

# Preface



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Welcome to MinnAqua, the angling and aquatic education program of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife. We appreciate your investment of time, energy, and talent as you help others learn about Minnesota's natural resources.

Whether you're an avid angler or have never picked up a fishing rod, we've designed the *Fishing: Get in the Habitat! MinnAqua Leader's Guide* to make it easy for you to educate others about the value of our waters, habitat, and Minnesota's great fisheries. Our *MinnAqua Leader's Guide* will also help you plan fishing field trips that are safe and educational. It is our hope that, through the teaching of science and the activity of fishing, we can collectively plant the seed of conservation in our youth and ultimately benefit from their understanding of our natural world.

Our *MinnAqua Leader's Guide* gives you a framework for success, meaning each lesson contains biology background information, a lesson layout to aid planning and implementing, and supportive student and instructor pages. We've also linked the lessons to the Benchmarks of the Minnesota Academic Standards and the Environmental Literacy Scope and Sequence. Our goal is to help you, as an educator, meet your needs through these tools.

The *MinnAqua Leader's Guide* has passed through the hands of more than 100 reviewers. They represent technical, research and pedagogical experts, field and classroom instructors, editors, artists, and others who are passionate about educating the citizens of Minnesota about our natural resources and fishing-related activities. These reviewers have our most sincere and heartfelt thanks.

We hope you find the *MinnAqua Leader's Guide* useful and always within easy reach. And we look forward to hearing from you as you experience the rewards that come from teaching others the joy of fishing and learning more about the habitats around us.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Fish and Wildlife Management  
and MinnAqua Program Staff