Fishing Checklist

Created: 12/27/2011

# Tasks:

☐ **Preparation**

☐ **Lessons**

*There are places that give fishing lessons and guided fishing trips. The best lesson is practice, practice and more practice!*

☐ **Experience**

*This goes along with lessons and just hanging out experimenting with bait and hooks and lures. Lots of practice will get you the experience you need to be a good fisherman (or woman).*

☐ **Equipment**

*There is quite a bit of equipment to buy if you intend to be serious about fishing, so start out simple at first, and see if you will stick with it.*

☐ **Clubs**

*Fishing clubs are fun, and you can pick up tons of great information there, and lots of friends, too.*

☐ **Permission**

*Check and make sure you have permission to fish from the owner of the area if it is not public.*

☐ **If Fishing from a Boat**

☐ **Oars/Paddles**

*Depending on the type of boat you use, make sure you have some of these on hand.*

☐ **Rope**

*This is necessary for any boat, so stock up - you may need to pull yourself into a dock, tie up, or throw a life preserver or someone in the water.*

☐ **Anchor**

*Having the boat stay in the same place while you're fishing lets you take advantage of schooling areas where fish are plentiful.*

☐ **Life jackets/PFDs**

*These are required no matter where you fish at, so have at least two per boat.*

☐ **Seat cushions**

*For people who prefer to be comfortable while sitting down fishing, cushions do make it easier.*

☐ **Fishing Equipment**

☐ **Tackle Box**

*This does not need to be fancy, but it does need to hold all of the lures, bait and other things you will use.*

☐ **Fishing License**

*This is an absolute must, because if the local authorities pull you over, and demand to see this, you have to have it.*

☐ **Rods**

*Make sure that your rods are well taken care of, and inspect them on a regular basis.*

☐ **Lures and Bait**

*You will need a variety for the different types of fish you may want to catch.*

☐ **Hooks and Sinkers**

*Again, a variety will be needed for different types of fish.*

☐ **Knives**

*You will need both a fillet knife and a pocket knife for different uses.*

☐ **Weighing scale**

*This is needed to make sure that any fish you catch is legal to take home with you - you may have to toss it back in the water.*

☐ **Tape Measure**

*This is to check the size of the fish.*

☐ **Hook Remover.**

*This is to take the hook out of the fish's mouth*

☐ **Wet Weather Items**

☐ **Boots**

*Preferably rubber boots, top keep your feet dry.*

☐ **Rain hat**

*This will help keep your head dry.*

☐ **Poncho**

*This goes over everything else to keep wind and rain off.*

☐ **Rain suit**

*If you are an avid rainy day fisher, invest in a suit for extra mobility and comfort.*

☐ **Safety Tips**

☐ **Keep hydrated**

*Drink water, and plenty of it, on a regular basis.*

☐ **Life vest.**

*Wear it, don't be a fool!*

☐ **Communication**

*Have at least a two-way radio, or cell phone available if you need help.*

☐ **Set a going back time**

*Agree on a time that you'll go back in, if you're in a group; that way, no one gets lost. Make sure people know where you are going and when you should get back.*

☐ **Search and Rescue**

*Know who to contact, and when the appropriate time to do so is, should there be a problem.*