

# Fishing from a Rented Boat

by Keith Edwards

## Lots of people fish from the shoreline.

But if you get the chance, try fishing from a boat. You can reach deeper water, where bigger fish may be hiding. If you don't have a boat, there are



photo-Dan Martin

places in Pennsylvania that rent small fishing boats. Some of our state park lakes and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lakes have liveries that rent canoes, rowboats and motorboats. Remember to be extra safe whenever you are on a small boat. Always wear your life jacket. People die every year in boating accidents. Most of these people would not have died if they had just worn a life jacket. The people from whom you rent your boat must give you a wearable life jacket to put on while you are boating. If you are under age 13, our laws say that you have to wear your life jacket when you are in a small boat, including all canoes and kayaks.

When you catch a fish, never stand to reel it in. Tipping boats over or falling over the side are two ways people die while boating. Small boats tip over easier than big boats. So instead of standing up to reel in your fish, stay calm and reel in the fish while sitting down. You should always fish with a "buddy." Have your buddy help

you get the fish inside the boat. But tell your buddy not to stand up, either, or you might have to "fish" him out of the water instead of the big fish you just caught!

***Even worse, you might tip the boat over and everyone might end up in the water!***



photo-Art Michaels