

Fishing Tournaments Procedures:

For fishing tournaments requiring permits, some of the prior regulations have been modified to reflect changes in our procedures. All applications (no \$50 application fee) for requests should be sent to the appropriate State Park or Field Office (not Lansing Office). Contact information for all Boating Access Sites can be found at www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mrbis. A copy of the application can be found on the DNR website at www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-30301_31154_35728---,00.html. If you have any questions, you may contact Jason Fleming at (517) 241-2054 or FlemingJ@michigan.gov

1. Tournaments are required to get a permit if the number of the participants (vehicle/trailer spots) is 50 or greater.
2. No tournaments to be held during holiday periods. Holiday periods include: Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day and the "busy" dates adjoining them. (May be adjusted by Unit Supervisor if a tournament at a site is not considered adverse to the public using a site)
3. Tournaments shall not start between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
4. The number of registered tournament participant vehicles can not exceed 80% of the parking capacity for a particular site. Any adjustment to this must be approved by the Unit Supervisor.
5. No more than one tournament permitted for a site per day. **Exception:** For Boating Access Sites that meet the following criteria, multiple permits may be issued.
 - a. The boating access site parking capacity exceeds 100 parking spaces.
 - b. Adequate "green space" is available for each tournament. Greenspace is defined as a location that does not interfere with normal site activity. For closed tournaments a minimum of 20 feet by 20 feet is required. For open tournaments a minimum of 60 feet by 60 feet is required.
6. No Use Permits will be issued on Boating Access Sites for hours beyond the site closure time except within non day-use areas in parks and recreation areas. (Any modification to this must be approved by District Supervisor)
7. Permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis.
8. No guaranteed parking availability.
9. All requests for permits will be in writing.
10. Cancelled permit dates will be open on a first come, first serve basis after any cancellation.
11. For each calendar year, permit applications will be accepted starting the first business day in **November**. Mail-in and email applications received before the first business day in **November** will be returned.
12. First business day in **November** procedure: All hand-delivered applications will be taken in order and held until after all mail-in applications and email applications have been filled, with the mail-in applications taking precedent over email. Then hand-delivered and email applications will be filled in the order they were received.
13. No more than 6 permits may be issued on a particular site for a specific tournament group (may be waived by unit manager if tournament is small enough and the site has more then 100 parking spaces) up until 60 days prior to a particular date. Any requests within 60 days of the start date shall be granted on a first come, first served basis unless there are further restrictions of the number of tournaments being held at a particular site.
14. Upon request, approved tournaments must allow Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Biologists inspections of fish taken during the tournament for research purposes.
15. Tournament Use Permit fees are a minimum of \$100 weekends, \$50 weekdays.
16. Tournaments are allowed on Free Fishing Weekends and encouraged to provide opportunities for an introduction of fishing to youth groups.
17. When a group requests a tournament whereas the tournament is less than 50 participants, as a courtesy staff may mark the name of the group and location on a calendar and consider it a "hold" on the site. Holding the site is a benefit for the groups and should not be mistaken for an approved permit. Until there is a centralized, electronic site to reserve tournaments, tournament organizers should work together with our staff for to avoid overlap of tournaments.