

So you want to... GO ICE FISHING



Ice fishing is a time-honored tradition across the thousands of water bodies of the Adirondacks. With a low cost of entry and more than enough room to spread out, ice fishing is a great way to spend a winter day (or week) in the Adirondacks.

As with many outdoor activities, ice fishing comes with a unique set of challenges. So...

CHECK THE ICE

- The state Department of Environmental Conservation says that 4 inches of clear ice should be enough for a person.
- Ice thickness can vary from lake to lake, and even from spot to spot on one lake, so be sure to check the ice regularly as you move out onto the lake or pond.
- Be extra careful around bubblers, outlets and inlets, and any moving water.

FISHING LICENSES

- Fishing licenses are required for ice fishing for everyone 16 years old and older.
- February 13-14, 2021 (President's Day Weekend) are free fishing days, meaning no license is needed.
- Ice shanties need to have the owner's name and address on the outside.

BAIT

- Buy baitfish locally when you get near your fishing destination.
- Make sure baitfish are certified disease free, and don't dump bait water or baitfish into any waterbody.
- Know which ponds and lakes allow live bait and which don't, and follow all other state fishing regulations.

LOCAL SHOPS

- Stop in to local sporting goods stores before hitting the ice for supplies and advice.
- Most sporting goods stores in the Adirondacks have live bait.
- Find out where the fish have been biting and on what baits.

BE PREPARED - CLOTHING, SPIKES, PFDS

- Dress in layers and be sure to have sun protection, especially for your eyes.
- Bring walking spikes and wear ice picks at all times. Ice skates are also fun.
- Have a flotation device handy in case anyone goes through the ice.

Be sure to Leave No Trace, and go to www.LoveYourADK.org!



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