

New Fishing Regulations In 2010

McGuinty Government Creates New Opportunities For Anglers

NEWS

December 16, 2009

There are new opportunities and rules for anglers fishing in Ontario's lakes and rivers.

New fishing regulations for 2010 include:

- Year-round fishing for crappie, sunfish, yellow perch and northern pike in the Kawartha Lakes area
- Longer fall seasons for bass and muskellunge in the Kawartha Lakes area
- Longer winter season for lake trout in the Thunder Bay area
- Simpler size restrictions for certain species in the Thunder Bay area
- Forty-two more lake trout and brook trout lakes with extended seasons and/or reduced harvest restrictions.
- Ontario's summer Family Fishing Weekend has been extended to a full Family Fishing Week in July.

The 2010 fishing regulations guide is now available at ontario.ca/fishing. Printed copies will be available by December 31 at licence issuers and [ServiceOntario/Government Information Centres](#).

Regulations for some species have been revised to ensure fish stocks are sustainable. Anglers are encouraged to check the regulations for their area before they go fishing.

For the first time, the review of regulations benefited from the input of new [Fisheries Management Zone Advisory Councils](#). The councils, composed of local stakeholders, help the Ministry of Natural Resources develop management strategies for their zones.

QUOTES

"Our province offers world-class fishing for Ontarians as well as for anglers from across Canada and beyond. We're working to ensure our fish populations remain sustainable so that they continue to provide angling opportunities for years to come."

– Donna Cansfield, Minister of Natural Resources

"Winter or summer, fishing is a terrific way for people of all ages to spend time in the outdoors. Across Ontario, fishing affords recreational, social and financial benefits to countless communities and engages even our youngest residents in caring for our natural resources."

– Mike Reader, Executive Director of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters

QUICK FACTS

- Canadian residents can sample Ontario's fishing opportunities without a licence during [Family Fishing Weekend](#), February 13 to 15, 2010 and [Family Fishing Week](#), July 3 to 11, 2010. Conservation limits apply.
- More than 1.3 million anglers in Ontario contribute nearly \$2.5 billion to the province's economy.

LEARN MORE

- Read an overview of [province-wide changes](#) to recreational fishing regulations.
- Check out summaries of changes for [Zone 6](#) (Thunder Bay area), [Zone 10](#) (Sault Ste. Marie/Manitoulin Island), [Zone 17](#) (Kawartha Lakes area) and [Zone 18](#) (Eastern Ontario).