FISHING WISCONSIN
Hook and Line
2019-2020 Season Dates

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Bureau of Fisheries Management

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WISCONSIN
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LARGEMOUTH BASS and SMALLMOUTH BASS	Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)
General Inland Waters	
Northern Zone - Smallmouth bass catch and release	First Saturday in May to the Friday preceding the third Saturday in June (May 4 – June 14)
Northern Zone - Smallmouth bass harvest	Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March of the following year (June 15 - March 1)
Northern Zone - Largemouth bass harvest Southern Zone - Largemouth and smallmouth bass harvest	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 - March 1)
Lake Winnebago System waters	Continuous open season
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Outlying waters of Green Bay and Lake Michigan within 1/4 mile of Washington, Detroit, Plum, Pilot, Hog or Rock Islands	July 1 to the first Sunday in March of the following year (July 1 - March 1)
Other Lake Michigan waters Lake Superior and connected sloughs, Kakagon River - Largemouth bass harvest	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 – March 1)
Lake Superior and connected sloughs, Kakagon River - Smallmouth bass catch and release	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding the third Saturday in June (May 4 - June 14)
Lake Superior and connected sloughs, Kakagon River - Smallmouth bass harvest	Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March of the following year (June 15 - March 1)
Wisconsin - Minnesota boundary waters	
St. Louis River	Saturday preceding Memorial Day to March 1 (May 25 - March 1)
St. Croix River upstream from the dam at St. Croix Falls - harvest	Saturday preceding Memorial Day to, but not including, the second Monday in September (May 25 - September 8)
St. Croix River upstream from the dam at St. Croix Falls - catch and release	Second Monday in September to March 1 (September 9 - March 1)
St. Croix River downstream from the dam at St. Croix Falls to the Hwy 10 Bridge at Prescott	Saturday preceding Memorial Day to March 1 (May 25 - March 1)
Mississippi River	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters - Largemouth bass harvest	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 – March 1)
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters - Smallmouth bass catch and release	First Saturday in May to the Friday preceding third Saturday in June (May 4 - June 14)
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters - Smallmouth bass harvest	Third Saturday in June to December 31 (June 15 - December 31)
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	Continuous open season
ROCK, YELLOW, and WHITE BASS	**Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)**
General Inland Waters	Continuous open season
Major Green Bay tributaries	Continuous open season
All other tributaries, streams, rivers and ditches to Green Bay upstream to the first dam or lake	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 - March 1)
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Lake Michigan and Green Bay	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters - lakes	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	Continuous open season
CATFISH (CHANNEL and FLATHEAD)	**Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)**
General Inland Waters	Continuous open season
Duck Creek downstream from the first dam above the Pamperin Park Footbridge in the Village of Howard excluding its tributaries, Fox River downstream from DePere Dam, Suamico River downstream from CTH HS, East River downstream from Hoffman Road (CTH XX), Brown County	Continuous open season
All tributary streams, rivers and ditches to Green Bay upstream to the first dam or lake,	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 - March 1)
Prairie du Sac Dam on Wiscosin River downstream to railroad bridge	First Saturday in May to November 30 (May 4 - November 30)
Lake Winnebago System Waters - channel catfish	Continuous open season
Lake Winnebago System Waters - flathead catfish	First Saturday in May to September 30 (May 4 - September 30)

Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Lake Michigan, Green Bay and Lake Michigan tributaries	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters	Continuous open season
PANFISH: bluegill, crappie, pumpkinseed, yellow perch	**Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)**
General Inland Waters	Continuous open season
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Lake Michigan and Lake Michigan tributaries	Continuous open season, but the open season for yellow perch is June 16 to April 30
Green Bay and the Fox River	Continuous open season, but the open season for yellow perch is May 20 to March 15.
All other tributaries, streams, rivers and ditches to Green Bay upstream to the first dam or lake	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 - March 1) but the open season for yellow perch is May 20 to March 15
Lake Superior	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters	Continuous open season
CISCO (LAKE HERRING) and WHITEFISH	**Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)**
General Inland Waters	Continuous open season
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Green Bay, major Green Bay tributaries, Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, Lake Michigan tributaries	Continuous open season
All other tributaries, streams, rivers and ditches to Green Bay upstream to the first dam or lake	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 - March 1)
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters	Continuous open season
LAKE STURGEON	**Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)**
General Inland Waters	
Chippewa River: West Fork downstream from Moose Lake Dam (Sawyer Co.) and East Fork (Ashland Co.) downstream to the confluence of the Mississippi River (Pepin Co.) including sloughs, bayous, and flowages. Flambeau River: N Fork from Turtle-Flambeau Dam (Iron Co.) and S Fork (Price Co.) downstream to the confluence with the Chippewa River (Rusk Co.) including sloughs, bayous, and flowages. Butternut Lake (Price Co.) Jump River from the North and South Forks to the confluence with the Chippewa River (Rusk Co.); Yellow Lake, Little Yellow Lake, Danbury Flowage, Yellow River from Yellow Lake downstream to the Danbury Dam (Burnett Co.) Wisconsin River downstream from the Wisconsin Dells Dam	First Saturday in September to September 30 (September 7 - September 30)
Lake Winnebago System Waters	No open season for hook and line harvest
Lake Winnebago - Spearing	Second Saturday in February for 16 consecutive days unless harvest cap is triggered (February 9 - February 24 or until harvest cap trigger)
Upriver Lakes (includes Poygan, Winneconne, and Butte des Morts) - Spearing	Second Saturday in February for 16 consecutive days unless harvest cap is triggered (participation dependent on random drawing for license purchase) (February 9 - February 24 or until harvest cap trigger)
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Lake Michigan, Green Bay and their tributaries	No open season
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters	

Mississippi River upstream of Red Wing Dam, St. Croix River from Prescott to Gordon Flowage	June 16 - March 1 (catch and release only)
St. Louis River, Nemadji River and the Mississippi River downstream of the Red Wing Dam	June 16 - April 14 (catch and release only)
St. Croix River downstream from the St. Croix Falls Dam	First Saturday in September to September 30 (September 7 - September 30) - harvest season; (October 1 - October 15) - catch and release only
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters	
Menominee River	First Saturday in September to September 30 (September 7 - September 30)
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	No open season
MUSKELLUNGE	**Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)**
General Inland Waters	
Northern Zone - inland waters north of U.S. Hwy 10 (excluding Wisconsin - Michigan boundary waters)	Saturday nearest Memorial Day to November 30 (May 25 - Nov. 30)
Southern Zone - inland waters south of U.S. Hwy 10	First Saturday in May to December 31 (May 4 - Dec. 31)
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Green Bay, Lake Michigan and Lake Michigan tributaries north of a line running due east from eastern terminus of Waldo bouldevard in the City of Manitowoc, all tributary streams, rivers and ditches to Green Bay upstream to the first dam or lake.	Saturday nearest Memorial Day to November 30 (May 25 - Nov. 30)
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	First Saturday in May to November 30 (May 4 - Nov. 30))
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters	May 15 to November 30
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters	
St. Louis River, St. Croix River, and Mississippi River	Saturday nearest Memorial Day to November 30 (May 25 - November 30)

NORTHERN PIKE	**Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)**
General Inland Waters	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 - March 1)
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Lake Michigan, Green Bay, Green Bay tributaries and Lake Michigan tributaries south of US Hwy 10	Continuous open season
Green Bay tributaries and Lake Michigan tributaries north of US Hwy 10	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 - March 1)
Lake Superior	Continuous open season (spearing through the ice)
Lake Superior tributaries and connected sloughs upstream to the first dam or lake	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 - March 1)
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters	First Saturday in May to March 1 (May 4 - March 1)
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters	
St. Croix River to Hwy 10 at Prescott	Saturday nearest May 1 to March 1 (May 4 - March 1)
St. Louis River	Saturday 2 weeks prior to the Saturday nearest Memorial Day to March 1 (May 11 - March 1)
Mississippi River	Continuous open season

RUFFE, WHITE PERCH, and GOBIES	**Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)**
General Inland Waters	No open season, one of each may be killed and possessed for transport to a Wisconsin DNR office
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Lake Michigan, Green Bay, Lake Michigan tributaries, major Green Bay tributaries	Continuous open season for white perch, no open season for ruffe or gobies
All other tributary streams, rivers and ditches to Green Bay upstream to the first dam or lake	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 - March 1) for white perch, no open season for ruffe or gobies

Lake Superior	No open season, one of each may be killed and possessed for transport to a Wisconsin DNR office
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	No open season, one of each may be killed and possessed for transport to a Wisconsin DNR office
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters	Continuous season for white perch, no open season for ruffe or gobies
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters	No open season, one of each may be killed and possessed for transport to a Wisconsin DNR office

BULLHEADS and ROUGH FISH	Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)
General Inland Waters	Continous open season
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Lake Michigan, Green Bay, Major Green Bay tributaries, Major Lake Michigan tributaries	Continuous open season
All other tributary streams, rivers and ditches to Green Bay upstream to the first dam or lake	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 - March 1)
Lake Superior	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters	Continuous open season

TROUT and SALMON	Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)
General Inland Waters	
Early season catch and release	First Saturday in January at 5:00 am to Friday preceding the first Saturday in May (January 5 - May 3)
General Inland Trout Season	First Saturday in May at 5:00 am to October 15 (May 4 - Oct. 15)
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Lake Michigan and its tributaries, Green Bay, and major Green Bay tributaries,	Continuous open seson
All other tributary streams, rivers and ditches to Green Bay upstream to the first dam or lake	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 – March 1)
Lake Superior (does not include Lake Superior tributaries)	Continuous open season except the open season for lake trout is December 1 to September 30
Lake Superior tributaries	First Saturday in May at 5:00 AM to September 30 (May 4 - Sept. 30)
Brule River downstream from US Hwy 2; Amnicaon River, Nemadji River, Poplar river and the St. Louis River downstream from WI/MN state line	Last Saturday in March to November 15 (March 30 - November 15)
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters	Last Saturday in April to September 30 (April 27 - Sept. 30)
Montreal and Menominee rivers from their mouths upstream to the first dam and Smokey Lake	Continuous open season
Brule River (i.e., “boundary” Brule in Florence & Forest Counties) upstream from US Highway 2	Last Saturday in April to September 30 (April 27 - Sept. 30)
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters - St. Louis River	First Saturday in May at 5:00 AM to September 30 (May 4 - Sept. 30)

SHOVELNOSE STURGEON	Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)
General Inland Waters	
Wisconsin River downstream from Prairie du Sac dam	Continous open season
All other inland waters	No open season
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters	
Mississippi River from the Red Wing Dam upstream and the St. Croix and St. Louis Rivers	June 16 - March 1
Mississippi River from the Red Wing dam downstream	Continous open season
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	Continuous open season

WALLEYE and SAUGER	Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)
General Inland Waters	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 – March 1)
Chippewa Flowage (Sawyer County)	First Saturday in May to November 30 (May 4 - November 30)
Boundary and Outlying Waters	
Major Green Bay tributaries and tributaries to Lake Michigan north of Waldo Boulevard, Manitowoc	Monday after the first Sunday in March to the Friday before the first Saturday in May (March 4, 2019 - May 3, 2019) 1 in total with 15" minimum length limit
Major Green Bay tributaries and tributaries to Lake Michigan north of Waldo Boulevard, Manitowoc	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 - March 1) 5 in total with 15" minimum length limit
Tributaries to Lake Michigan south of Waldo Boulevard	Continuous open season
All other tributary streams & ditches to Green Bay upstream to the first dam or lake	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 – March 1)
Lake Superior	Continuous open season
Lake Superior tributaries	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March of the following year (May 4 – March 1)
Lake Winnebago System waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters	Continuous open season
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters	
Mississippi River	Continuous open season
St. Croix downstream to Prescott	Saturday nearest May 1 to March 1 (May 4 - March 1)
St. Louis River	Saturday 2 weeks prior to the Saturday nearest Memorial Day to March 1 (May 11 - March 1)
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters - rivers and flowages	March 2 to the Friday before the First Saturday in May (March 2, 2019 - May 3, 2019) (1 bag/ 15") and First Saturday in May to March 1 (May 4 - March 1) (5 bag/15")
Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters - lakes	First Saturday in May to March 1 (May 4 - March 1)

CLAMMING (Mussel harvest)	Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)
Inland waters	No open season on live mussels (dead shell harvest only)
Boundary and outlying waters	No open season on live mussels (dead shell harvest only)

FROGS and TURTLES	Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)
Frogs	Saturday nearest May 1 to December 31 (May 4 - Dec. 31)
Turtles	July 15 to November 30

ICE SHANTY REMOVAL	Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)
Lake Michigan, Green Bay, Lake Superior, and inland waters north of Hwy 64	Remove by the first Sunday following March 12 (3/17/19, 3/15/20)
Inland waters south of Hwy 64	Remove by the first Sunday following March 1 (3/3/19, 3/8/20)
Wisconsin - Iowa Boundary Waters	Remove by February 20
Wisconsin - Michigan Boundary Waters	Remove by March 15
Wisconsin - Minnesota Boundary Waters	Remove by March 1

URBAN FISHING	Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)
Southeast, North, and Northeast	Second Saturday in March to but not including the last Saturday in April (March 9 - April 26 in 2019, March 14 - April 24 in 2020)

FREE FISHING WEEKENDS	Season Dates Inclusive (2019 - 2020 dates in parentheses)
Summer Free Fishing Weekend	First Saturday and Sunday in June (June 1 - 2, 2019)
Winter Free Fishing Weekend	Third Saturday and Sunday in January (January 19-20, 2019 and January 18-19, 2020)