .....	\$0.00
Muskellunge Harvest Tag (Required to harvest a Muskellunge) .....	\$0.00
 <b><u>Lost Licenses</u></b>	
You may purchase a replacement license at any license dealer. You must provide the identification number used to purchase the original license..... Same cost as original license	

## Species and Season Dates

### **2014-2015 Fishing Seasons**

This provides general hook-and-line fishing seasons/dates for the species listed. There are many other fishing regulations associated with these species and seasons. Please refer to the rest of the 2014 Michigan Fishing Guide for regulations concerning size limits, possession limits, and other restrictions.

### **Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass**

Catch-and-immediate-release on Lower Peninsula waters, including Great Lakes:	Apr. 26 – May 23
Catch-and-immediate-release on Lake St. Clair & St. Clair & Detroit Rivers:	Apr. 26 – Jun. 20
Catch-and-immediate-release on Upper Peninsula waters, including Great Lakes:	May 15 – May 24
Catch-and-keep on all waters, including Great Lakes:	May 24 – Dec. 31
Catch-and-keep on Lake St. Clair & St. Clair & Detroit Rivers:	Jun. 21 – Dec. 31

### **Muskellunge**

Lower Peninsula Great Lakes:	Open All Year
Lower Peninsula inland waters:	Apr. 26 – Mar. 15
Upper Peninsula Great Lakes, inland waters & St. Marys River:	May 15 – Mar. 15
Lake St. Clair & St. Clair & Detroit Rivers:	Jun. 7 – Dec. 15

### **Northern Pike & Walleye**

Lower Peninsula Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair & St. Clair & Detroit Rivers:	Open All Year
Lower Peninsula inland waters:	Apr. 26 – Mar. 15
Upper Peninsula Great Lakes, inland waters & St. Marys River:	May 15 – Mar. 15

### **Salmon & Trout**

Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, St. Marys River, St. Clair & Detroit Rivers:	Open All Year
(Inland) Type 3 & 4 streams and Type B, C, E & F lakes:	Open All Year
(Inland) Type 1 & 2 streams and Type A & D lakes:	Apr. 26 – Sep. 30
Gear Restricted streams: Please see Inland Trout & Salmon Regulations for information concerning seasons on these streams.	

**Channel Catfish, Flathead Catfish, Cisco (Lake Herring), Lake Whitefish, Smelt, Sunfishes, White Bass, Yellow Perch & Other Species:** Waters open for fishing Open All Year

## General Hook & Line Regulations

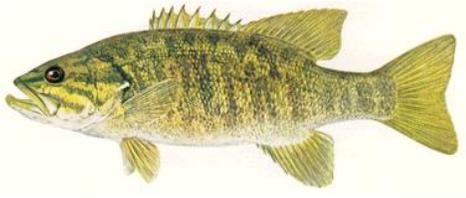
This provides general statewide regulations for the species listed. However, there are many waters in the state that have fishing regulations which differ from those in this table. Please refer to the Fishing Guide.

Species (Note 1)	Minimum Size (inches)	Daily Possession Limit	Seasons
Largemouth bass Smallmouth bass (Note 2)	14"	These fish identified above have a daily possession limit of 5 total in any combination but no more than 2 northern pike.	3rd. Sat. in Jun. – Dec. 31: L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., Detroit R.  Sat. before Memorial Day – Dec. 31: All other waters including Great Lakes (except those listed in Note 2)
Walleye (Note 3)	15"		May 15 – Mar. 15: Upper Peninsula Great Lakes and inland waters, and St. Marys R.
Northern pike	24"		<b>Last Sat. in Apr. – Mar. 15:</b> Lower Peninsula inland waters
Flathead catfish	15"		Open All Year: Lower Peninsula Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Clair R. and Detroit R.
Channel Catfish	12"	Daily possession limit: 10	Open all year
Yellow perch	No size limit	Daily possession limit: 50	Open all year
Sunfishes	No size limit	Daily possession limit: 25 in any combination of the listed species.	Open all year
White bass	No size limit	Daily possession limit: 25 on the Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Mary's river, St. Clair River, and Detroit River; 10 on inland waters	Open all year
Lake whitefish Cisco (lake herring)	No size limit	12 in any combination	Open all year
Smelt	No size limit	Daily possession limit: 2 gallons	Open all year
All others	No size limit	No possession limit	Open all year

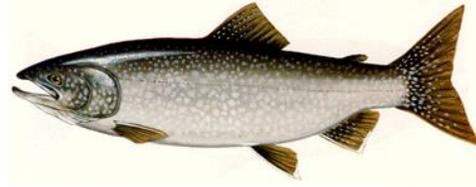
For regulations on Muskellunge and Lake Sturgeon: please refer to the full Fishing Guide.

## Know Your Fish: Common Fish Species

Smallmouth Bass, *Micropterus dolomieu*



Lake Trout, *Salvelinus namaycush*



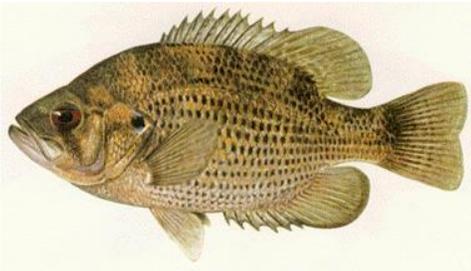
Largemouth Bass, *Micropterus salmoides*



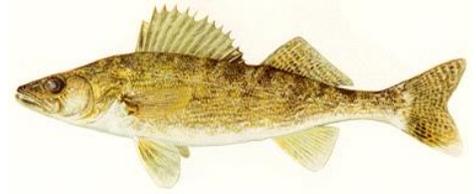
Brook Trout, *Salvelinus fontinalis*



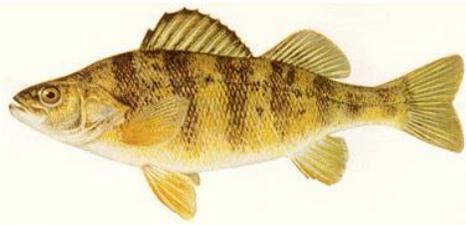
Rock Bass, *Ambloplites rupestris*



Walleye, *Sander vitreus*



Yellow Perch, *Perca flavescens*



Northern Pike, *Esox lucius*



Muskellunge, *Esox masquinongy*



Bluegill, *Lepomis macrochirus*



Channel Catfish, *Ictalurus punctatus*

