








































JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE
 <p>STRIPED BASS Ohio River Smithland Pool</p> <p>Tips: When you find fish, anchor up or use your electric motor to move about. Watch for seagulls feeding on baitfish on the surface, because hungry stripers will be below the school.</p>	 <p>CRAPPIES Mississippi River Pool 13</p> <p>Tips: Those new soft plastic “tails” are killers on an orange Rat Finkee jig. Carroll County’s Potter’s Marsh is the place to fish, but go ahead and do some exploring north and south.</p>	 <p>CHANNEL CATS Braidwood Lake</p> <p>Tips: A blade bait like the Zip on Berkley FireLine adds an entirely new dimension to catfishing. Fish will generally hit lure on the drop.</p>	 <p>CRAPPIES Crab Orchard Lake</p> <p>Tips: Tie Fuzz-E-Tails on loop knots about one foot apart. Crappies tend to stack vertically over structure. This could be the best lake in Illinois for consistent crappie fishing.</p>	 <p>LARGEMOUTHS Gillespie New City Reservoir</p> <p>Tips: When fishing largemouth bass on beds, pitch a tube on the bed and not at the fish. Bass will return to “clean house.”</p>	 <p>LARGEMOUTHS Sangchris Lake</p> <p>Tips: A tandem willow-leaf spinnerbait in shad/white is the best “search” bait for mobile largemouth bass in this lake southeast of Springfield.</p>
 <p>RAINBOWS Devils Kitchen Lake</p>	 <p>PANFISH Shabbona Lake</p>	 <p>SAUGERS Illinois River</p>	 <p>LARGEMOUTHS Cedar Lake</p>	 <p>PANFISH Ferne Clyffe Lake</p>	 <p>MUSKIES Shabbona Lake</p>
 <p>BLUEGILLS Farm Ponds</p>	 <p>CRAPPIES Lake of Egypt</p>	 <p>MUSKIES Kinkaid Lake</p>	 <p>WHITE BASS Illinois River</p>	 <p>SMALLMOUTHS Powerton Lake</p>	 <p>WALLEYES Mississippi River Pool 14</p>
 EXCELLENT		 GOOD		 FAIR	

JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
 <p>CHANNEL CATFISH Otter Lake</p> <p>Tips: Try suspending Sonny's dip bait under a float just off bottom by using two "skinny" dip worms with different leader lengths. This lake could be the best multi-species fishing in Illinois.</p>	 <p>FLATHEAD CATFISH Rend Lake</p> <p>Tips: Good quality barrel swivels and 50-pound-test line — at least — will keep these devils from twisting to freedom. Fish at night for the most consistent action on Rend Lake.</p>	 <p>CHANNEL CATFISH Mermet Lake</p> <p>Tips: Hang a punctured can of dog food over the side of your boat in a mesh bag. This really draws the channel catfish in! The fishing remains good right up to duck hunting season.</p>	 <p>MUSKIES Kinkaid Lake</p> <p>Tips: Speed troll shallow perch-patterned Shad Raps on short lines close to cover. Set the reel drags lightly. The colder the weather, the better the fishing gets.</p>	 <p>CRAPPIES Rend Lake</p> <p>Tips: A 1/16-ounce white RoadRunner horsehead jig is still the best way to locate crappies cruising in shallow water. A good base camp is Rend Lake Resort.</p>	 <p>PANFISH Upper Mississippi River Pools</p> <p>Tips: Snow-covered ice is only half as strong as clear stuff. Carry rescue picks and wrap 50 feet of nylon rope around your bucket in case you need rescue.</p>
 <p>LARGEMOUTHS Mississippi River</p>	 <p>CHINOOK SALMON Lake Michigan</p>	 <p>WALLEYES Fox Chain-O-Lakes</p>	 <p>WALLEYES Mississippi River</p>	 <p>MUSKIES Evergreen Lake</p>	 <p>STRIPED BASS Sangchris Lake</p>
 <p>FLATHEAD CATFISH Rock River</p>	 <p>SMALLMOUTHS Kankakee River</p>	 <p>MUSKIES Lake Shelbyville</p>	 <p>CRAPPIES Otter Lake</p>	 <p>SAUGERS Illinois River</p>	 <p>BROWN TROUT Lake Michigan</p>