

Where to Take Kids Fishing in Northern Ohio

Everyone knows that Ohio is one of the best places in the world to go fishing because of its extensive access to Lake Erie. Lake Erie, often referred to as the “walleye capital of the world,” is a great place to go fishing. However, when taking kids fishing (especially young ones) for the first few times, it is best to stick with smaller bodies of water. It defeats the purpose of taking a child fishing if you charter a walleye boat for eight hours and the child is ready to go home after 15 minutes because

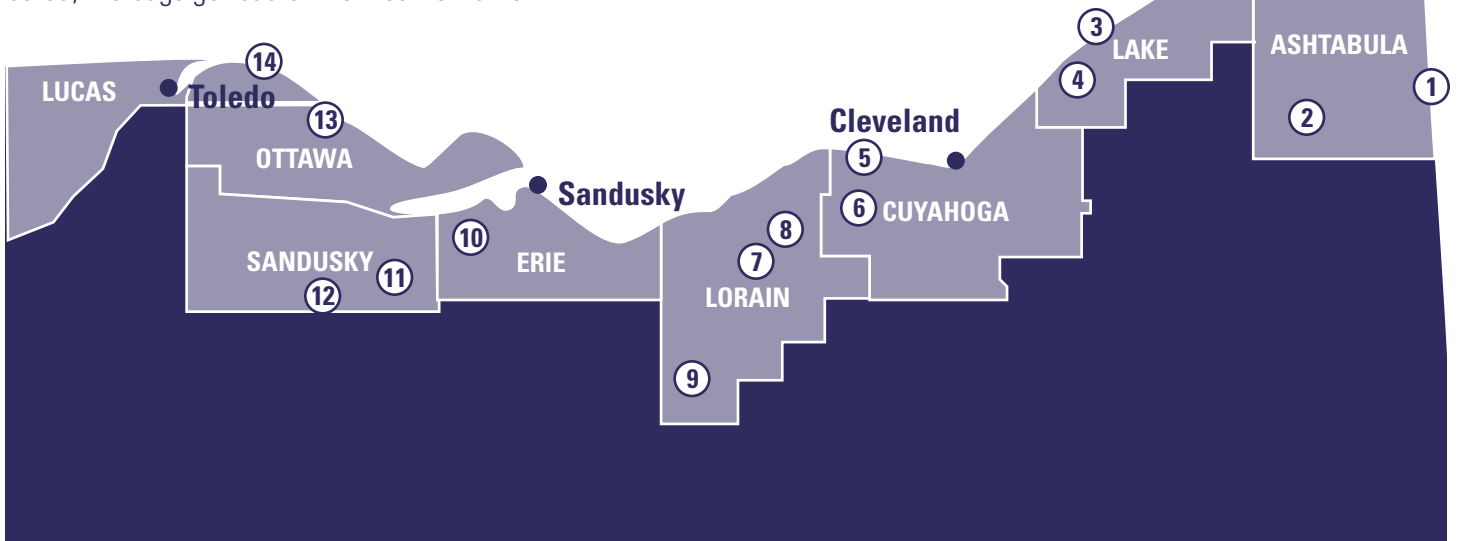


it's hot, there are bugs and nothing's biting! Some of the best places to fish in Ohio, especially with the kids, are the local parks and even your backyard pond.

You may not be pulling 15-pound walleye out of your backyard pond, but your kids will be entertained for hours (or at least one) when the panfish are biting. Young children are proud of anything they catch, whether it's a big bass or a four-inch bluegill.



To keep children interested in fishing for a lifetime, it's important that they have good first experiences. The local park or backyard pond can give them that. You will be close to home in the event that the kids get bored, the bugs get bad or the weather turns.



Northern Ohio has an abundance of fishing areas, especially within the local county metroparks system. Some good areas to fish in northern Ohio by county are:

Keep in mind that these are only a few of the publicly accessible fishing areas in northern Ohio. Visit your local convention and visitor's bureau or parks and recreation department to find out more. To find out more about fishing, public fishing areas, and tips on taking the kids fishing by search the web, visit these sites:

Ohio Sea Grant

www.ohioseagrant.osu.edu

Ohio Division of Wildlife

www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife

Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation

www.rbff.org

Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council

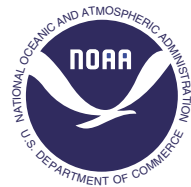
www.great-lakes.org

The Heart of Lake Erie

www.heartoflakeerie.com

For more information contact Kelly Riesen

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Ashtabula County

① *Pymatuning Reservoir*

Location: located on the border of Ohio and Pennsylvania, just off OH-85 in Andover, Ohio. Pier fishing on the Ohio side is located just off of OH-85 parking areas along the causeway.

Fishing Area: 14,650-acre lake

Fish Species: walleye, yellow perch, panfish, bass, crappie, catfish, muskellunge

② *New Lyme State Wildlife Area*

Location: located 2 miles east of OH-46, south of US-6 access from Brownville Road and Dodgeville Road, in Dodgeville, Ohio

Fishing Area: 54-acre lake

Fish Species: bass, panfish, catfish

Lake County

③ *Veteran's Park*

Location: located off Hopkins Road in Mentor, Ohio. From OH-2, take OH-615 north and continue north onto Hopkins Road.

Fishing Area: Granger Pond

Fish Species: panfish, bass

④ *Penitentiary Glen Reservation*

Location: located off Kirtland-Chardon Road in Kirtland, Ohio. From US-90 take OH-306 south to OH-615. Turn left on OH-615. Turn right onto Kirtland-Chardon Road.

Fishing Area: several small ponds

Fish Species: panfish, bass

Cuyahoga County

⑤ *Bradley Woods Reservation*

Location: located off Bradley Road in Westlake

Fishing Area: Bunns Lake

Fish Species: bass, panfish, trout

⑥ *Mill Stream Run Reservation*

Location: located along the Rocky River in Berea, Middleburg Heights, North Royalton, and Strongsville.

Fishing Area: Wallace Lake, Ranger Lake, Bonnie Park Picnic Area Pond

Fish Species: bass, bluegill, catfish, trout

Lorain County

⑦ *Carlisle Reservation*

Location: 12882 Diagonal Road, LaGrange, Ohio. Located off Nickel Plate-Diagonal Road off OH-10.

Fishing Area: Duck Pond

Fish Species: bass, panfish

⑧ *Indian Hollow Reservation*

Location: Parsons Road, Grafton, Ohio. Located on Parsons Road off OH-301.

Fishing Area: Black River

Fish Species: bass, panfish, trout

⑨ *Findley State Park*

Location: located off OH-58 in Wellington, Ohio.

Fishing Area: Findley Lake

Fish Species: panfish, catfish, bass

Erie County

⑩ *Resthaven Wildlife Area*

Location: located 1 mile west of Castalia on OH-269.

Fishing Area: several ponds

Fish Species: panfish, bass

Sandusky County

⑪ *Raccoon Creek Upground Reservoir*

Location: located on OH-101 near Clyde, Ohio, off of US-20.

Fishing Area: reservoir

Fish Species: panfish, bass, catfish

⑫ *Wolf Creek Park*

Location: located south of Fremont on OH-53.

Fishing Area: Sandusky River

Fish Species: panfish, bass

Ottawa County

⑬ *Magee Marsh Wildlife Area*

Location: located west of Port Clinton on OH-2

Fishing Area: Turtle Creek Bay

Fish Species: panfish, bass, catfish

Lucas County

⑭ *Maumee Bay State Park*

Location: 1400 State Park Road, Oregon, Ohio.

Fishing Area: man-made inland lake and Lake Erie shoreline access

Fish Species: panfish, freshwater drum, bass, perch, walleye