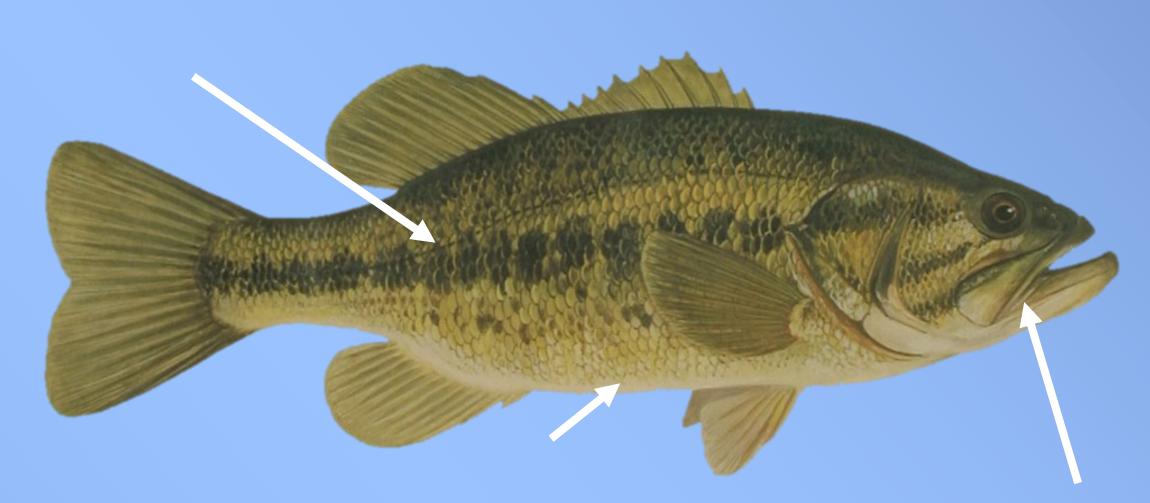
Fish of Central Park Lake



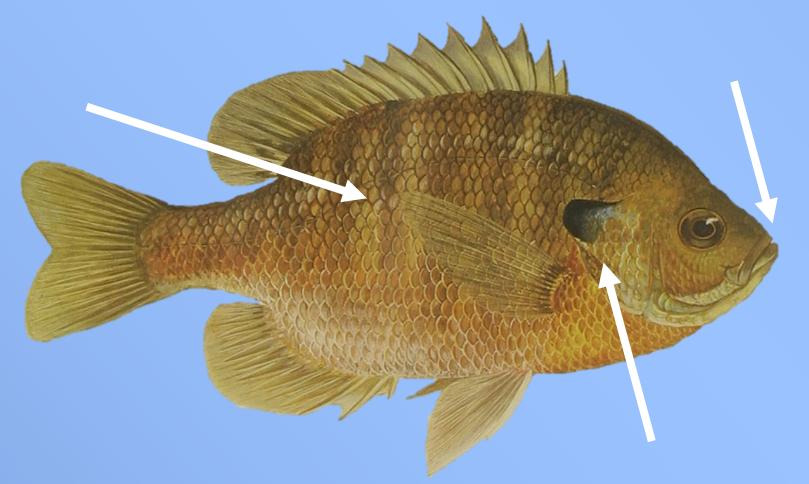
Largemouth Bass:

- Body green-shaded with a broad, continuous dark strip along each side.
- White to yellowish belly.
- Lower jaw extends past the gold-colored eye.

Preferred Foods: Fish, frogs, crayfish, aquatic insects and invertebrates.

Fishing Tips: Fish near underwater structure. Use live bait or a variety of artificial lures - such as skirted jigs or crankbaits that match natural prey.

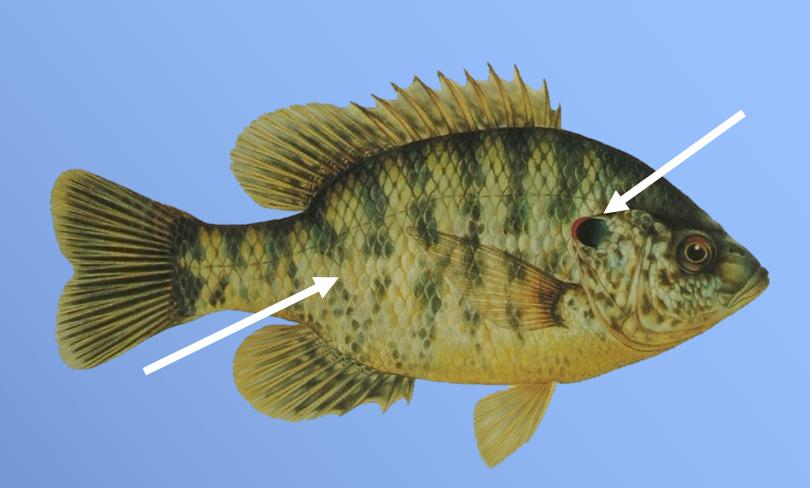
Length limit size is 15 Inches minimum.



Bluegill:

- Dark olive-green back and sides. Yellow or reddish orange below.
- Dark vertical bars usually present on sides.
- · Chin and gill covers bright blue with black flexible tip at rear of gill cover.
- Very small mouth.

Preferred Foods: Aquatic insects, small invertebrates, and minnows. **Fishing Tips:** Use light line and tackle. Fish near underwater structure. Use small jigs and artificial bait or #8 hooks with worms, crickets, or waxworms.



Redear Sunfish:

- Whitish border around the edge of the ear flap with a prominent red or orange spot in adults.
- Back and sides are golden or light olive green, usually marked by several dark vertical bars that disappear in older fish.

Preferred Foods: Young redear feed exclusively on zooplankton, but as they approach adulthood they eat more aquatic insect larvae and snails. Nicknamed "shellcracker", adult redear feed heavily upon freshwater snails which they crush with pharyngeal teeth found in their throat. Fishing Tips: Use light line and tackle. Fish deep near the bottom jigging small hooks baited with waxworms, small worms, or minnows. Prespawn use jig spinners and small crankbaits.

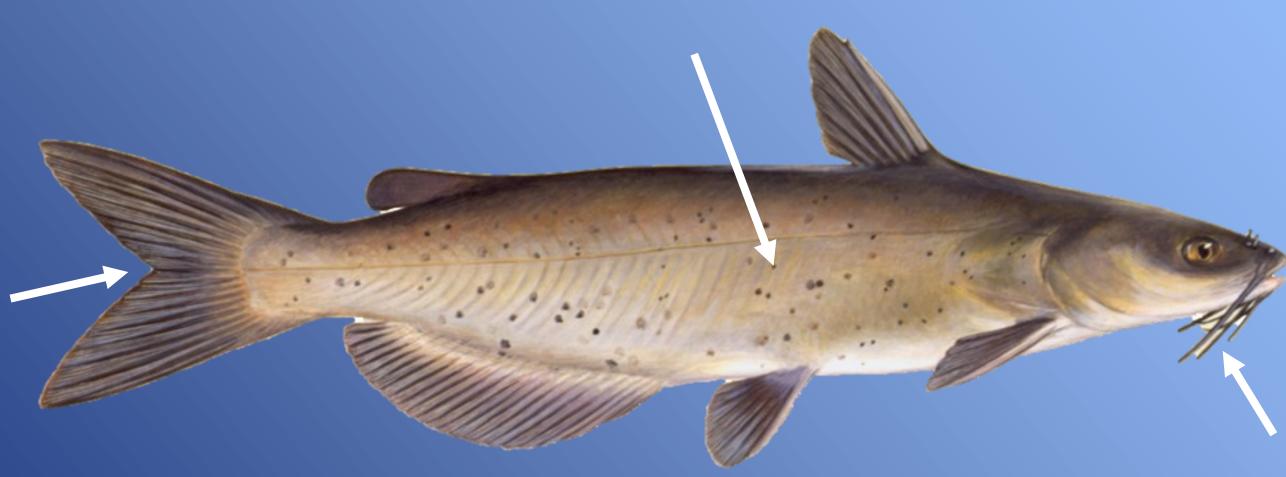


Black Crappie:

- Silvery with a dark back and green or blackish mottling on sides.
- Hump-backed with 7-8 spines in the dorsal fin.
- Edge of lip ends below eye.

Preferred Foods: Small fish, aquatic insects, and small invertebrates.

Fishing Tips: Fish near underwater structure and drop offs. Use a live minnow on a hook or a jig that imitates a minnow.



Channel Catfish:

- Silvery-gray above fading to lighter shades on the belly.
- Body marked with dark spots.
- Tail fin deeply forked
- Whiskers on upper and lower lip.

Preferred Foods: Fish, aquatic invertebrates, and plant material.

Fishing Tips: Fish the bottom near rocky and sandy areas. Use live or dead bait, or prepared stink bait. As catfish are spawning at the end of May and early June use minnows, night-crawlers, or leeches along rocky shorelines and drop offs.

Fish illustrations provided by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.