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Ohio Sea Grant College Program

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Sea Grant forms a unique partnership with public and private sectors to combine research, education, and technology transfer for service to the public. Sea Grant provides a national network for universities to meet changing environmental and economic needs in our coastal, oceans, and Great Lakes regions.

Ohio Sea Grant, based at The Ohio State University, is one of 29 state programs in the National Sea Grant College Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce. Ohio Sea Grant is supported by the Ohio Board of Regents, Ohio State University Extension, other universities, industries, and associations.

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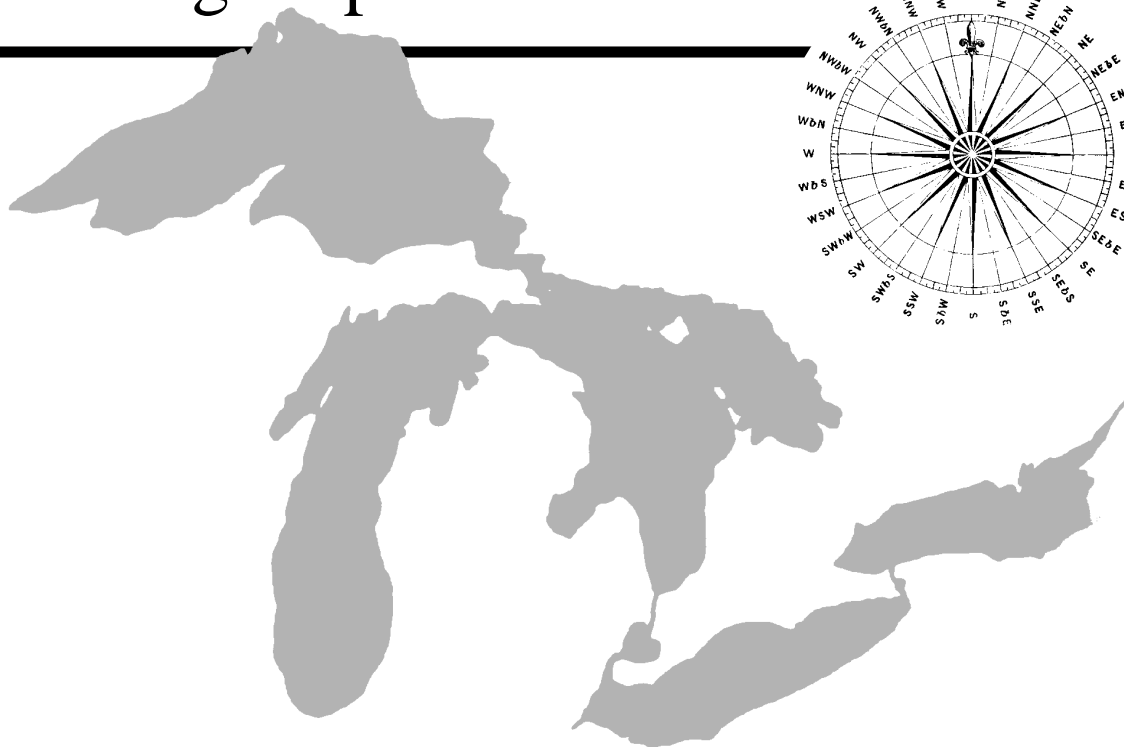
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Finding maps and charts



One of the most frequently asked questions outdoor enthusiasts deal with is how to find maps and charts for sporting use and navigation. A wide array is available from government agencies, and many useful local maps are produced for advertising purposes by private concerns such as tackle shops, marinas, and restaurants.

There are differences between a chart and a map. A **chart** provides detailed representation of water depths to aid in navigation and shows only enough land features for orientation. A **map** provides locations of features and shows every detail and elevation on land but gives only a uniform blue color, or perhaps a few basic contours, of water areas.

Both maps and charts are representations of large areas and have been "scaled down." The scale of a map or chart is an expression of the relationship between a given distance on a chart to the actual distance that it represents on earth. This relationship is usually expressed as a ratio. **Large scale** maps provide a low-altitude or close-up view of the earth. If the scale is larger than 1:50,000 (1 inch or 1 mile equals 50,000 inches or miles) it is a large scale map. **Intermediate scale** maps range from 1:50,000 to 1:100,000. **Small scale** maps, such as 1:250,000 to 1:1,000,000, cover very large areas and provide a high-altitude view of the earth.

The following list by no means covers every type of map or chart available but provides information to help locate and order the printed ones most widely used.



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Navigational charts

The best and most widely used navigational charts for the Great Lakes are produced by the National Ocean Service (NOS), a branch of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the Department of Commerce. These charts are sold at many marinas and tackle shops along Lake Erie and can be ordered directly from NOS. The charts in the 14000 series are \$14.00 each. Harbor charts are also available for most ports. Some of the NOS Conventional Charts are:

No. 14820	Laked Erie, 1:400,000
No. 14828	Erie to Geneva, 1:100,000
No. 14829	Geneva to Lorain, 1:100,000
No. 14830	West End of Lake Erie, 1:000,000

Many boaters and anglers using western Lake Erie carry books of Recreational Craft Charts. These consist of a series of 34 to 35 large-scale charts that are excellent for both navigating and locating fishing areas.

For a complete list of NOS Great Lakes Charts, write to the agency and ask them for *U.S. Great Lakes and Adjacent Waterways Charts and Publications 4*. If local marinas and tackle shops do not have particular charts, they may be ordered directly from NOS at:

National Ocean Service
Distribution Division (N/CG33)
Riverdale, MD 20737-1199
301/436-6990

Topographic maps

Topographic maps are hard to beat for locating features and orienting oneself on land. These maps provide accurate land contour lines and use symbols to identify man-made objects such as roads, buildings, and transmission lines. Different colors portray wooded areas, cleared land, and bodies of water.

Topographic maps can help anglers find access to streams and lakes and provide a good representation of shoreline features. They do not, however, show water depths. Sheets covering the Lake Erie shoreline may show some depth contours. Topographic maps are not intended for navigation over water.

The most frequently used topographic maps are produced by the U.S. Geological Survey and are distributed in Ohio by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Division of Geological Survey. Most sheets — called quadrangles — covering Ohio are scaled 1:24,000 and cover 7 1/2 minutes of latitude and longitude. Each quadrangle is identified by a name, usually of a prominent town or feature appearing on the map. Use this name to specify the quadrangle wanted. Each costs \$4.00.

For a list of all quadrangle names and locations contact the Ohio Geological Survey and ask for the *Index to Topographic Maps of Ohio*. Maps and the index can be ordered from:

Ohio Geological Survey
4383 Fountain Square Drive, Building B
Columbus, OH 43224
614/265-6576

Public hunting and fishing maps

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife has produced maps of many of the state's public hunting areas and state forests. The hunting maps usually indicate cover types and the fishing maps depict depth contours and structures. All ODNR maps show access routes to public areas. Another useful reference is *Public hunting and fishing areas*, a publication that shows all these locations within Ohio.

When ordering maps, ask for them by name of the hunting area or state forest. For a list of all available publications from the Division of Wildlife, request a publication list. The first five requested are free.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Publications
1952 Belcher Drive
Columbus, OH 43224
614/265-6791

Guides to fishing areas

Ohio Sea Grant has two guides, *Guide to fishing reefs in western Lake Erie* and *Guide to fishing in central Lake Erie*, which present technical and scientific data in a form easily used by anglers. Included in the guides are the names and locations of reefs, bottom contours, water depths, current directions, distribution of sediments, and usage by game fish. Each guide is \$4.00 (includes tax, postage, and handling). Make checks payable to The Ohio State University. Order copies from:

Ohio Sea Grant Publications
The Ohio State University
1314 Kinnear Road
Columbus, OH 43212-1194
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County highway maps

Highway maps are available from the office of the County Engineer for every Ohio county. While these maps are designed to portray all roadways within a county, they also show nearly all streams, lakes, and ponds. They are very helpful in locating access routes to hunting and fishing areas. County highway maps are distributed at no charge and may be obtained from the county engineer's office and sometimes from the local chamber of commerce.