



Captain Walt's Log

Local Area Fishing Reports



In April, the weather and water conditions play a major role in fishing success. For most of the month, water levels on the Fox Chain were very low. Then we got a huge amount of rain and water levels were too high, and the Fox Chain was in the dreaded "NO WAKE" status. When the NO WAKE is in effect, it takes a long time to move around to find fish. After the weather settled down we made six trips on the Fox Chain. Toward the end of the month, the NO WAKE was removed, the water started to warm, the wind subsided, the current flow settled down, and the fish began to cooperate.



We caught the usual mix of Fox Chain species in April using jigs with minnows and crawlers and live bait rigs with minnows and crawlers.

We are looking forward to May fishing, when the game fish season will open in Wisconsin. We did not fish on Geneva or Delavan in April. The month of May is some of the best walleye fishing on the Fox Chain. Be sure to get out there and take advantage of that bite!

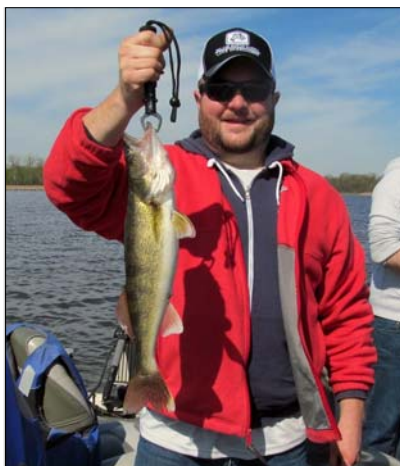
Fishing and Boating Tips For May

May is the beginning of the open water fishing season. The game fish season opens in Wisconsin. Many fish species spawn in May/June in our area. The walleye on the Fox Chain have recovered from their spawn and are now active. The water continues to warm and all species of fish are becoming more active. After the bass and panfish spawn, they will become very active on Geneva and Delavan. Make sure all your fishing tackle is ready. Also, now is the time to do the checkout trip of your boat. Make sure it is ready for the warm water fishing season.

Fish of the Month Contest

The **Fish of the Month Contest** allows our guests to judge the quality of the fish they catch. The fish caught are rated against the National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame record for that specie. The fish with the largest point value based on the specie specific formula is our **Fish of the Month**. There are separate contests for **Gamefish** and **Panfish**. Gamefish species eligible include Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, Northern Pike and Muskie. Panfish species eligible include Crappie, Yellow Perch, Bluegill/Sunfish, White Bass and Rock Bass. A score of 100 pts. would equal the National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame world record.

Game Fish of the Month



This nice 18½" walleye caught from the Fox Chain O' Lakes on April 25 by Jim from Niles, IL was our game fish of the month for April. This walleye was using a live bait rig with crawler and minnow. We caught a mixed bag of fish that day. This walleye scored 51 pts. on our rating scale to become the best game fish caught during April.

Congratulations Jim!

Panfish of the Month

This 13" white crappie caught from the Fox Chain O' Lakes on April 23 by Kaz from Wood Dale, IL was our pan fish of the month for April. It was caught on a hook/minnow under a float. We fished in several locations on the Chain that day and we caught a nice mixture of walleye, crappie, white bass and other species. This crappie scored 72 pts. and was the best panfish caught in April.

Congratulations Kaz!

