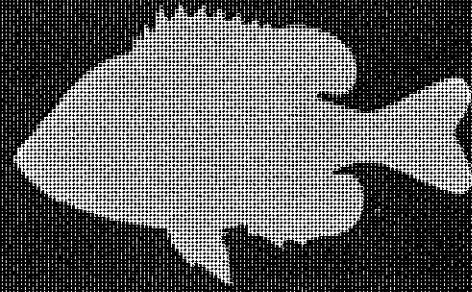
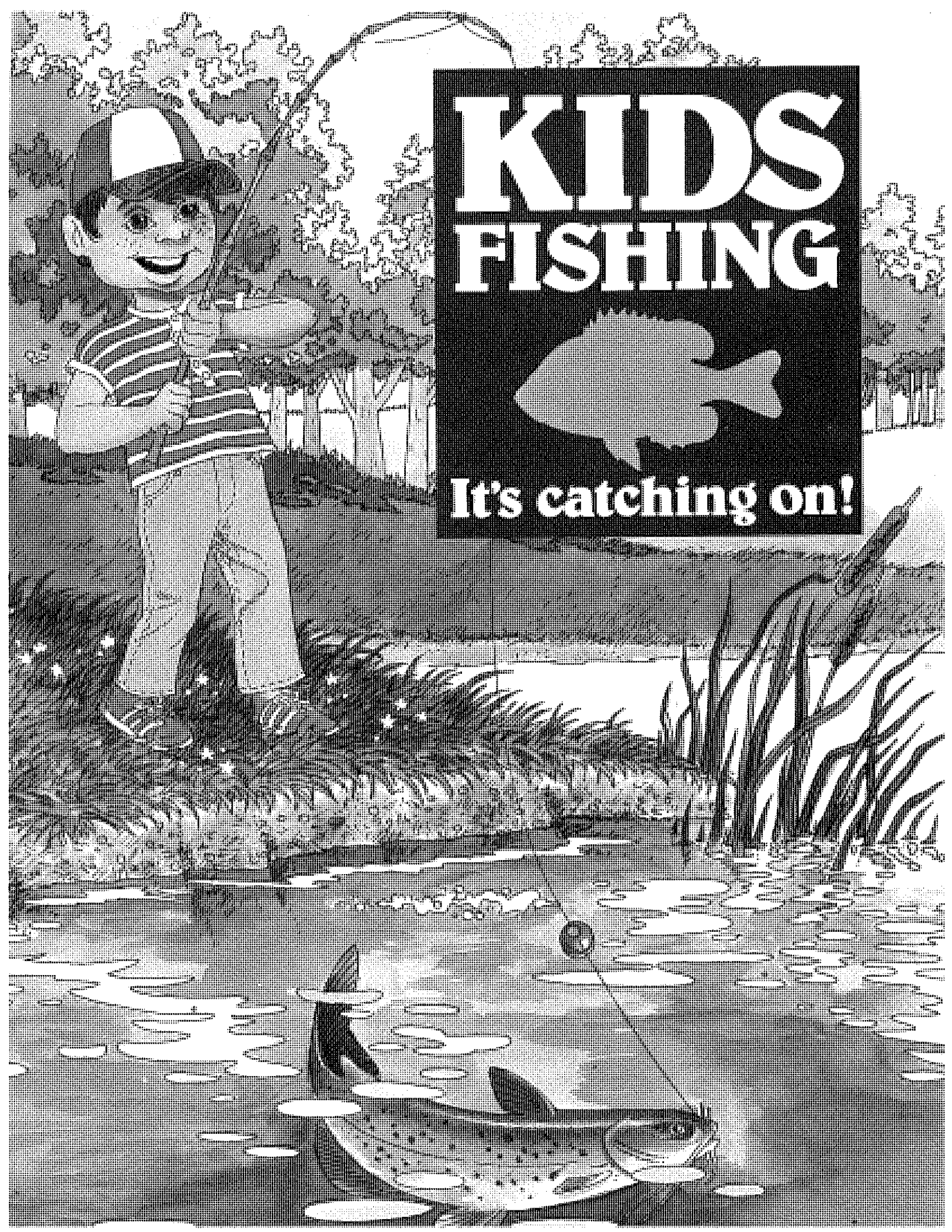


KIDS FISHING



It's catching on!



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**Conservation means wisely using our fish,
forest and wildlife resources so
that we will always have them to use.**

This publication is designed to make students more aware of the need for clean water, how and where fish live, and to teach them how to fish responsibly. It can be used for pre-site and post-site fishing instruction for urban fishing programs, fishing clinics, camps, school classes and special workshops.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is indebted to the Missouri Department of Conservation for developing the original material and allowing us to use it as the basis for our own edition of Kids Fishing.

CONSERVATION FUN

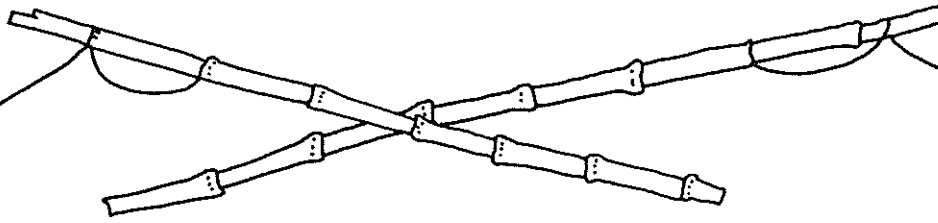
How many words can you make from the letters in **Conservation**?

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ | 14. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ | 15. _____ |
-

Water works wonders

Celebrate with us and discover just how much fun fishing and boating can be when you do it together.

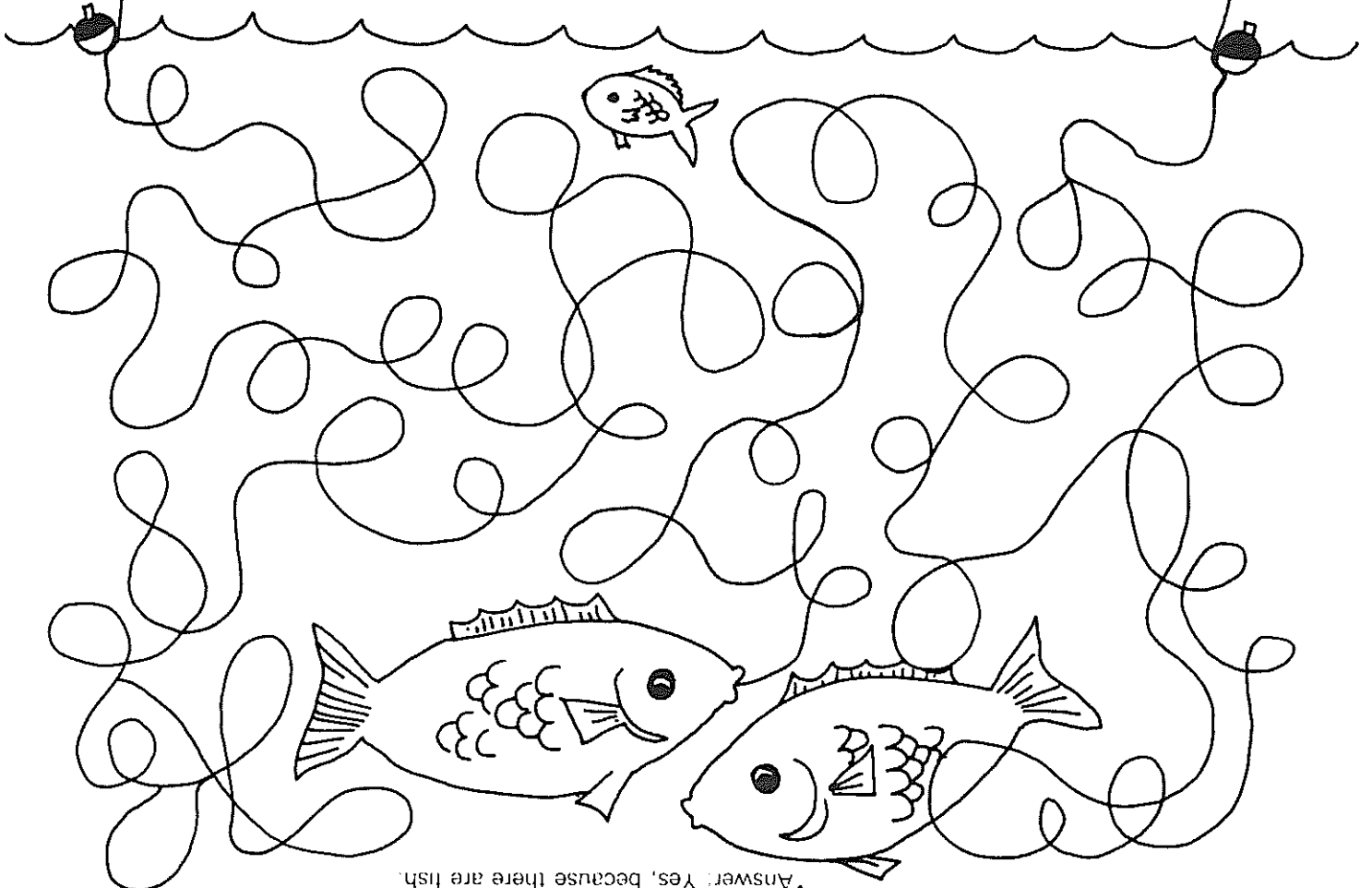
FISHING FUN LINES



The Illinois Department of Natural Resources wants to help you have fun fishing. Fun fishing means:

- 1) having places for fish to live, eat, and lay eggs in *clean* water
- 2) practicing good outdoor manners
- 3) knowing about fish and how to catch them

**WHICH LINE HAS A FISH ON IT?
DO YOU THINK THE WATER IN THIS LAKE
IS CLEAN? WHY?***



*Answer: Yes, because there are fish.

Which Lake Would

The air and water are clean. It was like this in early America.
Would you like to visit a lake like this?

Why should we take care of our water and air?

Color some of the things you like about this picture.



You Like to Visit?

This lake has been changed by man.

Do you think fish can live in this lake?

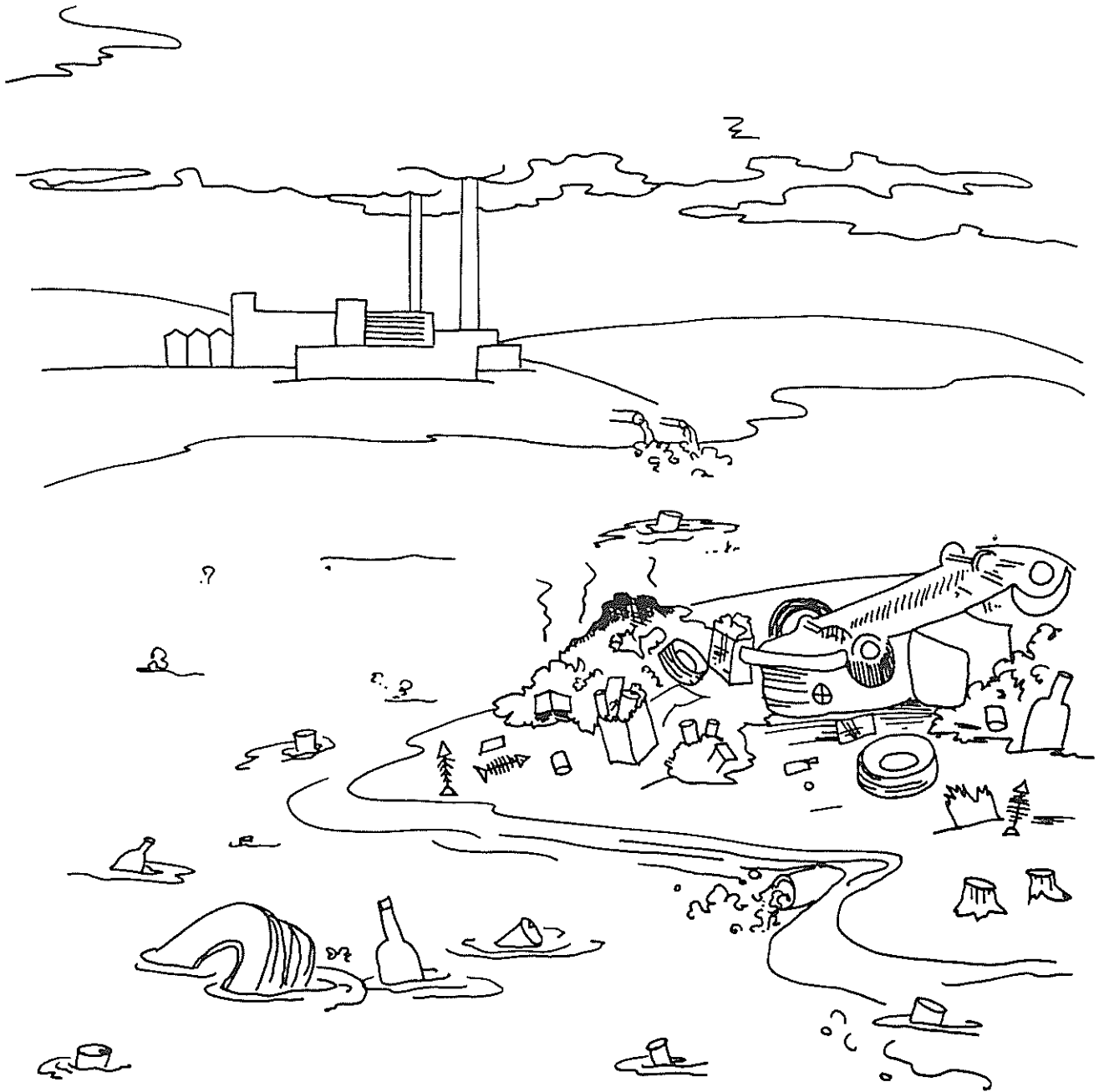
Would you want to eat a fish from this lake?

Would you want to swim in this lake?

Would you like your city to get drinking water from this lake?

What could you do to make this a better place?

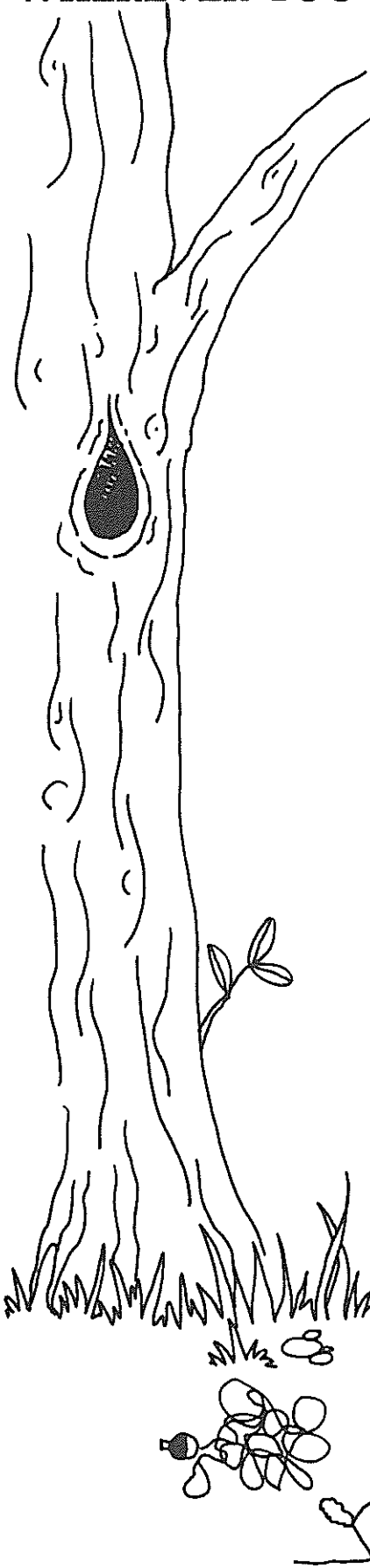
Color some of the things you don't like about this picture.



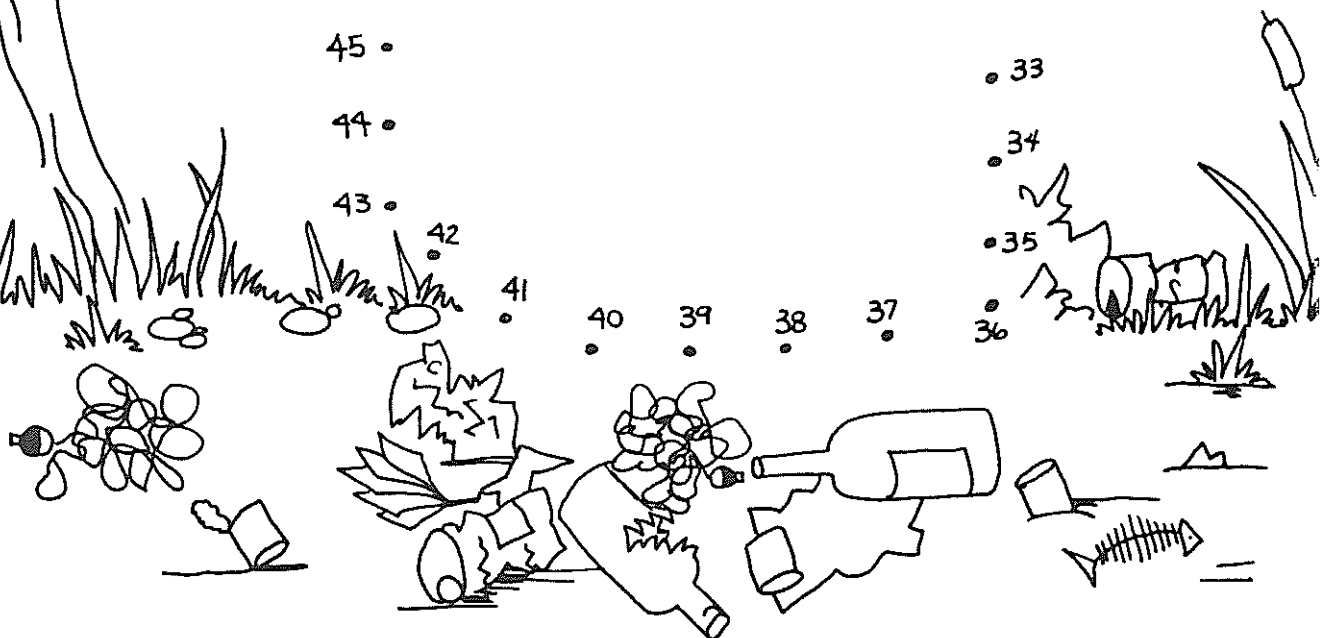
WHEREVER YOU GO TO FISH — YOU WILL NEED TO FIND ME

WHAT AM I?

The world would be a cleaner place
If people used my empty space
To throw away their used-up things
Like bottles, cans and pop-top rings,
Paper cups and fishing lines; ,
I need to hold these things you find.

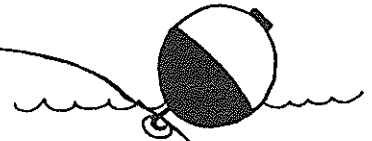
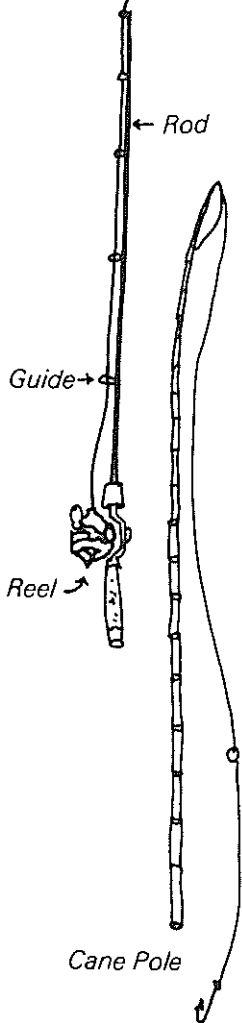


**FEED ME
PLEASE!**



How Do I Get Ready To Go Fishing?

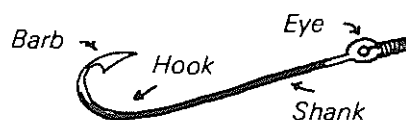
1. You can use either a **cane pole** or a **rod and reel** to catch fish. The cane pole is simpler. The rod and reel lets you fish at a greater distance from shore.
2. The **line** must be strong—6 to 10 pound test. If you're using a cane pole, the line should be as long as the pole plus your arm's length. If you're using a rod and reel, carefully thread the line straight through each guide on your rod.
3. Using pliers, fasten a split-shot **sinker** to the line about 6 inches from the end. Sinkers are lead weights used to keep the bait on the bottom.
4. Attach the **float**, or bobber, by pushing down on the button of the float and clamping it to the line. Wrap the line around the hook on the float. The distance from the sinker to the float should not be more than the depth of the water. The float will move or go under the water when a fish is biting.
5. **Hooks** come in different sizes and shapes. A hook with a long shank (about the size of the one in this picture) would be good to use. It is best to tie the hook on to the line with a clinch knot. You will learn to tie this knot on the next page.



Float

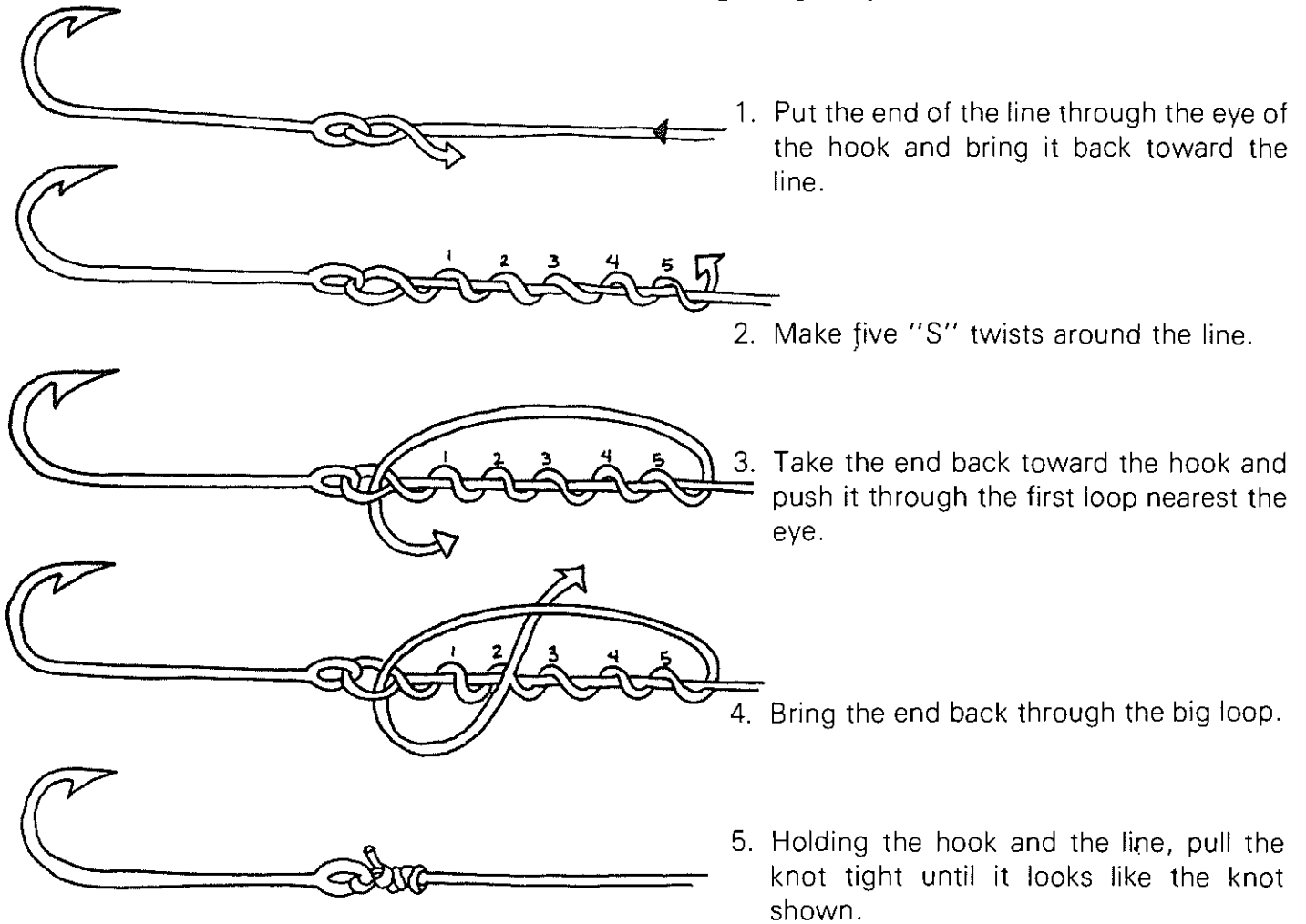


Split-Shot Sinker



Can I Tie A Clinch Knot?

SURE! HERE'S HOW.



PRACTICE FUN

Take your pencil. Pretend the point of your pencil is the end of the fishing line. Draw over the line shown in each step of the pictures above. Practice many times.

Now—"Tie" the line to this hook using the clinch knot you just learned. Use your pencil.



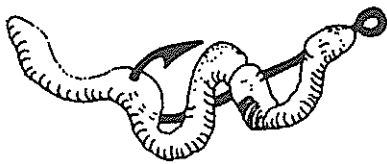
It is fun to practice this knot at home using a shoestring for the line and your belt loop for the eye of the hook.

What Do I Use For Bait?

HOW DO I BAIT MY HOOK?

It is easy to stab yourself with a fish hook!
Be very careful.

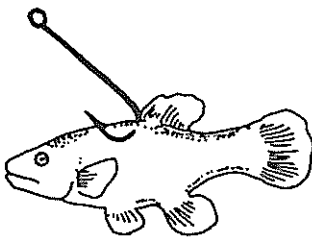
Worms are a favorite fish bait. The worm will wiggle. Hold it tightly at one end with your thumb and finger. Bring the hook down through one end of the worm until the worm covers the hook. Pull the hook down; don't try to push the worm on the hook. Worms are found in rich soil, under leaves in the woods, or in gravelly soil along streams. Keep them in a can with damp soil and in the shade.



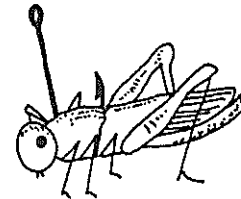
When fishing for catfish or bass, hook worm like this. Leave the end free to wiggle.



For sunfish and other "bait-stealers," hook bits of worms like this.



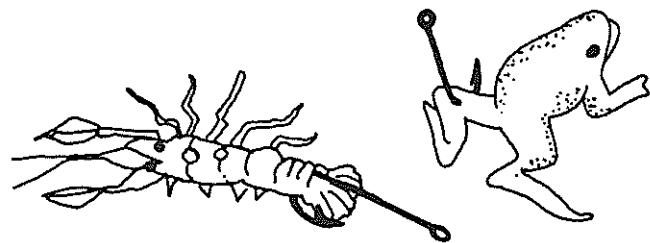
Minnows used for bait are usually 1 to 3 inches long. Put the hook through the very top of its back, just in front of the fin, so the minnow can swim. You will probably want to buy your minnows. Keep them in a minnow bucket in shaded water.



Grasshoppers and **crickets** are good summer bait. Hook them through the collar that is just behind their necks. The hook should be slipped under this collar so that the point is exposed. This keeps the insect alive and will attract fish. Grasshoppers are found in tall grass and are kept best in a small wire cage.



Doughballs are the best bait for carp. These are easily made from flour, bread, cornmeal, or wheaties dampened with water and honey. Form in a tight ball. Press on small hook.

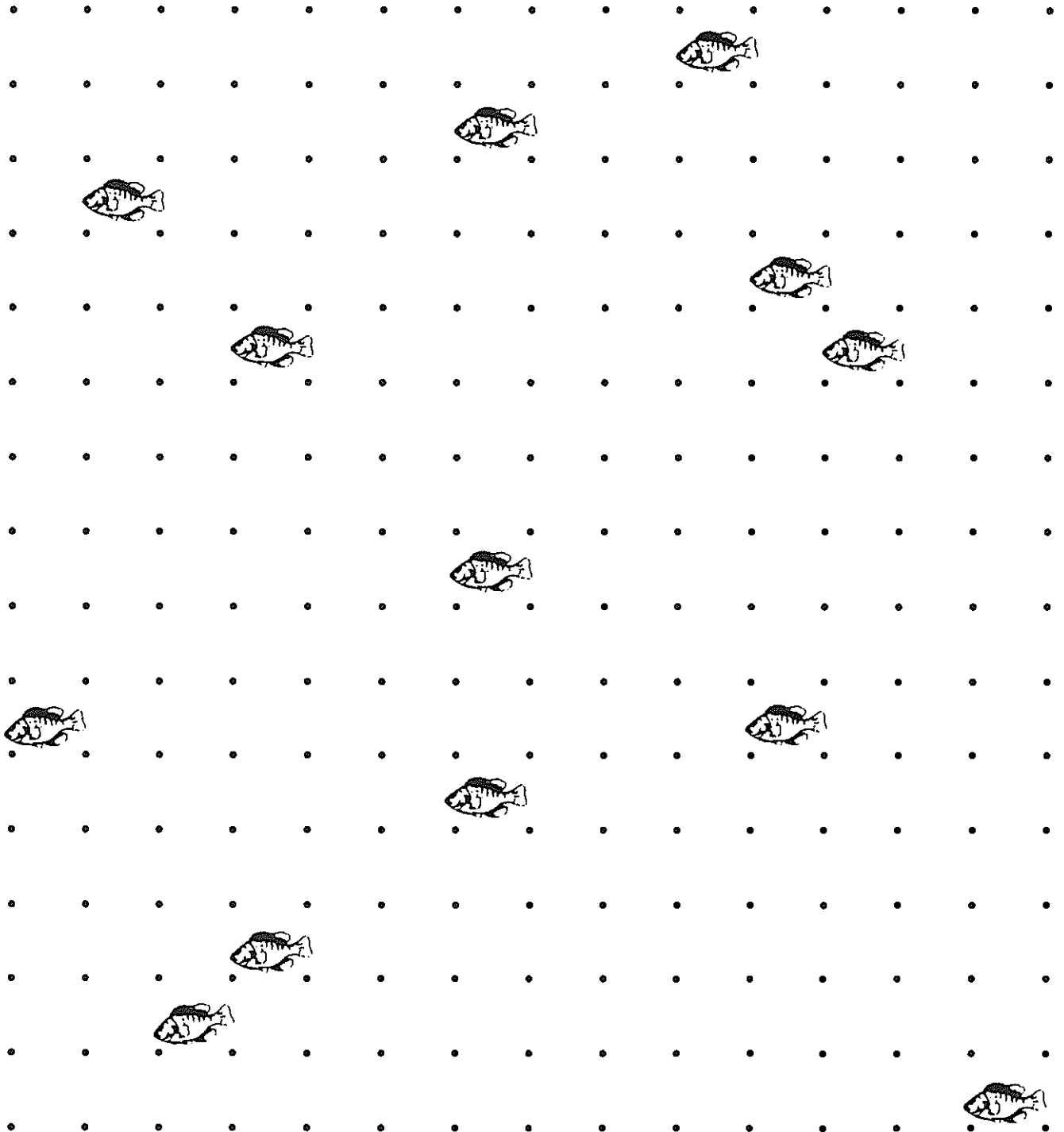


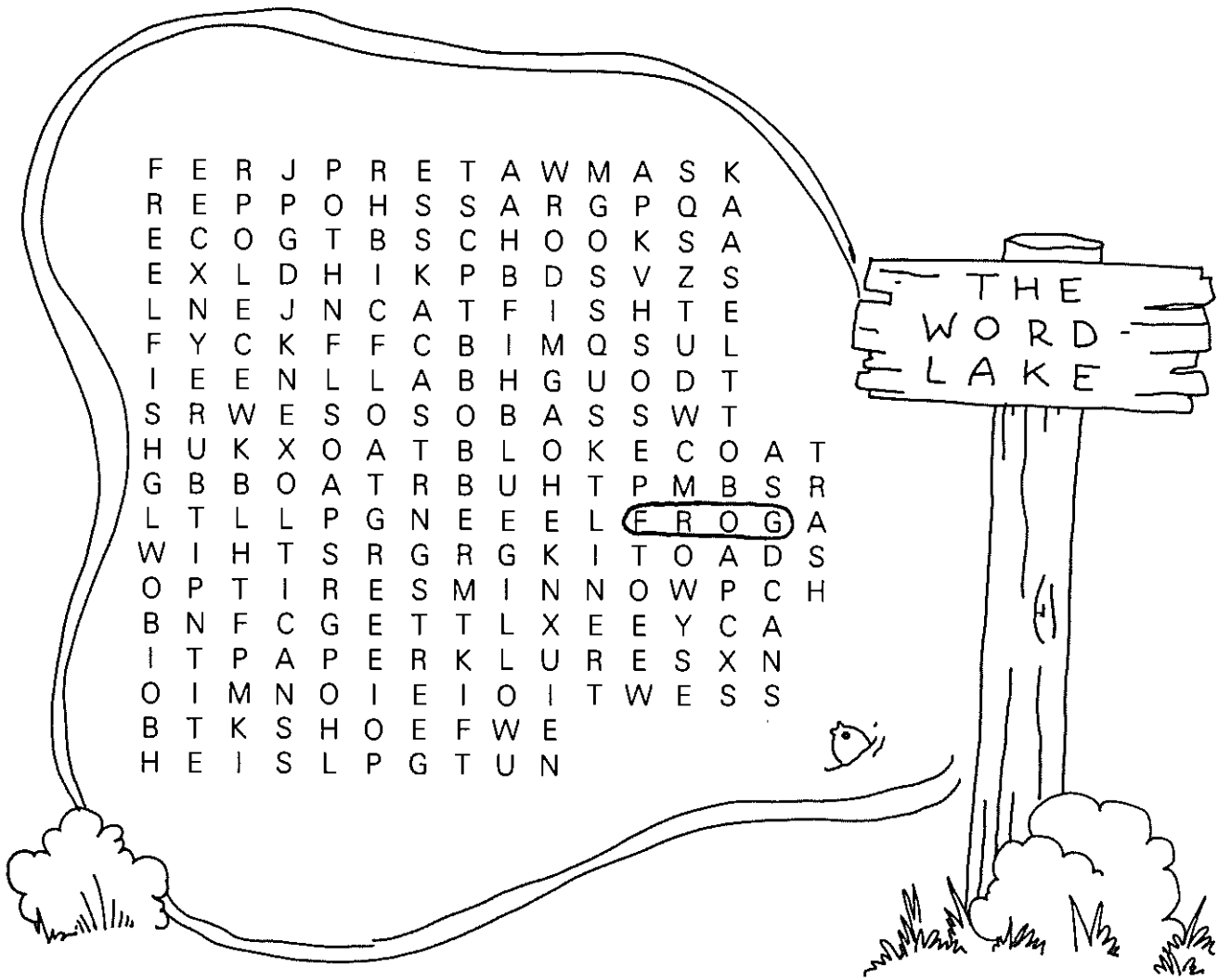
Live **crawdads** and small **frogs** are good bass bait. Crawdads are found under rocks in the water. Hold them along the back, so you won't get pinched, and push the hook through the tail. Hook small frogs, which are found along the shore, through both lips or a leg.

TAKE A FRIEND, MOM OR DAD FISHING

How Many Fish Can You Catch?

Players take turns connecting 2 dots. Lines go across or down, not diagonally. Complete as many small squares as you can. Initial each square you complete and take another turn. Squares in which fish are caught count 5 points. All other squares count 1 point.





WHAT CAN YOU FIND IN A LAKE?

- Look up, down, right, left and diagonally.
- Circle each word you find from the list.

(Answers on page 32.)



A POLLUTION SOLUTION!

What is water pollution? Water is polluted when **people** change the water in a way that hurts living things.

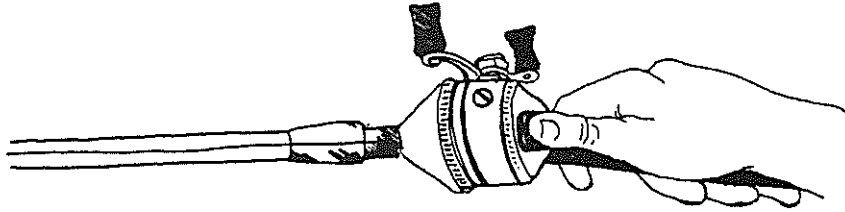
Mark through each word you have found in the Word Lake that should **not** be in **clean water!**

Words to Find

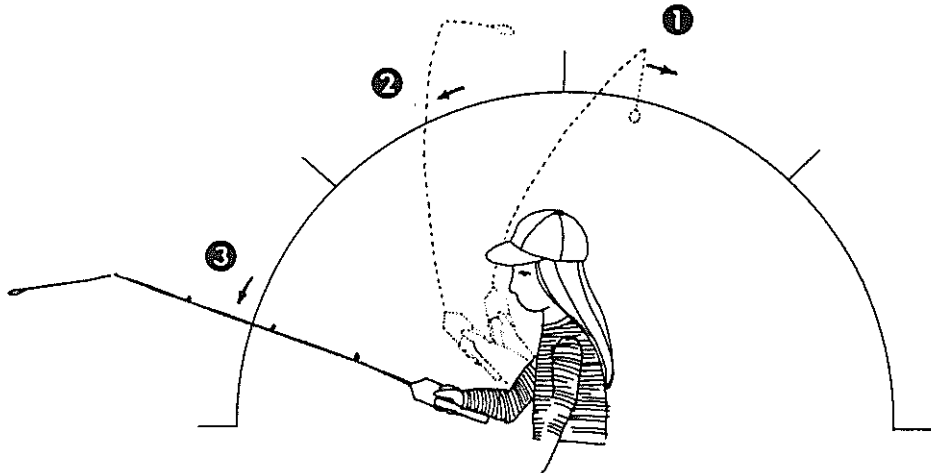
bait	minnow
bass	oil
bluegill	paper
boat	pole
bobber	reel
bottles	rod
cans	shoe
carp	sinker
catfish	ski
coat	soap
doughball	tires
fish	toads
float	trash
frog	tree
grasshopper	water
hooks	wire
line	worm
lures	

Let's Go Fishing!

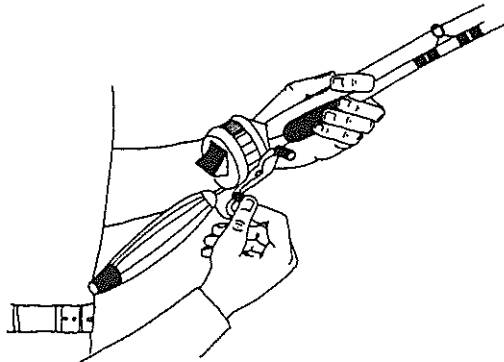
1. Your line is ready and your hook is baited. Before you cast, look behind you. Make sure no one is there. Check for trees and bushes. Make sure your hook isn't caught on anything and that the line isn't wrapped around the rod.



2. Press and hold the reel's release button.

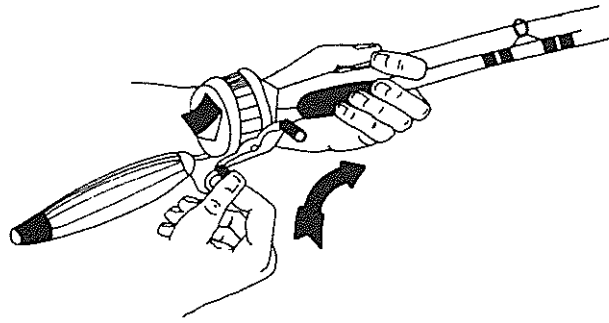


3. Using your *wrist* action (not your whole arm), *gently* bring the rod straight up over your shoulder. Gently sweep the rod forward and release your thumb from the button.

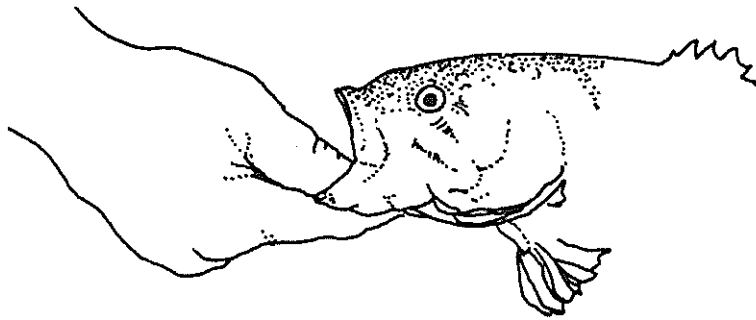


4. Place your free hand in front of the reel with three fingers below the rod. Your thumb and forefinger will be on top.
5. Turn the reel crank forward until it clicks to keep more line from coming out. Reel your line in until your float begins to move. This takes up the slack in your line. Watch your float. When the fish bites, the float will move along the water or go under the water. Jerk the line hard enough to move the float and set the hook in the fish's mouth.

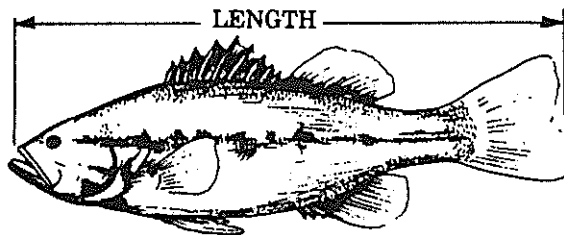
I Have A Fish! What Do I Do Now?



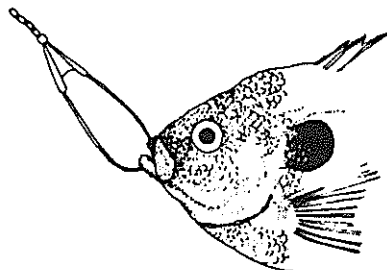
1. Keep your line tight and your rod tip up. Slowly reel in the fish.



2. Hold the fish tightly. Put your thumb inside the lower lip and forefinger outside. To remove the hook, push it down and turn it so it comes out the way it went in.



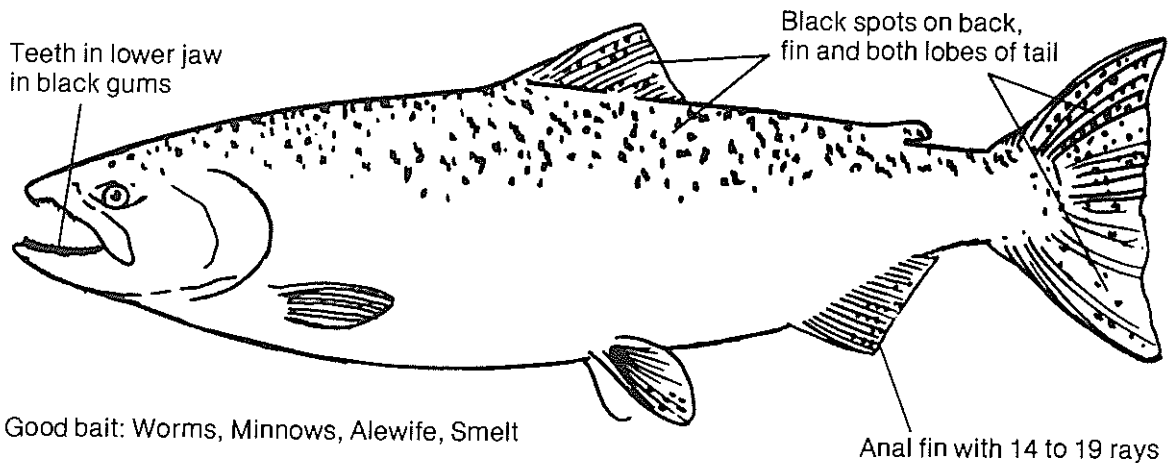
3. Is the fish large enough to keep? Will it be used for food? If not, *carefully* release the fish in the water. Handle the fish as little as possible. A fish that you catch and release carefully can be caught again someday when it is bigger.



4. You can keep your fish alive by threading a stringer under the chin and through both lips. Let the fish swim in the water. Tie the other end of the stringer tightly to the bank. You can also use wire fish baskets to keep your fish alive.

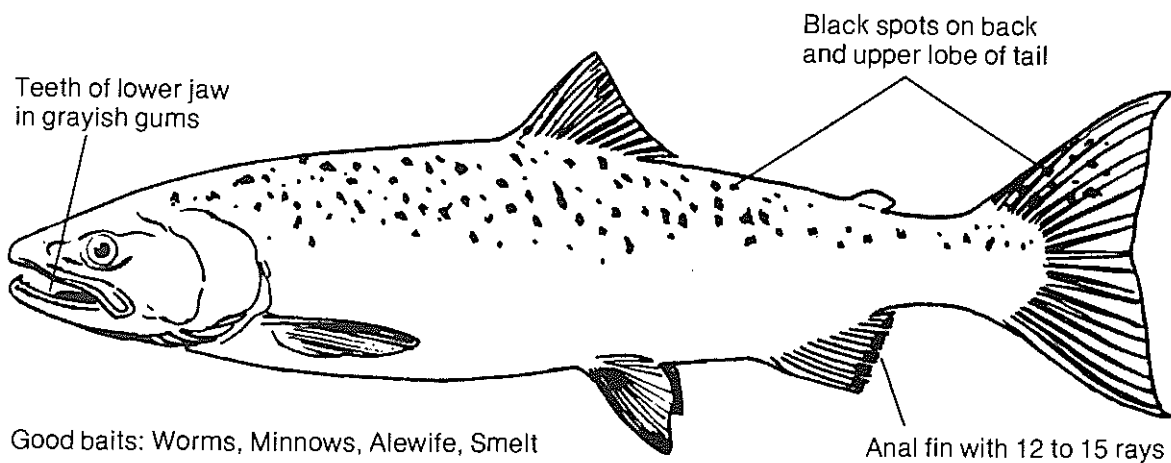
WHICH FISH WILL I CATCH?

CHINOOK SALMON



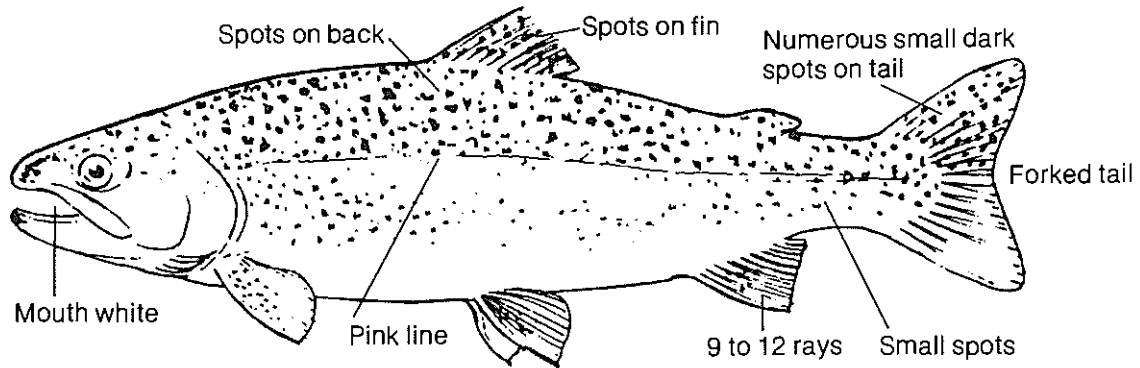
In size, the chinook salmon or king salmon is the granddaddy of all salmon, topping the scales at more than 97 pounds. The chinook has a deep body with many spots on top of the head, upper body and jaws. The average chinook salmon lives four years. The first six months of life are spent within a stream or fish hatchery. The remaining three and one half years are spent in an ocean or Lake Michigan. Fishing for chinook salmon in Lake Michigan and Chicago's harbors is an exciting sport. Elaborate fishing equipment is not needed to catch this fish, but a strong rod and line are desirable.

COHO SALMON



Coho salmon, sometimes called silver salmon, have dark spots on the back and upper tail. The upper jaw of the spawning male coho salmon hooks downward accounting for the nickname of "hooknose". The average coho lives three years, half of its life, or 18 months, within a stream or fish hatchery and the second half within an ocean or Lake Michigan. This near-the-surface fighter puts on quite a show with high leaps and long runs when hooked.

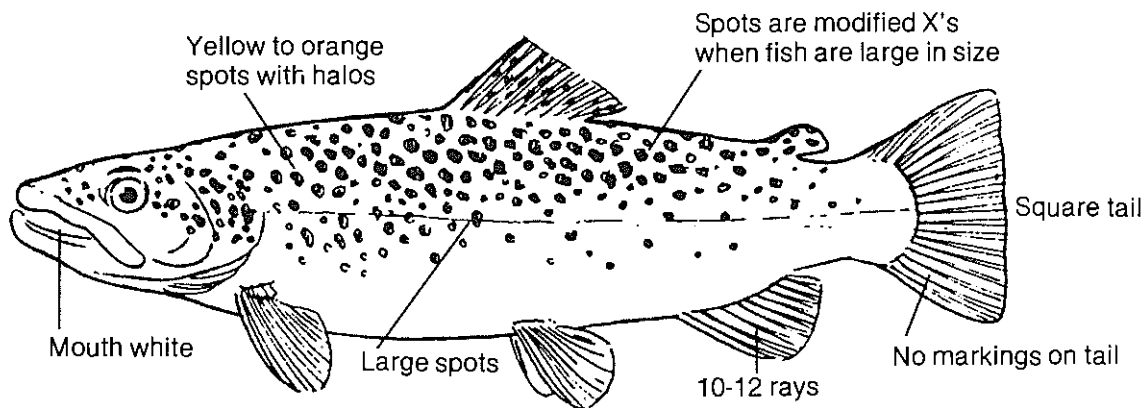
RAINBOW TROUT



Good bait: Worms, Minnows, Alewife, Smelt

The rainbow trout, also known as steelhead or kamloop, vary widely in color markings and body shape. Many dark spots on the body, head and fins and the pink stripe along the entire length of the body usually remain constant. Like all trout, rainbows are wary fish, so care must be taken not to frighten them before they have a chance to strike the lure or bait.

BROWN TROUT

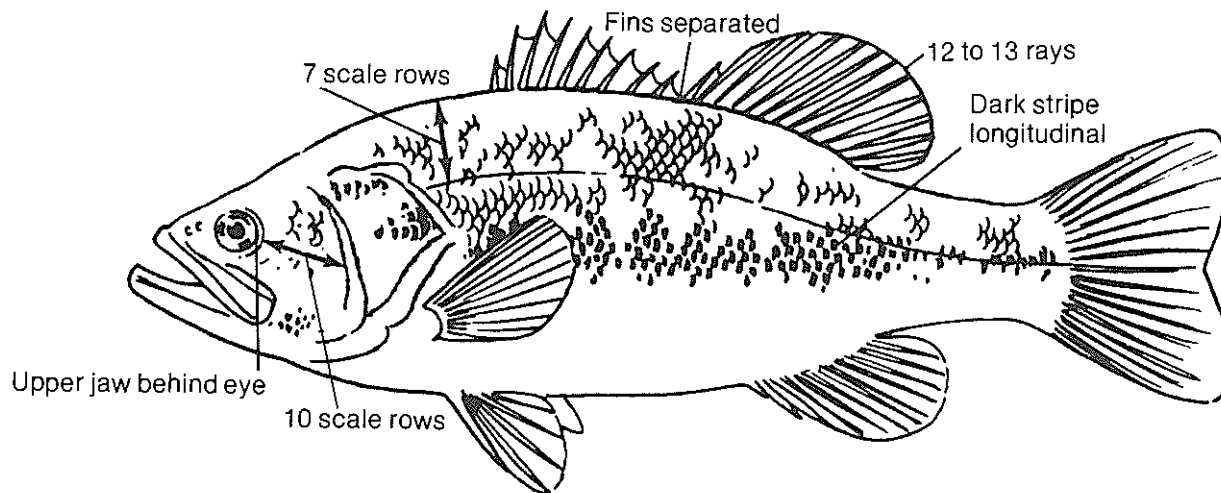


Good bait: Worms, Minnows, Alewife, Smelt

The brown trout, German brown trout or brownie has large dark or brownish spots on its body, back fins and sometimes a few on the upper tail. A few orange or rusty spots also occur on the body and upper fins. The brown trout is not particularly fussy about the water it lives in. It thrives in warmer water than most other trout and can withstand more pollution. Brownies are not the easiest fish to catch. This spooky character requires careful presentation of bait.

LARGEMOUTH BASS

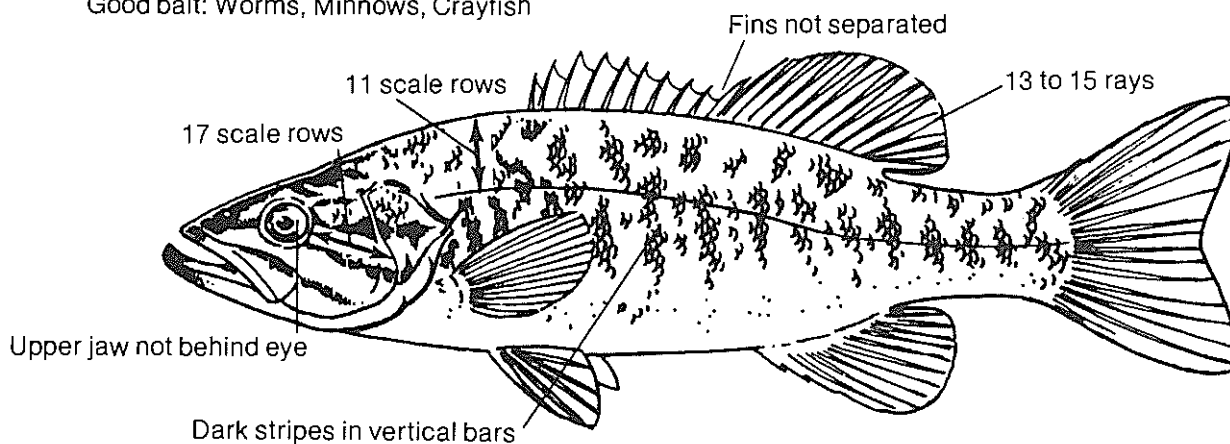
Good bait: Minnows, Grasshoppers, Crayfish



The largemouth bass, slough bass or black bass prefers warm and sluggish waters and thrives in weedy, mud-bottom lakes and ponds. Largemouth are easily recognized by their large mouth, upper jaw which extends behind the eye and dark stripes or blotches which extend the full length of the body. An adult largemouth is not finicky about its diet and will feed on many species of small fish, frogs, crayfish, worms, tadpoles and insects. Early morning or late evening is the best time to fish for largemouth bass.

SMALLMOUTH BASS

Good bait: Worms, Minnows, Crayfish

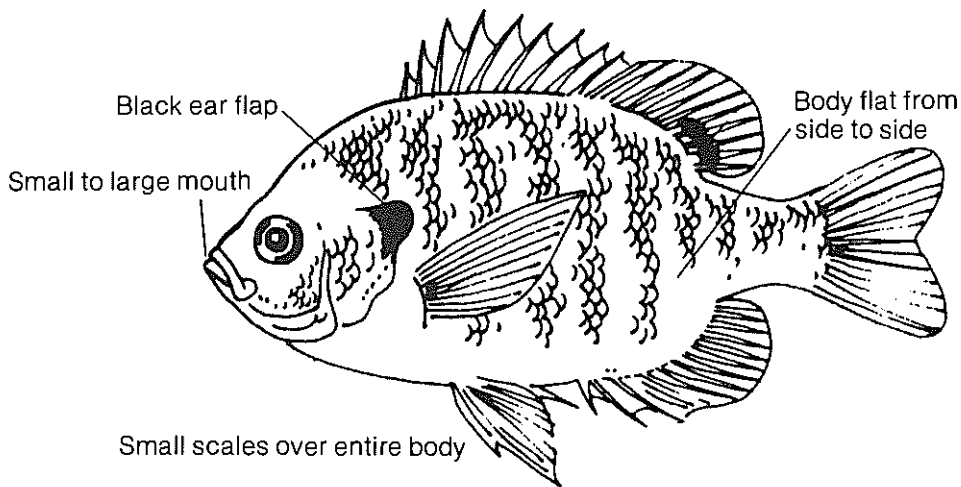


The smallmouth bass or bronzeback is easily recognized by an upper jaw that extends to the middle of the eye and lines that radiate from the snout and eye. Vertical stripes or blotches occur on the body. The smallmouth bass prefers cool water with some motion, usually streams or rivers, and a bottom of rocks, sand or gravel. Smallmouths often move into shallow water during late evening to feed on crayfish, insects and small fishes. A quiet summer night, when insects hatch and emerge from the water, is a perfect time to fish for the bronzeback with light spinning tackle and small lures.

SUNFISH

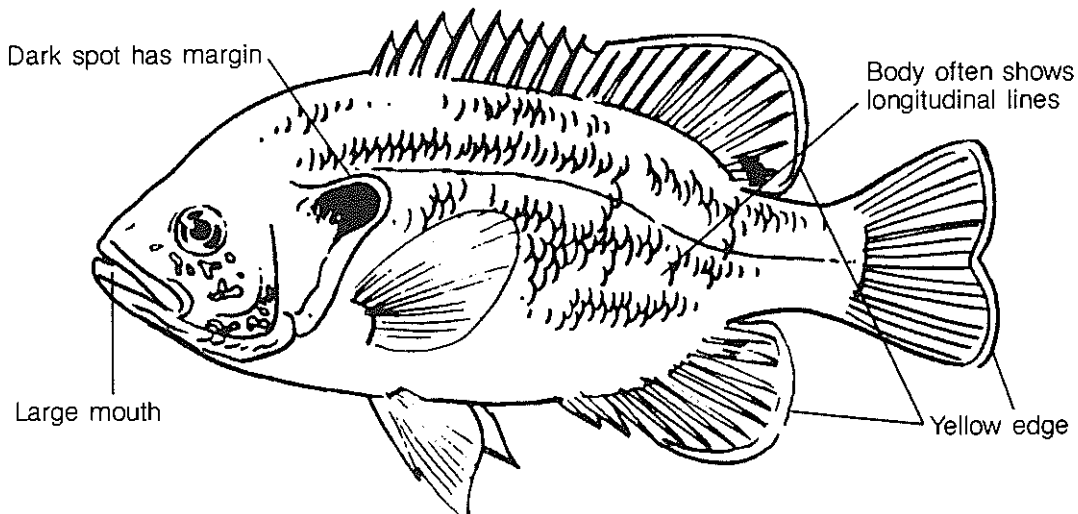
Most sunfish do not grow much larger than 10 inches long, but they fight hard and are fun to catch. There are several types of sunfish, each with slightly different body characteristics (see below). Sunfish are the most common fish caught and are the easiest to catch. Typical baits used are worms, crickets, grasshoppers and artificial flies. Very small hooks with live bait and bobbers are normally used by fishermen to catch sunfish. Sunfish are usually caught in and around brush or trees in the water and weed beds close to shore. Best times of the year to catch sunfish are the spring or fall, but sunfish are usually "biting" most of the year.

Bluegill

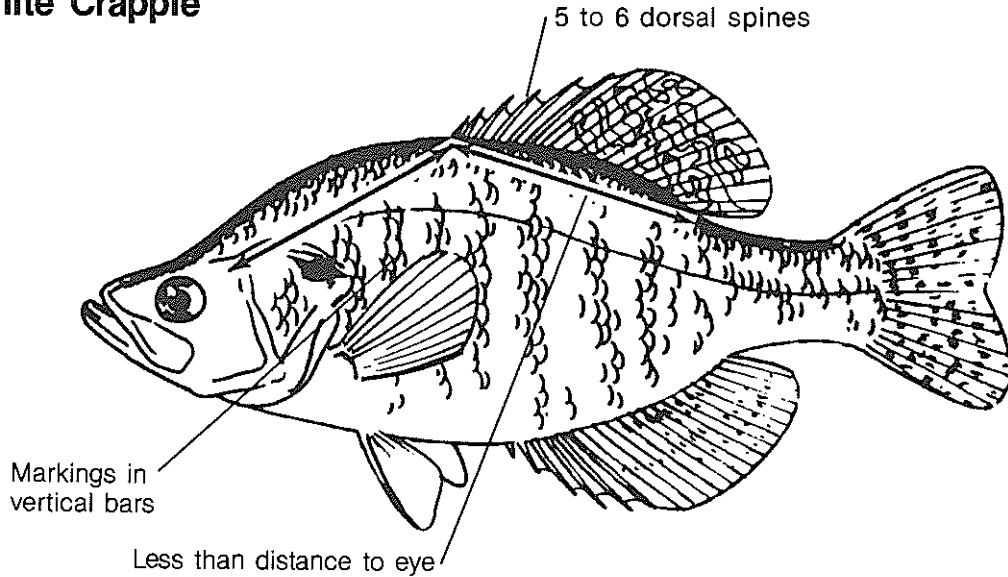


Good bait: Worms, Grasshoppers, Crickets

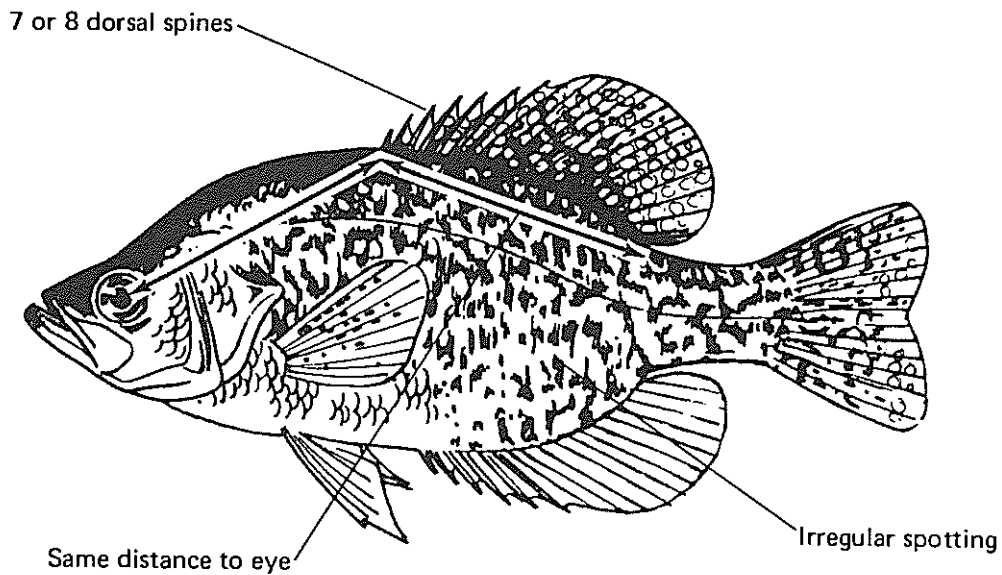
Greensunfish



White Crappie



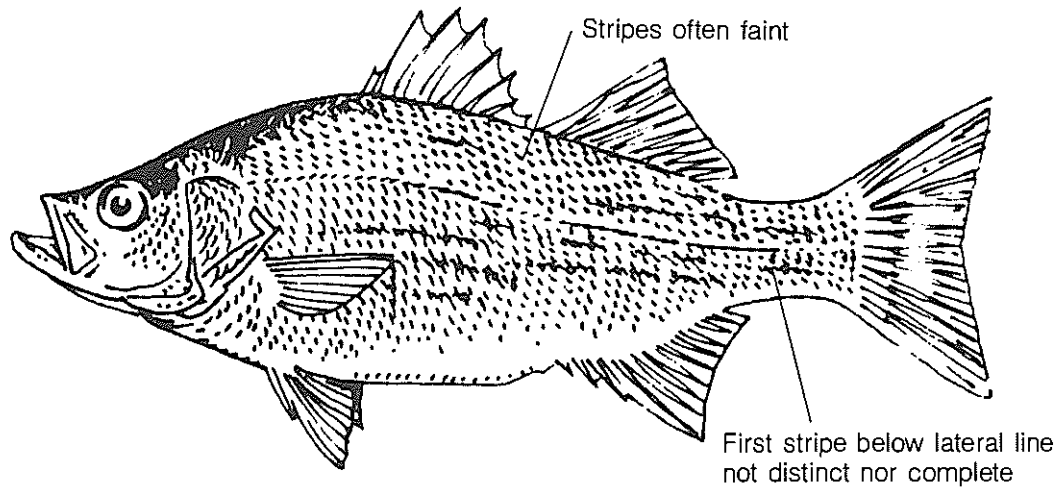
Black Crappie



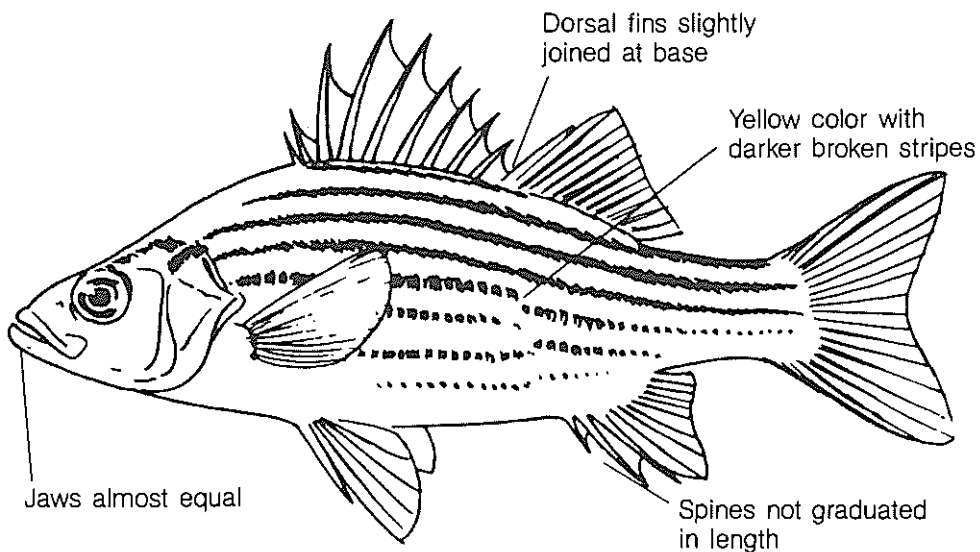
Two species of crappie (black and white) occur in most large lakes, river lakes and many inland lakes within Illinois. Color patterns vary from dark splotches arranged in vertical bands on the white crappie to irregular dark splotches on the black crappie. Still fishing is the most common method used to fish for crappie. A small hook and lively minnow with a bobber and split shot weight or a feathered jig moved up and down are good ways to catch crappie.

White and Yellow Bass

White Bass

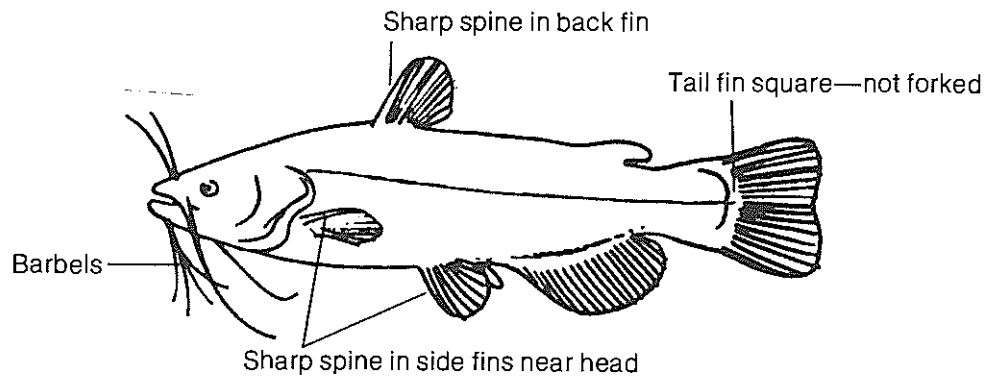


Yellow Bass



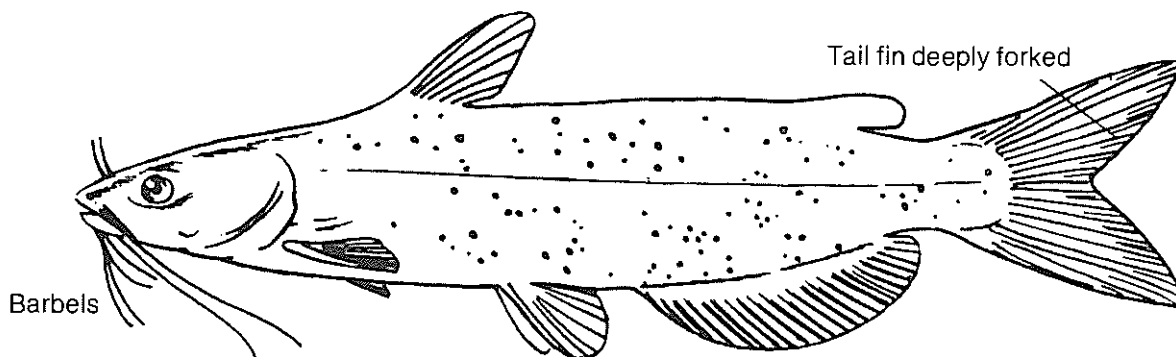
Both white and yellow bass are true freshwater bass. Yellow Bass, which do not attain the size of White Bass, are more abundant. Fishermen will often group these two species together and commonly refer to them as "stripers." However, the true Striped Bass is their larger ocean-going cousin which has adapted very well to inland freshwater lakes and rivers, and has been stocked in some of Illinois' larger reservoirs and power plant cooling lakes. As with Walleye, White and Yellow Bass fishing begins with their spawning run. There is no apparent difference in the types of bait used, as a small minnow or jig cast into the current below rock or wood debris is effective for both species. After spawning the fish will remain schooled-up and return to the lakes at which time a small spinning lure or metallic colored spoon brings good results.

BULLHEAD CATFISH



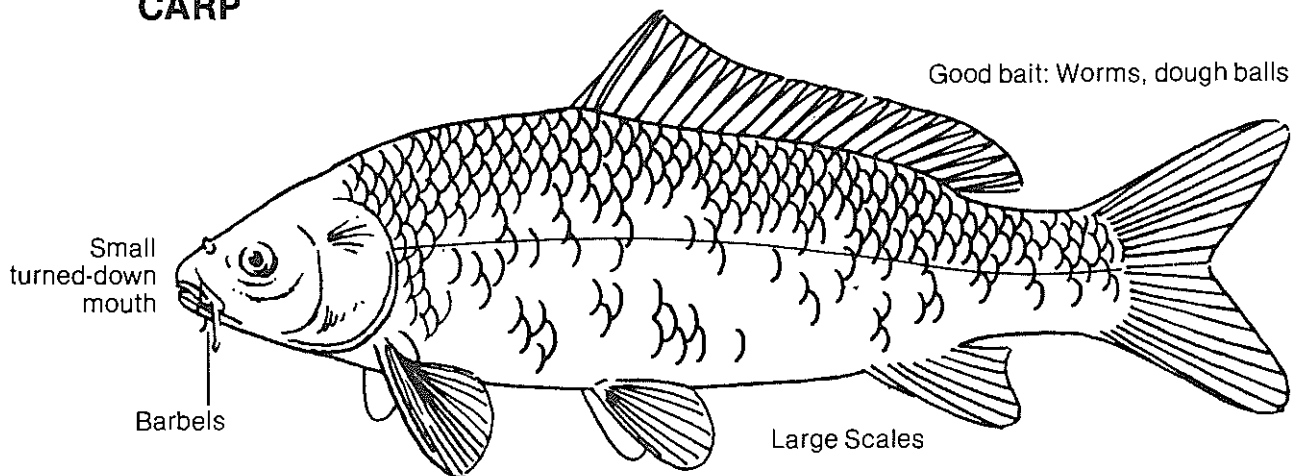
CHANNEL CATFISH

Good bait: Worms, Minnows, Liver, Prepared catfish baits



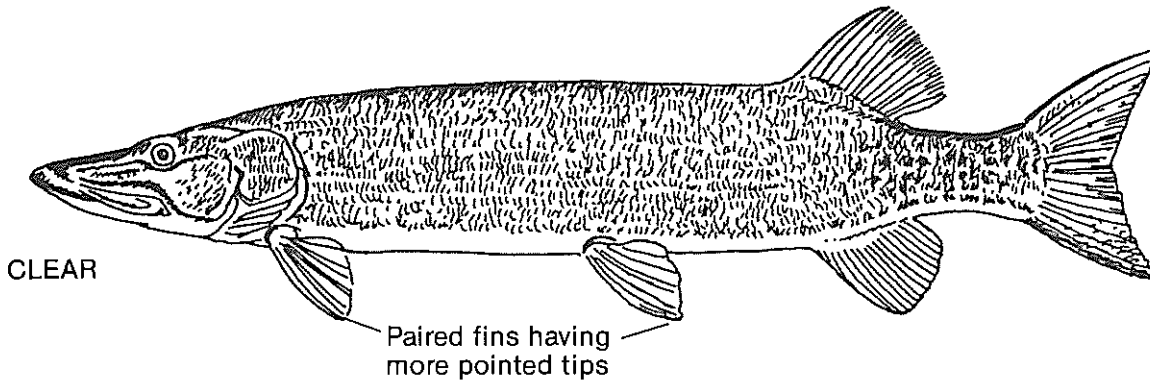
Catfish have “whiskers,” or barbels. They use these and their good sense of smell to find food. They do not have scales. You must handle catfish very carefully because of the sharp spines in their fins. You can catch them close to shore. Keep your bait close to the bottom where catfish usually feed.

CARP



Carp grow to a large size and are strong fighters to catch. They usually feed on the bottom of rivers and lakes. Their small mouths require a small hook for your bait. They like to sniff the bait and sample it before they suck it into their mouths. Give them lots of time to take the bait. Carp are an important commercial fish in Illinois.

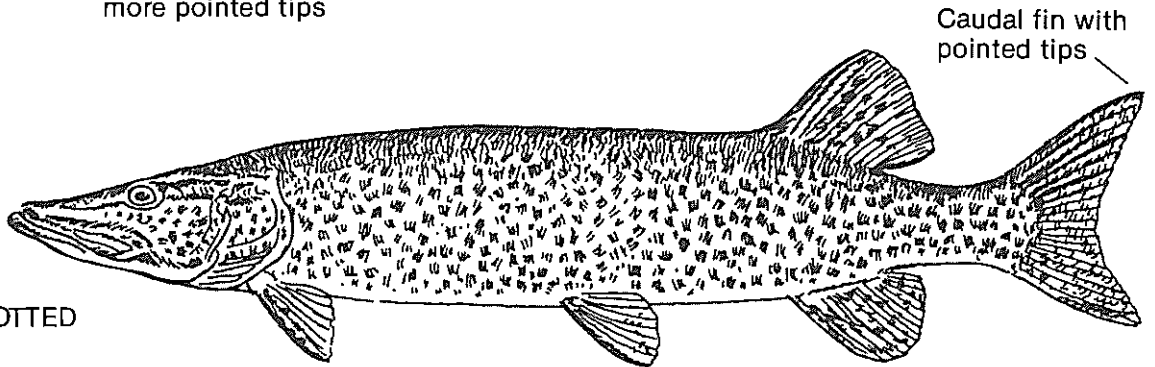
Muskellunge



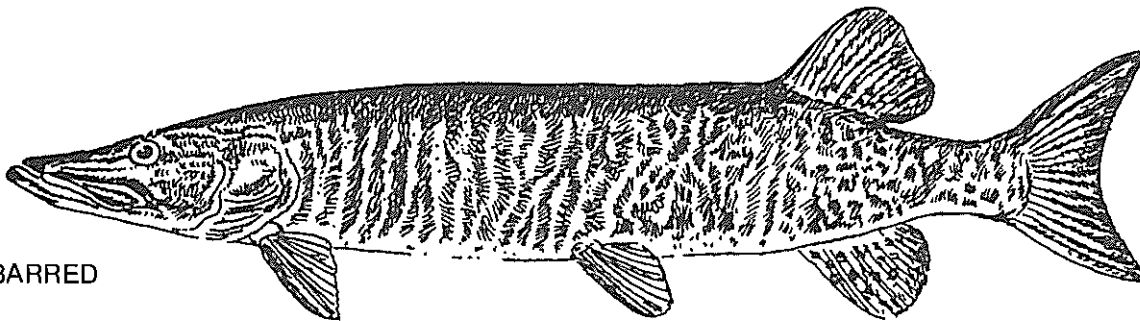
NOTE:
Faint indication of marking pattern is *sometimes* present on posterior 1/2 of body in "clear" variation of muskellunge.

3 COMMON PATTERN VARIATIONS

SPOTTED



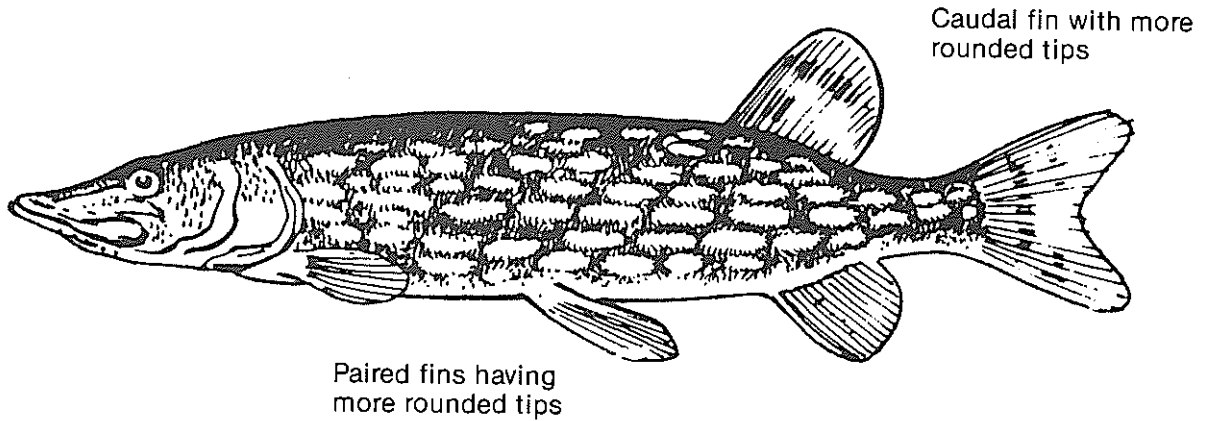
BARRED



NOTE:
Background colors of fish can vary slightly depending on environmental characteristics of the water body and its geographic location. One marking pattern may dominate in an area, but all 3 can be present.

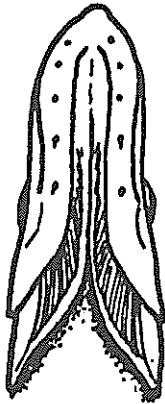
The muskellunge has forty or more common names. Among these are: Great Lakes muskellunge, muskie (musky), lunge, maskinonge, muskellunge, leopard muskellunge and tiger muskellunge. In the Cree Indian language, "mashk" means deformed and "kinonge" means pike therefore; deformed pike. The body of the muskie is long and narrow with a large head with duckbill jaws supporting large canine teeth. There are three widely accepted color patterns of pure muskellunge: clear, spotted and barred. Natural populations of muskie probably disappeared from Illinois many years ago. Today however, the muskellunge has been stocked into many lakes within Illinois. Muskies will stay in one spot unless driven out by a larger fish or caught. Large surface plugs or spoons and spinner bucktails are good artificial lures. The most commonly used live bait is a large sucker.

Northern Pike

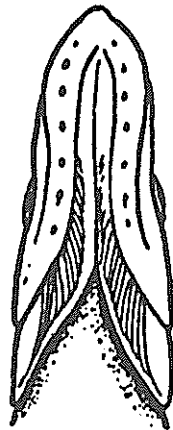


The northern pike has many common names including: common pike, pickerel, great northern pike, northern, jack fish, pike, snake, snake pickerel and jack. The northern pike is very similar to the muskellunge in that it has a long and narrow body with a large head with duckbill jaws. The northern pike however; has rows of light colored, round or oval spots on its side. The northern pike occurs naturally in the northern third of Illinois and rather generally throughout the northern half of Illinois via hatchery stockings. The northern pike also occurs naturally in the Mississippi River. Large spoons and plugs are suitable artificial lures when casting or trolling. A large, lively sucker is probably the best bait when still fishing.

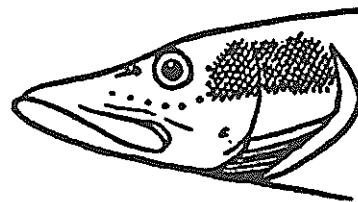
Location of submanibular pore on under side of lower jaw . . .



NORTHERN PIKE
5 or fewer pores

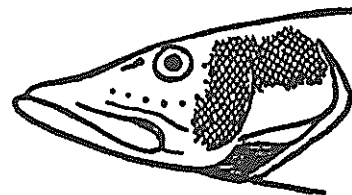


MUSKELLUNGE
6 to 9 pores



MUSKELLUNGE

Upper half of cheek and operculum with scales



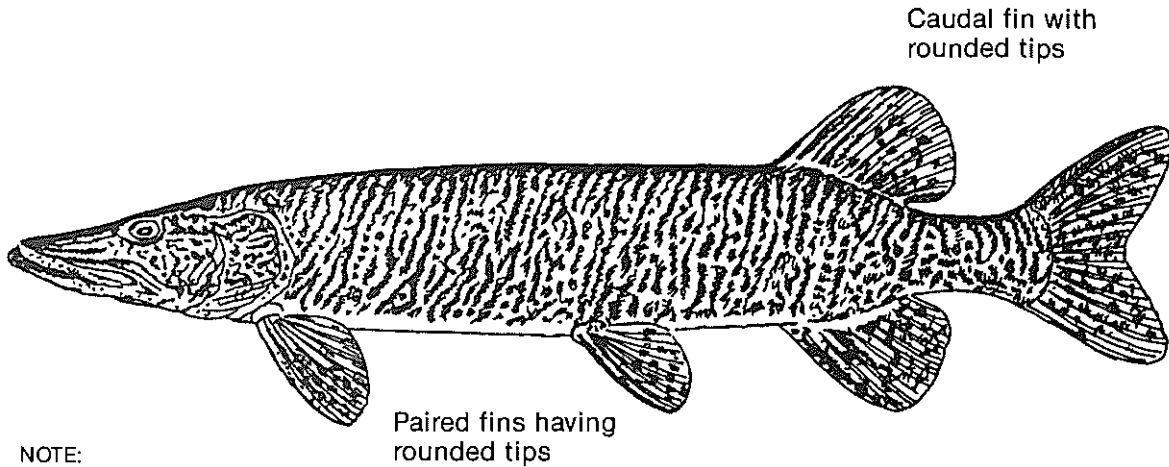
NORTHERN PIKE

Entire cheek and upper half of operculum with scales

NOTE: Hybrids have $\frac{2}{3}$ or more of cheek and upper half of operculum with scales.

NOTE: Hybrids have 5 to 8 pores on each side of lower jaw.

Tiger (Hybrid) Muskie

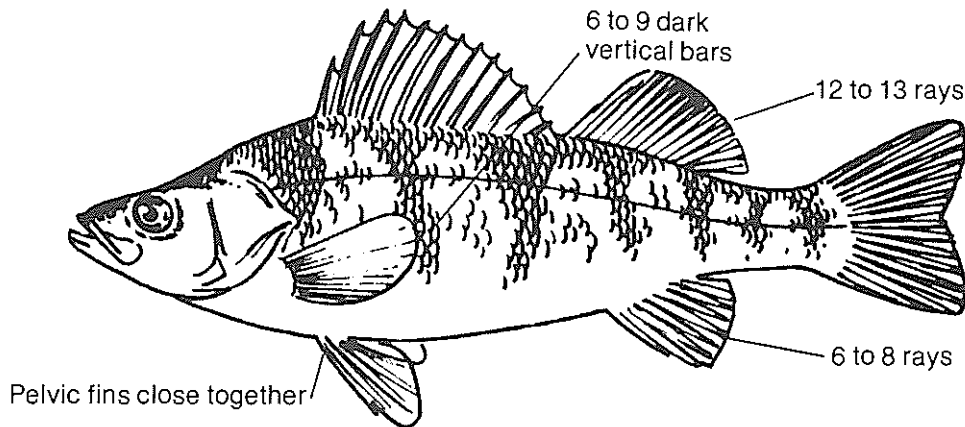


NOTE:

Sides sometimes exhibit an alternating pattern of stripes and spots, or narrow paired-bars on a light background. Pattern *never* resembles that of northern pike.

The tiger muskie is a hybrid due to the crossbreeding of the male of one species and the female of another species therefore; the northern pike and the muskellunge. The tiger muskie has a long and narrow body with a large head with duckbill jaws supporting large canine teeth. Coloration on the sides is usually narrow, paired-bars on a light background. The color pattern never resembles that of a northern pike. The tiger muskie occurs throughout Illinois as a result of hatchery stockings. Large surface plugs, spoons and bucktails are good artificial lures. A large, lively sucker is excellent natural bait.

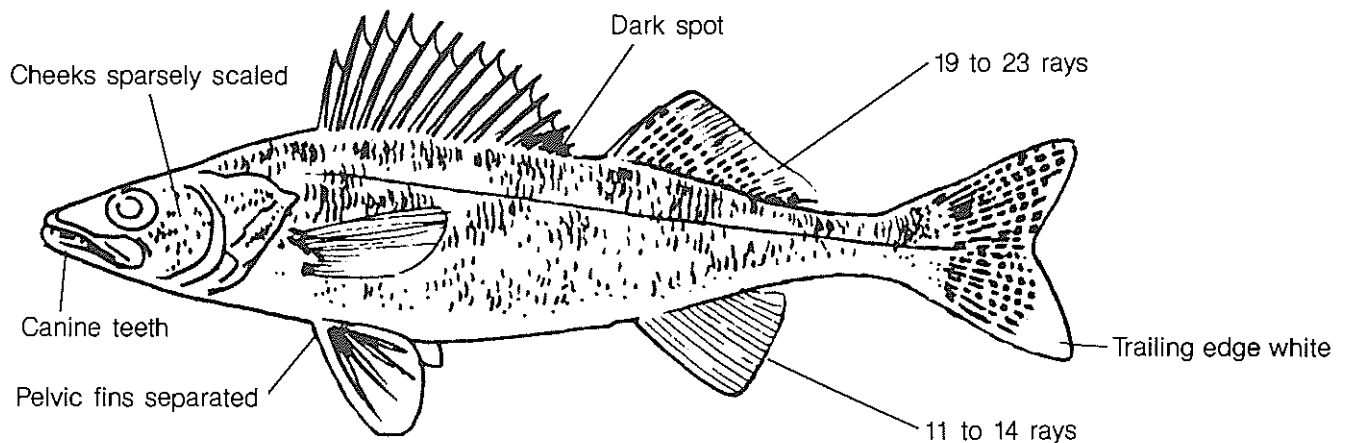
YELLOW PERCH



Good bait: Worms, Minnows, Crayfish

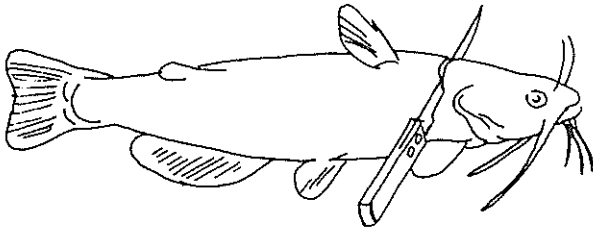
The yellow perch has numerous dark vertical bars on each side of the body. The lower fins are deep yellow or orange in color, and it has small teeth on its jaws. The yellow perch usually runs in schools in both deep and shallow waters. When an experienced fisherman catches one, he tries the same spot again for others. A majority of yellow perch are caught by fishermen using live bait, either worms or minnows, still fishing with bobbers. The body of the yellow perch feels much like sandpaper due to its scales which have tiny teeth on their surface.

Walleye

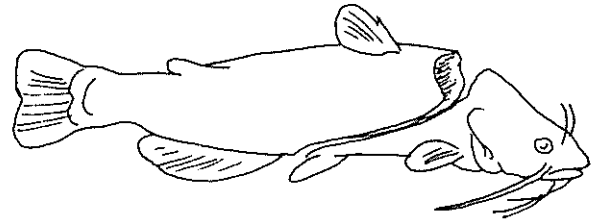


The separate top fins, streamline shape and large milky eye set the walleye apart from all other Illinois fish. Walleye may be found in large river systems as well as in most large Illinois lakes. Walleye are most often found in deep water, but may be caught in the spring, as they move to shallow areas to spawn. Walleye may be caught with minnows and leeches, as well as various artificial spinning and crank baits. Walleye may be the finest eating of all Illinois' fishes.

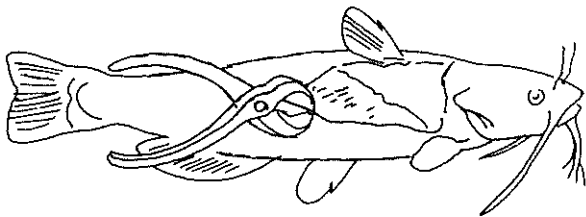
Skinning Bullhead Catfish



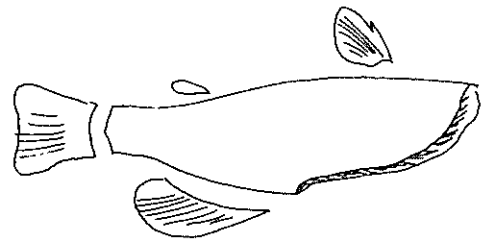
1 A freshly caught fish will skin easier. Cut across top of back to backbone between head and dorsal fin. A short cut toward the top fin helps tear skin.



3 Push head downward, breaking backbone where the knife made a cut across back, removing the entrails, belly flesh, and front fins along with head in one motion.

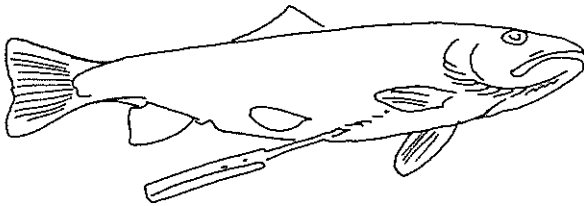


2 Pull skin toward the tail with pliers; one pull on each half should tear off skin. Second side will pick up what skin is missed on tearing off the first side.

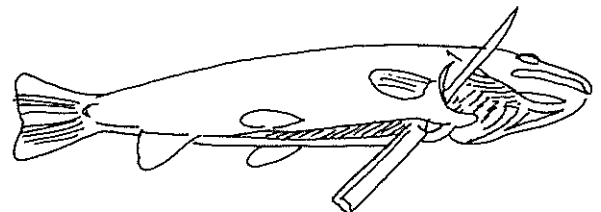


4 If desired, the remaining fins and tail may be removed before cooking. Large catfish need more slitting of skin around head, along back, and belly before skinning.

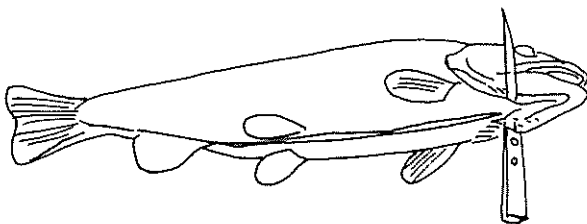
Cleaning Trout and Salmon



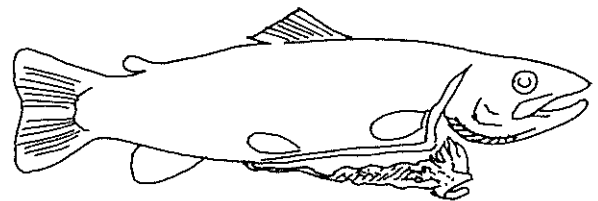
1 Clean trout as soon as you can after catching it. Insert a knife at the vent and slit the belly forward to the gills.



3 Place one finger in the belly slit and gill opening and separate the side of the body from the gills and gill rakers. Insert the knife and cut the flesh loose at bottom on both sides.

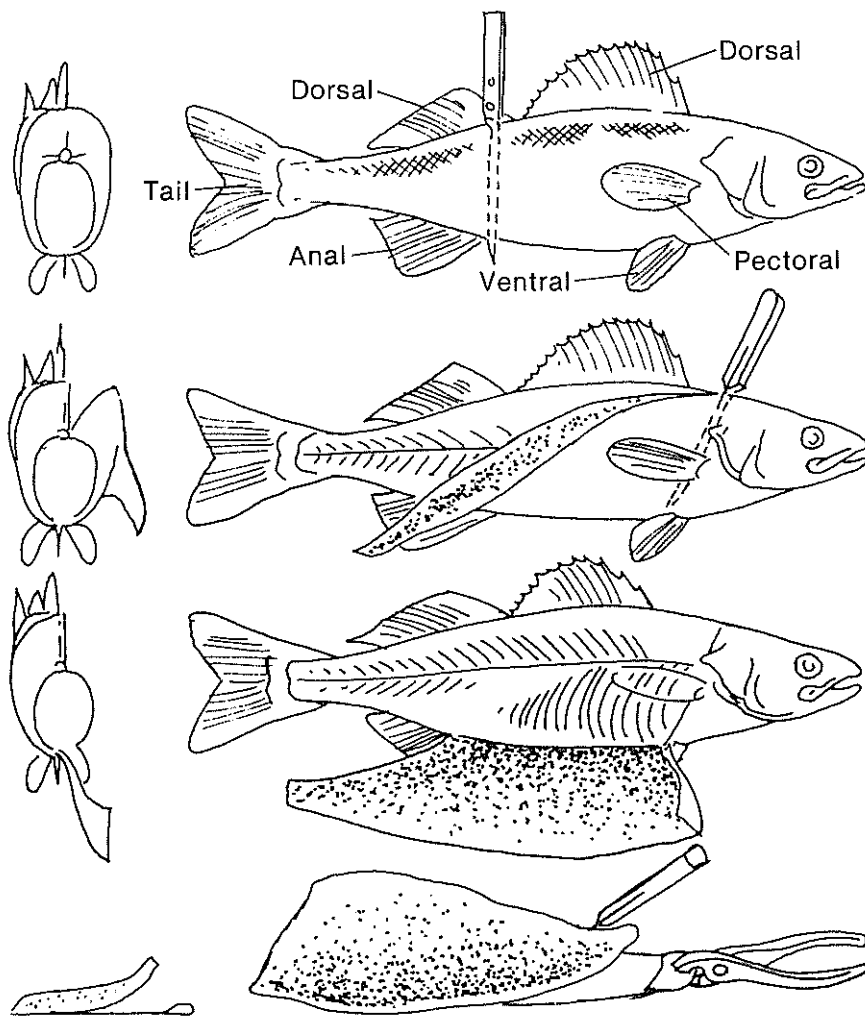


2 Insert the knife and cut at the point where the gill is attached under the throat at the V joining the lower belly to the head.



4 Stick a finger in the gill throat and tear out gills and gill rakers. Entrails will pull out with gills or remove them by hand. Remove the blood streak along spine. Remove all excess fat, especially the belly and dorsal flaps. Remove the skin on large fish. Cook so any remaining fat will be reduced.

Filleting Perch and Bass



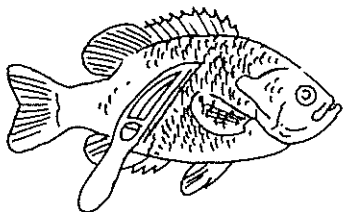
1 To save the most meat and fewest bones try this method: Cut along back on one side of dorsal fin. Insert blade all the way through body and out belly just behind vent. Slice along edge of anal fin, with blade sliding along backbone until reaching tail. Cut fillet loose and repeat on other side.

2 Slice on an angle from the top of back to belly just behind head, pectoral fin, and pelvic fin. Repeat slice on other side of body, or finish one side at a time.

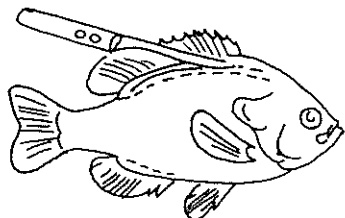
3 Insert knife blade in original cut (Step 1) and slice downward freeing meat from rib cage. After working down over main part of ribs, keep cutting as close against lower ribs as possible until reaching belly. Cut through the belly, separating fillet from body.

4 Lay fillet skin flat on table. With a heavy, flat knife cut down into fillet leaving tab for holding skin. Pull on skin and use knife in a see-saw motion. Don't slice the meat off, but scrape it off with the blade and by pulling the skin.

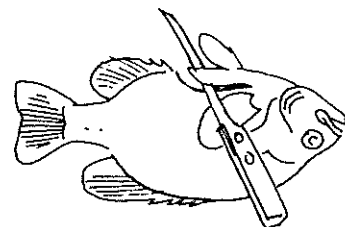
Dressing Sunfish (use this method for smaller fish.)



1 Using a knife or scraper, scrape off scales toward the head.



2 Hold knife parallel to fins; cut along each side of dorsal and anal fins $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep for later removal.

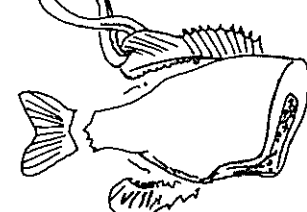
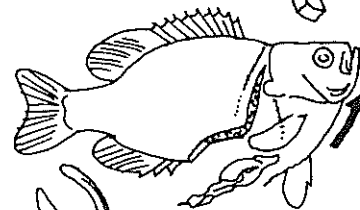
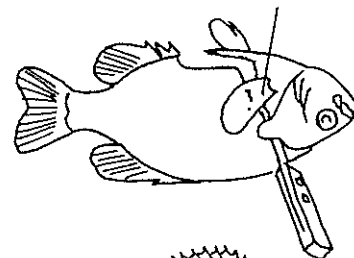


3 Hold fish upside-down with its back resting on table and cut immediately behind vent. Slip knife forward under skin.

4 Continue cutting to pectoral fin. Lay fish flat and make deep cut on both sides of body behind pectoral fin.

5 Pull head upward to break the backbone. Head will tear loose; entrails, pectoral, and pelvic fins will be removed.

6 Remove dorsal and anal fins, loosened in Step 2, by pulling away and forward from the body. Cut off the tail.



Cooking Your Catch

The basic fish cooking rules are easy to follow, even though each type of fish has individual flavor, texture, and appearance.

If you make allowances for the fat content of fish, you can successfully use any of the cooking methods for almost all species. In other words, *lean* fish (bass, sunfish) may be cooked by dry heat methods such as baking or broiling, if you baste frequently with melted butter or shortening to prevent drying. (Try combining lemon or garlic with the basting fat, or using a basting sauce.) Fish with high fat content (trout, salmon) don't have to be basted.

Avoid overcooking. The fish should be moist and tender with a delicate flavor. Overcooking causes the flesh to become increasingly dry and chewy. Fish is done when the flesh is translucent and can be easily flaked with a fork.

Don't overhandle the fish during cooking and serving. Cooked fish is delicate and will flake apart easily. Turn only once during cooking and transfer carefully to a warm platter to serve.

Never soak fresh fish in water. This causes loss of flavor and makes the flesh flabby. Wash fish quickly, drain, and dry carefully on paper towel.

Broiling

Sprinkle serving-sized portions of fish with salt

and pepper. Place on preheated greased broiler pan, skin side up if skin has not been removed from fillets. Brush with melted butter. Broil about 2 inches from heat 5 to 8 minutes, or till fish flakes easily with a fork.

Baking

Rub salt on the inside and outside of the cleaned fish; place fish in a greased baking pan. Brush with melted fat (lay slices of bacon over top if desired). Bake in a moderate oven till fish flakes easily with a fork. If fish seems dry while baking, baste with drippings.

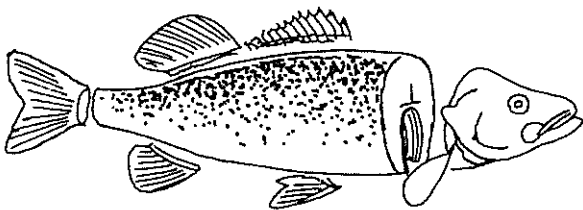
Steaming

Salt both sides of the cleaned fish. Place fish in a well-greased steamer pan and cook over boiling water till fish flakes easily with a fork. Serve at once with lemon or a sauce.

Deep fat frying

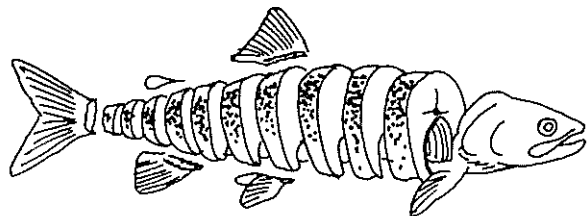
Sprinkle serving-sized portions of fish with salt and pepper. Dip fish in mixture of 1 tablespoon milk to 1 egg. Roll in bread or cracker crumbs, cornmeal, or flour. Cook fish in deep fat (375°) till golden brown. Drain on absorbent paper. Serve with lemon or sauce.

Three basic cuts of fish



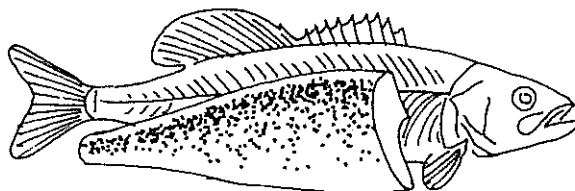
Dressed, or pan-dressed

Scaled, drawn with head, tail, and fins removed.



Steaked

Cross-sectional slices are cut from larger fish.



Filleted

Sides of fish are cut lengthwise along backbone.

Fishing for Facts!

Fish are important to us. They provide food for millions of people and fishermen enjoy catching them for sport.

Fish are also important in the balance of nature. They eat plants and animals and, in turn, become food for plants and animals. This is called a **food chain**.

The balance of plants and animals in a lake may be upset by people catching too many fish of one kind. This is why the Illinois Department of Natural Resources sets limits on the fish you may keep. Remember, it is necessary for you to learn the fishing rules for your lake. You must take only the legal size and number of fish in order to help keep your lake healthy.

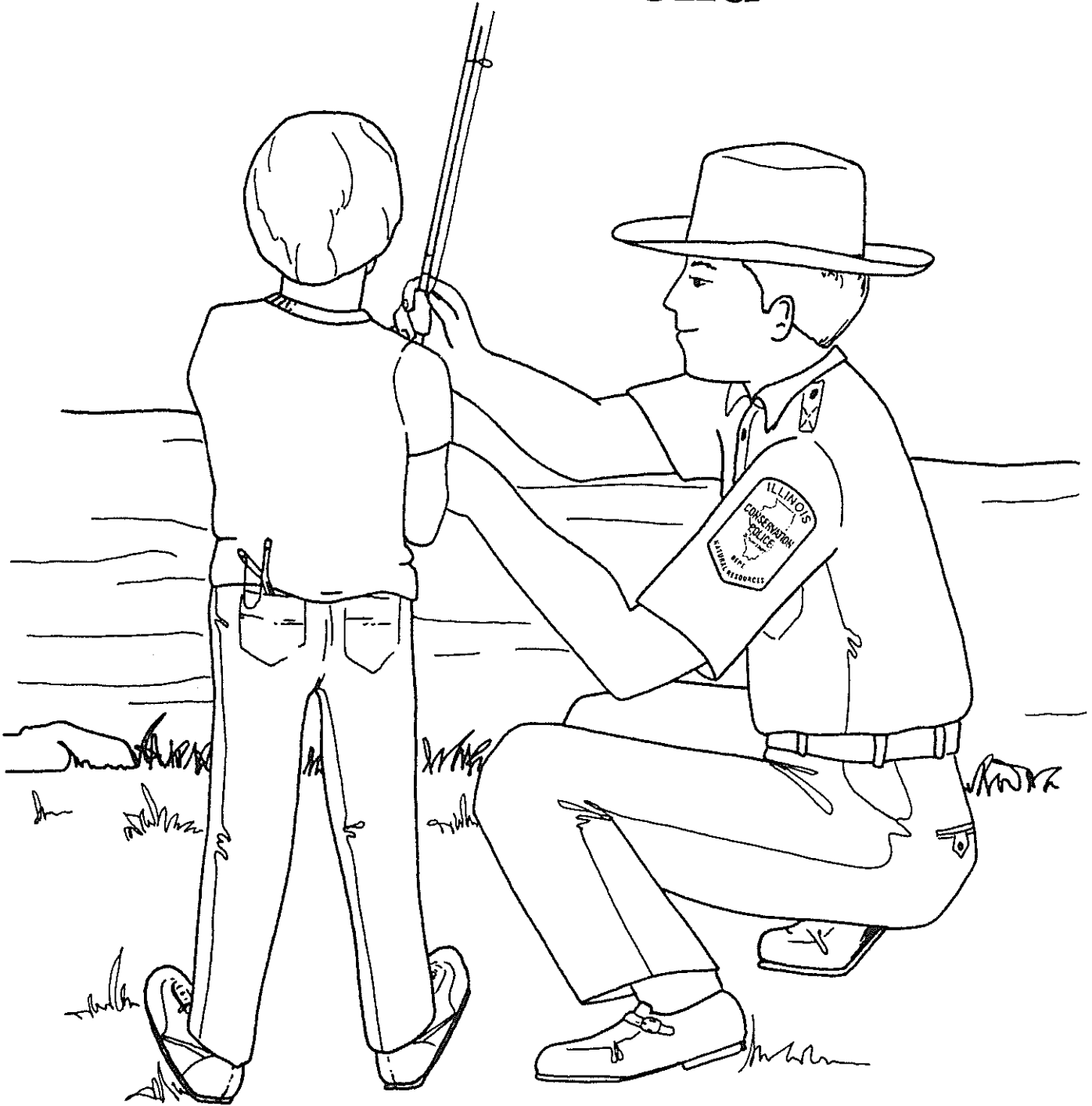
START Try to follow the bass through its food chain: **FINISH**

LIMIT 6 BASS DAILY

- People eat bass
- Bass eats bluegill
- Bluegill eats aquatic insects
- Aquatic insects eat aquatic plants
- Aquatic plants use soil

Michael W. Brown

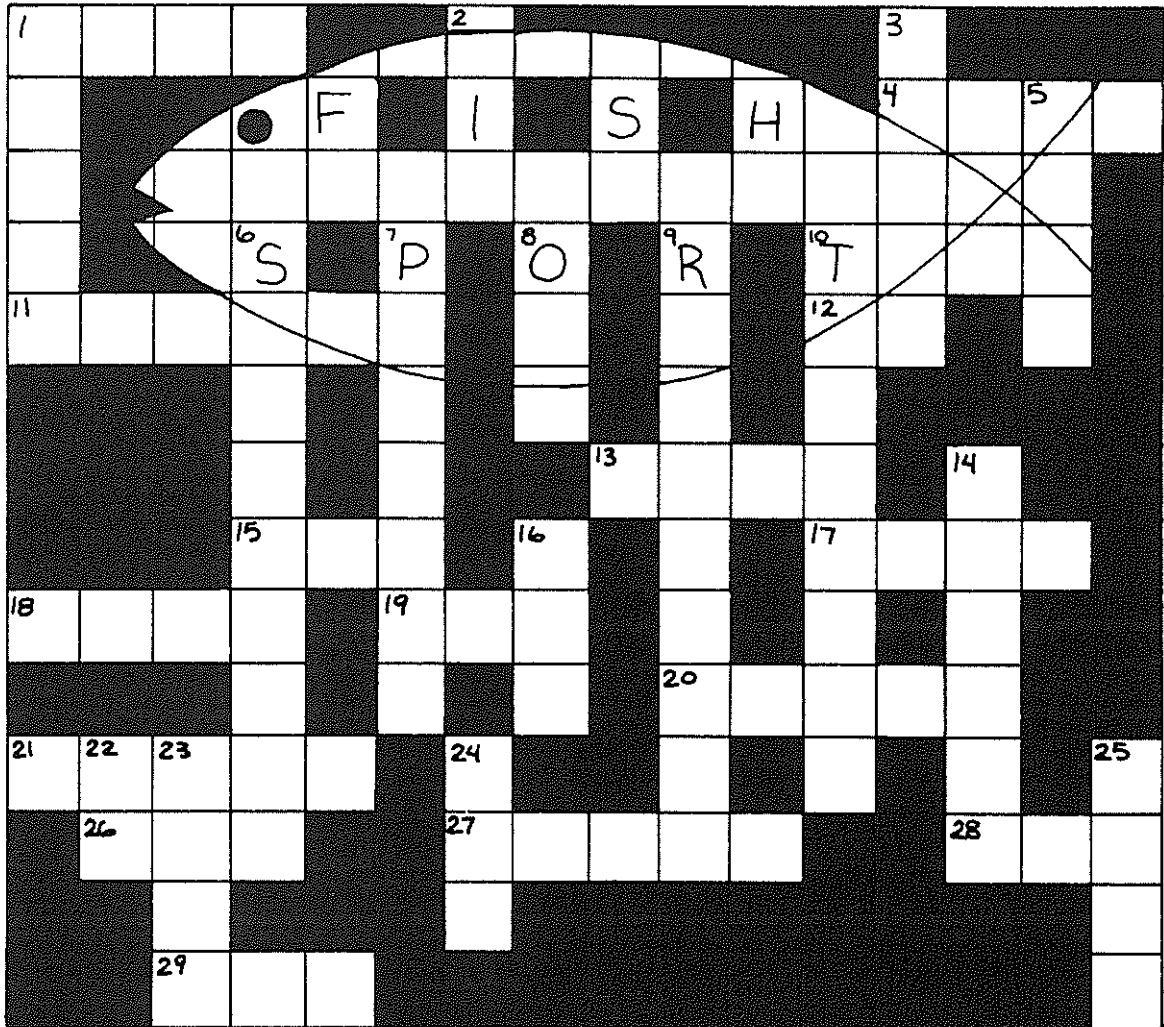
Your Friend



A Conservation Police Officer is your friend. He or she enforces the rules that protect your fish, forests and wildlife from damage and destruction. Call your Conservation Police Officer if you see a problem involving fish, forest or wildlife, or report violations on the Department's toll-free number 1-800-252-0163.

The Conservation Police Officer for my county is:

SPORT FISHING



Across

1. Early morning is a good _____ to fish for bass.
4. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources _____ has a bird and a tree on it.
10. A catfish with a square _____ is a bullhead.
11. Hook a grass _____ through the shoulder and into the head.
12. Attach the float to the line by pushing down _____ the button.
13. A fish fillet should not have a _____ in it.
15. A clinch knot is used to _____ a hook to the line.
17. A fishing _____ is always fun.
18. A largemouth _____ is easily recognized by its large mouth and dark blotches down its side.
19. Put worn out fishing line in the trash _____.
20. There must be _____ water for fish to live.
21. The float may go under the _____ when a fish is biting.
26. Our clean air and water have been changed by _____.
27. Good sportsmen throw their _____ in a can.
28. When someone catches a large fish, people say, "_____."
29. Carp are delicious to _____.

Down

1. Pop-top rings and old paper cups are _____.
2. A catfish has sharp spines in its back _____.
3. There must be _____ water for people to live.
5. A _____ is used by a fish to take oxygen from the water.
6. All women, men and children who enjoy fishing are _____.
7. Good sportsmen _____ our resources.
8. Conservation is _____ job.
9. Fish, forests and wild animals are natural _____.
10. We should all work _____ to protect our natural resources.
14. A _____ is a 1- to 3-inch fish that can be used for bait.
16. One _____ of a stringer should be tied tightly to the bank.
22. Fishermen like to be fishing by 7:00 _____.
23. Turn the reel crank to _____ up line.
24. I'm glad I _____ my crunchy good fish.
25. A bass may _____ away if it sees you move.

(Answers on page 32.)

Could This Happen?

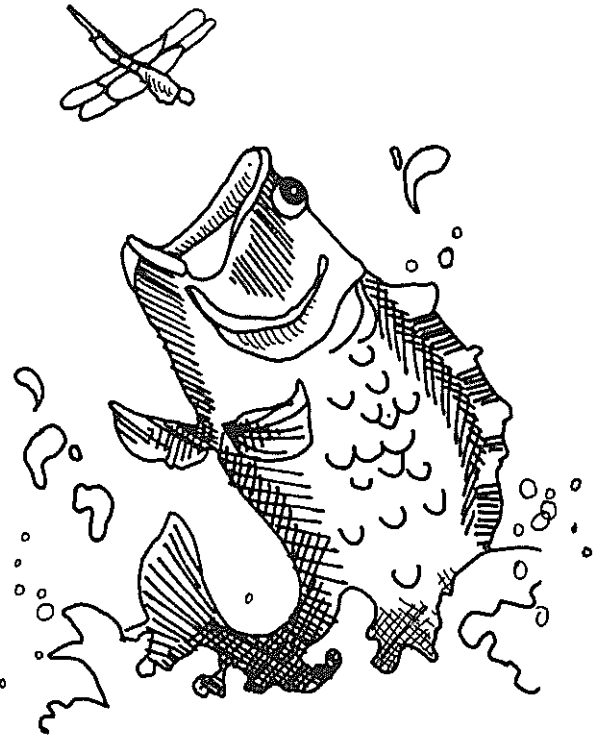
When this land was new
We thrived in great rivers,
In quiet lakes,
In rushing streams of deep woods,
In small ponds of fields and farms.

There we hatched and fed and grew
And swam in the clear, clean water.

Then people came
And came and changed the land.
People came and paved and dumped
And littered and spilled
And changed the world.

We gasped for air.
We swam to deep pools
And found them trashed and spoiled.
We looked for a place to hide and rest—
A place to breed and raise our young—
But there was none.

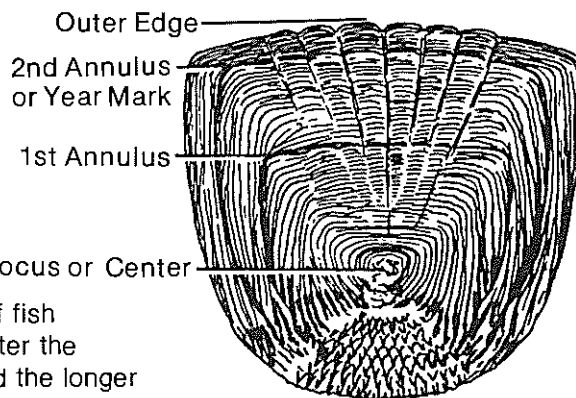
I swim alone!



1. What is the animal in the poem? _____
2. Were people's actions helpful to it? _____
3. Describe some things that could happen if all the water in the world suddenly became polluted.

4. How many examples of polluted water have you seen today? _____

AGE of FISH



Growth rates of fish vary — the better the food supply and the longer the growing season, the better the growth.

This scale was taken from a bass in its third year. The fish was 12 inches long and grew about 6 inches its first year and 4 inches during the second year.

The year marks or annuli are formed during the winter months when the fish is growing very slowly.

Urban Fishing Information



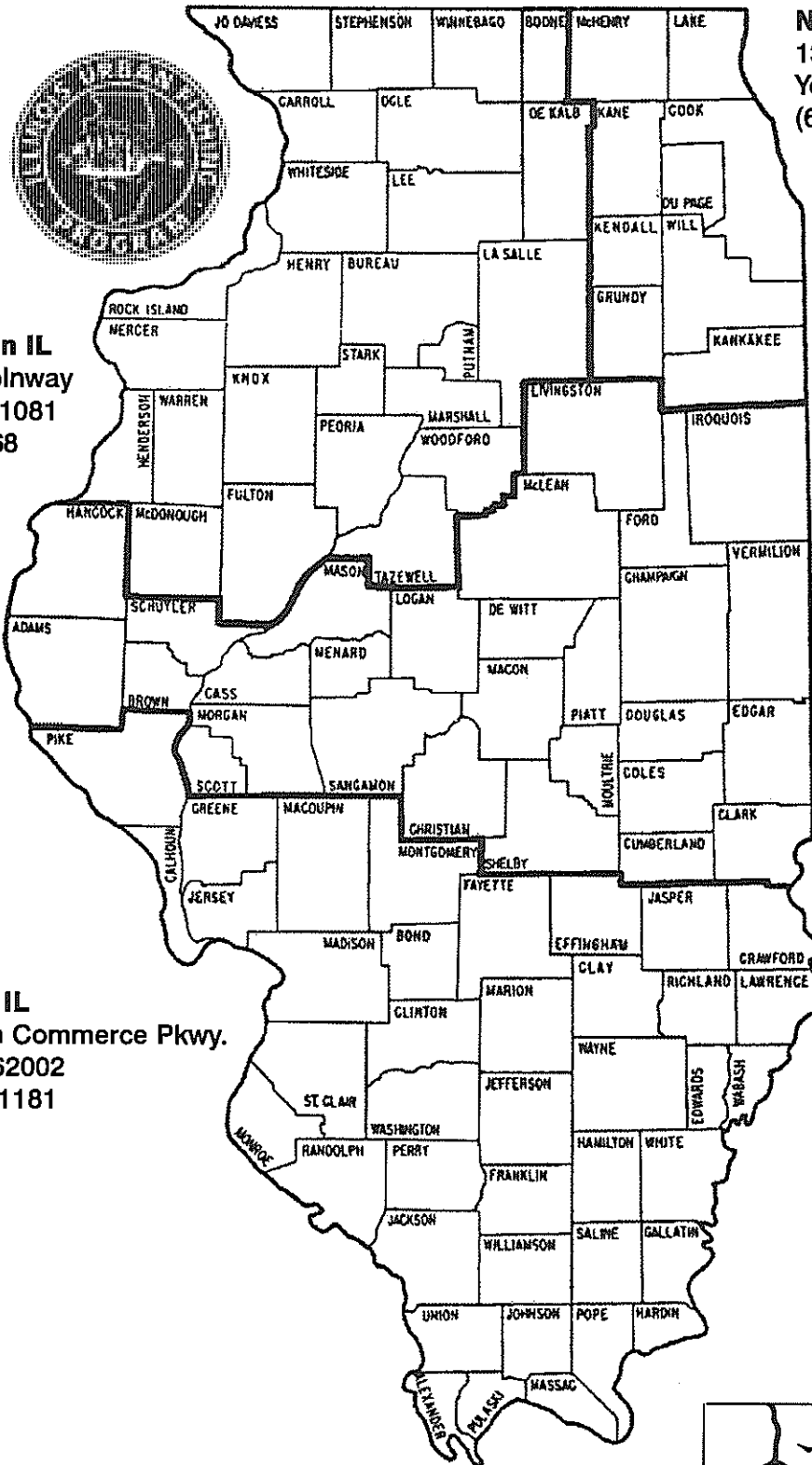
Northeastern IL
 13608 Fox Rd.
 Yorkville, IL 60560
 (630) 553-6680

City of Chicago
 511 Harrison St.
 Des Plaines, IL 60016
 (847) 294-4137

Northwestern IL
 2317 E. Lincolnway
 Sterling, IL 61081
 (815) 625-2968

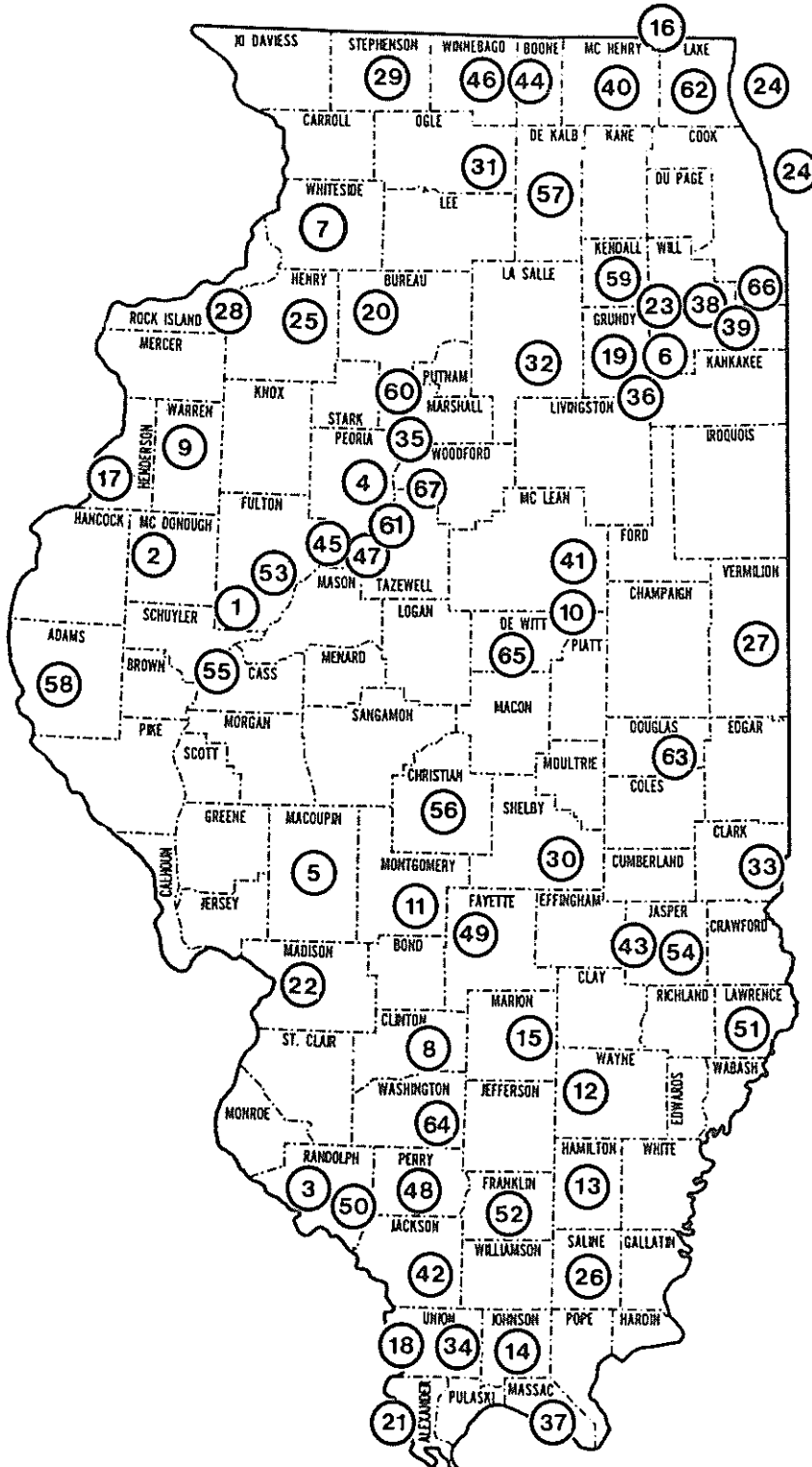
Central IL
 One Natural Resources Way
 Springfield, IL 62702-1271
 (217) 782-6424

Southern IL
 4521 Alton Commerce Pkwy.
 Alton, IL 62002
 (618) 462-1181

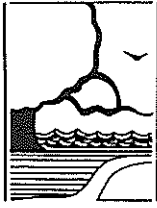


Illinois
 Department of
 Natural Resources

SELECTED PLACES TO FISH IN ILLINOIS



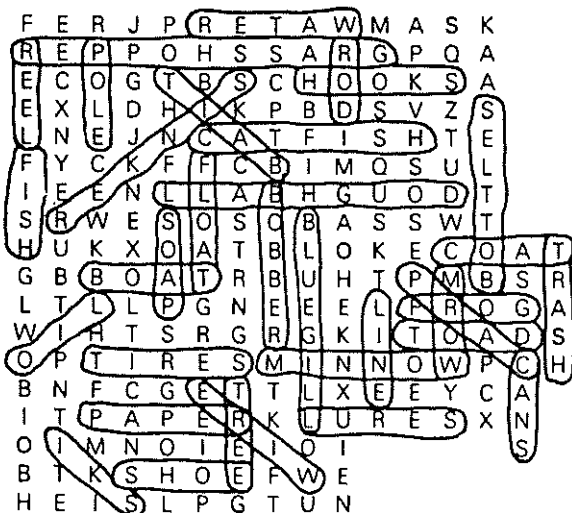
Name	County	Acres
1. Anderson Lake, Fulton	Fulton	1364
2. Arglye Lake, McDonough	McDonough	95
3. Baldwin Lake, Randolph	Randolph	2018
4. Banner Marsh, Peoria	Peoria	135
5. Beaver Dam, Macoupin	Macoupin	57
6. Braidwood Lake, Will	Will	2640
7. Carlton Lake, Whiteside	Whiteside	77
8. Carlyle Lake, Clinton	Clinton	24,580
9. Citizens Lake South		14
10. Clinton Lake, DeWitt	DeWitt	5000
11. Coffeen Lake, Montgomery	Montgomery	1160
12. Dale Lake, Wayne	Wayne	194
13. Dolan Lake, Hamilton	Hamilton	71
14. Ferne Clyffe, Johnson	Johnson	16
15. Forbes Lake, Marion	Marion	525
16. Fox Chain O'Lakes, Lake, McHenry	McHenry	6,500
17. Gladstone Lake, Henderson	Henderson	27
18. Grassy Lake, Union	Union	310
19. Heidecke Lake, Grundy	Grundy	1955
20. Hennepin Canal, Bureau	Bureau	—
21. Horseshoe Lake, Alexander	Alexander	1890
22. Horseshoe Lake, Madison	Madison	2430
23. Illinois-Michigan Canal, Grundy, Will & LaSalle	Grundy, Will & LaSalle	—
24. Illinois Portion of Lake Michigan, Lake, Cook	Cook	976,640
25. Johnson Sauk, Henry	Henry	58
26. Jones Lake, Saline	Saline	105
27. Kickapoo Lakes, Vermilion	Vermilion	184
28. Lake George, Rock Island	Rock Island	167
29. Lake Le-Aqua-Na, Stephenson	Stephenson	43
30. Lake Shelbyville, Shelby	Shelby	11,100
31. Lake Sule, Ogle	Ogle	77
32. LaSalle Lake, LaSalle	LaSalle	2058
33. Lincoln Trail, Clark	Clark	146
34. Lyerla Lake, Union	Union	260
35. Marshall County, Marshall	Marshall	2557
36. Mazonia State Fish & Wildlife Area Lakes		308
37. Mermet Lake, Massac	Massac	452
38. Milliken Lake, Will	Will	22
39. Monee Reservoir, Will	Will	44
40. Moraine Hills, McHenry	McHenry	95
41. Moraine View, McLean	McLean	150
42. Murphysboro, Jackson	Jackson	144
43. Newton Lake, Jasper	Jasper	1755
44. Olson Lake, Winnebago	Winnebago	45
45. Pekin Lake, Tazewell	Tazewell	548
46. Pierce Lake, Winnebago	Winnebago	162
47. Powerton Lake, Tazewell	Tazewell	1426
48. Pyramid Lakes, Perry	Perry	135
49. Ramsey Lake, Fayette	Fayette	47
50. Randolph County Lake, Randolph	Randolph	65
51. Red Hills, Lawrence	Lawrence	40
52. Rend Lake, Franklin	Franklin	18,900
53. Rice Lake, Fulton	Fulton	1383
54. Sam Parr, Jasper	Jasper	180
55. Sanganois, Cass	Cass	1550
56. Sangchris, Christian	Christian	2165
57. Shabbona, DeKalb	DeKalb	319
58. Siloam Springs, Adams	Adams	58
59. Silver Springs, Kendall	Kendall	16
60. Sparland, Marshall	Marshall	1300
61. Spring Lake, Tazewell	Tazewell	1285
62. Turner Lake, Lake	Lake	34
63. Walnut Point, Douglas	Douglas	59
64. Washington County Lake, Washington	Washington	248
65. Weldon Springs, DeWitt	DeWitt	29
66. Wolf Lake, Cook	Cook	419
67. Woodford County Conservation Area, Woodford	Woodford	2790



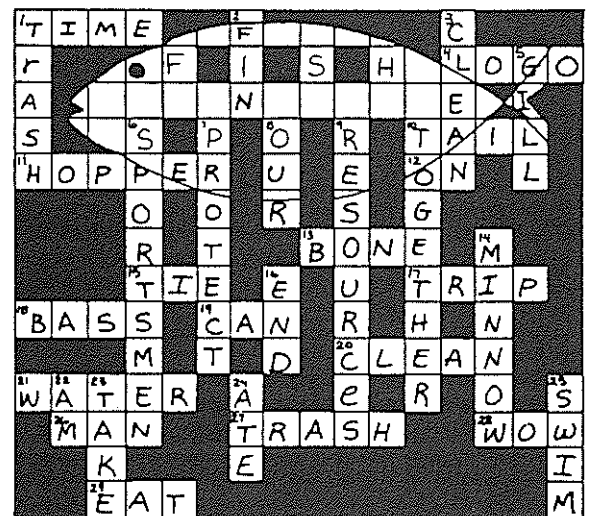
GOOD FISHERMEN:

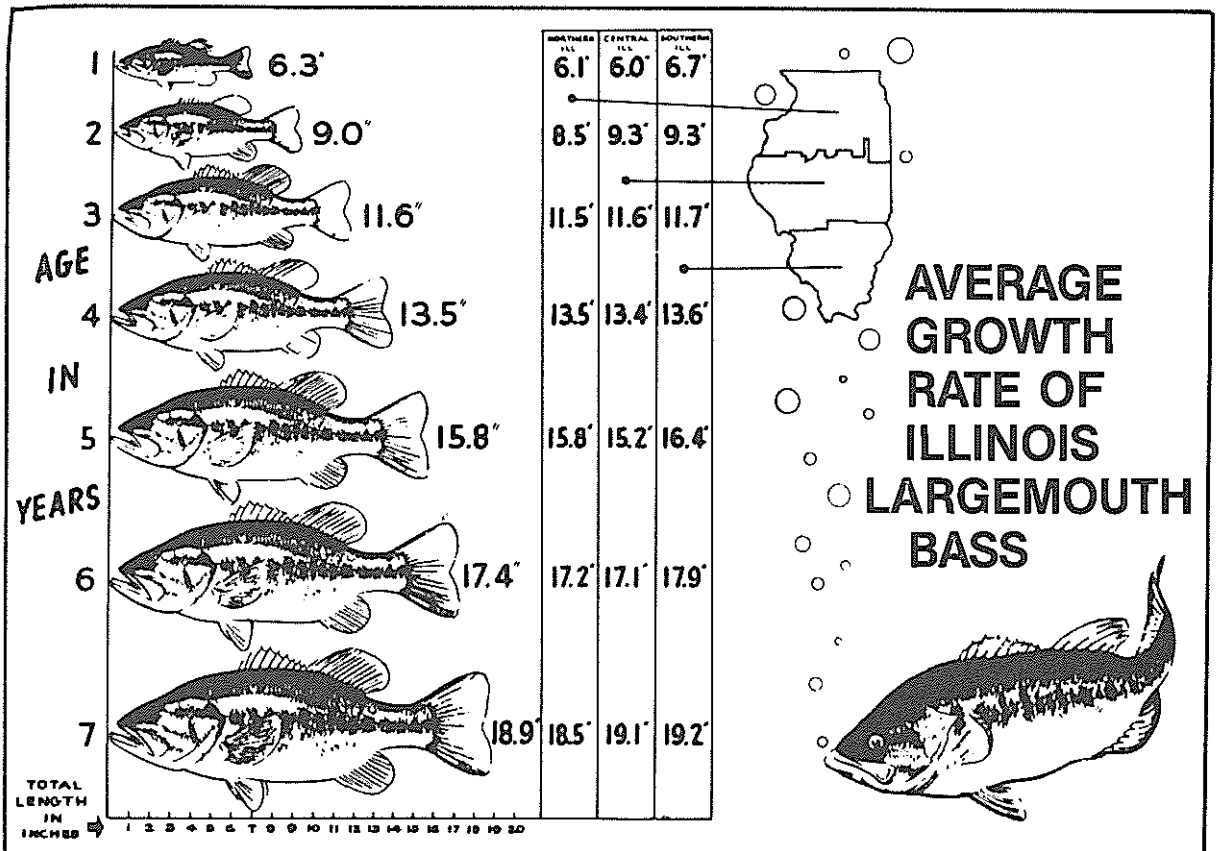
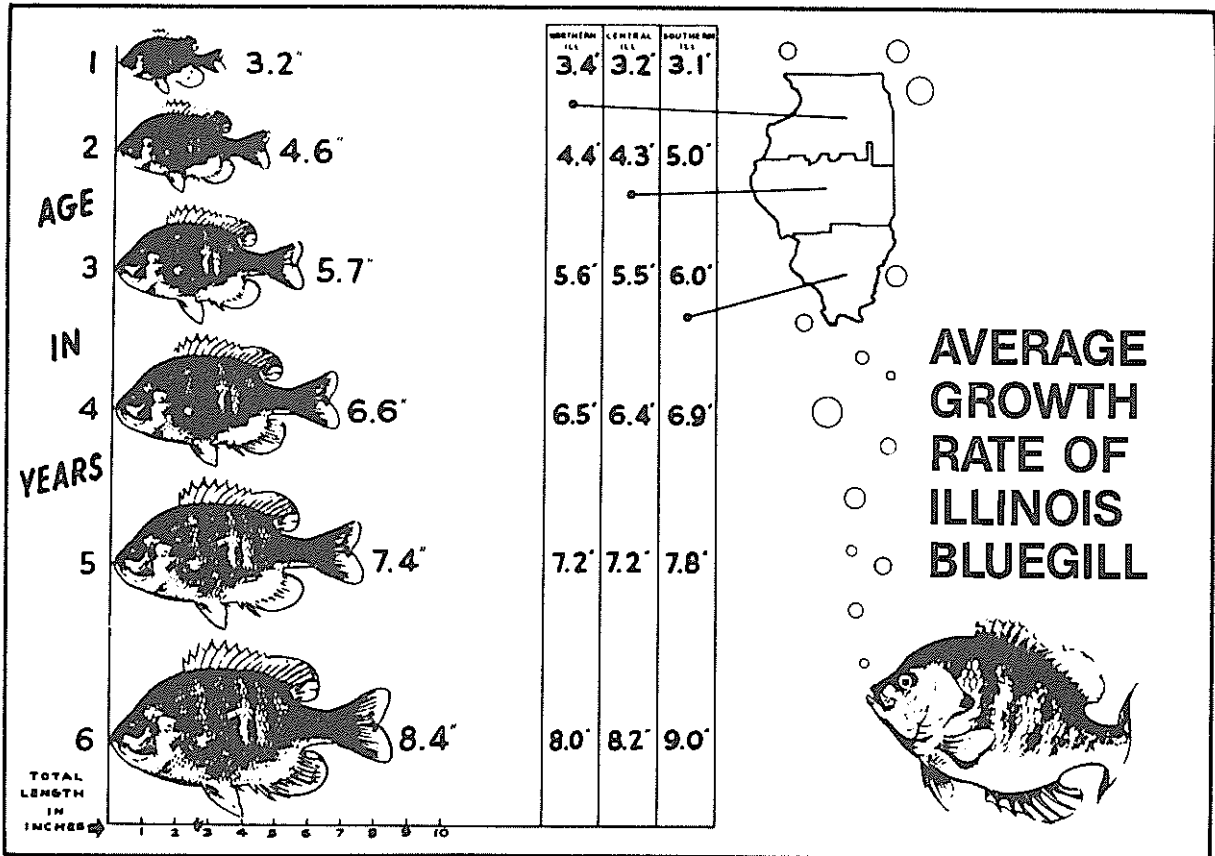
1. Good fishermen **help** protect the outdoors. They don't litter – that includes not throwing away gum wrappers or orange peels and picking up all leftover bait, fish remains and other trash.
2. Good fishermen **respect** other people's privacy and territory. They fish quietly so they don't frighten fish or disturb people. And they don't crowd someone out of a fishing spot.
3. Good fishermen always **practice** safe fishing. They are careful when casting and pick up all fish hooks. If they get a fish hook caught in their skin, they get help taking it out.
4. Good fishermen **buy** and **carry** a fishing license if they are 16 years old or older.
5. Good fishermen **know** the size and number of fish it's legal to keep. Limits provide more chances for more people to catch fish.
6. Good fishermen **release** fish right away if they don't plan to eat them.

Word Lake Puzzle Answers (from page 9)



Crossword Puzzle Answers (from page 28)





BAIT HOOK SIZES

HOOK NUMBERS	HOOK LENGTHS IN INCHES	TROUT	NORTHERN PIKE	MUSKELLUNGE	CHANNEL CAT FISH	BULLHEADS	SMALLMOUTH BASS	LARGEMOUTH BASS	BLUEGILL	CRAPPIE	YELLOW PERCH	WALLEYE	SUCKERS	CARP	SALT WATER FISH
13/0	4														
12/0	3-3/4														
11/0	3-1/2														
10/0	3-1/4														
9/0	3														
8/0	2-3/4														
7/0	2-1/2														
6/0	2-1/4														
5/0	2														
4/0	1-7/8														
3/0	1-3/4														
2/0	1-5/8														
1/0	1-1/2														
1-1/2	1-3/8														
1	1-1/4														
2	1-1/8														
4	15/16														
6	13/16														
8	11/16														
10	9/16														
12	7/16														
14	11/32														
16	9/32														
18	7/32														
20	5/32														

HOOK SIZES ARE DETERMINED BY LENGTH OF SHANK EXCLUDING EYE

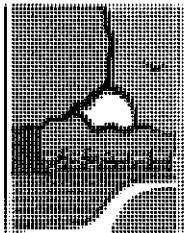
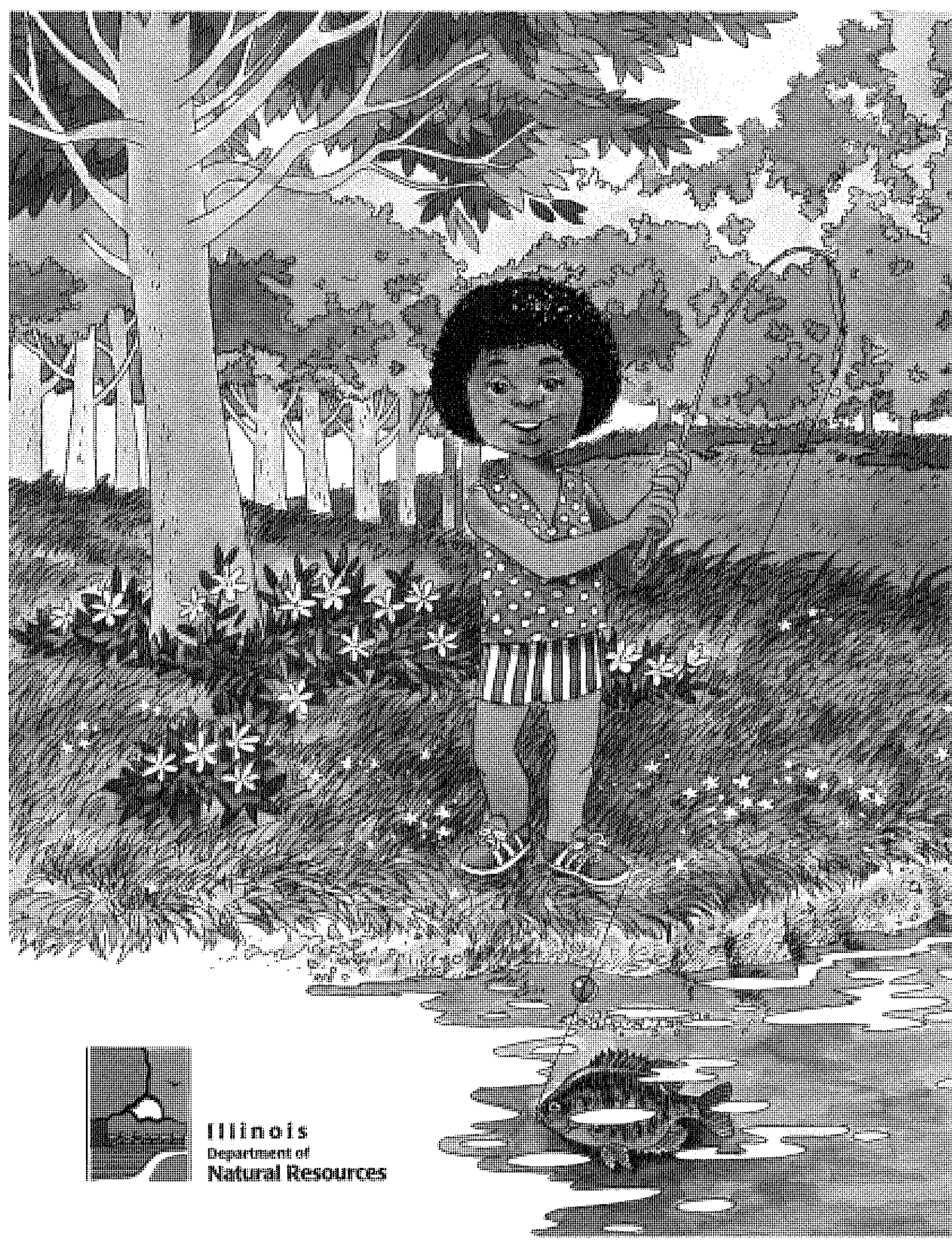
SIZES RECOMMENDED FOR BAIT FISHING

ACCEPTED COMMON AND LOCAL NAMES OF SOME ILLINOIS FISHES

ACCEPTED NAME	LOCAL NAMES	ACCEPTED NAME	LOCAL NAMES
Black bullhead	Bullhead, common bullhead, yellow-belly cat, catfish, horned pout.	Bowfin	
Yellow bullhead	Yellow-bellied cat, greaser, catfish, white whiskered bullhead, bullhead.	Shortnose gar	Dogfish, grindle, mudfish, cypress trout.
Brown bullhead	Speckled bullhead, speckled cat, bullhead.	Longnose gar	Duckbill gar, short bill gar, billy gar.
American eel	Common eel, freshwater eel, Boston eel, Atlantic eel.	Alligator gar	Billy gar, garpike, billfish.
Northern pike	Common pike, pickerel, great northern pike, northern, jack fish.	Freshwater drum	Mississippi alligator gar.
Grass pickerel	Pickerel, grass pike, mud pickerel, little pickerel, slough pike.	Gizzard shad	White perch, perch, sheepshead, croaker, grunting perch, drum, gaspergou.
Muskellunge	Musky, lunge, maskinonge.	Mooneye	Hickory shad, skipjack, shad.
White bass	Striped bass, streaker, silver bass, silver fish.	Rainbow trout	Toothed herring, white shad, big-eyed shad.
Yellow bass	Streaker, striped bass, barfish, black-striped bass, gold bass.	Brook trout	Trout, steelhead, reidsided trout.
Yellow perch	Perch, ringed perch, ringtail perch, lake perch.	Brown trout	Speckled trout, brookie, char.
Walleye	Pike-perch, walleyed pike, pike, jack salmon, jack.	Bigmouth buffalo	German brown, brownie, spotted trout, loch leven.
Sauger	Sand pike, jack fish, jack salmon, river pike, spotfin pike.	Smallmouth buffalo	Redmouth buffalo, stubnose buffalo, roundhead buffalo, brown buffalo, goarhead, bullhead buffalo, bullmouth buffalo, bullnose buffalo, slough buffalo, trumpet buffalo, common buffalo, lake buffalo, blue buffalo.
Largemouth bass	Largemouth, bass, black bass, bigmouth bass, line side, green bass, green trout, Oswego bass, slough bass, lake bass.	Black buffalo	Razorback buffalo, roachback buffalo, humpback buffalo, channel buffalo, liner buffalo, quillback buffalo, thick-lipped buffalo.
Smallmouth bass	Smallmouth black bass, black bass, smallmouth, Oswego bass, bronzeback, redeye bass.	Quillback	Mongrel buffalo, bugler, rooter, reefer, round buffalo, sheephead buffalo, blue buffalo, current buffalo.
Spotted bass	Kentucky spotted bass.	White sucker	Silver carp, carpsucker, white carp.
Bluegill	Bream, brim, sunfish, sun perch.	Hog sucker	Common sucker, fine-scaled sucker, sucker, mullet, whitehorse, slender sucker, black sucker.
Green sunfish	Green perch, sunfish, perch, black perch, creek perch.	Carp	Sucker, hognose sucker.
Readear sunfish	Readear, sunfish, shell cracker.	Fathead minnow	German carp, European carp, mirror carp, scaleless carp.
Orange spotted sunfish	Redspotted sunfish, pumpkinseed, dwarf sunfish, pigmy sunfish.	Blue catfish	Minnow, bait minnow.
Longear sunfish	Longear, sunfish.	Channel catfish	Fulton cat, Mississippi cat, chucklehead cat, coal boater, forktail cat, great blue cat.
Pumpkinseed	Common sunfish, round sunfish.	Flathead catfish	Fiddler, spotted cat, channel cat, catfish.
Warmouth	Goggle-eye, warmouth bass, mud bass, weed bass, wood bass, rock bass.	Atlantic salmon	Shovelhead cat, mud cat, yellow cat, Hoosier, goujon, shovelnose cat, Johnny cat, Morgan cat, flat belly.
Rock bass	Redeye bass, goggle-eye, rock sunfish, redeye.	Chinook salmon	Landlocked salmon, grilse.
White crappie	Crappie, silver crappie, bachelor, newlight.	Coho salmon	King salmon, tye salmon, spring salmon.
Black crappie	Calico bass, strawberry bass, crappie, speckled crappie.	Lake trout	Silver salmon.
Silver Lamprey	Lamper, lamprey eel, blue lamprey, lamprey.	Striped bass	"Togue", mackinaw trout, gray trout, salmon trout.
Paddlefish	Spoonbill cat, spoony, boneless cat, shovel nose cat.		Rockfish, sea perch, striper, blue nose perch, gray perch.
Shovelnose sturgeon	Hackleback, switchtail, sand sturgeon.		

Equal opportunity to participate in programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies is available to all individuals regardless of race, sex, national origin, disability, age, religion or other non-merit factors. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the funding source's civil rights office and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, IDNR, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, Ill. 62702-1271; 217/785-0067; TTY 217/782-9175.

This information may be provided in an alternative format if required. Contact the DNR Clearinghouse at 217/782-7498 for assistance.



Illinois
Department of
Natural Resources