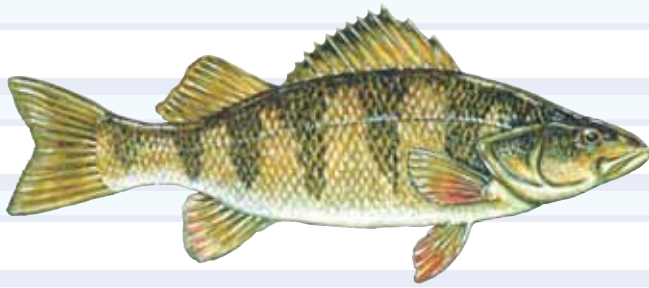


Lake Erie Yellow Perch

Identification

Yellow perch have a sleek olive-green to golden-brown body. The sides are a lighter yellow-green and the belly is white or grayish. Dark scales form six to nine distinctive vertical stripes on its sides. The tail is slightly forked.



Where to find them

Yellow perch live in warm or cool lakes, ponds, and slow streams. A perfect yellow perch lake is cool and clear with a sandy or gravelly bottom with underwater plants. They also live in lakes with soft bottoms. Yellow perch like shallow water and aren't usually caught in water deeper than about 30 feet deep. In Lake Erie, though, anglers often catch them in deeper water.

Fish facts

Yellow perch can be found throughout Pennsylvania. They usually eat during daylight hours. They can be caught all year long, including under the ice in the winter. Perch grow to 12 to 14 inches long. They sometimes travel in schools of 50 to 200 fish. These schools stay in deeper, darker areas during the day and move into shallow waters at night. Perch schools usually include perch of the same size.

