

Ice Fishing CHECKLIST

Tackle  Share

Essential Fishing Items

- Auger (hand or power with batteries/fuel)
- Ice skimmer
- Pliers and line cutters
- Rod/reel, tip ups
- Sled
- Spud bar
- Tacklebox (jigs, lures, plastics, etc.)
- Patience and persistence*

Non Essential Fishing Items

- Electronics (flasher and charged battery)
- Heater (with fuel)
- Insulated bait bucket (with bait and dipnet)
- Lake map (with depths)
- Portable ice hut (with anchors and rope)
- Rod holder/bucket
- Seats (chairs or buckets)
- Small snow shovel
- Tape measure

Essential Personal Items

- Cell phone (full charge)
- Fishing license
- Fishing regulations (print or digital)
- Flashlight
- Safety ice picks
- Snacks (high energy)
- Sunglasses
- Warm clothing (dress in layers)
Winter jacket, snow pants, boots, gloves,
hat, extra gloves/mitts, etc.
- Water (or hot beverage in a thermos)

Non Essential Personal Items

- Foot and hand warmers
- Ice cleats



Considerations for young children

- **Start with short trips.** Lengthen time on the ice as they get older.
- **Target panfish.** Big fish are great, but keeping kids engaged with more catches is key. Most children are happy to catch anything.
- **Bring a toboggan if you don't want to carry a tired child.** Walking out on the ice can be good exercise, but most children are eager to get fishing.
- **Dress them in snowsuits, hats, mitts, scarf and waterproof insulated boots, and always pack extra mittens!** Nothing takes the fun out of an ice fishing adventure faster than cold children.

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Summer Fishing CHECKLIST



Essential Fishing Items

- Pliers and line cutters
- Rod/reel
- Tacklebox (jigs, lures, plastics, etc.)
- Patience and persistence*

Non Essential Fishing Items

- Bait bucket (with bait and dipnet)
- Lake map (with depths)
- Net
- Seats (chairs or buckets)
- Tape measure

Essential Personal Items

- Appropriate clothing
(rain gear, etc.)
- Bug repellent (with DEET)
- Cell phone (full charge)
- Fishing license
- Fishing regulations (print or digital)
- Flashlight
- Hat
- Snacks (high energy)
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Water



Considerations for young children

- **Be prepared.** Bring lots of healthy snacks to eat and drink, have a plan for bathroom breaks. Line up their rod before heading out so they can start fishing as soon as you arrive, it can be hard for them to wait with so much anticipated excitement.
- **Start with short trips.** Lengthen time as they get older.
- **Target panfish.** Big fish are great, but keeping kids engaged with more catches is key. Most children are happy to catch anything.
- **Enjoy the outdoors** — there is more to fishing than actually catching fish. When the bite starts to slow, encourage them to explore their surroundings, look for creatures, collect rocks, launching leaf “boats” into the water, and get dirty. They can also practice their **Knot Tying**.

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