

PERCH

Prime Months - All Year
Preferred water temperature - 68



Spring and fall perch favor shallow water, 4 to 8 feet, near lillies, weeds, and rocks, and will bite all day. The rest of the year, found in deeper water, and bite best in morning or evening. Normally do not take artificial baits, but some can be caught on small spoons, spinners, and dry flies.

Baits and Lures: small minnows, worms, grubs, crickets, and grasshoppers

SMALLMOUTH BASS

Prime Months - June through September
Preferred water temperature - 65



Fished in the morning and evening, with night being best, near or over rock shoals, during spawn, in shallow gravel areas. During hot summer weather, fish in water over 10 feet deep by drop offs, where bottom is rock or gravel.

Baits and Lures: Preferred natural bait is crayfish. Others are worms, minnows, plugs, spinners, small spoons, bass bugs, and dry flies.

SMELT

Smelt are an important species in the food chain of the Great Lakes fish. Each year around mid April, the smelt run commences in almost every creek and river flowing into Lake Huron and the North Channel. These tasty panfish are taken with dipnets, and the limitless catches will often peak well after dark.

WALLEYE

Prime Months - May through October
Preferred water temperature - 60



Found mainly in large lakes and streams. Fish in shallow waters in spring and fall, in deep water during the summer. Walleyes are school-running, so slow troll or drifting up and down likely spots is preferred. If you get one, keep working the area for more.

Baits and Lures: Best natural baits - minnows 2 - 5 inches long hooked through both lips or nightcrawlers on a harness; also flatfish, pikey minnow, lazy ike, and spoons baited with pork rind.

NORTHERN PIKE

Prime Months - May, June, & September
Preferred water temperature - 68



In spring and fall fish along weed beds in shallow bays, off points and on sand bars dropping into deeper water. Standard spoons are the most popular bait for casting and trolling. In hot summer weather, still-fish in deeper water near submerged weed beds, using large minnows and suckers 3-10 inches long.

Baits and Lures: Minnows, suckers, frogs, crayfish, plugs, spoons, spinners, and bucktails.

LAKE HERRING - Cisco

Late June or July the cisco makes its presence to Drummond Island. These are school fish and usually show up during the mayfly hatch in Potagannissing Bay. Sizes range from 1 to 1 1/2 lbs. Use teardrop with mayfly, wiggler, minnow, or wax worm for bait.

SALMON

Prime Months - Mid July through September
Preferred water temperature - 54



CHINOOK SALMON Black mouth and gums Black spots on entire tail



COHO SALMON Whitishgums Black spots on upper part of tail



PINK SALMON Large black spots on tail

Salmon spend most of their adult life in lakes, but once a year the mature fish migrate up rivers and streams to spawn, then later die. Major runs of salmon occur in the St. Mary's river from Mid July to September. The heaviest pink salmon runs occur in the odd numbered years in the same locations and time.

Baits and Lures: Trolling with down riggers or planer boards, with spoons, J-plugs, bombers, with or without flashers.