



## Celebrating 225 years of Great Lakes U.S. Coast Guard history

Coast Guard men and women celebrated the service’s legacy on Tuesday, August 3 in honor of the U.S. Coast Guard’s 225th birthday.

The Coast Guard’s foundation traces back to a law President George Washington signed on August 4, 1790, authorizing the construction of 10 revenue cutters to work under the leadership of the first Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, to create a [“force to regulate the collection of duties imposed by law.”](#)

Over time, the Coast Guard’s missions grew to encompass being an Armed Force, a federal law enforcement agency, a member of the intelligence community, a humanitarian service for the public, and the responsibility for the safety and stewardship of the Nation’s waters. After 225 years, these missions and the example of those who established ongoing relationships

with the communities they served continue to chart the course.

For Coast Guard units on the Great Lakes, their history is rooted in the two earliest services. The Revenue Cutter Service and the U.S. Lighthouse Service. Both had operating facilities on the Great Lakes prior to 1820.

The first documented Revenue Cutter on the Great Lakes was the cutter Erie, stationed at [Presque Isle, Lake Erie](#) about the same time as the Presque Isle light was established. Records are incomplete for the first established light house. Accounts point to either the Niagara Fort light or Buffalo light beginning operations during the same time as the Presque Isle light.

By 1837 the RCS was charged with vigilance for mariners in distress. Severe weather during the 1870 to 1871 shipping season caused

multiple shipwrecks and 214 lives were lost. As a result, Congress moved towards establishing the U.S. Life-Saving Service. The 141 foot, steel-hulled, [U.S. lighthouse tender Dahlia](#) was built in 1874 specifically for operating in light ice on the Great Lakes. Stationed in Michigan, the Dahlia began the custom of naming this class of vessel after plants.

In 1915, the U.S. LSS was the first to be consolidated with the RCS to create the modern Coast Guard. The U.S. Lighthouse Service was combined with the Coast Guard in 1939 and the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation was initially transferred in 1942 with the transition made permanent in 1946.

World War II brought increased emphasis to shipping on the Great Lakes and in the Atlantic. March of **Celebrating US Coast Guard**

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## 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Wis. BOW program

Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) offers hands-on, outdoor workshops held in a safe, supportive atmosphere with patient, enthusiastic instructors. No experience is necessary. BOW is for adult women of all ages and fitness levels.

This program is for you if you have never tried these activities, you are a beginner who wants to improve your skills, or you know how to do some of these activities but would like to try new ones – and you enjoy the camaraderie of likeminded individuals.

There are 45 spots available. The program will be held Sept. 18-20, 2015, at the Treehaven Field Station, Tomahawk, WI. Activities include: Fishing, shooting, paddling, hiking, archery, star gazing, chainsaws, chickens, wild edibles, shotgun and rifle, tree camping, fur sewing and

more! All equipment will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Instructors will safety check all firearms & bows brought in.

Workshop Fee: **\$349**. Includes 2 nights lodging at Treehaven & 7 meals, Sept. 18-20, 2015.

Treehaven’s dorm rooms each have a private bathroom and shower. Rooms have new bunk beds and furniture. Please mark on the registration form if you are willing to sleep on a top bunk. If special arrangements are necessary, please call 715-346-4681 at least two weeks prior to the program.

A \$150 processing fee will be assessed to all cancelled registrations. Registrants who do not attend & do not cancel by Aug. 21, will be assessed the full program fee. You may send a substitute. [Online registration](#) ✧

## Becoming an Outdoors-Woman

### MI BOW offers salmon fly-fishing workshop

Women interested in expanding their fly-fishing capabilities have a great opportunity to learn more during a three-day outing on the Carp River (Mackinac County), located in the Hiawatha National Forest.

The Michigan DNR Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) program is offering the Beyond BOW salmon-fishing workshop for women. The event will begin at noon Friday, Sept. 25, and end at noon Sunday, Sept. 27, at the Carp River Campground, situated about 15 miles north of St. Ignace off I-75 and Mackinac Trail.

"Many of the women who have attended this event in the past asked us to expand the workshop by a day, and we have been able to accommodate that request," said Sharon Pitz, DNR BOW program coordinator. "The program is for women who have previous fly-fishing experience and would like to expand on their abilities."

A few details to consider:

- Participants should bring their own fly-fishing equipment, if they have it. A few rods and waders will be available on site.
- Cost for the workshop is \$125.
- Previous fly-fishing experience is required for this program.
- An all-species fishing license is required for participation in this event. (Cost for Michigan residents is \$26 for an annual license, \$10 for a 24-hour license or \$30 for a 72-hour license).

"The fishing trip will include three days on the Carp River with instruction on several topics, including tackle, a knot-tying refresher, casting skills, fly selection and, of course, fly fishing for salmon," Pitz said.

The Carp River has Chinook, pink and Atlantic salmon.

Pitz said participants should keep in mind that:

- Lunch Saturday, Sept. 26, will be provided. Otherwise, participants

### OH BOW Program

Year after year, participants of the Becoming an Outdoors-Woman workshop gear up to face new outdoor challenges, from casting a fly rod for the first time to tackling the white waters. "Becoming an Outdoors-Woman" is a workshop with a focus on learning a variety of basic outdoor skills.

It is a special opportunity for women 18 years or older and is for you if:

- You have never tried these activities, but have hoped for the opportunity to learn from an expert.
- You are a beginner who hopes to improve your skills.
- You know how to do some of the activities, but would like to try your hand at some new ones.
- You are looking for the camaraderie of like-minded individuals, and are looking for an inexpensive, fun weekend adventure.

The workshop takes place October 2-4, 2015 at Recreation Unlimited, Ashley, OH. If you're interested in taking a single discipline or a variety of courses, check out the web site: [BOW website](#). The workshop fee is \$200.00; to register: [BOW Registration](#). ✧

will need to make their own arrangements for meals.

- Participants will need to make their own lodging arrangements. Camping is available on site. Campsite fees are \$16, and reservations can be made by calling 877-444-6777 or go to the campground's reservation website at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).
- Participants must be 18 years old or older.
- Enrollment is limited.
- Deadline for registration is Sept 18.
- This is an all-weather event.

Information and registration are available at [www.michigan.gov/bow](http://www.michigan.gov/bow). Registration fees can be paid online at [www.michigan.gov/estore](http://www.michigan.gov/estore). For more info, contact Sharon Pitz at 906-228-6561 or [pitzs@michigan.gov](mailto:pitzs@michigan.gov). ✧



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#### Position Statement

Representing a major interest in the aquatic resources of the Great Lakes states and the province of Ontario, the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council is a confederation of organizations and individuals with a concern for the present and future of sport fishing, our natural resources and the ecosystem in which we live. We encourage the wise use of our resources and a search for the truth about the issues confronting us.

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## Visit Conservation World at the Illinois State Fair A Great Place for Free Family Fun

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Free family fun, entertainment, and great ideas for spending time outdoors are featured inside Conservation World at the 2015 Illinois State Fair, August 14-23 in Springfield. Free shows include the famed Timberworks Lumberjacks and record-setting whip cracker Chris Camp’s “Whip Guy” western show, along with free Voyageur canoe rides, fishing clinics, and shooting sports instruction for youth.

Conservation World is a 30-acre park located at the northwest corner of the fairgrounds that reflects the diversity of outdoor recreation and natural resources of the state.

“Conservation World is a must-see destination for families at the Illinois State Fair, with great ways to learn more about the great outdoors in Illinois,” said Illinois Department of Natural Resources Director Wayne Rosenthal. “We encourage everyone coming to the fair to set aside some time to join us at Conservation World, where they’ll find shade trees, ponds and wildlife, with places to sit and relax while enjoying free shows and informative programs.”

Conservation World is open each day of the fair from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and features an expansive schedule of free entertainment, hands-on activities

for youngsters, informative exhibits, seminars, and interactive displays.

More highlights at Conservation World:

- **Free Kids Fishing Clinics** are an Illinois State Fair favorite, at the pond just inside the Conservation World gate. Young anglers learn about Illinois sport fish, then bait a hook and go fishing. Fishing clinics are held daily at 10:30 a.m., 12 noon, 1:30 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.
- Kids can practice their shooting skills on the **youth archery and youth BB gun ranges**, with help from expert volunteer instructors.



## Outdoor Adventure Center open for business – and fun – in Detroit

Almost 10 years since its initial vision and after more than five years of construction, the Michigan DNR’s Outdoor Adventure Center in downtown Detroit is open for visitors. Located in the historic Globe building, the Outdoor Adventure Center (OAC) is a combination education and recreation facility, built with a goal of bringing “up north” to downtown. But the facility also highlights how important Detroit is to Michigan and its natural resources.

The OAC comes on the heels of the DNR managing other state parks in Detroit in recent years, including William G. Milliken State Park and Harbor and Belle Isle Park. These parks demonstrate the DNR’s commitment to conservation and outdoor recreation in an urban environment.

The OAC offers plenty of exhibits and displays that show Michigan’s natural resources are not limited to the northern parts of the state and how Detroit has—and still does—fit into the picture.

Immediately upon entering the facility, a display commemorates Detroit as a historic ship-building center and a hub of the pre-settlement

fur trade. Educational displays on everything from recycling to making home appliances more energy-efficient illustrate the significance of conservation to all Michiganders.

The OAC features a wide range of hands-on activities for folks of all ages. Visitors can touch the fur of a variety of Michigan mammals – from beavers to skunks. They can learn the differences among Michigan’s frogs and toads and hear their calls by pressing on display models. They can gain understanding of various Michigan habitats—wetlands, pine forests or aspen stands, among them—through dioramas and accompanying texts.

Folks can sit in a fishing boat and try their hand at catching largemouth or smallmouth bass, salmon or lake trout at a fishing simulator. They can climb on a snowmobile or off-road vehicle and experience the thrill of blasting along a trail through the woods with accompanying video. They can try wing-shooting or big-game hunting at an arcade-like shooting simulator. They can try paddling a kayak or enjoying an exhilarating mountain bike ride at those simulators.

There’s a four-target archery range, sponsored by Safari Club International, which will be available for classes and by appointment only, until enough staffers have been certified to teach archery.

The OAC features a 3,000-gallon aquarium, stocked with native fish species, and a 36-foot artificial waterfall. There’s a life-size beaver lodge, a 40-foot tall, man-made, interactive tree, and a mockup of an eagle’s nest where visitors can stand, take selfies with the push of a button, and then email them directly to themselves or others.

There are displays on birds and butterflies and an airplane, suspended from the ceiling, like those the DNR uses to conduct aerial surveys of animals or surveillance for wildfires and in which visitors can have a seat.

Located at 1801 Atwater St., just east of the Renaissance Center, the more-than-a-century-old Globe Building was the site of the former Globe Trading Company. The OAC will be open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays to Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays. More information on hours and admission fees is available [here](#).



## MN meetings planned for DNR northern pike proposal

Those interested in learning more about a statewide regulation proposal for northern pike fishing can attend informational meetings that will detail how the concept addresses problems with pike populations in north-central, northeast and southern Minnesota.

The Minnesota DNR will discuss creating three pike fishing zones that could solve unique challenges with pike in each zone and improve northern pike fishing statewide.

Dates, times and locations of meetings are available at [www.mndnr.gov/pike](http://www.mndnr.gov/pike). The site also includes more information about the zone proposal, a video and a space to sign up for email announcements.

Meetings are scheduled:

- Tower, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Aug. 24, Tower Civic Center, 402 Pine St.
- Alexandria, 6-8 p.m. Aug. 25, Broadway Ballroom, 115 30th Ave.
- Detroit Lakes, 6-8 p.m. Aug. 26, MN State Community and Technical College, 900 Highway 34 E.
- Grand Rapids, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Aug. 26, Minnesota Interagency Fire Center training room on second floor, 402 Southeast 11th St.
- Bemidji, 6-8 p.m. Aug. 27, Northwest Technical College, 905 Grant Ave. SE.
- St. Cloud, 6-8 p.m. Aug. 31, Great River Regional Library - St. Cloud, 1300 W. St. Germain St.
- Apple Valley, 6-8 p.m. Sept. 1, Galaxie Library, 14955 Galaxie Ave.
- Andover, 6-8 p.m. Sept. 3, Bunker Hills Activities Center (accessible only from north entrance that is east of Bunker Lake), 550 Bunker Lake Blvd. NW.
- Mankato, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sept. 9, Country Inn & Suites, Mississippi/Riverbend room, 1900 Premier Drive.
- Duluth, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sept. 21, EPA building, 6201 Congdon Blvd.
- Willmar, 6-8 p.m. Sept. 23, Kandiyohi County Health and Human Services Building (multi-purpose room), 2200 23rd St. NE, Suite 1020.

◇

## DNR considers changes to Rainy Lake walleye regulations

Walleye fishing regulations on Rainy Lake will be the topic of a public meeting where Department of Natural Resources staff will present several options to modify or maintain the current walleye regulations for the lake. The meeting is at 7 p.m. Tuesday, September 29, at the Rainy River Community College theater, 1501 US-71 in International Falls.

The current regulation, which has been in effect since 2001, requires that all walleye from 17 to 28 inches must be immediately released. One walleye longer than 28 inches is allowed in a total possession limit of four. The special regulation was originally put in place in 1994 to increase the walleye population through a 17- to 25-inch protected slot. Special regulations are routinely reviewed after a certain number of years.

The regulation has worked well to replenish walleye in Rainy Lake. At the meeting, DNR fisheries staff will present information and discuss the current status of the fishery. Four different management scenarios will be presented, including the option to continue the current regulation. There will be time for questions and comments from the public.

Public input on the proposed change will help DNR fisheries staff determine which of the management options should be adopted. People unable to attend the public meeting may submit comments by telephone to 218-286-5220, by email to [interfalls.fisheries@state.mn.us](mailto:interfalls.fisheries@state.mn.us), or by mail to International Falls area fisheries, 392 Highway 11 East, International Falls, MN 56649. Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. Friday, October 9. DNR staff will also be available to discuss and take comments on this proposal at an open house covering all fishing regulations under review around the state from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 23, at the DNR Central Office, 500 Lafayette Road in St. Paul. ◇

## Pennsylvania seeks input on Wildlife Action Plan

**Draft of 2015-2025 update can be found online, comment accepted through Sept. 11**

The Pennsylvania Game Commission and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) are seeking public input through September 11 on the draft 2015-2025 Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan.

The draft plan and comment forms can be found at: <http://fishandboat.com/swap2015.htm>. Questions can be directed to the Game Commission at [WildlifePlanCmnts@pa.gov](mailto:WildlifePlanCmnts@pa.gov) or to the Fish and Boat Commission at [RA-FBSWAP@pa.gov](mailto:RA-FBSWAP@pa.gov). Use "SWAP" in the subject line.

The purpose of the Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan is "to conserve Pennsylvania's native wildlife, maintain viable habitat, and protect and enhance Species of Greatest Conservation Need." First developed in 2005, the plan has been the Commonwealth's blueprint for managing and protecting imperiled species. As required by Congress, State Wildlife Action Plans must be revised no less than every 10 years. For the past 10 years the Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan and associated funding from State and Tribal Wildlife Grants have been crucial for protecting and recovering imperiled species and their habitats.

"State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAP) are designed to help keep our common native species from becoming more rare," said PFBC Executive Director John Arway. "For rare species already listed as threatened or endangered, the plan is a framework to assist with their recovery. The SWAP is a unique opportunity to plan how we can work together to protect, conserve and enhance not only our diverse fish and wildlife resources but also the habitats that allow them to continue to live and survive on our Commonwealth's lands and in our waters." ◇

## Great Lakes spotted muskies set for release after year of careful rearing

After a year of careful rearing at the DNR Wild Rose Fish Hatchery, some 6,000 Great Lakes spotted muskies are set to begin the next phase of their journey, getting ready to test Wisconsin anglers and serve as brood stock in select state lakes.

Now averaging about 16 inches and weighing 11 ounces each, the Great Lakes spotted muskies have put on considerable size and weight since their arrival in 2014.

The muskies arrived in 2014 from Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery in Michigan as part of a cooperative effort to improve musky genetics in both states, said Steve Fajfer, supervisor of the Wild Rose Hatchery. While Michigan recently has focused on the Great Lakes spotted strain, Wisconsin's successful inland musky breeding program is contributing fish to help expand Michigan's stocking program in the Upper Peninsula.

Wisconsin DNR fisheries biologists are working to increase the genetic diversity of the musky population in the waters of Green Bay and Lake Michigan to restore a strong and naturally reproducing population of fish there. The waters of Green Bay, Sturgeon Bay and area tributaries including the Lower Fox

and Menominee rivers have become known as great destinations for musky fishing.

This year's fish, originating from spotted musky spawned from Lake St. Clair, are expected to create even more exciting opportunities in the years ahead, said Tim Simonson, a DNR biologist and musky specialist.

"The excellent forage base in Green Bay and the surrounding waters provides ideal habitat for the fish, which will be well suited to these waters," Simonson said.

DNR's plan for the fish is twofold. To provide a reliable source of future genetics, some 2,600 of the fingerlings will be placed in three brood stock lakes where they will contribute to future generations of purebred spotted muskies. Lakes chosen for this special role are Elkhart Lake in Sheboygan County and Anderson and Archibald lakes in Oconto County.

"Establishing three brood stock lakes allows us to put them on a rotation schedule for future egg collection that will help ensure the fitness and diversity of subsequent generations of fish that are eventually stocked back into the Great Lakes," Simonson said.

The remaining fish will be

planted directly into Green Bay, the Menominee River and the Fox River, Simonson said. They will contribute directly to the trophy fishery and perhaps also increase the likelihood for sustained natural reproduction. While some natural reproduction has been documented in the region, DNR fisheries managers are pursuing both the introduction of the new fish and continued habitat improvement efforts to move closer to this goal.

Fajfer and Simonson said much of the work has been made possible thanks to the support of private sporting and conservation groups. Key to the effort has been the generous support of the Musky Clubs Alliance of Wisconsin and several of their member clubs.

To learn more about the management plan for spotted musky, search the DNR website, [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), for "[Great Lakes spotted musky \[PDF\]](#)." Details about the workings of Wisconsin's brood stock lakes can be found by searching for "[Wisconsin muskellunge brood stock management plan \[PDF\]](#)."

For more information: Steve Fajfer, 920-622-3527 x201, [steven.fajfer@wisconsin.gov](mailto:steven.fajfer@wisconsin.gov); Jennifer Sereno, communications, 608-770-8084, [sereno.Jennifer@gmail.com](mailto:sereno.Jennifer@gmail.com). ✧

## Fall boat-show season looks promising

It was the first major-market fall show out of the box and the recent Progressive Michigan City In-Water Boat Show sent all the right signals going forward.

The trade tabloid Soundings Trade Only stated new show features, increased promotion and settled show dates all combined to ring up a 7% attendance increase and markedly improved sales for exhibitors.

"We expected the show would reflect the steady improvement in boat sales," show manager Ken Alvey said, "and it did. We also got past the confusion we created last year when we changed our dates." His reference was to moving the show to early August last year that likely confused

some boaters who were used to the show being held on the last weekend of August for more than 30 years.

We increased our promotion this year to make sure our message was clear," Alvey noted, "and we added the Rail Jam Show as a prime feature attraction. That garnered great publicity and show attendees seemed really into it."

Exhibitors were also into it. "Loved this year," said Tom Armon of Freedom Boat Club (St. Joseph, Mich.). "I have over 100 serious membership prospects and I even sold off one boat. Excellent show!" Similar praise came from Jack Ervin of Great Lakes Yachts (Kenosha, Wis.). "We always sell from this

show. It's a winner and we enjoy coming every year."

Like most in-water boat shows, this one is smaller than it was before the recession. But it's seeing some growth again and it remains an important venue for dealers in the large tri-state market that surrounds southern Lake Michigan. That's why exhibiting dealers come from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan to this show.

Accordingly, dealers who have not yet signed up for space in their area's fall show should get it done now. Rod Bensch might have put it best when he said of shows: "The environment may be smaller, but the outcome can still be huge." ✧

## Auctions of Michigan managed surplus land in Muskegon and Newaygo counties

**Auctions will be hosted Aug. 20 in Muskegon and Aug. 22 in Manistee**  
The Michigan DNR will offer public land for sale through two live auctions of state-managed public land in Muskegon (August 20) and Manistee (August 22).

**Aug. 20: Muskegon County (18 properties in Cedar Creek, Blue Lake, White River, Egelston, Dalton, Fruitland, Norton Shores and Muskegon townships).** Live auction begins August 20, at noon in the Holiday Inn - Muskegon Harbor - Embassy Ballroom, 939 Third St.; registration begins at 11:30 a.m.

The properties for sale range between 0.05 acres and 2.03 acres in size throughout Muskegon County. Larger properties are located in Cedar Creek, Blue Lake and White River townships. Smaller properties are in Egelston, Dalton, Fruitland, Norton Shores and Muskegon townships, in the Oak Hill, Evanston Homes, Lakewood Addition, Clear Lake, Goose Egg Lake Resort and Cora Reed subdivisions.

**Aug. 22: Newaygo County (140 properties in Merrill and Ashland townships).** Live auction begins August 22, at noon in the Little River Casino - Bodweadamiih Room, 2700 Orchard Way, in Manistee; registration begins at 11:30 a.m.

The DNR is selling 59 newly listed properties in both Woodland Park and the Woodland Park #4 subdivisions, located about 20 miles west of Big Rapids. These properties generally consist of four or more lots. Not all roads in the subdivision have been developed. Also, 79 repriced properties in Woodland Park subdivisions 1 and 2 will be offered again. Two properties also are for sale in Ashland Township, Melwood Forest Subdivision, located about 15 miles southwest of Newaygo. Both of these properties have frontage on Sand Lake.

For all auctions, bidders may pre-

## Wis. DNR land sales parcels available for review

The Wisconsin DNR released a list of 118 land parcels in the second year of land sale efforts resulting from Wisconsin Act 20. Parcels under review are located in 40 counties and total 8,288 acres. Of this total, 5,387 acres will be reviewed for possible sale to the general public. They can be reviewed on [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov).

The process will be conducted by field staff and will consider each parcel's recreational utility, natural resources values and how the parcel fits within the department's overall portfolio of real estate holdings. The department owns more the 1.5 million acres of land — and sales and exchanges are part of the routine management of its land holdings. This effort will focus on isolated parcels located outside of established project boundaries.

An additional 2,575 acres will be reviewed to determine if county forest ownership will provide for more suitable management, while 325 acres will be reviewed to determine if Wisconsin Tribal Nation ownership will provide for more suitable management. DNR staff will work directly with counties and Wisconsin's Tribal Nations regarding land identified to be sold.

To view a list of lands for possible sale, visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), search keywords "[land sales](#)," and click on the button labeled "parcels for review and sale." ✧

*continued from column 1*

register or get more info on the live auction process at [www.tax-sale.info](http://www.tax-sale.info). Mineral rights may not be available on some properties. Details about each property (including minimum bid amount, map, property descriptions and conditions of sale) also are available at [www.tax-sale.info](http://www.tax-sale.info).

Conditions of sale: [www.michigan.gov/landforsale](http://www.michigan.gov/landforsale); click on [Land Sales and Auctions Terms and Conditions](#). Call: Patricia Harlow at 517-284-5940. ✧

## DNR to hold October sale of state park land

The Minnesota DNR is offering seven parcels of land for sale located within the boundaries of Lake Bronson State Park, Kittson County. All are developable cabin site properties in the Lakeside Subdivision. State park land and private residential lots are in the immediate area.

The parcels will be sold by public oral bid auction. The sale will be on October 9 at 11 a.m. (registration at 10:30 a.m.) at the Kittson County Courthouse, 410 5th St. SE, Hallock. Prospective bidders are advised to review the property data sheet, be familiar with the property, minimum bid price, and terms and conditions of sale prior to attending the auction.

Property data and terms and conditions of sale: [www.dnr.state.mn.us/lands\\_minerals/landsale/](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lands_minerals/landsale/). Or call 651-259-5432, 888-646-6367 or by email: [landsale@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:landsale@dnr.state.mn.us). ✧

## Big Trout Program

The PFBC will be implementing a new stocked trout program in 2016, providing exciting new angling opportunities across Pennsylvania.

In this program, approximately 10% of the larger 2- to 3-year-old-trout in the PFBC hatchery system that are stocked each year will be allocated to eight waters currently managed under Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only regulations. These fish, which will measure from 14 – 20+” in length, will be stocked at a rate of up to 250 trout per mile, comparable to the numbers of fish of this size in Pennsylvania’s best wild trout waters. By contrast, the current stocking rate for 2- to 3-year-old-trout statewide in the catchable trout program is about 5-10 per mile.

The eight streams will be distributed broadly across the state so that at least one water is located within a reasonable distance of all of Pennsylvania’s anglers.

The names of the selected waters for the program will be released at the next Commission meeting on September 28 and 29. ✧

## Breeding bird distribution affected by wind turbines in the Dakotas

New wind energy facilities placed in prime wildlife habitat in North and South Dakota can influence the distribution of several species of grassland birds for years after construction, including species whose populations are in serious decline.

According to a U.S. Geological Survey [report](#) recently published in the journal *Conservation Biology*, seven of nine bird species studied from 2003-2012, including the significantly declining grasshopper sparrow and bobolink, were displaced from suitable breeding habitat in native mixed-grass prairies after wind turbine construction. Displacement typically started one year after construction and persisted for at least two to five years.

One species, the killdeer, was temporarily attracted to the new wind facilities, likely because it prefers the gravel of turbine pads and roads for nesting. Neither displacement nor

attraction was detected for one species, the vesper sparrow.

"Understanding how wind turbines affect breeding birds can help wind developers and land managers site turbines in areas with minimal impact to birds, while striving to meet energy demands, reduce carbon emissions and provide energy security," said Jill Shaffer, a USGS scientist and lead author of the study.

The scientists collected data from three wind facilities in grasslands of Highmore, S. Dakota, and Forbes and Oliver County, N. Dakota. They monitored changes in density of breeding bird pairs overall and in relation to distance from wind turbines. Two of the bird species exhibited displacement the year after construction, which persisted for at least two to five years:

- The western meadowlark, which moved 300 to 1000 meters (m) from turbines, or more than 984 to 3280 feet (ft.) and

- the upland sandpiper (100 m, about 328 ft.).

Species that exhibited displacement from two to five years post-construction were:

- The bobolink (300 to 1000 m),
- grasshopper sparrow (300 m),
- clay-colored sparrow (200 m or 656 ft.),
- chestnut-collared longspur (300 m) and
- savannah sparrow (300 m).

"The Great Plains supports some of the last remaining native temperate grasslands in North America," Shaffer said. "Proper management of these valuable wildlife habitats can help maintain overall ecosystem health for the benefit of animals and people."

The USGS and NextEra Energy provided research funding. For more information about wildlife habitat research in the Great Plains, please visit the USGS [Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center website](#). ✧

## Prevent bear problems by removing all food sources

As hard to believe as it might be, black bears see a bird feeder as a food source. Bird feeders, garbage cans and barbecue grills all are bear attractants that humans can control.

Bears are more noticeable to people right now, as young bears are establishing their own territories. Bears typically mate in late June to early August, and the mother will kick out her yearlings in order to do so. Those yearling bears now are looking for new, unoccupied territory and will be roaming to find a new home.

"Bears are looking for food and new territory," said Kevin Swanson, Department of Natural Resources wildlife management specialist with the bear and wolf program. "While we might not think of bird feeders and trash cans as food sources, a hungry bear certainly may."

Bird seed is especially attractive to bears because of its high fat content and easy access. Once bird feeders are

discovered, bears will keep coming back until the seed is gone or the feeders have been removed. Bears are capable of remembering reliable food sources from year to year.

"The majority of complaints we receive about nuisance bears involve a food source, and these issues tend to rise in years when natural food availability is low," Swanson said. "The easiest thing people can do to avoid creating a problem is to take in their bird feeders and store other attractants, like grills, trash cans and pet food, in a garage or storage shed."

Bears that are rewarded with food each time they visit a yard can become habituated to man-made food sources. This can create an unsafe situation for the bear and become a nuisance for landowners if a bear continuously visits their yard during the day and repeatedly destroys private property in search of food.

Those who have taken appropriate actions to remove food

sources for a period of two to three weeks, but are not seeing results, should contact the nearest [DNR office](#) and speak with a wildlife biologist or technician for further assistance.

For more information about Michigan black bears watch "[The Bear Essentials](#)" video or visit [www.michigan.gov/bear](http://www.michigan.gov/bear). ✧

## Be part of Indiana's largest outdoor recreation event

The Ford Hoosier Outdoor Experience is searching for volunteers. The 2015 event will take place September 19-20 at [Fort Harrison State Park](#) in Indianapolis. This free, family-friendly event offers more than 50 different outdoor activities and runs 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. each day. ✧

# Fall Hunting/Shooting Items

## IL Firearm Deer Permits

Permit applications will be accepted until August 21 for the new third lottery drawing for 2015 Illinois firearm and muzzleloader deer permits. For details, check the IDNR website at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/deer](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/deer). Hunters can check on the status of their firearm deer permit application online: <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/deer/Pages/OnlineDeerPermitInquirySystem.aspx>. ✧

## Fall Wild Turkey Shotgun Permits

Illinois hunters may apply for the second lottery for Fall Wild Turkey Shotgun permits through August 24 (third lottery deadline will be September 21). The season dates are October 24 – November 1. For more information: [www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/turkey](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/turkey). ✧

## Resident Archery Deer and Fall Turkey Permits

Resident combination archery deer permits, resident antlerless-only archery deer permits, and resident archery fall turkey hunting permits are available over-the-counter from DNR Direct license and permit vendors. To find a vendor near you: <http://dnr.illinois.gov/DNRDirectMonitor/ VendorListing.aspx>. ✧

## Public Duck and Goose Hunting Area Permits

Resident hunters may apply online from August 16-31 for the first lottery for the Illinois 2015 Public Duck and Goose Hunting Area Permit program. The second lottery application period will be September 1-15 for those unsuccessful resident applicants from the first lottery, residents who didn't apply in the first lottery, and non-residents. The third lottery application period will be September 15-28. All initial applications must be made online: <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/waterfowl/Pages/OnlinePermitApplication.aspx>. ✧

## Non-Resident Archery Deer & Fall Turkey Permits

The remaining non-resident 2015 Illinois combination archery deer permits (one antlerless permit and one either sex permit) are available over-the-counter from DNR Direct license and permit vendors. Non-resident archery fall turkey permits are also available OTC from DNR Direct license and permit vendors. Find a vendor: <http://dnr.illinois.gov/DNRDirectMonitor/ VendorListing.aspx>. ✧

## Youth Deer Permits

Resident and non-resident Illinois Youth Firearm Deer permits are available over-the-counter from DNR Direct license and permit vendors, by phone at 1-888-673-7648 (1-888-6PERMIT), or online at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov) through August 31 (Permits available OTC only after August 31). The Youth Deer Hunt is Columbus Day weekend, October 10-12. For more information: <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/deer/Pages/YouthFirearmDeerHunting.asp>. ✧

## Handgun Permits nearly tripled since 2007

Gun ownership among women increased 270% from 2007 levels opposed to the 156% rate for men. While these numbers are heartening for lovers of Liberty and advocates for the right to self-defense, they are also probably low. According to [a study](#) by the Crime Prevention Research Center there are 10 states in the union that allow some kind of permitless handgun carry (with [Maine](#) most recently joining those ranks). And there are signs that these gun owners aren't just exercising their hunting and fishing rights. At the SHOT Show in January, the National Shooting Sports Foundation released [a study](#) that found the number one reason women get a gun is for self-defense — all inconvenient truths for those who want to impose more gun control. ✧

## Upland Game Permits

Hunters may apply through August 31 for the Illinois 2015 Free Upland Game Hunt Permit program. Applications must be made online, and successful applicants will receive a confirmation by mail. The online application information is available at this link: <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/uplandgame/Pages/OnlinePermitApplication.aspx>. ✧

## Controlled Pheasant Permits

Information is now available online for hunters to apply for 2015-16 Illinois controlled pheasant hunting opportunities available at 18 IDNR sites. Fourteen sites are operated by the IDNR, while four other sites are managed by concessionaire T. Miller, Inc. For application info: [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov) or [www.tmillerinc.com](http://www.tmillerinc.com). ✧

## Young competitors flock to Sparta

More than 2,800 young shotgun and pistol shooters traveled to Sparta, Illinois, recently for the Scholastic Clay Target Program and Scholastic Pistol Program national championships. [Nearly 20%](#) of this year's competitors were female. Find more stories about these young competitors at [ssfonline.com/news](http://ssfonline.com/news). ✧

## Survey estimates highest duck population on record

Fall waterfowl hunting seasons are right around the corner, and 2015 USFWS estimates show the highest continental duck populations since the survey began in 1955. The total 2015 estimate is 49.5 million birds, with mallards and green-winged teal estimates at a record high 11.6 million and 4.1 million, respectively. Continental blue-winged teal estimates are at 8.5 million, the third highest estimate on record. More info can be found in the [full USFWS report \[PDF\]](#).

For more info: [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), key words "[waterfowl management](#)." ✧

## Hunters can harvest Canada geese in August

Hunters can hunt Canada geese in west-central Minnesota through Sunday, August 23. Individual hunters are allowed to shoot up to 10 Canada geese per day, but there is no limit to the number of Canada geese a hunter can possess.

“The state’s Canada goose population remains high, and the August management action is one way to control goose numbers,” said Steve Cordts, waterfowl specialist for the DNR. “This harvest helps limit the amount of damage the birds cause to crops in the western portion of the state.”

The August goose harvest is open only in the intensive harvest zone in west-central Minnesota, with shooting hours from a half-hour before sunrise to a half-hour after sunset. A small game hunting license, special goose permit and state waterfowl stamp are required. A federal waterfowl stamp is not needed; however, it is required to hunt geese and other waterfowl beginning in September.

This is the third year the DNR has held an August goose management action.

The DNR will announce details of fall waterfowl seasons later this month, including the September Canada goose season that runs from Saturday, September 5, through Tuesday, September 22, and the regular Canada goose seasons that tentatively begin Saturday, September 26. Season dates and more information on goose hunting can be found at [www.mndnr.gov/waterfowl](http://www.mndnr.gov/waterfowl).  
✦

## Reserved deer hunt information

Indiana is asking for assistance with ecosystem management in Indiana State Park by participating in a state park deer reduction hunt. Deadline for [registration](#) ends on August 24. Reduction hunts will be held November 16-17 and November 30 – December 1. [More information](#) ✦

## Partners help DNR stock more than 4 million walleye this year

The Michigan DNR and tribal partners stocked nearly 4.7 million walleye fingerlings in more than 110 water bodies located throughout Michigan this spring and summer.

Walleye ponds are a critical component of the DNR’s coolwater fisheries management and have been used extensively since the mid-1970s. More than 30 walleye ponds located throughout Michigan were used this year, and most rely heavily on the support of local sportsmen’s organizations. These groups assist with the ponds’ finances and supply volunteers to help with fertilization, pond maintenance and fish harvest.

Eggs were taken from adult walleye from the Muskegon River and Little Bay De Noc and then hatched at Thompson, Wolf Lake and Platte River state fish hatcheries. A few days after hatching, the larval walleyes were moved from the hatcheries to local walleye ponds. The fish were reared in these ponds for 50 to 60 days where they fed on tiny aquatic animals called zooplankton. The fingerlings were harvested when they reached 1½ to 2 inches long and stocked in public waters. The walleye will grow to legal size within four to five years.

“The many local angling groups that join us in rearing and stocking walleye are extremely valuable,” said Ed Eisch, the DNR’s fish production manager. “These annual efforts allow us to greatly enhance the world-class fishing opportunities available in Michigan.”

Included in the 4.7 million fingerlings stocked were approximately one million fish reared by the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) and stocked in U.P. and northern Lower Peninsula waters. CORA operates walleye rearing ponds in the eastern U.P. Eggs for fish reared by CORA were collected from both Little Bay de Noc and the St. Mary’s River.

## One scary Ghost Prototype Navy SEAL assault ship

The futuristic \$15 million prototype marine vessel aptly named *Ghost* was built specifically to run stealthily invisible — until it unleashes a devastating blast with its mounted machine gun and rocket launcher.

The 38-foot vessel was built entirely on spec by New Hampshire-based Juliet Marine Systems for applications that include luxury speedboat, Navy SEAL assault ship and even modern-day pirate hunter.

Built from aluminum and stainless steel, the vessel is nonmagnetic and difficult to target using sonar.

“We came up with the name *Ghost* because the boat is intended to have no radar signature at all,” CEO Gregory Sancoff told Bloomberg Business.

“With *Ghost*, you can get into denied-access ocean areas and loiter for 30 days with the fuel on board. You can listen to cell phone conversations, you can monitor what’s going on, you can launch operations and leave, and no one knows you’re there.”

[Sancoff told CNN](#) that he has had inquiries about building a high-speed ferry version of *Ghost* to run between Florida and Cuba.

Take a look at how this boat works. [WATCH Video >>](#) ✦



*Continued from column 2*

“For many years now, our partnership with CORA has consistently resulted in high-quality walleye fingerlings that benefit both tribal and non-tribal anglers,” said Eisch. “As it exists, our coolwater production capacity is not able to meet demand for walleye fingerlings, but CORA’s efforts get us closer to meeting that demand.”

To find out if walleye were stocked in your favorite fishing spot, go to: [michigandnr.com/fishstock/](http://michigandnr.com/fishstock/). ✦

## Grants announced for 23 Indiana Lake and River projects

New grants for the care of Indiana's water bodies totaling \$994,300 have been awarded through the Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) program.

The grants help fund 23 projects in 18 counties. Local sponsors submit applications for LARE assistance and commit to sharing a portion of the total cost. DNR's share comes from a fee paid annually by boat owners when registering their boats with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The grants allow for the completion of projects that are difficult for smaller local organizations to fund.

The projects include water quality monitoring, bank erosion control, and watershed land treatments to reduce the amount of sediment and nutrients entering water. Six grants for land treatment were awarded to Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs). These grants will complement SWCD efforts with local landowners.

Some projects also will result in the creation of habitat elements such as riffle pools, stream meanders and wetlands for fish and other aquatic organisms. Habitat enhancements encourage biological diversity in and around the streams, including more opportunities for game fish populations to thrive.

"Simultaneously enhancing habitat for fish and other organisms while addressing erosion make this a clear 'win-win' for both the resources and the citizens of Indiana," said Mark Reiter, director of DNR Fish & Wildlife. Project list: [DNR Grants](#). ◇

## Fees changing for Indiana fish & wildlife area campgrounds

Due to increasing campground operating costs, the Indiana DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife is raising its campground fees from \$2 to \$4 per night. For a list of fees: [State fish & wildlife area campgrounds](#) ◇

## Exercise provides DNR staff more training on Asian carp removal

The Michigan DNR recently sent several fisheries staff to assist the Illinois DNR with an ongoing Asian carp removal project. The goal of the project is to respond to the leading edge and reduce population levels of Asian carp threatening the Great Lakes via the Chicago Area Waterway System.

While there, Michigan staff assisted the Illinois DNR and commercial anglers in capturing and removing bighead and silver carp from reaches of the Illinois River south of Chicago. Although Asian carp (bighead or silver) are not present in any Michigan waters, this training provided critical knowledge to the Michigan DNR for potential future response efforts.

In addition to this recent training exercise, the DNR also has coordinated and participated in other field efforts to increase preparedness and implement portions of the state's [Asian Carp Management Plan](#). These include a field exercise on the St. Joseph River in the fall of 2013 and a multi-jurisdictional field exercise, co-led with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, on Lake Erie in the fall of 2014.

"Opportunities like the one we participated in are critical to maintaining regional collaboration and helping to reduce the Asian carp population that's currently threatening the Great Lakes," said DNR Senior Water Policy Advisor Tammy Newcomb. "The efforts provide valuable opportunities to help us address any Asian carp issues that threaten our state's waters while we work toward additional preventative solutions in Illinois." For more information on Asian carp, visit [michigan.gov/asiancarp](http://michigan.gov/asiancarp).

Two videos documenting the DNR's participation are available on YouTube:

[Michigan DNR Asian Carp Training - Illinois River 2015](#)  
[MDNR Asian Carp Training in Illinois - Impressive Netting](#) ◇

## DNR methods for controlling aquatic invasive species Early Detection and Response Program

The Michigan DNR has developed an early detection and response program (EDR) for controlling aquatic invasive plant species. The DNR is proposing to implement the EDR using a combination of mechanical and chemical (i.e., herbicide) tools.

In 2010, the DNR and Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) were granted \$1,028,548.00 from the EPA to develop and implement an EDR, with the goal of detecting and eradicating high-threat aquatic invasive species in the state of Michigan. In 2013, additional funding was awarded through this GRLI grant to implement the EDR. Overall, the project aims to use the best known methods to detect, eradicate and control several high-priority aquatic invasive plant species that adversely impact the health of the Great Lakes.

The DNR has implemented an EDR to survey and treat infestations of the species listed above on a statewide level in coordination with federal (USFWS) and local (Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas) partners. Given the potential impact of these species to Michigan's natural resources, the DNR proposes expansion to improve efficiency and efficacy in control of these species.

Response efforts have been implemented in four main areas of the state based on reported occurrences: Southeast Michigan, Saginaw Bay, the Thunder Bay watershed in Alpena County, and Munuscong Bay in Chippewa County. Through cooperative efforts, the ERR has verified 128 reports and responded to 63 infestations of 6 priority species across the state. [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/fonsi\\_aquatic\\_invasives\\_494409\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/fonsi_aquatic_invasives_494409_7.pdf) ◇

## Celebrating US Coast Guard

*Continued from page 1*

1943 launched the construction of the Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw. One year later, the \$8 million icebreaker was completed to keep Great Lakes shipping running as long into the winter season as possible. At the time, the Mackinaw was the most powerful vessel of her kind.

The Coast Guard Cutter Escanaba was deployed from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic. In June of 1943 she was sunk while underway with a convoy out of Greenland. There were only two survivors. Citizens in Grand Haven, Michigan established a park as a memorial for those who died and raised over \$1 million in war bonds to build another cutter to bear the name.

Sunday, the residents of Grand Haven, Michigan concluded their annual, week-long [Coast Guard festival](#). On the Friday of the festival at Escanaba Park, the community holds a memorial service as they have done for the past 72 years. The memorial is for all Coast Guard men and women lost while living the service's motto, Semper Paratus.

The Coast Guard is a more diverse and inclusive service than at any other point in its 225 year history. The service's continued strength resides in its people, its history, and its missions. On the Great Lakes, there is an inextricable link to the U.S. Coast Guard's history and growth of the towns, states and waterways where Coast Guard men and women serve. ✧

## Smith & Wesson contributes \$1 million to NRA

The National Rifle Association, on August 4<sup>th</sup> announced that it has received a \$1 million gift to the NRA Institute for Legislative Action from Smith & Wesson. Presented at the 2015 NRA Annual Meetings & Exhibits, this is the latest in a series of gifts from Smith & Wesson to a variety of NRA entities. ✧

## DNR to replace Big Shag Lake boat launch in Marquette County

The Michigan DNR announced that the Big Shag Lake boating access site, west of Gwinn, will be closed August 17 for installation of a new concrete boat ramp. The access site is located in Forsyth Township, off Marquette Cty Rd 557, along Knudsen Rd. There are no alternate boat launches in the area, but people can search for other boat launches, harbors and marinas throughout the state by visiting [Michigan's Recreational Boating Information System site](#). The \$12,000 project is expected to be completed by Friday, August 21. ✧

## Pickerel Lake boat launch to close for replacement

The boat launch in [Pickerel Lake State Forest Campground](#) (eastern Kalkaska County, MI) will be closed for construction of a new boat ramp to improve lake access. Work is scheduled to be finished before August 31. This \$6,000 project is funded by the Michigan DNR Parks and Recreation Division's boating program. Pickerel Lake State Forest Campground, located on Sunset Trail, will remain open during construction. ✧

## Spiny Waterflea confirmed in Lake Vermilion

Anglers reported suspected spiny waterfleas to Minnesota's DNR and supplied a specimen to the DNR fisheries office in Tower, where it was positively identified. Live specimens were located near J B and Ely islands in the east basin. Lake Vermilion and the Vermilion River will be designated as infested waters, and signs will be posted at public water access points to alert boaters and other recreationists. Crane Lake, a downstream water, is already designated for spiny waterflea. ✧

## Visit DNR at the Indiana State Fair, Aug. 7-23

See a snake or two, check out large aquariums filled with Indiana fish, and view live raptors at the amphitheater. The DNR's Natural Resources Building is not only one of the few with air conditioning at the State Fair but also houses the best information, animals and fun. While you are cooling off inside the [DNR building](#), pick up the latest recreation guide, fishing guide, hunting & trapping guide, boating guide, off-road vehicle guide, State Fair schedule and much more. [DNR State Fair schedule](#) ✧

## Why Great Lakes smallmouths are growing larger than ever

The list of trophy smallmouth destinations is growing, particularly in the Great Lakes region, where lakes Erie, St. Clair, Michigan, and Superior are making headlines. Why? Were these trophy fisheries there all along? A remarkable new study by University of Central Michigan and Michigan DNR fishery scientists, published in Transactions of the American Fisheries Society, suggests that at least one of these fisheries is new. Read the full article here: [Outdoorlife.com/articles/fishing](#). ✧

## Shedd Aquarium's Great Lakes Fish Finder App

The Great Lakes Fish Finder is an interactive field guide. Look up and identify fishes, submit sightings and join a community of Great Lakes enthusiasts to help you classify your finds. Get started today! The app includes the Great Lakes Guide to Fishes, which was created by experts from Shedd Aquarium. Great Lakes Fish Finder is available on [iTunes](#) and the [Google Play Store](#). ✧

# An Eye Opener

I recently received this map from the Department of Homeland Security – a real eye opener – and thought it needed to be shared with you all.

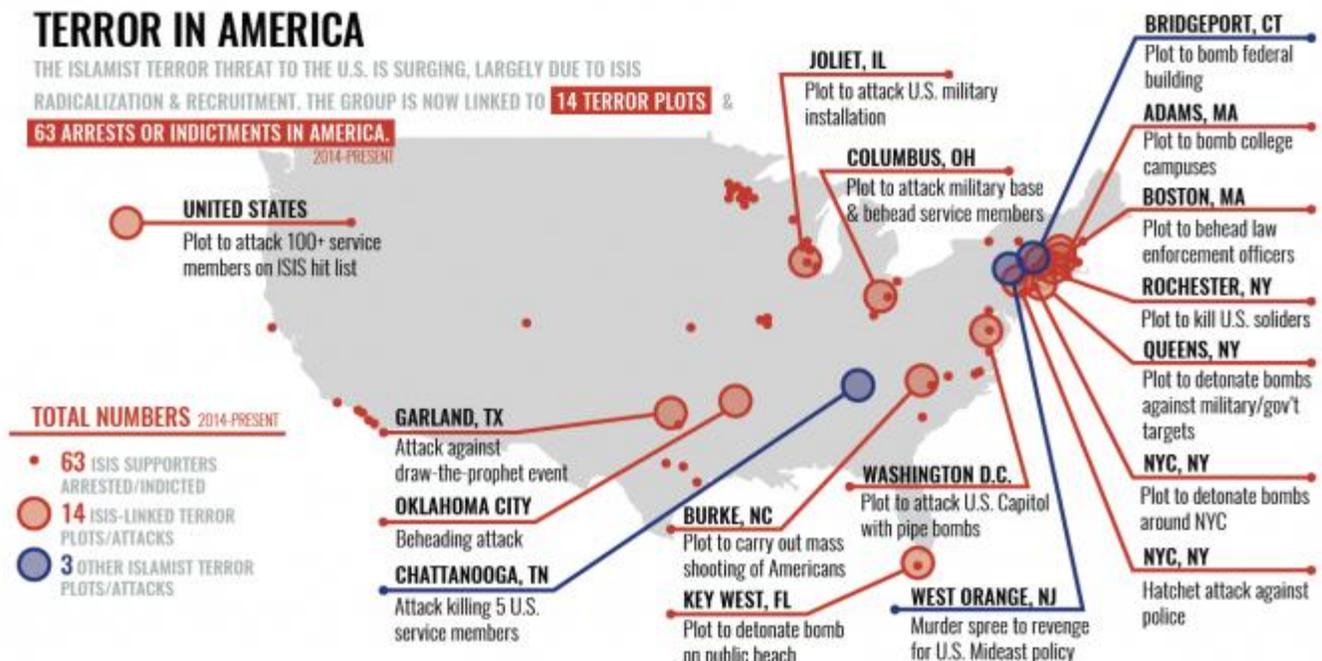
Dan

## HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE

## TERROR THREAT SNAPSHOT AUGUST 2015

### TERROR IN AMERICA

THE ISLAMIST TERROR THREAT TO THE U.S. IS SURGING, LARGELY DUE TO ISIS RADICALIZATION & RECRUITMENT. THE GROUP IS NOW LINKED TO **14 TERROR PLOTS** & **63 ARRESTS OR INDICTMENTS IN AMERICA.** 2014-PRESENT



**250+ AMERICANS ATTEMPTED TO REACH TERROR SAFE HAVEN IN SYRIA.**  
"DOZENS" CURRENTLY FIGHT WITH ISIS.

**MAJORITY OF RECENT ISLAMIST TERROR PLOTS TARGETED LAW ENFORCEMENT OR U.S. TROOPS.**  
2014-PRESENT

**FROM NY TO SYDNEY, ISIS HAS INSPIRED OR DIRECTED 55 PLOTS AGAINST THE WEST.**

**Other Breaking News Items:**

(Click on title or URL to read full article)

**[Michigan DNR Joins Illinois in Asian Carp Removal Project](#)**

The Michigan DNR has teamed up with the Illinois DNR to remove Asian Carp from a Chicago waterway to help prevent the invasive species from getting into the Great Lakes.

**[After 190 years, NY's Erie Canal a relic with a hefty cost](#)**

A renewed court fight has drawn fresh attention to the 360-mile-long ribbon of channels, lifts and locks between Albany and Buffalo, calling into question whether taxpayers will again have to foot the hefty bill to keep it and the other canals in the system operating.

**[Sex and violence may control sea lamprey](#)**

For the first time researchers have combined the smell of death with the lure of sex in an attempt to better target the parasitic invader that has feasted on Great Lakes fish for decades.

**[Bill would deem Great Lakes protected sanctuaries](#)**

The legislation would recognize historically significant underwater areas in the Great Lakes as national marine sanctuaries, such as Thunder Bay in northern Michigan that preserves dozens of sunken vessels.

**[What European demand for caviar means for a Great Lakes fish](#)**

Scientists say a key fish in Lake Superior's food web is now in trouble due to mild winters and an appetite for caviar in Europe.

**[2 Asian carp found in ponds near Toronto waterfront](#)**

Asian carp, reviled as the vanquishers of native aquatic species and seen posing a huge ecological threat, have somehow found their way into Lake Ontario.

**[Historic shipwreck identified in Lake Michigan](#)**

A group of explorers recently found a historic steamship off the coast of Muskegon, Mich., more than a century after it sank. Members of the Michigan Shipwreck Research Association say the John V. Moran is one of the deepest and most intact wrecks found in Lake Michigan.

**[Lake Michigan water levels rapidly rise after record lows](#)**

Water levels on Lake Michigan have undergone a remarkably quick transformation and are now more than 3 feet higher than January 2013 when they hit an all-time low.

**[CORA urges boaters to use caution on Great Lakes](#)**

The Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) has issued a caution to recreational boaters and sport fishermen to avoid commercial trap nets in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron.

**[No obvious quick fix for moribund yellow perch](#)**

The yellow perch has been an easy catch for Canadian fishers for more than a century, the fisheries department says. But a new report suggests rising water temperatures are threatening the fish.

**[Invasive species found in Northern Michigan lake](#)**

Quagga mussels have been found in a Northern Michigan inland lake. This is the first report of the mussels being found in an inland lake in the state; they're already in the Great Lakes.

**[Lake Michigan, Lake Huron water level at 17-year high](#)**

Overall, the water level in Lakes Michigan and Huron reached 579.7 feet in June — a height not seen since September 1998.

End