Hello Friends,

On behalf of our Bear Lake Family, I would like to welcome you to Bear Lake. It is almost that time, eh? Evidently, Spring is a woman and can't make up her mind. The weather was warming up and then they got hit with a foot of snow! Temperatures have been at freezing at night. Ice has been pulling away from the shore. We should be getting there just as the ice is out. This as usual means challenges with rapids and getting through the narrows.

We are leaving for Canada somewhere around May 7^{th} . It will take us a while to beat the back the bush and get everything online; water, electricity, phone etc. So, if you need to get a hold of us:

Now - May 8th - (502) 648-2758 6803 Gunpowder Lane (Cell) Prospect, KY 40059-9330 May 8th - Oct 10th - (502) 648-2758 PO Box 5262 (Camp) Espanola, Ontario Canada P5E-153

Highlighting some things. First of all, (since 9/11) the border crossings have changed. Customs Agents are direct, lack warmth, patience, & sense of humor. Be polite. Roll all your windows down. Take off sunglasses. Keep your answers short & honest and you should be fine. Make sure everyone has a picture ID and proof of citizenship. Make sure anything you need to declare will be within reach.

Bring everything you can from home. This includes groceries for several reasons:

- 1) Prices in Canada are very high and there is no exchange rate. You can expect to pay about \$ 85 per carton of cigarettes and about \$ 40 per case of beer up there. Bring it from home.
- 2) You have an opportunity to buy your groceries when you are at home. You know where everything is and where the best prices are. Do you really want to do a scavenger hunt for food while you are on vacation?
- 3) You can build everything into a cohesive load. This will make it easier for loading in/out. We will still make a grocery run to town on Tuesdays.
- 4) If you drink or smoke, <u>bring your limits from home</u>. If you have extra <u>declare it</u> and keep these items visible in your car and well within reach. It will save you time at the border.

If you decide to purchase goods in Canada, the best advice to you is to charge everything to get the best exchange rate. Convert no or as little

currency as possible. Fill up your gas tank on the US border. If you coming through Michigan; stop in Sault Ste Marie at the I-75 Business Exit (Exit 392). You can fill up there and there is a Walmart if you need to get some last minute items.

If you must have Canadian Beer, stop at the Duty Free Store on the US Side. Remember to declare your purchase as they will show up on the screen in customs.

If you want the Meal Plan (where we feed you in the lodge) we <u>must know</u> well in advance. We offer a "No Skinny Man Left Behind"
Dinner Plan. This plan features Steak, Barbecue Pork Chops, Greek Chicken, and a Huge Fish Fry Night. This is a only Dinner Meal Plan and runs \$225 per person.

If you have a DUI call me at your earliest convenience.

We are excited to have you up to Bear Lake Wilderness Camp. We have enclosed a packet that should help you get the most out of your trip. Please familiarize yourself with the packet. It contains the following:

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Getting Directions
- 3) Mission Essential Task List
- 4) Prep Packet
- 5) Map of Espanola
- 6) Tackle Tips

Directions

My favorite is the good old Trip Tik from AAA. I always get one and I know the way. They let you know where the construction areas, speed traps, and rest areas are. Just tell them you need routed to Espanola, Ontario, Canada.

<u>www.Mapquest.com</u> on the Internet is the other. Just go to driving direction, put in your address and Espanola, Ontario, as your destination.

Ferry Boat Information

If you are taking a ferry across to get to Bear Lake Wilderness Camp here are the information links:

1) Manitoulin Island - Chi-Cheemaun http://www.bmts.com/~northland/chiche/chiche.html

2) Milwaukee, WI - Muskegon, MI http://www.lake-express.com/

3) Manitowoc, WI - Ludington, MI http://www.ssbadger.com/

Website Information



All the enclosed information (and more) can be found on our website. To access the secured area of the website, go to www.blwc.com



Click on Bear lake University. The User ID is "charlton" and the password is "heston"

Area Hotels

HOTEL	PHONE	HOTEL	Pricing
Clear Lake Inn	(705) 869-1748	Clean, inexpensive, WiFi, south of	\$\$
995 Hwy 6 South	Espanola	Espanola on Hwy 6 - Best Value	
Goodman's	(705) 869-1020	Clean, inexpensive across from	\$\$
Corner of Hwy 17 & Hwy 6	McKerrow	Wendy's / Tim Horton's on Hwy 6	
Pinewood Motor Inn	(705) 869-3460	Most expensive and nicest	\$\$\$\$
Hwy 6	Espanola	hotel in Espanola. Restaurant	
Queensway Motel	(705) 869-1065	Nice, clean, moderately priced	\$\$\$
Hwy 6 & Queensway Street	Espanola	Near Tim Horton's, McDonalds	



Bear Lake Wilderness Camp Espanola, Canada



At Bear Lake we operate from Saturday to Saturday. This means that we will pick you up at a pre-arranged time at Lang Lake Resort on Saturday. Simply call us the week before, to set the time. The people that are coming in set their pickup slot time. Conversely, your departure time is set by the folks staying in your cabin following week.

Given gas prices any non Saturday (taxi) will be charged \$ 90 USD per boat. Sorry ⊗

This is the Mission Essential Task List:

We will collect the parking fee for Lang Lake Resort. It is \$48 per vehicle for the wk or \$78 for vehicle w/trailer. RV's are charged more. If you are bringing an RV call me in advance.

ITEM

1) Passports / Passport Cards

- 2) If you want our meal plan.
- 3) Call to set up a dock pickup time.
- 4) Pickup Outdoor Card and Licenses.
- 5) Get groceries at Winkel's (if you must).
- 6) Anything you missed? Canadian Tire.
- 7) Drive to the Dock at Lang Lake.
- 8) Park vehicle in Lang Lake Lot.
- 9) Load into the Bear Lake Boat.
- 10) Arrive Bear Lake Wilderness Camp
- 11) Get Boats and Boat Briefing.
- 12) Settle up your Bill.

WHEN / WHERE

Turnaround Time is about 1 month

At least one month in advance

One week prior to your departure.

Fri Nite or Sat Morn, Petro-Canada

Fri Nite or Sat Morn, if you need to.

Fri Nite or Sat Morn, if you need to.

Pull up to the Dock and Unload.

After you unload your vehicle.

Have life preservers ready.

Unload and move into the cabin.

In Main Lodge.

Sunday - Main Lodge. Cash

- 1) We must have advance notice for meals. Staffing and logistics here can be a bear. We can do a Dinners only Meal Plan for \$225 per person. This is our "No Skinny Man Left Behind" Plan that features Steak, Barbecue Pork Chops, Chicken, and our Fantastic Fish Fry with all the fixings.
- 2) When you call to set up a time for dock pickup, consider that the grocery in Espanola does not open until 9AM and that the earliest that we can pick you up is 8AM (weather permitting). You Please also let us know, if you will need night crawlers. Night crawlers generally run about \$68 US.
- 3) Petro Canada and Burk's Shell Station open early. You can purchase your Outdoor Card & Fishing Licenses here. Hunting Licenses, Outdoor Card, and Bear Tags need to go through Burk's Shell Station.

Canadian Tire is also a great place for the once over, to make sure you have everything you will need. If you get lost, or you are going to be late, call the lodge and let us know (705) 866-7100

4) Winkel's grocery opens up at 9AM. This is a really nice but expensive grocery. They accept Credit Cards and Debit Cards. We recommend bringing all your groceries from

home. The advantages; you know where the best deals are, you have months to prepare, and you are not running around on Saturday on a scavenger hunt for food.

It saves a lot of time. You can also freeze your meats, and milk so they will stay cold during your trip. Prices are also cheaper at home. Included is a "sample" packing list for suggestions.

- 5) Canadian Tire opens up at 8AM. The Canadian Tire store is kind of like a Walmart, Autozone, and Hardware store combined.
- 6) Lang Lake Dock is located at Lang Lake Resort. It is roughly 12 miles south of the grocery store on Highway 6. You can follow the signs down Highway 6 for the turnoff (left) onto Lang Lake. Turn left onto Lang Lake Road and follow it until it ends.
- 7) Pull as close as you can to the dock and unload. Be mindful of others trying to use the boat ramp and dock.

Don't put your gear next to main dock parking. Remember, we have to unload a group before we put your gear on. Once you are finished unloading, please park your vehicle in the gravel lot on top of the hill. We will be collecting the parking fee at Bear Lake.

- 8) Load your gear into our water-taxi. We will take you to Bear Lake from there. Travel time is approximately 55 minutes to our dock.
- 9) We will pull into your dock at your cabin and unload your gear.
- 10) Once you are settled into your cabins, we can go about issuing boats and motors. There is a required safety briefing. Then let the games begin!
- 11) Paying your bill. We collect no money on Saturday. Our goal is to get you out on the water so you can start enjoying your vacation. Sunday or after is fine.

Please keep in mind that we have to charge parking, GST (government sales tax) and PST (provincial sales tax). Combined, this is 13% of the total bill. We are required to charge this and we don't see a penny of it. The remaining balance of your bill must be paid in cash. We don't take checks and are not set up for credit cards.

We have maps of the portage lakes, and can give you some good guidance on where to fish. To give everyone a chance at the portage lakes we have a sign out board in the main house. This also lets us know where you are in the case of emergency.

If you are going to fish at dark, please bring up a clamp on Red-Green Flashlight.

12) Boats and portage motors are required to be turned in at 6PM on the Friday Night before your departure. This allows us time to make any repairs/adjustments before our next group comes in on Saturday.



CROSSING THE BORDER AND GENERAL TIPS



Keep in mind that you are crossing into Canada. A passport or passport card will be needed cross the border. You can go to Homeland Security Website www.getyouhome.gov for more information. Canada limits the amount per Adult for:

A) Tobacco: 200 Cigarettes, or

50 Cigars, or

400 Grams of loose Tobacco

B) Alcohol: 1 Case of Beer, or

40 Ounces of hard liquor.

C) Gas / Food Full Tank of Gas and a "reasonable" amount of food.

D) Ammunition: 200 Rounds (Max)

E) Sports Equip: Includes your fishing and hunting gear. Please remember

that you have to have the documents and pay the fee for bringing in

your shotgun or rifle. Bows and Crossbows are exempt.

Recommendations

- If you drink, the limit is one case of beer per person. That is duty free. Beer is running about \$40 per case. If you want to bring more, you will have to pay a duty of \$10 per case. Obviously, it is cheaper bring extra beer from home and pay the duty on it. Cigarettes are about \$85 a carton.
- 2) If you bring in cigarettes, declare them and have them on the dashboard. Don't make the agent search your vehicle. Also roll your windows down and take sunglasses off.
- Don't bring up worms in dirt. They won't allow them across. Just let us know how many you need, before you come up and we can provide Canadian Crawlers at approximately \$ 68 US per flat of 500. A good rule of thumb is 1 flat per two people.
- 4) If you are crossing with a pet, make sure you have proof of all of its vaccinations and shots.
- 5) Enter Canada with a full tank of gas. Expect gas to be about \$ 1.00 a liter. This makes it Just over \$3.80 US per gallon. Stop on the US side of Sault Ste Marie and fill up.
- When crossing the border, roll down your windows, remove your sunglasses, and have your documents ready. When asked just tell them that you are going fishing/hunting at Espanola. Keep your answers brief and just answer their questions (honestly). Keep your sense of humor in check.

If you are a parent <u>bringing a child</u>, you will need to a letter from your spouse giving you permission to bring your child to Canada. The reason for this is to keep parents in custody battles from running away with their children.



- 7) If you must purchase something, use a debit card or credit card. You always get the best exchange rate this way. If you need Canadian Money, use an ATM in Canada. You will always get a much better exchange rate.
- 8) Groceries: You can purchase most everything you need in Canada but I would recommend bringing most everything up with you given the exchange rate.



The 'Bear' Necessities Checklists

	Personal Gear & Clothing				
Jacket	Sweatshirt(s)	Toothpaste	Sleeping bag		
Rain Gear	Gloves	Brush / Comb	Pillow / Slip		
Long Johns	Shirts	Soap / Shampoo	Prescription Glasses		
Jeans / Pants	Sweatsuit	Towels / Cloth	Prescription Drugs		
Shoes / Boots	Shorts	Insect Repellent	Liquor / Beer / Pop		
Underwear	Socks	Sunscreen	Reading Materials		
Bathing suit	Hat (wide brim)	Deodorant	Cards / Games		
Sunglasses	Camera / Film	Ear Plugs	Shaving Gear		
Batteries	Blanket	Sandals	Towels		

Fishin	Fishing Tackle / Equipment & Documents				
Rods & Reels	Tackle boxes	Fishing license	Maps & Charts		
Stringer	Minnow pail	Hunting license(s)	Wire Fish Basket		
DUCT TAPE	Worm box	Travellers cheques	Credit Cards		
Mono Spools	Pliers	Back Pack	\$\$\$ Cash \$\$\$		
Can Opener	Filleting knife	AAA card	Emergency Info		
Small Cooler	Flashlight(s)	Medical card(s)	Driver's License		
Tool Kit	First Aid Kit	Balance of Deposit	LIFE PRESERVER		

Optional & Gear				
GPS	Depthfinder	Shore lunch kit	Radio / Walkman	
Alarm Clock	FRS Radios	Coleman lantern	Shower Shoes	
Compass	Maps	Camping Gear	Trolling Motor	
			Battery	

A depthfinder and trolling motor with battery will greatly enhance your fishing if you plan on primarily fishing the Main Lake System. We can recharge your batteries. Both Burk's and Petro Canada, are open both Late / Early. You will need to purchase your licenses and Outdoor Card here. If you need any last minute tackle or food items both Canadian Tire and Winkels are good options. They are located next to each other.

If you get lost, or you are going to be late, call us at the lodge; (705) 866-7100. Some good options for breakfast are Tim Horton's and Roger Rabbit also. They have a great breakfast!

Tackle	<u> </u>
Canadian Tire	(
801 Centre St.	9
Espanola, ON	E
(705) 869-3807	(

Hotel Clear Lake Inn 995 Hwy 6 South Espanola, ON (705) 869-1748

Great Breakfast Roger Rabbit 92 Park Street Espanola, ON (705) 869-3418



The 'Bear' Necessities Vittles

As I mentioned earlier, bring up everything you can. You will want to bring up coolers with your food and dry ice. You should buy your potatoes here. There is a really nice grocery store, Winkels on Highway 6. Right next door is a Canadian Tire Store. The Canadian Tire store is kind of like a Walmart, Autozone, and Hardware store combined.

If, by chance, you forget something or need something, we will make a run into town on Tuesdays. We would be happy to pick up whatever you need and you can reimburse the cost when we get back. If you need more ice, just leave us a cooler to put it in for you.

Milk	Soups & Stews	Lettuce	Salt & Pepper
Juice	Fresh Fruit	Tomatoes	J-cloths
Bread / Rolls	Ravioli	Salad Dressing	Liquid Detergent
Butter	Garbage Bags	Onions	Chili/Sloppy Joe Mix
Jam / Jelly	Can Opener	Potatoes	Hot Dogs/hamburger
Peanut Butter	Ketchup	Cooking Oil	kitchen bags
Eggs	Mustard / relish	Cakes / Cookies	Ziplock bags
Chips / Snacks	Crackers	Breakfast Meats	Dish Towels
Pancake mix	Cheese	Batter mix / Flour	SOS / scrub pads
Syrup	Canned veggies	Cold Cuts	Toilet paper
Coffee & Tea	Spaghetti	Steaks / Chops	Kleenex
Creamer	Rice-a-roni	Pepperoni / Sausage	Paper Towels
White sugar	Noodle-roni	Chocolate Bars	Newspapers
Sweetener	Pork 'n' Beans	Candy / Nuts	Cooler
Hot Chocolate	Spaghetti Sauce	Charcoal	Lighter Fluid

Getting your licenses and tags in Canada

As you have read on the other side of this page, there is a new Outdoor Card this year. They are \$9 CAD and they are good for 3 years. You can get this card at both Petro-Canada (Espanola) & Burk's Shell Station (Massey) when you purchase your Licenses.

If you need a Hunting License or Bear Tag, you <u>must stop</u> at Burk's Shell Station. You can get your Fishing Licenses and Outdoor Card at either store.

1) Petro-Canada for Fishing Licenses &

Outdoor Card Only

Petro-Canada is conveniently located next to Winkels.
They are open 6AM – 12AM every day.
They also have diesel if you need to top off.



731 Centre Street

Espanola, Ontario

P5E 1S3

Tel.: (705) 869-0643

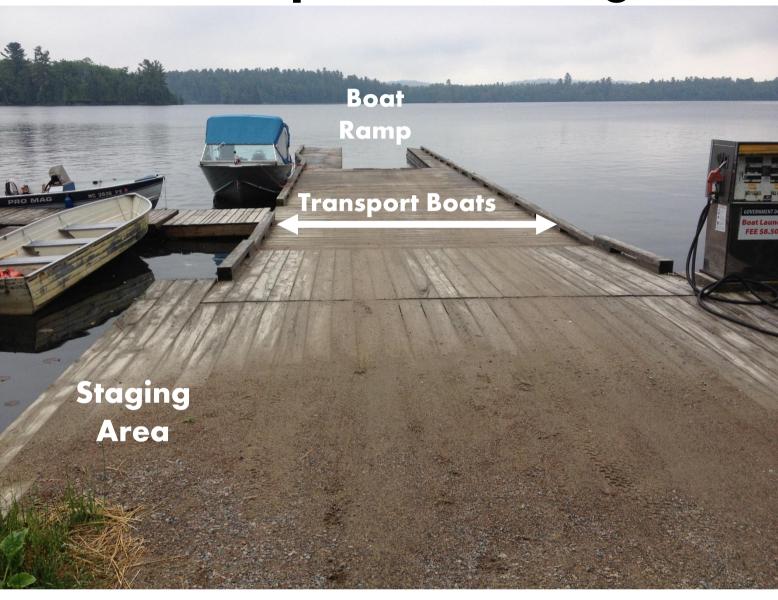


2) Burk's Shell Station Sells Fishing/Hunting Licenses Bear Tags, and Outdoor Card BEAR HUNTERS STOP HERE

Massey is 15 miles west of Espanola on HWY 17. Burk's is on 17 and is open 7AM -11PM every day. They take credit cards



Dock Pick Up Point at Lang Lake



Please be mindful of traffic using the dock and remember we will have to unload folks that are departing before we load you up.

If you are bringing your own boat please arrive an hour early so the dock will be clear for departing guests.



The Clear Lake Hotel is clean, reasonably priced and offer kitchenettes, WiFi connections, and ice machines. It's well located between Espanola and our landing.



Lodging Recommendation

Clear Lake Inn

995 Hwy 6 South Espanola, Ontario, P5E 1N9 1-877-339-8685 (705) 869-1748 clearlakeinn@gmail.com



We don't usually recommend lodging simply because inns and motels seem to change hands often. Subsequently, their quality seems to change as often. However, I don't think you can go wrong with the Clear Lake Inn.

We receive no kick-backs or any benefit from recommending this inn. Nor are we upset with any of the other establishments in the area. Clear Lake has simply distinguished themselves and I feel comfortable recommending them to any of our guest

http://clearlakeinn.bravehost.com/

TACKLE TIPS

When packing your tackle; make your tackle selections as portable as possible. Much of the best fishing is on portage lakes. Overall, I would take two rods and three reels. This will allow you coverage in case something should happen. When portaging, <u>use a backpack</u>; it is ideal. <u>A GPS is helpful</u>. Use small plastic boxes and leave the big tackle box back at the cabin. I carry one rod and two reels. I normally carry something that is bulletproof like a "Red Rhino" as a spare. Make sure you have your assortment of hooks, sinkers, swivels, and leaders.

Don't bring landing nets; the boats are equipped with them. However, if you have a small gaff with a short handle, you might want it. It will be more portable and actually more effective for landing pike. If you have a small anchor, you might want to bring it too. Please bring a fishfinder / depthfinder. We no longer rent them.

I have listed some lures below that have been effective at Bear Lake. Believe me, I get no endorsement money from suggesting them. I have my favorites. I won't go out without vintage <u>Hot-n-Tots</u>, <u>Kelley's Plow Jockey's</u>, <u>Tube Jigs</u>, <u>Rattle Traps</u> and <u>Mepps Cyclops</u>. White twister tails jigs are also good. Make sure you are portable.

All this being said, there is no substitute for live bait; night crawlers and minnows. Live bait will outperform artificial. Bait can be purchased at the camp. Canadian crawlers are approximately \$ 68 per flat of 500 and this is normally good for two fishermen for a week. I also can't wait to try the newer <u>Senko</u> worms out on remote lakes.

SUGGESTED TACKLE & LURES				
PIKE	WALLEYE	BASS		
Dare Devils, Mepps Cyclops	Erie Dearies	Plow Jockeys / Plastic Worms		
Williams Wobblers	Mister Twister Tails	Mepps Black Fury		
Buzz Baits (for Bass)	Assorted Jig heads	Storm (Hot-n-Tots)		
Rapala & Rebels also good for early Lakers (silver & black - both deep and shallow running)	Jigs w/minnows or worms	Spinners, Spoons, & Crankbaits, & a top water frog		
Bombers	Wiggle Warts	Tube Jigs		
Safety Pin Spinner Baits	Canadian Wigglers	Jitterbugs		
Rattle Traps (troll or quick retrieve)	Lindy Rigs	Road Runners		

Make sure you bring two medium action rods. Many folks will bring one Ultra Light and another rod with 12 lb test, fire line or another braided line. We recommend bringing a portable depthfinder, trolling motor, and battery.

Bring a good assortment of terminal tackle like hooks, sinkers, bobbers, bottom bouncers, and swivels as well. Wire leaders are a must. Many people also enjoy cooking their catches out on the lakes and then relaxing in Mother Nature's Diner. So I would also recommend making a shore lunch kit. A typical shore lunch kit would contain everything that you would need to prepare your fish and make a lunch of it. Make it portable.

Quite a few folks also enjoy camping out on some of back lakes. If this intrigues you, then you will need to consider bringing the camping gear (tents, sleeping bags, camp stove etc.) to make it happen.

TIPS

Poor Man's Anchor - Here is a way of make a cheap and portable anchor for fishing the back lakes. Bring a couple of empty mesh potato bags and some rope. Fill the bags with rocks when you get to your lake and tie the rope to the bag. Cheap, Portable,

Fishing Basket - A fishing basket comes in handy. The basket protects your catch and it is easier to carry your catch back to the camp.

Remember to check out the secured area of the website frequently. We add content weekly and this is our way of staying in touch with you. You will find maps of the lakes, tips, and copies of all the documents you have received in this packet and more.

FISHING TACKLE (HECK LIST!!

ROD AND REEL (OMBOS					
✓ 1 Light-Medium 5'-6' with 8-12lb test line ✓ Pik				Walleye Pike and deeper trolling If available	
Exua					
	LAK MY	LLCYC	WHAT WORKS!! Minno	ows and night crawler	s are important!!!
J	Floating Jigs	✓ 1/ ✓ 1/	/16 oz lead head jigs with 2"/8 oz lead head jigs with 3"/4 oz lead head jibs with 3"/2 oz lead head jigs with 3"-6	rubber tails rubber tails	perch #1 for walleye little deeper deep jigging
i	Rubber Tails ✓ Main colors are yellow, white, green purple black pink and orange. ✓ Bring a lot of split shot sinkers & snap swivels ✓ We recommend using a spinner blade in front of jig and troll to locate walleye ✓ The best all-round lure is a beetle spin, which is a basic jig with a spinner blade and rubber tail. You can make these up yourself with the above mentioned combos.				
9	For Example Use a 1/8 oz jig with a spinner blade in front. The setup is 1-2 split shots 8-12" in front of a snap swivel. The jig is added along with a minnow or a night crawler. Troll very slow along the bottom in 8'-14' of water. You will loose a few jigs on logs, rocks, etc. But hey! The walleye are on the bottom! If you're not there, you will not catch any! Once you have located the active walleye, you can drop your jig to the bottom and reel up slightly. Set the hook once the walleye start tapping. Also try casting, letting the lure sink to the bottom and retrieving slowly. Prepare yourself for snags. This technique is the most inexpensive method of walleye fishing. Jigs are cheaper than plugs.				
)	Good Plugs	Good ✓ Main colors are black, blue and orange ✓ Rapalas (diving-split 3"-6")			
III	Pikt ✓ Large sucker minnows (live bait) ✓ Williams Wobblers (Walleye too) What works! ✓ Johnson silver minnows ✓ Mepps Spinners ✓ Doctor spoons Daredevils ✓ Most bass lure work ✓ 6"-8" Steel Leaders ✓ Cordell Ripplin Redfins ✓ Flash is great! So are weedless lures!				inners lure work ipplin Redfins
701	MBO PE	K	LAKE TROUT	BROOK TROUT	SMALL MOUTH BASS
✓ 1/ ✓ To cra ✓ Be	indy rigs 16 oz jigs ons of night awlers est time: July- eptember		 ✓ Jigs, spoons & plugs that imitate bail fish ✓ Colors: White, silver, gold and chartreuse ✓ Fastrac minnow, ✓ Pearl Bomber, ✓ small Rapalas, Williams Whitefish/ Spinner Bait 	 ✓ Flies, jigs minnows, light Multi Blade spinners with worm ✓ Crankbaits trolling, weighted body spinners ½ - 3/8 oz ✓ Small Rapalas, ✓ Little Cleo (red-gold Mepps Spinners ✓ Fly (Muddler Minnow) 	Jigs, Popping Bug, Mepps 3, Bass Killer, Shad Rap or Rattlin Spot ✓ Colors: Black, yellow, gold and



