



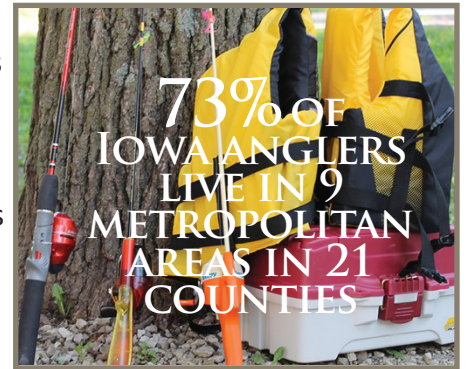
COMMUNITY FISHING PROGRAM

GOOD FISHING CLOSE TO HOME

Reel Fun in Metro Neighborhoods

Iowa's largest cities continue to thrive and build new neighborhoods. Many city parks and residential areas have public fishing ponds - perfect for busy families to spend time together catching fish in a fun setting close to home.

The DNR's Community Fishing Program helps cities improve the fishing in their ponds by offering tools and tips to solve common problems like lots of aquatic plants, small fish and undesirable fish species. Fisheries biologists monitor the fish populations at these small ponds and stock fish as needed to increase the chance of catching fish.



Parking spots and paved paths to and around the pond help anglers quickly get to the fish - essential when taking kids fishing. The Community Fishing Program works with city officials to make it easier to get to a pond and fish from the shore.

Rivers run through many Iowa cities, offering an unique fishing experience for all ages. Cities, with support from the Community Fishing Program, are adding more places in their downtowns to get on the river to fish or paddle.

Hooking Memories at Neighborhood Ponds

Neighborhood ponds are great places for residents to spend time together outdoors. Partnerships with city officials, community and neighborhood groups help boost community pride while providing a safe, convenient place to fish.

The Community Fishing Program works with cities to update or add restrooms, playgrounds, and picnic areas close to neighborhood ponds so everyone can enjoy their fishing experience. Often walking or bike trails are added to help residents easily get to the pond.

The Community Fishing and Aquatic Education programs are partnering with local schools and community groups to host free fishing events to help new anglers get started and "re-hook" anglers who don't fish as often as they like.



SUCCESS STORIES

Fishing Friendly Stormwater Basins

Most metro cities have storm water basins in their new neighborhoods and business developments to manage the increased runoff rate from urban development into storm sewers and reduce flooding in area lakes and rivers. Changes in design and construction of urban stormwater retention basins can provide good fishing opportunities and cleaner water for generations to come.



Thanks to the Community Fishing Program, city officials, engineers and developers have another option to design and build a stormwater basin. A fishing friendly design that still maintains stormwater management goals. This option requires a steeper slope and deeper basins than traditional designs.

Many metro developments now have fishing friendly stormwater basins - a great place for the community to gather, spend time together, and share fishing stories. After the basin is built, fisheries biologists stock it with Largemouth Bass, Bluegill and Channel Catfish.

OPEN FOR
PUBLIC FISHING

FISH
LOCAL

FISHING LICENSE REQUIRED IF AGED 16 OR OLDER.
VISIT WWW.IOWADNR.GOV
FOR IOWA FISHING MAPS, LAWS AND LICENSES.

DNR Johnston

Community Fishing Atlas

There are lots of great places to fish in Iowa communities, but many anglers do not know where they can fish close to home or work. The Community Fishing Program collaborated with city governments to identify public ponds and river access in their cities. Signs posted at these ponds quickly identify them as places where you can fish.

Iowa anglers can find these community fishing destinations with our mobile friendly, interactive Community Fishing Atlas available on the DNR website at www.iowadnr.gov/fishlocal. Additional locations will be added as cities expand or add new public fishing spots.

Bringing Trout to Iowa Cities & Towns

More Iowans can experience the thrill of catching trout in a pond or lake near where they live thanks to the community fishing trout stocking program.

Seventeen lakes and ponds are stocked with trout twice each year (October - April). Fisheries staff and experienced anglers from partnering groups offer help and encouragement to kids and new anglers at fun, family fishing events during one of the stockings at each location.

Community fishing trout lakes are popular fishing destinations. Iowa anglers took 99,444 trips to community fishing trout lakes in 2016.



For more information:

Tyler Stubbs, Community Fishing Biologist, tyler.stubbs@dnr.iowa.gov, 515-344-6960