American Shad

**Bait/Lures:** American shad live in the ocean but reproduce (spawn) in freshwater. The best time to fish for them is during their spawning run when they congregate near dams or fishways. Fish for shad with flutter spoons, shad darts, or small Clouser flies.

![Flutter spoon](image)

Yellow Perch

**Bait/Lures:** Perch are delicious eating and easy to catch, especially during spawning season. Fish near structures using minnows, grass shrimp, or worms. Jigs, small plugs that imitate small fish (minnows) or crayfish, are good lures. Need colder water than many other fish.

![Jig](image)

Bluegill

**Bait/Lures:** Fish for bluegill near "structure" (brush piles, weeds, docks), using worms you dig from your yard or small jigs and spinners. Using a sinker, fish about a foot from the bottom and attach a bobber so you can see when they hit.

![Bobbers](image)

Brown Trout

**Bait/Lures:** Trout are smart predators, so you need to think like a trout. Is it winter? Then don't fish with grasshoppers. Your best bet is lures that mimic local baitfish: small crankbaits (crawfish and minnows), spinners, and flies (not real flies, ones made with feathers and fur).

![Trout fly](image)

Largemouth Bass

**Bait/Lures:** Largemouth are predators that lurk in weedy, quiet waters and feed mainly on other fish. Minnows are great bait, but live or plastic worms work, too. Bass are often caught on spinner baits and crankbaits.

![Spinner baits](image)

Channel Catfish

**Bait/Lures:** Catfish are active mainly at night, during twilight hours, and during or right after a rain. These are bottom feeders, so fish them deep with a sinker. Cut bait, like herring or chicken liver, work great, but worms, stinkbait, and cheese are good too.

![Worm on hook](image)

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![Spinner baits](image)

Fishing License

Most states require an annual fishing license (check your local regulations for specific age requirements).

Did you know that license sales help fund fish research, restoration and stocking programs, access sites (parks, piers, docks, etc.), and education programs? By buying a license, you’re not only obeying the law but also helping fish and habitat as well.

Fishing license sales help fish. (Add 1 “fish”)