

## Crystal Lake Perch Lake Community

*“A vibrant, private community dedicated to protecting, maintaining and enhancing our natural environment”* is the mission statement of the Crystal Lake Perch Lake Property Owners Association (CLPLPOA), approved by the community in 2018. Conserving our water purity and sustaining the rural, “up north” feel of our lake environment are the stated goals of our residents.

All CLPLPOA Board approved lake preservation activities are funded by voluntary contributions directed to the CLPL Foundation. We can maintain, protect and improve our lake community through the cooperation of our community residents. Your donations and participation help to conserve our natural environment and wildlife.

Donations pay for professional weed and invasive species controls and water quality assessments. Evidence-based and science-supported weed and invasive species control measures are a costly, yet invaluable, aspect of maintaining our vibrant lake community. The dedicated volunteer work of many community members also contributes to maintaining the natural beauty of our lakes and environment.

The property values of our community are directly affected by the water quality of our lakes. Please support CLPLPOA’s determined focus on maintaining our high quality water resources.

## Crystal Lake Perch Lake Initiatives

### 1. Water Quality

Crystal and Perch lakes are enrolled in the Michigan Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. Trained volunteers from each lake will regularly monitor:

- water clarity
- chlorophyll a (algae indicator)
- dissolved oxygen and temperature
- invasive aquatic plants
- spring/summer total phosphorus load

This recorded data is then entered into a statewide data base in order to 1) develop a baseline measurement of our lakes health and 2) allow us to monitor and evaluate the ongoing health of our lakes in order to investigate and initiate evidence based, scientific water quality improvements.

### 2. Weed Control

The Lakes Committee is committed to a focused, evidence and science based weed control process that reduces the use of chemicals and preserves essential fish and wildlife habitats. Maintaining the balance between lakeshore, wildlife habitat and water quality requires the dedication and cooperation of our entire lake community.

### 3. Invasive and Exotic Species

Exotic and invasive species are a significant threat to our lakes. Management requires early detection and a rapid response. We are monitoring several invasives while seeking the most effective means for ongoing control.

### 4. Fishing

The Crystal Lake Perch Lake Fishing Committee promotes a high quality fishing environment by encouraging cooperation, courtesy and sportsmanship.

The Fishing Committee seeks to provide a quality fishing experience for association members and their friends, family and visitors by promotion of proven conservation practices, ongoing fish stocking activities, research and information sharing.

*Funding for fish stocking is voluntary and separate from lakes donations. Donations must be specifically earmarked for fish stocking.*

The fish stocking program has introduced smallmouth bass, walleye, blue channel catfish, sunfish varieties and fat head minnow forage populations in recent years. In order to establish and maintain a sustainable fishery for these species the Fishing Committee has suggested RECOMMENDED daily limits (next page) for the taking of fish from our lakes.

Crystal Lake provides a high quality largemouth bass fishery. Therefore, the Fishing Committee recommends that all “trophy” largemouth bass 20 inches or larger receive immediate CPR (Catch/Photo/Release). Also, in order to support our smallmouth bass stocking program, *please release all smallmouth bass* until this fishery has time to further develop.

Our long term goal is to maintain a sustainable high quality fishery through best practices and cooperation. Please encourage friends, family and visitors to respect our valuable lake resources.

## Michigan DNR Limits and CLPL Recommendations

### **Panfish** (Bluegill/Pumpkinseed/Sunfish/Crappie)

Season: Open all year - no minimum size  
DNR Daily Limit - 25 in combination  
RECOMMENDED: what you will clean and eat

### **Yellow Perch**

Season: open all year – no minimum size  
DNR Daily Limit – 50  
RECOMMENDED: what you will clean and eat

### **Northern Pike**

Season: Last Saturday in April – March 15  
DNR Daily Limit 2 – minimum size 24”  
RECOMMENDED: 1 per day

### **Walleye**

Season: Last Saturday in April – March 15  
DNR Daily Limit 5 – minimum size 15”  
RECOMMENDED: 1 per day

### **Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass**

Season: Saturday before Memorial Day – Dec 31  
DNR Daily Limit 5, minimum size 14”  
RECOMMENDED: Catch and Release  
(or keep 1 - 2 largemouth between 14-16”)  
*Please release all smallmouth bass.*

### **Blue Channel Catfish (Perch Lake)**

Season: Open all year  
DNR Daily Limit 10 – minimum size 12”  
RECOMMENDED: Catch and Release

### **Carp and Brown Bullhead**

Season – open all year  
DNR Daily Limit - none  
RECOMMENDED: REMOVE FROM LAKES

## Crystal Lake Perch Lake Foundation

The Foundation, directed by the CLPLPOA Board, serves as fiduciary for the maintenance and improvement of our lakes water quality, weed control, and fish stocking activities. Your tax deductible donations support these important initiatives which serve to enhance our most important asset, our lakes.

### **PLEASE CONTRIBUTE**

The lake preservation activities of water quality monitoring and weed control are budgeted based on an anticipated minimum annual contribution of \$175 from each property owner.

*Fish stocking is NOT included in the \$175 annual request. Please note on your form if you choose to also donate separately for fish stocking.*

We all benefit from our water quality and fishery abundance. Please support our lake communities with your membership dues.

## CLPL FOUNDATION

**P.O.Box 193**

**Somerset Center, MI 49282**

Visit the Crystal Lake Perch Lake website for additional information, the association newsletter, meeting minutes and upcoming events.

[www.crystalperchlakes.com](http://www.crystalperchlakes.com)

# Crystal Lake Perch Lake

## Lakes & Fisheries

### 2021 Update



Conservation

Cooperation

Community