

Backgrounder Document d'information



Ministry of Natural Resources

Ministère des Richesses naturelles

April 4, 2007

CHANGES TO BASS AND WALLEYE FISHING REGULATIONS

The Minister of Natural Resources previously approved changes to several recreational fishing regulations. The following changes took effect January 1, 2007:

- The walleye season is open year-round on all of **Lake Erie**. The catch and possession limit for walleye in the eastern basin of Lake Erie has increased to six fish from four. This will provide increased angling opportunities and brings the limit for walleye in the eastern basin in line with the rest of Lake Erie, the Detroit River, Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River.
- On **Golden Lake**, a five-year closure of the walleye fishery ends and a 50 cm minimum size limit, and a catch and possession limit of two walleye (under a sport fishing licence) and one walleye (under a conservation fishing licence) take effect. The season runs from the third Saturday in May to March 31. This increases angling opportunities while protecting species.
- The **province** has extended the **bass season** across the province by moving the opening day from the last Saturday in June to the fourth Saturday in June. This means an extra week of bass fishing in 2007.
- On Lake **Nipissing** (division 27) and the West Arm of Lake Nipissing (division 15) some fishing seasons have been extended to provide increased angling opportunities. In addition, the ministry has also changed the quota for some species in the West Arm to be consistent with those in the rest of Lake Nipissing. See tables below for details.

Species	2007 Open Seasons for Lake Nipissing and the West Arm
Walleye and Sauger	Jan. 1 to Mar. 15 and 3 rd Sat. in May to Oct. 15
Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass	4 th Sat. in June to Nov. 30
Northern Pike	Jan. 1 to Mar. 15 and 3 rd Sat. in May to Nov. 30
Muskellunge	3 rd Sat. in June to Nov. 30
Yellow Perch	Jan. 1 to Mar. 15 and 3 rd Sat. in May to Oct. 15
Sunfish	Jan. 1 to Mar. 15 and 3 rd Sat. in May to Nov. 30
Lake Whitefish	Jan. 1 to Mar. 15 and 3 rd Sat. in May to Nov. 30
Lake Sturgeon	Closed all year

Species	2007 Quotas Lake Nipissing	2007 Quotas West Arm of Lake Nipissing
Walleye & Sauger	S – four in one day C – two in one day Size Limit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero between 40 cm (15.7”) and 60 cm (23.6”) in length 	S – four in one day C – two in one day Size Limit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero between 40 cm (15.7”) and 60 cm (23.6”) in length
Northern Pike	S – four in one day C – two in one day	S – four in one day C – two in one day
Yellow Perch	S – 25 in one day, possession of 50 C – 25 in one day, possession of 50	S – no limit C – no limit
Lake Whitefish	S – 12 in one day C – six in one day	S – twelve in one day C – six in one day

S = Sport Licence

C = Conservation Licence

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Contact:

Cheryl Goodchild

Fish and Wildlife Branch

705-755-1911

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