MUSKIE

Catch and Release

Get ready to hook and catch a muskie.

CAUTION: *Angling mortality can increase with warmer water. Consider not fishing for muskie once water temperatures exceed 80˚F.*

Tips for a safe release:

1

BE PREPARED with needle-nose pliers or similar tools for grabbing the lure. Jaw spreaders and hook cutters are also helpful.

2

KEEP FISH IN WATER and remove the lure while holding the fish in a net or by the base of the tail.

3

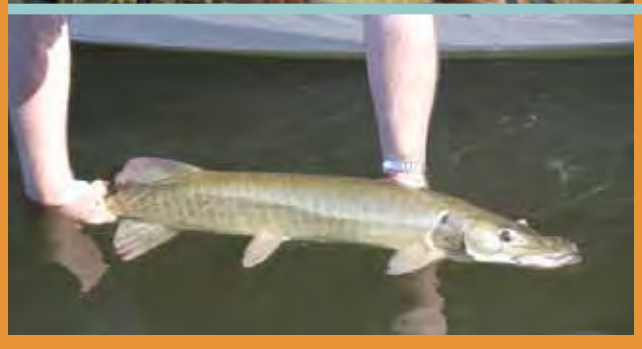
MEASURE FISH IN WATER with a floating ruler or in a measuring cradle.

4

DO NOT TOUCH the fish's gills. They are easily damaged.

5

A QUICK PHOTO can be taken, once the fish is free from the lure. Ease the muskie from the water and keep the fish horizontal, carefully supporting the body.



6

RELEASE THE MUSKIE holding it by the tail until the fish is capable of swimming away by itself.

Conservation makes Missouri a great place to hunt and fish.