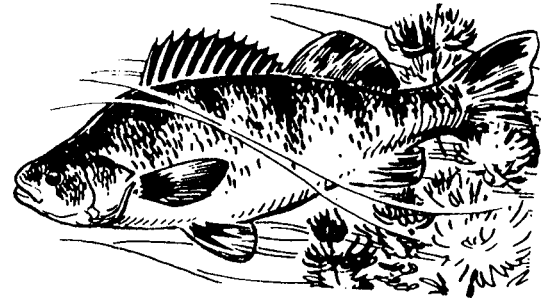


# Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge

## Fishing



Welcome to Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge was established in 1943 and is managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

The 6,590-acre refuge and the surrounding area provide an important feeding, resting and breeding area for migratory birds, particularly waterfowl. The varied habitats of Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge support many other wildlife species including mammals, reptiles, fish and amphibians.

Responsible sport fishing can provide a quality recreational experience for visitors of all ages.

### Season

Sport fishing on Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge follows all Vermont fishing regulations. This includes open seasons, limits and methods of fishing. Consult the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's Annual Guide to Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Laws for information. The guide is available at the refuge headquarters.

### Species

A great variety of fish live in the waters in and surrounding the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge. Walleye, northern pike, largemouth bass, bullhead, white perch and yellow perch are the most sought after fish on the delta. Other species caught are: burbot, carp, catfish, bowfin, white and red sucker, American eel, chain pickerel, muskellunge, sheephead, crappie, gar, pumpkinseed, smallmouth bass and rock bass.

### Areas Open to Fishing

Sport fishing is permitted year round on most of the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge; however, some areas are closed all year or seasonally to prevent impacts to wildlife.



From April -- November closed areas are marked to provide undisturbed nesting and resting areas for endangered osprey, threatened black terns and other migratory birds. Observe the closed area signs while on the refuge.

Bank fishing is permitted along Charcoal Creek where it passes under Route 78 and along the shore line of the Missisquoi River from refuge headquarters to Mac's Bend boat launch. Bank fishing is accessible only by foot from Louie's Landing to Mac's Bend.



Fishing access is available for disabled individuals at Louie's Landing.

### Special Conditions

- A valid state fishing license is required to fish on the refuge.
- The use of firearms to take fish is prohibited.
- Frog picking is permitted from July 15 to September 30 in the mowed refuge fields along Route 78 and Mac's Bend Road. The limit is 12 frogs per person per day. A valid Vermont hunting license or a combination hunting/fishing license is required.
- To protect wildlife and visitors, camping, open fires, cutting firewood, littering and leaving vehicles overnight are prohibited and subject to state and federal prosecution.

- To minimize exposure to potentially harmful contaminants and to protect your health, follow the consumption advisory guidelines listed in the Annual Vermont Guide to Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Laws handbook.



- Discarded fishing line and trash is harmful to wildlife. Please discard them responsibly.

### Catch and Release

If you catch a fish that you are not going to eat, release it immediately where caught so another person fishing can enjoy the catch.

### Take a Kid Fishing

National Fishing Week is celebrated annually at the refuge with a Youth Fishing Derby held on a Saturday in early June. For details, call 802/868 4781.














For more information, contact:

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July 2001



# MISSISQUOI National Wildlife Refuge

-  Refuge Boundary
-  Refuge Area
-  Refuge Headquarters
-  Nature Trail
-  Boat Launching
-  Rest Rooms
-  Dikes
-  Water Control Structure
-  Area Closed
-  Parking
-  Wetland
-  Old Railroad Passage
-  Private Land

