

From
Plymouth DNR Service Center
“The Woodchucks”



To
Sheboygan County Conservation Association
August 16, 2017

From the Front Line:

From Fish Management: Travis, Tanya, Danyelle

- **Lake Michigan Lake Trout Rule** – We have an emergency rule currently in effect that establishes a continuous open season for lake trout and increases the bag limit from 2 to 5 in most of Lake Michigan. Emergency rules are temporary and we will need to ask the legislature for an extension so that it will continue to be in effect through late fall.

We have held hearings on a companion permanent rule and are planning to adopt it in late fall/early winter when we will have some harvest information from the current year to share with the board. Because legislative review will need to occur this winter, there may be a period between when the emergency rule expires and before the permanent version is in effect when the season would revert to being closed. We would notify the public through press releases and through other outlets.

- **Aquaculture Rules** – 2017 ACT 21 related to regulation of aquaculture and fish farms and granting rule-making authority became law on June 21. While Dept. of Ag Trade & Consumer Protection primarily regulates aquaculture, the ACT requires DNR to go through a rule process as well:
 - The bill eliminates the prohibition of DNR to transfer fish or fish eggs to private entities.
 - The bill requires the DNR to define the role and extent that genetics is involved in our fish stocking strategies.
 - The bill requires the DNR to review our fish donation procedures.
 - The bill requires the DNR and DATCAP to review current VHS rules and regulations.
 - The bill requires DNR and DATCAP to review the current fish hatchery classification system.
 - The bill requires us to assess the classification of bait and forage fish as established non-native fish species.
- For more hot topics visit dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/

From Law Enforcement: Juan, and Tyler

Citations were issued for fishing without a license, over lining and not having enough life jackets on board a boat. Significant fuel spill in the Marina was handled by the Coast Guard.

Sheboygan County has been removed from the no baiting list, so you can once again bait in Sheboygan County. The following counties also had the bait ban lifted: Barron, Burnett, Calumet, Clark, Dodge, Jackson, Kenosha, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Polk, Racine, Washburn, Washington, and Waushara. More counties to come in the following years, as long as no positive results for CWD in the county. ALL BAITING AND FEEDING LAWS REMAIN THE SAME.

From Wildlife Management: Dan, Natanya, Ed, Andrew

- Duck banding is taking place during August at Collins Marsh (Manitowoc County). We have a quota of 900 mallards and 50 wood ducks in this area.
- Mourning Dove banding in Sheboygan just finished with a total of 56 newly banded birds and 5 recaptures. The quota was 50 birds.
- Water levels still remain high at the Sheboygan Marsh due to rain events this summer. The drawdown never happened due to weather.
- Antlerless permits and bonus tags are now available this week through the Go Wild system. You can buy and print tags on your home computer, at a DNR Service Center (no printing charge), or any store that has DNR license sales (there is usually a \$2 convenience fee charged by the store).