Fishing, Hunting and Trapping

Fishing opportunities abound on Lake Erie. The ODNR Division of Wildlife records Lake Erie fishing information weekly, and is available at: 1-888-HOOKFISH.

Fishing regulations including daily bag limits for sport fish caught in Ohio's Lake Erie waters are available by selecting "Fishing" and then "Fishing Regulations" on the Division of Wildlife's webpage: ohiodnr.com/wildlife.

Hunting and trapping regulations are also available on the Division of Wildlife's website by selecting "Hunting & Trapping" and then either "Hunting Regulations" or "Trapping Regulations." Local communities may also have regulations regarding where firearms may be discharged including required offshore distances.

Most Ohio residents and visitors who are older than 16 will need the appropriate fishing/hunting/trapping licenses, permits, and/or stamps to participate in the activity in Ohio; however, certain exemptions may apply. Details about exemptions and licenses are online or can be obtained by contacting the Division of Wildlife: 1-800-WILDLIFE.

For recipes on preparing fish and game visit the WildOhio Cookbook:
ohiodnr.com/tabid/6470/default.aspx

To report fishing, hunting, trapping or other wildlife violation, call:
1-800-POACHER.

Fish Consumption

Fish consumption advisories have been issued for certain Lake Erie fish species and locations in Ohio. The ODNR Division of Wildlife and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) work together to collect and analyze fish samples from Ohio's portion of Lake Erie. Results from the test samples dictate if restrictions are needed based on the Great Lakes risk assessment protocol for the consumption of fish by those most at risk (women of child-bearing age and children). The general trend shows decreasing contamination levels over the last few decades. However, several locations and several fish species warrant special concern. Sport fish consumption advisories are periodically; the most recent updates found online.

Learn more:
Ohio Sport Fish Consumption Advisory – **Overall Advice**
epa.ohio.gov/dsw/fishadvisory/overall.aspx

Ohio Sport Fish Consumption Advisory for **Lake Erie**
epa.ohio.gov/dsw/fishadvisory/waters/Lakeerie.aspx

Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail

The Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail is a state and federally recognized path for vehicle traffic that primarily follows roads closest to Lake Erie from Toledo to Conneaut. The trail links harbors, lighthouses, natural wonders, historical attractions, tourist destinations and scenic views of Lake Erie.

The National Scenic Byways Program within the U.S. Department of Transportation designates roads as National Scenic Byways or All-American Roads based on their archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities. Spurred by grass-roots initiatives, 150 routes have been designated America's Byways® in 46 states. The Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail is one of only five nationally recognized Ohio byways. It was designated an Ohio State Scenic Byway in December 2004 and as a National Scenic Byway in the America's Byways® program in September 2005.

Learn more:
National Scenic Byways Program
www.byways.org/explore/byways/59836

Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail (Ohio)
www.dot.state.oh.us/OhioByways/Pages/LakeErieCoastalOhio.aspx