

## **GUIDE TO FISHING IN OTSEGO COUNTY**

**OTSEGO LAKE-** The County's largest lake, Otsego, has recently emerged as one of the Midwest's top producers of tiger muskellunge, thanks to an ambitious stocking program by the old Otsego Lake Chamber of Commerce (now the Otsego Lake Association) and the Department of Natural Resources. Pike fishing is quite good and limit catches of perch are becoming common. However, possibly most underestimated is the bass fishing. Otsego Lake has an abundance of both small and largemouth bass (season runs May 26 thru Sept 30), while bluegill and other panfish are harder to find.

**BIG BRADFORD LAKE-** Located near Waters, Bradford is a deep lake (over 100 feet in some places) best known for its large and plentiful perch. An occasional pike or walleye can also be taken. Like Otsego, Bradford will produce panfish if the fisherman knows the spots.

**DOUGLAS LAKE-** This lake provides good sports fishing for yellow perch as well as a good availability of northern pike and largemouth bass.

**OPAL LAKE-** Good number of rainbow trout and smallmouth bass.

**HEART LAKE-** This lake has a good emerging lake population and will also provide yellow perch and largemouth bass.

**BIG BEAR & DIXON LAKES-** Both lakes have fairly good numbers of smallmouth bass. Big Bear is stocked every other year by the Department of Natural Resources with tiger muskies.

**LAKE 27, BIG BASS, & LAKE MARJORIE-** Mostly known for producing bluegill and other panfish, Lake 27 and Lake Marjorie are also known to produce some largemouth bass.

**BIG LAKE-** Another lightly-fished lake that will provide good catches of bluegills, perch and pike.

**BIG CHUB & BRIDGE LAKES-** Have histories of being good brown trout producers.

**GUTHERIE LAKE-** Excellent for bass and panfish.

## PIGEON RIVER COUNTRY FISHING GUIDE

**CORNWALL FLOODINGS-** Tiger muskellunge, bass, perch, bluegill, sunfish. Excellent fishing opportunities.

**GRASS LAKE-** Excellent bass and bluegill.

**PICKERAL LAKE-** Rainbow, bass, perch and some bluegill. It is a designated trout lake.

**TOWN CORNER LAKE-** Good bluegill, some bass.

**OSMUN LAKE-** Bass, bluegill. Small lake with very few fish.

**MUD LAKE-** Bass, perch, bluegill. Subject to winter kill.

**ROUND LAKE-** Experimental area. Questionable, some panfish.

**PIGEON RIVER-** Brown, rainbow and brook trout.

**STURGEON RIVER-** Brown and rainbow trout.

**BLACK RIVER-** Brook trout.

**SOUTH BLUE LAKE-** Good bass and bluegill

**NORTH BLUE LAKE-** Perch

**ROBARGE LAKE-** Small Pike

**North and South Blue Lake and Robarge (Pike, Sally) Lake** are open from the first Saturday in April through September 30. Fishing is catch and release with artificial lures only. No gas motors allowed.

**SINKHOLE LAKES-** N and S, Twin, Lost, W. Lost, Hemlock. Section 4 and Ford are research lakes closed to fishing, boating and camping. Various ongoing.

Research projects are conducted by the Hunt Creek Fishing Research Station.

## **PUBLIC ACCESS SITES**

**BIG BASS LAKE-** Off Bass Lake Landing, ramp gravel surface, parking and toilets.

**BIG LAKE-** Off Big Lake Road, ramp gravel surface, parking, toilets.

**BIG BEAR LAKE-** Off Bear Lake Drive, campground, ramp gravel surface, parking and toilets.

**BIG BRADFORD LAKE-** Off Old 27 South to Bradford Lake Drive, ramp gravel surface, parking and toilets.

**DIXON LAKE-** Off east Dixon Lake Road, ramp hard surface, limited water depth, parking and toilets.

**EMERALD LAKE-** Off Ranger Lake Road, ramp gravel surface, parking and toilets.

**HEART LAKE-** Off North Heart Lake Drive to Memorial Drive, ramp gravel surface, parking and toilets.

**SECTION ONE LAKE-** Off Fantasy Drive, ramp gravel surface, parking and toilets.

**LAKE MANUKA-** Off Lake Manuka Road, ramp hard surface, limited water depth, parking and toilets

**LAKE MARJORY-** Off old 27 South to Cottonwood Ave, ramp for car top canoes and boats only, parking and toilets.

**LAKE 27-** Off M-32 west to Hallenius Road to West Martin Lake Road, ramp car top boats and canoes only, parking and toilets.

**OPAL LAKE-** Off Opal Lake Road, ramp for car top boats and canoes only, parking and toilets

**OTSEGO LAKE-** At County Park and State Park, and off Old 27 South to Division Street, ramps hard surface, parking and toilets.

**PICKEREL LAKE-** Off Pickerel Lake road, ramp hard surface, parking and toilets.

**WEST TWIN LAKE-** Off F-01 Road or Meridian Line Road, Otsego County.