

Get outside,
GO FISHING

NORTH WEST



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DID YOU KNOW?

There are more than **30,000** known species of fish. And over **5,000** of those are in Australia.



GO FISHING

Fishing is a fun and healthy activity available to everyone.

This beginners booklet will help people find safe fishing spots at freshwater lakes and rivers throughout the North West of Victoria. It will explain:

- the basic fisheries rules
- the role of Fisheries Officers
- tips for fishing safely
- how to rig your fishing rod
- how to handle fish
- what to do with unwanted fish
- how to keep your catch fresh and safe to eat
- the best places, times and bait to catch a variety of fish.

WHY GO FISHING?

Fishing can be fun in so many ways.

It is a good way to:

- spend time with family and friends
- have some time away from your electronic devices
- enjoy the natural world. You never know what you will see
- help keep your mind and body healthy
- experience the thrill of catching your own dinner
- learn patience while you wait to catch a fish.

Fishing also helps children to learn respect for:

- our environment by taking your rubbish home
- our fisheries by knowing and following the rules
- other people fishing by not crowding them
- our fish by treating them carefully and not hurting them
- our fish populations by reporting illegal fishing to 13 FISH (13 3474).



PLANNING YOUR FISHING TRIP

Like most activities, a little planning can help make your day special. The basic gear you will need to take with you to go fishing is:

Up-to-date fishing information

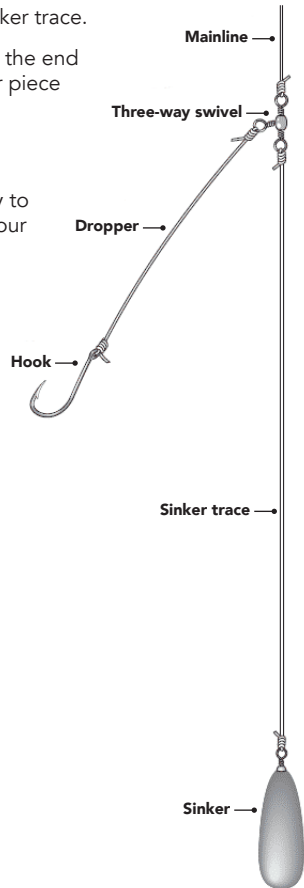
- Your fishing licence or proof of exemption (see pg 22 for more information).
- Your free Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide or the free Vic Fishing App.
- Your free fish measuring ruler.

Your fishing gear (a fishing tackle shop will be able to help you with this equipment)

- A fishing rod and reel or a hand line.
Talk to your local tackle shop to get the best equipment for the fish you would like to catch.
- Biodegradable fishing line.
Talk to your local tackle shop to get the best weight for the fish you would like to catch.
- Circle hooks.
- Non-lead sinkers.
- Three way swivel to tie a paternoster rig (see pg 6).
- Towel or gloves.
A wet towel or gloves protects both you and the fish when you are holding it.
- A bucket or esky with a rope attached.
This is used to keep your catch cool and safe to eat (and it can also be a float to throw to a person if they fall in the water).
- A knotless landing net.
This allows you to bring the fish to land without hurting it.
- A hook remover or long nosed pliers.
- A fishing priest.
This is a wooden or metal tool with a heavy blunt end that is used to kill fish very quickly and painlessly. To kill a fish, strike the top of the head just behind the eyes with a sharp heavy blow.
- Sharp knife (to cut up bait, gut fish and cut the fishing line).
- Bait and ice.

Paternoster rig

- Cut a length of fishing line off the end of your fishing line that is attached to the rod, this is called the Mainline.
- Tie a snap swivel to the end of the mainline.
- Take the length of fishing line and fold it so there is a longer length and a shorter length.
- Wrap the folded end over your finger, then around the doubled line and poke it back through the loop made by your finger. Grab each end of the line and pull tight.
- Tie a sinker to the end of the longer piece of line. This is called the sinker trace.
- Tie a hook to the end of the shorter piece of line. This is called the Dropper.
- You are ready to put bait on your line and start fishing.



SAFETY AROUND WATER

**Our waterways are beautiful and must be treated with respect.
For a fun filled, safe fishing adventure use the following checklist.**

Check the weather and water forecast BEFORE you go fishing

The BOM (Bureau of Meteorology) has all the information on weather across Victoria.

If the weather looks bad at the place where you would like to go fishing then it is best to find another place to fish or fish another day.

Tell someone, who is not fishing with you, your fishing plans

Always:

- tell someone where you are going fishing
- who you are going with
- the mobile phone of all the people you are going fishing with
- what time you will get home

Should the worst happen, this person will be able to get you help.

Remember if you change your plans, let this person know.

Never fish alone

Always fish with another person. You can keep each other safe.

Take your safety gear and keep it close to you

Basic safety gear includes a first aid kit, esky/bucket and rope, phone, water, sunscreen, hat and non-slip shoes.

Fish from a jetty or fishing platform

These areas are the safest places to fish from.

If there is not a jetty or fishing platform at the fishing spot you go to, choose a flat, safe place to fish from instead.

Make sure this area is easy to come and go from, has no rocks, holes or steep banks or overhangs.

Don't drink alcohol

Keep your eye on the water

Water conditions can change quickly and be unpredictable.

If someone falls into the water:

1. Tell the person to **stay calm** and roll onto their back
2. Throw them something that floats like a bucket or esky lid with a rope tied to it so you can pull them to safety
3. Call or Phone 000 if the person needs medical help
4. **DO NOT** enter the water yourself unless you are a trained lifesaver.



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Lake Cullulleraine

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Kings Billabong

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Little Murray River

17

Tchum Lake

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Wooroonook Lake

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Taylors Lake

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Toolondo Reservoir

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Lake Wartook

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Fyans Lake

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Rocklands Reservoir

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Lake Bellfield

FISHING LOCATIONS



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Kangaroo Lake

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Lake Boga

5

Gunbower Creek

8

Laanecoorie Reservoir

2

Eppalock Lake

4

Goldfield Reservoir

1

Cairn Curran Reservoir

14

Malmsbury Reservoir

FISHING LOCATIONS

1 CAIRN CURRAN RESERVOIR, NEWSTEAD

Cairn Curran Reservoir is a vast body of water created by the construction of a dam on the Loddon River in 1956. It is a popular recreation area with visitors enjoying waterskiing, canoeing, picnicking and of course fishing.

Likely to catch: Brown Trout, Carp, Golden Perch, Murray Cod (occasional), Redfin and Tench.

Attractions close by: Goldfield history, Maldon, Laanecoorie Reservoir, Tullaroop Reservoir.



2 EPPALOCK LAKE, HEATHCOTE

Lake Eppalock is perfect for families wanting to enjoy a range of water activities. This large body of water was constructed on the Campaspe River in the 1960s and has been popular with families ever since. It gets stocked annually which also makes it an excellent fishing destination.

Likely to catch: Brown Trout, Carp, Golden Perch, Murray Cod and Redfin.

Attractions close by: Wineries, Bendigo, nature reserves.



3 FYANS LAKE, HALLS GAP

A family friendly lake with excellent road access, a beach, boat ramp, caravan park and great fishing opportunities. Large trees dotted throughout the lake provide the perfect habitat not only for birds but also for the many fish stocked into this water.

Likely to catch: Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout, Redfin and Tench.

Attractions close by: Halls Gap, Grampians National Park, Halls Gap Zoo, Brambuk Cultural Center, wineries, bushwalking.



4 GOLDFIELD RESERVOIR, MARYBOROUGH

The historic town of Maryborough is home to the Goldfield Reservoir. This tree fringed lake is a popular family area and great for fishing and kayaking. It is located on the outskirts of town and adjacent to Maryborough Regional park.

Likely to catch: Brown Trout, Carp, Golden Perch, Rainbow Trout, Redfin, Silver Perch and Tench.

Attractions close by: Maryborough, State and Regional Parks, Art Galleries, historic railway station.



5

GUNBOWER CREEK

Gunbower Creek, with its internationally recognised red gum forest, wetlands and swamps, are a haven to many native birds and animals making it a popular tourist area. Families can fish, kayak, camp and bushwalk along this creek and its banks.

Likely to catch: Carp, Golden Perch, Murray Cod and Redfin.

Attractions close by: Cohuna, Echuca.



6

KANGAROO LAKE, KERANG

Surrounded by farmland and citrus groves Kangaroo Lake provides an excellent spot for shady bank fishing, picnics, waterskiing and swimming. Part of the irrigation system supplying water for agriculture in the Kerang-Swan Hill area, it is one of the best fishing waters in the basin.

Likely to catch: Carp, Golden Perch, Murray Cod and Redfin.

Attractions close by: Lake Boga, Lake Charm, Kerang, Swan Hill.



7

KINGS BILLABONG

Surrounded by state forest and orchards, Kings Billabong is a great family area with scenic bushwalks, bird watching, kayaking and fishing only a few kilometres from Mildura. The billabong is stocked with Golden Perch and Silver Perch.

Likely to catch: Golden Perch and Silver Perch.

Attractions close by: Mildura, Murray River, Orange World, Australian inland botanical gardens, paddle steamers, Mildura water play park.



8

LAANECOORIE RESERVOIR, DUNOLLY

A 15 minute drive from the historic gold mining town of Dunolly lies Laanecoorie Reservoir. This recreational area is popular for skiing, kayaking and fishing enthusiasts. There is a caravan park and boat ramp located close to the weir. The reservoir has abundant standing dead timber which provides excellent fish habitat.

Likely to catch: Golden Perch, Murray Cod and Redfin.

Attractions close by: Historic goldmining villages Maldon and Dunolly, conservation reserves, gold fossicking, Laanecoorie Weir.



9

LAKE BELLFIELD, HALLS GAP

Lake Bellfield, four kilometers south of Halls Gap, provides excellent opportunities for fishing right in the middle of the amazing Grampians National Park. Watch out for native wildlife like Kangaroos while you enjoy the tranquility and wait for a fish to bite.

Likely to catch: Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout and Redfin.

Attractions close by: Halls Gap, Dunkeld, Grampians National Park, Halls Gap Zoo.



10

LAKE BOGA

A popular family friendly lake situated adjacent to the Lake Boga township and close to the Little Murray River. Surrounding the lake are walking tracks, shady trees, BBQ and toilet facilities. Fishing along the shoreline makes for a pleasant afternoon and an ideal place to take in a sunset.

Likely to catch: Carp, Golden Perch, Murray Cod and Redfin.

Attractions close by: Swan Hill, Flying Boat Museum, Little Murray River, Murray River, bird watching, farm gate sales, Lake Boga story wall.



11

LAKE CULLULLERAINE

Lake Cullulleraine is an oasis in an otherwise harsh semi-arid environment. Originally, the lake was a dry natural depression that only filled when the Murray River was in very high flood. Today, thanks to 1600 kilometres of pipeline the Murray River is able to provide water to the area all year round.

Likely to catch: Golden Perch, Murray Cod and Redfin.

Attractions close by: Murray River, Mildura, Ned's Corner.



12

LAKE WARTOOK

Anglers and canoeing enthusiasts will not want to miss this little treasure surrounded by the mountains and forests of the Grampians National Park. Just half an hour drive from Halls Gap. This lake is suitable for shore fishing as well as those who want to try their luck from a canoe.

Likely to catch: Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout and Redfin.

Attractions close by: Halls Gap, Dunkeld, Grampians National Park, Halls Gap Zoo.



13

LITTLE MURRAY RIVER, NEAR SWAN HILL

This 30 km stretch of the Murray River has a weir at each end (Fish Point Weir at the mouth of the Loddon River and Little Murray Weir upstream). It has good access at Fish Point Road and the bank fishing is excellent. A lovely stretch of river for a family kayak adventure.

Likely to catch: Carp, Golden Perch, Murray Cod and Redfin.

Attractions close by: Swan Hill township, golf, waterskiing, Murray River, Lake Boga Aviation Museum, The Giant Murray Cod, Pioneer Settlement, Lake Boga Observatory, Swan Hill outdoor pool.



14

MALMSBURY RESERVOIR

Located on the outskirts of the historic goldrush town of Malmsbury is the picturesque Malmsbury Reservoir. Bank fishing only is permitted on this domestic water storage. Explore the township by morning and then relax on the shore with some local produce for an afternoon of fishing.

Likely to catch: Brown Trout and Redfin.

Attractions close by: Malmsbury, Kynton, Daylesford, conservation reserves, Upper Coliban and Lauriston Reservoirs, Coliban River.



15

ROCKLANDS RESERVOIR, BALMORAL

A great place to take the family for a long weekend away fishing. Camping facilities near the wall and some dry weather roads around the lake allow families to explore this vast waterway. It has been stocked with Golden Perch and Murray Cod but Redfin is the predominant target species.

Likely to catch: Brown Trout, Carp, Golden Perch, Murray Cod, Rainbow Trout, Redfin and Tench.

Attractions close by: Grampians National Park, Hamilton, Horsham.



16

TAYLORS LAKE, HORSHAM

Taylors Lake is a long, narrow lake, surrounded by farmland and popular for fishing and boating. There is some scattered standing timber in the water around the margins. A small beach area on the eastern shore is exposed when water levels are lower.

Likely to catch: Carp, Golden Perch, Murray Cod, Redfin and Silver Perch.

Attractions close by: Grampians National Park, Horsham, Wimmera River.



17

TCHUM LAKE

On the Birchip Whycheproof Road 8 kilometers east of Birchip, lies the easily accessible Tchum Lakes system. The main lake is a popular holiday spot for families of campers, water skiers and fishers. The lake has toilet and BBQ facilities and is perfect for a day of swimming, boating, windsurfing, fishing, water skiing or exploring the walking track around the lake.

Likely to catch: Golden Perch, Rainbow Trout, Redfin and Silver Perch.

Attractions close by: township of Birchip and the 'big Mallee bull' and Whycheproof township and its large grain silo, Mt Whycheproof the smallest recorded mountain in Australia, Whycheproof museum.



18

TOOLONDO RESERVOIR, TOOLONDO

Known as one of Victoria's premier trophy trout waters, Toolondo offers the opportunity to catch large trout and Redfin. It is also a popular waterskiing lake in the summer months. Great swimming and camping options are also available.

Likely to catch: Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout, Redfin and Tench.

Attractions close by: Grampians National Park, Horsham, Wimmera River, Golden Plains Museum.



19

WOORONOOK LAKE, CHARLTON

A popular area for picnicking, swimming and boating, this family friendly water has plenty of bank fishing areas shaded by large trees. There are several distinct waters which combine to form one lake when the water level is high. It is stocked annually with Golden Perch.

Likely to catch: Carp, Golden Perch and Redfin.

Attractions close by: Charlton and Donald townships.



WHAT YOU'LL CATCH: NATIVE



Golden Perch (Yellow Belly)

Peak season: October – November.

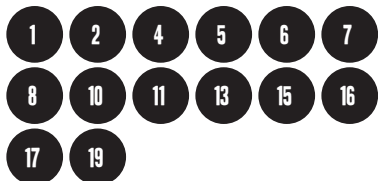
Minimum legal size: 30cm
(must be kept whole until you get home – can be gutted and scaled – see pg 18).


Bag limit: 5 per person per day.

Baits: Scrub worms, yabbies, shrimp.

Times: Late afternoon.

Locations:



 **Measure fish from the tip of the nose with the mouth closed to the end of the tail.**



Murray Cod

NOTE: *The rules for Murray Cod outlined below are for the locations listed in this guide ONLY. If you fish for Murray Cod elsewhere, for example a river, creek or stream, please refer to the Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide as other restrictions may apply.*

Peak season: December – February.

Minimum legal size: 55cm.

Maximum legal size: 75cm.
(must be kept whole until you get home – can be gutted and scaled – see pg 18).

Bag limit: 2 per person per day.

State-wide possession limit: You can **NOT** have more than 30kg or 5 Murray Cod at any time in Victoria.

Baits: Bardi grubs, scrubworms, yabbies, shrimp.

Times: Early morning and late afternoon.

Locations:



WHAT YOU'LL CATCH: NATIVE



Silver Perch

NOTE: *The rules for Silver Perch outlined below are for the locations listed in this guide ONLY. If you wish to fish for Silver Perch else where, please refer to the Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide as other restrictions may apply. Silver perch MUST NOT be kept from rivers north of the Great Dividing Range.*

Peak season: January – March.

Minimum legal size: 30cm
(must be kept whole until you get home – can be gutted and scaled – see pg 18).

Bag limit: 5 per person per day.

Baits: Shrimp, worms, yabbies.

Times: Dawn and late afternoon.

Locations:



WHAT YOU'LL CATCH: INTRODUCED



Brown Trout

NOTE: The rules for Brown Trout outlined below are for the locations listed in this guide ONLY. If you fish for Brown Trout elsewhere, for example a river, stream or a lake not specified in this book, please refer to the Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide as other restrictions may apply.

Peak season: Trout season dates change annually. Please refer to the Recreational Victorian Fishing guide for the most current information.

Minimum legal size:

Lake Toolondo: 45 cm

Others: None

(must be kept whole until you get home – can be gutted and scaled – see pg 18).

Bag limit:

Lake Toolondo: 3 total salmonids per day (either Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout or a combination of both).

Others: 5 salmonids per day (either Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout or a combination of both).

Baits: Power bait, worms, corn.

Times: Early morning and evening.

Locations:



Redfin

NOTE: Fishers are encouraged not to return Redfin to the water as they can impact other recreational species.

Peak season: All year round.

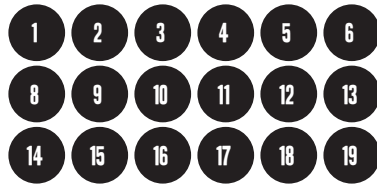
Minimum legal size: None.

Bag limit: None.

Baits: Worms, small yabbies.

Times: Early morning and late afternoon is best but can be caught at any time.

Locations:



Closed seasons protect fish when they are breeding ensuring fish for the future.

WHAT YOU'LL CATCH: INTRODUCED



Rainbow Trout

NOTE: The rules for Rainbow Trout outlined below are for the waters listed in this guide ONLY. If you fish for Rainbow Trout elsewhere, for example a river, stream or a lake not specified in this book, please refer to the Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide as other restrictions may apply.

Peak season: Trout season dates change annually. Please refer to the Recreational Victorian Fishing guide for the most current information.

Minimum legal size:

Lake Toolondo: 30cm

Others: None

(must be kept whole until you get home – can be gutted and scaled – see pg 18).

Bag limit:

Lake Toolondo: 3 total salmonids per day (either Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout or a combination of both).

Others: 5 salmonids per day (either Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout or a combination of both).

Baits: Power bait, worms, corn.

Times: Early morning/ evening.

Locations:



Tench

NOTE: Fishers are encouraged not to return Tench to the water as they can impact other recreational species.

Peak season: May – August.

Minimum legal size: None.

Bag limit: None.

Baits: Worms, corn kernels, bread.

Times: Anytime of the day.

Locations:



 **Keep your fish whole as this enables Fisheries Officers to measure the fish to make sure they are the legal size.**

WHAT YOU'LL CATCH: NOXIOUS SPECIES

Noxious species are animals we don't want in Victoria. They are very bad for our environment and the animals, fish and birds that live there.

Carp are a declared noxious species for many reasons.

- They churn up mud in search of food making the water dirty and taking out the oxygen fish need to breath.
- They are very good at breeding and many of the babies survive to be adults.
- They can live in many different environments.
- They eat the eggs of our native fish and frogs.

What do I do if I catch a Carp?

Kill Carp immediately with a strong blow to the back of the head with a fishing priest (see page 5).

Don't leave Carp on the river bank to rot. It is littering and makes the area unpleasant.

REMEMBER IT IS ILLEGAL TO RETURN LIVE CARP BACK TO THE WATER.

Another noxious species you may see is Gambusia (mosquito fish) which are often caught in bait nets.

These are also very good at breeding and out compete with our smaller native fish species like minnows and pygmy perch.

Gambusia are also a noxious species and are NOT to be used for bait or moved and put into another area.



Carp

NOTE: Carp are a noxious species.

Peak season: All year round.

Minimum legal size: None.

Bag limit: None.

Baits: Corn, bread, worms.

Times: Early morning and late afternoon is best but can be caught at any time.

Locations:



RESPONSIBLE FISHING BEHAVIOUR

Responsible fishing is not only about fishing within the rules but also about respecting and caring for the fish, native animals, the environment, other water users and fishers.

Responsible fishers care for:

- **the fish they catch by:**

- never leaving their fishing rod unattended
- using a net without knotted mesh to bring the fish in
- handling the fish carefully using a wet glove or towel
- supporting the fish in a flat position, not dangling it from a line
- removing the hook from the mouth quickly with a hook remover or long nosed pliers
- cutting the line as close as possible to the fish's mouth if it has swallowed the hook
- identifying the fish quickly
- measuring the fish quickly on a cool, wet surface
- quickly deciding if you can and want to keep the fish if they are the correct size.

- **the fish they release by:**

- gently and quickly lowering them into the water. If you are close to the water, you can do this with your hands. If you are higher above the water put the fish into a bucket of water and lower it down
- putting back unwanted fish immediately and carefully into the water. **DO NOT** release NOXIOUS species.

- **the fish they are allowed to keep by:**

- killing them quickly with a fishing priest, using the method described on pg 5
- storing them on ice to keep them safe to eat.

- **our fish populations by:**

- ALWAYS following the rules
- reporting illegal fishing to 13 FISH (13 3474)
- respecting Fisheries Officers who help people understand and enforce the rules.

- **their fishing spots by:**

- leaving the area clean. Take all your rubbish home including leftover bait and any fish waste
- using environmentally friendly fishing tackle
- sharing the space respectfully with other people including other anglers, swimmers and snorkelers
- Place tangled fishing line into a 'Seal-the-Loop' rubbish bin so that it cannot hurt or kill our native wildlife. If there is not a 'Seal-the-Loop' bin at the fishing spot, take it home with you and put it in your rubbish bin.



UNDERSTANDING THE FISHING RULES

There are many rules to remember when you go fishing in Victoria. Not all are covered in this beginners guide. For information on all the fishing rules search online for 'Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide' or download the free 'Vic Fishing' App.

Why do we have fishing rules?

Fishing rules make sure that we have fish now and in the future by:

- not allowing people to take too many (called a bag limit)
- putting small fish back into the water so they can grow and breed (called a minimum size)
- returning the larger, best breeding fish to the water (called a maximum size)
- stopping people from fishing in certain areas and at certain times to protect fish (called a closed season)
- only using the equipment we are allowed to.

Fishing rules protect fish. If you don't know what the rules for a fish you catch, put it straight back in the water.

Never put it in a bucket or bag. If you do this and it is not the right size or you shouldn't have it at all, you can get in trouble with a Fisheries Officer.

Do I need a fishing licence?

If you are between the age of 18 and 70 and fishing in Victoria then yes, you need a licence, even if you are just helping your children.

Some people don't need to have a fishing licence; this is called an exemption. For a list of exemptions search online.

Where can I buy a fishing licence?

Fishing licences can be bought online (search Victorian Recreational Fishing Licence).

You can also buy them at shops where you can buy your fishing equipment.

A licence can be purchased for 3 days, 28 days, 1 year and 3 years.

IMPORTANT information: If you are fishing in the Murray River you will need to get a NSW fishing licence.

WHAT ARE THE FISHING RULES?

Basic fishing rules

If you want to go fishing, this information will help you understand the fishing rules.

1. Legal size

legal size means the smallest (minimum legal size) and the largest (maximum legal size) fish you can legally keep.

If you catch a fish that is too small or too big, you must put it back into the water straight away.

The legal size of fish must be checked quickly.

Measure fish from the tip of the nose with the mouth closed to the end of the tail.



Fish that you wish to keep should be killed immediately and placed on ice.

2. Bag limit

Bag limits are the maximum number of the right sized fish you catch and keep in one day.

3. Return unwanted fish

You must return unwanted fish to water immediately and without hurting them, except for noxious species like carp. These must NOT be returned to the water alive.

4. Closed seasons

A time of the year when you cannot take some fish. This is to give them some extra protection while they breed and look after their babies.

5. Legal fishing equipment

Each person fishing can have:

- 2 fishing rods with 2 hooks attached in rivers and lakes (inland waters)
- 4 fishing rods with 2 hooks attached in marine waters
- you must stay close to your rods while they are in the water.

6. Don't fillet your fish while you are fishing

You can gut and scale your dead fish.

If you are fishing in areas not included in this beginners guide you will need to also check that you are:

- **not** in prohibited, restricted areas
- **not** fishing in a closed season.

All the fishing rules can be found in the Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide and the Vic Fishing App.

Where to get the correct information

- download the free Vic Fishing App
- get a free paper copy of the Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide sent to you by calling 13 61 86

Breaking the fishing rules can result in large fines and other serious consequences.

STAY UP TO DATE

Download the free Vic Fishing App here



FISHERIES OFFICERS

A Fisheries Officer's main responsibility is to help people fish within the rules.

How will I recognise a Fisheries Officer?

Fisheries Officers usually wear a dark blue uniform that shows the Officer's name and title.

Sometimes a Fisheries Officer will not be in uniform. If not, they will always show you official identification when they come to talk to you.

What can I expect when a Fisheries Officer comes to talk to me?

A Fisheries Officer can:

- give you information about fishing and the rules
- ask you to show them your current fishing licence or proof of your exemption and your driver's licence
- ask to look in your bag, fishing equipment, esky, container, vehicle and/or boat
- measure and count the fish you've kept to check they are the right size and the correct number.

What powers do Fisheries Officers have?

By law Fisheries Officers can:

- stop and look in any boat or vehicle
- ask for your name and home address
- search any equipment such as baskets, eskies or other containers
- issue 'on the spot' fines called an infringement notice
- take any fish, fishing gear or other equipment, including vehicles and boats, that may have been used to commit an offence
- place alleged offenders under arrest.

Fisheries Officers are also authorised to enforce laws relating to:

- litter, maritime safety and protected areas.

What happens if I am caught not following the rules?

Under the *Fisheries Act 1995*, Fisheries Officers have powers of arrest, search and seizure.

If you are caught doing the wrong thing, or the Officers believe you have not followed the rules, they will:

- explain what it is you have done wrong
- request your full name and home address which you **MUST** provide
- ask you questions
- issue a receipt if any fish, property or documents have been seized
- advise you of the likely outcome.



REPORT ILLEGAL FISHING

If you see or think someone is breaking our fishing rules, move away and call

13 FISH (13 3474).

Provide as much detail as possible including:

- time and date
- location
- car or boat registration numbers
- the number of people involved
- what the people are doing.

Information you give is very valuable and is treated in strict confidence. Your information helps us to plan patrols and other enforcement operations.



GET OUTSIDE GO FISHING

Why not include fishing in all your family's holidays or short trips around Victoria.

These guides will give you all the information you need to take your family fishing wherever you are in Victoria.

Get Outside Go Fishing:

- East Gippsland
- Family fishing lakes
- Lake Eildon
- Murray Cod in urban lakes
- North East
- North West
- Port Phillip Bay
- South West
- Western Port Bay

To get a copy of any or all of these booklets please ring 136 186 (our customer service centre) and ask to have it sent to you.

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