# Lake Delavan

# Bluegill & Crappie

### Late March - April

With warming waters, Crappies & Bluegills move shallow.

#1	Outlet Dam	3-4 feet of water	Boat/Shore
#2	North Shore Road	3-4 feet of water	Boat/Shore
#3	Lake Lawn/Township Park	8-12 feet of water	
#4	Highlands Channel	3-4 feet of water	
#5	Boat Launch channel	3-4 feet of water	
#6	View Crest Channel	3-4 feet of water	
#7	Lake Lawn Harbor	3-4 feet of water	

#### Best Bait for Bluegills

Slip bobbers with rat finkes tipped with wax worms or red worms.

### Best baits for Crappies

Small minnows on slip bobbers or plastic noodles or squiggles in purple and chartreuse

### May

Look for spawning fish, fish can be found on hard sand bottom. The filamentous algae "slimy green weeds" will indicate the proper water temperature.

#3	Lake Lawn Lodge and Township Park	6-12 feet of water
#8	North Shore Docks	3-6 feet of water
#9	Willow Point	3-4 feet of water
#10	Village Supper Club	3-6 feet of water

#### Best bait for Bluegills

Red worms / Wax worms / Stone fly's - bobbers and small hooks are all you need.

# Best bait for Crappies

Shiners, 1/32<sup>nd</sup> oz. Tube baits – red/chartreuse, chartreuse, white/red – small twister tails can also be effective, red/chartreuse, chartreuse, yellow/white – red

#### June - September

After spawning the Blue gills move to the outside of the weed lines. Crappies become scattered and suspend.

#3	Lake Lawn Lodge and Township Park	16-18 ft (bluegills)
#9	Willow Point	16-18 ft (bluegills) Crappies Suspend
#10	Village Supper Club	16-20 ft (bluegills) Crappies Suspend
#11	Yacht Club & East	16-20 ft of water (bluegills)
#12	Assembly Park	18 feet of water (bluegills)
#13	Browns Channel -off bar	16-18 ft (bluegills) Crappies Suspend

Best bait for bluegills

Red worms / Wax worms / Stone fly's - bobbers and small hooks are all you need.

Best bait for crappies

Shiners, 1/32<sup>nd</sup> oz. Tube baits – red/chartreuse, chartreuse, white/red – small twister tails can also be effective, red/chartreuse, chartreuse, yellow/white – red

### October & November

Fish move even deeper to the center basin of the lake 45-55 feet of water. A good depth finder is a necessity.

#9	Willow Point	40-45 ft of water
#10	Village Supper Club	45-50 ft of water
#11	Yacht Club & East	45-50 ft of water

Best bait for bluegills

Red worms / Wax worms / Stone fly's - bobbers and small hooks are all you need.

Best bait for crappies

Shiners, 1/32<sup>nd</sup> oz. Tube baits – red/chartreuse, chartreuse, white/red – small twister tails can also be effective, red/chartreuse, chartreuse, yellow/white – red

### Ice Fishing

Fishi	ng can be great, but sporadic	
#2	North Shore Road	4-5 feet of water
#3	Lake Lawn Lodge/Township Park	6-12 feet of water
#7	Lake Lawn Harbor	4-5 feet (bluegills & crappies)
#9	Willow Point	40-50 feet (crappies suspend)
#10	Village Supper Club	40-50 feet (crappies suspend)
#11	Yacht Club	40-50 feet (crappies suspend)

Best bait for bluegills

Dark rat finkes: (black, purple, and some chartreuse) tipped with wax worms and/or spikes

Best bait for crappies

Small minnows on a plain hook, hallo jigs or plastic noodles or squiggles.

## Perch

Perch are sporadic throughout the year. They can be caught along with the walleyes and typically winter is the best time for consistency. They are normally in the same locations as the crappies in the winter.

#14 The Island

Look for the Perch in 12-16 ft. of water in June & July

### Best bait for Perch

Helgramites and nightcrawler pieces.

# Walleye

#### May

Fishing is generally tough this time of year. The fish are in a post-spawn pattern and are very spread out. Some key locations are shallow weed lines.

#10	Village Supper Club	12-13 feet of water
#13	Browns Channel	8-10 feet of water
#14	The Island	8-10 feet of water
#15	The Oriental Boathouse	8-10 feet of water

#### Best bait for Walleye

The best baits this time of the year are slip bobbers with flat heads or night crawlers fished just above the weeds. If artificial lures are your thing, try jointed rapalla's, suspending rattling rogues or suspending wally divers.

#### June - August

This time of year, the walleye becomes the most sought after fish in Delavan lake. The warming waters move the walleye's to the outside weed lines and can be readily caught.

#9	Willow Point	15-20 feet of water
#10	Village Supper Club	15-20 feet of water
#13	Browns Channel	15-20 feet of water
#14	The Island	15-20 feet of water
#15	The Oriental Boathouse	15-20 feet of water
#16	Delavan Lake Marina	15-20 feet of water

#### Best bait for Walleye

Slip bobbers or lindy rigs fished with night crawlers or leeches seem to work the best. Secondary baits would include flat head minnows. I like to work light weed weasel jigs tipped with a leech, casting toward the weed line with the boat positioned in the deeper water. Some trolling of crank baits, medium to deep divers can catch a lot of fish. The floating weeds make this very difficult.

# September - November

This is my personal favorite time of year to fish for walleyes. The lake slows down after labor day. The full moon phase seems to produce the most fish. I have my greatest success at night. This time of year the fish suspend.

#9	Willow Point	15-20 feet of water
#10	Village Supper Club	15-20 feet of water
#13	Browns Channel	15-20 feet of water
#14	The Island	15-20 feet of water
#15	The Oriental Boathouse	15-20 feet of water
#16	Delavan Lake Marina	15-20 feet of water

#### Best bait for Walleye

I typically use artificial lures and prefer crank baits. I use rapallas husky jerks, rattling rogues or wally divers suspending. Blue and silver or black and silver seem to be the best cover.

### Ice Fishing

Success is rather limited and the fish are hard to pattern. Fishing is sporadic as the fish suspend over deep water.

#3	Lake Lawn Flat	10-12 feet of water
#9	Willow Point	40-45 feet of water suspended
#10	Village Supper Club on drop off	10-36 feet of water
#11	Yacht Club weed line	10-20 feet of water or suspended 39-40 ft.

#### Best bait for Walleye

Tip-ups with medium golden shiners or jigging rapallas, blue and silver. A lot of fish are caught in the evening or when people are crappie fishing in deep water.

## Northern Pike

#### May

Northern Pike become very active in the spring. Look for them in shallow weedy bays.

#2	North Shore Road	4-6 feet of water
#4	The Highland Bay	6-8 feet of water
#6	The Viewcrest Bay	4-8 feet of water
#11	Yacht Club	6-8 feet of water

#### Best bait for Northerns

This time of year, try white spinner baits, perch colored crank baits and jerk baits. Remember bigger bait means bigger fish.

### June - September

As the water warms, and the heat of the summer begins, the cool water orientated Northerns, move to the deep weed lines. They are suckers for a lindy-rigged sucker.

#9	Willow Point	15-20 feet of water
#10	Village Supper Club	15-20 feet of water
#13	Browns Channel	15-20 feet of water
#14	The Island	15-20 feet of water
#15	The Oriental Boathouse	15-20 feet of water
#16	Delavan Lake Marina	15-20 feet of water

#### Best bait for Northerns

In summer the bait has to be the live suckers and chubs on a lindy rig. Trolling a musky boss spinner bait or jerk bait fishing works well for suspended Pike.

#### October - November

This is trophy time. It can be cold, however this is the time you can catch 40+ inch fish. Remember to release the big ones.

#10	Village Supper Club	10-15 feet of water
#13	Browns Channel	10-15 feet of water
#14	The Island	10-15 feet of water
#15	The Oriental Boathouse	10-15 feet of water

#### Best bait for Northerns

I like using large suckers 12-15 inches on quick strike rigs, while casting perch colored crank baits to the steep drop offs. I like the large Wally diver and the Ernie crank bait.

#### Ice Fishing

This is an all tip up show. Large golden roaches and smelt are the call of the day.

#2	North Shore Road	4-6 feet of water
#3	Lake Lawn Lodge / Township Park	4-6 feet of water
#4	The Highlands Bay	4-8 feet of water
#6	Viewcrest Bay	4-8 feet of water

# Large & Small Mouth Bass

Since the size limit was increased to 18 inches with a limit of one fish. The Bass have received very little pressure. While guiding, I seldom have any clients interested in fishing bass on Delavan. Therefore, experience is very limited. I prefer dock fishing on the North shore, with black or purple pre-rigged worms or salt craws. Bass are typically a sucker for a live night crawler fished with a single hook and split shot around the piers. In the heat of the summer, Delavan Lake has a very good slop bite. For that, I use the deadly swamp rat or slop hog. I prefer white or black. My best success has been Viewcrest Bay (#6) or under the Highway 50 bridge in the inlet.

