



Long Lake Fish Responsibly

The goal of Long Lake Fish Responsibly is to provide education no matter whether you are an experienced or inexperienced angler, a visitor or resident, or what type of fishing you do. It is up to you to fish responsibly! Following these helpful reminders of local and state regulations as well as good practice guidelines will make you a better steward of the wonderful natural resource that is Long Lake.

Before you Head onto the Water

The first step is to make sure you **have an up-to-date fishing license (and stamp if you are fishing for trout)** from the state of Wisconsin and take some time to review the latest state requirements. Then:

- ⇒ Follow all Wisconsin angling rules and regulations, and the specific requirements for Long Lake.
- ⇒ **Know how to identify and measure different fish properly.** Check out page 2 and our fish species sign at the boat landing for the specific bag and slot limits unique to Long Lake.
- ⇒ **Clean your boat and trailer of weeds** (even small fragments) and ensure your boat's bait- and live-wells were drained after your last trip to avoid inadvertently transferring aquatic invasive species (AIS) from another lake into Long's pristine waters. Long Lake is remarkably free of AIS and we want to keep it that way!

Respect Other Anglers and the Local Landowners

Remember you are not alone on the lake. Please do not crowd other boats and allow ample room for your fellow anglers so you do not disrupt anyone's fishing experience.

- ⇒ Do not anchor or fish directly in front of the landing or block a landowner's dock, pier, boat lift or raft. Do not fish around the high-dive when swimmers are present.
- ⇒ When trolling and casting around docks and piers be careful not to cast your lures onto a landowner's property, boats, etc. If you accidentally over-cast a lure use care when retrieving or un snagging it. If the landowner is present apologize for your error!
- ⇒ **Respect all local landowner's private property** and always ask permission before entering or fishing from shore on private property. As an alternative, consider using the public access points for shoreline fishing, but **DO NOT fish from the pier at the landing and impede boats entering and exiting the lake.**

GREAT RESOURCES:

WI fishing regulations:



Long Lake Assn. Website:



By obeying Wisconsin fishing regulations and our courtesy considerations you will ensure everyone has the opportunity to enjoy this beautiful lake safely and respectfully. Thank you!

WDNR OFFICIAL FISH SIZE AND DAILY BAG LIMITS FOR LONG LAKE



Muskellunge

Min. Length = 40 in. Daily Bag Limit = 1



Northern Pike

Must Release Fish Between 25 and 35 in.
Daily Bag Limit = 2



Largemouth Bass

Min. Length = 14 in. Daily Bag Limit = 5



Smallmouth Bass

Min. Length = 14 in. Daily Bag Limit = 5



Brown



Rainbow

Trout

Stamp Required
Daily Bag Limit = 3
No Min. Length



Walleye

Min. Length = 15 in. Daily Bag Limit = 5

Pan Fish

Daily Bag Limit = 10 (total of all species)
No Min. Length



Black Crappie



Yellow Perch



Rock Bass



Sunfish



Pumpkinseed



Bluegill

BEST PRACTICES

Please practice catch and release fishing!
Only keep the fish you plan to eat — return other fish safely to the water.



Respect Long Lake's special panfish bag limit and Northern Pike slot limit

These special regulations along with standard regulations for other species are in place to ensure the quality of our family-friendly fishery for years to come.



Once hooked, land fish as quickly and safely as you can

The longer it takes you to land a fish, the more tired and stressed it becomes. Fish mortality rates increase with this stress.



Keep the fish in the water or hold it upside down to calm and relax it for hook removal

When handling a fish to remove your hook, work swiftly and avoid squeezing the fish tightly, which can damage internal organs and muscle tissue.



Avoid removing a fish from the water any more than necessary

Water supports the fish. Either use a landing net or fish cradle to gently lift them out of the water or remove them by hand supporting the fish with one hand beneath its belly and one by its lip or gill plate. Remember that holding/lifting/weighing a fish vertically only by its head, especially large fish, can damage internal organs.



Avoid wearing gloves or using a towel when handling fish

Wet, bare hands and nets made of rubber or small, soft, knotless mesh are least likely to remove a fish's protective coating (slime coat).



If you have hooked the fish too deeply for safe removal, cut your line

If in doubt cut your line as close to the hook as possible and leave the hook in the fish or keep that fish for consumption. Research shows steel and bronze hooks will "dissolve" in time. Fish are also capable of encapsulating hooks with tissue that help it survive long-term.



Avoid touching a fish's gills and NEVER hold a fish by the gills!

Gills are delicate internal organs to the fish. This is one of the highest risks of mortality after release.



When releasing, hold the fish upright, gently holding its tail and supporting its belly in the water

Nurse the fish for whatever length of time is necessary for it to recover. Watch for the gills to open and close indicating normal breathing — this may take minutes. To assist, gently and slowly move the fish back and forth under the surface to help get water running through its gills. Support the fish until it swims away on its own.

Long Lake Sensitive Areas for Fish Spawning and Healthy Fish Habitat



- *Buoys mark sensitive areas at WDNR sanctioned geo coordinates. You should slow down to “no wake” speed well in advance of these buoys to protect the aquatic plant habitat essential for Long Lake’s fishery.*

Choose Your Gear Wisely

- ⇒ Select your rod, reel, and line sizes appropriately for the type of fish you are targeting. **Use equipment with enough strength to land a fish quickly and efficiently** to avoid long struggles. Using gear that is too light is likely to tire and stress your catch unnecessarily.
- ⇒ Consider barbless hooks if you plan to release fish. Barbless hooks are easier to remove and cause less damage.
- ⇒ Use non-lead fishing weights whenever possible. Although legal, in Wisconsin lead is toxic and there are safer alternatives.
- ⇒ Motor trolling is legal on Long Lake with one hook, bait or lure per person and a maximum of three lines per boat, or three hooks, baits or lures per person with no maximum number of lines from the boat.

Help Keep Long Lake Clean

- ⇒ Do not throw your trash in the water or along the shore. **Take your garbage with you and throw it away at home.**
- ⇒ If you see old lures, snagged lines in trees, floating cans, etc., remove these things if it is possible and safe to do so. You and your fellow anglers have a significant opportunity to help the lake community maintain a clean lake!
- ⇒ Dispose of your unused live baitfish, whether you purchased or collected them, on land or in the trash – never in the lake. Also while at the boat ramp, pull the plugs from your boat’s bilge, live wells and bait wells to drain them upon leaving.

Help Educate Others

- ⇒ We can all be stewards of fishing responsibly. If you see or suspect someone may be fishing in an irresponsible or harmful manner, **don’t get angry but respectfully offer advice.** Assume everyone is new to the sport or just may not know the right way or latest information. Most folks will appreciate your intent if you approach them respectfully (and so will the fish!).

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