Indiana Dunes Country
Fishing Guide
The official fishing guide of Porter County, Indiana
For Indiana Dunes Country fishing videos, weather conditions, lodging discounts and more fishing location listings, visit www.indianadunes.com/fishing
Table of Contents

Map.................................................................................................................. 2
Getting Started................................................................................................. 4
Fishing Locations............................................................................................... 8
Boat Rentals....................................................................................................... 16
Boat Launching.................................................................................................. 18
Charter Boat Fishing.......................................................................................... 20
Sport and Bait Shops......................................................................................... 22
Indiana Fish Identification................................................................................ 24
Fishing Licenses and Regulations..................................................................... 28
Accommodations............................................................................................... 30
Plan Your Trip................................................................................................... 32

This fishing guide is published by Indiana Dunes Tourism with information from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Ryan Koepke of the National Park Service and Mike and Janet Ryan of the Northwest Indiana Steelheaders. Photography by Ken Kosky/Indiana Dunes Tourism and Christine Livingston/Indiana Dunes Tourism. Other photos provided by Ryan Koepke and Dan Bruhn. Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of the information as of September, 2014. Indiana Dunes Tourism is not liable for damages arising from errors, omissions or outdated information. No endorsement of products or services described is implied. Indiana Dunes Tourism welcomes information about new fishing-related businesses and attractions in Indiana Dunes Country, feedback about this publication and corrections/updates. Comments can be sent to info@indianadunes.com.

Map Key

1. State Road 149 and Little Calumet River (Little Calumet River)
2. Lakeland Park (Small lake)
3. Coffee Creek Park (Coffee Creek, off Little Calumet River)
4. Coffee Creek Watershed Preserve (Coffee Creek, off Little Calumet River)
5. Heron Rookery East Side (Little Calumet River)
6. Heron Rookery West Side (Little Calumet River)
7. Little Calumet Wetlands Project Area (Little Calumet River)
8. Dunn’s Bridge County Park (Kankakee River)
9. Countryside Park (Small lake)
10. Deer Trail Park (Little Calumet River)
11. Imagination Glen Park (Salt Creek)
12. Port of Indiana (Lake Michigan)
13. Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk (Lake Michigan)
14. Portage Public Marina (Burns Waterway to Lake Michigan and Little Calumet River)
15. Hawthorne Park (Little Calumet River)
16. Indian Springs Park (Small lake)
17. Little Calumet River Trail (Little Calumet River)
18. Mineral Springs Road (Little Calumet River)
19. Waverly Road (Little Calumet River)
20. Chustak Public Fishing Area (Salt Creek)
21. Haven Hollow Park (Salt Creek)
22. Salt Creek Public Fishing Area (Salt Creek)
23. U.S. Highway 6 Access (Salt Creek)
24. Creekside Golf Course & Training Center (Salt Creek and small pond)
25. Crooked Creek
26. Flint Lake (Small lake)
27. Long Lake Public Access (Small lakes)
28. Rogers-Lakewood Park (Small lakes)
Getting Started
Winter Fishing

During the winter months of January, February and March, fishing takes place on the faster-moving portions of streams and on the warm water discharges along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Warm water discharge fishing has produced good catches of brown trout, with steelhead and coho also being caught. Ice fishing is also popular on the inland lakes, like the Valparaiso Chain of Lakes. Make sure the ice is thick enough to safely traverse.

Spring Fishing

Boat Fishing
Boat fishing season along the southern shoreline of Lake Michigan usually begins with the departure of the ice around March. Between March and mid-May, most of the fishing activity occurs within a two mile band along the shoreline with the coho salmon contributing close to 95 percent of the catch. Most can be found in southern Lake Michigan in the spring due to the annual migration patterns.

Best Bait for Boat Fishing
Trolling with spoons, spinners or dodgers and flies is the method of fishing most frequently used by boat fisherman.

Shore Fishing
Casting into warm water plumes in early spring when the lake temperatures are still in the high 30s and low 40s has resulted in some success.

Best Bait for Shore Fishing
Shoreline fishermen have found April to be the best month for catching coho in the spring. They cast using the same type of artificial lures as the boat fisherman or they fish with bait (night crawlers, spawn or wax worms).
Summer Fishing

The water temperature near the shore increases rapidly in the late spring, driving the coho and most other salmonids into the deep, colder offshore waters.

Between May and the end of July, boat fishermen in pursuit of trout and salmon normally fish at depths ranging between 70 and 100 feet of water. This entails traveling a distance of 6 to 20 miles from shore, depending upon the point of departure.

Downriggers are used to get the lure down to the temperature zone sought by trout and salmon. Lake trout, coho, Chinook and steelhead all contribute to the catch.

Fall Fishing

Stream and Shoreline

The sport fishery for the fall is a direct product of Indiana’s stocking program. Adult steelhead (summer run and winter run) return to the streams where they were stocked as fingerling. Lake trout display a similar pattern. A spawning run of lake trout develops along the shoreline between mid-October and mid-November. The greatest concentration of fish occurs at the Port of Indiana, which is close to the major stocking site. Brown trout have been caught along the shoreline and in the streams starting in late September. Chinook and coho salmon return to streams and spawn from late August to early November. Summer run Skamania steelhead return to streams from July to early November and spawn from mid-March to mid-April. All species of salmonids (coho, Chinook, steelhead trout and brown trout) are available to sport fisherman during the fall spawning runs.

Best Bait

- To fish the salmon, most anglers use a heavy rod with 10-12 pound test line.
- Medium spoons, plugs, spinners and body baits are used for Chinook.
- Smaller spoons and spinners are used for coho.
- Small spinners or rooster tails work well for steelhead.
- Night crawlers and wax worms are successful at times, especially in summer. Spawn sacks (small clumps of trout or salmon eggs wrapped in mesh bags) are used throughout the year. Flies with the most success include black or brown stoneflies, chartreuse flies, green and orange wooly worms, egg sucking leeches, and many others depending upon the time of year and the presentation of the flies to the fish.
Fishing Etiquette

Minnow Disposal
Do not dump unused minnows into the water because some might be unwanted species that would mature and cause problems. Discard unused bait in the trash.

Boating Etiquette

Boat Cleaning
- Inspect your boat and trailer to prevent the spread of invasive species. All equipment should have the mud and vegetation removed. Water should be drained from the boat’s bilge, livewells, bait buckets and other water-holding areas.
- All equipment should be dry for five days before being used in another body of water.
- Wash boat hulls above the waterline by hand. Some of the compounds used to protect your hull can be harmful to aquatic organisms.
- Buy and use biodegradable detergents and cleaning products.
- Avoid in-water hull scraping. Paints used discourage marine growth can be harmful to aquatic organisms.

Fueling
- Leave room for fuel expansion in the fuel tanks during warm weather. Fill tanks to no more than 90 percent capacity.
- Fill portable tanks ashore where a spill can be easily contained and cleaned up.
- Use oil absorbent pads to catch all drips while fueling.
- Slow down at the beginning and end of fueling to avoid spills.

Bilge Maintenance
- Keep your engine tuned to minimize leaks.
- Use a non-spill pump to change oil then recycle the collected oil.
- Use a bilge sock and oil absorbing pads in your bilge.
- Look for contractors or marinas that offer a bilge pump-out service.
- Do not treat oily water with detergents. This only dissipates the oil and does not clean it up.
Fishing Locations

Catch and cook
Have your catch cleaned and prepared at Latitudes Waterfront Dining & Events. They also offer other entrees, soups, salads and sandwiches. Open for lunch and dinner, this casual restaurant is handicap accessible and non smoking, welcomes kids and offers carry-out food.

Latitudes Waterfront Dining & Events
5987 Dune Harbor Drive (U.S. Hwy. 12, across from Ogden Dunes), Portage, IN 46368  219-841-9570
www.latitudesatmarinashores.com

Eat along the Kankakee River
Put your boat in at Dunn’s Bridge in Kouts and let the Kankakee River current take you west to Hebron, where you can tie up your boat at Marti’s Place at Ramsey’s Landing and enjoy prime rib, seafood and other favorites overlooking the river.

Marti’s Place at Ramsey’s Landing
17519 N. 700 West, Hebron, IN 46341
219-996-3363
www.martisplace.com
**BURNS HARBOR**

**State Road 149 and Little Calumet River (Little Calumet River)**
Westport Road, Burns Harbor, IN 46304

**Lat:** 41.6168 **Long:** -87.1256

**Fish caught:** The fish most commonly caught on the Little Calumet River are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.

**Directions:** From U.S. Highway 20 and State Road 149 go north on State Road 149 to Navaho Road. Turn east on Navaho Road. Immediately turn north onto Westport Road, which will take you to parking under the State Road 149 bridge. Parking is not permitted along the side of the road. If conditions under the bridge are not conducive to parking take Westport Road south to the Westport Beach Club, where parking is permitted.

**Lakeland Park (Small lake)**
1200 Lakeland Park Drive
Burns Harbor, Indiana 46304
219-787-8126
www.burnsharbor.org/park.htm

**Lat:** 41.6077 **Long:** -87.1119

**Fish caught:** Bass and catfish.

**Directions:** From State Road 49 and U.S. Highway 20. Go west on U.S. Highway 20 for 3.2 miles, then turn right onto north Babcock Road. Take the second left onto west County Road 1225 North (Haglund Road) and take the first left onto Lakeland Park Drive. Lakeland offers lake shore and boat fishing. You can’t bring your own boat, but there are boat rentals during the summer months. No minnows allowed for bait. Fishing season is May 15 until there is ice on the lake. There is a $5 entrance fee Memorial Day through Labor Day, and season passes are available. The hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**CHESTERTON AREA**

**Coffee Creek Park (Coffee Creek, off Little Calumet River)**
200 East Morgan Avenue, Chesterton, IN 46304
219-926-3001
www.chestertonin.org

**Lat:** 41.6106 **Long:** -87.0503

**Fish caught:** The fish most commonly caught on the Little Calumet River are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.

**Directions:** Follow State Road 49 south of Interstate 94 for about 1.25 miles. Turn west (right) at Porter Avenue. Follow Porter Avenue to Calumet Road and turn north (right). Follow Calumet Road two blocks and turn east (right) on Morgan Avenue. After crossing a bridge over a small stream, look for the park entrance on your left. A boardwalk trail passes through woodlands that border Coffee Creek and leads to a small pond.

**Coffee Creek Watershed Preserve (Coffee Creek, off Little Calumet River)**
State Road 49, Chesterton, IN 46304
219-926-1842
www.coffeecreekwc.org

**Lat:** 41.5850 **Long:** -87.0421
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on the Little Calumet River are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.

Directions: From Interstate 94 and State Road 49 go south on State Road 49 to Indian Boundary Road. Go east on Indian Boundary Road until the road ends. Travel north on Brummitt Road to County Road 1300 North. Turn east on 1300 North to the dead end. At 1300 North and County Road 450 East is a small parking area. A half block north on 450 East is the Little Calumet River.

Heron Rookery East Side (Little Calumet River)
North County Road 600 East, Michigan City, IN 46360
219-395-1882
www.nps.gov/indu
Lat: 41.6269 Long: -86.9523
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on the Little Calumet River are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.

Directions: Follow U.S. Route 20 east from Beverly Shores. Turn south (right) on County Line Road and follow for 4.4 miles to East County Road 1275 North. Turn west (right) on 1275 and follow for 1 mile. Turn north (right) on North County Road 600 East and watch for the trailhead on the left.

Heron Rookery West Side (Little Calumet River)
North County Road 450 East, Chesterton, IN 46304
219-395-1882
Lat: 41.6225 Long: -86.9800
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on the Little Calumet River are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish. Shore fishing plus kayak & canoe launching.

Directions: From Interstate 94 and State Road 49 go south on State Road 49 to Indian Boundary Road. Go east on Indian Boundary Road until the road ends. Travel south on Brummitt Road for about 200 feet to the entrance on the east side of the road.

Little Calumet Wetlands Project Area (Little Calumet River)
On east side of Brummitt Road, about 200 feet south of Indian Boundary Road, Chesterton, IN 46304
219-879-4725
www.heinzetrust.org
Lat: 41.6166 Long: -87.0163
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on the Little Calumet River are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish. Shore fishing plus kayak & canoe launching.

Directions: From Interstate 94 and State Road 49 go south on State Road 49 to Indian Boundary Road. Go east on Indian Boundary Road until the road ends. Travel south on Brummitt Road for about 200 feet to the entrance on the east side of the road.
**KOUTS AREA**

Dunn’s Bridge County Park (Kankakee River)
South County Road 500 East, Kouts, IN 46347
219-465-3586
www.portercountyparks.org
Lat: 41.2215  Long: -86.9690
**Fish caught:** Northern pike, catfish, walleye, bass and bluegill.

**Directions:** From Kouts, follow State Road 8 east for 3 miles to South County Road 500 East. Turn south (right) on 500 East and travel 6.7 miles to the park entrance on your right. There is no sign, and if you cross the Kankakee River you have gone too far. Three-acre Dunn’s Bridge County Park offers the only boat access to the Kankakee River in Porter County. It’s a great place to canoe, kayak, watch wildlife from the riverbank, or fish from a small motorboat.

**PORTAGE**

Countryside Park (Small lake)
5250 U.S. Highway 6, Portage, IN 46368
219-762-8349
www.inportageparks.com
Lat: 41.5531  Long: -87.2115
**Fish caught:** Catfish and largemouth bass.

**Directions:** Follow U.S. Highway 6 west of State Road 149 about 4.5 miles to the park entrance, located on the north side of U.S. Highway 6. The Camelot Bowling Lanes are across from the park entrance.

Deer Trail Park (Little Calumet River)
Ameriplex Drive, Portage, IN 46368
219-762-1675
Lat: 41.6087  Long: -87.1591
www.inportageparks.com
**Fish caught:** The fish most commonly caught on the Little Calumet River are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.

**Directions:** Follow State Road 249 north of Interstate 94. Turn east onto Ameriplex Drive and drive approximately 0.75 mile to the Deer Park trailhead on the left side of the road. From the trail, you can access the Little Calumet River.

Imagination Glen Park (Salt Creek)
2275 Mc Cool Road, Portage, IN 46368
219-762-1675
www.inportageparks.com
Lat: 41.5904  Long: -87.1407
**Fish caught:** The fish most commonly caught on Salt Creek are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.

**Directions:** Follow U.S. Highway 20, east of State Road 249. Turn south on Samuelson Road and drive about 0.8 miles, then turn east (left) on Portage Avenue. Follow Portage Avenue to the end at Mc Cool Road, turn south (right) and enter the park. There is parking and a trail to Salt Creek, which meanders through the center.
Port of Indiana (Lake Michigan)
Steel Drive, Portage, IN 46368
www.portsofindiana.com
Lat: 41.6415  Long: -87.1516
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on Lake Michigan are salmon, trout, bass, perch, carp, catfish and sheephead.
Directions: From the junction of State Road 149 and U.S. Highway 12 in Burns Harbor, head west on U.S. Highway 12 for 1.4 miles. Take exit on the left toward Port of Indiana and continue 0.2 miles. Merge onto George Nelson Drive and continue about 1.3 miles. Turn right onto Steel Drive and continue 0.2 miles. Most of the area is off-limits to the public. Visitors must check in at the security gatehouse, show identification, and stay within the small public access area. Due to high security, photography is not permitted.

Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk (Lake Michigan)
6150 U.S. Highway 12, Portage, IN 46368
219-395-1882
www.inportageparks.com
Lat: 41.6310  Long: -87.1777
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on Lake Michigan are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: From Interstate 94 head north on State Road 249. Follow the signs to steel mill and turn left at the second light. Once you pass over U.S. Highway 12, turn left at the stop sign. Go over the bridge and turn right at the next road. Follow this road to the park.

Portage Public Marina (Burns Waterway to Lake Michigan and Little Calumet River)
1200 Marina Way at State Road 249 and U.S. Highway 12, Portage, IN 46368
219-763-6833
www.inportageparks.com
Lat: 41.6167  Long: -87.1759
Fish caught: Salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: Take Interstate 94 to State Road 249. Travel north on State Road 249 to Crisman Road. Turn left on Crisman Road and follow the road to the Marina. An alternate route would be to travel U.S. Highway 12 to State Road 249. Go south on State Road 249 to Crisman Road. Portage Public Marina offers boat slips, a public boat launch onto the lake (for $10) and a fishing pier.

Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk (Lake Michigan)
6150 U.S. Highway 12, Portage, IN 46368
219-395-1882
www.inportageparks.com
Lat: 41.6310  Long: -87.1777
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on Lake Michigan are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: From Interstate 94 head north on State Road 249. Follow the signs to steel mill and turn left at the second light. Once you pass over U.S. Highway 12, turn left at the stop sign. Go over the bridge and turn right at the next road. Follow this road to the park.

Portage Public Marina (Burns Waterway to Lake Michigan and Little Calumet River)
1200 Marina Way at State Road 249 and U.S. Highway 12, Portage, IN 46368
219-763-6833
www.inportageparks.com
Lat: 41.6167  Long: -87.1759
Fish caught: Salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: Take Interstate 94 to State Road 249. Travel north on State Road 249 to Crisman Road. Turn left on Crisman Road and follow the road to the Marina. An alternate route would be to travel U.S. Highway 12 to State Road 249. Go south on State Road 249 to Crisman Road. Portage Public Marina offers boat slips, a public boat launch onto the lake (for $10) and a fishing pier.

Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk (Lake Michigan)
6150 U.S. Highway 12, Portage, IN 46368
219-395-1882
www.inportageparks.com
Lat: 41.6310  Long: -87.1777
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on Lake Michigan are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: From Interstate 94 head north on State Road 249. Follow the signs to steel mill and turn left at the second light. Once you pass over U.S. Highway 12, turn left at the stop sign. Go over the bridge and turn right at the next road. Follow this road to the park.

Portage Public Marina (Burns Waterway to Lake Michigan and Little Calumet River)
1200 Marina Way at State Road 249 and U.S. Highway 12, Portage, IN 46368
219-763-6833
www.inportageparks.com
Lat: 41.6167  Long: -87.1759
Fish caught: Salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: Take Interstate 94 to State Road 249. Travel north on State Road 249 to Crisman Road. Turn left on Crisman Road and follow the road to the Marina. An alternate route would be to travel U.S. Highway 12 to State Road 249. Go south on State Road 249 to Crisman Road. Portage Public Marina offers boat slips, a public boat launch onto the lake (for $10) and a fishing pier.

Porter

Hawthorne Park
(Little Calumet River)
500 Ackerman Drive, Porter, IN 46304
219-921-1687
www.townofporter.com
Lat: 41.6193  Long: -87.0695
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on the Little Calumet River are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: Follow U.S. Highway 20 west of State Road 49. Turn south on Waverly Road. After crossing the bridge over the interstate, the entrance to the park will be on your right. The park borders a woodland, through which the
Little Calumet River meanders, providing a quiet spot for fishing.

**Indian Springs Park (Small lake)**  
West of 550 Beam Street, Porter, IN 46304  
219-921-1687  
www.townofporter.com  
**Lat:** 41.6227  **Long:** -87.0836  
**Fish caught:** Northern pike, bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass, bullhead.  
**Directions:** From State Road 49 and U.S. Highway 20 go west on U.S. Highway 20 to Mineral Springs Road and turn south on Mineral Springs Road. Take Mineral Springs Road south to Beam Street (1275 North) and go east on Beam Street. Indian Springs Park is located on the north side of Beam Street just before the bypass. There is no boating, only shore fishing. It is open April 15 through December 1.

**Little Calumet River Trail**  
(Little Calumet River)  
Howe Road, Porter, IN 46304  
219-395-1882  
www.nps.gov/indu  
**Lat:** 41.6203  **Long:** -87.0933  
**Fish caught:** The fish most commonly caught on the Little Calumet River are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.  
**Directions:** Follow U.S. Highway 12 east of State Road 149. About 1.4 miles from State Road 149, make a soft right on Oak Hill Road. Make a right on the first road (Howe Road) and travel about 0.75 miles to the trailhead on the right side of the road. The trail skirts the Little Calumet River valley, then crosses the river.

**Mineral Springs Road**  
(Little Calumet River)  
Mineral Springs Road, Porter, IN 46304  
**Lat:** 41.6218  **Long:** -87.0867  
**Fish caught:** The fish most commonly caught on the Little Calumet River are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.  
**Directions:** From State Road 49 and U.S. Highway 20 go west on U.S. Highway 20 to Mineral Springs Road and turn south on Mineral Springs Road. Parking along the side of Mineral Springs Road is permitted.

**Waverly Road**  
(Little Calumet River)  
Waverly Road, Porter, IN 46304  
**Lat:** 41.6222  **Long:** -87.0676  
**Fish caught:** The fish most commonly caught on the Little Calumet River are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.  
**Directions:** From State Road 49 and U.S. Highway 20 go west on U.S. Highway 20 to Waverly Road. Fishing area is near the bridge over Interstate 94. A small parking area is located on the west side of the road, and on the south side of the river. Do not park on the east side of the road.
SOUTH HAVEN AREA

Chustak Public Fishing Area (Salt Creek)
West County Road 600 North, Valparaiso, IN 46385
www.Fishing.IN.gov
Lat: 41.5217 Long: -87.1308
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on Salt Creek are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: Follow State Road 149 south of U.S. Highway 6 for 2 miles. Turn west (right) at West County Road 600 North and watch for the entrance on your left. This 76-acre public fishing area offers access to Salt Creek.

Haven Hollow Park (Salt Creek)
West County Road 700 North, Valparaiso, IN 46385
Lat: 41.5349 Long: -87.1329
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on Salt Creek are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: From State Road 149 and U.S. Highway 6 go south on State Road 149 one mile to County Road 700 North. Go west on County Road 700 North. Watch for the entrance to Haven Hallow Park on your left. This park offers access to Salt Creek.

Salt Creek Public Fishing Area (Salt Creek)
West County Road 500 North, Valparaiso, IN 46385
www.Fishing.IN.gov

Lat: 41.5071 Long: -87.1428
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on Salt Creek are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: Follow State Road 149 north of State Road 130 for 1 mile. Turn west (left) on West County Road 500 North and travel 1 mile to the entrance on your left. The parking area is located across from McCool Road.

U.S. Highway 6 Access (Salt Creek)
West U.S. Highway 6, Valparaiso, IN 46385
Lat: 41.5501 Long: -87.1212
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on Salt Creek are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: From State Road 49 and U.S. Highway 6 go west on U.S. Highway 6. The access is just east of State Road 149.

VALPARAISO AREA

Creekside Golf Course & Training Center (Salt Creek and small pond)
2355 Clifford Road, Valparaiso, IN 46385
Lat: 41.4759 Long: -87.0920
Fish caught: The fish most commonly caught on Salt Creek are salmon, trout, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish.
Directions: From Ind. 130 and Ind. 149, go east on Ind. 130 toward Valparaiso for 1.8 miles. Turn right onto Froberg Road (County Road 150 West). Take the first left onto Clifford
IndianaDunes.com

Road and Creekside is on the right. Although not advertised as a fishing spot, this city-owned park property does see some fishing on its pond and on Salt Creek.

**Crooked Creek**
Various locations, East of County Road 450 East, Valparaiso, IN 46383
**Lat:** 41.4634 **Long:** -86.9591 to
**Lat:** 41.4050 **Long:** -86.9639
**Fish caught:** Trout
**Directions:** Crooked Creek is located just east of Valparaiso in Washington Township. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has stocked four miles of Crooked Creek with trout. You can only fish for trout during the official trout season. Public fishing is allowed on Crooked Creek from Country Road 200 North to County Road 200 South.

**Flint Lake (Small lake)**
Flint Lake Gateway, Valparaiso, IN 46383
**Lat:** 41.5103 **Long:** -87.0415
**Fish caught:** Northern pike, bass, bluegill, crappie, bullhead, catfish and walleye.
**Directions:** From State Route 49 and U.S. Highway 6 go south on State Route 49 to County Road 500 North (Burlington Beach Road). Turn west on 500 North. Go through first stop light on 500 North to Flint Lake Gateway Road. Turn north (right) and proceed to lake access.

**Long Lake Public Access (Small lakes)**
East County Road 600 North, Valparaiso, IN 46383
www.Fishing.IN.gov
**Lat:** 41.5246 **Long:** -87.0517
**Fish caught:** Northern pike, bass, bluegill, crappie, bullhead, catfish and walleye.
**Directions:** Follow U.S. Highway 6 west of State Road 49 to Meridian Road (traffic light). Turn south (left) on Meridian Road and travel 2 miles to East County Road 600 North. Turn east (left) on 600 North and travel until the road ends at West Long Lake Road. Turn north (left) on West Long Lake Road and follow 0.2 miles to the launch entrance on your right. This small public access area offers a concrete boat launch. Long Lake leads by boat to Canada Lake.

**Rogers-Lakewood Park (Small lakes)**
5320 North Meridian Road, Valparaiso, IN 46383
219-462-5144
www.valparaisoparks.org
**Lat:** 41.5194 **Long:** -87.0656
**Fish caught:** Northern pike, bass, bluegill, crappie, bullhead, catfish and walleye.
**Directions:** Follow U.S. Highway 6 west of State Road 49 to Meridian Road (traffic light). Turn south (left) on Meridian Road and travel 2.25 miles to the park entrance on your left. Nestled on 122 acres of rolling woodlands on Valparaiso’s northwest side, this park’s two lakes (Loomis and Spectacle) accommodate shore fishing and boating (concrete launch ramp, as well as paddle and row boat rentals available).
Boat Rentals
LAKE MICHIGAN

CMS Marine Boat Rentals
Portage Public Marina, 1200 Marina Way at State Road 249 and US Highway 12, Portage, IN 46368
Phone: 219-508-3195
www.facebook.com/CmsMarine

Directions: From Interstate 94 and State Road 249, go north about a mile on State Road 249/Crisman Road to Portage Public Marina. CMS Marine will rent you a United States Coast Guard-equipped powerboat and get you on your way. Just make sure you have a reservation.

Rental: Call for rates.

Miller’s Marine Center
1305 State Road 249, Portage, IN 46368
Phone: 219-762-8767
www.mwmarina.com

Directions: From Interstate 94 and State Road 249, go north about a mile on State Road 249/Crisman Road. Miller’s will rent you a powerboat, small fishing boat, a kayak or a canoe.

Rental: Rates vary depending on what you rent.

BURNS HARBOR

Lakeland Park (Small lake)
1200 Lakeland Park Drive
Burns Harbor, Indiana 46304
Phone: 219-787-8126
www.burnsharbor.org/park.htm

Lat: 41.6077 Long: -87.1119

Directions: From State Road 49 and U.S. Highway 20 go west for 3.2 miles, then turn right onto north Babcock Road. Take the second left onto west County Road 1225 North (Haglund Road) and take the first left onto Lakeland Park Drive. Lakeland offers lake shore and boat fishing. You can’t bring your own boat, but there are boat rentals during the summer months. No minnows allowed for bait. Fishing season is May 15 until there is ice on the lake. There is an entrance fee Memorial day through Labor Day, and season passes are available. The hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Rental: Rent rowboats or paddleboats by the hour, including life jackets.

VALPARAISO

Rogers-Lakewood Park (Small lakes)
5320 North Meridian Road, Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-462-5144
www.valparaisoparks.org

Lat: 41.5194 Long: -87.0656

Directions: Follow U.S. Highway 6 west of State Road 49 to Meridian Road (traffic light). Turn south (left) on Meridian Road and travel 2.25 miles to the park entrance on your left. Nestled on 122 acres of rolling woodlands on Valparaiso’s northwest side, this park’s two lakes (Loomis and Spectacle) accommodate fishing and boating (paddleboat and rowboat rentals available). There is an entrance fee between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

Rental: Rent rowboats or paddleboats. Rentals available 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends only from Memorial Day weekend to the beginning of June, and again mid-August to Labor Day. From mid-June to mid-August, rentals are available 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven days a week.
Lake Michigan Boat Launching

**Doyne’s Marine**  
1340 North Crisman Road, Portage, IN 46368  
219-762-7622  
www.doynesmarine.com  
Offers boat storage, docks and a launch ramp.

**Lefty’s Coho Landing**  
6161 Burns Waterway, Portage, IN 46368  
219-762-7761  
Offers a variety of services for boaters, including boat launching onto Lake Michigan and full-service boat marina.

**Marina Shores at Dune Harbor**  
5976 Dune Harbor Drive, Portage, IN 46368  
(across from Portage-Ogden Dunes South Shore train station)  
219-762-5700  
www.marinashoresin.com  
Seasonal and transient slips available, as well as gas and diesel, ice, snacks, pop and water.

**Miller’s Marine Center**  
1305 State Road 249, Portage, IN 46368  
219-762-8767  
www.mwmarina.com  
Rent kayaks, canoes, small fishing boats and powerboats at this marine center, which also features sales, service and storage.

**Miller’s Westerman’s Marina**  
1330 North Crisman Road, Portage, IN 46368  
219-762-8767  
www.mwmarina.com  
There’s a slip waiting with your name on it at this family-owned marina. Located on Burns Waterway, with direct access to Lake Michigan, this marina provides boat slips, sales, service, storage and transport.

**Portage Public Marina**  
1200 Marina Way at State Road 249 and U.S. Highway 12, Portage, IN 46368  
219-763-6833  
www.ci.portage.in.us/department/?fDD=4-0  
If you’ve brought your boat for a spin on Lake Michigan, here’s one of the places in the area to launch it. Portage Public Marina offers a public boat launch onto the lake ($10 fee). It’s also a great spot for you to bring your fishing pole and catch a big one.

Inland Boat Launching

**KOUTS AREA**

**Dunn’s Bridge County Park**  
(Kankakee River)  
South 500 East Road, Kouts, IN 46347  
219-465-3586  
www.portercountyparks.org  
Lat: 41.2215 Long: -86.9690

**VALPARAISO AREA**

**Long Lake Public Access**  
(Small lakes)  
East 600 North Road, Valparaiso, IN 46383  
www.Fishing.IN.gov  
Lat: 41.5246 Long: -87.0517

**Rogers-Lakewood Park**  
(Small lakes)  
5320 North Meridian Road, Valparaiso, IN 46383  
219-462-5144  
www.valparaisoparks.org  
Lat: 41.5194 Long: -87.0656

**Flint Lake**  
(Small lake)  
Flint Lake Gateway, Valparaiso, IN 46383  
Lat: 41.5103 Long: -87.0415
You haven’t experienced fishing until you’ve experienced charter boat fishing in Indiana Dunes Country.

Hook up with one of the many charter boat companies that depart from Portage, Indiana. They’ll take you to Lake Michigan’s hot spots so you can catch salmon, trout and perch.

Most charter boat companies offer both half day and full day charters. The charter boat fishing season begins early March and concludes early December.

All the fishing gear is provided by the charter boat companies. You will just need to bring:

- Warm clothing and rain gear
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Hat
- Soft-soled shoes
- Large cooler and plastic bags to store fish
- Your camera
- Snacks and drinks (Some of the charter boat companies provide lunch, but you need to order when booking)
- Fishing license and trout stamp (The majority of the charter boat companies sell fishing licenses and trout stamps. When making your reservations, ask whether or not they provide this service)

CHARTER FISHERMEN

Brother Nature Fishing Adventures
877-725-6665
www.brother-nature.com

Captain Ralph Steiger Charters
219-688-3593
www.captainsteiger.com

Grab Your Fly Charters
708-403-1221 or 630-886-1964
www.grabyourflycharters.com

Pray Sportfishing Charters
219-314-0060

Rainmaker Charters
219-762-9336 or 800-762-9336
www.lakemichigansportfishing.com

Schellfish Sportfishing Charters
708-672-4454 or 708 372-8201
www.schellfishcharters.com

Triplecatch Charters
219-963-9204 or 219-588-5929
www.amflyfishing.com

Wild Dog Tackle & Good Guyde Service
847-420-3046
www.wilddogguide.com
Sport and Bait Shops
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Website/Other Information</th>
<th>Boats</th>
<th>Boat Equipment</th>
<th>Live Bait</th>
<th>Fishing License</th>
<th>Hunting License</th>
<th>Fishing Maps</th>
<th>Fishing Poles/Equipment</th>
<th>Fishing Lures/Tackle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bass Pro Shops</td>
<td>6425 Daniel Burnham Dr. Portage, IN 46368</td>
<td>219-787-6800</td>
<td><a href="http://www.basspro.com">www.basspro.com</a></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>BE</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>HL</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blythe's</td>
<td>2810 North Calumet Avenue, Valparaiso, IN 46383</td>
<td>219-476-0026</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ihuntishoot.com">www.ihuntishoot.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>HL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain's Orders</td>
<td>2058 Joliet Rd, Valparaiso, IN 46385</td>
<td>219-531-2278</td>
<td><a href="http://www.captainsorders.com">www.captainsorders.com</a></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>BE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chesterton Kmart</td>
<td>750 Indian Boundary Rd. Chesterton, IN 46304</td>
<td>219-926-7521</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bluelight.com">www.bluelight.com</a></td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>HL</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Bait Shop</td>
<td>2 ½ W. U.S. Hwy. 6 Valparaiso, IN 46383</td>
<td>219-464-9932</td>
<td>Find us on Facebook. Summer: Mon-Sat 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Sun 6 a.m.-5 p.m. Winter: Mon-Sat 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Sun 7 a.m.-5 p.m.</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>FM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FE</td>
<td></td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erwin's Marine</td>
<td>1858 W. Lincolnway (St. Rd. 130), Valparaiso, IN 46385</td>
<td>219-462-1634</td>
<td><a href="http://www.erwinsmarine.com">www.erwinsmarine.com</a></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>BE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kouts True Value</td>
<td>204 South Main Street, Kouts, IN 46347</td>
<td>219-766-3766</td>
<td><a href="http://www.truevalue.com/kouts/">www.truevalue.com/kouts/</a></td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>HL</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meijer</td>
<td>6050 U.S. Highway 6, Portage, IN 46368</td>
<td>219-763-0401</td>
<td><a href="http://www.meijer.com">www.meijer.com</a></td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>HL</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valparaiso Kmart</td>
<td>2801 North Calumet Avenue Valparaiso, IN 46383</td>
<td>219-464-1091</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bluelight.com">www.bluelight.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>HL</td>
<td>FE</td>
<td>FT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various gas stations/convenience stores</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Indiana Fish Identification
For written text describing the fish shown above, visit www.Fishing.IN.gov and read the Indiana Fishing Guide, which is produced by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Northern pike, lake trout, Chinook and coho illustrations by Virgil Beck, courtesy of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

All other fish illustrations by Rick Hill, courtesy of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.
Fishing Licenses & Regulations
Unless otherwise exempted, people must have a valid fishing license to fish in public lakes, streams, rivers or tributaries in Indiana, or its boundary waters. A valid trout/salmon stamp is also required to fish for or take trout and salmon from public waters.

License holders must carry their license while fishing and present it upon request to a conservation officer (or any authorized law enforcement official).

**Exempt from needing a license are:**

- Indiana residents born before April 1, 1943.
- Residents or non-residents age 17 and younger.
- Residents who are legally blind.
- Residents of a state-owned mental rehabilitation facility.
- Residents of any licensed health care facility in Indiana taking part in a supervised fishing activity sponsored by the facility.
- Landowners or lessees of farmland, who farm that land and their spouses and children living with them, while fishing in public waters from the farmland they own or lease.
- Indiana residents engaged in full-time military service while on approved military leave (the angler must carry leave orders and a valid Indiana driver’s license or voter registration card). Non-resident military personnel stationed in Indiana must obtain a resident license.

**Licenses**

**Resident**

- Annual fishing $17.00
- One-day fishing (includes trout/salmon) $9.00
- Annual senior fishing (age 64 and older) $3.00
- Lifetime senior fishing (age 64 and older) $3.00
- Trout/salmon stamp $11.00
- Disabled American Veterans hunt-fish $2.75

**Non-resident**

- Annual fishing $35.00
- One-day fishing (includes trout/salmon) $9.00
- Seven-day fishing $20
- Trout/salmon stamp $11.00

*Note that all fees were effective as of September 2014.*

**How to buy a license**

**Online:** Go to [www.IndianaOutdoor.IN.gov](http://www.IndianaOutdoor.IN.gov)

**In Person:** Visit a retailer or Department of Natural Resources site listed at [www.IndianaOutdoor.IN.gov](http://www.IndianaOutdoor.IN.gov).

**By Mail:** Specify the license or license you need and dates for one-day or multi-day licenses, and send the following information with your order:

- Name, date of birth, Indiana Driver’s License number or Social Security number.
- Complete address, city, state, ZIP code and phone number.
- Height, weight, color of hair and eyes.

Include a check or money order (payable to DNR), or provide a Visa or MasterCard card number and expiration date. Send the order information and payment to:

**Licenses**

DNR Customer Service Center
402 W. Washington St., W160
Indianapolis, IN, 46204

Indiana disabled American veterans can get a DAV fishing license application form from the County Service Officer or download the application form at [www.Fishing.IN.gov](http://www.Fishing.IN.gov). Mail the form with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the DNR Customer Service Center.

**By Phone:** To purchase licenses by phone, or for more information, call the DNR Customer Service Center at 317-232-4200.
FOR FISHING REGULATIONS AND MORE

Indiana Dunes Country anglers are required to follow all Indiana fishing regulations. We recommend that all anglers read the Indiana Fishing Guide at www.Fishing.IN.gov for a summary of Indiana fishing regulations. Printed guides are available at many fishing retailers.

The Indiana Fishing Guide addresses topics such as boat registration, required use of life preservers, bag limits and size limits for the various fish, how to obtain lake and topographical maps, which actions are legal and which are illegal, fish identification, the safety of eating various types of fish, where to fish, the timing of the annual Indiana free fishing weekend, and more.

Sign up for Department of Natural Resources free e-newsletter:

**Wild Bulletin**  Wild Bulletin provides information about Indiana's fish and wildlife resources and recreation through e-mail. You will receive information about hunting and fishing season dates, regulation updates, wildlife and fisheries research status reports, tips on wildlife watching and reminders about important dates for Hoosier outdoor enthusiasts.

You will also receive updates about new information available on the DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife webpage.

Sign up for Wild Bulletin at www.in.gov/dnr/5704.htm

Fishing Reports
For Lake Michigan fishing reports, visit www.fishing.in.gov or call 219-874-0009.

INDIANA DUNES COUNTRY ACCOMMODATIONS

**Duneland Communities**

**Al and Sally’s Motel**  
3221 West Dunes Highway Michigan City (Pines)  219-872-9131 or 219-872-9132  
alandallsyllysotelinc.com

**At Home in the Woods**  
898 North 350 E. Chesterton 219-728-1325  
athomeinthewoodsbb.com

**Best Western Indian Oak**  
558 Indian Boundary Rd.  Chesterton  219-926-2200  
indianoak.com

**Blackhawk Motel**  
3651 W. Dunes Hwy. Michigan City (Pines)  219-872-8656

**Comfort Inn & Suites**  
1800 West US 20  Porter  219-787-1400  
comfortinn.com

**Duneswalk Inn**  
1491 North Furnleigh Lane  Chesterton  219-728-6393  
duneswalkinn.com

**Dunewood Campground**  
(National Park Service)  US 12 & Broadway  Beverly Shores  219-395-1882  
nps.gov/indu

**Econo Lodge**  
713 Plaza Drive  Chesterton  219-929-4416  
choicehotels.com

**Gray Goose Inn**  
350 Indian Boundary Rd.  Chesterton  219-926-5781 or 800-521-5127  
graygooseinn.com

**Hilton Garden Inn**  
501 Gateway Boulevard  Chesterton  219-983-9500  
chesterton.hgi.com

**Indiana Dunes State Park Campground**  
IN-49 North of US 12  Chesterton  (866) 622-6746  
camp.in.gov

**Inspiration Wood**  
1199 N. 650 East  Westville  219-983-9922  
inspirationwood.com

**Quality Inn**  
418 Council Drive  Chesterton  219-929-5549  
qualityinn.com

**Riley’s Railhouse**  
123 N. 4th St.  Chesterton  219-395-9999  
rileysrailhouse.com

**Sandcreek Campground**  
1000 North 350 E.  Chesterton  219-926-7482 or 219-331-9805  
msccg.com
Spring House Inn  
303 North Mineral Springs Rd.  Porter  219-929-4600  springhouseinn.com

Waterbird Lakeside Inn  
556 Indian Boundary Rd.  Chesterton  888-957-3529  waterbirdinn.com

Kouts  
Donna Jo Campground  
1255 South 350 E.  219-766-2186  donnajocampground.com

Portage
Best Western Portage & Suites  
6200 Melton Rd.  Portage  219-734-6727  bestwestern.com

Comfort Inn  
2300 Willowcreek Rd.  Portage  219-763-7177  choicehotels.com

Country Inn & Suites Portage  
1630 Olmsted Drive  Portage  219-764-0021  countryinns.com/portagein

Days Inn  
6161 Melton Rd. (US 20)  Portage  219-762-2136  daysinn.com

Dollar Inn  
6140 Melton Rd. (US 20)  Portage  219-763-6601

Hampton Inn  
6353 Melton Rd. (US 20)  Portage  219-764-1919  hamptoninn.com

Holiday Inn Express  
2323 Willowcreek Rd.  Portage  219-762-7777  hieportage.com

Super 8 Motel  
6118 Melton Rd. (US 20)  Portage  219-762-8857  super8.com

Travel Inn  
6101 Melton Rd. (US 20)  Portage  219-841-9928 or 219-254-2934

Woodland Village RV Lots  
5757 Melton Rd. (US 20)  Portage  219-762-6578  wvmhp.com

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Camp Resort  
5300 Old Porter Rd.  Portage  219-762-7757  campjellystone-portage.com

Valparaiso
Best Western University Inn  
760 W. Morthland Drive  Valparaiso  219-850-1100  bestwestern.com

Country Inn & Suites Valparaiso  
2020 LaPorte Avenue  Valparaiso  219-476-0000  countryinns.com/valpo

Courtyard by Marriott  
2301 E. Morthland Drive  Valparaiso  219-465-1700  courtyard.com/vrpcy

Fairfield Inn & Suites  
2101 East Morthland Drive  Valparaiso  219-465-6225  fairfieldinn.com/vrpfi

Hampton Inn & Suites  
1451 Silhavy Rd.  Valparaiso  219-531-6424  hamptoninn.com

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites  
1251 Silhavy Rd.  Valparaiso  219-464-9395 (888) 897-0084  hiexpress.com

Inn at Aberdeen  
3158 South State Rd. 2  Valparaiso  219-465-3753  innataberdeen.com

Mink Lake Campground  
658 N. Calumet Avenue  Valparaiso  219-462-9570

Pikk's Tavern (B&B rooms above)  
62 W. Lincolnway  Valparaiso  219-476-7455  pikkstavern.com

Songbird Prairie  
174 North 600 West  Valparaiso  219-759-4274  877-songbrd  songbirdprairie.com

Super 8 Motel  
3005 John Howell Drive  Valparaiso  219-464-9840  super8.com
PLAN YOUR TRIP

Enjoy Indiana Dunes Country
Indiana Dunes Country is home to more than just great fishing. We are home to The Indiana Dunes, featuring nationally recognized beaches and hiking trails.

We also have great attractions like a water park, museums, an amusement park with two miniature golf courses, a bison farm, an arboretum with a large model railway garden, a drive-in movie theatre and more.

Indiana Dunes Country also features numerous great hotels, restaurants and shopping districts.

For more information about all that Indiana Dunes Country has to offer, visit www.indianadunes.com or stop by the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.

The Visitor Center offers
- Helpful advice from our destination concierges, who are Indiana Dunes Country experts.
- Guides and brochures detailing all the great attractions, restaurants, lodging and more in Indiana Dunes Country.
- A short film, in our theater, about the history of The Indiana Dunes.
- An exhibit hall featuring Indiana Dunes artwork from the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore’s Artist-in-Residence program, wildlife displays and interactive displays for children.
- A gift shop operated by the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore featuring clothing, books, stuffed animals and other great merchandise.
- Restrooms and drinking fountains.
- An after-hours lobby with 24/7 access to brochures and a phone that people can use to call directly to local lodging facilities.

Easy to find
The Visitor Center is conveniently located at 1215 N. State Road 49, Porter, IN 46304. This is just north of the Indiana Toll Road and Interstate 94, and it is just south of Indiana Dunes State Park and U.S. Highway 20.

Hours
Memorial Day to Labor Day: 8 a.m.–6 p.m. CST seven days a week.
Labor Day to Memorial Day: 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. CST seven days a week.

For more information
Local telephone number: 219-926-2255
Toll-free number: 800-283-8687
Email: info@indianadunes.com
Web: www.indianadunes.com