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MAY 2025

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Jeremy Scott holds our meeting attendees' undivided attention

THE SPEAKER AT OUR APRIL MEETING

was Jeremy Scott. As he has in the past, he was able to capture the undivided attention of the over 80 individuals in attendance at our April 28 General Membership meeting. He talked about the tactics he uses for trolling for walleye especially using spoons. The use and placement on downriggers or using lead core and copper fishing line. He talked about when to use different size spoons and colors. He brought with him two tables full of the various tackle and gear he employs in pursuit

of the fish. There were rods and reel, line releases, lures, planer boards and even a downrigger. I learn something every time I hear his presentations.

FISHING REPORT:

Our first few weeks of spring have brought with it high winds and rain; however it has brought with it some great fishing. May 1 marked the first day of the walleye season and there were some boaters out there already catching fish. As the marinas are opening boating should increase but you don't need a boat because there are great fishing opportunities on the biers lining the Bay And the shores of Presque Isle. Face Book anglers have been posting some nice catches of perch and crappies too. Bass boats have been out there too.

PFBC OK'S NIGHT FISHING REG CHANGE

The PFBC held their quarterly board meeting on April 28th where upon the recommendation of the Law Enforcement committee, the Board approved the publication of a notice of proposed rulemaking pertaining to special regulations applicable to Lake Erie tributary streams. Under this proposal, the permitted hours for angler access and fishing on Walnut Creek from Route 5 downstream to the Manchester Road Bridge would be limited to one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Walnut Creek from Manchester Road Bridge downstream to Lake Erie and Elk Creek north of Route 5 would maintain no time restrictions for fishing. If adopted on final rulemaking at a future meeting, this amendment would go into effect upon publication of a second notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

EWPPA GETS BOATING FUND GRANT

At the same PFBC meeting a boating grant was given to the Erie Western PA Port Authority for the replacement of the courtesy dock at Lampe Marina.

LAMPE MARINA COMPLETE AND OPEN



The docks at the Erie Western PA Port Authority's Capt. John E. Lampe marina have now been all replaced. The \$ 4,539,909 project was completed on time after it was commenced on October 31, 2024. Boats are now being launched and tied up in this first class facility. The project replaces the original docks that were installed when the marina was completed in 1981. The 253 slip facility was funded by the Erie



Western PA Port Authority, City of Erie, Erie County, the PA Dept. of Community Affairs Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, the U.S. Dept. of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service and the Land was Donated by the Koppers Co. The Marina was dedicated to Captain John E. Lampe, the well known and respected Erie Harbormaster.



SONS 2025 MEMBERSHIP BUTTON

is a depiction of a crappie this year. This is in keeping with featuring a native species fish on the button. You can pick up the 2025 pin at anyone of our events or meetings or you can get one by sending \$3.00 to SONS of Lake Erie, PO Box 3605, Erie, PA 16508

JOIN A FRIEND TODAY!

MAIL TO: S.O.N.S., PO BOX 3605, ERIE, PA 16508



RECORD OF MEMBERSHIP

2025

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Address _____

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Phone _____ Date _____

☐ Renew ☐ New ☐ \$5.00 ADULT ☐ \$4.00 SENIOR CITIZEN (over 65) ☐ \$4.00 JUNIOR (under 16)

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025 7:00 PM

**(ONE WEEK EARLY BECAUSE
OF MEMORIAL DAY.
NOTE: THIS WILL BE THE LAST
MEETING UNTIL SEPTEMBER)**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thurs May 15th 6-7:30 Liberty Pier Asbury
Woods fishing class Volunteers needed

Sat. May 17th 9-12 Group 1 and Group 2 10-12
East Waterworks Pond 2 GSA troops fishing

Fri May 23rd 10-noon East Waterworks Pond
Neurorestorative individuals

Sat May 24th 9-12 Perry Monument area EPSFA
Kids Fishing event Volunteers needed

Wed May 28th 10-12 East Waterworks Pond
McKean Elementary school (78 kids) Vol. needed

Sat May 31st 10-1 Liberty Pier Our West Bayfront
celebration Vol. Needed

Mon June 9th 10-12b East Waterworks Pond
Early Connections E WW Pond Vol. needed

Thurs June 12th 11:30-2 East Waterworks Pond
Elks Lodge Veterans picnic Vol. needed

Tues. July 15th 5-7 Housing Auth Admin Bldg
Tacoma Rd. kids fishing safety & casting lessons
Vol. needed

Thurs July 17th 11-1 East Waterworks Pond
Housing Authority kids fishing Vol. needed

Sat. July 26th 9-12 East Waterworks Pond
Discover Presque Isle volunteers needed

Tues. Aug 26th 5-8 Liberty Pier 8 Great Tuesdays
Volunteers needed

**These are all of the events we have scheduled
for now. Please check your newsletter for
more as they are added or check our web page
at sonsoflakeerie.com/schedule.**

**We will have sign up sheets for volunteers
to help at these events at our May 19th
General Membership meeting.**

A SCARY PERSPECTIVE

On May 1, 2025 a ship arrived at the Carmeuse Marine Terminal with a load of wind turbine blades from India. The blades are 175ft. long. It was then that one could realize how immense these wind turbines would be. Seeing these giant blades stirs the thoughts of some scary scenarios. If PA House Bill #522 passes through the State Legislator these giant structures which are over 300 ft tall will soon be appearing in our beautiful lake. How much damage can their construction cause to our water and our fishery?

They were unloaded and placed into a holding area. From there they will be transported by truck to a wind farm being built on land in western New York State.



EVENTS MAKE A SOGGY START – FIRST DAY OF TROUT APRIL 5, 2025

Typically the First Day of Trout Season brings with it the beginning of our club's outdoor activities. On Saturday April 5th, twenty two SONS volunteers joined with staff from Presque Isle State Park for this kickoff. It was raining at the start of the event and a smaller than normal crowd gathered around the Waterworks area ponds on the park. Only a few

kids were there at the start but as the rain subsided more joined us. There was some nice fish caught including brown trout, crappies, bluegills and even a couple bass. The ponds were stocked with their usual allotment of brown trout and several anglers caught their limit. In all the years we have participated, the crappies were a really nice size.



SONS RECEIVE DONATIONS

We are grateful for this generosity and also would like to acknowledge and thank the following for other recent donations. Lee & Mary Simmons, South Erie Turners, Rick Weaver, Moniuszko Singing Society, Fish USA's Walleye Palooza, Erie Elks Lodge 67, Polish Falvons Nest 610, St. Boniface Ushers Club, Konzal Electric and Roy Braulgher. Thank You to all!



FISH USA manager Nick Taylor is shown here presenting a check to SONS Pres. Jerry Skrypzak. The donation was raised by the company from sales of stickers.



SONS Pres Jerry Skrypzak accepts a donation on behalf of the Erie Shrine Club by Shrine Club members Rich Brine, Jack Hartman and Ralph Friend, who are also active SONS members.

PRESQUE ISLE CLEAN UP APRIL 26, 2025

Presque Isle Partnership, DCNR, Millcreek Coffee Co. joined together to sponsor the 69th Annual Spring cleanup at Presque State Park on April 26, 2025

Twenty-five SONS volunteers joined with PISP state park staff members to prepare and serve lunch for all of the cleanup volunteers. Even though the weather started off

windy and rainy there were about 400 participants. Only about 230 took advantage of the lunch. We served hot dogs, coffee, soda and orange drink, chips, water, and some snacks. There was a cheerful atmosphere amongst all of the participants that include a lot of children. Below are some photos from that day.



ERIE PENNSYLVANIA SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION'S 15TH ANNUAL KIDS DAY

MAY 24TH FROM 9-12

**THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE
AT THE
PERRY MONUMENT
AREA ON
PRESQUE ISLE PARK**

The year 2025 marks the 15th year that we have helped out providing a fun day of fishing for everyone. Kids get an introduction to casting and an environmental education seminar followed by a fishing derby for kids age 6-12. Prizes are given to all attendees along with a lunch.

FREE REGISTRATION!

Registration is limited to 100 ages 12 and under.

We hope to see everyone out on Presque Isle for a day of fun.

For more information visit our Facebook Event Page.

Registration is now open and limited to the first 100 participants so sign up today!

Register here!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSea9mZprX64YpYvaVU3rm6k6AWCTn5x4QGgTvbT19b7gzdBuQ/viewform?pli=1>

HARBORCREEK TOWNSHIP FISHING OUTING

The next wet day was on Saturday May 3, 2025. As for the last 12 years, the SONS of Lake Erie has partnered with the Harborcreek Township Recreation Department and the Wesleyville Conservation Club to put together a fishing opportunity for kids. It took place at MacQuarie's pond at the Harborcreek Community Park. It rained continuously. But,

thanks to the picnic pavilion that was built adjacent to the pond with funds donated by our club in 2021, we were able to get out of the rain. In spite of the weather, about 20 kids and their parents came to try their luck. Twenty-three SONS volunteers were on hand to help them fish. A pair of Osprey birds were flying around to provide an airborne fishing exhibition.



FLYING ANGLERS

On Sat. May 3rd, while at MacQuarie's pond at the Harborcreek Community Park Kid's Fishing Day a pair of ospreys flew around trying their own skills at catching fish. The rain on the camera lens blurred things up



SONS SPONSOR TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM PROJECT

Shown here is SONS Director presenting a check for \$1500 to Kevin Lewis Vice President of the NW PA Trout Unlimited Club to cover the cost of a complete Trout in the Classroom installation. This will provide a setup at the Montessori Middle School of Erie.



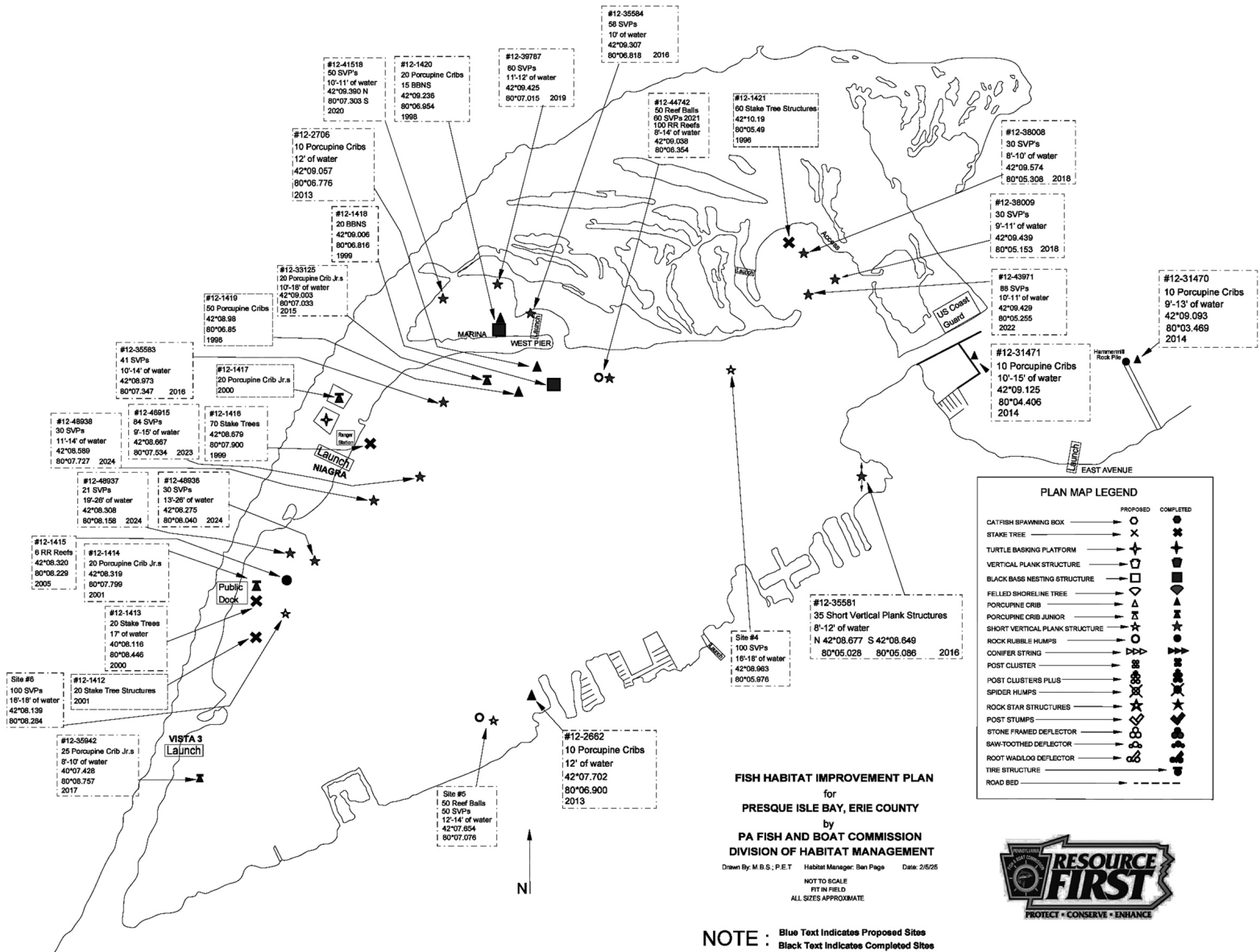
STRUCTURE LOCATIONS IN PRESQUE ISLE BAY

Since 1995 these structures were constructed by SONS volunteers, DCNR, and DEP workers with expertise and equipment provided by the PFBC. They were built according to designs created by the PFBC.

These structures consisted of 4 types PA Porcupine Brush Crib, PA Shallow Water Spawning Structures, Vertical plank structures and PA Stake Tree Structures. The structure were placed in predetermined locations (see map). Over 600 of these structures were built and placed in Presque Isle Bay since 1995.

For more info go to: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/fishandboat/conservation/habitat-management/lake-habitat.html>

Or to download a pdf version go to <https://sonsoflakeerie.org/Habitat%20Pg%20Pics/GPS%20Fish%20Hab.pdf>



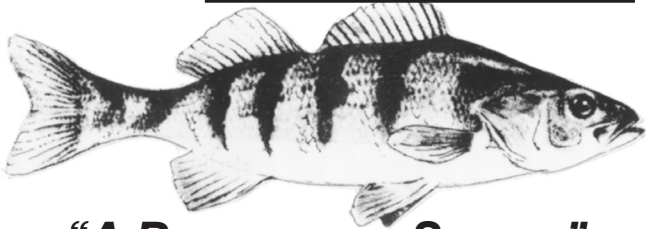


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MAY 2025



"A REPLENISHING SPECIES"

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025 7:00 PM

**(ONE WEEK EARLY BECAUSE
OF MEMORIAL DAY.
NOTE: THIS WILL BE THE LAST
MEETING UNTIL SEPTEMBER)
POLISH FALCONS CLUB**

431 E. 3rd Street, Erie

PROGRAM: Mark Haffley, Senior Biologist PFBC's Lake Erie Unit will give his annual Lake Erie fishing forecast.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET YOUR SONS NEWS LETTER BY EMAIL?

If so, send us an email to sonslakeri@aol.com list your name, address and note that you would like to change to the electronic version. So far we have about 725 members who have requested the change so far. You can always read the current and past issues of the Bucket at our web site, sonsoflakeerie.org at any time.

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<https://freshwaterfishingadvice.com/best-colors-walleye-fishing/>

12 Bait Color Selection Tips for Walleye

1. In clear water, use natural colors such as silver, gold, brown, or green.
2. In murky water, use brighter colors such as chartreuse, pink, or fluorescent orange.
3. Use UV-reflective colors on sunny days.
4. For overcast days or low-light conditions, use darker colors such as black, purple, or dark blue.
5. Use lures that have contrasting colors, such as a dark back and light belly.
6. Use a red or orange lure when walleye are feeding on crayfish.
7. Use a yellow or gold lure when walleye are feeding on perch.
8. Use a green or brown lure when walleye are feeding on leeches.
9. Use a white or pearl-colored lure when fishing in deep water.
10. Use a black or dark-colored lure when fishing in shallow water.
11. Use a glow-in-the-dark lure when fishing in low-light conditions.
12. Use a fluorescent-colored lure when fishing at night.

This website has lure suggestions for other species of fish too.

Check the list let us know if you have better ideas.

ANGLER HAS FISHED 1,086 DAYS IN A ROW

according to a news story on WICU/WSEE by John Last (The Last Word) aired on Friday May 2nd, 2025. Tony has fished 1,086 days straight. If you can recall, Tony gave us a presentation at our March 2024 meeting.

