



# WALLEYE

## Fact Sheet

### *Did you know?*

- Walleye spawn in the spring or early summer (early April in southwestern Ontario, to the end of June or later in the north) depending on latitude and water temperature.
- Normally, spawning begins shortly after the ice breaks up in a lake, at water temperatures of 5-11°C (42-52°F) and lasts for 1-2 weeks.
- Male walleye move to the spawning grounds before the females do.
- The number of eggs produced and released is related to body size. The Ontario average of number of eggs produced by a female walleye is 46,369 eggs/kg.
- Only 40% of walleye eggs actually get fertilized; 2% of those fertilized eggs become fry. Removing one 5lb spawning female takes away the potential for 816 future walleye.
- Walleye are extremely vulnerable during the spawning season as changes in water temperature, stream flow, and wind, can affect the level and duration of spawning activity.
- Other species spawning over the walleye eggs or stirring up the silt can cause large numbers of egg mortality.
- Walleye are tolerant of a great number of environmental situations but not so tolerant of over-fishing.



For more information:

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