

ILLINOIS FISH ADVISORIES, 2002

The following meal advisories for fish found with elevated levels of chlordane, methylmercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are based primarily on protecting sensitive populations, particularly women of childbearing age, pregnant women, fetuses, nursing mothers and children younger than 15 years of age. All advisories may be overprotective for women beyond childbearing age and males 15 years of age and older.

PLEASE NOTE: THE METHYLMERCURY ADVISORY APPLIES TO PREDATOR FISH – all species of black bass (largemouth, smallmouth and spotted), striped bass, white bass, hybrid striped bass, walleye, sauger, saugeye, flathead catfish, muskellunge and northern pike – IN ALL ILLINOIS WATERS. For more information on mercury in Illinois fish, see the “Special Mercury Advisory” at the end of this listing. The special advisory and “Facts About Illinois’ Methylmercury Advisory” are available on the Illinois Department of Public Health’s Web site, www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/fishadv/fishadvisory02.htm.

Body of Water	Area Under Advisory	Species	Meal Frequency	Contaminant
Busse Lake	All waters	Black bullhead, all sizes Channel catfish, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
Calumet River System	Calumet River, Cal Sag Channel Little Calumet River (from Cal Sag Channel to Calumet River)	Sunfish, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Black bass, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
		Carp, less than 12"		
		Yellow bass, less than 8"		
		Yellow bass, larger than 8"	1 meal/2 months	PCBs
		Carp, larger than 12"	DO NOT EAT	PCBs
Campus Lake (Southern Illinois Univ.)	All waters	Bluegill, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Largemouth bass, all sizes	See special advisory	Mercury

Casey Fork Creek	All waters	Carp, all sizes Channel catfish, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
Cedar Lake	All waters	Largemouth bass, all sizes	See special advisory	Mercury
		White crappie, all sizes	See special advisory	Mercury
Chicago River System	North/south branches, North Shore Channel, Chicago Sanitary & Ship Canal	Sunfish, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Largemouth bass, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs/Mercury
		Carp, less than 12"	1 meal/2 months	PCBs
		Carp, larger than 12"	DO NOT EAT	PCBs
Crab Orchard Lake	All waters	Crappie, all sizes	Unlimited	
	East of Wolf Creek Road	Largemouth bass, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs/Mercury
		Channel catfish, less than 22" Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
		Channel catfish, larger than 22"	1 meal/2 months	PCBs
	West of Wolf Creek Road	Largemouth bass, less than 18"	1 meal/week	PCBs/Mercury
		Largemouth bass, larger than 18"	1 meal/month	PCBs/Mercury
		Channel catfish, all sizes Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
Des Plaines River	Lockport to Kankakee River	Freshwater drum, all sizes Channel catfish, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
		Carp, less than 18"	1 meal/2 months	PCBs
		Carp, larger than 18"	DO NOT EAT	
	Forest Park to Lockport	Channel catfish, all sizes Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
Fox Chain-O-Lakes	All waters	Channel catfish, less than 18"	Unlimited	
		Channel catfish, larger than 18"	1 meal/week	PCBs

Fox Chain-O-Lakes (cont'd.)		Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
Fox River	All waters	Channel catfish, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
Frank Holten State Lakes	All waters	Largemouth bass, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs/Mercury
		Channel catfish, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
Galena River	All waters	Carp, less than 20"	1 meal/week	PCBs
Highland-Silver Lake	All waters	Carp, larger than 20"	1 meal/month	PCBs
		Channel catfish, less than 25"	Unlimited	
		Channel catfish, larger than 25"	1 meal/week	Chlordane
Horseshoe Lake (Madison County)	All waters	Carp, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Channel catfish, less than 20"		
		Channel catfish, larger than 20"	1 meal/month	PCBs
Illinois River	All waters	Crappie, all sizes	Unlimited	
	Peoria to Mississippi River	Carp, less than 19"	Unlimited	
		Carp, larger than 19"	1 meal/week	PCBs
	Peoria Pool	Largemouth bass, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs/Mercury
		Channel catfish, less than 12"	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Channel catfish, 12" to 16"	1 meal/month	PCBs
		Carp, all sizes		
	Starved Rock	Channel catfish, 16" to 18"	1 meal/2 months	PCBs
		Channel catfish, larger than 18"	DO NOT EAT	PCBs
		White bass, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs/Mercury
		Channel catfish, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
		Carp, all sizes		

Illinois River (cont'd.)	Headwaters to Marseilles	White bass, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs/Mercury
		Smallmouth bass, all sizes		
		Carp, all sizes	1 meal/2 months	PCBs
		Channel catfish, all sizes	DO NOT EAT	PCBs
Kaskaskia River	Above Lake Shelbyville	Carp, less than 18"	Unlimited	
		Carp, larger than 18"	1 meal/week	PCBs
Kinkaid Lake	All waters	White crappie, all sizes	See special advisory	Mercury
		Largemouth bass, all sizes		
Kishwaukee River	All waters	Carp, less than 26"	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Carp, larger than 26"	1 meal/month	PCBs
Kishwaukee River South Branch	All waters	Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
Lake Bracken	All waters	Bluegill, all sizes	Unlimited	
		Crappie, all sizes		
		Channel catfish, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
		Largemouth bass, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs/Mercury
		Carp, all sizes	1 meal/2 months	PCBs
Lake Calumet	All waters	Largemouth bass, less than 14"	1 meal/week	PCBs/Mercury
		Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
		Largemouth bass, larger than 14"	1 meal/month	PCBs/Mercury
Lake Decatur	All waters	Crappie, all sizes	Unlimited	
		Channel catfish, all sizes Carp, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs/Chlordane

Lake Michigan	All waters	Lake whitefish, less than 19" Rainbow trout, less than 17" Yellow perch, all sizes Smelt, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Chinook salmon, less than 30" Coho salmon, all sizes Lake whitefish, 19" to 25" Brown trout, less than 22" Lake trout, less than 23" Rainbow trout, larger than 17"	1 meal/month	PCBs
		Chinook salmon, larger than 30" Lake whitefish, larger than 25" Brown trout, larger than 22" Lake trout, 23" to 27"	1 meal/2 months	PCBs
		Lake trout, larger than 27" Channel catfish, all sizes Carp, all sizes Crappie, all sizes	DO NOT EAT	PCBs
Lake Taylorville	All waters	Carp, all sizes Crappie, all sizes	Unlimited	
		Channel catfish, all sizes	1 meal/week	Chlordane
Mackinaw River	All waters	Carp, less than 17"	Unlimited	
		Carp, larger than 17"	1 meal/week	PCBs
Mazon River	All waters	Carp, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
Midlothian Reservoir	All waters	Carp, less than 15"	Unlimited	
		Carp, larger than 15"	1 meal/month	PCBs
Mississippi River	All waters	Channel catfish, less than 18"	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Channel catfish, larger than 18"	1 meal/month	PCBs
	All waters except Pool 15	Carp, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
	Pool 15	Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
	Lock and Dam 22 to Cairo	Sturgeon, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs

Ohio River	All waters	Crappie, all sizes Redear sunfish, all sizes Channel catfish, less than 15"	Unlimited	
		Channel catfish, larger than 15" Blue catfish, all sizes Drum, less than 14"	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Carp, all sizes Drum, larger than 14"	1 meal/month	PCBs
		Sauger, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs/Mercury
		Largemouth bass, all sizes	See special advisory	Mercury
Pecatonica River	All waters	Carp, less than 21"	Unlimited	
		Carp, larger than 21"	1 meal/week	PCBs
Powerton Lake	All waters	Carp, all sizes Channel catfish, less than 15"	Unlimited	
		Channel catfish, 15" to 19"	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Channel catfish, larger than 19"	1 meal/month	PCBs
Rock River	State line to Fordam Dam	Channel catfish, less than 16"	Unlimited	
		Carp, less than 23" Channel catfish, larger than 16"	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Carp, larger than 23"	1 meal/month	PCBs
	Rockford to Milan Steel Dam	Channel catfish, less than 16"	Unlimited	
		Flathead catfish, less than 20"	1 meal/week	Mercury
		Channel catfish, larger than 16"	1 meal/week	PCBs
		Flathead catfish, larger than 20"	1 meal/week	PCBs/Mercury
		Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs

Rock River (cont'd.)	Milan Steel Dam to Mississippi River	Channel catfish, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
		White bass, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs/Mercury
		Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
Saganashkee Slough	All waters	Channel catfish, less than 18"	Unlimited	
		Channel catfish, larger than 18"	1 meal/week	PCBs
Sangamon River	Lake Decatur to Roby	Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs
Sangamon River South Fork	All waters	Carp, less than 18"	Unlimited	
		Carp, larger than 18"	1 meal/week	Chlordane
Schiller Pond	All waters	Carp, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
Skillet Fork Creek	All waters	Carp, less than 21"	Unlimited	
		Carp, larger than 21"	1 meal/week	PCBs
Sugar River	All waters	Carp, less than 18"	Unlimited	
		Carp, larger than 18"	1 meal/week	PCBs
Sycamore Lake	All waters	Channel catfish, less than 23"	Unlimited	
		Carp, all sizes Channel catfish, larger than 23"	1 meal/week	PCBs
Wabash River	All waters	Channel catfish, less than 19"	Unlimited	
		Carp, all sizes Channel catfish, larger than 19" Drum, all sizes	1 meal/week	PCBs
		White bass, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs/Mercury
Wolf Lake	All waters	Carp, all sizes	1 meal/month	PCBs

Special Mercury Advisory

Mercury is found in the environment because of natural and human activities. When moving through the environment, mercury goes through a series of complex changes. Through these changes in lake and river sediments, an organic form of mercury – methyl mercury – is created. Methyl mercury is very persistent in the environment and moves up the food chain to predator species. It can accumulate in people who eat these predator species. Predator species of fish include all species of black bass (largemouth, smallmouth and spotted), striped bass, white bass, hybrid striped bass, walleye, sauger, saugeye, flathead catfish, muskellunge and northern pike.

In order to protect the most sensitive populations, pregnant or nursing women, women of childbearing age and children younger than 15 years of age are advised to eat no more than one meal per week of predator fish. Since women beyond childbearing age and males older than 15 years of age are at less risk for the effects of methyl mercury, these groups may continue to enjoy as many meals of predator fish as they please, EXCEPT AS NOTED BELOW. Fish in the following bodies of water have been found to have higher levels of methyl mercury than those in other waters in the state. Therefore, more restrictive meal advice is necessary. The special advice is listed below.

Body of Water	Area Under Advisory	Species	Meal Frequency	
			Sensitive Populations	Others
Campus Lake (Southern Illinois Univ.)	All waters	Largemouth bass, all sizes	1 meal/month	1 meal/week
Cedar Lake	All waters	Largemouth bass, all sizes	1 meal/month	1 meal/week
		White crappie, all sizes	1 meal/week	Unlimited
Kinkaid Lake	All waters	Largemouth bass, all sizes	1 meal/month	1 meal/week
		White crappie, all sizes	1 meal/week	Unlimited
Ohio River	All waters	Largemouth bass, all sizes	1 meal/month	1 meal/week