





# ITASCA COUNTY (southeastern)



Includes fishing piers and shorefishing sites



Clean your watercraft, Drain all water, Dispose of unused bait.

Federal Aid Project funded by your purchase of fishing equipment and motor boat fuels.



Minnesota State Parks and Trails-Grand Rapids (218) 999-7923

**The DNR Information Center**  
The DNR's Information Center is available to provide free publications of facilities and services as well as answers questions pertaining to DNR recreational opportunities in Minnesota.

500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4040  
651-296-6157 (local) or 1-888-MINNDNR  
mndnr.gov

Photos: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, unless otherwise noted. Persons with disabilities may request this information in an alternative format.



## Public Water Access in Minnesota:

The Minnesota DNR State Parks and Trail's water recreation program provides approximately 1,650 boat accesses, over 365 fishing piers and shore fishing sites and manages 35 designated Water Trails in Minnesota. The DNR, Federal Government and local communities operate boat accesses. See the table on the right for specific site information. **The DNR boating programs are funded by user fees** including boat license & gas tax related to marine use.

Public accesses are usually open 24 hours unless otherwise posted. Most sites have launch ramps but some sites, especially on smaller rivers, are carry in only. Bathrooms and docks are usually located only on the larger and busier sites.

**Public Water Access Rules** - The launch area must be kept clear and the following activities are unlawful: littering, camping, shooting, building fires, and consuming alcoholic beverages. See Minnesota Rules, chapter 6218 for complete rules.

## Boating in Minnesota

The annual *Minnesota Boating Guide* summarizes Minnesota's boating laws and regulations in an easy-to-read form. The guide supplies information about operating watercraft on the state's lakes and rivers. Operator age restrictions apply to operators 17 years old and younger.

**Licensing** - All motorized and non-motorized watercraft must be licensed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Please contact the DNR License Bureau for information.



## Fishing in Minnesota

**Fishing Regulations and Licensing** - All persons 16 and older are required to have the appropriate license with them when fishing. Licenses are available through the DNR License Bureau, most County Auditors and many stores that sell fishing related goods. Trout fishing requires a trout stamp. For more information call the DNR information Center at (651) 296-6157 or 1-888-646-6367. To purchase a license by phone 24 hours a day, call 1-888-MN-LICENSE (665-4236).

**Selective Harvest Fishing** - Improved technology and increased fishing have caused the quality of fishing to decline in many waters. Practicing "Selective Harvest" offers anglers an opportunity to take some fish home while releasing others back into the water to improve fishing quality. Here are some tips to use for effective **Selective Harvest fishing**:

- Use barbless hooks
- Play the fish quickly and handle the fish carefully
- Never hold the fish by the eyes
- Use a needle nose pliers to remove hooks or cut the line if it is too deep
- Ease the fish back into the water, do not throw it back.

## Safe Boating

**Life Jackets** - On all boats (except a sailboard) regardless of length there must be a readily accessible Coast Guard approved wearable life jacket for each person on board. In addition, on boats 16 feet or longer, except canoes and kayaks, there must also be at least one Coast Guard approved throwable device, such as a ring buoy or seat cushion.



**Boating While Intoxicated (BWI)** - Boating while intoxicated is illegal. For persons found to be under the influence there are significant penalties, including fines and possible jail sentences.

**Personal Watercraft** - Special laws apply including wearing a life jacket and operating at slow no wake speed at certain distances from other watercraft, swimmers and other objects in the water. Operator age restrictions also apply. Consult the Boating Guide for more information. A DNR safety video is available free of charge.

## Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Laws and Requirements:

The DNR lists lakes and rivers as "infested" with certain aquatic invasive species.

If you are harvesting bait, commercial fishing, or diverting or taking water, you might need to follow special regulations in infested waters.

To identify an infested water, look for orange Invasive Species Alert signs at the access. You can also use LakeFinder to find out if a particular lake is listed as infested: [mndnr.gov/lakefind](http://mndnr.gov/lakefind). For more information about infested waters, including an up-to-date infested waters list and additional location information, visit [mndnr.gov/invasives](http://mndnr.gov/invasives).

Before leaving the water access or shoreline property, you MUST:

- Clean** off ALL aquatic plants and animals
- Drain** all water including bilge, livewells, baitwells, bait buckets, motor and ballast tanks
- Pull** the plug and leave it out

Get into the habit of taking these three simple steps, and it will soon become part of your routine. Pull away from the boat ramp area. Check for and remove plants while strapping the boat down. Pull the plug when adjusting the motor. If you have other people (especially kids) with you, have them help! Adding a few minutes will help safeguard our waters.

Cleaning water-related equipment is just as important as cleaning boats, so while you're cleaning your boat, please remember to also:

- Clean anchors, ropes, fishing tackle, and other objects that were in the water. Many species can be transported in the mud or in fishing lines and rope
- Dump water out of canoes, kayaks, and other watercraft before leaving

These are YOUR waters and it is YOUR responsibility to inspect, clean, and drain your boats!

## AIS Bait Laws

It is illegal to transport lake and river water. To save your bait (minnows or leeches), the DNR recommends bringing "fish safe", treated water from home and keeping it in your vehicle or cooler. Bringing ice can be a good idea on warm days to cool down the water.

DO NOT dump unwanted bait into water bodies or on the shoreline! Unwanted bait belongs in the trash or a designated compost bin. Unwanted worms must be disposed of in the trash.



## Working Together to Protect the Waters

Watercraft Inspectors are here to ensure watercraft and equipment are "clean in, clean out!" If you need assistance, have questions about the laws, or are curious about the program, please ask!

Ways you can help the Watercraft Inspectors:

- Please clean your boat and pull your plug as soon as you are safely able to. That way when the inspector comes, the inspection process will move quickly
  - If there is a Decontamination Unit present, please follow all the instructions given by the inspectors, for your safety and theirs. There will be plenty of time to ask questions and watch them work from a safe distance
- Ways the Watercraft Inspectors can help you:
- The inspectors have tools, wrenches and pliers, so if you are having trouble with your plug, ask!
  - If there are weeds that are hard to reach, inspectors can also help pull weeds off boats or other such tasks. They also have grabbing tools for plants

When you see the Watercraft Inspectors, please be cooperative. The law requires compliance with inspectors, and it will help everyone to be on their way in a timely and pleasant manner.

## Public Water Accesses in southeastern Itasca County

Water Body Name	Map Grid Location	Ramp Type	Fish Species	Administrator
Bass Lake (Fish House Bay)	B3	earth	N,S,W	County
Bass Lake (Pincherry)	B2	concrete	N,S,W	DNR
Bass Lake	C3	concrete	N,S,W	DNR
Beauty Lake	C6	concrete	C,LB,N,S	DNR
Big McCarthy Lake	A5	concrete	C,N,S	DNR
Big Sucker Lake	B5	concrete	C, LB,N,S	DNR
Buckeye Pit	C4	earth	S,ST	County
Carpenter Lake	A2	carry in	N / A	USFS
Cottonwood Lake	A2	concrete	C,LB,N,S	DNR
Cowhorn Lake	D4	earth	N / A	County
Crooked Lake	A5	concrete	C,N,S,W	DNR
Crooked Lake	A5	carry in	C,N,S,W	DNR
Crystal Lake	C3	concrete	N,S	City
Deer Lake	B2	concrete	C,M,N,S,SB,W	DNR
Dinner Pail Lake	E3	carry in	C,LB,N,S	County
Forest Lake	C3	asphalt	N,S,W	City
Forest Lake	C3	fishing pier	N,S,W	City
Hale Lake	C3	concrete	LB,N	City
Hart Lake	C6	earth	C,LB,N,S	County
Hay Lake	B3	concrete	C,LB,N,S,W	County
Helen Lake	C6	earth	C,LB,N,S	County
Hill Lake	A3	carry in	LB,S	USFS
Holman Lake	B4	concrete	C,LB,N,S	Township
Holman Lake	B4	fishing pier	C,LB,N,S	Township
Island Lake	A2	concrete	C,LB,N,S	County
Jay Gould Lake	C3	concrete	C,LB,N,S	County
Johnson Lake	A3	concrete	C,LB,N,S,W	DNR
Lammon Aid Lake	C5	earth	C,LB,N,S	County
Lawrence Lake	A4	concrete	C,N,S,W	DNR
Leighton Lake	C2	earth	C,N,LB,S,W	DNR
Little Bass Lake	C3	concrete	LB,N,S W	DNR
Little Cow Horn Lake	D4	earth	N	DNR
Little Deer Lake	B2	carry in	C,LB,N,S	County
Little Horn Lake	A3	carry in	N / A	USFS
Little Jay Gould Lake	C3	concrete	LB,N,S,W	City
Little Island Lake	C6	concrete	C,LB,N,S	DNR
Little Long Lake	A3	concrete	Various	DNR
Little Moose Lake	A3	earth	C,M,N,S,W	County
Little Sand Lake	C5	earth	C,N,S	County
Little Siseebakwet Lake	D2	earth	N / A	DNR
Little Split Hand Lake	E4	concrete	C,N,S,W	DNR
Little White Oak Lake	C2	earth	Various	County
Long Lake	A3	carry in	C,LB,N,S	County
Long Lake	D6	earth	C,N,S	County
Long Lake	C3	earth	LB, N,S	County
Loon Lake	C3	concrete	LB,N,S	County
Maple Lake	E3	carry in	N / A	County
McAvity Lake	B3	earth	C,N,S,W	County
Mississippi River #10	C2	concrete	Various	County
#1	C3	asphalt	Various	City
#1	C3	fishing pier	Various	City
Blandin Lake	C3	concrete	Various	USCOE
Izaak Walton Park	C3	earth	Various	Blandin
Sylvan Bay	C3	concrete	Various	City
Sylvan Bay	C3	fishing pier	Various	City
Steamboat Landing	C3	concrete	Various	City
Black Berry Bridge	D4	concrete	Various	DNR
Herb Beers	D4	concrete	Various	DNR
County Road 72	D4	concrete	Various	DNR
County Line	E5	concrete	Various	DNR
Moonshine Lake	A3	carry in	ST	USFS
Moore Lake	A3	carry in	LB,S	USFS
Moose Lake (N)	B2	concrete	C,M,N,S,W	DNR
Moose Lake (S)	B2	concrete	C,M,N,S,W	County
Nashauk Lake	A5	earth	C,N,S	County
New Lake	D6	earth	C,N,S	Township
O'Brien Reservoir	B6	concrete	LB,N,S	DNR
O'Brien Reservoir	B6	fishing pier	LB,N,S	DNR
Orange Lake	A3	carry in	LB,M,S,SB	USFS
O'Reilly Lake	B4	concrete	C,L,B,N,S	DNR
Ox Hide Lake	B5	concrete	C,LB,N,S	DNR

Water Body Name	Map Grid Location	Ramp Type	Fish Species	Administrator
Panasa Lake	B5	concrete	Various	Township
Pancake Lake	D6	concrete	Various	County
Tioga	C3	concrete	LB,N,S,SB,W	DNR
Tioga	C3	fishing pier	LB,N,S,SB,W	City
NE - Golf Course Road	C3	earth	LB,N,S,SB,W	City
King's Landing	D3	concrete	LB,N,S,SB,W	Township
Wood Tick	D3	concrete	LB,N,S,SB,W	Township
Laplant Road	D3	concrete	LB,N,S,SB,W	Township
Troop Town	D4	concrete	LB,N,S,SB,W	Township
Sherry Arm	D3	concrete	LB,N,S,SB,W	County
Prairie Lake	B3	concrete	C,N,S,W	Township
Prairie Lake (Lower)	C4	concrete	C,N,S,W	Township
Prairie River	C4	earth	Various	MN DOT
Pughole Lake	A3	concrete	C,N,S,W	MN DOT
Rice Lake	C2	concrete	Various	DNR
Sand Lake	D5	fishing pier	C,LB,N,S	DNR
Shallow Lake	D5	concrete	C,LB,N,S,W	County
Shaol Lake	A5	earth	C,LB,N,S	County
Siseebakwet Lake	D2	concrete	N,W	County
Smith Lake	D3	earth	C,LB,N,S	County
Snells Lake	C2	earth	N / A	County
Snaptail Lake	A4	earth	C,LB,N,S	DNR
Snowball Lake	B5	carry in	C,LB,N,S,W	MN DOT
Split Hand Lake	E4	concrete	C,N,W	DNR
Spring Lake	B3	carry in	C,LB,N,S	County
Swan Lake	C5	concrete	C,LB,N,S,W	DNR
Swan Lake	C5	fishing pier	C,LB,N,S,W	DNR
Trout Lake (N)	C4	concrete	C,LB,N,S,SB,W	City
Trout Lake (Longyear Park)	C4	concrete	C,LB,N,S,SB,W	Township
Trout Lake (Kom-on-in Park)	C4	concrete	C,LB,N,S,SB,W	Township
Trout Lake	C4	fishing pier	C,LB,N,S,SB,W	Township
Twin Lake	B5	concrete	Various	Township
Twin Lake	B5	fishing pier	Various	Township
Twin Lake	C6	earth	C,LB,N,S,W	MN DOT
Upper Panasa Lake	B5	sand	C,LB,N,S	Township
Wabana Lake (Northwest)	A3	concrete	C,LB,N,S,SB	DNR
Wabana Lake (Southeast)	A4	concrete	C,LB,N,S,SB	DNR
White Oak Lake	B2	concrete	N / A	DNR

Administrator:

DNR - MN Dept. of Natural Resources  
MN DOT - MN Dept. of Transportation  
USFS - U.S. Forest Service  
USFWS - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
USCOE - U.S. Corps of Engineers  
NPS - National Park Service

Fish Species:

C — Crappie, SB — Smallmouth Bass,  
CF — Catfish, LB — Largemouth Bass,  
LT — Lake Trout, M — Muskellunge,  
S — Sunfish, N — Northern Pike,  
ST — Stream Trout, W — Walleye,  
N / A — Not Available

\* Portage over 100 yards

Waters with Invasive Species

