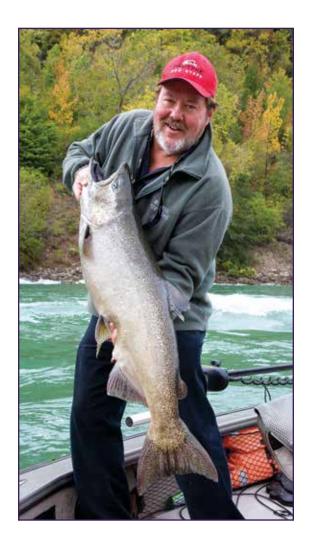




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Fishing's Great in New York's **Great Lakes**

An angler's paradise awaits you in New York State. It's the Great Lakes— Lakes Erie and Ontario and the Niagara and St. Lawrence rivers. With more than 500 miles of scenic shoreline and numerous trophy-rich tributaries, these easily accessible waters provide some of the finest fishing in the nation.

New York's Great Lakes are no more than a day's drive from most points in the Northeast. Great fishing and easy access is readily available spring, summer, fall and winter. Every facility imaginable is available for your use. Fishing guide services, information hotlines, public boat launches, parking areas, fishing piers, marinas, boat rentals, fish-cleaning stations, campsites, motels, restaurants, bait and tackle shops and more are available to help make your fishing trip memorable.



What to Fish For

Your choice of what to fish for in the Great Lakes is almost endless. Braggin' size is the rule, not the exception. Steelhead, lake and brown trout topping 20 pounds. Acrobatic Atlantic salmon and feisty coho salmon. Northern pike longer than your arm. Rod-bending walleye. Monstrous, tackle-busting muskies. Bass that will pull the rod out of your hand. And don't forget the mighty Chinook salmon—there's a reason they're called KINGS! More than one angler has been left shaking their head in disbelief, with nothing but a broken line and a memory of the giant Chinook that got away. Fourteen state-record fish have come from New York's Great Lakes waters.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stock more than four million trout and salmon into the New York waters of the Great Lakes each year, so there are lots of fish for everyone. There are bass, northern pike, panfish or walleye in almost every bay, and, in many areas, you'll hardly see another angler. Don't let the lack of a boat discourage you either. Shore fishing can be just as effective as boat fishing, especially for trout and salmon in the spring and fall. Bankside fishing is the norm for landing a world-famous St. Lawrence River carp. Public fishing piers, streams and shore fishing areas are scattered across the Great Lakes shoreline. Here's what to fish for:

Note: Trout and salmon coloration greatly changes when they enter streams to spawn.

Chinook Salmon

The most prized of all Lake Ontario sportfish, Chinook salmon are caught by the tens of thousands each year in Lake Ontario and its



tributaries. Mature Chinooks typically weigh between 20 and 30 pounds, but anglers have caught them as large as 47 pounds. The fastest fishing occurs in streams during the fall run, but lake fishing is very productive from April to September, especially off the Niagara Bar in May and near the mouths of spawning streams in late August and September.

Chinook, coho, brown trout, steelhead, and Atlantic salmon artwork by Peter Thompson. Reprinted with permission of New York Sea Grant.

Coho Salmon

In the fall, the Salmon River—a tributary to Lake Ontario—produces coho salmon averaging 8 to 10 pounds, with fish up to 20 pounds caught



each year. Look for runs of coho in Eighteenmile, Oak Orchard and Sandy creeks as well. The fastest fishing and the largest coho of the year are taken when schools of these salmon leave the open lake and make their fall spawning runs. The western basin of Lake Ontario offers excellent springtime fishing for 2 to 6-pounders near shore, close to the mouths of streams. During mid-summer, anglers will find coho suspended over deep water.

Brown Trout

On Lake Ontario, fishing excitement begins as brown trout move inshore in early spring. Light tackle is the name of the game as



browns search out the warm water along the shoreline. Browns up to 30 pounds can be taken within a stone's throw from shore, and limit catches of 3 to 6-pounders are common. Midsummer fishing is also excellent as fish move into slightly deeper, cooler waters offshore. Presentations made where the thermocline intersects the bottom are best. Lake Ontario tributary action peaks from November through December in places like Eighteenmile, Johnson, Oak Orchard and Maxwell creeks, among others. Lower Niagara River anglers experience good catches from November through April.

Steelhead

Steelhead fishing is at its best in spawning streams during the spring and fall runs. For cold-water enthusiasts, there are



angling opportunities throughout winter. Try creeks like Cattaraugus, Eighteenmile, Canadaway and Chautauqua on Lake Erie. On Lake Ontario, try Eighteenmile, Sandy (Monroe Co.) and Oak Orchard creeks, the Genesee River, Irondequoit and Maxwell creeks, the Oswego and Salmon rivers, and Sandy (North Sandy) and South Sandy creeks. The Lower Niagara River provides excellent steelhead fishing from shore or boat from November through May. The Oswegatchie River also has a fall run of steelhead. Most fish are between 5 and 12 pounds, with occasional trophies up to 20 pounds.

Great Lakes Fishing What to Fish For | 2

Superb late spring angling is also available on the warm (shoreline) side of the thermal bar on Lake Ontario's surface. The thermal bar is where the warmer waters near the shoreline meet the cooler offshore waters from mid-May through mid-June. During the summer and early fall, steelhead are caught along with salmon by anglers fishing the cooler mid-waters of the lake.

Lake Trout

Lake trout are native to Lakes Erie and Ontario and have been the focus of an international effort to restore self-



reproducing populations in each lake for more than 30 years. Lakers up to 20 pounds are common in both lakes, but trophies of up to 40 pounds are possible. Lake trout reared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources are stocked annually in an effort to rebuild stocks of spawning adults. Since the early 1990s, annual trawl and gillnetting surveys have captured naturally spawned or "wild" lake trout in Lake Ontario. While this is a positive step toward meeting restoration objectives, continued improvements in natural reproduction and survival to older ages are needed in both Lakes Erie and Ontario to achieve restoration goals. Anglers can find cooperative lake trout in the Niagara River and along the Niagara Bar from January through May. Slowly trolled, deepwater presentations with attractor rigs or spoons will take lake trout in the summer and early fall around reefs, shoals or deepwater dropoffs.

Atlantic Salmon

Widely regarded as one of the world's premier game fish, Atlantic salmon once ranged throughout Lake Ontario until dams



and other disruptions to their spawning streams prevented them from successfully spawning. Atlantic



salmon are stocked in the hope that a self-sustaining population can be reestablished. In recent years, natural reproduction has been detected in the Salmon River, and adult fish are being brought to landing nets more frequently. This prized fish is caught along with brown trout in the spring and by anglers targeting salmon and steelhead throughout the summer.

Northern Pike

Marshes and bays along the shoreline of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River provide some of the



finest northern pike fishing in the east. Early in the season, the wading angler can experience great northern pike fishing in the St. Lawrence River, especially near Waddington. Massena's Long Sault Island is also a great place to fish for large northerns. Decent pike fishing can also be found in Lake Erie's Buffalo Harbor and the Upper Niagara River. Use large spoons and plugs or live bait and hold on! Fish topping 15 pounds are caught each year.

Smallmouth Bass

The finest smallmouth bass fishing in New York State and arguably the entire United States can be found in Lake Erie. Smallmouth bass of 2



to 4 pounds are common, but true lunkers weighing 7 pounds or more are possible. Fishing is best from May through early July in nearshore rocky areas and harbors, and again in the fall. Tube jigs and other soft plastic baits are the most popular lures. During the summer months, fishing deeper water structure with a drop-shot rig is most productive. Eastern Lake Ontario and the Niagara and St. Lawrence rivers are also great smallmouth bass waters.

Largemouth Bass

Largemouth bass are most numerous in warm water bays and estuaries along Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. Harbors and bays such as



Wilson Harbor, Olcott Harbor, Sodus Bay, Irondequoit Bay, North Sandy Pond, Lakeview Marsh and Chaumont Bay all provide excellent largemouth bass fishing. The shallow weedy areas of embayments and around boat docks are good places to find this popular gamefish. Don't overlook the Upper Niagara River as a hot spot either.

3 | What to Fish For Great Lakes Fishing

Walleye

The walleye is highly prized as table fare, and New York's Great Lakes provide excellent opportunities for those



seeking this tasty sportfish. In Lake Erie, walleye fishing is excellent from May through September. Early-season catches are best near shallow spawning sites such as Seneca Shoal, Myers Reef, Evans Bar and Van Buren Point. As water temperatures increase, trollers target walleye suspended over deeper water using stickbaits and worm harnesses, with better catches occurring from Cattaraugus Creek to the Pennsylvania border. The Lower Niagara River, along with Chaumont Bay, Henderson Harbor, Black River Bay and Mud Bay in eastern Lake Ontario also offer good walleye fishing. Fall walleye fishing in the St. Lawrence can be phenomenal. Anglers will also find quality walleye fishing in the Oswegatchie River near Ogdensburg.

Muskellunge

Muskies are surely THE trophy fish of the St. Lawrence and Niagara rivers. They average 12 to 30 pounds,



and occasional 50+ pounders are taken in these rivers. Muskie fishing is not for everyone, because it can take even the most experienced angler more than 30 hours to catch one of these giants. Special fishing gear and a guide are recommended for inexperienced anglers. First time muskie anglers desiring to use small boats and light to medium tackle should give the Grass and St. Regis rivers in St. Lawrence County a try. Muskies in these waters can achieve the length but often not the weight of fish caught in the St. Lawrence River.

Panfish

Crappie, bluegill, rock bass, pumpkinseed, and white perch make up the list of popular panfish in the Great Lakes. Sunfish and rock bass can be found along much of the shoreline, especially arround



structures such as docks, piers and harbor breakwalls.

Yellow Perch

Yellow perch fishing is popular year-round, with good stringers taken by ice and boat anglers alike. Lake Erie offers excellent



perch fishing from ice-out through the fall. Peak months are June and September, with the most consistent catches off Cattaraugus Creek and Sturgeon Point. Lake Ontario

embayments and the St. Lawrence River also have excellent year-round yellow perch fishing, with the best fishing from late fall through early spring.

Bullhead

Springtime campfires surrounded by bullhead anglers are a familiar site throughout the Great Lakes region in New York



State. Bullhead are taken by the bucketful at night in early spring as temperatures rise in harbors, protected bays and marshes. A worm fished on the bottom is hard to beat.

Channel Catfish

Channel catfish can be found in the lowest stretches of larger Great Lakes tributaries and along the lakes'



shorelines, especially near stream inlets. Fishing peaks in late May through June with better catches after dark. Catfish in the 5 to 10-pound range are common; however, anglers hook into fish larger than 20 pounds each year. Chicken livers, raw shrimp, cut bait or bread balls dipped in anise oil and fished on the bottom work well.

Common Carp

The common carp in Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River are numerous, under-fished and grow very large. Anglers from around



the world have caught on to this, and the St. Lawrence has hosted the world carp championship twice in recent years. Many 10 to 20-pound fish await the angler, with fish topping 40 pounds being taken each year. In Europe and Asia, many people revere this fish as a trophy and travel here hoping to tangle with a behemoth. Carp fishing is good from late spring to early fall. In the Great Lakes, target carp in bay and harbor areas. In the St. Lawrence and Niagara River systems, target carp in bays or slow-moving and slack water areas.



Great Lakes Fishing What to Fish For | 4

When to Fish

Part of the secret of catching fish in New York's Great Lakes is being at the right location at the right time. The information below shows WHEN and WHERE to fish for the most sought after fish species. Seasons, creel and size limits for the body of water you are fishing can be found in the New York State Fishing Regulations Guide or by visiting www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/fishing.html.

| Species | Best Time | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | ■ April and early May: inshore shallows. | | | | | |
| Coho, Chinook Salmon | ■ May through August: deepwater offshore. | | | | | |
| | September through November: spawning streams, stream mouths, inshore. | | | | | |
| | ■ April and May: inshore. | | | | | |
| Brown Trout | June through September: Thermocline/bottom intersection of Lake Ontario. | | | | | |
| | ■ Mid-October through early December: Spawning streams. | | | | | |
| | ■ Late May through September: offshore. | | | | | |
| Steelhead | October through November: inshore shallows. | | | | | |
| Steemead | October to early May: inshore shallows, spawning streams. Peak stream fishing is typically mid- | | | | | |
| | November and again in early April. | | | | | |
| | ■ January through May: Niagara River, Niagara Bar. | | | | | |
| | April and early May: inshore. | | | | | |
| Lake Trout | ■ Late May through September: offshore. | | | | | |
| | October through December: inshore shallows. | | | | | |
| | Seasons vary between Lakes Erie and Ontario (see New York Freshwater Fishing Regulations Guide). | | | | | |
| | April and early May: inshore shallows. | | | | | |
| Atlantic Salmon | ■ May to August: deepwater offshore. | | | | | |
| | July through November: Salmon River. | | | | | |
| | October and November: Oak Orchard Creek (or larger Lake Ontario tributaries). | | | | | |
| Northern Pike | ■ May through June and again in September until ice-up: bays and marshes. | | | | | |
| TVOI DICTIT I IRC | ■ December through mid-March: ice-fishing in protected bays and marshes. | | | | | |
| Black Bass (Smallmouth | ■ Smallmouth fishery peaks in late June and early July and picks up again in August through November. | | | | | |
| and Largemouth) | ■ Largemouth good all season. | | | | | |
| Black Bass(Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties) | ■ Fishing for black bass (including catch and release) prohibited during the closed season. | | | | | |
| Black Bass | ■ May to mid-June: nearshore reefs, harbors and tributaries. Special trophy and early-season fishing | | | | | |
| (Lake Erie Only) | regulations (see New York Freshwater Fishing Regulations Guide). | | | | | |
| | ■ May through June and again in September until ice-up: bays and marshes. Shallow spawning shoals | | | | | |
| | at night in Lake Erie. | | | | | |
| Walleye | July and August: suspended in deep water or along dropoffs associated with shoals, shorelines and structure. | | | | | |
| wancyc | ■ September through November: St. Lawrence River and its major tributaries. | | | | | |
| | ■ December through mid-March: ice-fishing in protected bays and marshes, open water fishing in the | | | | | |
| | Lower Niagara River. | | | | | |
| Muskellunge | ■ Late August through November: open river. | | | | | |
| Panfish | ■ Spring, summer and fall: inshore bays, marshes, harbors, stream mouths. | | | | | |
| | ■ April and May: inshore bays, creek mouths, marshes. | | | | | |
| Yellow Perch | June through November: main lake, inshore bays. | | | | | |
| | ■ December through March: ice fishing in protected bays. | | | | | |
| D 111 1 | ■ Late April and early May: warm inshore bays, harbors and stream mouths, night and day fishing. | | | | | |
| Bullhead | ■ Late May through October: bays, marshes, creeks. | | | | | |
| Channel Catfish | ■ Late April through June: larger tributaries and bays. | | | | | |
| Common Carp | ■ May through October: inshore bays. | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |



Where to Fish

We know the size of the Great Lakes can be a bit overwhelming, so here are a few hot spots to help you find fish quickly. Whether it's trout or salmon, bass or pike, panfish or walleye you're after, check the areas on pages 7-30 for some of the best fishing the Great Lakes have to offer.

| Legend | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Country Boundary |
| | NYS County Boundary |
| | Selected Major Roads |
| | Selected Minor Roads |
| | Waterbodies |
| _ | Selected Rivers, Streams, Creeks |
| - | Contour Lines (Depth in Feet) |
| ABC | Fishing Hot Spots |
| | Fishing Hot Spots Callout Boxes |
| + | Hot Spot Coordinate Locations |
| XA | Selected Campgrounds |
| 00≥ | Trailered Boat Launches |
| ₹. | Cartop Boat Launches |
| × | Fish Cleaning Stations |
| P | Angler Parking |
| ~ | First Impassable Barrier to Fish |
| _ | BreakWalls or Piers |
| | Public Fishing Rights Easements (PFR) |
| | State Parks |
| | Selected DEC Lands |
| | Selected County/Municipal Parks |
| | Urban Areas |
| • | Towns or Villages |
| | Great Lakes Fisheries Stations |

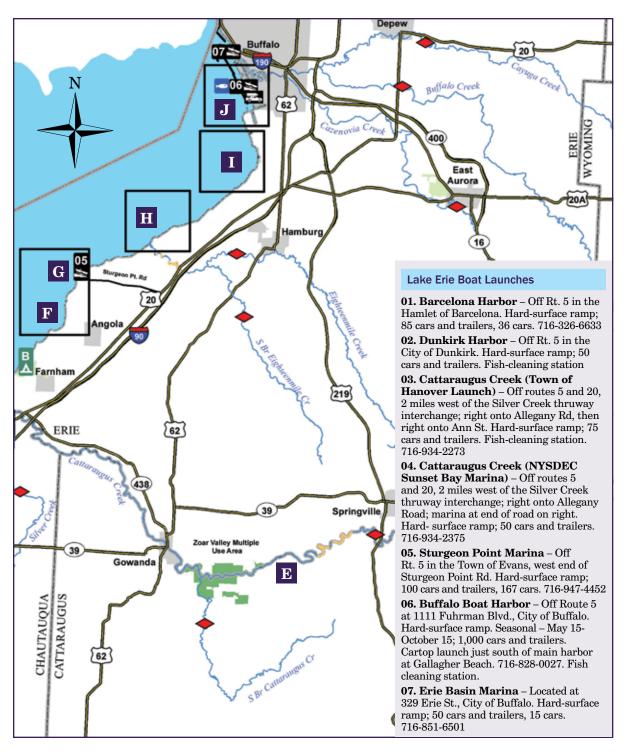


| Map # | Water | Pages |
|-------|------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Lake Erie | 7-10 |
| 2 | Upper Niagara River | 11-12 |
| 3 | Lower Niagara River | 13-14 |
| 4 | Western Lake Ontario | 15-18 |
| 5 | Central Lake Ontario | 19-22 |
| 6 | Southeast Lake Ontario | 23-24 |
| 7 | Northeast Lake Ontario | 25-26 |
| 8 | St. Lawrence River | 27-30 |

Please note: The maps used in this publication are not intended for navigational purposes.







Lake Erie Hot Spots

- A. Barcelona Harbor Barcelona Harbor lies just 10 miles northeast of the Pennsylvania border on Route 5, near the Village of Westfield. The boat launch provides access to Lake Erie's best lake trout fishing, as well as some of the Northeast's finest walleye and smallmouth bass fishing. Pier anglers experience good brown trout and steelhead catches after ice-out and excellent smallmouth bass catches in late spring.
- B. Brocton Shoal Located eight miles northeast of Barcelona Harbor, Brocton Shoal offers good walleye fishing throughout the boating season. During summer, walleye, steelhead and brown trout can be caught along the deeper outside edge of the shoal. Smallmouth bass fishing is best on the higher rocky areas.
- **C. VanBuren Reef and Bay** Located four miles southwest of Dunkirk Harbor, VanBuren Reef is a walleye and smallmouth bass hot spot. In May, nighttime walleye fishing is excellent in the shallows (3'-6') of the bay and reef. Smallmouth bass fishing is good all season along this rocky reef that extends two miles into the lake.
- D. Dunkirk Harbor Located approximately 32 miles southwest of Buffalo, the open waters off Dunkirk Harbor provide excellent fishing for a variety of sportfish, including smallmouth bass, walleye, yellow perch, lake trout and steelhead. A warm-water discharge within the harbor creates a unique fishery for brown trout and steelhead from mid-winter through early spring. The city pier and public fishing platform give shore access to trout during the winter, bullhead and bass in spring and a variety of panfish in early summer.
- E. Cattaraugus Creek Several public boat launches near the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek give boaters access to some of the best walleye, smallmouth bass and yellow perch fishing in the lake. Cattaraugus Creek is the largest of New York's Lake Erie tributaries and supports one of the lake's top steelhead runs, with the best catches in fall and spring. Upstream of Gowanda, waders have public access to more than 10 miles of the creek via the Zoar Valley Multiple Use Area and public fishing rights (PFR) holdings. Anglers can also

| Lake Erie Hot Spot GPS Coordinates | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Structure | Latitude (Decimal Degrees) | Longitude (Decimal Degrees) | | | | |
| Brocton Shoal | 42.436667 | -79.511667 | | | | |
| VanBuren Reef | 42.46905 | -79.40815 | | | | |
| Evans Bar | 42.658333 | -79.083333 | | | | |
| Myers Reef | 42.738333 | -78.953333 | | | | |
| Seneca Shoal | 42.795 | -78.933333 | | | | |



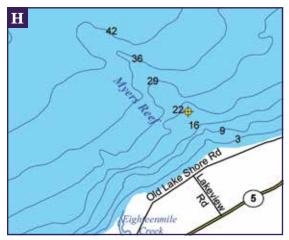


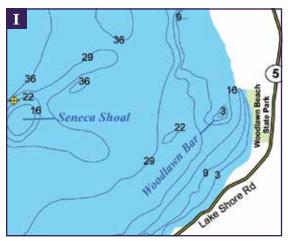


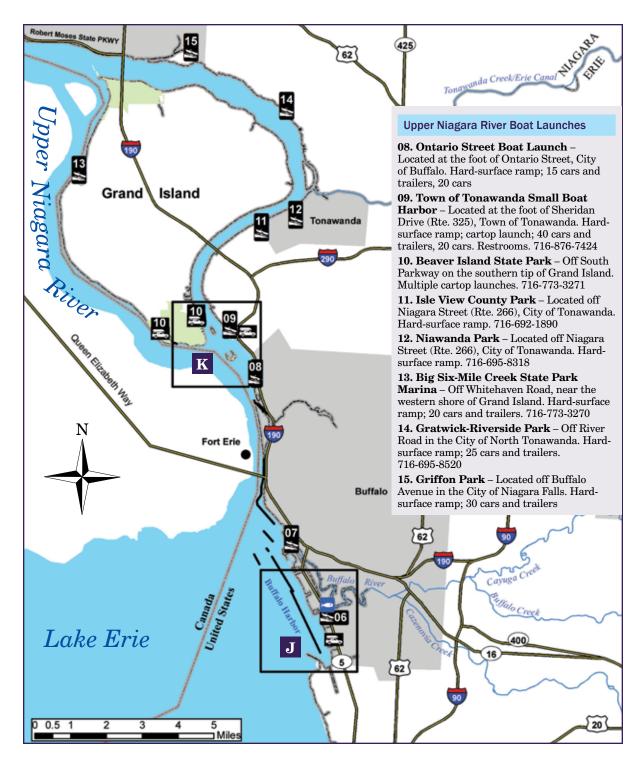
target steelhead and a variety of warm-water species on a seasonal basis from a 1,200 foot breakwall at the creek's mouth (south side) on Lake Erie.

- **F. Evans Bar** Evans Bar is a shallow, rocky near shore reef, located three miles southwest of Sturgeon Point Harbor. This top smallmouth bass holding structure offers great bass action all season. Nighttime anglers catch walleye around the higher points in May, while summer catches come from the deeper edges.
- **G. Sturgeon Point Harbor** The flats straight out of Sturgeon Point Harbor and to the southwest toward Cattaraugus Creek offer exceptional yellow perch fishing. Perch are available the entire boating season, with catches peaking in late spring and late summer through fall. The rocky dropoffs just outside the harbor provide good smallmouth bass fishing. Walleye catches are often very good in water depths of 40 feet or more during the summer months.
- **H. Myers Reef** Located just over five miles northeast of Sturgeon Point, Myers Reef is another smallmouth bass and walleye hot spot. Bass transition from the shallow to the deep end of the reef as summer progresses. Walleye catches peak in the shallows in late spring and can also be caught along the deep side in summer.
- I. Seneca Shoal and Woodlawn Bar Seneca Shoal is a large, rocky offshore reef located about five miles southwest of Buffalo Harbor. It is a great post-spawn (June) walleye hot spot, and good catches continue into summer along the deep, western edges. Seneca Shoal is also a smallmouth bass hub, with consistently good action all season. The area around Woodlawn Bar and to the north towards Smokes Creek provides excellent nighttime walleye fishing in May.







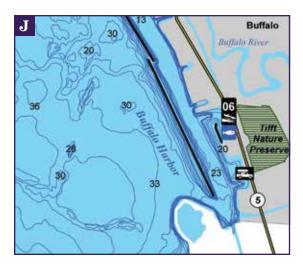


J. Buffalo Harbor – Buffalo Harbor is a main launching point for boaters heading to nearby smallmouth bass and early season walleye hot spots (see H and I). In addition, there is excellent smallmouth bass fishing in the harbor and around the breakwalls during May and June. During summer and fall, harbor anglers can also catch largemouth bass, northern pike, a variety of panfish and the occasional muskellunge.

Niagara River Hot Spots

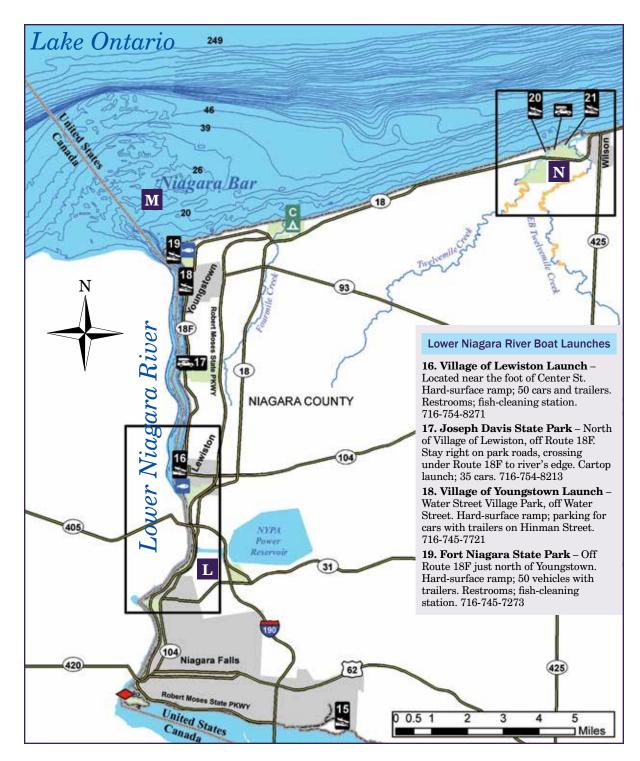
K. Upper Niagara River – The Upper Niagara River provides good fishing for smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, muskellunge, northern pike and panfish. You'll find numerous public boat launches, harbors and shore fishing sites along the river. Smallmouth bass, muskellunge and pike are the top sportfish in the upper river and can be found around Grand Island and Strawberry Island. Key in on the outside of weed edges and deeper holes. Largemouth bass and a variety of panfish are plentiful and are readily caught from boat or shore sites along Buffalo, the Tonawandas and Grand Island. A decent number of steelhead and walleye can be found near the head of the river in spring.

Caution: Niagara Falls is downriver, so boat fishing is not recommended north (downriver) of Grand Island.









L. Lower Niagara River - The Lower Niagara River is one of New York State's finest trout and salmon fisheries. Beginning in early September, anglers can take advantage of one of the earliest Chinook salmon runs the lake has to offer. From fall through spring, steelhead, brown trout, lake trout and the occasional Atlantic salmon can be caught on any given day. Boaters target trout and salmon from Devils Hole downriver past Lewiston. Shore anglers can catch them from Whirlpool, Devils Hole and Artpark state parks, as well as the New York Power Authority (NYPA) Power Vista fishing platform. Smallmouth bass catches are best from the mouth up to Lewiston from June through September. Yellow perch fishing peaks in late spring at Lewiston Landing. Smelt dipping at night along Artpark State Park and Lewiston Landing provides lots of fun in April.

Lake Ontario Hot Spots

M. Niagara Bar – Located at the mouth of the Niagara River, the Niagara Bar is a huge sand and gravel deposit that extends about four miles north into the lake and two miles to the east. This ultra-productive fishing area offers excellent action spring through fall. The Niagara River's warmer water extends in a plume into Lake Ontario, drawing baitfish to the river in early spring, resulting in good trout and salmon fishing in the "trench"—the deep channel extending from the river mouth out to the green buoy. From mid-April through May, the hottest Chinook salmon fishing in the lake is along the "ledge" (northern edge of the bar) in 100-300 feet of water. Anglers also experience good catches of lake trout, coho salmon and brown trout on top of the bar at that time. During summer, smallmouth bass, walleye and brown trout dominate catches on top of the bar. Chinook salmon catches peak again in mid-August through mid-September, as fish stack up along the ledge in preparation for their spawning run upriver.

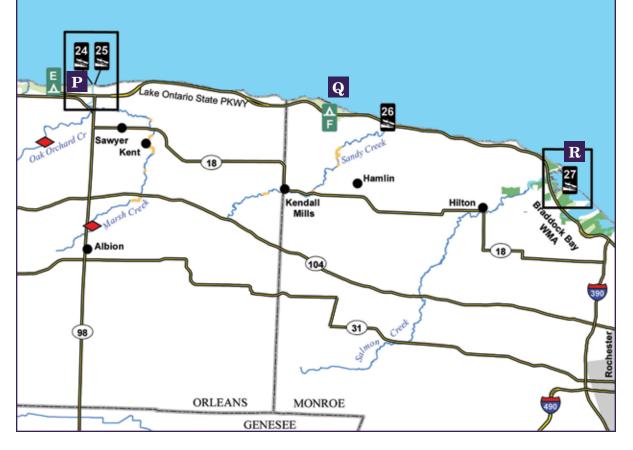






Lake Ontario Boat Launches

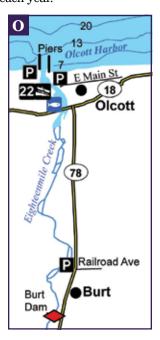
- 20. Town of Wilson Launch -Riverview Drive, the west branch of Twelvemile Creek. Hard-surface ramp
- 21. Wilson-Tuscarora State Park Park entrance off Route 18, just west of Wilson. Hard-surface ramp into bay; cartop launch into west branch of Twelvemile Creek; 50 cars and trailers, 30 cars. Restrooms. 716-751-6361
- **22. Town of Newfane Marina at Olcott Harbor** Off W. Main St. in Village of Olcott. Hard-surface ramp; 40 cars and trailers. Restrooms; fish-cleaning station. 716-778-5462
- 23. Golden Hill State Park Off Lower Lake Road in Town of Somerset. Hard-surface ramp; 50 cars and trailers. 716-795-3885
- **24.** Oak Orchard Marine Park West Town of Carlton, west side of the Creek, off Archbald Road. Hard-surface ramp; 96 cars and trailers, 25 cars. 585-682-3641
- **25. Oak Orchard Marine Park East** Town of Carlton, east side of the Creek, at the end of Route 98. Hard-surface ramp; 25 cars and trailers, 17 cars. 585-682-3641
- **26.** Sandy Creek Ramp Lake Ontario Parkway near the Route 19 intersection in the Town of Hamlin. Hard-surface ramp; 50 cars and trailers
- **27. Braddock Bay State Park** Ten miles northwest of Rochester, off Lake Ontario State Parkway. Hardsurface ramp; 50 cars and trailers, 50 cars. 585-225-2000



N. Wilson Harbor and East Branch

Twelvemile Creek - Spring trout and salmon fishing is excellent out of Wilson Harbor and toward the Niagara Bar to the west, where Chinook, coho, brown trout and steelhead are readily caught within two miles of shore. The summer bite is better offshore using deepwater techniques. Pier fishing for trout and salmon is excellent in spring and fall. East Branch Twelvemile Creek receives a good run of steelhead each spring. Fall runs of steelhead, brown trout and Chinook are dependent on flow. In spring, harbor anglers experience good bullhead, yellow perch and sunfish catches. The west end of the harbor is a popular ice-fishing spot. Ice anglers catch mainly panfish; however, some trophy steelhead, brown trout and northern pike are pulled through the ice each year.

O. Olcott Harbor and Eighteenmile Creek - Easy boat access to the open lake and great trout and salmon fishing is available spring through fall. Large, mature Chinook salmon are the major draw; however, trollers also experience good steelhead, brown trout, coho salmon and lake trout catches. Pier fishing for trout and salmon peaks in spring and fall. Eighteenmile Creek, which feeds the harbor, receives an



outstanding run of Chinook salmon and brown trout each fall. Stream anglers can enjoy great fishing at Fisherman's Park (across from Railroad Ave.), upstream near Burt Dam. Good action continues from fall through spring for steelhead. The lower section of the creek provides excellent fishing for large northern pike, bass and panfish.



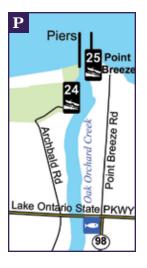




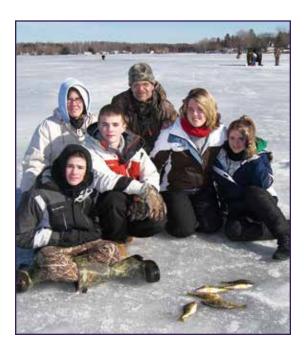
P. Oak Orchard -

Brown trout, steelhead, lake trout, Chinook, coho and Atlantic salmon fishing in this area is hard to beat. This area provides a true year-round fishery for all of these species.

In addition, Oak
Orchard Creek provides
an excellent fishery
for largemouth and
smallmouth bass,
northern pike, panfish
and carp. Handy boat
access is available at
Point Breeze near the



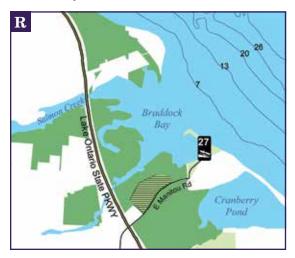
mouth of Oak Orchard Creek, where Chinook are caught April through November. Oak Orchard Creek receives an outstanding run of Chinook salmon, steelhead, brown trout, with some Atlantics thrown in each fall. Steelhead fishing continues well into spring. White perch and bullheads also provide fast action in the estuary, just upstream of the creek mouth. Yellow perch abound in early spring.





Q. Hamlin Beach – Heavy concentrations of large brown trout from late September to early November make Hamlin Beach a favorite fishing area. Inshore fishing for brown trout, steelhead, lake trout and coho is excellent. Nearby Sandy Creek, which has a boat ramp, provides fall runs of Chinook salmon and brown trout, while steelhead may be found from fall through spring. Offshore concentrations of salmonids in mid-summer provide fast, deepwater action. Spring fishing (April – May) for bullhead and white perch in Sandy Creek and where it enters the lake is outstanding.

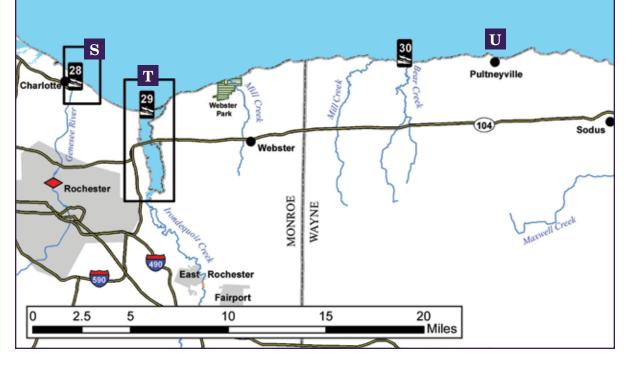
R. Braddock Bay – Braddock Bay is located in the middle of some of the best spring trout and salmon fishing in Lake Ontario. Spring and summer fishing for trophy northerns and largemouth is outstanding. Bullhead and white perch fishing is excellent. Yellow perch provide fast action in the early spring. Make sure to check the channel depth before accessing Lake Ontario from the bay.

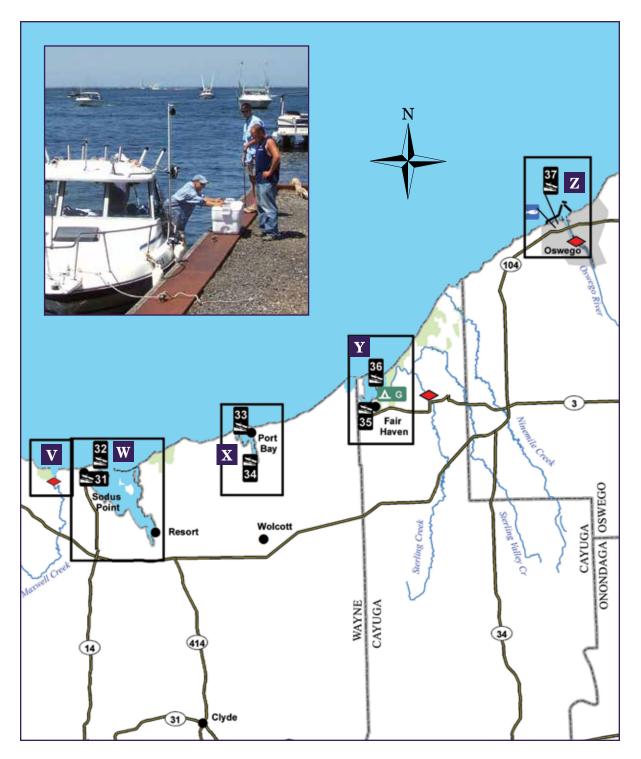


Lake Ontario Boat Launches

- 28. Genesee River Off Lake Avenue in the City of Rochester. Hard-surface ramp; 40 cars and trailers
- **29. Irondequoit Bay State Marine Park** At the intersection of Route 590 and Culver Rd. Hard-surface ramp; 28 cars and trailers. 585-256-4950
- **30.** Town of Ontario (Bear Creek) Boat Launch Lake Road near the intersection of Furnace Road. Hard-surface ramp; paved parking for 10 cars and trailers (permit required).
- 31. Town of Sodus Ramp Route 14 at the end of Margaretta Road. Hard-surface ramp; 20 cars and trailers
- **32. Town of Sodus Ramp** End of Wickham Blvd. in the Village of Sodus Point, U.S. Coast Guard Station. Hardsurface ramp. Open Labor Day through Memorial Day
- **33. Port Bay West Access Site** Off West Port Bay Rd., five miles north of the Village of Wolcott. Hard-surface ramp; 35 cars and trailers
- **34. Port Bay South Access Site** Off West Port Bay Rd., three miles north of the Village of Wolcott. Twenty-eight cars and trailers
- **35. Village of Fair Haven Ramps** One on King St.; one on Cottage Street off Route 104A, southwest of Fair Haven
- **36. Fair Haven Beach State Park** North of Fair Haven off State Park Road. Hard-surface ramp; 150 cars and trailers. 315-947-5205
- 37. Wright's Landing West Third St., Oswego Harbor. Multiple ramps

Lake Ontario







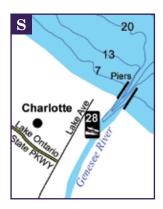
S. Genesee River – There are good late winter and spring steelhead fishing opportunities in the Genesee River. This area has two large piers at its mouth, and anglers casting silver spoons catch brown trout, steelhead, lake trout, coho salmon and walleye.

T. Irondequoit Bay - Fishing in this productive bay is good year-round, during both open water and ice fishing. Take your choice of northern pike, largemouth bass or bullhead. Yellow perch provide fast action in the spring. The piers at the mouth of the bay are favorite shore-fishing areas for brown trout, steelhead and coho salmon.

Monroe County's Ellison and Powder Mill parks offer

ample public access to Irondequoit Creek.

A few miles east, Webster Park has a pier providing good fishing for trout and salmon.





U. Pultneyville – The area offshore of Pultneyville provides fast, deepwater action for trout and salmon in July and August.

V. Maxwell Creek – Excellent spring and fall steelhead fishing in this stream makes it a favorite with anglers. There is also a run of brown trout in mid to late October.

W. Sodus Bay – This area is typical of the amazing variety of fishing in



Lake Ontario. Northern pike, largemouth and smallmouth bass, bullheads, yellow perch and other panfish are taken in the bay. Ice fishing is excellent for northern pike and yellow perch.

Sodus Bay is popular for its spring brown trout fishing, from both boats and piers at the mouth of the bay. Staging Chinook can be caught by casting spoons and plugs from the piers beginning in mid-September.



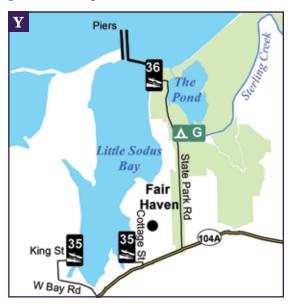
X. Blind Sodus
Bay, East Bay and
Port Bay – Located
a short distance
west of Little Sodus
Bay, these bays are
excellent for northern
pike, largemouth bass
and yellow perch.

Y. Little Sodus Bay and Sterling Creek – Excellent boat access makes fishing easy in this productive estuary



bordered by Fairhaven State Park. Fishing is excellent year-round. Try for brown trout off the piers and bullhead or yellow perch in the shallows in early spring, or smallmouth and largemouth bass in late spring and summer. Ice fishing can be excellent for northern pike and yellow perch.

Sterling Creek, which flows into Lake Ontario via The Pond at Fair Haven Beach State Park, is a good steelhead producer.

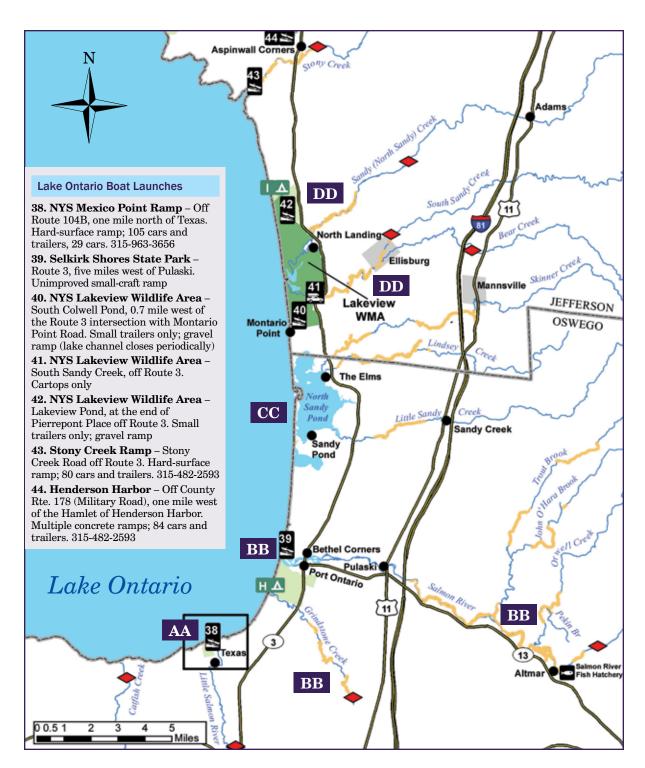


Z. Oswego Harbor – Oswego Harbor provides convenient boat launching and is a great brown trout hot spot in the spring. Even anglers with small boats can take brown trout from 3 to 10 pounds in the safety of the harbor.

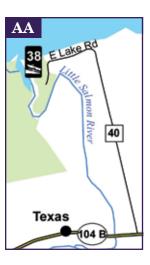
Fishing for Chinook salmon, lake trout and brown trout is excellent offshore in mid-summer, when salmonids head for cooler, deeper water. Don't miss the early fall run of spawning Chinook in the Oswego River. Try for steelhead and brown trout below the first dam in the Oswego River in late fall through winter. This area is also known for trophy-size spring walleye and early summer smallmouth bass.

The area around Wrights Landing loads up in spring with huge rock bass. The rest of the year, it boasts a decent northern pike population and is a hot spot for crappie, sunfish, perch and largemouth and smallmouth bass.





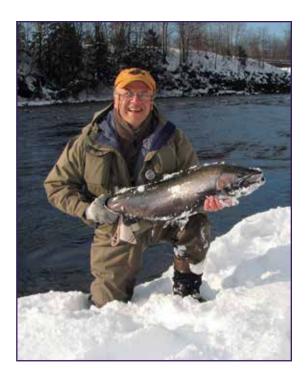
AA. Little Salmon River - Before entering Lake Ontario, this stream flows through a long, weedy bay loaded with northern pike, largemouth bass. panfish and bullheads. During the cool-water periods of spring and fall, smallmouth bass fishing is fantastic. Try the fast water upstream for Chinook in the fall and steelhead in the spring and fall.



Off the mouth of the river, on the east pier and along the lakeshore, you'll find good spring and fall trout fishing and excellent smallmouth bass fishing. The NYS Mexico Point boat ramp is conveniently located at the river's mouth.

BB. Salmon River and nearby waters – This river is the most famous of New York's Great Lakes tributaries for a reason—great salmon and steelhead fishing! Be prepared for company at this extremely popular fishing hot spot. Troll for Chinook and coho off the river mouth from mid-August to late September. In the river, coho up to 15 pounds and Chinook topping 35 pounds can be caught from September through late November. Steelhead up to 20 pounds provide exciting action fall, winter and spring. Big lake-run brown trout are also part of the mix in late fall and early winter. Don't overlook other species. The Salmon River estuary is popular for northern pike, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass and bullhead.





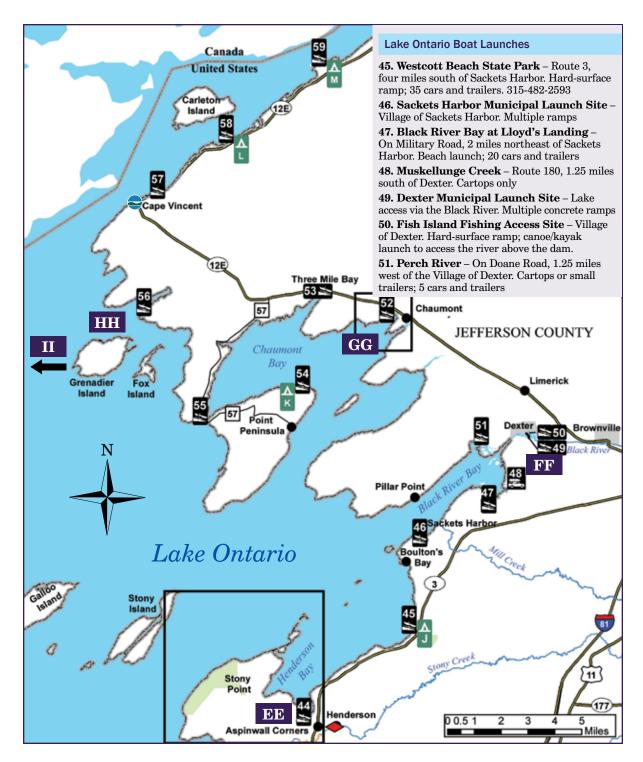
Grindstone Creek, one mile to the southwest, and the Selkirk Shores State Park piers adjacent to it are favorite trout and salmon fishing areas. Grindstone is also a good steelhead stream.

The section of lake between the Salmon River and Little Salmon River is excellent for smallmouth bass and spring brown trout.

CC. North and South Sandy Ponds – These areas are called ponds but are actually two of Lake Ontario's best bays for yellow perch, northern pike, bullhead and largemouth bass. Ice fishing for yellow perch, especially in late winter, is excellent.

Spring brown trout fishing is good off North Sandy Pond. Little Sandy Creek, a tributary of the pond, also has a good run of wild steelhead in the spring.

DD. Sandy (North Sandy) and South Sandy Creeks – Runs of salmon are good in both creeks in the fall. Steelhead runs in late fall and early spring make these areas a favorite angling destination. In addition, good brown trout, lake trout and salmon fishing is available off the creek mouths in spring and fall.

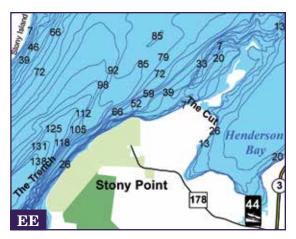


- **52.** Chaumont Boat Launch Off Route 12E near the County Rte. 8/Route 12E intersection. Double concrete ramp; 100 cars and trailers
- **53. Three Mile Bay Access Site** Route 12E in the Village of Three Mile Bay
- **54. Long Point State Park** On Point Peninsula, take County Rte. 57 off Route 12E to State Park Road (9.5 miles from 12E). Gravel ramp
- **55. The Isthmus** Off County Rte. 57. Hard-surface ramp; 30 cars and trailers
- **56. Mud Bay** Off Bates Road, Town of Cape Vincent. Ten cars and trailers. Cartops and small trailered boats.
- **57. Cape Vincent Village Dock** Off Route 12E. Multiple concrete ramps; 30 cars and trailers. 315-482-2593
- **58. Burnham Point State Park** On Route 12E, 3.5 miles northeast of the Village of Cape Vincent. Gravel ramp; 10 cars and trailers. 315-482-2593
- **59. Cedar Point State Park** Off Route 12E, six miles west of the Village of Clayton. Concrete ramp: 15 cars and trailers. 315-482-2593
- **EE. Henderson Harbor** Smallmouth bass fishing is famous here, but the brown trout and lake trout fisheries run a close second. Try fishing the trench between Stony Point and Stony Island mid-August through September for staging Chinook. To reach the trench, anglers can take a shortcut at Snowshoe Bay that is known as "the cut."

The protected waters of the harbor are commonly home for northern pike up to 12 pounds and provide fast spring, fall and winter fishing. Yellow perch are abundant and are popular among the locals.

- **FF. Black River** The Lower Black River has a thriving fall salmon fishery. In the late fall and spring, steelhead runs attract anglers. Village boat launches at Dexter and Sackets Harbor and a fishable shoreline make the Black River accessible for boat and shore anglers alike. This stretch of river also becomes a walleye hot spot as the season opens in May.
- **GG.** Chaumont Bay Yellow perch fishing is excellent year-round. Troll or cast in the shallows for plentiful largemouth and smallmouth bass, northern pike or walleye. Johnson Shoal is a great place to start for ice anglers looking for yellow perch.

The DEC Three Mile Bay boat launch and Long Point State Park provide access for boaters and ice anglers.



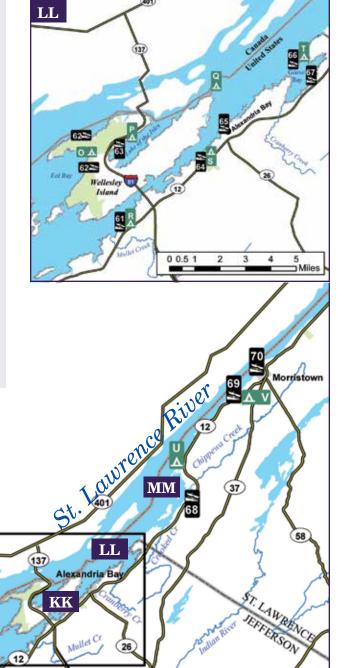


HH. Mud Bay – Located on the inside of Fox and Grenadier islands, Mud Bay offers excellent yellow perch fishing in the spring and fall. Ice fish for trophy walleye when there is safe ice in late winter or troll for them in nearby waters beginning in May and throughout the summer. Public ice fishing access and a cartop boat launch are available on Bates Road in the Town of Cape Vincent. Private launches are available for larger boats as well.

II. Charity Shoal – Located six miles due west from the western tip of Grenadier Island. Anglers equipped to fish for suspended fish will find walleyes willing to bite throughout the summer and into early fall.

St. Lawrence River Boat Launches

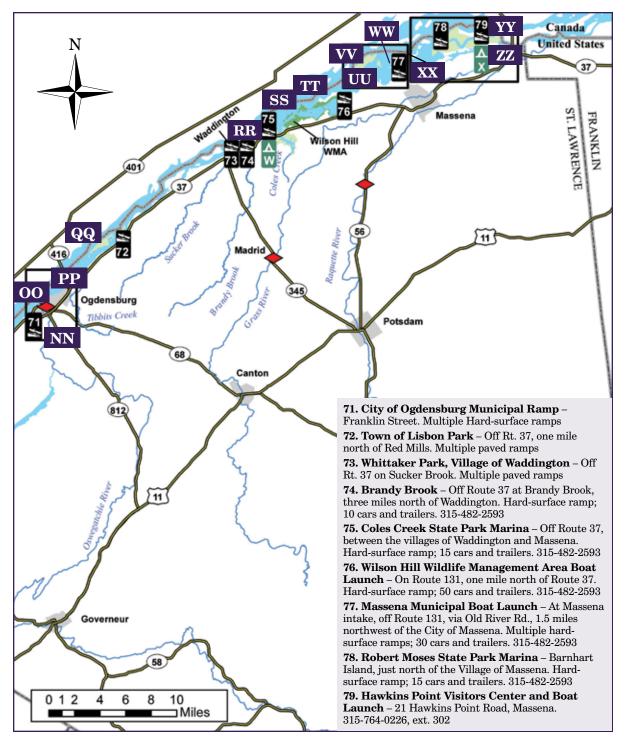
- 60. Clayton Municipal Dock Hard-surface ramp
- **61. Grass Point State Park** Off Route 12, one mile east of Fisher's Landing. Hard-surface ramp; 10 cars and trailers. 315-482-2593
- **62. Wellesley Island State Park** On Wellesley Island off Route I-81, two miles north of the Thousand Islands Bridge. Hard-surface ramp; 60 cars and trailers. 315-482-2593
- **63. DeWolf State Park** On Wellesley Isand, four miles north of the Thousand Islands Bridge. Hardsurface ramp; 10 cars and trailers. 315-482-2593
- **64. Keewaydin State Park** Off Route 12, one mile southwest of Alexandria Bay. Hard-surface ramp; 50 cars and trailers. 315-482-2593
- **65. Alexandria Bay Village Docks** Hard-surface ramps; one on Holland Street, one on Crossman Street.
- **66. Kring Point State Park** Off Route 12, 8.5 miles northeast of Alexandria Bay. Hard-surface ramp; 10 cars and trailers. 315-482-2593
- **67. Goose Bay Municipal Launch Ramp** Goose Bay Road off Route 12 in Goose Bay. Hard-surface ramp.
- **68.** Chippewa Bay Municipal Boat Launch Ramp Denner Road off Route 12 in Chippewa Bay. Hard-surface ramp.
- **69. Jacques Cartier State Park** On River Road, 2.5 miles south of Morristown. Hard-surface ramp; 10 cars and trailers. 315-482-2593
- 70. Morristown Village Dock Hard-surface ramp



27 | Where to Fish Great Lakes Fishing

Clayton

KK





JJ. Grindstone Island – One of the largest of the Thousand Islands, Grindstone Island is completely within New York State. Although Canadian waters are not far off its north and west shores, these shorelines are popular in the fall for pursuing giant muskellunge. Trolling in deep water with downriggers and planer boards is the technique of choice.

KK. Eel Bay and Lake of the Isles at Wellesley Island – Eel Bay, the shallow, warm water bay on the western end of Wellesley Island, produces bass and northern pike in the summer as well as panfish, particularly in the winter. At Lake of the Isles, ice anglers use tip-ups with shiners or chubs for pike and iigs for panfish.

LL. Kring Point – Located just downriver of Alexandria Bay, the waters around Kring Point State Park offer northern pike and panfish. Smallmouth bass are taken along channel dropoffs. The protected waters of Goose Bay also offer excellent fishing for panfish and largemouth bass.

| Lake Ontario/St. Lawrence River Hot Spot GPS Coordinates | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Structure | Latitude (Decimal Degrees) | Longitude (Decimal Degrees) | | | | |
| Charity Shoal | 44.03681 | -76.481377 | | | | |
| Johnson Shoal | 44.0515 | -76.1642 | | | | |
| Cat Island Shoal | 44.9526 | -75.0063 | | | | |
| Delany Shoal | 44.9747 | -74.9458 | | | | |

MM. Chippewa Bay downriver to Blind Bay – Fish along the numerous rocky shoals and shallow weedy bays for great northern pike action.

NN. Oswegatchie River, Ogdensburg – This walleye magnet provides excellent fishing during the spring. Chinook can be caught below the dam in Ogdensburg from mid-September through October.

OO. Ogdensburg City Docks – You can find large muskellunge in good numbers along the edges of the sand bar in front of the city docks.

PP. Wheathouse Bay, below the Port of Ogdensburg – Troll large spoons for northern pike. The bigger females are usually willing to bite as water temperatures climb just prior to the close of the season in March. May through early June provides some of the best fishing. This is also a popular ice fishing site.



QQ. Galop Island – Swift nearshore currents and bays offer excellent northern pike fishing.

RR. Murphy Islands, Murphy Islands Shoal and Clark Island Shoal – These shoals, just north of the mouth of Brandy Brook, are a great place to fish for walleye.

SS. Wilson Hill Bay – Target northern pike using spoons, spinnerbaits and shiners.

TT. Bradford Point – Located about fourmiles upstream from the Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Area Boat Launch. This is a walleye hot spot.

UU. Cat Island Shoal – Located between the shipping channel and the Canadian border, just north of the Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Area Boat Launch. This is a walleye hot spot.

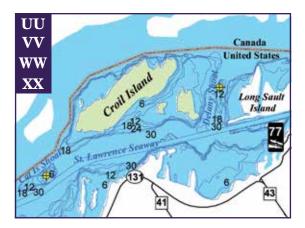
VV. Croil Island and bays near the yacht club – Lies two-and-a-half miles northeast of the Wilson Hill Boat Launch. Fish for muskellunge along the south shore and along the channel dropoffs.

WW. Delany Shoal – Located between Croil and Long Sault islands, this shoal is a good spot to find congregations of walleye.

XX. Long Sault Island – This island is a great place to hunt for large northern pike. The entire island shoreline is rich with weedy bays providing quick access to deep water. These weed edges are ideal for finding pike that have hung out past the spawning period and those that are out for a quick bite in shallow water.

YY. NYPA Robert Moses Power Dam – Catch muskellunge trolling the areas above the dam and adjacent to the main channel from the old oil tanks to the Eisenhower Lock. Give the northern bays of Barnhart Island a try as well. Below the dam, fish under the power lines in the south channel. The bays to the east of Hawkins Point are also excellent for a variety of sportfish.

ZZ. Pollys Gut – Located between Massena Point and Cornwall Island in Ontario; four to five pound bass abound from mid-July through mid-August.







Help Stop the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species and Fish Diseases



At least 187 non-native aquatic invasive species (AIS) are currently found in the Great Lakes Plants like Eurasian watermilfoil and water chestnut. animals like zebra mussels and round goby, and a handful of fish diseases like whirling disease, infectious pancreatic necrosis (IPN) and viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) have already seriously affected fish health and the ecology and economy in the Great Lakes basin and elsewhere. These impacts will widen if AIS spread to waters where they do not exist now. The U.S. and Canadian governments are working to minimize new, unintentional introductions of AIS from the largest source—maritime commerce—but the continued spread of established AIS into unaffected inland waterways can be stopped now through careful adherence to established protocols. Recreational boaters and anglers have one of the biggest roles to play in this effort because their watercraft and equipment can enable AIS to spread.

Here are some things you can do to help stop the spread of AIS and fish diseases:

- 1. **INSPECT** your boat, trailer and other fishing and boating equipment, and remove all mud, plants and other organisms that might be clinging to it. Never release plants, fish or other animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.
- 2. DRAIN AND DRY everything that came into contact with the water. Many aquatic invasive species and fish diseases are microscopic and can be transported in as little as a drop of water. Dry equipment for at least 5 days before using it in another waterbody. Gear that is

- difficult to dry may require even more time. Be sure to completely drain your boat, including bilge areas, baitwells and livewells.
- **3. DISINFECT** equipment if you cannot or do not have time to dry it before using it in another waterbody. Effective disinfectants include water above 140° F (hotter than most hot tap water), steam, 2% bleach solution (3 ounces of household bleach mixed with 1 gallon of water) or household cleansers such as Fantastik®, Formula 409®, or Spray Nine® containing the ingredient alkyl dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride. For all materials, follow label instructions and be sure to soak equipment for a minimum of 10 minutes. Dispose of all cleaning/disinfectant solutions away from surface waters in accordance with label restrictions. For additional information, contact your local DEC office, or go to: www.dec.ny.gov.

If you intend to use your boat outside of the Great Lakes, please follow the additional procedures below to avoid spreading zebra and quagga mussels.

- 1. Fill bilge area, bait wells, live wells and other water-holding compartments with potassium chloride solution (1 tsp KCL crystals mixed in 2 gallons of water) and allow to sit for 12 hours before draining. Rinse thoroughly after draining.
- 2. Check boat hull for juvenile mussel infestation by running hand along it. If the hull feels rough or sandpaper-like, it likely has attached mussels. In such circumstances, mussels must be removed via pressure washer (hot water preferred), steam cleaner and/or scrub brush.
- 3. If possible, allow boat to dry completely for a minimum of 5 days under warm, dry conditions. Longer drying periods will be required during cool, damp periods.
- 4. If boat is being stored for an extended period that will result in its extended drying and/or freezing, steps 1 and 2 are not necessary. Be sure to remove dead mussels/shells from boat before reuse.



Shorefishing and Fish Cleaning Stations

Lake Erie

Piers and Breakwaters

- Barcelona Harbor Pier for smallmouth bass, brown trout, steelhead, panfish
- Dunkirk Harbor Pier and Fishing Platform for smallmouth bass, walleye, brown trout, steelhead, panfish
- Cattaraugus Creek Breakwall for smallmouth bass, steelhead, brown trout, channel catfish, panfish

Surf Fishing

Fish for brown trout and steelhead near stream mouths in early fall.

Niagara River

Docks, Piers and Breakwaters

- LaSalle Park for panfish, black bass, northern pike
- Bird Island Pier and Broderick Park for smallmouth bass, northern pike, steelhead, yellow perch, panfish
- Foot of Ontario Street for panfish, smallmouth bass,
- Town of Tonawanda Small Boat Harbor for panfish, smallmouth bass, northern pike
- Niawanda Park for panfish, black bass, northern pike
- Fisherman's Park for panfish, black bass, northern pike
- Gratwick Riverside Park for panfish, black bass, northern pike
- NYPA fishing platform at the base of the Niagara Power Vista for steelhead, Chinook, coho, lake trout, smallmouth bass, panfish
- Lewiston Landing Waterfront Park for brown trout, steelhead, smallmouth bass, yellow perch, smelt
- Joseph Davis State Park fishing platform for brown trout, steelhead, black bass and walleye
- Youngstown Village Park for black bass, panfish, brown trout, steelhead

Lake Ontario

Piers and Breakwaters

- Wilson-Tuscarora State Park fishing platform (Twelvemile Creek) for brown trout, steelhead, black bass, northern pike, panfish
- Wilson Harbor Pier (east) for brown trout, steelhead, coho salmon, Chinook salmon, black bass, northern pike, yellow perch, panfish
- Olcott Harbor Pier for brown trout, steelhead, coho, Chinook, black bass, northern pike, yellow perch, panfish
- Oak Orchard for brown trout, steelhead, lake trout, Chinook and coho salmon, black bass, perch, panfish
- Hamlin for brown trout, steelhead, lake trout, coho, bullhead, white perch
- **Slater Creek** for brown and lake trout (shorecasting only)
- Genesee River for brown trout, steelhead, lake trout, coho
- Irondequoit Bay for brown trout, steelhead, coho, black bass, northern pike, panfish



- Webster for brown trout, steelhead, coho, lake trout
- Sodus Bay for brown trout, steelhead, Chinook, coho, lake trout, black bass, pike, bullhead
- Little Sodus Bay for brown trout, steelhead, lake trout, coho, bullhead, white perch
- Wright's Landing/lighthouse breakwall for brown trout, steelhead, lake trout, black bass, pike, walleye
- Oswego's east and west Linear Parks for brown trout, steelhead, Chinook, coho, lake trout, black bass, walleye
- Little Salmon River for brown trout, steelhead, coho
- Grindstone Creek at Selkirk Shores State Park for brown trout, lake trout, steelhead, black bass

Surf Fishing

Fish for brown trout, steelhead, lake trout, and coho along beaches and at stream mouths in early April.

Fish Cleaning Stations

Chautaugua County

- Dunkirk Harbor Pier (Central Ave. in Dunkirk)
- Town of Hanover Launch on Cattaraugus Creek (Triangle Dr. in Irving) 716-934-2273

Erie County

■ **Buffalo Boat Harbor** (Fuhrmann Blvd. in Buffalo) 716-828-0027

Niagara County

- New York Power Authority fishing platform, Niagara Power Project, 5777 Lewiston Road, Lewiston, NY
- Village of Lewiston Launch (Water Street) 716-754-8271
- Fort Niagara State Park Launch 716-745-7273
- Town of Newfane Marina Harbor at Olcott, nominal fee, 716-778-5462

Orleans County

■ Orleans County Marine Park, Point Breeze Road, Kent, NY Oswego County

- Wright's Landing Marina (Lake Street in Oswego)
- Port of Oswego Authority Marina (E. First Street in Oswego) 315-342-0436

Jefferson County

■ Wellesley Island State Park Marina, 315-482-2272

Tributary Fishing

New York State has some of the best tributary fishing anywhere in the Great Lakes. Where else can you find trophy-sized fish at your feet? The following table(s) list(s) most of the tributaries that will have migratory salmonids in them in the spring and/or fall. Other smaller streams with ample flow but not listed here often attract migratory salmonids as well.

To locate specific fishing areas on individual streams, call the appropriate DEC regional office, stop at local bait and tackle shops, or enjoy the fun of exploring on your own. Many of the streams listed here offer public fishing rights (PFR) that DEC acquired to enable public access to these important fisheries. To view maps of stream sections with PFR, please visit www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/9924.html.

Brown Trout Streams

Fishing for brown trout in tributaries has gained popularity in recent years. Try fishing Eighteenmile Creek (Niagara Co.), Sandy Creek (Monroe/Orleans County), Salmon River, Oak Orchard Creek and Maxwell Creek for lunker spawning brown trout from October through December.

Coho Streams

The best coho fishing in New York's Great Lakes is located in the Salmon River, a tributary of Lake Ontario in Oswego County. Other streams to fish for coho are the Lower Niagara and Genesee rivers, as well as Oak Orchard, Eighteenmile (Niagara Co.) and Sandy (Monroe Co.) creeks. Stream fishing peaks during the fall spawning run from late September through early November.

Chinook Streams

The largest fish running into the tributary streams of Lake Ontario are Chinook salmon. The best runs of Chinook occur in stocked streams, but any stream with sufficient fall flows will attract some Chinook salmon. These lake-run fish can grow in excess of 30 pounds in Lake Ontario. Lake Ontario's largest Chinook runs occur in the Salmon and Black rivers, the Lower Niagara and Oswego rivers, Oak Orchard Creek, Eighteenmile Creek (Niagara County) and Sandy (North Sandy) and South Sandy creeks.

| Best Times to Fish in Great Lake Tributary Streams | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|---|---|---|---|---|
| | J | F | М | Α | М | J | J | Α | S | 0 | N | D |
| Brown Trout | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steelhead | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chinook Salmon | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coho Salmon | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Atlantic Salmon | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Peak Fair/Good Salmon River on | | | | | | | only | | | | | |

| Lake Ontario Tributaries | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|------------------|
| Lake Ontario Iributaries | | |
| Water | Region | County |
| Lower Niagara River | 9 | Niagara |
| Four Mile Creek | 9 | Niagara |
| Twelve Mile Creek | 9 | Niagara |
| EB Twelve Mile Creek | 9 | Niagara |
| Eighteenmile Creek | 9 | Niagara |
| Keg Creek | 9 | Niagara |
| Johnson Creek | 8 | Orleans |
| Oak Orchard Creek | 8 | Orleans |
| Marsh Creek | 8 | Orleans |
| Sandy Creek | 8 | Monroe |
| Genesee River | 8 | Monroe |
| Irondequoit Creek | 8 | Monroe |
| Mill Creek | 8 | Monroe |
| Bear Creek | 8 | Wayne |
| Maxwell Creek (Salmon Creek) | 8 | Wayne |
| Sterling Creek | 7 | Cayuga |
| Oswego River | 7 | Oswego |
| Little Salmon River | 7 | Oswego |
| Grindstone Creek | 7 | Oswego |
| Salmon River | 7 | Oswego |
| Trout Brook | 7 | Oswego |
| John O'Hara Brook | 7 | Oswego |
| Orwell Brook | 7 | Oswego |
| Pekin Brook | 7 | Oswego |
| Little Sandy Creek | 7 | Oswego |
| Lindsey Creek | 7 | Oswego/Jefferson |
| Skinner Creek | 7 | Oswego/Jefferson |
| South Sandy Creek | 6 | Jefferson |
| Bear Creek (trib to S. Sandy) | 6 | Jefferson |
| Sandy Creek (aka North Sandy C.) | 6 | Jefferson |
| Stony Creek | 6 | Jefferson |
| Mill Creek | 6 | Jefferson |
| Black River | 6 | Jefferson |

33 | Tributary Fishing Great Lakes Fishing

| Public Access | PFR Mileage | Salmonids Present | Impassable Barrier | Miles to Impassable Barrier |
|---|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Various State and Municipal Parks, NYPA Fishing Platform | None | Chin, Coho, SH, BT, LT | Niagara Falls | 14.3 |
| Four Mile Creek State Park | None | SH | None | None |
| PFR, Wilson-Tuscarora State Park | 2.2 | SH, BT | None | None |
| PFR, Wilson-Tuscarora State Park | 4 | SH, BT | None | None |
| Town of Newfane Harbor and Fisherman's Park | None | Chin, Coho, AS, SH, BT | Burt Dam | 2.2 |
| PFR | 0.1 | SH | None | None |
| Lakeside Beach State Park, PFR | 0.3 | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | Village of Lyndonville Dam | 12.3 |
| Oak Orchard State Marine Park | None | Chin, Coho, AS, SH, BT | Waterport Dam | 5.9 |
| PFR | 2.5 | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | EJ Harding Dam | 12.4 to Oak Orchard River |
| PFR | 1.8 | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | None | None |
| Naval Militia Fishing Access Site, Seneca Park | None | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | Lower Falls | 6.5 |
| Various Parks | 0.24 | Chin, SH, BT | None | None |
| Webster Park (Monroe County) | None | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | None | None |
| Town of Ontario Park | None | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | None | None |
| Beechwood State Park, DEC lands | None | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | Maxwell Dam | 0.67 |
| Fair Haven Beach State Park | None | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | Kevill Dam | 5 |
| Various County and Municipal Parks | None | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | Curved Dam-lock 7 | 1.4 |
| Spy Island Historical Site | None | Chin, SH | Awes Mill Dam | 5.9 |
| Selkirk Shores State Park, PFR | 3.3 | Chin, SH | Fernwood Dam | 7.7 |
| PFR | 15.5 | Chin, Coho, AS, SH, BT | Lighthouse Hill Dam | 17.1 |
| PFR | 4.9 | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | None | None |
| PFR | 2.3 | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | None | None |
| PFR | 2.2 | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | None | None |
| PFR | 0.3 | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | None | None |
| PFR | 2.6 | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | None | None |
| PFR | 4.5 | Chin, SH | None | None |
| PFR | 4.8 | Chin, SH | None | None |
| Lakeview WMA, PFR, FAS | 5.6 | Chin, SH | Monitor Mills Dam | 6.9 |
| PFR | None | Chin, SH, BT | Dam | 5.2 |
| Lakeview WMA, PFR | 2.6 | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | Falls above Belleville | 7.8 |
| PFR, State Parks Boat Launch Site | 2.9 | Chin, Coho, SH | Dam below Henderson | 3.9 |
| No formal access | None | Chin, SH | Falls above Military Road | 0.4 |
| Cooperative Agreement, Municipal Park & Boat Launch Sites | 30.1 | Chin, Coho, SH, BT | Beebee Island Diversion Dam | 9 |

Fish listed in bold type are stocked in that water

 $\label{eq:chineChinook} Chin=Chinook Salmon, Coho=Coho Salmon, AS=Atlantic Salmon, SH=Steelhead, BT=Brown Trout, LT=Lake Trout PFR-Public Fishing Rights$

Great Lakes Fishing Tributary Fishing | 34

Steelhead Streams

Steelhead fishing opportunities exceed those of any other migratory trout or salmon in New York. They spawn in more tributaries and stay in them longer. The stocked streams receive the most substantial runs; however, any stream that empties into Lakes Erie and Ontario has the potential for a steelhead run. Good fishing occurs from October through May, with catches peaking in November and again in March through early April. You



can locate the better steelhead streams by checking the adjoining tables and the "Where To Fish" maps on pages 6-30. Don't forget that PFR maps are available on the DEC website.

Look for PFR signs like this to ensure that you are in the right location and have legal access to the stream bank.



| Lake Erie Tributaries | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|---|----------------|----------------------|---|---|
| Water | Region | County | Public Access | PFR Mileage | Salmonids Present | Impassable Barrier | Miles to Impassable Barrier or Extent |
| Chautauqua Creek | 9 | Chautauqua | PFR, State Forest, Village of Westfield | 8.5 | SH, BT | none | 15 |
| Canadaway Creek | 9 | Chautauqua | PFR, DEC lands at Route 5 | 0.9 | SH, BT | Falls at Laona | 6.5 |
| Walnut Creek | 9 | Chautauqua | Village of Silver Creek Park | None | SH | Falls below Rt 39 in Forestville | 7.7 |
| Silver Creek | 9 | Chautauqua | Ask landowner permission | None | SH | Falls near Hanover and King Roads | 7.3 |
| Cattaraugus Creek | 9 | Erie/Catt/ Chau | PFR, DEC Zoar Valley Multiple Use Area (6 mi.), Scoby Dam County Park, *SNI lands (14 mi.) | 3.8 | SH, BT | Scoby Dam at Springville | 34 |
| South Branch Cattaraugus Creek | 9 | Cattaraugus | DEC Zoar Valley Multiple Use Area (1 mi.) | None | SH | Falls 3.5 miles above confluence | 3.5 (from confluence) |
| Eighteenmile Creek | 9 | Erie | PFR, Eighteenmile Creek County Park (1.5 mi.) | 1.5 | SH, BT | Falls 1.5 miles below Rt 62 bridge | 8 |
| South Branch Eighteenmile Creek | 9 | Erie | PFR, Eighteenmile Creek County Park (1 mi.) | 0.1 | SH | Falls above E. Church St. near Eden | 6.3 (from confluence) |
| Cazenovia Creek | 9 | Erie | Cazenovia Park, DEC FWMA | None | SH | Dam below Center St. in E. Aurora | 17.6 |
| Buffalo Creek | 9 | Erie | DEC Harlem Rd. fishing access site | None | SH | Blossom Dam | 14 |
| Cayuga Creek | 9 | Erie | J.C. Stiglmeier Park, Como Lake County Park | None | SH | Como Lake County Park Dam | 10.4 |

^{*} Most of lower 14 miles on Seneca Nation of Indians lands, fishing license issued by SNI needed.

Fish listed in bold type are stocked in that water

 $\label{eq:chineChinock} Chin=Chinock Salmon, Coho=Coho Salmon, AS=Atlantic Salmon, SH=Steelhead, BT=Brown Trout, LT=Lake Trout\\ PFR-Public Fishing Rights$

35 | Tributary Fishing Great Lakes Fishing



| Species | When | Where | How |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| Atlantic | Spring, Summer | Lake | Use downriggers, wire or divers to fish 50 to 100 feet down. Preferred water temperature range: 55° - 65° F. |
| Salmon | Fall | Tributaries | Use egg-imitating flies, streamers or egg sacs in tributaries. |
| | Spring | Lake | Troll stickbaits 150 to 200 feet behind the boat near shore; side planers help for spooky fish. Blue and silver, black and silver, orange, chartreuse and fire-tiger are good colors. Warm water temperatures are the key to locating early spring brown trout. |
| Brown Trout | Summer | Lake | Use downriggers, wire or divers to fish 60 to 100 feet down with spoons or plugs. Preferred water temperature range: $55\degree$ -60° F |
| | Fall, Early Winter | Tributaries | Use egg-imitating flies, trout-beads, egg sacs, jigs and stickbaits in tributaries. |
| Bullhead | Spring | Bays | Spring bullheading with nightcrawlers is traditional in warm inshore bays and marshes. A gob of bait on the bottom with a slip sinker is just the ticket. |
| Chinook and | Spring, Summer | Lake | Fish for suspended fish in desired temperature range of 50° - 55° F. Use downriggers, divers and wire to get to desired depths. Spoons or flasher/fly rigs work well. Green, white, blue, black, silver and glow are good colors. |
| Coho Salmon | Fall | Tributary mouths and tributaries | Mouths of spawning streams provide fast trolling action from the surface down to 60 feet. Spoons, j-plugs, cut-bait and flasher/flies work well. In tributaries, use eggimitating plastics, flies, egg sacs and streamers. |
| Common Carp | Spring, Summer, Fall | Lakes, rivers, bays | Corn, doughballs or boilies fished on bottom around weed beds. Chumming the area also helps. $$ |
| Lake Trout | Spring | River | Drifting in the Niagara River and on the Niagara bar with Kwikfish or minnows fished off three-way rigs is a popular method. Vertical jigging presentations work well. Trolling spoons will work as well. |
| | Summer, Fall | Lake | Deepwater techniques using downriggers, wire line, divers, etc. are a must. Spoons, flasher/flies and plugs are the most effective. Troll at 50° - 55° F for lake trout. |
| Largemouth Bass | Summer, Fall | Bays | Plastic worms, spinnerbaits, top water plugs and crankbaits fished around weed edges. |
| Muskellunge | Summer, Fall | Rivers | Troll or cast large plugs or spinners near weed lines and dropoffs. Eight to ten-inch tubes are gaining popularity. |
| Northern Pike | Summer, Fall, Winter | Bays, river | Large plugs, spoons and spinnerbaits are the rule for these voracious predators. Large minnows under a bobber around weed beds. During the winter, use tip-ups and large minnows. |
| Panfish | All Year | Bays | A bobber and worm is the old standby for bluegills and pumpkinseeds. Small minnows and jigs take white perch, crappie and rock bass. |
| Smallmouth | Spring | Harbors and near-shore reefs | Tube jigs, plastic baits, spinnerbaits and wacky-rigged worms |
| Bass | Summer, Fall | Lake, river | Stillfish or drift with minnows or crayfish near points and reefs. Fish 18-24 inches off bottom to avoid the bait-stealing gobies. Drop-shot rigs do a good job of this. Tube jigs and goby-imitating plastics also work well. |
| Steelhead | Spring, Summer | Lake | Troll below surface near thermal bars and breaks. Use small spoons and plugs. Red or orange-colored baits work well. $ \\$ |
| Sicemeau | Fall, Winter, Spring | Tributaries | Egg sacs, egg-imitating flies, trout-beads, streamers and nymphs. Drift baits near bottom, or suspend them under floats. |
| | Spring | Lake, rivers | Fish shoals, points and river mouths near spawning areas. Stickbaits, worm harnesses, jigs and crankbaits. |
| Walleye Summer, Fall | | Lake | Try the same lures in slightly deeper water around points and offshore shoals. Larger fish suspended over deep water may be taken with crankbaits or worm harnesses trolled behind downriggers or planer boards. |
| Yellow Perch | All Year | Lake, bays | Open water anglers use small minnows, worms and jigs. Ice anglers take impressive catches by jigging spoons baited with grubs, minnows, or perch eyes. |



Additional Information You'll Find Helpful

Boating

More than 90 private and public boat ramps are available for your use; 65 public (state or municipal) are shown on the WHERE TO FISH maps, pages 6 through 30. Boat ramps are generally ice free from April to late fall. If you don't bring your own boat, rent one at one of the numerous boat liveries and marinas.

If your boat is mechanically powered, it must be registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles. Out-of-state craft may be operated up to 90 days in New York if properly registered in your home state. Also, use nautical charts to be informed of navigation hazards, as well as the international boundary. Anglers fishing in Canadian waters must report to the Canadian Border Services Agency and have an Ontario fishing license.

Do not fish on the open waters of the Great Lakes in an unsafe, unseaworthy boat. Lake Erie and Lake Ontario can get rough very quickly, and they're not the place to be in a small boat. Safer inshore areas are available for cartop boats and canoes. Some of these areas are Dunkirk Harbor, Buffalo Harbor, Wilson Harbor, Eighteenmile Creek, Braddock Bay, Genesee River, Irondequoit Bay, Sodus Bay, Little Sodus Bay, Oswego Harbor, Little Salmon River, Salmon River. North and South Sandy Ponds, Henderson Harbor, Black River, Chaumont Bay and most locations along the St. Lawrence River. Find these areas in the WHERE TO FISH section, pages 6 through 30. Don't take chances. Your boat should be safe and properly equipped for the waters you are boating on.

Information on safety requirements and boating rules can be found at http://nyparks.com/recreationalboating/ safe-boating.aspx.

Eating Your Fish

Some fish from certain waters of New York State contain levels of chemical contaminants above limits established by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as being safe for human consumption. To help people make healthier choices about eating fish from New York's waters, the New York State Department of Health has issued an advisory (found at www.health.ny.gov/environmental/ outdoors/fish/health advisories/) with recommendations for limiting fish consumption as a safeguard. For your convenience, a summary of this advisory is found in the regulations guide issued with your fishing license. It is suggested that you read the advisory and plan your fish consumption accordingly.



Charter Fishing Service

If you're not a fishing veteran or you're unfamiliar with the fishing techniques used on the Great Lakes, don't be discouraged. Experienced charter captains are available for your convenience and fishing enjoyment. There probably isn't a better way for the beginner to experience the thrill of Great Lakes fishing. A good way to locate a charter captain is to stop in at a local bait and tackle shop or marina, where they usually advertise. You also can ask for information from DEC's regional offices or from county tourism agencies found in the table on page 38 or 39. Whether its steelhead fishing in the streams or lake fishing for smallmouth bass, trout or salmon, charter captains can provide a safe and successful fishing trip on the Great Lakes.

Bait and Tackle Shops

Using one of the numerous bait and tackle shops along the shores of the Great Lakes is one of the keys to a successful fishing trip. They're a great source of information on local hot spots and techniques. Look for them in the many communities along Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and the Niagara and St. Lawrence rivers.

Fishing License Requirements

Who Needs One? Almost everyone 16 and older must have a license to fish in freshwater. Some New York State residents may apply for free licenses, including the visually impaired, some Native Americans living in New York, resident patients at U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals or state-funded facilities. New York State residents who are active members of the National Guard or U.S. Reserve Forces, and New York State residents who are on full-time active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces stationed out of state but in New York for no longer than 30 days.

To qualify for a resident license, you must have a permanent residence in the state for at least 30 days immediately preceding your application. New York State offers annual, 7-day and 1-day licenses, and if you are a resident, consider investing in a lifetime license. Please note that an Ontario fishing license is required for fishing in Canadian waters.

Where to Get One? Town and county clerks, numerous bait and tackle shops, local sporting goods stores and some state campsites sell licenses. Those that do not can usually direct you to a license agent, or you can visit www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6101.html to view a locator map for license agents. Save time and effort by purchasing licenses online through DEC's Automated Licensing System (DECALS), by calling 1-86-NY-DECALS, or by sending payment and a completed license application to Verizon, PO Box 36985, Phoenix, AZ 85067-6985. Visa and MasterCard accepted. The online purchasing system, license applications and further information can be found at www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6101.html. Resident license buyers also must have a NYS driver's license. learner's permit or non-driver's ID.

Fishing on Native American Lands

Persons fishing on Native American lands, such as lands of the Seneca or Mohawk nations, must purchase a license to fish their respective territories. To find out more information on license cost and issuing agents, call 716-945-1790 or 716-532-4900 for Seneca Nation lands (Allegany River, Cattaraugus Creek) and 518-358-2272 for Mohawk Nation lands (St. Regis River).

Great Lakes Fishing Regulations

A New York State Fishing Regulations Guide, which includes the Great Lakes regulations, is available when you purchase a fishing license. You can also visit www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/71612.html for Great Lakes fishing regulations.

Regional DEC Offices

The following DEC officers cover the Great Lakes region:

Region 6 Headquarters

State Office Building, 317 Washington St. Watertown, NY 13601 315-785-2263

Region 7 Sub-office

PO Box 1169, Fisher Avenue Cortland, New York 13045 607-753-3095

Region 8 Headquarters

6274 E. Avon-Lima Road Avon, New York 14414 585-226-2466

Region 9 Headquarters

270 Michigan Avenue Buffalo, NY 14203 716-851-7010

Region 9 Sub-office

182 E. Union Street Allegany, NY 14706 716-372-0645

Lake Ontario Fisheries Research Unit

514 East Broadway, P.O. Box 292 Cape Vincent, NY 13618 315-654-2147

Lake Erie Fisheries Research Unit

178 Point Drive North Dunkirk, NY 14048 716-366-0228

Fishing Hotlines

www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/fishhotlines.html

| Location | Phone Number | Updates by |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| DEC Region 7 | 607-753-1551 | DEC Region 7 Fisheries |
| Orleans County | 585-589-3220 | Orleans County Tourism |
| Lake Erie Fishing Hotline | 716-679-ERIE (Dunkirk) 716-855-FISH (Buffalo) | DEC Region 9 Fisheries |
| Niagara County | 877-FALLS US | Niagara Tourism and Convention |
| Western New York Fishing Hotline | 716-855-FISH | DEC Region 9 Fisheries |
| Wayne County | 315-946-5466 | Wayne County Office of Tourism |

Stream levels: Visit the following link for real-time data from various statewide stream-flow gauges, http://waterdata. usgs.gov/ny/nwis/current/?type=flow&group key=basin cd.

Visit the webpages listed under "Other Resources and Links" for additional fishing updates, helpful hints and information.

Where to Stay

Anglers and their families find comfort and relaxation in the Great Lakes region because there is lodging to suit everyone. Perhaps it's a nationally known motel, a tidy housekeeping cottage or a campsite on the beach. To help you find just the right place, contact the tourism promotion agencies listed below, or visit their websites. They will gladly provide details on local accommodations and services.

| Tourism Promotion Agencies | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Agency | Address | Phone # | Web Address |
| Cayuga County (Port of Fair Haven/Little Sodus Bay) | 131 Genesee St. Auburn, NY 13021 | 800-499-9615 | www.tourcayuga.com www.facebook.com/CayugaTourism |
| Chautauqua County (ports of Barcelona, Dunkirk and Cattaraugus Creek) | Chautauqua Co. Visitors Bureau P.O. Box 1441 Chautauqua, NY 14722 | 866-908-4569 | www.tourchautauqua.com |
| Erie County (ports of Sturgeon Point, Buffalo and Tonawanda) | Buffalo/Niagara Convention and Visitors Bureau 617 Main St., Suite 200 Buffalo, NY 14203 | 800-283-3256 | www.visitbuffaloniagara.com |
| Jefferson County (ports of Sandy Pond, Stony Creek, Henderson Harbor, Chaumont Bay, Mud Bay and Cape Vincent) | 1000 Islands International Tourism Council Box 709 Wellesley Island, NY 13640 | 800-847-5263 | www.visit1000islands.com www.facebook.com/visit1000islands |
| Monroe County (ports of Sandy Creek, Genesee River and Irondequoit Bay) | Visit Rochester 45 East Avenue, Suite 400, Rochester, NY 14604-2294 | 800-677-7282 or 585-279-8300 | www.visitrochester.com/ www.fishingmonroecounty.com |
| Niagara County (ports of North Tonawanda, Niagara River, Lewiston, Youngstown, Wilson and Olcott) | Niagara Tourism and Convention Corp. 10 Rainbow Blvd. Niagara Falls, NY 14303 | 877-FALLS US (also the fishing hotline for Niagara USA) | www.niagara-usa.com Twitter: www.twitter.com/ niagarausafish Facebook: www.facebook.com/ niagarafallsusa |
| Orleans County (Port of Oak Orchard Creek) | Orleans County Tourism 14016 Route 31 Albion, NY 14411 | 800-724-0314 Fishing Hotline 585-589-3220 | www.orleanscountyfishing.com |
| Oswego County (ports of Oswego, Little Salmon River at Mexico Point, Port Ontario and Sandy Pond) | Oswego County Department of Community Development, Tourism and Planning 46 E. Bridge St. Oswego, NY 13126 | 800-596-3200, Fishing Hotline – 800-248-4386 | www.visitoswegocounty.com www.facebook.com/ visitoswegocounty |
| St. Lawrence County | St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce 101 Main St. Canton, NY 13617 | 877-228-7810 for chamber and FISHCAP | www.fishcap.net www.northcountryguide.com |
| Wayne County (ports of Pultneyville, Sodus Point, Sodus Bay, Easy Bay, Blind Sodus Bay, and Port Bay | Suite 3 9 Pearl St. Lyons, NY 14489 | 800-527-6510 | www.waynecountytourism.com |

 ${\it Call 1-800-CALL-NYS or go online at $https://www.iloveny.com/Plan-Your-Trip/Travel-Guides.aspx to order your free $ILOVE NEW YORK TRAVEL GUIDE AND MAP$}$

Camping along New York State's Great Lakes

State parks with camping facilities are listed on page 40 and are shown on the Where to Fish maps on pages 6-30. Both reserved and unreserved sites are offered at all state park camping areas. Reservations can be made online at www.reserveAmerica.com or by calling 800-456-CAMP (2267) (TTY: 1-800-304-1265).

39 | Where to Stay Great Lakes Fishing

| State Parks | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|--------------|--------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------|----------|---------------|--------------|---------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-------|--------|------|---------------|---------|---------|
| Location | Map Key | Telephone | Cabins | Tent & trailer sites | Trailer sites - electric | Organized programs | Camp Store | Swimming | Shore fishing | Fishing pier | Marinas | Boat livery | Boat pump-out sta. | Boat launch | Trout | Salmon | Bass | Northern Pike | Walleye | Panfish |
| Lake Erie, Rte. 5, 7 miles southwest of Dunkirk | A | 716-792-9214 | • | • | • | • | | • | • | | | | | | • | | • | | • | • |
| Evangola, Rte. 5, 27 miles southwest of Buffalo | В | 716-549-1802 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | | | | | • | | • | | • | • |
| Four Mile Creek, Rte. 18, 3 miles east of Youngstown | C | 716-745-3802 | | • | • | • | • | | • | | | | | | • | • | • | | | • |
| Golden Hill, off Rte. 18, Lower Lake Road | | 716-795-3885 | • | • | • | | • | | • | | | | | • | • | • | | | | • |
| Lakeside Beach, Lake Ontario Pkwy, 10 miles north of Albion | | 585-682-4888 | | • | | • | • | | • | | | | | | • | • | | | | • |
| Hamlin Beach, Rte. 19 and Moscow Rd., 5 miles north of Hamlin | | 585-964-2462 | | • | | • | • | • | • | • | | | | • | • | • | | | | • |
| Fair Haven Beach, Rte. 104A, 2 miles north of Fair Haven | G | 315-947-5205 | | • | • | • | | • | • | • | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | • |
| Selkirk Shores, Rte. 3, 5 miles west of Pulaski | | 315-298-5737 | | • | • | • | • | | • | • | | | | • | • | • | • | • | | • |
| Southwick Beach, Rte. 193, off route 81 | | 315-846-5338 | | • | • | • | • | • | • | | | | | | • | • | • | • | | • |
| Wescott Beach, Rte. 3, 4 miles south of Sackets Harbor | | 315-938-5083 | | • | • | | • | • | • | • | • | | | • | • | • | • | • | | • |
| Long Point, County Rte. 57, 14 miles from Three Mile Bay | K | 315-649-5258 | | • | • | | | | • | | | | | • | | | • | • | | • |
| Burnham Point, Rte. 12E, 3 miles east of Cape Vincent | | 315-654-2324 | | • | • | | | | • | | | • | | | | | • | • | | • |
| Cedar Point, Rte. 12 E, 6 miles west of Clayton | | 315-654-2522 | | • | • | | | • | • | | • | • | • | • | | | • | • | | • |
| Canoe – Picnic Point, Clayton | | 315-654-2522 | • | | | | | | • | | | | | | | | • | • | | • |
| Wellesley Island, 2 miles north of Thousand Islands Bridge | | 315-482-2722 | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | • | | • | • | • | • | | | • | • | | • |
| DeWolf Point, I-81, 4 miles north of Thousand Islands Bridge | P | 315-482-2012 | • | • | • | | | | • | | | • | | • | | | • | • | | • |
| Mary Island, Alexandria Bay | | 315-654-2522 | | lack | | | | | • | | | | | | | | • | • | | • |
| Grass Point, Rte. 12, 1 mile east of Fisher's Landing | R | 315-482-4472 | | • | • | | | • | • | | • | • | | | | | • | • | | • |
| Keewaydin, Rte. 12, 1 mile west of Alexandria Bay | S | 315-482-3331 | | • | | | | • | • | | • | • | • | • | | | • | • | | • |
| Kring Point, Rte. 12, 10 miles northeast of Alexandria Bay | Т | 315-482-2444 | • | • | • | | | • | • | | | • | • | • | | | • | • | | • |
| Cedar Island, Chippewa Bay | | 315-654-2522 | | ▲ | | | | | • | | | | | | | | • | • | | • |
| Jacques Cartier, River Road, 2 miles south of Morristown | | 315-375-6371 | | • | • | | • | • | • | | | | • | • | | | • | • | | • |
| Coles Creek, Rte. 37, between Massena and Waddington | | 315-388-5636 | | • | • | | • | • | • | | • | • | • | • | | | • | • | | • |
| Robert Moses, 2 miles north of Rte. 87, east of Massena | | 315-769-8663 | • | • | • | | • | • | • | | • | • | • | • | | | • | • | • | • |

lacktriangle Tent sites only lacktriangle Open year-round

Note: Most state parks listed have dumping stations, fireplaces, tables, central showers, flush toilets, recreational fields and ice.





Great Lakes Fishing Where to Stay | 40

What to See

Discover the beauty and outdoor excitement of the Great Lakes region. Visit breathtaking Niagara Falls, tour the wineries along the shore of Lake Erie, learn about the history of photography in the museums of Rochester, or explore the St. Lawrence River and its 1000 Islands. Anglers and families in search of recreation will not be disappointed.

The fall is a particularly spectacular time to visit the Great Lakes region. Against a backdrop of brilliant fall foliage, you can witness salmon leap up waterfalls as they journey upstream to spawn each year. View nature's incredible autumn display as you fish, or visit the salmon streams found in this guide, particularly the Salmon River in Oswego County.

The *I LOVE NEW YORK TRAVEL GUIDE AND MAP* http://iloveny.com provides a comprehensive look at public and private recreational facilities and attractions and is sure to provide great ideas for activities when you don't have a fishing pole in your hand. For information about vacation packages, the travel guide is an indispensable resource.

You'll find New York State's fish hatcheries especially interesting. Most hatcheries have display pools with live fish for everyone to see. New York's oldest hatchery is at Caledonia, founded in 1870 by Seth Green, the "father of fish culture." Fish hatcheries in the Great Lakes region include:

- Caledonia Fish Hatchery (Not shown on map) Caledonia, NY 14423
- Salmon River Fish Hatchery (See page 23) County Route 22, Altmar, NY 13302

Each spring and fall, the Salmon River Hatchery becomes the focal point for fish propagation efforts in New York's Great Lakes. Thousands of visitors watch as adult Salmon and steelhead return to the hatchery. Viewing decks enable visitors to see salmon and steelhead spawning in the wild and fish returning to the fish ladder that leads into the hatchery. Hatchery personnel sort thousands of fish each year to collect eggs for propagation efforts. A gallery provides easy



access to view these collections. The fish that hatch from these eggs have enabled DEC to stock approximately 1.76 million Chinook, 250,000 coho, and 640,000 steelhead into the Great Lakes and their tributaries. Please visit www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/fishing.html to see when and where these fish are stocked. Egg collections for salmon species typically occur around the first or second week of October. Steelhead egg collections occur around the first week of April. Call ahead to confirm egg collection dates, 315-298-5051. To arrange for a group tour, please call 315-298-7605.

DEC fisheries stations provide additional attractions and personnel are often available to answer questions. Fisheries stations in the Great Lakes region include:

- Dunkirk Fisheries Station (See page 7)
 178 Point Drive North, Dunkirk, NY 14048
- Cape Vincent Fisheries Station and Aquarium (See page 25)
 Box 292, Cape Vincent, NY 13618

The educational exhibit at Cape Vincent is a special treat, as it features an aquarium with fish from Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River.

41 | What to See Great Lakes Fishing



Where to Get More Information

Boating

- New York State Boat Launching Sites (DEC or OPRHP)
- Lake Charts

Charts for Great Lakes www.charts.noaa.gov/OnLineViewer/ GreatLakesViewerTable.shtml

Outdoor Recreation and Camping

■ I Love New York Travel Guide and Map

1-800-CALL-NYS, or go online at https:// www.ilovenv.com/Plan-Your-Trip/Travel-Guides.aspx, Lists campgrounds, parks and recreational facilities, including services and fees

■ New York State Camping Reservation Information

www.reserveAmerica.com or call 800-456-CAMP (2267) (TTY: 1-800-304-1265)

Hunting and Fishing

Visit www.dec.nv.gov/62.html for more information about hunting and fishing in New York State (DEC)

■ Buffalo/Niagara Convention and Visitors Bureau

617 Main St., Suite 200 Buffalo, NY 14203 800-283-3256 www.visitbuffaloniagara.com

■ Cape Vincent-On the St. Lawrence

Cape Vincent Chamber of Commerce PO Box 482 Cape Vincent, NY 13618 315 654-2481

Chautauqua Co.

Visitors Bureau, P.O. Box 1441. Chautaugua, NY 14722 866-908-4569

www.tourchautauqua.com/Fishing.aspx

■ Greater Niagara Hot Spot Fishing Map

Niagara Tourism and Convention Corp. 10 Rainbow Blvd. Niagara Falls, NY 14303 877-Falls US

www.niagara-usa.com

■ Guide to Clayton, New York-On the St. Lawrence River

Clayton Chamber of Commerce 517 Riverside Dr. Clayton, NY 13624 315-686-3771 www.1000islands-clayton.com

■ Jefferson County

Box 709 Wellesley Island, NY 13640 800-847-5263 www.visit1000islands.com

■ Lake Ontario Fishing LOSPC

www.ilovenyfishing.com

■ Monroe County Fishery **Advisory Board**

50 West Main Street, Suite 8100 Rochester, NY 14614 www.fishingmonroecounty.com

■ Orleans County Tourism Office

14016 Route 31 Albion, NY 14411 585-589-3103 www.orleanscoutyfishing.com

■ Oswego County Tourism office 46 E. Bridge St. Oswego, NY 13126 315-349-8322 1-800-248-4386 www.visitoswegocounty.com

■ St. Lawrence County Fishing Information

St. Lawrence Chamber of Commerce, Inc. Canton, NY 13617 315-386-4000 www.northcountryguide.com/visiting/

Wavne County Office of Tourism 9 Pearl Street, Suite 3 Lyons, NY 14489 1-800-527-6510

www.waynecountytourism.com

Periodicals

st-lawrence-fishing

Conservationist Magazine

NYSDEC 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233-4502 518-402-8047 www.dec.nv.gov/pubs/24071.html

■ DEC Outdoor Discovery

NYSDEC's online newsletter www.dec.ny.gov/public/85187.html

Agency Addresses

■ United States Coast Guard Sector, Buffalo

1 Fuhrman Blvd. Buffalo, NY 14203 Business #716-843-9315 Emergency Response #716-843-9527 Search & Rescue #1-800-321-4400

DOT

Map Information Unit NYSDOT Main Office 50 Wolf Road Albany, NY 12232 518-457-6195 https://www.dot.ny.gov/main/aerial-mapsrequest

■ DEC

NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233-4750 518-402-9425 www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/fishing.html

NYS Office of Parks. Recreation and Historic Preservation Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 1 Albany NY, 12238 518-474-0456, 518-486-1899 TDD www.nysparks.com/

USGS

USGS National Center 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive Reston, VA 20192 888-275-8747 www.usgs.gov/

■ NOAA

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 5128 Washington, DC 20230 301-713-1208 www.noaa.gov/

Other Resources And Links

■ Lake Ontario Trout and Salmon Association www.lotsa.org

■ Niagara River Anglers Association www.niagarariveranglers.com

 Outdoors Niagara www.outdoorsniagara.com

■ LOC Derby Home Page www.loc.org

■ Lake Ontario Pro-Am Series www.lakeontarioproam.net

■ Fish Odyssey Derby www.fishodyssey.net

Guide to St. Lawrence River Valley Fishing www.fishcap.net

■ NYSDEC Biologist Reports www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7730.html

Similarities and Differences among New York's Salmon www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7264.html (DEC)