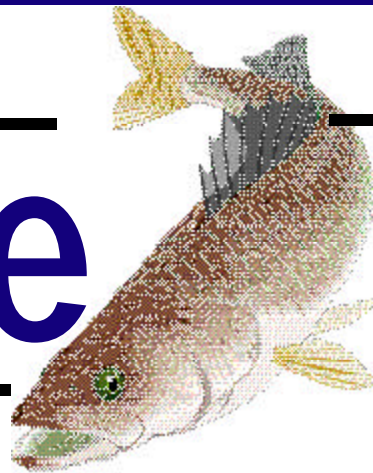


**Lake Erie**

# Walleye



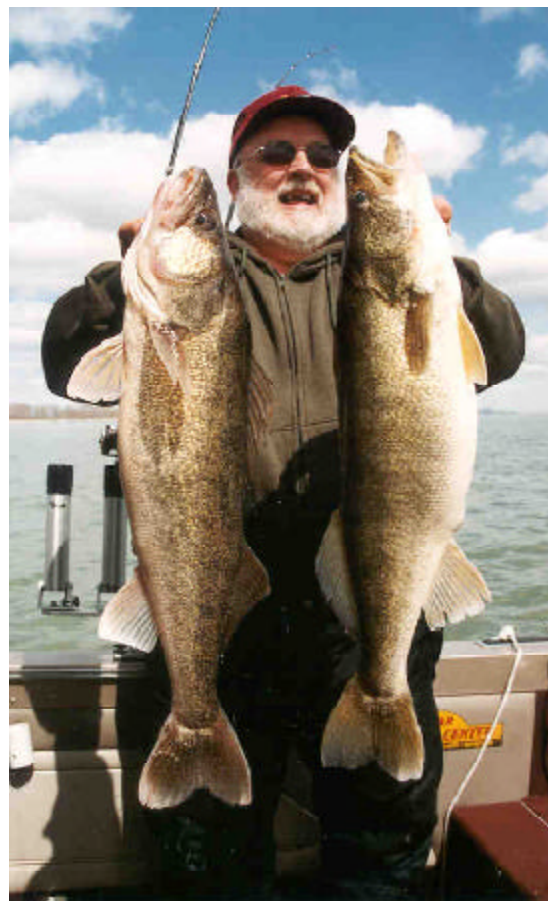
**Fall 2002  
Vol. 8 No. 3**

[www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com)

*The Complete Fishing Scene on Lake Erie*

**Fall 2002**

- The 2002 Perch Report
- Ten Tips for More/Bigger Walleyes
- Fall Trophy Walleyes
- Locating 'Eyes & Steelies after the Lake Erie Winds Blow
- Lake Erie "Perch-Jerkin Fever"
- Two-Timing Walleyes
- Walleyes Anytime
- Small Boats- Big Water
- The Eastern Lake Erie Report



*Plus*

*Walleye News & Fact File  
Charter Fishing Information*

*Dockage For Lake Erie Fishermen  
Lodging for Lake Erie Fishermen*

## In This Issue

Vol. 8 No. 3

Fall 2002

## From The Editor

- 5** Walleye News & Fact File
- 7** The 2002 Perch Report  
*by Rick Kubb*
- 11** Ten Tips for More/Bigger Walleyes  
*by Michael Veine*
- 13** Fall Trophy Walleyes  
*by Captain Phil Cadez*
- 16** Locating 'Eyes and Steelies after the Erie Winds Blow  
*by Jeff Frischkorn*
- 18** Lake Erie "Perch Jerkin Fever"  
*by Melissa Hathaway*
- 23** Two Timing Walleyes  
*by Mark Martin*
- 25** Walleyes Anytime  
*by Norb Wallock*
- 28** Small Boats- Big Water  
*by W. H. (Chip) Gross*
- 30** The Eastern Lake Erie Report  
*by Joe Fischer*
- 34** Fishing Charters
- 37** Dockage for Lake Erie Fishermen
- 38** Lodging for Lake Erie Fishermen

Catch  
Lake Erie Walleye Magazine  
in its entirety on the web  
at:  
[WWW.WALLEYE.COM](http://WWW.WALLEYE.COM)

It's Fall, once again and the fishing is fantastic, that is when Mother Nature cooperates. The late summer and early fall winds have blown hard and often making it difficult for fishermen to get out on the lake consistently. When the lake churns for a couple of days it plays havoc with the fish down below too. They tend to scatter, move, and just plain turn off until things settle down again.

Let's hope for a calm long-lasting Indian Summer. Some of my best fishing memories are of fishing with family in late September and through October when the Perch are easy to find and plentiful. When the lake 'turns over' and the waters begin to cool the perch gather from deeper waters and concentrate in closer to shore, making them easy pickins for even the young and inexperienced anglers.

Later in the fall the walleyes will also be moving into shore, searching for baitfish. As late as November and even into early December monster 'eyes can be taken from jetties, piers and even the shoreline, late at night as they pursue their prey. Huron, Ohio in recent years has been the place to be for a 'Walleye Bonanza' in late fall.

With this issue we welcome W. H. (Chip) Gross as a contributing writer. Chip recently retired from the ODNR and brings with him many years of outdoors writing experience. Welcome aboard Chip!

Finally, we've lost a great walleye angler in Norb Wallock who passed away on September 15th. Out of respect, we printed a piece Norb wrote, shortly before his death. Norb, we'll miss you.

### Lake Erie Walleye

Rick Kubb, Editor/Publisher

*Published each Spring, Summer and Fall for Lake Erie Fishermen. Annual Subscriptions are \$9.95*

*To subscribe call 1 800 347-4519, send check or money order payable to Lake Erie Walleye to: Lake Erie Walleye, P.O. Box 421 Ballwin, MO 63022, or order online at [www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com).*

# Subscribe Now to

## Lake Erie Walleye "Online" Magazine

### *The Complete Fishing Scene on Lake Erie*

With your subscription you'll receive passworded access to the "ONLINE EDITION" where the current and back issues of the magazine are posted at the [www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com) web site. Hundreds of fishing articles, all about fishing, all about Lake Erie, the "Walleye Capitol of the World"!



**Call 1 800 347-4519 today to  
subscribe**

**OR**

**Subscribe online at [www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com)  
or complete section below and mail to:**

***Lake Erie Walleye P.O. Box 421 Ballwin, MO 63022***

***Sign me up for Lake Erie Walleye "Online" Magazine***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, St., Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

One Year Subscription \$9.95       Two Year Subscription \$15.95

Enclosed is Payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Charge my credit card

Mastercard     Visa

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_



*"Where All  
Your Fishing Fantasies  
Come True!"*



**Luxury & Comfort Aboard  
a 31' Baha Sport Fisherman**



**20 pounds and 38 inches**

***Fish Lake Erie's Central Basin -Deep Water Means Big Fish***

***Captain***

***Timothy D. Garrett***

6076 Walden Court, Mentor, Ohio 44060

(440) 257-3231 (phone)

(440) 257-6995 (fax)

(216) 596-3033 (pager)

(216) 319-5847 (boat)

**[www.aquafantaseainc.com](http://www.aquafantaseainc.com)**

[timgarrett@buckeyeweb.com](mailto:timgarrett@buckeyeweb.com)

***Walleye \* Steelhead***

***\* Perch \* Smallmouth Bass***



**Corporate Specialist \* Multiple Charters  
Limousine Service &  
Lodging Packages Available**



**14 pounds and 34 inches**

# Walleye News and Fact File

## A More Secure Lake Erie

Our nation's war on terrorism will become more apparent to Lake Erie boaters this season. In its continuing efforts to protect the North Coast, the Coast Guard will be enlisting the support of the boating community to report any suspicious act - while at the same time restricting access to parts of the lake offshore from critical shoreline infrastructure.

Three security zones have been established on Lake Erie to protect the three nuclear power plants; Fermi (Monroe, MI), Davis Besse (Port Clinton, OH) and Perry (Perry, OH) on the lake's southern shore. Although the exact configuration of each zone varies, boaters are prohibited from entering an area approximately 1000 yards offshore from the plant property. Security zones have been designed to provide the necessary protection to plants - yet with as small a footprint as possible so as not to minimize the area eliminated for recreation/fishing or create an unnecessary navigational hazard to boaters. Although future plans call for the placement of buoy system, to clearly mark these zones, boaters are fully responsible for being aware of the location of these zones, entering them into their navigation charts, and staying clear. Permission to enter a security zone for any extraordinary purpose must be requested in advance from the appropriate Coast Guard Captain of the Port (Toledo for Fermi and Davis Besse, and Cleveland for Perry).

Although the Coast Guard pledges to practice patience in enforcing these zones while boaters become accustomed to their existence, the potential penalties for violating a security zone are stiff. Under current law, violators can be fined \$ 1 0,000, imprisoned for 10 years, and have their vessels seized.

The intent in establishing these zones is to provide a buffer that will give early warning of any intruders attempting to approach the plant by water, reaching the beach and gaining access to a nuclear power plant. The zones also provide a measure of security for a plant's offshore water intakes. Anyone following the news over the past nine months is fully aware that our nation's nuclear energy industry has been implicated as a primary target of Al-Quaida and other international terrorist organizations.

Boaters are also being asked to assist our national security effort by keeping their eyes open while on the lake, and report anything suspicious or any unusual activity that they may observe. Project Coast Watch, with roots going back to the World War 11 Civil Defense effort, has been launched by the Coast Guard throughout the Great Lakes to expand the gathering of essential terrorism intelligence. In several instances since 9/11, citizens have observed and reported invaluable leads to authorities concerning potential terrorist activities around the lakes.

For information concerning both security zones and Coast Watch, contact the Coast Guard Captain of the Port in Toledo (419/418-6040) or Cleveland (216/937-0128).

### Security Zone Coordinates

Fermi	Davis Besse	Perry
41-58.5'N 83-14.8'W	41-58.2'N 83-13.7'W	41.56.7'N 83-14.8'W
41-56.7'N 83-15.3'W	41-36.3'N 83-09.0'W	41-37.0'N 83-03.9'W
41-35.9'N 83-02.5'W	41-35.4'N 83-03.7'W	41-48.2'N 81-8.8'W
41-48.7'N 81-8.2'W	41-48.7'N 81-8.5'W	41-48.2'N 81-8.5'W

## Lake Erie's "Walk-On" Fishing Charters Offer Cost-Effective Fun

Many people know that Ohio's Lake Erie playground is famous for its island-hopping fun and world-class roller coasters. But the area also offers a cost-effective family activity that receives far less attention – walk-on charter boat fishing.

Geared to those wanting to spend a fun day on the lake without spending a lot of money, walk-on charter boats are a great way to experience Lake Erie sportfishing for the first time. Averaging \$25 to \$30 a person, the charter provides several hours of fishing in well-scouted fishing areas; all necessary bait; a bucket of ice for preserving your catch; and lots of tips on how to reel in the big ones.

### **Getting on board:**

Hooking up with one of these fun boats, which holds from 20-30 people, is easy. Visit one of the many Internet sites, such as [www.fishlakeerie.com](http://www.fishlakeerie.com) and [www.lake-erie.com](http://www.lake-erie.com) or contact any of the region's visitors bureaus. Most walk-on charters run twice a day, early in the morning and again around 2:30 in the afternoon. Reservations are not necessary for most walk-ons, but they are welcomed.

### **What to bring:**

All you have to do is supply your own fishing pole, tackle and an Ohio fishing license. A one-day license costs \$7, and an annual license is \$15. It's a good idea to pack along a small cooler of sodas and snacks. Remember that the sun is more intense out on the water so include a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen in your daypack. If you are prone to motion sickness, don't forget to take whatever remedy works best for you.

### **Cleaning your fish:**

For many people, one of the less enjoyable sides of fishing is the cleaning. Well, don't worry because once back on shore anglers can choose from several local fish "houses" where, for a modest fee, catches can be quickly cleaned and filleted.

Including your snacks, a fishing adventure this fall can cost less than \$40 – a bargain by today's entertainment standards. Best of all, you'll have some nice fresh, delicious fish fillets to show for your "work."

Numerous fishing services from Ashtabula to Toledo offer daily walk-on charters to pursue smallmouth bass, walleye or yellow perch, depending on the season. An alternative – and more personalized fishing trip – to consider is scheduling with a private

charter boat captain. Most of these boats accommodate four-to-six people.

Charter captains will be plying Lake Erie's waters through October – and beyond if the weather allows – providing their customers with some great late season fishing. Fisheries experts with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources say September and October should be great months for yellow perch and smallmouth. The walleye fishing is also expected to pick up as the fish move in closer to shore, feeding on numerous shad and baitfish.

Summer may be waning, but the fishing on Ohio's northcoast is still hot. Now is a great time to find out first hand why national fishing magazines rank Lake Erie as one of the country's finest fishing holes.

*Reprinted courtesy of ODNR from the September/October ODNR Outdoor Notebook. Laura Jones, author.*

Visit  
**[www.LakeErieBoating.com](http://www.LakeErieBoating.com)**  
for the complete  
Lake Erie Boating scene  
*Ports O' Call Marinas Boat Dealerships  
New & Pre-owned boats  
Boater's Forum*  
**Anything and everything to do with  
Lake Erie Boating!**

**Michigan Stinger  
Scorpion Spoons**  
Order online at  
**[www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com)**  
or call  
**1-800-347-4519**

# The 2002 Perch Report

by  
Rick Kubb

**D**uring the mid-to-late 1980s the yellow perch populations in Lake Erie were among the highest on record. Limit catches by fishermen were extremely common during that time. In the early to mid 1990's the perch populations experienced a rapid decline.

In recent years Fisheries Agencies have put forth efforts aimed at rehabilitating the perch population. In 1996 the state of Ohio posed a 30 perch daily bag limit. Similarly the State of Pennsylvania places an 8 inch minimum size limit and a 20 perch daily bag limit on perch. Tighter regulations were also levied on commercial fishermen.

In the past few years it is apparent that perch stocks are improving in Michigan, Ohio and in Pennsylvania waters of Lake Erie. Perch stocks are still low further east in New York waters.

This report represents our eighth consecutive year of reporting annual data on the status of yellow perch stocks in Lake Erie. The data used in this report have been obtained from official fisheries status reports obtained from Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York fisheries agencies. These reports were produced in the spring of 2002 and the data in them represent the perch stocks as evaluated in the year 2001. As in previous years, we examine each state individually to obtain an overall view of the yellow perch fish stocks lake-wide.

## Michigan Waters of Lake Erie

Harvestable-size yellow perch abundance in 2002 should be about the same in Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair compared to last year, with continued strong contributions from the 1998 year class.

Biologists estimated that around .27 million perch were harvested from the Michigan waters of Lake Erie during the 2001 season. This is up slightly from the year 2000 (.22 million) but lower than the .4 million caught in 1998 (see figure 1).

In 2001 the yellow perch harvest was dominated by age 3 fish (1998 year-class), which accounted for 44% of the total harvest. In combination age 2 (26%), 4 (17%) and 5 (11%) contributed 54% of the total harvest. Average lengths of harvested age 2,3, and 4 yellow perch were 7.4 inches, 8.4 inches and 8.7 inches. The observed average length at age for yellow perch taken in the Michigan sport fishery in 2001 remained below the levels of the mid-1990s, but similar to those of the early 1990s. Biologists suspect that increased abundance of yellow perch in recent years has resulted in slower growth in western Lake Erie.

## Ohio Waters of Lake Erie

Yellow perch abundance in Ohio waters improved again in 2001,

relative to the low numbers in the early 1990s due to successful reproduction in four of the last six years and reduced fishing mortality. The strong 1996 year class was mostly responsible for this increase. With moderate reproduction success in 1999 and poor reproduction in 2000, the numbers of yellow perch available to Ohio anglers in Lake Erie will be slightly lower in 2002 than a year ago.

Ohio sport and commercial fishermen met their allotted quotas in 2001. The 30-fish daily bag limit is again in effect for 2001.

In 2001 the combined private and charter yellow perch harvest was 5.5 million fish, virtually the same total as in 2000 (see figure 2). Private boat anglers harvested an estimated 5.2 million yellow perch, the same as was harvested in 2000. Charter anglers harvested about .3 million yellow perch in 2001. The overall catch rate in 2001 increased about 8% and anglers averaged 3.2 fish per angler hour during 2001. Private boat limit trips ranged from 20% in District 3 to 26% in District 1.

The 1998 year class made up 49% of the yellow perch harvest followed by the 1999 (22%) and the 1996 (21%) year classes.

## Comparing Districts

The Ohio waters of Lake Erie are divided into three Districts. District 1 is comprised of the western basin, extending to Huron,

OH. District 2 is in the central basin and extends from Huron to Fairport. District 3 extends from Fairport to Conneaut, OH.

Traditionally the greatest numbers of perch are harvested from the shallow western basin (District 1). In 2001 a total of 2.6 million perch (combined private & charter) were taken there. A total of 2.0 million fish were taken from District 2. A total of .8 million fish were harvested from District 3.

Generally, yellow perch harvested by sport anglers are larger as one moves from west to east (see figure 3). In 2001 this trend continued. The average size yellow perch caught in District 1 was 8.6 inches and .27 pounds. This increased to 9.5 inches and .4 pounds in District 2. In District 3 perch taken by anglers averaged 10.2 inches and .54 pounds.

### **Commercial Harvest**

In 2001 the total allocation to trap netters for yellow perch was 1 million pounds, the highest since the quota system was established. In District 1, a total of 179,234 pounds of yellow perch were harvested. In the central basin (combined Districts 2 & 3) a total of 909,560 pounds were harvested. The commercial harvest of yellow perch in Ohio waters was the highest in 10 years. The average trap net catch rate of 173 pounds/lift was the highest ever recorded and more than four times the ten-year average. The commercial harvest from District 2 accounted for 82% of the total commercial harvest for Ohio waters. The strong 1998 year class was the most abundant of

the six year-classes reported in the harvest.

### **Diet of Yellow Perch**

Adult yellow perch ate primarily benthic invertebrates (72%) in the Spring. As the summer progressed, perch switched to fish (44%). In the fall perch fed primarily on zooplankton (49%) and round gobies (29%).

### **Outlook for 2002**

The excellent perch fishing anglers have experienced the past four years should continue through 2001 and beyond, although the numbers predicted for 2002 will be slightly lower than the past two seasons due to the poor hatch of 2000 and the moderate 1999 hatch. Conservative regulations for sport and commercial fishers and improved spawns in the mid-to-late 1990s have helped Lake Erie's yellow perch stocks to gradually recover after low levels in the early 1990s.

Perch fishing will peak in September and October. The daily bag limit for yellow perch in Ohio waters will remain 30 fish/angler.

### **Pennsylvania Waters of Lake Erie**

In 2001 anglers directed an estimated 90,000 hours at yellow perch, a 29% increase in fishing effort from the 2000 estimates. In 2001 anglers harvested an estimated 271,000 yellow perch. This represents a 60% increase from the 2000 estimated harvest and a 335% increase from the 1996-2000 (see figure 4).

The strong 1998 year-class should yield larger numbers of perch caught in Pennsylvania waters of Lake Erie in 2002. The persistence of the older age groups in the perch population (average age of 5.7 years) indicates desirable survival of the fishable stock.

Yellow perch angling was concentrated mainly in the central basin waters where over 88% of the harvest occurred. August and September accounted for 75% of the total yellow perch catch in 2001.

The average length perch caught in Pennsylvania waters was 9.6 inches. Yellow perch caught in 2001 ranged in age from 3 to 13 years, with 4 and 5 year-old fish (97 & 96 year-classes) accounting for the greatest proportion (43%) of the catch. Older age groups (>8 years old) accounted for 20% of the total catch.

### **New York Waters of Lake Erie**

The status of the yellow perch continues to improve in the New York waters of Lake Erie. Gill net and bottom trawling programs continue to corroborate observations of neighboring jurisdictions that abundance of adult yellow perch has increased in eastern Lake Erie. However, it remains uncertain whether this recent increase forecasts the beginning of a long-term recovery or simply the chance occurrence of two strong year classes within three years.

In 2001, in New York waters of Lake Erie an estimated 32,000



yellow perch were caught by fishermen. This is the highest total recorded since 1989 (figure 5).

Age-3 and age-5 yellow perch were the most abundant age groups in the 2001 collections. These age groups, representing the 1998 and 1996 year classes, together comprised 72 percent of the yellow perch sampled in the gill net assessments.



**Looking for a GREAT GIFT for the Fisherman in Your Life?**

Give a subscription to Lake Erie Walleye Magazine

Published every March, June and September at [www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com)  
Annual subscriptions are only \$9.95

Plus, subscribers have 24/7 to the Lake Erie Walleye ARCHIVES where the current and back issues of Lake Erie Walleye Magazine can be viewed, 24/7.

Call today at **1-800-347-4519** or visit [www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com) to order your gift.

**Yellow Perch Harvest Michigan Waters 1992-2001**

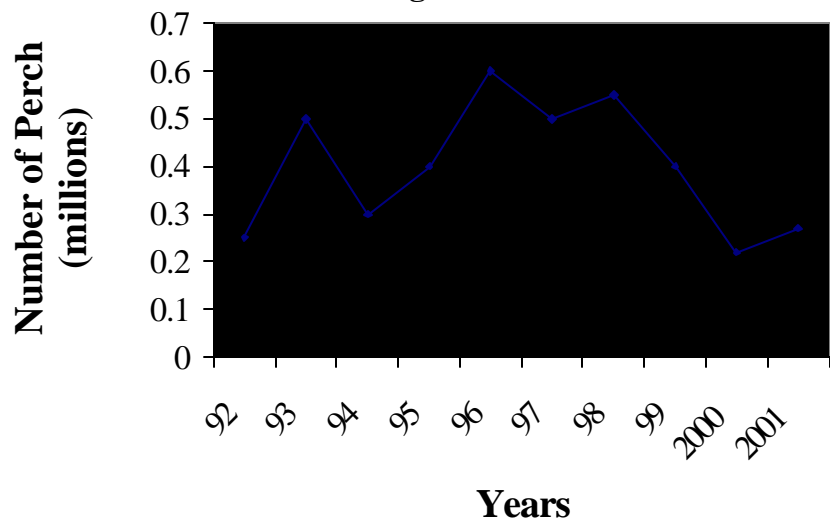


Figure 1. 10 year comparison of yellow perch catch from the Michigan waters of Lake Erie.

**Yellow Perch Harvest Ohio Waters 1991-2000**

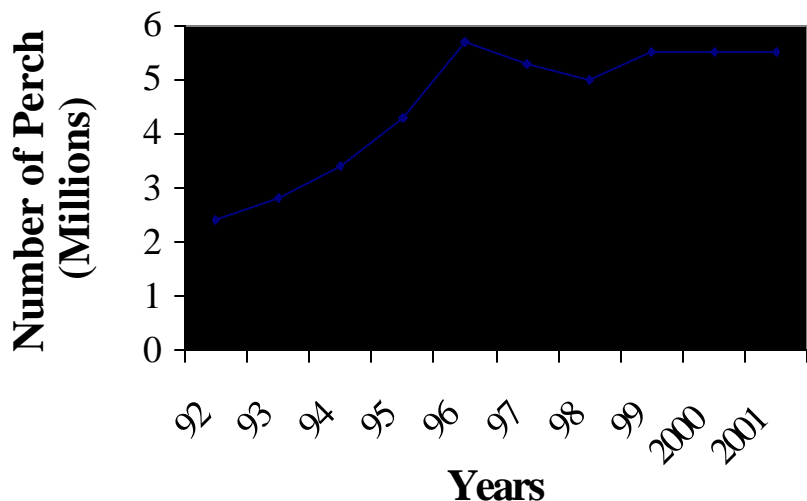


Figure 2. 10 year comparison of yellow perch catch from the Ohio waters of Lake Erie.

## Yellow Perch, Ohio Waters

Comparing Average Perch Size in 2001  
Between Districts 1,2,3



Figure 3. Comparison of yellow perch size among Ohio's District 1 (western basin), District 2 (west-central basin) and District 3 (central basin).

## Yellow Perch Catch

Pennsylvania Waters 1996 - 2001

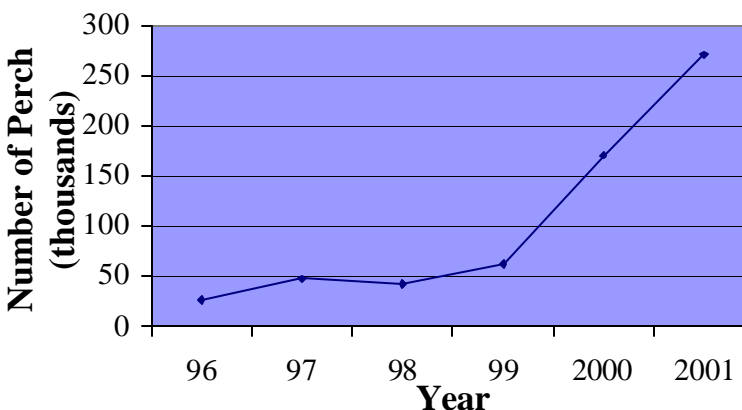


Figure 4. Six year comparison of yellow perch sportfishing catch in Pennsylvania waters of Lake Erie.

## Yellow Perch Harvest

New York Waters 1992-2001

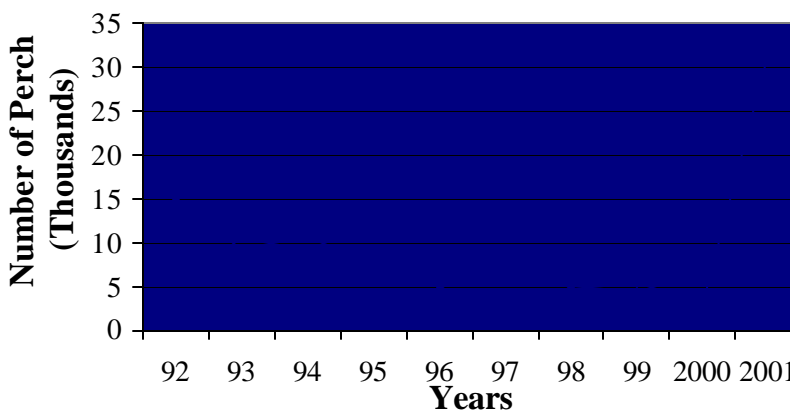


Figure 5 Ten year comparison of yellow perch sportfishing catch in New York waters of Lake Erie.

# Ten Tips for More/Bigger Walleyes

*Incorporate these tips into your walleye fishing arsenal to boost your success*

by  
**Michael Veine**

**W**alleye fishing on Lake Erie seems to be evolving at breakneck speeds. Today's consistently successful anglers use equipment and techniques unheard of twenty years ago. Many of those leading edge techniques can be chalked up to the proliferation of tournament angling, charter captains and super serious, recreational anglers. Today's anglers have driven a revolution of new and improved ways to catch more and bigger walleyes from the same old waters. Here are ten tips that will help any angler fill their livewell with lots of nice walleyes.

## **Trolling Speed**

Perhaps the biggest mistake that I see trollers make on Erie are improper trolling speeds. I monitor the speed on my Lawrance Global Map 1600 GPS receiver. Water temperature governs trolling speeds more than

any other factor. When the surface of the water is below 47 degrees, I almost never troll faster

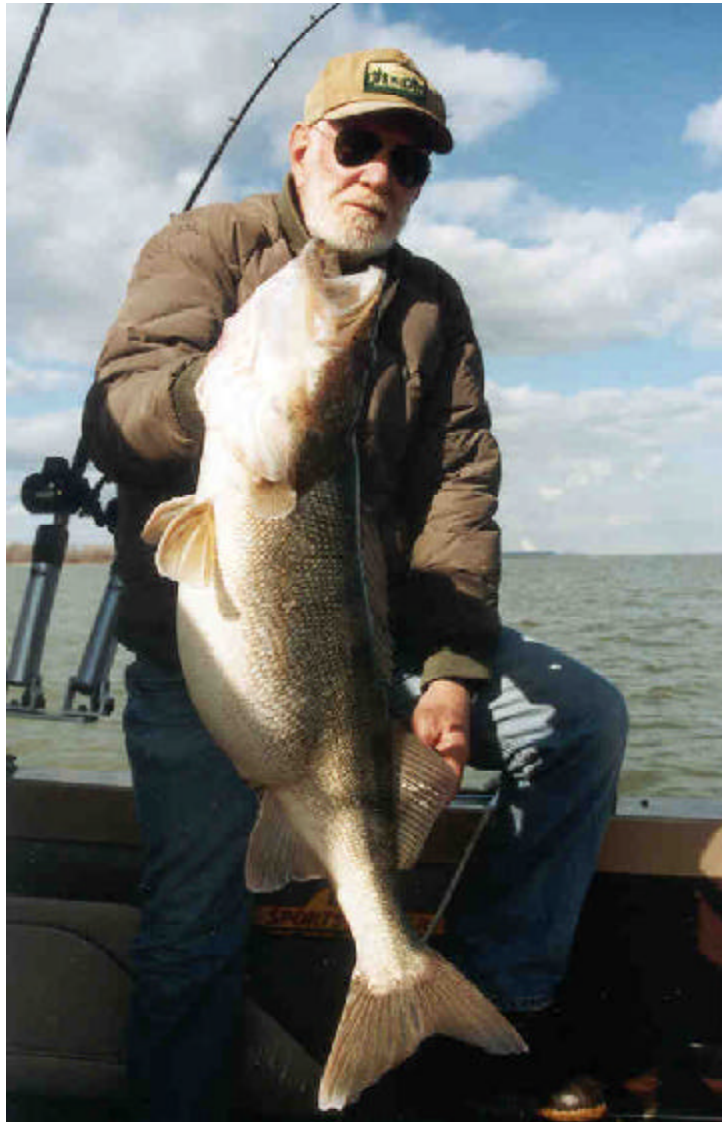
than one mile per hour: Usually much slower. When I'm trolling crankbaits in water 47-60 degrees, my speed usually ranges between 1.0 and 1.5 miles per hour. In warm water conditions, I usually troll between 1.8 and 2.2.

When pulling crawlers in cold water, my speed is always very slow. However when the water temp is warm, I like to troll crawlers faster, sometimes over 2.0 miles-per-hour.

To achieve those precise trolling speeds, most savvy pros rely on a 4-stroke auxiliary motor. I depend heavily on my Mercury 9.9, 4-stroke and couldn't even imagine fishing on Lake Erie without it.

## **With the Wind**

A few years back, I spent the day fishing for walleyes with Gary Roach. I posed



**This long and fat walleye was the largest one taken in the author's charter boat this year and was one of 145 walleyes that weighed 10-pounds or more.**



**Repeating precise setbacks with line counter reels resulted in this 33-inch monster. Photo taken by Michael Veine.**

this question to him: If he only had one piece of advice to give anglers, what would it be? His response, "Troll with the wind." He explained, "Walleyes typically feed facing into a current. They wait for bait to be carried to them and then swim around the unsuspecting prey and ambush it from behind. Winds and waves create currents. By trolling with the wind, you'll be presenting your lures more naturally, the way walleyes want them. Besides, boat control is much easier when trolling with the waves and the surging action also puts a pull and pause action on the lures that triggers more strikes."

### **In-Line Planer Boards**

Using inline boards is the only way to go when making trolling passes with the wind. Not surprisingly, inline boards are the choice among most of the top walleye pros. Keep in mind that tournament pros

can use any planer board system they want, but in the past ten years, I've never seen a major walleye tournament won using the large, tethered board systems. Inlines allow for precise depth control, quick setup, constant tension, easy storage and awesome fish catching action. They also provide a lure spread that covers water very efficiently.

### **Line Counter Reels**

If trolling for walleyes is on the agenda, then outfitting yourself with some quality line counter reels will put more fish in the boat. Just about every time I fish for walleyes, precise setbacks are necessary to catch fish consistently. Line counter reels, like my Daiwa SG47LC models, allow me to quickly repeat those productive trolling patterns that fill the livewell fast.

### **Bottom Bouncers**

When the going gets tough, the tough put down bottom bouncers with crawlers. This past May and June, all of my charters managed to limit out in short order despite the general lack of success among other anglers fishing around us. Our secret: Plain bottom bouncers fished with spinner/crawler rigs. When Mayflies are hatching during late spring, there is no better presentation than a big bottom bouncer and crawler. By big, I mean at least 3-ounces. I sometimes use 4-ounce bouncers and would probably use larger ones if they were commercially available. Those large weights actually attract fish by kicking up silt, wigglers and other goodies. The walleyes are literally jolted into a feeding frenzy at times and it's not uncommon to catch multiple walleyes on the same harness when they're going good.

### **Net Enhancement**

Good netting starts with a quality net. I prefer a long handled (10 foot) net with a medium sized hoop and a deep, rubber coated nylon net bag. My preferred brand is the Cummings. I attach an Offshore release clip to the net handle close to the hoop using a small bolt and lock nut. The release is attached to the bottom of the net bag to keep it from trailing into the fish during the netting process. This net enhancement prevents the net bag from catching on hooks and losing fish. When the weight of the fish slides into the net, the release lets go of the net bag

**See Ten Tips, page 32**

# Fall Trophy Walleyes

by  
Captain Phil Cadez

The year 2002 has been a good year of walleye fishing on Lake Erie. The 4th largest walleye hatch in 1999 will ensure many good fishing days for quite a few years. These

record high temperatures of 80 degrees as a result of another hot summer.

While most anglers filled their coolers with great eating walleye a

big walleye returned. Many of these fish ranged from 4 to 11 lbs, they all were very well fed and fat.

Quite a few charters secure



Lake Erie “casting weapon” caught this nice walleye. Photo by Capt. Paul LaCourse

fish average about 18 inches and were all over the lake. There was also a few 1998 and 1997 hatched fish being caught. These fish ranged from 20 to 24 inches. April and May were slow again because of inclement weather and cold water. June thru August were again the best months to fish our shallow lake. The lake rose to

few fishermen are waiting until late September and October when the “trophy” walleye return to the Western Basin. These large schools head for the deeper water off the coast of Cleveland. They stay there until the water temperature begins to drop. Last year was like a duck shoot when these

temporary dockage in Huron, OH, 10 miles east of Marblehead to make a shorter run to the fish. The fish begin appearing about mid September and stay until the ice is on the lake. It doesn't take long for the word to spread when the fish make their comeback.

Most of these walleye move towards the west in large schools or smaller patches. There's lots of boats looking for these fish and the trollers usually find them first. If you see a half dozen charters trolling in a formation you can bet they've found the school.

There is no structure, the bottom is either clay or sand. The fish will rise and fall as they feed on the schools of shad and minnows. The water depth off Huron is a little deeper than the Western Basin. You might be fishing in 40 foot of water or even deeper if you're 10 miles off shore.

When it's calm the trollers have a distinct advantage. They can keep moving in and out of the patches of walleye varying their depths till they find out what's working the best. When there's a chop on the lake most anglers' prefer casting for these fish.

The trollers prefer using dippy divers and plainers boards. They'll troll anywhere from 4 to 16 lines at once. Different colored spoons from 3 to 4 inches are the most widely used lures. Some of the local fishermen also troll deep diver big lipped minnow shaped lures with a lot of success.

The casters will drift and use the countdown method after they've

found the right depth. If the fish are high they'll use 1/2 or 3/4 oz egg sinkers on their "walleye weapon" casting rigs. As most of the locals use these casting harnesses they experiment with colors and size of blades. All summer we've used a No. 3 spinner with a few beads



**Angler's with a few walleye caught in June. Photo by Capt. Paul aCourse**

and a small hook at the end. A few anglers go to a no. 4 Indiana or Colorado spinner.

Colors most widely used are gold, chartreuse, silver, white and bi-colored spinners. The beads can also be gold, red, green, char-

treuse, yellow or white. A few anglers use a little larger hook at this time of year. They'll go from a No. 4 to a 2 or even No. 1.

Regardless of the size we use only half a nightcrawler on these hooks. It's supposed to resemble a May Fly. If you use a big or whole worm without a stinger you'll just be feeding them if they bite short.

A few of the guides have gone back to weight forward spinners at this time of year.

They prefer 5/8 or better yet 3/4 oz lures. Favorite lures are Erie Dairies, crooked eye and parish "P" lures. Most popular colors are gold with gold blades, chartreuse, green and white, silver and green with large silver blades.

If you're coming in your own good sized boat you can put in at Huron and go out the river mouth to the fish. There's also ramps in Sandusky Bay or Marblehead. It will all depend when you come and how close to the Marblehead area the fish are. In November you won't need a boat,

you can catch these big fish at night casting crank bait that stay a few feet from the surface. The walleye push the schools toward the lighted docks all thru the nighttime hours. It's strictly timing, they could there at dusk or come at 4:00 AM.

**See Fall Trophy, page 32**

**Have a Boat to Sell?**  
Try the Lake Erie Walleye  
Boat Classifieds

at  
**www.walleye.com**  
List your boat for sale  
for only \$30.00  
with photo

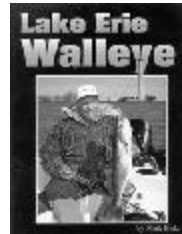
List till it sells!!  
Call **1-800-347-4519**  
or visit  
**www.walleye.com**

With over 5 million  
hits to the  
walleye.com web site  
each year, your boat  
will "BE SEEN"

## Lake Erie's Dynamic Duo!

### *Lake Erie Smallmouth*

Learn how and where the experts  
catch smallmouth bass throughout  
Lake Erie. Includes 41 detailed  
fishing maps.



### *Lake Erie Walleye*

Top guides and tournament anglers  
reveal how they catch big walleyes  
from Lake Erie.

**Big River Press**  
**P.O. Box 130**  
**Millfield, OH**  
**45761**

\$14.95 each, plus \$3.50 shipping.  
(Ohio residents add \$.93 tax per book.)

**WOW!**

*Buy both books for only \$28.58,  
shipping included. Save \$8.48*

# FishUSA.com

**COMPLETE WALLEYE FISHING GEAR**

*Great Prices Flat \$3.95 Shipping Fast Delivery*

Downrigger and Diver Rods  
Trotting and Line Counter Reels  
Spoons, Plugs and Bait Rigs  
Divers and Releases  
and much more . . .



On the web: [www.FishUSA.com](http://www.FishUSA.com)  
By phone: **800.922.1219**

## Nemecek Insurance



*Marine Insurance Specialists*

**800-686-3474**

**RICK NEMECEK**

[nemecer@nationwide.com](mailto:nemecer@nationwide.com) (419) 732-3624

**Lake Erie Fishermen**  
Find up-to-date fishing reports  
at  
**www.walleye.com**

Advertise in  
**Lake Erie  
Walleye Magazine**  
Full Page .....\$ 400  
Half Page .....\$ 200  
Quarter Page .....\$ 100  
Business Card .....\$ 50  
Call **1 800 347-4519**  
or visit [www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com)

# Locating 'Eyes and Steelies after the Lake Erie Winds Blow

by  
Jeff Frischkorn

The hunt was on but it was good to know that two of the Central Basin's best bird dogs were hot on the fish's tail. "People always ask why we fish every day but really, every day is different. You have to find them and stay with them," said Ron Johnson of Perry Township.

A well-known and equally well-respected Lake Erie charter captain, Johnson was tag-teaming with fellow Grand River fishing guide, Marv DeGreen of Huntsburg Township.

Johnson and DeGreen were engaged in a scouting mission designed to relocate both steelhead trout and walleye. The effort was made necessary because last weekend's nasty winds created rough seas. This tumultuous duo of titans scattered the lake's horde of walleye and steelhead, also sending the baitfish to parts unknown. All that was left was a nickel's worth of change.

"Every blow is different and a good one sometimes sets up a mud line, which is fine. You can usually locate fish at the edge of a mud line," DeGreen said.

Thus, finding both the prey and the predators is a never-ending chore. So even when the men aren't working they are, well, working,

both charter skippers said.

"Before the blow everything was cooking," DeGreen said, rigging up one of the planer board lines with clips.

To these snaps DeGreen and Johnson attached lines cabled with Stinger spoons. The most popular Stinger spoon colors of late include the firm's "confusion" - a mixed bag of hues that sparkle and dazzle the fish into striking.

Other good Stinger spoon colors include what's called "yellow jacket" and "boy/girl" - a pattern that involves fusing pink on the lure's port side, blue on the starboard side and a streak of silver showing down the middle.

"The steelies' love it," Johnson said. "But when things get tough and the water is turned all around then sometimes body baits work better. I think it's the size of the lure and the fact that a body bait can attract the attention of a walleye or a trout."

Yet first finding fish is the highest priority since throwing lures at something that isn't swimming within a few yards will guarantee a cooler filled with air instead of walleye.

To that end the charter captains watched the passing of the images

on the boat's electronic fish finder. They also looked for slicks, or trails of water that appear on the lake's surface.

"Those are currents," Johnson said, pointing to a set of zig-zagging slicks in the trackless lake. "Find those and a steelhead might be nearby."

Importantly, DeGreen also said, is the need to look for the establishment of a thermocline, an invisible cordon that separates the lake's warmer waters from its colder waters.

The more well defined the thermocline the better the odds are in favor of the fishermen as the walleye and the steelhead are found straddling the barrier.

Even more telling is that the thermocline represents the zone in which the all-important bait fish uses as their reference point, DeGreen says. "Walleye and steelhead have to eat so you have to go looking first for the bait," DeGreen said. In these kinds of conditions, after a blow, the fish and the bait could be anywhere, top to bottom."

The hunt this particular evening started out many miles from Lake Erie's south shore. In water about 68 feet deep Johnson and DeGreen set up their usual arsenal



of directional divers and Jet Divers to which went a selection of spoons.

In short order a 5-pound trout tripped a directional diver as did an equally sized walleye. Neither fish impressed the two charter captains who modulated the boat's speed either faster or slower to see if any alteration would help get the fish's attention.

When their work failed to yield the hoped-for results, DeGreen and Johnson then throttled up the boat's engines. Their destination was south toward much more shallow water off the Mentor Lagoons. It was here that a coterie of fellow fishing guides were plucking walleye.

With a water depth never exceeding 50 feet, the zone for locating fish became all that much more confining. "Last year we had the fish in this same area all the way through July. It was good for business because we didn't have to run very far or use up much gas," DeGreen said. "It was our gravy run."

Dinner was definitely being spooned up as the Stingers bit the lips of nearly one dozen walleye before the sun tilted below the horizon."Once you know the program, where to go and what to use, then you're going to catch fish," DeGreen said.

For information about fishing with DeGreen, contact him at (216) 970-1246. For information about fishing with Johnson, contact him at (440) 487-0002.

---

### **Better Walleye Days Ahead??** **By Jeffrey L. Frischkorn**

Though all of the statistics are far from in, chances are that Lake Erie's Central Basin will have experienced an average walleye angling year. If that. Yet ongoing fisheries research is pointing to much more productive angling beginning in 2003.

"Our work so far is showing that we have a good 2001 year class of walleye, which will help build up the population. These should start to appear in the fisheries beginning next year as right now they are only 7 to 8 inches long," said Kevin Kayle, manager of the Ohio Division of Wildlife's Fairport Harbor Fisheries Research Station.

The lake's largest stock of walleye is made up of fish from the 1999 year class with the fish measuring 15 to 18 inches. Another strong year class of walleye include those fish which were hatched in 1996. These latter fish measure 21 to 25 inches and make up about 20 to 25 percent of the lake's total population, Kayle said.

"And we still have from 2 to 5 percent of fish from the 1986 year class. These fish are the real trophies: 29 inches or longer," Kayle said.

With such heavy weights, a possibility exists that the current state record walleye title will fall. This record-holding fish weighed 16.19 pounds, measured 33 inches long and was caught by Tom Haberman of Brunswick on November 23, 1999.

"There is always that potential, especially when you consider that the lake has about 40 million walleye," Kayle said. Kayle added that last year an estimated 217,000 fish out of the 1.16 million taken by Ohio Lake Erie sport anglers were caught in the Central Basin.

The net result is that Lake Erie's sport fishing fleet should experience angling at least as good as it was last season. "Next year it will be different because then we'll begin to see those 2001 year class fish enter the picture," Kayle said.

---

### **Official Lake Erie walleye.com Fishing Hats**

*Lake Erie Walleye  
Lake Erie Smallmouth  
Lake Erie Steelhead*

**\$7.95 each  
See 'em  
and  
buy 'em at  
www.walleye.com**

# Lake Erie "Perch-Jerkin Fever" Catch IT!

by

Melissa Hathaway, Ohio Division of Wildlife

Anglers and other vacationers who travel to Lake Erie this year will not want to miss out on the perch fishing bonanza Lake Erie anglers have been enjoying in recent years. This popular Lake Erie species provides a fun, easy, and affordable angling experience with big rewards.

Most anglers agree that the walleye ranks number one in popularity, but yellow perch are considered the tastiest fish in the lake. They are abundant, widespread, easy to catch, and provide perfect family-style entertainment.

"Yellow perch offers the only 'Mom and Pop' fishery on the lake. That's what makes it such a bonus," said Jim Fofrich, Sr. of Toledo, who has fished Lake Erie since his youth. Fofrich has also been a charter captain on the big lake for more than 30 years. "Dad and Mom can take the kids to a pier or out in a small boat and get

limit catches of nice yellow perch in the 9 to 12-inch range. It's simple fishing that doesn't require a \$40,000 boat or sophisticated equipment, and perch are fun to catch."



**Mom and son with a 'Double-Header' of perch which are common in Lake Erie, especially during the fall perch run. Photo by Norm Kubbe**

## Perch of the Past

This popular fishery has been luring anglers to Ohio's big lake for decades. In a January 1957 article in the Ohio Conservation Bulletin (the forerunner of Wild Ohio), the author summed up the 1955 yellow perch season.

*'During September and October; sportsmen who journeyed to the lake from all parts of Ohio and surrounding states to enjoy the beautiful Indian summer weather were treated to*

*large catches of big perch daily... Catches from 100 to 300 perch per small boat were not uncommon and, of course, the take by party fishing boats was proportionately greater. "In this area where a catch of one fish per hour is average, (creel census during the period showed a range in the perch catch of from three to 11*

*fish per hour; other species excluded. On October 4, 1955 a creel census from 108 anglers revealed a catch of 2,411 perch which figures to be about 11 fish per hour."*

In the Toledo Blade in 1955, outdoor columnist Lew Klewer reported that one party fishing boat out of Toledo caught 19,467



**Head boats are an affordable way to get out on the water and enjoy the fall perch season on Lake Erie. Photo by Chip Gross.**

perch for the season. The park manager at Catawba State Park estimated that for a 30 day period during September and October of that year, approximately 60,000 pounds of perch were brought in by the boats using the launch ramp at the park.

Today, although perch are now second to walleye as the most sought after sport species, this was not always the case. Division of Wildlife creel records show that in 1975 anglers spent more than 3.3 million angler hours fishing for yellow perch and only 660,000 angler hours in pursuit of walleye. But two years later, the walleye fishery took off with anglers spending 3.5 million angler hours in hot pursuit of walleyes, and 3.2 million angler hours catching yellow perch.

**Great Lakes Fishery  
Commission -  
Lake Erie Committee**

These two popular sport fish have provided Lake Erie anglers years of top-rate angling because of some successful spawns and lake-wide management efforts through the Great Lakes Fishery Commission's Lake Erie Committee. The committee, made up of fisheries managers from the Lake Erie states and Ontario, Canada, establish interagency management strategies and set an annual number of walleye and yellow perch (total allowable catch) that can be taken from the lake without harming the populations.

"Yellow perch stocks have declined all across the Great Lakes, but Lake Erie is the only Great Lake where yellow perch have had a steady recovery (after low numbers in the mid-1990s). That speaks well for the Lake Erie Committee," Fofrich said.

Today, Ohio Lake Erie anglers fill coolers with 5.5 million yellow perch annually. Despite the

popularity of walleye, yellow perch takes center stage in late summer and fall. Some anglers fish for yellow perch spring through fall, but the traditional perch-fishing months are August through October when perch are concentrated in large schools near shorelines. The best action and highest catch rates occur in September and October, when limit catches of 30 fish per angler are often caught within two or three hours of fishing. The action continues into early winter, often as late as November and December for some hardy anglers with only wind or storm events slowing the action.

Yellow perch are well distributed across the entire lake with traditional fishing hot spots too numerous to mention. But boat anglers need not go far from shore to get into a school of perch. If perch aren't biting at one location, the best strategy is to move to another location until a school is located.

Anglers usually know right away if they have found a school of perch. The action usually starts soon after dropping anchor and can be fast and furious. The fish's quick, light to medium tugs or "jerking" on the rig makes perch fishing loads of fun. Upon getting a bite, anglers instinctively jerk their rods up to set the hook, hence the nickname "perch jerking." Catching doubles and triples- more than one perch taking separate baits on the same rig at one time- are common.

Erie's yellow perch are not only plentiful and well distributed, but large. The number of jumbo-sized perch has increased in the past few years as recent hatches have

matured. Perch from a large hatch in 1996, the largest hatch in 10 years, now measure 10 to 12 inches. Other year classes that are adding to the current catch include 1998-spawned perch (8 to 10 inches) and 1999-spawned perch (8 to 9 inches.)

### **Make it a Family Affair**

The traditional fishing method used for catching perch is easy to master, making yellow perch fishing an ideal family activity. The equipment is simple, no casting is involved, and for kids, catching lots of smaller fish such as perch is more satisfying than catching fewer, bigger fish such as walleyes.

“Having grown up within walking distance from Edgewater breakwall in Cleveland, perch fishing on Lake Erie has been a family activity since I’ve been old enough to bait a hook,” said Gene Emond, Lake Erie angler and fisheries biologist with the Division of Wildlife’s Lake Erie Fisheries Research Unit in Sandusky. “Tools of the trade were and continue to be affordable for all income levels, with the added bonus of a delicious perch dinner for the table.”

Emond has passed the perch fishing tradition on to his two children and offers some advice for families considering a perch-fishing outing.

“Keep in mind that each child will have a different level of interest. Some kids, like my daughter, Lauren, will fish all day and love every minute of it, even when the fish aren’t especially cooperative. Others, like my son, Nathan, look

for a book or some other activity if the fish aren’t jumping in the boat right from the start.”

Nothing discourages a new angler more than a reel that’s difficult to use or fish that won’t bite, says Emond. Younger anglers requiring assistance should be provided with a reliable rod and reel combination. These can be purchased at most discount stores for under \$20, less for youth-sized gear. Easy to use, closed-face spinning reel and rod combos, equipped with perch or crappie rigs or spreaders and sinkers, should be all that the beginning angler will need. For the best success, trips planned during the months of April and May or August through October offer dependable and exciting action at most public piers and breakwalls, according to Emond.

Walk-on charter boats (holding 20 to 50 people) are available at a reasonable cost at many major ports along Ohio’s shoreline, with most operating twice a day for your choice of either a morning or afternoon excursion. The cost is around \$25 per person, versus a “six-pack” charter (for up to six people) that goes for about \$400 to \$450.

“A common mistake of new perch anglers is storing your perch in a bucket, either empty or filled with water, especially in warmer weather,” Emond said. “The inevitable result is that tomorrow’s meal tastes fishy or stronger than expected, which can turn off many people to future perch fishing trips. Always take along a cooler of ice for the day’s catch and get your perch cleaned as soon as possible.”

sible.”

For those who want a quick and convenient option of cleaning the day’s catch, Emond recommends the many fish-cleaning businesses situated in and around most ports and harbor communities along the lake.

“One thing is for sure. When the fishing is good, everyone’s happy and the smile on a child’s face when a fish is on the line is a memory made for life,” he said. “There’s a saying that when you give someone a fish, you feed them for a day, but when you teach someone to fish, you feed them for a lifetime,” said Emond.

### **How It’s Done**

The simplest and most effective technique for catching perch uses two or three hooks attached to a spreader or “perch rig” and weighted with a sinker of up to two ounces. This is baited with live emerald shiners or minnows and dropped to the bottom. (Anglers also use salted minnows, nightcrawlers, red worms, or perch belly meat as a substitute for live minnows.) Anglers are most successful by varying the location of the bait on or near the bottom in a jigging fashion, moving the rig up and down in the water column.

Yellow perch tend to move offshore in the summer months, moving back closer to shore or islands as waters cool in the fall (10- to 20-foot depths in the Western Basin, and 20 to 40 feet or more in the Central Basin.) Perch fishing is also very popular with shore anglers. Many public

fishing piers and breakwalls located all along the Ohio shoreline from Toledo to Conneaut provide easy access to some good perch fishing. See the sidebar with this article that lists some shoreline areas providing good perch fishing, especially spring and fall. Shore anglers can be successful using traditional perch spreaders tipped with minnows, but many perch are also caught when using other live bait while fishing for “whatever bites.”

Ice anglers also do well in pursuit of yellow perch when the lake and Sandusky Bay get sufficient ice cover. Again, minnows are the preferred bait, but some perch are taken on jigging spoons or jigs tipped with waxworms, maggots, or worms. Once the ice melts, anglers have found several traditional spring hot spots: Marblehead/Catawba area and downtown Cleveland breakwalls generally provide good success in April and May.

“With wise management and a healthy outlook for Lake Erie’s yellow perch population, perch jerking will continue to be a Lake Erie tradition for generations to come,” said Emond. “It’s the stuff memories are made of, so don’t forget to take along your camera to capture the fun on film.”

**Good Places to Fish for Yellow Perch from the Lake Erie Shore:**

**Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area** -SR 2 at Bono Road, Curtice

**Port Clinton Pier** -Perry Street (SR 163), down-town

**Port Clinton Catawba State Park Pier** - Moors Dock Road, Catawba

**Mazurik Access** -8 1/2 miles east of Port Clinton off SR 163 on Northshore Blvd.

**Dempsey Access** -CR 135 (Bayshore Road) at CR 14, 5 miles east of SR 169

**Sandusky Bay Bridge Fishing Access** -Exit SR 2 at SR 269, exit on west end, Bayview

**Battery Park Marina** -701 E. Water St., downtown Sandusky

**Jackson Street Pier** -foot of Jackson Street, down-town Sandusky

**Kelleys Island State Park Breakwall** -north tip of Kelleys Island

**Huron Pier** -north of SR 286 at Huron

**Cleveland Lakefront State Park** – Edgewater Memorial Parkway, use Edgewater Park exit  
East 55th Street Access -north end of East 55<sup>th</sup> Street, Cleveland

**Gordon Park** -north end of East 72nd Street, Cleveland

**Euclid Beach** -SR 283, east of East 156th Street, Cleveland

**Wildwood Park** -junction of SR 283 and East 174th Street, Cleveland

**Fairport Harbor Port Authority Boat Launch** -north end of Water Street, Fairport

**West Breakwall** -Walnut Beach Park, Ashtabula

**West Breakwall** -Conneaut Harbor, north end of Broad Street, Conneaut

The following county visitors bureaus located along the Lake Erie shoreline can provide more information on charter boat services and lodging:

- ? Ashtabula County Convention & Visitors Bureau (1-800-337-6746)
- ? Lake County Visitors Bureau (1-800-368-5253)
- ? Convention & Visitors Bureau of Greater Cleveland (1-800-321-1001)
- ? Lorain County Visitors Bureau (1-800-334-1673)
- ? Sandusky/Erie County Visitors Bureau (1-800-255-8070)
- ? Ottawa County Visitors Bureau (1-800-441-1271)
- ? Greater Toledo Convention & Visitors Bureau (1-800-2243-4667)
- ? Ohio Division of Travel & Tourism (1-800-BUCK-EYE)

**Advertise in  
Lake Erie Walleye  
Magazine**

Full Page .....\$400  
Half Page .....\$200  
Quarter Page .....\$100  
Business Card ....\$50

**Sign up for three  
issues and receive the  
THIRD AD FREE**

**Call  
1 800 347-4519**

or visit  
[www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com)  
for more information

**Looking to Charter  
On Lake Erie?**

Check out the  
Charter Directory  
in this issue or visit the  
[www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com)  
web site



**Cindy Crellin**  
GSA, ABR

Bringing Families Home  
Pager: 1-800-985-3098  
Office: 440-933-6195  
1-877-933-6195  
Fax: 440-933-9531  
crellin@bright.net



32713 Walker Road  
Avon Lake, OH 44012

**Tom Crellin**

Commercial  
Residential  
Investment

Pager: 1-800-985-3071  
Office: 440-933-6195  
1-877-933-6195  
Fax: 440-933-9531  
crellin@bright.net



**Vacationland  
Realty, Inc.**

Commercial, Residential,  
Condos, and Rentals

[www.susiewatkins.com](http://www.susiewatkins.com)

119 Madison St., Suite C  
Port Clinton, OH 43452

Office: (419) 732-7272

Cell: (419) 656-1783

**Susie  
Watkins**  
Agent,  
Branch  
Manager



**Ted Takasaki's Newest Video - Just Released**  
*Techniques of a Champion*

With Ted Takasaki  
1998 In-Fisherman PWT Champion

Learn the techniques Ted used to capture the coveted  
\$100,000 PWT Championship in this Brand NEW, Action  
Packed 60 minute video!!

**FREE gift** from Ted with every order!!

Get your copy today!

Send \$19.99 + \$3.00 S&H to:

Ted Takasaki 1281 Sun Valley Drive East Gull Lake, MN 56401  
(Minnesota Residents add \$1.30 sales tax - \$24.29 total)

**Great Offer!!**

Order the Champion's video package  
(all three of Ted's Videos)

*Trophy Walleye Tactics, Top Gun Walleye Tips*  
and the brand new *Techniques of a Champion*  
for the special price of \$45.99 (\$60.00 value)  
plus \$6.00 shipping & handling

**"Year Round Walleyes"**

**by walleye Pro Mark Martin**

*Everything you NEED to know  
to catch walleyes!*

Order your autographed  
copy today! for only \$19.95  
plus \$3.00 S&H  
Send check or money order

to:

Mark Martin  
POB 103

Twin Lake, MI 49457

Michigan residents add 6% sales  
tax



# Two-Timing Walleyes

by  
Mark Martin

In fall, I follow a pattern that mirrors the predictability of the walleyes. It goes like this: jig moderate depths most of the day; cast or troll minnowbaits in the last hour or two before dark and on into the night.

Sound straightforward enough? You bet it is. Although other patterns exist, say, plumbing the depths with lead-core line, I like to keep it simple everywhere from the natural lakes of the North Country to the big water of Lake Erie and the rest of the Great Lakes. This is the time of year when walleyes are primed to feed before winter, focusing on minnow-related prey. That's precisely why I do the same, working live bait or plastic minnows on jigs during the light of day, then casting jerkbaits and trolling slim-minnow imitations once the witching hour arrives. The way I look at it, it's a recipe for destruction.

## Bigger Bait, Live or Fake

Grab a handful of Northland Fire-Ball jigs and a bucket of shiners and chubs and you're partway there. To complement a live-bait

little faster work great when fish are highly aggressive or rather neutral. Sometimes the neutral ones respond to a little more speed than to standard jigging with bait.

Try some of each to find what's working. One new offering from Berkley is an assortment of bulked-up four-inch minnows, new additions beyond the standard three-inchers that mimic the bigger baitfish of fall.

When picking out prime areas, I look for points, humps, weeds and flats near deep water. During the daytime, I'll slide off the edges of them, starting at the break and working deeper. Quality electronics, such as the Lowrance liquid-crystal units, will pinpoint both bait and fish, pretty fine starting points



**The combination of jigging during the day and casting at dusk and into the evening are proven techniques for catching fall walleyes.**

approach, I'll stock up on Berkley Power Minnows and long-shank Northland jigs an option for when walleyes are really popping or when they're really not. By that I mean that plastic minnows jigged a

by me. Another asset for such areas is a fairly steep break, which gives the fish the ability to hang out on mud or rock bottom for most of the day and climb into the shallows to chow down as

evening approaches.

Typically I'll control my drift with a bowmount Minn Kota trolling motor, jigging vertically with sizable minnows (just what walleyes are looking for in fall). I pay attention to when I feel the minnow struggling, a tip-off predators are in the area. With plastics such as Power Minnows, I'll pitch out and snap them back with a lift-and-drop retrieve or work them right below the boat, hopping them six to 10 inches off bottom. If the wind's an issue, consider investing in Trojan deep-cycle batteries, which have the staying power in the gusts of fall, teamed with an easy-to-open, easy-to-retrieve drift sock from JNB Originals. The sock, along with the long-lasting batteries, will keep you from speeding too fast even in the gales of October and November.

Prime depths depend mostly on water clarity. If the lake has a little stain, I can catch fish jigging with bait or plastic between about 12 and 18 feet. If it's pretty clear, I'll go deeper, as deep as 30 feet. Here it's important to watch for fish on electronics. Remember, the deeper you get, the easier it is to see them, particularly in depths in excess of 15 feet. One solid strategy for finding fish is to check out a Fishing Hot Spots map and to look for the most prominent structure on the lake. Then I take a closer look to find where the contour lines are closest, an indication of steeper drops. That's the key area to key in on, and it's the fastest way to find fall walleyes.

### **The Boatside Bash**

For all the excellent fall fishing in the depths during the daytime, I know when to say when, that is, when to slide shallower when the sun nears the top of the trees. Like clockwork, walleyes move in farther and are even more aggressive. That makes them perfect targets for minnow baits.

My favorites are Rapala Husky Jerks, suspending baits that dive when retrieved and stay put, hovering at the same depth, when stopped. In fall, I seldom use anything smaller than a No. '0, usually going larger with a No. '2 or No. '4, even if the fish aren't all that large. The reason is that autumn walleyes key in on large baits. It's that simple. A trick, though, is to add a strip of reflective tape from WTP Inc. to the bait's side. I was sold when I watched minnows flash in a fish tank in low light; I was sold even more so when I tried the tape long ago and caught more walleyes than other anglers in my boat without it.

To work the five- to 12-foot depth profile, I whip out a Husky Jerk, crank to get it down and stop. If you're around walleyes, you sometimes can let it sit until you get bit. If you don't get one to hit the bait, twitch it once, twice or three times and stop. Repeat all the way back to the boat. Warning: Big walleyes will often smack a jerkbait when it's a foot from the boat. That's a riot.

In this instance, keep a loose drag so walleyes don't come unbuttoned on a short line. I put Berkley 6-pound FireLine, a thin-diameter superline, on my Mitchell reels. The reels cast great, eliminating

twists and snarls from the line, and offer a smooth drag to help offset the boatside bash.

My other favorite technique, although it's not as up close and personal, is to troll Rapala Original Floaters with an electric motor. When I'm 10 feet or less during the evening or after dark, I seldom add weight to a No. 13 Rap, the perfect size in fall. (I just make sure I add reflective tape and a ring of glow paint around the tail and head of the bait, then attach the Rapala with a Berkley Cross-Lok snap to allow the bait to wobble.) I'll let the lure out 80 to 120 feet and tune in the trolling motor at a speed just fast enough to make the lure wobble. Now you're in business. The Rapala is buoyant enough to stay above weeds or rocks. If you're smacking bottom too often or snarling in weeds, bring the Rap in 20 feet at a time until it's running free. It's often difficult to run a bait too high above the fish, since they'll rise up to smack it. The distance behind the boat simply provides a little cushion between you and the fish to minimize spooking.

With all the techniques out there and all the options that exist when fish are scattered from shallow to deep in summertime, jigging and working minnow baits are refreshing returns to simplicity. After all, when the walleye's patterns are downright predictable, it makes the most sense to mirror their patterns with minnow imitations out deeper during daylight and in shallower when the light wanes. Well, what are you waiting for?



# Walleyes Anytime

by  
Norb Wallock

**T**he ability to catch walleyes consistently, on a wide variety of waters, requires a certain amount of versatility. Versatility can help you overcome tough fishing situations, or make the most out of a good one. The lack there of could result in fewer fish boated, and may seriously dampen your chances for a nailing a real hawg.

Top tournament anglers know just how important it can be, and the most successful have made becoming more versatile their number one priority. When you travel the country competing in tournaments on waters ranging from the Great Lakes to natural lakes, and from rivers to reservoirs, you quickly learn where your shortcomings are, and where you might need some work.

During the early years of big time

walleye tournaments you could pick who was going to do well on certain waters by their background. If they came from Ohio or Michigan there was a good

chance they would dominate an open water trolling bite, while the Midwest anglers were a safe bet for doing well in a rigging or jigging bite. Western anglers

excelled at rigging, jigging, and trolling contours with crankbaits. However, it didn't take long before the local advantage disappeared as the rest of the field got up to speed, and became much more versatile. They also learned that the knowledge gained on the trail helped to unlock a few more secrets on their home waters.

Once you achieve the ultimate level of "being versatile" your confidence level will explode, and confidence is the most important element of overcoming a tough angling situation. When you possess all of the tricks in your bag, you'll have the confidence needed to

handle any situation that you may be faced with, which can open up a whole



**Being versatile in your approach to walleye fishing is the key to catching 'eyes during the different seasons and conditions.**

new world of opportunities.

Being versatile isn't something that comes easy, and is achieved by spending a good deal of time outside of your comfort zone. Getting outside of the comfort zone means letting go (or at least putting aside) what you already have confidence in, and getting into the experimental mode.

The experimental mode will likely cost you some time, time that could be spent doing other things, like catching walleyes using the usual methods. But that won't help you grow as an angler, as there is a price to be paid to get to the next level.

Before an angler can claim the title of being "versatile", there's a certain set of criteria that must be met. The criteria includes becoming proficient using a variety of methods under varying sets of conditions.

With so many different methods available to the modern walleye angler, it's easy to get confused and maybe even lost. Rather than spreading yourself too thin trying to learn it all at once, you'd be better off concentrating your efforts on one specific presentation and mastering it before moving on to the next.

If you're starting from scratch you might as well start at the beginning with the most basic of techniques, like jigging. Jigging is one of the best ways to extract walleyes from a variety of situations as they can be cast, jigged vertically, and even trolled. Take a jig like the Blue Fox Foxee Jig and maybe tip it with a minnow, leech, or piece

of crawler and you're in business.

Next on the list of basic presentations is rigging, which has a number of options available, including sliding sinkers and long leaders, a simple split shot and a hook, or a bottom bouncer and live bait combination. It's all designed to deliver live bait as naturally as possible, and what you choose will depend on the area you happen to be working.

A twist on the standard live bait rig is a spinner harness, which will allow you to present a natural bait like a night crawler and give it some added wiggle and vibration, as well as a good measure of speed.

Crankbaits are next and have a higher difficulty rating than rigs and jigs but are definitely worth the time and effort needed to learn their uses. They can be either cast or trolled along structure from shallow to deep, or out in the middle of nowhere when the fish are found suspended.

Whether you're casting or trolling, it would be a good idea to stick with a bait that is a known producer, like a Shad Rap or Down Deep Husky Jerk. That will allow you to spend more time concentrating on exactly where you're running the bait, and less time wondering if you're using the right lure.

While there are several trolling options like using braided or leadcore line, it would be a good idea to get comfortable with monofilament first. A good pick would be a low stretch line like Rapala's Tough Fishing Line,

which will give you more vibration in the rod tip from a clean running bait.

The thing is, even though there are variations to just about everything, you're better off keeping things simple.

By keeping it simple, you'll master the basics more quickly, and get you closer to the goal of "being versatile".

---

*Editor's Note: Norb Wallock passed away on September 15th, 2002. This article was submitted to us by Norb, shortly before his death. Norb will be missed by friends and fellow walleye anglers from all across the country. See Ron Anlauf's tribute to Norb on page 27.*

Visit  
**www.walleye.com**  
for Up-To-Date  
Information  
on the  
**Lake Erie  
Walleye Scene**

*Fishing Reports  
Charter & Lodging Info  
Lake &  
Weather Conditions  
Other Walleye Links  
Fishing Maps  
Visit the 'Braggin  
Board'  
...and much much more*

## To Friends of Norb Wallock

**O**n Sunday September 15, 2002 Norb Wallock lost a hard fought battle with cancer. He was diagnosed with esophageal cancer in the spring of 2002, and learned that the disease had spread to other parts of his body. He knew that he was in an uphill battle but never gave up (his nature wouldn't allow it), and kept a positive attitude through it all.

One of the most important accomplishments to Norb was actually becoming a full time Professional angler, and was a goal he reached after a twenty year career with UPS. The step was a big one and a dream he was able to finally realize.

Norb's accomplishments as a professional angler are impressive to say the least, and include numerous major tournament wins. An unprecedented four year winning run began in 1997 when Norb won the NAWA Lake Erie Qualifier and finished the season by earning the coveted NAWA Angler of the Year Title. He won a major pro am event in the next three consecutive years. More info on his tournament finishes and bio are posted at the [walleyeconnection.com](http://walleyeconnection.com).

He has always been willing to share the secrets of his success and has done so through seminars, written contributions, TV and radio segments and interviews, as well as one on one conversations.

His success didn't come by accident and was the result of a lot of hard work. His work ethic

earned him the nickname of Sarge ( compliments of close friend Keith Kavajecz) as he abided by a discipline that was almost military. That characteristic may have been the direct result of some time spent in the Army, or an energy system that was permantly cranked up on high, as Norb seemed to be in constant motion even when he was standing still. That energy got things done and helped get reels re-spoiled, or spinners tied, or needed maintenance performed even when he was dog tired from the trials and tribulations of tournament angling. Anybody that has spent time in Norb's boat knows that he kept his equipment in tip top shape, and always came prepared.

Norb's work ethic didn't get in the way of his enjoying himself though, even when things didn't go the way they should. For example, during an earlier PWT event on Lake Erie one of the other competitors ( Joe Miller) had the bright idea to plant a live snake in Norb's boat. Joe left a dandelion on Norb's live well lid which was his calling card indicating something was up. The snake found a place to hide and didn't show himself until later on when Norb and his amateur partner George Fredin were hard at work trying to put fish in the boat. Norb's partner was deathly afraid of snakes and was a fact that Norb was well aware of. Norb noticed the snake poking his head out of a pedestal base hole and kept the information to himself, while he tried to nonchalantly grab the thing.

The snake would drop back down the hole before Norb could get a hand on him and kept the game of

cat and mouse going for quite a while before he finally subdued the snake.

When George finally realized what was going on he got a little frazzled and ended up in the front of the boat. The whole thing was serious at the time but Norb had a good laugh about the ordeal after it was over.

Besides his passion for fishing, Norb was an avid archer and especially loved the time he spent searching for monster whitetail bucks. Taking a big buck with a bow and arrow takes a lot of skill, patience, and a never give up attitude. Norb was made for the sport and his successes were many, although he never did get that buck of all bucks.

As well as being an accomplished professional angler, Norb was a father, husband, and friend to many. He had a positive effect on all that knew him, and his never give up attitude was contagious. A short conversation with Norb could bring you out of a depression and quickly give you a new improved outlook on life.

In his passing the angling world has lost a real player, the effects of which will be felt for years. The void created will not be filled, and there is no other choice but to go on.

To go on fishing, hunting, and celebrating life. We must, and know that Norb would have wanted it that way.

.... Ron Anlauf

# Small Boats, Big Waters...

by  
W. H. (Chip) Gross

**I**t was a sobering sight. A fiberglass bass boat bobbed vertically in the water—only the tip of its pointed bow visible and stabbing toward the sky with every swell. Flotsam in the form of tackle boxes, coolers, life jackets, and other, smaller items floated on the waves surrounding the swamped craft.

As we approached, another boat already on the scene advised us that the anglers had been rescued and that no one appeared injured, just shaken. Still, it made such an impression that the image remains in my mind yet today, though the incident happened years ago.

The swamping occurred in an area of the Western Basin of Lake Erie known informally as the Slop Chute, that area between the Catawba Peninsula and South Bass Island, where, on a busy summer's weekend, the wakes of

thousands of fishing boats and pleasure craft crash together from every possible compass heading. Unfortunately, the low-sided bass boat was ill prepared for such choppy waters.



**Fishermen in small boats are wise to stay close to shore even in the calmest of Lake Erie conditions.**

An angler who survived a similar mishap, this one caused by wind-driven waves, is George Wolfe of Columbus, Ohio. An accomplished tournament bass angler, Wolfe was fishing on Lake Erie in October of 1998. Two miles off shore in his 20-foot bass boat, Wolfe and his partner headed in as the wind shifted and four- to five-foot waves began to build.

“I had not topped off both my fuel tanks before leaving shore as I usually do,” said Wolfe, “and the motor began to cut in and out. I stopped to change tanks and that’s when we took a wave over the transom. Then the engine stalled.

After several more waves we were swamped, and then the boat completely rolled over.”

Wolfe and his partner clung to the up-turned hull of their boat for most of an hour in 57-degree water before being spotted and rescued by a passing charter boat—the only other boat they had

seen out fishing on that particular day. While being treated for hypothermia at a local hospital, the doctors told the two fishermen that they couldn’t have lasted much longer in those lake temperatures.

In reflecting upon the situation, Wolfe believes that staying with the boat and not panicking may have saved his life and his

partner's. "We were holding onto the trolling motor, and I knew that in those waves we wouldn't be able to do that much longer. So we worked our way to the back of the boat and I straddled the motor shaft while keeping my buddy in front of me between the motor and transom."

Wolfe learned several things from the mishap. "My buddy is six feet, five inches tall and weighs nearly 300 pounds," he said, "and his life jacket was not nearly adequate for someone of his size. He also didn't have the straps pulled tight enough, and during the time we were in the water the jacket kept working its way up around his neck and head, almost to the point of coming off."

Wolfe also learned something about his boat-owner's insurance. He had been paying for a special rider that would cover his rods, reels, and tackle boxes should he ever lose them. But he came to find out that the policy did not cover those items "...thrown, dropped, or propelled overboard..." only theft. So, unfortunately, he was out of luck with his lost tackle. The policy did, however, cover the damage to the boat and motor.

But all is not negative when it comes to small boats on big waters. At times, they have many advantages over larger craft. For example, small boats are usually less expensive to buy, run, maintain, and store than their bigger brothers, and in addition, they can be more readily trailered. If, for instance, a hot bite suddenly occurs many miles down the lake, with a small boat it's a simple matter to merely hook up the

trailer and go. This mobility also allows the opportunity of fishing multiple Great Lakes per season and even inland lakes if desired. And small boats have advantages on the water, too. Anglers can safely get closer to fish-producing reefs and shorelines, control drift, and precision troll much better from a small boat.

The main disadvantage of a smaller craft, of course, is the danger of getting too far from shore and being caught in open water by wind, waves, or lightning. Lake Erie is serious water and at times very unforgiving, especially during cold-water seasons. Using common sense and being prepared are the best ways to make sure that you always return to the launch ramp when fishing from a small boat.

The number one rule for all small boat anglers should be: **wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD)**. It doesn't matter if you can swim or not. If you are knocked unconscious as you go overboard or are otherwise injured, your Olympic swimming abilities will do you little good.

Another important preparation strategy is to have an alternate source of power for getting back to shore if your main engine should fail. Small "kicker" or electric trolling motors can do double-duty here as cheap insurance. It may take awhile to get back from several miles offshore in this way, but at least it beats the alternative.

But should you not be able to get off the water for some reason, having a way to signal for help is imperative. Most small boats are not equipped with marine radios.

However, with the proliferation of cell phones today, don't leave yours in the car if you have one. There are even inexpensive cell phones on the market now that allow you to make only out-going calls. Again, cheap insurance. Lastly, signal flares and a distress flag should be on board, as well as all the other required safety equipment. And just as a reminder, don't forget to top off all your boat's fuel tanks before leaving shore.

Someone who has safely fished Lake Erie's Central Basin from a small boat for more than 40 years is Alex Koroknay of Mansfield, Ohio. Alex docks his boat at Cranberry Creek Marina just a few miles east of the Huron River, where it is a short run to the productive Ruggles Reef area.

"I first started fishing there for yellow perch," said Alex, "and then in the 1970s the walleyes began showing up. I used a 14-foot aluminum boat for years and wore out half a dozen motors trolling. But two years ago I bought a 17½-foot Lyman to be able to get out to deeper water more safely, because that's where the walleye seem to have moved."

Alex attributes this walleye shift from shallower to deeper water to two phenomena: natural fish cycles and the clearing of Lake Erie waters by zebra mussels. "It seems to cycle like the weather," he said. "For example, there may be a period of four or five years when you can catch walleyes close to shore. Then, all of a sudden things change and the

**See Small Boats, page 33**

# The Eastern Lake Erie Fishery Report

by  
Joe Fischer

The highlight of the summer walleye-fishing season in eastern Lake Erie has to be a tournament in which 86 walleyes were caught exceeding 10 pounds! This happened at the recent Southtowns Walleye Association's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Tournament which ran from June 29<sup>th</sup> - July 7<sup>th</sup>. The winning fish, caught by Mark Kessler, weighed in at 11.77 pounds. Mark won \$15,000 in cash and merchandise exceeding \$2,000 in value. In all, over 20 fish weighed in over 10 pounds with the top 200 prize-winning fish exceeding 9.45 pounds! These weight totals far exceed any of the previous 18 Southtowns tournaments. To cash in the tournament this year you had to catch a walleye that exceeded 9.45 pounds which is well above last years cut of slightly over 8 pounds.

John Chapman won the bass division of this tournament with a 5.73 pound smallmouth bass. John won \$500 with his prize-winning fish. All 3-prize winners in this category entered fish exceeding 5 pounds.

I had the pleasure of fishing off Sturgeon Point during this tournament with Paul Stoops, an experienced Lake Erie walleye fisher-

man, and his brother Norman. We did have some success, boating two prize-winning walleyes over



**Fish like this 10.3 walleye caught by Paul Stoops, were commonplace in the recent Lake Erie Southtowns walleye tournament.**

10 pounds. We caught 6 walleyes during my 1-day fishing stint with Paul. Almost all of the walleyes were suspended as they were caught using No.20&30 Jet Planers and worm harnesses of various colors (watermelon, copper & blue, etc.) off planer boards. Paul runs his lures approx. 200 feet back of the planer boards

and prefers Fireline, one of the new generation of super braided lines. These lines have several distinct advantages over the traditional monofilament line as they do not stretch and are very thin which cuts down their visibility in the ultra clear Lake Erie water. These lines also can withstand quite a bit of abrasion and cut the water well, which allow the lures to run deeper. Care must be taken when setting the hook as these lines do not stretch and one could literally yank the hook right out of a walleye's mouth.

Paul also likes to use a walleye attractant like Berkley's walleye scent on all of his lures. Paul constantly repeated "Did you put walleye scent on the lure" during our 7 hour fishing trip. His policy, like many other Lake Erie walleye veterans, is to check and possibly change lures every 1/2-hour if no walleyes are caught. This is especially true if your graph is detecting fish or you are in a "hot spot". Another lure that has again proven to be extremely successful this year is the Ronesky plug. This lure has become the staple of walleye fishermen who like to run body baits in the eastern basin.

Why did this tournament have such an impressive jump in the number of large walleye caught this year? Some fishermen attributed it to the excellent weather, which allowed most fishermen, even in small boats, to fish almost every day. Another theory was the later date for the tournament improved the fishing as this tournament took place the first week of July, which traditionally produces better offshore walleye fishing. Previous Southtowns tournaments normally took place in early June. The very warm Lake Erie water temperatures might have also turned the "bite" on. Some fishermen theorized that the increase in the catch of large fish might be due to more tournament entries but this was not a factor as the entries were in fact slightly down from the previous year. In truth it was probably all of the above plus other unknown factors! The Southtowns Walleye Association deserves a great deal of credit for a well-run tournament, which annually attracts approximately 2000 entries. They promote conservation and will only accept fish in excess of 26" at their weigh in booths. Southtowns, by the way, has decided to move back the tournament date to early June for 2003.

Incidentally quite a few tagged "swimmers"(nomadic suspended walleye) from the western basin were caught during the tournament which could bode well for the late summer offshore walleye fishing. A heavy influx of western basin "swimmers" augments the local population of walleyes and greatly improves the eastern basin fishing. Many fishermen were also very encouraged by the amount of

3 to 6 lb. walleye that were caught during the tournament and a "mixed bag" walleyes weighing from 3 pounds to 10 pounds was common.

New York Walleye Association's mid- July Ameri-Can team tournament also had impressive catch results with the winning team of Capt. Eugene Malczewski weighing a 79.94-pound total for the 2-day tournament. John Dolly's team came in a close second with 78.66 pounds. Captain Gene now has won this tournament 3 times in row, an unprecedented feat, due to the incredible variances normally experienced in Eastern Lake Erie offshore walleye fishing.

The bottom line is that the walleye fishery in the Eastern basin has become a fishery of quality instead of quantity with trophy fish (10 pounds) becoming more and more common as the years have passed. Fifteen years ago most Eastern basin walleye tournaments would have been considered successful if 10 fish were caught in excess of 10 pounds. Limit catches of smaller walleye was also very common during this time but now are rare.

Smallmouth bass fishing continues to be world class in numbers and size and reported catches in excess of 10 fish (most bass fishermen practice catch and release) is the norm. Information on yellow perch fishing remains sketchy but most of my contacts report that the rather secretive Veteran Lake Erie perch fishermen are doing very well. Perch tend to be in small tight schools so most of the successful perch fishermen have to move continually to find and stay with the

nomadic perch schools.

On the negative side, the goby has become a very dominant fish in the eastern basin and is a continual pest for most bottom fishermen. This is true whether you are in shallow or deep water as the population of this exotic has exploded! The Zebra and its larger cousin, the Quagga mussel, appears to have stabilized and they continue to clarify the water with some Secchi disc readings in excess of 30 feet. These 2 exotics appear to play a major role in the botulism problem in the lake and also are suspects in the new "dead zone" reported in Lake Erie's central basin.

Several relatively large fish kills have occurred this year. Alarmingly these kills did contain some bass and walleyes. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Lake Erie fisheries station at Dunkirk felt that these kills were probably due to Type E botulism and upwelling of cold water due to sudden directional wind changes. It is expected that waterfowl will also be affected during the late summer months. Undoubtedly more ecological changes will take place in the future as new exotics make their impact on the ecosystem of the lake. Lake Erie is the shallowest of all the Great Lakes and any ecological changes generally occur first in this lake. It truly is "the canary in the mine".

## From Ten Tips, page 12

securely engulfing the fish in the mesh. Incidentally, Cummings is now starting to offer nets with an offshore release already installed.

### Pack Mentality

It seems like the vast majority of Lake Erie anglers like plenty of company, because most folks fish among packs of other boats. While it's true that fish can be caught in the huge armadas, keep in mind that the best fishing is usually found elsewhere, especially if you're after bigger walleyes. I almost never fish in the packs, preferring instead to find my own fish away from everybody else. In fact, when too many boats start to cluster around me, I usually move elsewhere. If you want to catch big fish, then you need to fish away from the packs. Besides I hate the stress of all the boat traffic.

### Rubber Core Sinkers

Whenever I fish with crankbaits, I always attach a rubber core sinker one rod-length ahead of the lure. Those sinkers function by stopping debris from sliding down the line to the lure. They also allow a shortened setback, which increases hook-setting efficiency, reduces tangles and quickens the line setting and retrieval process. Rubber core sinkers will not damage the line and they can be easily changed when different weights are needed to target varying depths.

### Sharp Hooks

One of the keys to consistent

hookups with tough-mouthed walleyes are sharp hooks. Most baits, out-of-the-box, have rather dull hooks. I've tried just about every method for sharpening hooks and have settled on the sharpening stone as the best method. The stone I use has narrow slots where the hook is gently pulled through. A few passes on the stone and the hook is ready for business. I also replace my hooks whenever they get bent or damaged. By keeping a supply of hooks and my stone ready to go in the back of the boat along with needle nose pliers, I'm ready for action.

### Get Out Fishing

The one thing that stops more anglers from catching walleyes is simply not getting out on the water enough. Many folks list fishing as a low priority that ranks behind just about everything else in their lives. Several friend of mine never seem to have enough time to get out on the water, so it's no wonder that they are stressed out all the time. You won't be doing yourself, your work or your family any favors by not going fishing if you succumb to a stress related illness that could have been prevented by more time relaxing on the water. Do your health a favor and schedule your fishing times as top priorities and stick to your guns on your fishing dates. Also, when the weather is stable for several days in a row during early spring and the temperatures are mild, get out on the water at all costs. The reward of big walleyes will be worth just about anything. Send questions or comments to [veinemr@aol.com](mailto:veinemr@aol.com).

## From Fall Trophy, page 14

Since timing is everything, call the area first to determine when to come. A few helpful choices are the Erie County Chamber of Commerce, 419 625 6421, The Huron Chamber of Commerce, 419 433 5700; Ottawa County Visitors Bureau at 800 441 1271.

These numbers can help you with motels, charters and local bait shops. If you don't have a good sized boat the best way to get in on this fantastic walleye fishing is to secure a local full timed professional guide. These charters are usually set up to accommodate up to 6 anglers. Get a few of your friends together and call or search the web at [lakeeriecharters.com](http://lakeeriecharters.com). You can also e mail me at [capt.phil@cadez-charters.com](mailto:capt.phil@cadez-charters.com) for information. Good fishin.

### Advertise in Lake Erie Walleye Magazine

Full Page .....\$400  
Half Page .....\$ 200  
Quarter Page .....\$ 100  
Business Card .....\$ 50

**Call 1 800 347-4519**

**Advertise for three  
issues and get the  
third ad FREE!**



## Try this Fish Taco Recipe

Serves 4-6

2-3 lbs of fish fillets  
vegetable oil  
1 cup of all purpose flour  
1/2 tablespoon of salt  
1/4 tablespoon of pepper  
1/4 tablespoon of garlic powder  
1 package of store bought tortillas  
your favorite store bought Spanish Rice  
large can of ranch style beans  
1 bottle of Lawry's Mesquite marinade  
2-3 average sized tomatoes  
grated cheddar or jack cheese  
1 jar of your favorite salsa

Wash and pat dry the fillets. Place fillets in large bowl of Lawry's Mesquite marinade for at least 2 hours prior to cooking (overnight is best). Refrigerate until ready to cook (be sure to flip the fillets several times during marination to ensure even saturation). Prepare bowls of your toppings - diced tomatoes, grated cheddar or jack cheese, salsa. Sour cream-black olives-and chopped lettuce are optional. Heat 1/4 inch of vegetable oil in frying pan. Mix flour, salt, pepper, garlic powder on a paper towel. Using this mixture coat fish fillet on both sides, then shake off excess flour. Place into deep frier and cook until the fillets begin to rise. Remove from frier and drain on paper towel. While fish is frying, heat tortillas according to package directions. Serve on counter or buffet style(paper plates and bibs are good). Each diner layers fish and condiments into warm buttered tortillas—rolling and folding tortillas envelope style. Serve with Spanish Rice, made earlier from a packaged mix and open a can of Ranch Style Beans heat in the microwave.

## From Small Boats, page 29

walleyes don't seem to come into the shallow water like they used to. In the fall—September and October—we used to get big fish right off shore, in anywhere from 15 to 25 or 30 feet of water. Lately, we've had to go deeper to get fish."

But deep or shallow, Alex Koroknay will no doubt be chasing walleyes, perch, smallmouth bass, and even an occasional steelhead as long as he is able. "maybe it's the little boy in me, but as old as I am I still get enthused about fishing. I'm 79 years old and I've fished Lake Erie for 45 years, but I still look forward to every fishing season."

And Alex has been able to pass along his love of fishing and the outdoors to his three sons. His youngest son, Tom, has even built a full-time business around the water, restoring and repairing Lyman boats, the classic wooden craft of Lake Erie.

So when it comes to small boats and big waters, how small is too small? Conventional wisdom says that a deep, V-hulled 14-footer is the absolute minimum when it comes to Lake Erie fishing, and then these boats are only safe close to shore when the weather is clear and calm. Deep-sided 16-, 17-, and 18-footers, with as much freeboard as possible, are even better choices if you are considering fishing from a relatively small boat.

But whether you choose to fish from a small boat or large, common sense, being prepared for

emergencies, and keeping a sharp eye on the weather will keep your fishing trips safe and enjoyable. And like Alex Koroknay, no matter what your age, you'll continue looking forward to every upcoming fishing season.

---

## Fish Ohio's Lake Erie Artificial Reefs!

### Lorain

#### Polish Fisherman's Club Reef

41 28 .076 N

82 12 .758 W

#### The Mountain Reef

41 28 .150 N

82 12 .750 W

### Lakewood

#### Cuyahoga County Commissioners Reef

41 30 .175 N

81 47 .266 W

#### 1984 Experimental Reef Site "A"

41 30 .271 N

81 47 .533 W

#### 1984 Experimental Reef Site "B"

41 30 .256 N

81 47 .041 W

### Cleveland Stadium Artificial Reefs

#### Edgewater

##### Cleveland Stadium Reef West #1

(north)

41 30 .148 N

81 45 .575 W

##### Cleveland Stadium Reef West #2

(south)

41 29 .970 N

81 45 .416 W

#### Euclid

##### Cleveland Stadium Reef East

(Euclid)

41 35 .933 N

81 33 .804 W

# Lake Erie Charters

## **Best Try Charters**

**Captain Ray Smith**  
 (800) 898-5516  
 Email:  
 capt@awavewitch.com  
 11751 W. S Rt. 105  
 Oak Harbor, OH 43449  
 30' Sportfisherman  
 Port Clinton, OH  
 USCG &  
 Ohio Licensed Guide

## **E.-B.'s Pride Charters**

**Captain Austin Tester**  
 (419) 798-8621  
 www.ebpride.com  
 fishing@ebpride.com  
 187 Hidden Beach Rd.  
 Marblehead, OH 43440  
 34' Baha Catamaran,  
 Lake Vue Marina  
 U.S.C.G. Licensed,  
 Ohio Licensed  
 Member LECBA, LESF

## **Rice Charters**

**Captain Bill Rice**  
 (419) 635-2068  
 1-800-770-0904  
 6206 W. Harbor Rd.  
 Port Clinton, OH 43452  
 28' Omega Hardtop  
 Wild Wings Marina, Port  
 Clinton, OH  
 U.S.C.G. Licensed,  
 Member L.E.C.B.A.

## **Lake Erie Charters**

**Captain Phil Cadez**  
 Phone: 1-888-686-4422  
 capt.phil@cros.net  
 3415 Stonyridge Dr.,  
 Sandusky, OH 44870  
 Six Captains, Four Boats  
 Two 30' Sport Crafts,  
 two 26' Penn Yans  
 docked at West Harbor  
 U.S.C.G. Licensed &  
 Ohio Licensed Guides  
 Members LECBA

## **Coe Vanna Charters**

**Captains Dave Whitt,  
 Bob McCoy &  
 Jeff Kuelling**  
 (419) 898-4545  
 www.coevannacharters.com  
 30' Sportcrafts  
 USCG Licensed & Insured  
 Walleye \* Perch \*  
 Smallmouth

## **Fashion Lady Sport Charters**

**Captain Bob Banjoff**  
 (440) 988-8849  
 145 Luxor Lane  
 Amherst, OH 44001  
 27' Sportcraft Fishmaster  
 Anchors Away Marina  
 Marblehead, OH  
 U.S.C.G. Licensed  
 Member L.E.C.B.A  
 Walleyes, Smallmouth  
 Perch Charters

## **Sunchaser Sportfishing**

**Captains Ron LaMont &  
 Mike Matthews**  
 1-888-811-8053  
 4860 N. Crestridge Toledo,  
 OH 43623  
 30' Sportcraft (NEW)  
 Lamberjack's Marina  
 U.S.C.G. Licensed,  
 Ohio Licensed Guide  
 Member LECBA

## **Aquafantasea Charters**

**Captain Tim Garrett**  
 (440) 257-3231 or  
 (216) 319-5847  
 timgarrett@buckeyeweb.com  
 www.aquafantaseainc.com  
 6076 Walden Ct. Mentor, OH  
 31' Baha Sport Fisherman  
 Grand River Marina  
 Grand River, OH  
 USCG, Ohio Licensed, NCCBA

## **Dalton Gang Charters**

**Captain David Dalton**  
 1-800-367-4997 or  
 419-935-1652  
 Boat Cell: 419-706-1176  
 www.walleye.com/  
 dalton.htm  
 U.S.C.G Licensed  
 Ohio Licensed Guide  
 Member L.E.C.B.A.  
 Walleye \* Perch \*  
 Smallmouth

## **Rising Sun Charters**

**Captain G.W. Jumper, Jr.**  
 (937) 652-2412  
 captgwjumper@foryou.net  
 613 College Way,  
 Urbana, OH 43078  
 30' Sportcraft Fisherman  
 Green Cove Condominiums,  
 Oak Harbor, OH  
 USCG Licensed, Ohio  
 Licensed Guide

## **Taylor Charters**

**Captain Edwin A. Taylor**  
 106 Center St.  
 Huron, OH 44839  
 (419) 433-4693 or  
 800-743-4693  
 TC915@aol.com  
 www.taylorcharters.com  
 34' Luhrs Sportfisherman  
 Northwest Catawba Marina  
 USCG &  
 Ohio Licensed guide  
 Proud Member LECBA

## **Sassafras Charters**

**Captain Lance Ehrhardt**  
 (716) 896-6186  
 www.walleye.com/  
 sassafras.htm  
 105 Bogardus Street Buffalo,  
 NY 14206  
 29' Baha Cruiser  
 Chadwick Bay Marina,  
 Dunkirk, NY.  
 U.S.C.G. Master Licensed  
 Member Eastern LECBA

## **Dealers Choice Charters**

**Captain Dennis Lutz**  
 (937) 866-8391  
 (937) 654-0791 - cell  
 6615 Gillen Lane,  
 Miamisburg, OH 45342  
 New  
 2001 Baha 30' Fisherman  
 Wild Wings Marina  
 Oak Harbor, OH  
 USCG Licensed  
 Member LECBA

## **McReel Thing Charters**

**Captain Jerry McRill**  
 1-800-589-6568  
 GOMCREEL@aol.com  
 7943 CR 313  
 Findlay, OH 45840  
 1998 30' Sportcraft  
 Fenwick Marina, Oak  
 Harbor, OH  
 Multiple Boats Available  
 Free Lodging  
 USCG Licensed

## **Angel Eyes Charters**

**Captain Gary Watkins**  
 Toll Free at (800) 475-8655  
 angeleye@infinet.com  
 28' Baha Sport Fisherman,  
 27' Sportcraft,  
 Angel Bay Marina,  
 Port Clinton, OH  
 U.S.C.G. Licensed,  
 Ohio Guide Licensed,  
 Fully Insured

## **Super Sport Charters**

**Captain Rich Clementi**  
 (716) 695-2296  
 131 Paradise Lane #13  
 Tonawanda, NY 14150  
 24' Sportfisher  
 Chadwick Bay,  
 Dunkirk, NY  
 U.S.C.G. Licensed,  
 Fully Insured

# Lake Erie Charters

## ***Parker Guide Service***

*Guiding on Lake Erie Since 1973*

Walleye \* Smallmouth \* Perch

Three  
30'  
Boats

**1-800-700-ERIE**

**www.parkerguideservice.net**

Full-Time, Fully Licensed & Insured Captains

Captain Bob Parker  
(419) 726-5509

Captain Jeff Parker  
(419) 726-3557

## **Dalton Gang Charters**

**Captain David Dalton**

**1-800-367-4997**

*Walleye - Perch - Smallmouth Bass*

U.S.C.G Licensed

Ph./Fax: 419-935-1652

Ohio Licensed Guide

Boat Cell: 419-706-1176

Member L.E.C.B.A.

[www.walleye.com/dalton.htm](http://www.walleye.com/dalton.htm)

Walleye \* Bass \* Perch \* Salmon

## **Sturgeon General**

*Lake Erie Fishing Charters*

**Captain Hank Cocain**

Licensed Captain and Guide

Keister Marina  
Ashtabula, Ohio

6914 Hassell Road  
Sharpsville, PA 16150  
(724) 962-4725



**Capt. Bob Vicek**

***Sandpiper***

***Sportfishing Charters***

**Catawba Island, OH**

**701 Elizabeth Drive  
Huron, Ohio 44839**

**(419) 433-6664**

## **Dealer's Choice Charters**

**(937) 866-8391 (937) 654-0791 - cell**

*Special reduced rates for  
smaller groups of 2,3,4 or 5 fishermen*

**New 2001 Baha 30' Fisherman**

Wild Wings Marina, Oak Harbor, OH

***Captain Dennis Lutz***

***www.walleye.com/dealers.htm***

USCG Licensed Captains  
Ohio Licensed Guide  
Member LECBA

Fully Insured  
Fully Equipped

## **Mari Charters**

*27' Sportcraft*

*Lake Erie Walleye, Bass, Perch Sport Fishing*

Capt. Mari & Mike Hluszti  
19554 Diagonal Rd.  
Wellington, OH 44090  
1-800-642-6274

Herls Harbor  
2263 NE Catawba Rd.  
Port Clinton, OH 43452

[www.maricharters.com](http://www.maricharters.com) [mmhluoi@prodigy.net](mailto:mmhluoi@prodigy.net)

## **Pied Piper Charters**

*Fishing the Central and Western*

*Basins on Lake Erie*

walleye perch smallmouth

**(419) 433-9685**

**Captain Mike Perry**

USCG Licensed Master  
Licensed Lake Erie Guide

330 Ontario St.  
Huron, Ohio 44839

## **Danny Buoy Fishing Charters**

*Walleye - Perch - Bass*

Aboard the Danny Buoy II

Marblehead - Lakeside, Ohio

Website: [www2.wcoil.com/~danybuoy](http://www2.wcoil.com/~danybuoy)

Captain Dan Phillips  
USCG Licensed Master (50 ton)  
Ohio Licensed Guide

For Reservations  
Toll Free 1-877-882-7537  
or 1-419-645-5292

Lake: 419 734-1034

# Lake Erie Charters

Walleye - Perch - Smallmouth

## Coe Vanna Charters & Lodging

Captains Dave Whitt & Bob McCoy

[www.coevannacharters.com](http://www.coevannacharters.com)

**(419) 898-4545**

*30' Sportcrafts \* Bait & Tackle Furnished*

USCG Licensed & Insured Captains 1759 N. Carroll-Erie Road  
Over 30 Years Experience Port Clinton, OH 43452

*Sportfishing on Lake Erie and Lake Ontario*

## Top Gun Fishing Charters

Captain Frank Godina

**(724) 927-6912**

Email: [fishtopgun@hotmail.com](mailto:fishtopgun@hotmail.com)

Western & Central Basin walleye and smallmouth Fishing  
Lake Ontario for Salmon

Master USCG Licensed  
Ohio Guide, Fully Insured

3814 Bentley Rd.  
Espyville, PA 16424

Captain William B. Rice

## RICE CHARTERS

28' "Friendly Mission"

Lake Erie Walleye • Bass • Perch

**(419) 635-2068 1-800-770-0904**

P.C. Chamber of Commerce  
U.S. Coast Guard Licensed  
Ohio Licensed Guide  
L.E.C.B.A.

6206 W. Harbor Rd.  
Port Clinton, OH 43452-9439

*Walleye \* Perch \* Smallmouth \* Steelhead Trout*

## Lucky Duck Charters

Captain Rick Comstock

**(877) 967-6853**

*27' Sportcraft 270 Fisherman*

*Docked at Captain's Corners Marina, Vermilion, OH*

USCG Licensed  
Ohio Licensed Guide

3275 Cooper Foster Park Rd.  
Vermilion, OH 44089

Captain Gary Watkins

## Angel Eyes Charters

**800-475-8655** [angeleye@infinet.com](mailto:angeleye@infinet.com)

28' Baha Sport Fisherman & 27' Sportcraft  
Angel Bay Marina Port Clinton, OH

USCG Licensed  
Fully Insured

Walleye, Smallmouth  
Perch Charters

## E-B's Pride Fishing Charters

Captain Austin Tester

[www.ebpride.com](http://www.ebpride.com)

*Walleye - Bass - Perch*

Phone:

**419-798-8621**

Fax:

**419-798-5417**

Email:

[fishing@ebpride.com](mailto:fishing@ebpride.com)

1999 34' Baha Catamaran  
One of the fastest & safest  
boats on the water

Docked at  
Lakevue Marina  
Marblehead, OH



## Fire Escape Charters

28' Marinette  
Fully Equipped  
Insured

USCG Licensed  
Ohio Licensed Guide  
LECBA Member



Captain Frank Henderson

353 Highland Way, Worthington, Ohio 43085

**614-885-0192**

[fish4ufh@hotmail.com](mailto:fish4ufh@hotmail.com)

North Coast Sportfishing



# Lake Erie Charters

## Windrift Charters

Lake Erie Sport Fishing

Captain Mel Fenger

**419-797-9803**

[www.walleye.com/windrift.htm](http://www.walleye.com/windrift.htm)

windrift@cros.net

**Anchors Away Marina**

419-734-1395

## C'est La Vie Charters

Lake Erie Sport Fishing

Ashtabula, Ohio



Capt. Ray Lilak  
840 Almasy Dr.  
Campbell, OH 44405  
Home - (330) 755-3334  
Mobile - (330) 565-3963

Capt. Joe Romito  
28 Gertrude Ave.  
Campbell, OH 44405  
Home - (330) 755-7915  
Mobile - (330) 770-9365

rclilak@aol.com

# Dockage for Lake Erie Fishermen

### Brest Bay Marina

4088 Brest Rd.  
Newport, MI 48166  
**(734) 289-1234**

Wet Dockage  
Rack & Launch  
Winter Storage  
Inside & Out

### Fleitz Marina

11109 Coruroy Rd.  
Curtice, OH  
15 min from Toledo  
(419) 693-1247 - Office  
(419) 836-1305 - Marina

On South Shore of  
Lake Erie

### Bay Point

Private Marina &  
Family Resort  
10948 Bayshore Rd.  
Marblehead, OH 43440  
(419) 798-4434  
[www.baypointmarina.com](http://www.baypointmarina.com)

### Luna Pier

**Harbor Club**  
10420 S. Harold Dr.  
Luna Pier, MI 48157  
**(734) 848-8777**  
Dock Space Available  
Marina  
Fish Cleaning

## Marina Del Isle

*On Scenic East Harbor  
Casual Waterront Dining*

*Free Guest Dockage for your dining pleasure*

**Full Service Marina  
Certified Mechanics  
Mercruiser \* OMC \* Volvo  
Marina Open Year Round  
(419) 732-2587 - Marina  
(419) 732-2816 - Restaurant**

## Inland Marina

*1/4 mile East of Junction of Rt. 2 and Rt. 19  
Near Port Clinton, OH.*

**For Reservations call**

**1-419-898-5071** (Bait Store)

**1-419-450-5681** (Marina Mgr)

Boat Dockage and Campsites Available  
Daily, Weekly, Monthly and  
Full Season Rates Available

- \* Camper Rentals
- \* Bait Store
- \* Boat Ramp
- \* Fishing Charters

*Excellent Walleye, Perch and Smallmouth  
Fishing in Erie's Western Basin  
the "Walleye Capital of the World"*

## Lost Peninsula Marina

6300 Edgewater, Erie, MI 48133  
**(734) 723-7466**

**600 Floating Docks & Gas Dock  
24 Hour Security  
Outside Storage \$6.00/ft.**

*Only Marina  
Directly on the Maumee Bay*

# Lodging for Lake Erie Fishermen

## East Point Cottages

419-285-2204

Excellent Fishing  
Fishing Tackle/  
Licenses  
Fully Equipped

Bill & Cheryl Massie  
PO Box 213  
Put-in-Bay, OH 43456

## Peninsula Motel

Clean modern motel w/  
cable TV, swimming pool  
and air conditioning

(419) 734-4778

Fishing cleaning  
facilities available

6930 E. Harbor Rd.  
Lakeside Marblehead,  
OH 43440

## Country Hearth Inn

1815 E. Perry St., Pt. Clinton, OH 43452  
1-800-282-5711 or (419) 732-2111

**SIX PACK CHARTER SPECIAL**  
Perfect for the Six Pack Charter

### Spring and Fall

Valid Dates: May 1 to June 30, 2002 &  
September 4 to October 1, 2002  
Includes the Weekends!

With all taxes included

Room w/ 2 Double Beds \$65.90 \$74.86  
Room w/3 Double Beds \$65.90 \$74.86

\$149.72 per night w/all taxes include.  
\$24.95/person based on 6 people

### Summer

Valid Dates: June 30 to September 3, 2002  
Weekday Charter Special  
(Not valid on Fridays, Saturdays and Holidays)

With all taxes included

Room w/ 2 Double Beds \$71.10 \$80.69  
Room w/3 Double Beds \$80.10 \$90.77  
\$171.46 per/night w/all taxes.  
\$28.57/person based on 6 people

## Fisherman's Inn

Furnished Apartments  
Daily or Weekly  
Fully equipped kitchens  
w/full size stove &  
refrigerator

Sleep 6 in separate  
beds/\$125/night  
(419) 732-3655 or  
800-336-3443

## Lake Point Motel On the Lakefront

908 E. Main St.  
Marblehead, OH 43440

Rooms \* Suites  
\* Mobile Homes

Heat \* Air \* Cable  
Fish Cleaning Table  
& Freezer  
(419) 798-4684

www.lakepointmotel.com

## Elle-Mate Rentals

on Lake Erie, the "Walleye Capital of the World"

Between Oak Harbor & Port Clinton, OH, off S.R. 2

1,2 & 3 BR condos in Green Cove Resort

**New 2 BR House near Marina**  
AND

**Great fishing** near Wester Sister Island.

Close to Cedar Pt., Put-in-Bay, Kellys Island

Call Elle

1-888-898-2300

## Holiday Village Resort

Motel \* Suites

Charter Fishing

800-493-7003

419-797-4732

3247 N.E. Catawba Rd. Port Clinton, OH 43452

info@holidayvillageresort.com

www.holidayvillageresort.com

### Lodging

Newly Remodeled Motel Rooms,  
Suites (1-3 bdrms.), AC/Heat, CATV,  
Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi, Playground

### Charters

27-30' Sport Fishing Boats,  
Group, Corporate and Executive Trips,  
Excellent/Free Fish Cleaning Facilities  
Free Fish Freezing  
Full-Time Professional Guides

## Little Ted's

Cottages and Family Resort

800-837-5507 - (419) 798-5507

Clean Air-Conditioned/Heated Cottages

**Dockage available so bring your boat**  
**Fish Cleaning Facility and Freezers.**

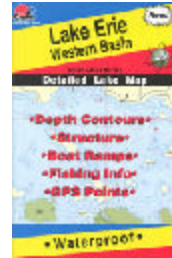
8390 North Shore Blvd., Marblehead, OH 43440

# Lake Erie Maps, Hats and Spoons!

Order online at [www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com) or complete order form below

Select from the following maps:

- Lake Erie Western Basin
- Lake Erie Major Western Basin Reefs
- Lake Erie Bass Islands
- Lake Erie Sandusky Bay
- NEW Lake Erie CENTRAL BASIN -West
- NEW Lake Erie CENTRAL BASIN - East
- Lake Erie Eastern Basin PA/NY Line to Sturgeon Pt.
- Lake Erie Eastern Basin Sturgeon Pt. to Peace Bridge



Lake Erie's Western Basin  
on CD ROM (\$34.00 each)



Lake Erie Fishing Caps (Walleye, Smallmouth, Steelhead)

## Subscription

to Lake Erie Walleye Magazine \$9.95 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Maps \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CD ROM \_\_\_\_\_ x \$34.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

"Six Pack" \_\_\_\_\_ x \$19.95 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Walleye Cap \_\_\_\_\_ x \$11.95 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Smallmouth Cap \_\_\_\_\_ x \$11.95 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Steelhead Cap \_\_\_\_\_ x \$11.95 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping & Handling @ \$3.95

Total ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Charge my \_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_ Visa

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Clip or copy this form and mail to: Lake Erie Walleye P.O. Box 421 Ballwin, MO 63022  
or call toll free to order by phone: 1-800-347-4519 or visit [w.walleye.com](http://w.walleye.com) to order online



"Six Pack" of Erie's most effective  
stinger spoons (\$19.95 each)

Includes:

- Rainbow Trout - Perch - Watermelon
- Confusion - Shrimp - Copper Oil Slick

**LUHR·JENSEN™** "Where Legends Live."

**Walleye Power Plugs!**

**SUSPENDING!** "HOT LIPS" EXPRESS  
 Trailing Depth: Size 24 - 25 ft. Size 28 - 29 ft. Size 34 - 35 ft.  
*Maximum Velocity*

**NEW!** "POWER MINNOW"  
 Available in two sizes. 3 3/8" 310 4 7/8"  
**TWO MODELS!**  
 •SUSPENDING  
 •FLOATING

The Lure with the Golden Lip  
 "ROCK WALKER"  
 Trailing Depth: Size 24 - 25 ft. Size 28 - 29 ft.

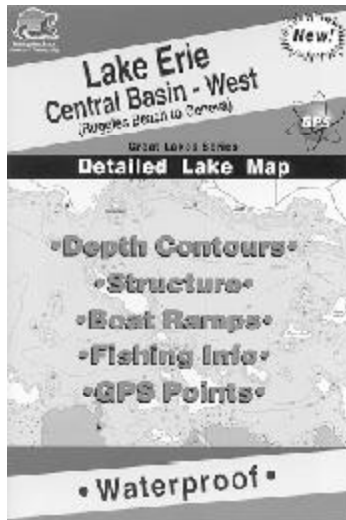
**SUSPENDING!** "FINGERLING HI-CATCH"  
*Natural Minnow Profile*  
 Trailing Depth: Size 1 - 29 ft. Size 5/8 - 12 ft.

**SUSPENDING!** "POWER DIVE MINNOW"  
 Trailing Depth: Size 24 - 25 ft. Size 28 - 29 ft.  
*Deep Dive 3 1/2-Lobe Power Lip*

LUHR·JENSEN™ & Sons, Inc., P.O. Box 297, Hood River, OR 97031 • www.luhrjensen.com

## New in 2002 Lake Erie Central Basin Fishing Maps

**\$10.00 each.** To order call 1-800-347-4519 or visit  
 the walleye.com shop at [www.walleye.com](http://www.walleye.com)



**Central Basin - West**  
 Covers the central basin from Ruggles Beach to Geneva

**Central Basin - East**  
 Covers from Ashtabula, Oh to the New York State Line

