



Captain Walt's Log

Local Area Fishing Reports



This newsletter will cover two months of fishing activity (April and May.) Fishing on the **Fox Chain O Lakes** was good for walleye during April and May. The heavy rain we received in mid May created a lot of flow. This always makes for good walleye fishing in the neck down areas, as walleyes like the current. In April the walleyes were biting on minnows and by the end of May they had switched over to night crawlers and leeches. Some fish were caught trolling and casting crank baits. The walleyes pictured on the left were from a trip on May 24th where we caught over 20 walleyes that day. Eight of the fish were of legal size (14-18"). All the walleyes we caught that day were released.



Fishing on **Lake Delavan** was good during April and May also. The crappie fishing in April was up and down day by day, but some good catches were made. In May, the bass fishing season opened so they were a legal target. Some nice largemouth and smallmouth bass were caught using unweighted plastic worms, jerk baits, and spinnerbaits. The example on the right was caught by Jim using a jig/plastic craw combo. All fish were released.



Lake Geneva fishing is improving. This lake is deep, clear and cold, so fishing can be tough during the spring. May was a cold month, so the lake did not warm up very fast. We started fishing Lake Geneva about the middle of May. This nice mixture of largemouth and smallmouth bass shown in the picture on the left were caught on May 29th. We used unweighted plastic worms and the drop shot rig to produce these nice bass. All fish were released.

Fishing and Boating Tips For June

June is my favorite month to fish in our local area, because it includes the summer peak fishing period. The weather has stabilized from the spring stormy periods and we have not reached the very hot months of July and August. Many species have recovered from the spawning period and the water is warming, making the fish very active. Bass fishing on Lake Delavan and Lake Geneva peak in June. The walleye are still very accessible on the Fox Chain O' Lakes and the trolling bite should start on Fox Lake. So take some time off from work and go fishing. We promise you that you will return to work with a refreshed attitude.

Fish of the Month Contest

The **Fish of the Month Contest** allows our guests to judge the quality of the fish they catch. The fish caught are rated against the National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame record for that specie. The fish with the largest point value based on the specie specific formula is our **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 this very nice 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ " smallmouth bass caught on Lake Delavan on May 16th by Charlie from Palatine, IL. Charlie's dad and brother were witnesses to his catch. He caught this nice bass fishing for crappie using a pink/white jig with a small minnow attached.



Charlie is a very good fisherman and also enjoys playing baseball.

This bass scored 76 points and was the best gamefish caught by clients during April and May. Congratulations Charlie!

Panfish of the Month was a 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ " yellow perch caught by John from Bartlett, IL on Lake Michigan out of Waukegan, IL. This perch was caught in 50-60' of water using a live bait rig baited with a minnow.

We only caught a few perch that day, but the one in the center was a good one. It scored 88 pts. and was the best panfish caught by clients during April and May. Congratulations John!

