



# Wisconsin Aquaculture Association

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TO: Wisconsin Association of Lakes Members, Public and Private Organizations and  
Individuals Who Wish to Stock Fish

The Wisconsin Aquaculture Association (WAA) has been working with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to develop a program whereby the WAA can assist in meeting the stocking needs of the State of Wisconsin. Recently the WDNR has issued their procedures for obtaining fish for stocking and refers you to the WAA for obtaining fish where WDNR supplies might be short. (See reverse side for WDNR protocols)

Even though WAA may be able to supply fish, you as a stocker, must still go through the WDNR procedures. These include:

1. You must apply for and obtain, a stocking permit from the WDNR
2. Fish you stock must have had a fish health certification (required of all fish stocked in State waters)
3. Fish may be required to be of a specific genetic strain (WDNR may list requirements on your stocking permits)

What this program will do:

1. Make many more fish available to you for stocking
2. If you have a stocking permit, you can work directly with a grower
3. Will open up stocking to many entities who did not formerly qualify for permits – private organizations, lakes and lake associations without public access

What you should do:

1. Apply for your stocking permit in early July of 2007 if fish are desired for 2008)
2. Apply even if you have been turned down in the past – you will need to have records of why you were turned down
3. Start exploring the WAA website ([www.wisconsinaquaculture.com](http://www.wisconsinaquaculture.com)) to line up growers who are health certified and can satisfy your stocking needs.

This program is in its infancy and may not see good results for one or more years simply because it will take time to ramp up to meet our needs. Please be patient but know that we are interested in providing good healthy stock to continue the great Wisconsin fishing tradition.

Good Fishing,

WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION

William M. West

William M. West, President

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has identified approved stocking quotas that the Department will not be able to fill for a variety of reasons. This document outlines the process for private individuals, clubs, organizations and private fish farms wishing to purchase fish for stocking to fill these 'deferred' and 'unmet' identified stocking needs.

Step 1 – Contact the local Fisheries Biologist. The lists of 'deferred' and 'unmet' stocking quotas includes the last name of the fisheries biologist. The following Internet link will take you to the list of Fisheries Biologists <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/people/fisheriesbiologists.html>

Step 2. – Discuss the particular stocking quota or quotas that you or your organization is (are) interested in helping to fill with the local Fisheries Biologists. (A stocking quota is an approved request for fish stocking in a particular water body and includes the approved strain, age class and number)

Ask the Fisheries Biologist the following questions:

Has the quota already been filled?

What conditions will the fisheries biologist place on the stocking permit, if approved and issued?

For example:

Will the local Fisheries Biologist require specific stocking locations and numbers for each location when stocking this quota?

Will the local Fisheries Biologist require that the fish be 'marked'?

What are the stocking verification requirements? (This will require coordination between the Department's representative and the fish farmer)

Step 3 – Apply for a Fish Stocking Permit. The club or organization actually purchasing the fish must apply for the fish stocking permit. Fish Stocking Permit Application (This form, number 9400-060) is available from the local Fisheries Biologist)

- Contact the Wisconsin Aquaculture Association or checkout their site at [www.wisconsinaquaculture.com](http://www.wisconsinaquaculture.com) for Private Fish Farm contacts to purchase the fish from. Be sure to ask for a copy of the fish health certificate for all fish that you would like to obtain.
- A copy of the valid Fish Health Certificate from the fish farm supplying the fish should be attached to the Fish Stocking Permit Application.
- Once the Fish Stocking Permit has been issued, finalize stocking plans with the local Fisheries Biologist and the private fish farm. The permit will detail any specific conditions and will include a copy of the Field Fish Stocking Form used to document the stocking.
- Return the completed Field Fish Stocking form to the local Fisheries Biologist within 2 weeks of stocking date.

For more information, contact:

Alfred Kaas, Statewide Fish Propagation Coordinator Bureau of Fisheries and Habitat Protection, Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 791, Madison WI 53707-7921, by phone at 608-267-7865 or by email at: [Alfred.kaas@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:Alfred.kaas@dnr.state.wi.us)

or the local Fisheries Biologist listed for each 'deferred' or 'unmet' quota