

Red Rock Guiding Service

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Captain Walt's Log

Local Area Fishing Reports



We fished the **Fox Chain O' Lakes & Fox River** for walleye quite often during September. The lack of rain has resulted in slower water flow all month long with walleyes being caught in the current areas around bridges & river mouths. Walleyes were hitting jigs & live bait rigs baited with crawlers, minnows, and leeches. Some walleyes were caught trolling crank-baits. We caught a mixed bag of fish during September including muskie, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, white bass, crappie, bluegill, drum, and this flathead catfish (left photo) caught by Chris and Paula from Hoffman Estates, IL.

Lake Geneva saw another month of non-typical weather. Many anglers are now fishing Lake Geneva only on cloudy days or during low light periods. These seem to be the most productive periods this year. Crankbaits, plastic worms, jigs and live bait all produced bass on Geneva during September, but mostly during

those low light periods. The fishing patterns on this usually reliable lake have definitely changed this year. The deep water live bait for northern pike has not produced much this year.

Lake Delavan yielded nice fish all month. Pike and Bass were caught using live bait rigs with sucker minnows in 12-25' of water. The carp on the right was caught September 16th by Len from Gurnee on one of those live bait rigs. It weighed 12 lbs. and put up quite a fight.



Fishing and Boating Tips For October

Well, it looks like fall is here. The water temps are dropping and fall fishing patterns will begin soon. The water temp on the Fox Chain was 60 degrees on September 30, a full 10 degree drop in less than a week. October is the major feeding month for all game fish as they prepare for the reduced food supply of the winter period. Make sure to spend some time on the water in October fishing for your favorite species. As the water cools fish metabolism slows. Reduce the speed of your presentation to catch more fish. The colder weather brings colder water temps. Be sure to practice safe boating during the cold water period.

Fish of the Month Contest

Our **Fish of the Month** Contest allows our guests to judge the quality of the fish they catch. The fish caught are rated against National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame records. The fish with the largest point value based on the specie specific formula is the **Fish of the Month**. There are separate contests for **Gamefish** and **Panfish**. Gamefish species eligible include Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, Northern Pike and Muskie. Panfish species eligible include Crappie, Yellow Perch, Bluegill/Sunfish, White Bass and Rock Bass. A score of 100 pts. would equal the National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame world record.



Game Fish of the Month was a 32½" northern pike caught on Lake Delavan on September 14th by John from Naperville, IL. We fished all over the lake that morning & caught 15 pike. This one was the biggest, beating his partner Ed by ½". We also caught largemouth bass.

John's pike was caught in 20' using a live bait rig with a medium sucker minnow. It weighed 7½ lbs. & was released right after the

photo was taken. This fish earned 60.19 points Congratulations John!

Panfish of the Month in September was a 13½" white bass caught September 30th on the Fox Chain O Lakes by John from Libertyville, IL. We caught several other nice white bass as shown below. These fish were caught in the Fox River near Johnsburg using a jig and minnow or jig and crawler.

We also caught walleye, crappie, yellow bass, bluegill, drum, and a 9 lb. carp that day.

The largest white bass earned 64.29 points. Congratulations John!



Questions or comments, please email us at: captainwalt@redrockguidingservice.com or call 847-710-5453

Thanks for the feedback!