



Your ADKTrailMap.com Fishing Adventure will be an experience to treasure!

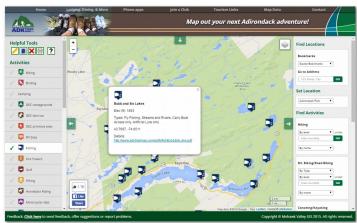
New York boasts remarkable fishing throughout the state, the Adirondacks being no exception. An abundance of pristine water spanning ponds, lakes, brooks, streams, and rivers awaits in the Adirondacks.

To make the most out of your Adirondacks experience, we here at ADKTrailMap.com have assembled a guide to help you have a safe and enjoyable journey while abiding by all New York State fishing laws. Remember to review this guide each time you pack for your trip to ensure that you don't leave anything behind.



Fishing in the Adirondacks, 1889. *Painting by landscape artist Windslow Homer.*

The first stop for planning any fishing trip to New York's Adirondack Mountains should be to ADKTrailMap.com. From here you can plan your route by browsing the map; seeing where to park; and exploring an array of other outdoor recreation activities.





ADKTrailMap.com is also available on mobile devices with limited features. For full functionality on smartphones, download our **free** 'Adirondack Trails' app from either the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store.



Where to Fish

Fishing is permitted on all New York State-owned land. See our app for locations of state owned land (however please use only as a guide). Additionally, the New York State DEC has purchased Public Fishing Rights (PFR) on many sections of privately owned streams and rivers.

For Public Fishing Rights areas, be sure to look for the prominent yellow signs indicating that you are in a PFR. Respecting the land will help ensure that the land will remain a PFR.

Fishing areas are accessible from a variety of means. Some areas require hiking considerable distances on former logging roads, while others are accessible via a boat launch.

If boating, please note that some water bodies do not allow boats with internal combustion engines. In these places (generally in water bodies that only have "hand launches"



Yellow Perch. Photo: NYSDEC

instead of hard surface launches), either only self-powered boats or electric motors and self-powered boats are permitted.

The best fishing locations are, of course, dependent on a number of factors including weather, water temperature and conditions, time of day, and other people's fishing activities. However, included is a small sampling of popular locations that can be used as a starting point.

SAMPLING OF FISHING LOCATIONS

Blue Mountain Lake

Trout, Rainbow, Bass, Brook Trout. Fly fishing, motor boats permitted, accessible for those with disabilities. Hiking not required for fishing access. East Brain

Lake George

Annually stocked with landlocked salmon, large natural population of lake trout. Abundance of other species in this popular large Adirondack Lake. Multiple hard-surface boat launches available. Ice fishing permitted when safe.

St. Regis River and Canoe Area

Main River: stocked browns and rainbows. A hydro-electric dam oxygenates water on outflow.

East Branch: canoe fishing for Brook Trout. Generally speaking, going upstream will yield better fishing.

Eagle Lake

Stocked by Essex County Fish Hatchery, leading to an abundance of brown trout. Smallmouth bass, northern pike, pickerel, black crappie, yellow perch, and lake whitefish also regularly caught. Motor boat launch.





When to Fish

Open season for many species of fish in the Adirondacks spans spring, summer, and fall, with a few year-round.

Trout season opens the first day of April, but generally the best trout fishing of the season does not occur until late spring. Fishing for other species including Black Bass, Pike, Pickerel, and Walleye also begins in late spring. Unless endangered, most other species are permitted to be caught year-round, such as Yellow Perch.

Don't let winter get you down - if it's safe, head out on to a frozen lake for ice fishing.



Please visit the DEC website for a complete list of fishing regulations.

New York's State Fish: the Brook Trout

Fishing Licenses

Fishing licenses are required for each person 16 years of age and older for angling, spearing, hooking, longbow, and tip-ups. Note that there are some exceptions to fishing license requirements and <u>free-fishing days</u> do exist throughout the year.

Licenses can be purchased in-person at <u>authorized locations</u> (such as many, but not all, town offices), <u>online</u>, or <u>over the phone</u>. Licenses purchased online are valid immediately and can be printed for use. When purchased over the phone, allow up to 14 days for delivery.

	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
Annual License valid 365 days from date of purchase	\$25 ages 16-69	\$50
	\$5 ages 70+	
Seven Day License	\$12	\$28
One Day License	\$5	\$10



Balto's Tip: To see more details about what species you might catch in a particular place, go to ADKTrailMap.com and turn on the "Fishing" layer. Then, click on the fishing icons throughout the map for links to PDF documents with info.



Before You Leave Home

SAFETY

- Tell someone where you're going and when you expect to return.
- Check the weather.
 - In the event you see lightening and/or hear thunder, get to shore immediately if out on the water. Know what to do if no sturdy structures are nearby: http://rendezvous.nols.edu/files/Curriculum/research_projects/Risk %20Management%20Reports/NOLS%20Backcountry%20Lightning%20Safety%20Guidelines.pdf
 - \circ $\;$ Recognize that water temperatures in the Adirondack waters are often much colder than downstate.
- Know when it's going to get dark.
 - Use the US Naval Observatory's "Complete sun and moon data for one day" to get precise sunset and 'last light' times: http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/docs/RS_OneDay.php

EQUIPMENT

To ensure a positive experience, PRIOR to leaving, use our helpful checklist:

□ TACKLE

- » Rods/Reels, Lures, Hooks, etc.
- » Nets
- » Creel/Ice Chest
- » Tape measure
- □ FISHING LICENSE

□ DRINKING WATER

- » pack extra water to have in your car for when you return
- » for wilderness and/or overnight trips, bring water purification tablets or a filter

Pleasant summer paddle in the Adirondacks. *Photo: dvs/Flickr*

□ FOOD

EXTRA CLOTHING (non-cotton)

- » dress in layers
- » When cotton becomes wet, it looses its insulating properties, which can contribute to hypothermia, even in mild temperatures

□ WATER SHOES/WADERS

□ HEADLAMPS and/or FLASHLIGHTS

- » check that they work before heading out
- » bring extra batteries
- □ FIRST AID SUPPLIES
- □ MATCHES (waterproof) / CANDLES / LIGHTER
- □ TOOLS / REPAIR KITS

□ EMERGENCY SHELTER

» at a minimum, a garbage bag or poncho would suffice to help stay dry in the event of a sudden downpour

□ SUN PROTECTION

- » sunscreen
- » hat
- » sunglasses
- » In open water there is absolutely no shade available. Also, water reflects more ultraviolet radiation than does the ground, so the time it takes less time to get sunburned on the water than on land.

BUG REPELLENT

□ MAPS / COMPASS / ADIRONDACK TRAILS PHONE APP



Balto's Tip: Planing on hiking into your fishing location? Take a look at our Hiking Adventure Guide for relevant Adirondacks Hiking Information.





General Info

• In case of any emergency:

• know the DEC Forest Ranger Adirondacks Emergency Phone Line:

518-891-0235



If you have cell service in the Adirondacks, dialing 911 may direct you to a 911
Dispatcher in a neighboring county or potentially even Vermont. If for any reason
a 911 Dispatcher can not assist you, dial the DEC Forest Ranger Emergency
Phone Line. DEC Forest Rangers are highly trained emergency responders
knowledgeable of the geography and subtleties of the Adirondack Mountains.

• Wear your Personal Flotation Device (PFD)

- If fishing from a boat of any kind, you should wear a PFD. If you enter the water without a PFD, it is extremely difficult to put one on, especially in cold water.
- Water temperatures in the Adirondacks often remain cold or cool well into the summer. Wearing a PFD can significantly increase your chances of survival in cold water.
- \circ You are required by law to wear a PFD from November 1st to May 1st.
- All children under age 12 must wear a PFD at all times while in a boat of any size.

• Fish responsibly

- Please consider taking a few simple steps to help prevent the spread of invasive species.
 - Cleaning and disinfecting your boots, waders, and other tackle assists in maintaining the thriving ecosystems that support fishing in the Adirondacks.
 - If boating, please consider cleaning and disinfecting the exterior of your boat. Additionally, remember to pump out any live wells, bait wells, and bilge water prior to launching.
- Abide by all regulations pertaining to removal of fish from water bodies
- When it comes to **anything** you bring with you, remember to "pack-in, pack-out," regardless of whether or not the items are biodegradable
- If there are no privies available when portaging, dispose of human waste by digging a 6" 8" hole at least 150 feet from water or campsites
- Follow the *Leave No Trace* principles:
 - 1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
 - 2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
 - 3. Dispose of Waste Properly

- 4. Leave What You Find
- 5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
- 6. Respect Wildlife
- 7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors (© Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics)

Balto's Tip: Turn on your location in the Adirondack Trails app to help find other fishing spots nearby, as well as to see what other recreation opportunities are nearby.



Please Do Not Solely Rely on Electronic Technology.

When doing anything out on the trails, we urge you take a map, a compass, and know how to use them. We offer an online interactive map that allows you to zoom in print your own map. We also offer a wealth of downloadable PDFs about hiking, fishing, camping, birding, and more.

For smartphones, our Adirondack Trails app is GPS-enabled. Once downloaded to your smartphone, the app provides a happy marriage of old technology (maps and compasses) and new. It does not require cell phone service. Unlike a paper map, the app will show you exactly where you are: on or off the trail. Both maps and apps have their limitations. Use together, with common sense, and enjoy the beauty of the Adirondacks with confidence.



Find more helpful tips for an enjoyable Adirondacks trip from Balto at ADKTrailMap.com





ADKTrailMap.com is managed by Mohawk Valley GIS in Utica, NY

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Questions or Comments?

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