

## How To Use This Checklist

The information presented in this checklist reflects our current understanding of the status of fishes within Cleveland Metroparks. You can add to our understanding by being a knowledgeable observer. Record your observations and contact a naturalist if you find something that may be of interest.

Species are listed taxonomically. Each species is listed with a common name, a scientific name and a note about its occurrence within Cleveland Metroparks. Check off species that you identify in Cleveland Metroparks.

### Cleveland Metroparks Outdoor Experiences Division

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Administration .....                                     | (216)881-8141 |
| Brecksville Nature Center .....                          | (440)526-1012 |
| CanalWay Center .....                                    | (216)206-1000 |
| Garfield Park Center.....                                | (216)341-3152 |
| North Chagrin Nature Center and<br>Lookabout Lodge ..... | (440)473-3370 |
| Rocky River Nature Center .....                          | (440)734-6660 |
| Watershed Stewardship Center.....                        | (440)887-1968 |

#### RELATIVE ABUNDANCE

**C = Common.** Widespread and often numerous in proper habitat and season.

**O = Occasional.** Found at scattered locations or widespread but in moderate numbers.

**R = Rare.** Represented by a few individuals or has a very restricted range within Cleveland Metroparks.

**h = Hypothetical.** Occurrence within Cleveland Metroparks possible but not confirmed.

**X = Extirpated.** Once occurred, but is no longer found in Cleveland Metroparks.

**\* = Exotic.** Place of origin given.

### JAWLESS FISHES: SUPERCLASS AGNATHA

#### LAMPREYS: CLASS CEPHALASPIDOMORPHI

##### Lampreys: Family Petromyzontidae

- \_\_\_ Silver Lamprey *Ichthyomyzon unicuspis* **h**
- \_\_\_ American brook Lamprey *Lampetra appendix* **R**;  
Chagrin River
- \_\_\_ \*Sea Lamprey *Petromyzon marinus* **O**; Lake Erie;  
formerly common; native to Atlantic Coast

### JAWED FISHES: SUPERCLASS

#### GNATHOSTOMATA

#### BONY FISHES: CLASS OSTEICHTHYES

##### Sturgeons: Family Acipenseridae

- \_\_\_ Lake Sturgeon *Acipenser fulvescens* **h**; Lake Erie;  
**Ohio endangered**

##### Gars: Family Lepisosteidae

- \_\_\_ Spotted Gar *Lepisosteus oculatus* **X**; last taken in Lake  
Erie near Cleveland in 1850's; **Ohio endangered**
- \_\_\_ Longnose Gar *Lepisosteus osseus* **O**

##### Bowfins: Family Amiidae

- \_\_\_ Bowfin *Amia calva* **O**; Lake Erie

##### Freshwater Eels: Family Anguillidae

- \_\_\_ \*American Eel *Anguilla rostrata* status uncertain; native  
to Atlantic Coast and parts of eastern North America

##### Herrings and Shads: Family Clupeidae

- \_\_\_ \*Alewife *Alosa pseudoharengus* **O**; Lake Erie; native to  
Atlantic Coast
- \_\_\_ \*Gizzard Shad *Dorosoma cepedianum* **C**; Lake Erie, some  
lakes and rivers; native to parts of eastern North America

##### Mooneyes: Family Hiodontidae

- \_\_\_ Mooneye *Hiodon tergisus* **h**; formerly common in Lake Erie

##### Salmons and Trouts: Family Salmonidae

- \_\_\_ Cisco *Coregonus artedii* **R**; Lake Erie, rebounding after  
declines in 1900's; **Ohio endangered**
- \_\_\_ Lake Whitefish *Coregonus clupeaformis* **O**; Lake Erie;  
rebounding after declines in 1900's
- \_\_\_ Lake Trout *Salvelinus namaycush* **O**; formerly common  
in Lake Erie
- \_\_\_ Brook Trout *Salvelinus fontinalis* **R**; native to the  
Chagrin River; has been restocked in recent years;  
**Ohio threatened**
- \_\_\_ \*King Salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* **O**; stock  
from MI, PA, and NY; native to Pacific Coast
- \_\_\_ \*Coho or Silver Salmon *Oncorhynchus kisutch* **O**;  
native to Pacific Coast
- \_\_\_ \*Pink Salmon *Oncorhynchus gorbuscha* **O**; from upper  
Great Lakes stock; native to Pacific Coast
- \_\_\_ \*Brown Trout *Salmo trutta* **O**; Chagrin River; native to  
Eurasia and N. Africa
- \_\_\_ \*Rainbow Trout or Steelhead *Oncorhynchus mykiss* **C**;  
stocked; native to Pacific Coast

##### Smelts: Family Osmeridae

- \_\_\_ \*Rainbow Smelt *Osmerus mordax* **C**; native to Atlantic  
and Pacific coasts

##### Mudminnows: Family Umbridae

- \_\_\_ Central Mudminnow *Umbra limi* **C**

### Pikes: Family Esocidae

- \_\_\_ Grass Pickerel *Esox americanus* **O**
- \_\_\_ Northern Pike *Esox lucius* **O**; Lake Erie and Hinckley Lake;  
formerly common
- \_\_\_ Muskellunge *Esox masquinongy* **R**; Lake Erie;  
formerly common

### Minnows: Family Cyprinidae

- \_\_\_ Golden Shiner *Notemigonus crysoleucas* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Redside Dace *Clinostomus elongatus* **O**
  - \_\_\_ Southern Redbelly Dace *Phoxinus erythrogaster* **R**
  - \_\_\_ Creek Chub *Semotilus atromaculatus* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Hornyhead Chub *Nocomis biguttatus* **h**; formerly in  
Cuyahoga and Chagrin River drainages.
  - \_\_\_ River Chub *Nocomis micropogon* **C**; Chagrin River; **O**  
elsewhere
  - \_\_\_ Central Stoneroller *Camptostoma anomalum* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Blacknose Dace *Rhinichthys atratulus* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Longnose Dace *Rhinichthys cataractae* **O**; Lake Erie
  - \_\_\_ Silver Chub *Macrhybopsis storeriana* **O**; Lake Erie;  
increasing after declines in 1900's
  - \_\_\_ Central Striped Shiner *Luxulis chrysocephalus* **C**;  
hybridizes with common shiner
  - \_\_\_ Common Shiner *Luxulis cornutus* **O**
  - \_\_\_ Redfin Shiner *Lythrurus umbratilis* **R**
  - \_\_\_ Spotfin Shiner *Cyprinella spiloptera* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Pugnose Minnow *Opsopoeodus emiliae* **h**;  
formerly canals and Lake Erie; **Ohio endangered**
  - \_\_\_ Fathead Minnow *Pimephales promelas* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Bluntnose Minnow *Pimephales notatus* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Emerald Shiner *Notropis atherinoides* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Silver Shiner *Notropis photogenis* **h**; one old record  
from upper Cuyahoga River; **O** in lower Chagrin R.
  - \_\_\_ Rosyface Shiner *Notropis rubellus* **O**; has declined
  - \_\_\_ Spottail Shiner *Notropis hudsonius* **C**; Lake Erie
  - \_\_\_ Bigmouth Shiner *Notropis dorsalis* **R**; east branch of  
Rocky River; one record from Cuy. River drainage;  
**Ohio threatened**
  - \_\_\_ Sand Shiner *Notropis stramineus* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Mimic Shiner *Notropis volucellus* **O**
  - \_\_\_ Bigeye Chub *Hybopsis amblops* **R**; has declined
  - \_\_\_ Silverjaw Minnow *Notropis buccatus* **C**
  - \_\_\_ \*Grass Carp *Ctenopharyngodon idella* **O**; stocked in  
small lakes; native to East Asia
  - \_\_\_ \*Common Carp *Cyprinus carpio* **C**; native to Eurasia
  - \_\_\_ \*Goldfish *Carassius auratus* **C**; native to Asia
- ### Suckers: Family Catostomidae
- \_\_\_ Bigmouth Buffalo *Ictiobus cyprinellus* **R-O**; Lake Erie
  - \_\_\_ Quillback *Carpoides cyprinus* **O**
  - \_\_\_ White Sucker *Catostomus commersoni* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Longnose Sucker *Catostomus catostomus* **h**; Lake Erie;  
has declined; **Ohio endangered**
  - \_\_\_ Spotted Sucker *Minytrema melanops* **R**; formerly  
common in Lake Erie
  - \_\_\_ Lake Chubsucker *Erimyzon sucetta* **R**; **Ohio threatened**
  - \_\_\_ Northern Hog Sucker *Hypentelium nigricans* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Silver Redhorse *Moxostoma anisurum* **R**; has declined

- \_\_\_ Black Redhorse *Moxostoma duquesnei* **R**; Chagrin River
- \_\_\_ Golden Redhorse *Moxostoma erythrurum* **C**
- \_\_\_ Shorthead Redhorse *Moxostoma macrolepidotum* **O**;  
Lake Erie

**Bullhead Catfishes: Family Ictaluridae**

- \_\_\_ Channel Catfish *Ictalurus punctatus* **C**
- \_\_\_ Yellow Bullhead *Ameiurus natalis* **C**
- \_\_\_ Brown Bullhead *Ameiurus nebulosus* **O**
- \_\_\_ Black Bullhead *Ameiurus melas* **O**
- \_\_\_ Flathead Catfish *Pylodictis olivaris* **X**; formerly rare in Lake Erie near Cleveland
- \_\_\_ Stonecat *Noturus flavus* **O**; Chagrin River
- \_\_\_ Brindled Madtom *Noturus miurus* **h**; rare if present

**Trout-Perches: Family Percopsidae**

- \_\_\_ Trout-Perch *Percopsis omiscomaycus* **O**; has declined

**Cods: Family Gadidae**

- \_\_\_ Burbot *Lota lota* **O**; Lake Erie; formerly common

**Silversides: Family Atherinidae**

- \_\_\_ Brook Silverside *Labidesthes sicculus* **R**; has declined

**Sticklebacks: Family Gasterosteidae**

- \_\_\_ Brook Stickleback *Culaea inconstans* **O**

**Sculpins: Family Cottidae**

- \_\_\_ Mottled Sculpin *Cottus bairdi* **O**

**Gobies: Family Gobiidae**

- \_\_\_ \*Round Goby *Neogobius melanostomus* First reported in Lake Erie in 1994; rapidly increasing; native to Eurasia

**Temperate Basses: Family Moronidae**

- \_\_\_ White Bass *Morone chrysops* **C**
- \_\_\_ \*White Perch *Morone americana* **C**; native to Atlantic Coast

**Sunfishes: Family Centrarchidae**

- \_\_\_ White Crappie *Pomoxis annularis* **C**
- \_\_\_ Black Crappie *Pomoxis nigromaculatus* **C**
- \_\_\_ Rockbass *Ambloplites rupestris* **C**; Chagrin River
- \_\_\_ Largemouth Bass *Micropterus salmoides* **C**
- \_\_\_ Smallmouth Bass *Micropterus dolomieu* **C**
- \_\_\_ Warmouth *Lepomis gulosus* **O**
- \_\_\_ Green Sunfish *Lepomis cyanellus* **C**
- \_\_\_ Bluegill *Lepomis macrochirus* **C**
- \_\_\_ Pumpkinseed *Lepomis gibbosus* **C**
- \_\_\_ Longear Sunfish *Lepomis megalotis* **X**; formerly in the Cuyahoga River
- \_\_\_ Orangespotted Sunfish *Lepomis humilis* **R**

**Perches, Walleyes and Darters: Family Percidae**

- \_\_\_ Sauger *Stizostedion canadense* **O**; Lake Erie; formerly common
- \_\_\_ Walleye *Stizostedion vitreum* **C**; Lake Erie; population recovering after declines in 1900's

**Special Note:** The subspecies of walleye known as the "blue pike" was once common, but is now extinct

- \_\_\_ Yellow Perch *Perca flavescens* **C**; Lake Erie
- \_\_\_ Blackside Darter *Percina maculata* **O**; Chagrin and Rocky Rivers; formerly widespread
- \_\_\_ Channel Darter *Percina copelandi* **X**; formerly at mouth of Rocky River; **Ohio threatened**
- \_\_\_ Logperch *Percina caprodes* **O**
- \_\_\_ Eastern Sand Darter *Etheostoma pellucidum* **X**; formerly found in Rocky, Cuyahoga and Chagrin Rivers
- \_\_\_ Johnny Darter *Etheostoma nigrum* **C**

- \_\_\_ Greenside Darter *Etheostoma blennioides* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Rainbow Darter *Etheostoma caeruleum* **C**
  - \_\_\_ Fantail Darter *Etheostoma flabellare* **C**; formerly more widespread in Cuyahoga County
  - \_\_\_ Iowa Darter *Etheostoma exile* **X**; formerly in Cuyahoga and Chagrin Rivers
- Drums: Family Sciaenidae**
- \_\_\_ Freshwater Drum or Sheephead *Aplodinotus grunniens* **C**

**NOTICE:** Before fishing, become familiar with the fishing regulations of Cleveland Metroparks.

This checklist was compiled with the cooperation of Cleveland Metroparks Outdoor Education Division and Natural Resources Division.

**Notes**

# A Checklist of the Fishes of Cleveland Metroparks



Fishes are aquatic, cold-blooded vertebrates and include some 22,000 species. A person who studies fishes is called an *Ichthyologist*. Many people are familiar with sport-fishes like perch and walleye, but there are many lesser-known species that inhabit the rivers and streams of Cleveland Metroparks. Fishes are good indicators of the health of our environment, and many have declined or disappeared with the pollution, sedimentation and channelization of our waterways.

Date/time: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather: \_\_\_\_\_

