

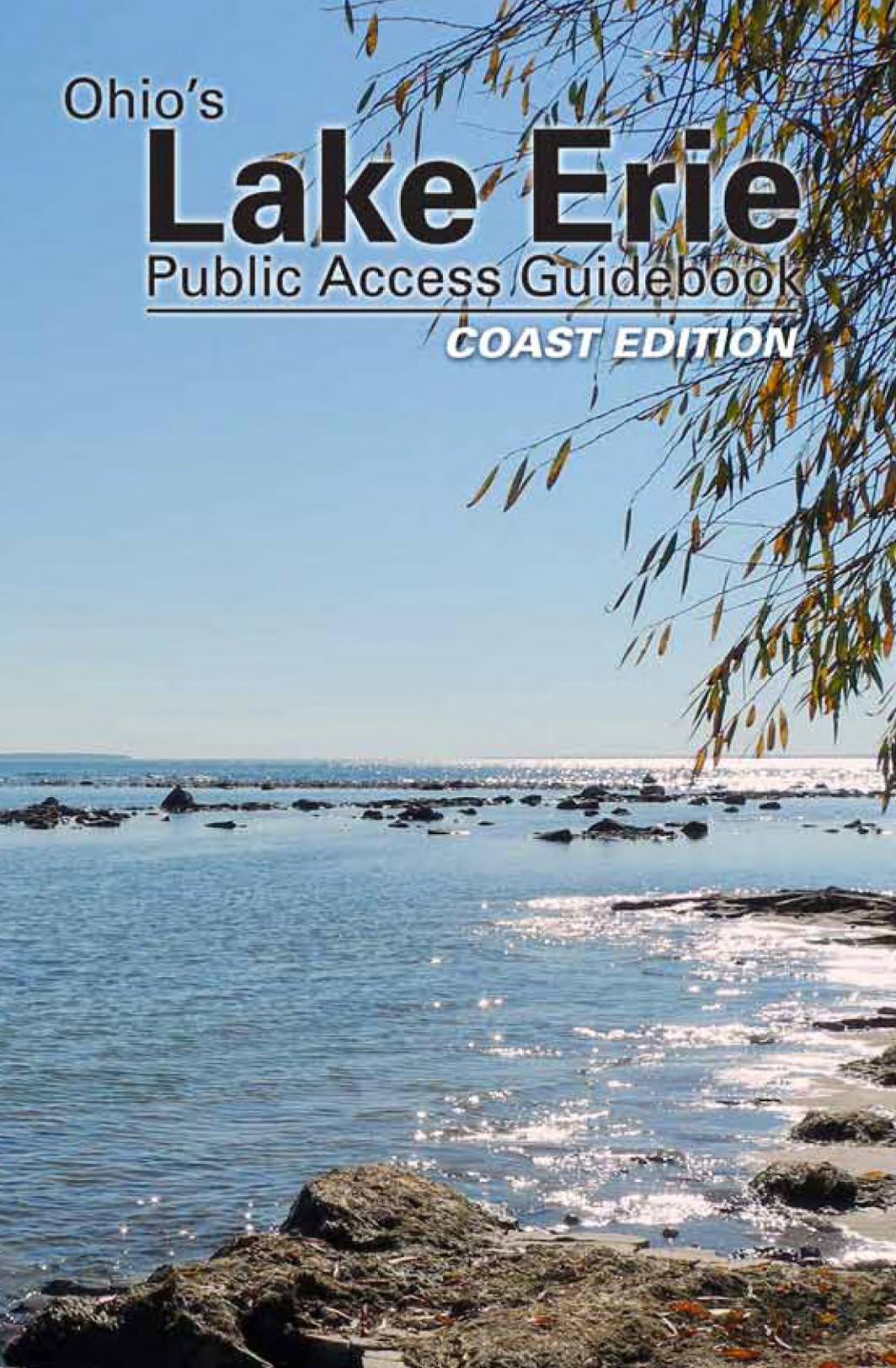
Ohio's

# Lake Erie

Public Access Guidebook

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*COAST EDITION*



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Public Access Guidebook

*Coast Edition*



**Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Office of Coastal Management  
105 West Shoreline Drive  
Sandusky, OH 44870**

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# Guiding Exploration of Ohio's 312-mile Lake Erie Shore

Stretching from Toledo in Lucas County to Conneaut in Ashtabula County, Ohio's 312-mile Lake Erie shore is exciting and diverse. A wide-ranging collection of picturesque natural landscapes, vibrant downtown waterfronts, busy recreational harbors and celebrated cultural landmarks can be discovered along Ohio's Great Lake coast. From pristine beaches, impressive dunes, tranquil nature preserves and island retreats to prime watercraft accesses, popular fishing spots, historic monuments and timeless lighthouses, Lake Erie offers many year-round attractions and recreational opportunities.

*Ohio's Lake Erie Public Access Guidebook – Coast Edition* is a comprehensive, user-friendly resource for exploring the many public access sites that border Lake Erie. The *Coast Edition* is a fully-updated publication that expands upon the information presented in the first edition (2010). This guidebook introduces new sites to visit; includes a broader listing of available amenities and services; features new and updated maps; and includes updated site narratives.

The *Coast Edition* is a guide to help find the perfect spot to spend a day, or even an entire week. In total, there are 191 Lake Erie public access sites in eight coastal counties featured in this guidebook. These sites comprise approximately 58 miles of publicly accessible shore (about 19% of Ohio's entire coast) and account for nearly 21,240 acres of publicly held land. The public access locations listed in this guidebook include: state, city, village and township parks; county metropolitan park preserves and reservations; state and local nature preserves; federal and state wildlife areas and refuges; scenic overlook vistas; memorials and monuments; public cemeteries; and public road right-of-way sites.



# Rivers Edition

The *Coast Edition* is a follow-up and companion publication to *Ohio's Lake Erie Public Access Guidebook – Rivers Edition* (2013), which focuses on the publicly accessible sites located along Ohio's major tributaries in the Lake Erie Watershed. The *Rivers Edition* highlights 220 public access locations in 21 counties and covers 870 field-checked river miles. The featured river systems include, from west to east, the Ottawa, Maumee, Toussaint, Portage, Sandusky, Huron, Vermilion, Black, Rocky, Cuyahoga, Chagrin, Grand and Ashtabula rivers and Conneaut Creek.

## Data Collection and Sources

Public access information was originally collected by ODNR Office of Coastal Management staff between 2005 and 2009. Update work occurred in 2012 through 2014. The primary data collection method was on-the-ground fieldwork, supplemented by Geographic Information System (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS) technologies. Additional sources include:

- County parcel data
- County and local maps
- Metro Park and park district maps
- ODNR Division of Watercraft's 2004 Boating Access data
- The state of Ohio's 2006 and 2011 Statewide Imagery Program aerial photography

Location and amenity information was verified with recreation directors, public works departments, service departments, park managers and/or other local authorities.

*This guidebook does not include sites that are private such as individual homes, neighborhood associations or clubs, commercial or private marinas, restaurants, museums, golf courses, campgrounds, retail plazas, industrial port facilities or factories, apartment or condominium complexes, or mobile home parks.*

*Note that many public access sites listed in this guidebook are adjacent to residential, commercial and industrial properties. Nuisance behavior or trespassing may be subject to prosecution.*



# Lake Erie: Ohio's Great Lake

Lake Erie is the fourth largest of the five Great Lakes by surface area (9,910 square miles) and the smallest in terms of volume (116 cubic miles). Lake Erie contains approximately 127.7 trillion gallons of fresh water, which is 3 percent of the entire Great Lakes' volume. Lake Erie's coast is 871 miles long (includes natural islands) and borders Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York and the Canadian province of Ontario.

Lake Erie has three primary basins: Western, Central and Eastern. The Western Basin, which extends from Toledo to Sandusky, is the shallowest of the basins with an average depth of only 30 feet. The Central Basin, extending from Sandusky to Erie, Pennsylvania has an average depth of 62 feet. The Eastern Basin's average depth is 80 feet. Lake Erie's maximum depth is 210 feet in the Eastern Basin.

Lake Erie is connected to the other Great Lakes and the Atlantic Ocean. Lakes Michigan and Superior flow into Lake Huron via the Straits of Mackinac and St. Marys River, respectively. Lake Huron's primary outflow is the St. Clair River, which flows into Lake St. Clair. The Detroit River links Lake St. Clair to Lake Erie. Lake Erie's primary outflow is the Niagara River, which flows over Niagara Falls and through the Niagara Gorge into Lake Ontario. The St. Lawrence River flows from Lake Ontario to the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Atlantic Ocean. Lake Erie's water retention time is 2.6 years, which is the shortest of all the Great Lakes.

The Lake Erie Basin was carved out during several glacial advances and retreats. Many precursor lakes with changing geographic extents, lake levels and drainage outlets predated modern Lake Erie. The earliest lake to form was Lake Maumee about 14,000 years ago. Lake Erie in its present form is less than 4,000 years old. It is the shallowest of the Great Lakes due to the underlying geology and because the glacial ice was relatively thin (one-mile thick). Exposed glacial grooves and striations, particularly the grooves found at Kelleys Island State Park, demonstrate the great scouring power of the advancing and retreating ice. Within the Lake Erie Watershed, ancient beach ridges run parallel to the lakeshore and provide a snapshot of prehistoric lake levels during various phases of Lake Erie's formation.



Lake Erie is named after the Erie tribe, a Native American group that lived along the lake's southern shore (in present-day northern Ohio, northwestern Pennsylvania and western New York). The word "Erie" is a shortened form of the word, "Erielhonan," which means "long tail" in the Iroquois language. "Erie" itself means "cat" or "wildcat." Between 1653 and 1657, the Erie, known as the Cat Nation, were attacked and destroyed by a hostile, westward moving Iroquois tribe. The Iroquois occupied the land around Lake Erie as a hunting ground. Lake Erie was the last of the Great Lakes to be discovered by Europeans. It was first documented by French explorer Louis Joliet in 1669 (54 years after Lakes Huron and Ontario were discovered). The French referred to it as "Lac du Chat," meaning "Lake of the Cat." Due to the Iroquois' stronghold on the area, Lake Erie was also the last of the Great Lakes to be explored by Europeans.

Lake Erie and the surrounding region have been the backdrop for multiple conflicts. The Battle of Fallen Timbers (1794) during the Northwest Indian War, fought along the Maumee River in present-day Maumee near Toledo, was a decisive American victory and played an important role in the western expansion of the American frontier. The first War of 1812 battle on Ohio soil was fought at Crystal Rock on the south side of Marblehead Peninsula on September 29, 1812. In 1813, Americans successfully defended Fort Meigs in Perrysburg and Fort Stephenson in Upper Sandusky against British and Native American forces. In September, 1813, the Battle of Lake Erie was fought and proved to be the pivotal battle during the War of 1812. The battle took place near Rattlesnake Island, northwest of Put-in-Bay. Nine United States Navy vessels, commanded by Oliver Hazard Perry, defeated a fleet of six British warships in three hours. The battle ultimately secured control of Lake Erie and the Northwest Territory for the Americans during the war. During the American Civil War, a prisoner-of-war camp for captured Confederate officers was established on Johnson's Island in the Sandusky Bay (1862-1865).

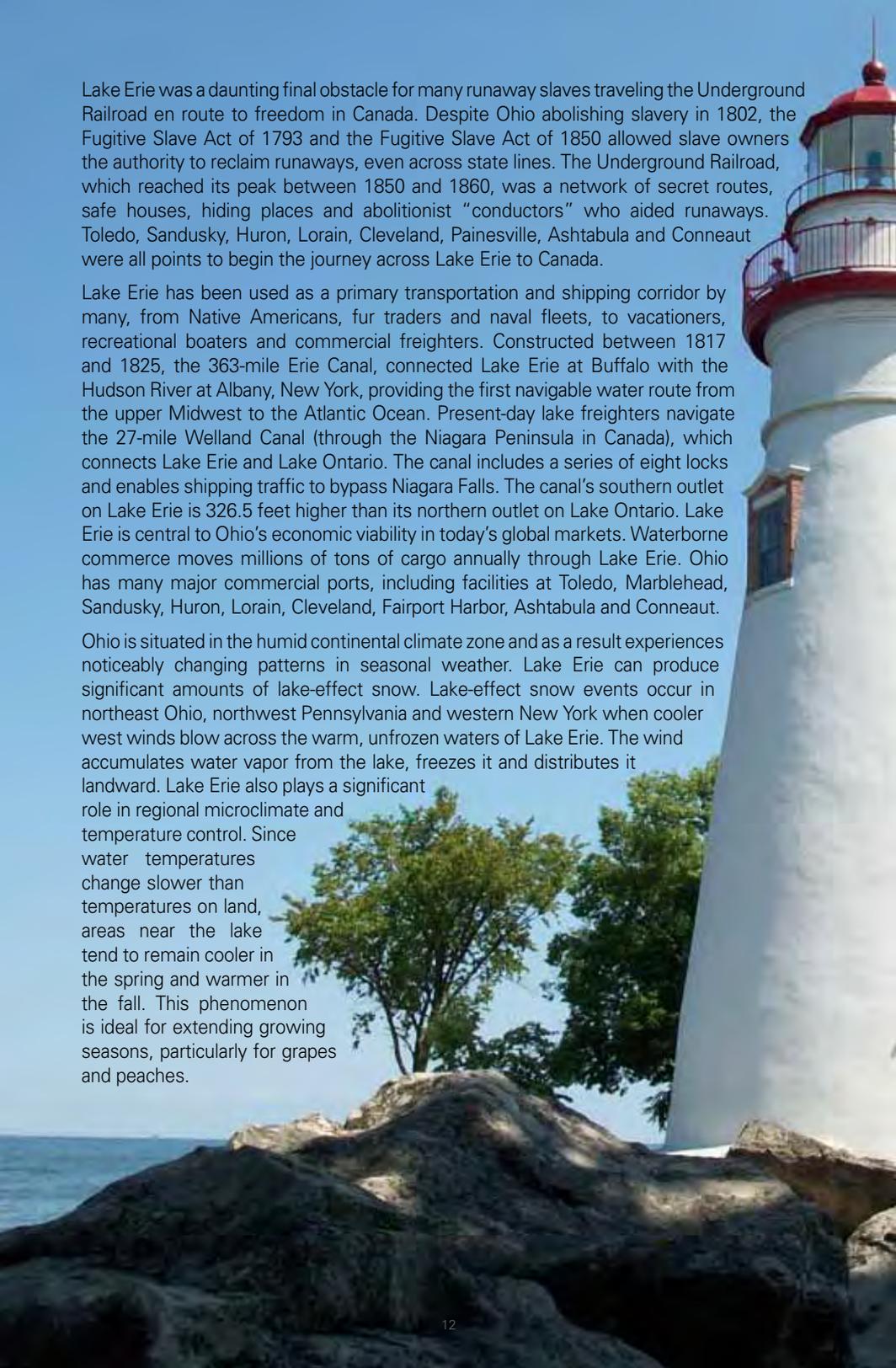


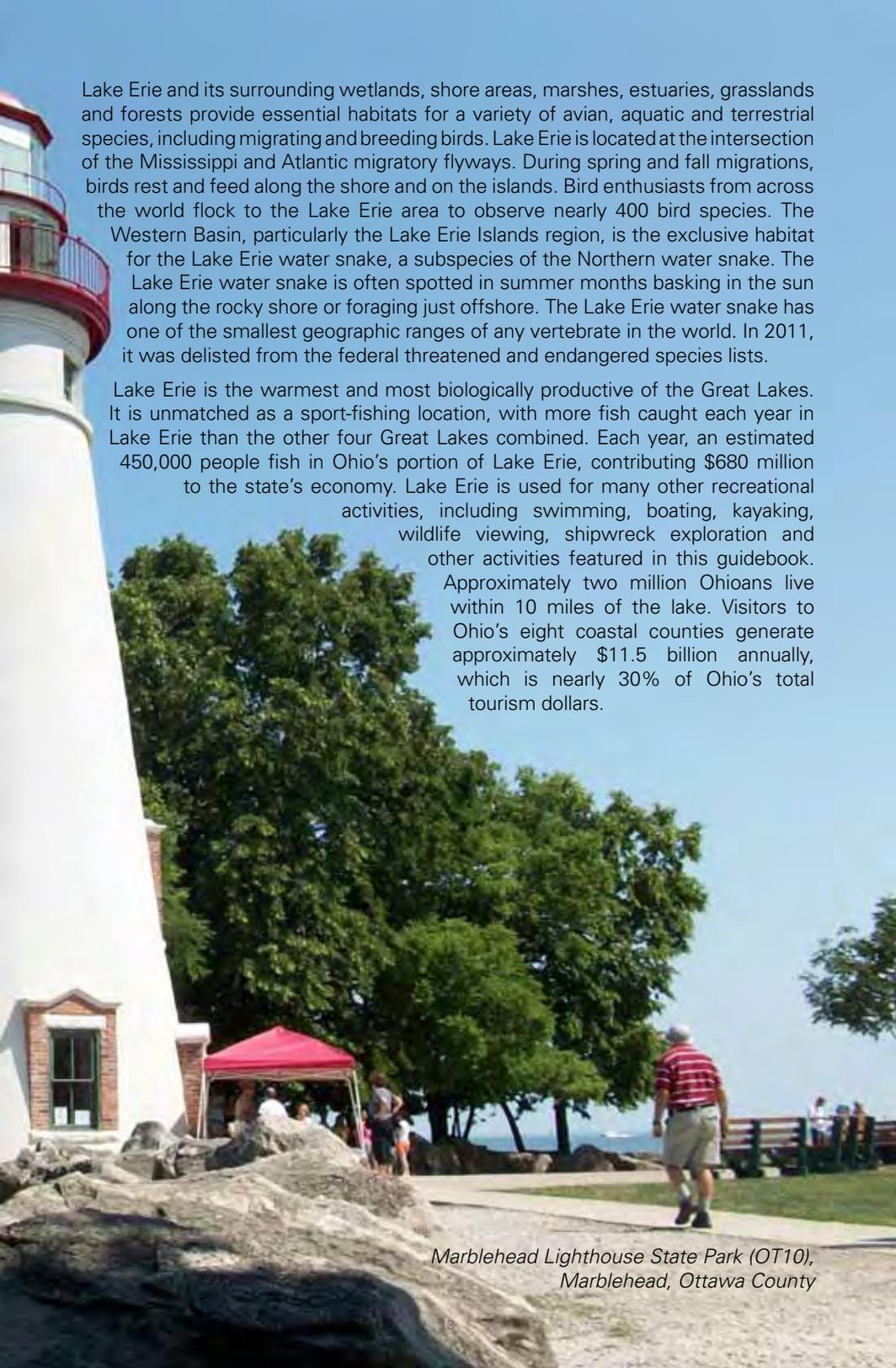
*Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve (LA14),  
Painesville Township, Lake County*

Lake Erie was a daunting final obstacle for many runaway slaves traveling the Underground Railroad en route to freedom in Canada. Despite Ohio abolishing slavery in 1802, the Fugitive Slave Act of 1793 and the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 allowed slave owners the authority to reclaim runaways, even across state lines. The Underground Railroad, which reached its peak between 1850 and 1860, was a network of secret routes, safe houses, hiding places and abolitionist “conductors” who aided runaways. Toledo, Sandusky, Huron, Lorain, Cleveland, Painesville, Ashtabula and Conneaut were all points to begin the journey across Lake Erie to Canada.

Lake Erie has been used as a primary transportation and shipping corridor by many, from Native Americans, fur traders and naval fleets, to vacationers, recreational boaters and commercial freighters. Constructed between 1817 and 1825, the 363-mile Erie Canal, connected Lake Erie at Buffalo with the Hudson River at Albany, New York, providing the first navigable water route from the upper Midwest to the Atlantic Ocean. Present-day lake freighters navigate the 27-mile Welland Canal (through the Niagara Peninsula in Canada), which connects Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. The canal includes a series of eight locks and enables shipping traffic to bypass Niagara Falls. The canal’s southern outlet on Lake Erie is 326.5 feet higher than its northern outlet on Lake Ontario. Lake Erie is central to Ohio’s economic viability in today’s global markets. Waterborne commerce moves millions of tons of cargo annually through Lake Erie. Ohio has many major commercial ports, including facilities at Toledo, Marblehead, Sandusky, Huron, Lorain, Cleveland, Fairport Harbor, Ashtabula and Conneaut.

Ohio is situated in the humid continental climate zone and as a result experiences noticeably changing patterns in seasonal weather. Lake Erie can produce significant amounts of lake-effect snow. Lake-effect snow events occur in northeast Ohio, northwest Pennsylvania and western New York when cooler west winds blow across the warm, unfrozen waters of Lake Erie. The wind accumulates water vapor from the lake, freezes it and distributes it landward. Lake Erie also plays a significant role in regional microclimate and temperature control. Since water temperatures change slower than temperatures on land, areas near the lake tend to remain cooler in the spring and warmer in the fall. This phenomenon is ideal for extending growing seasons, particularly for grapes and peaches.



A photograph of Marblehead Lighthouse State Park. On the left, a white lighthouse with a red balcony is partially visible. In the foreground, there are large, dark grey rocks. A paved path leads from the rocks towards a red canopy tent where several people are gathered. In the background, there are large green trees and a wooden fence overlooking a body of water under a clear blue sky.

Lake Erie and its surrounding wetlands, shore areas, marshes, estuaries, grasslands and forests provide essential habitats for a variety of avian, aquatic and terrestrial species, including migrating and breeding birds. Lake Erie is located at the intersection of the Mississippi and Atlantic migratory flyways. During spring and fall migrations, birds rest and feed along the shore and on the islands. Bird enthusiasts from across the world flock to the Lake Erie area to observe nearly 400 bird species. The Western Basin, particularly the Lake Erie Islands region, is the exclusive habitat for the Lake Erie water snake, a subspecies of the Northern water snake. The Lake Erie water snake is often spotted in summer months basking in the sun along the rocky shore or foraging just offshore. The Lake Erie water snake has one of the smallest geographic ranges of any vertebrate in the world. In 2011, it was delisted from the federal threatened and endangered species lists.

Lake Erie is the warmest and most biologically productive of the Great Lakes. It is unmatched as a sport-fishing location, with more fish caught each year in Lake Erie than the other four Great Lakes combined. Each year, an estimated 450,000 people fish in Ohio's portion of Lake Erie, contributing \$680 million to the state's economy. Lake Erie is used for many other recreational activities, including swimming, boating, kayaking, wildlife viewing, shipwreck exploration and other activities featured in this guidebook. Approximately two million Ohioans live within 10 miles of the lake. Visitors to Ohio's eight coastal counties generate approximately \$11.5 billion annually, which is nearly 30% of Ohio's total tourism dollars.

*Marblehead Lighthouse State Park (OT10),  
Marblehead, Ottawa County*

# Outdoor Recreation

## Passive Recreation and Passive Use Sites

Passive recreation involves low-impact, non-consumptive, leisurely and nature-based recreational activities, such as walking, hiking, birding, wildlife viewing, nature photography, fishing and paddling. Passive use recreational areas emphasize open green space and natural aspects of parks. Passive areas require minimal levels of infrastructure development and include restorative and tranquil amenities that have minimal impacts on the surrounding ecosystem. Such amenities include picnic areas, benches, swimming beaches, trails and ornamental gardens. Passive parks can be environmentally important or sensitive spaces where plants and wildlife have the opportunity to establish a foothold. Parks that are mostly intended for passive recreation typically do not afford facilities or equipment for exercise, sports or play.

## Active Recreation and Active Use Sites

Active recreation involves high-impact and physically-challenging recreational activities and requires intensive amenity development and upkeep. Active use recreational areas often include facilities intended for organized team activities, such as baseball, softball, basketball, soccer, volleyball and other field/court sports. Active use amenities may also include swimming pools, splash pads, boat ramps, marinas, golf courses and equipment for exercise or play. Parks with active use amenities may also offer passive use amenities, like picnic areas, benches and nature trails.

## Pocket Parks and Nodal Parks

A “pocket park” is a small-scale park, usually no more than one quarter of an acre in size, created on a single lot. These spaces are often irregularly-shaped parcels of land that were not developed for commercial or residential purposes. Pocket parks are generally passive and likely include amenities such as benches and picnic tables.

A “nodal park” is a wayside access site that is situated along a greenway or trail and serves as a destination for picnicking, scenic viewing and other passive activities.

# People with Disabilities

This guidebook provides general information about accessibility for visitors with disabilities or special needs. To determine if a public access site has facilities that meet the needs of the visitor, please contact the managing authority (see pages 239-241).

# Rules and Guidelines

Observe posted rules and guidelines when visiting Ohio’s Lake Erie public access sites.

- Park and facility hours vary from site to site and may vary seasonally. Most sites limit access and parking after dark.
- Many access sites allow pets and provide pet cleanup bags and/or designated dog beach areas. Observe leash policies and areas where pets are restricted.
- Some activities, amenities and services are available by permit only or to registered guests and/or residents only. Some activities, amenities and services may be seasonal.
- The use of motorized vehicles may be restricted.
- Some access sites strictly limit swimming access, fishing access and access to the shore.

To learn more about a public access site’s rules and guidelines, please contact the managing authority (see pages 239-241).

# For Your Safety

## High Bluffs

The bluffs that front Lake Erie's shore present many potential hazards. Bluffs along the Ohio lakeshore, particularly between Vermilion in Erie County and Conneaut in Ashtabula County, generally increase in elevation west to east and can reach heights of 60 feet. In some locations, the bluff slope may be near vertical. Due to physical composition, erosion, groundwater seepage and upland slumping, bluffs can be very unstable. Use caution near the top of a bluff and avoid navigating sheer bluff faces. Observe posted signs where navigating the bluff is prohibited. Many public access sites provide staircases, designated pathways and re-graded slopes to access the shore.

## Shore Structures

A variety of shore structures are installed along the Lake Erie shore for a range of different purposes, including beach stabilization, erosion control, protecting harbors and public access. Many shore structures, including piers, some bulkheads and some seawalls, are built to enhance public access. Breakwaters and jetties may also provide public access, but are constructed for other functions. Use caution when navigating such structures. Detached breakwaters and revetments are not intended for public access. Observe posted signs where navigating a shore structure is prohibited. Use caution when swimming, paddling or boating near shore structures. Waves and currents can carry people and objects into structures and cause serious injury.

## Submerged Hazards

Be aware of submerged hazards, such as debris, concrete, stone, rebar and tires, particularly in the vicinity of older shore structures. Hazards below the water surface can trap swimmers, damage watercraft and cause serious injury. Observe posted signs and buoys designating swimming areas.

## Inclement Weather

Lake Erie presents many weather-related hazards, including intense wave action due to high winds and storm events, shifting currents and waterspouts. Prior to launching personal watercraft, check for small craft advisories or weather warnings. Strong, high waves also pose a threat to pedestrians on piers and other access structures. Waves can forcefully overtop structures during storm events and cause serious injury. For more weather-related boating safety tips, see the "Boating" section.

## Other Hazards

See the "Beach Safety" section for information on rip currents and water quality. See the "Winter Safety" section for cold weather safety tips and ice safety.



*Shoreline Park (ER14), Sandusky, Erie County*

# How to Use the Guidebook

*Ohio's Lake Erie Public Access Guidebook – Coast Edition* is divided into ten chapters, each featuring a coastal county or region. Chapters are arranged geographically from west to east.

- **Lucas County**  
Featuring 9 sites along Lucas County's 25-mile Lake Erie/Maumee Bay coast
- **Ottawa County**  
Featuring 14 sites along Ottawa County's 65-mile Lake Erie/Sandusky Bay mainland coast, including Johnson's Island (1 site)
- **Lake Erie Islands**  
Featuring 26 sites along 41 miles of Lake Erie's island coast, including South Bass Island (13 sites), Middle Bass Island (4 sites) and North Bass Island (3 sites) in Ottawa County and on Kelleys Island (6 sites) in Erie County
- **Sandusky County**  
Featuring 1 site along Sandusky County's 13-mile Sandusky Bay coast
- **Erie County**  
Featuring 39 sites along Erie County's 56-mile Lake Erie/Sandusky Bay mainland coast
- **Lorain County**  
Featuring 15 sites along Lorain County's 23-mile Lake Erie coast
- **Cuyahoga County**  
Featuring 22 sites along Cuyahoga County's 30-mile Lake Erie coast
- **Lake County**  
Featuring 27 sites along Lake County's 31-mile Lake Erie coast
- **Ashtabula County**  
Featuring 11 sites along Ashtabula County's 28-mile Lake Erie coast

Site pages include a symbolic listing of a public access location's amenities, a location map, pictures and a brief description.



*Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park (LA18),  
Fairport Harbor, Lake County*

# Map Legend



# Amenities Legend



# Access Site Type

All public access sites include a “Site Type” listing, which categorizes and generalizes the overall description of each site. Many public access sites have more than one site type listed. Site Types include:

## Recreational

The “Recreational” site designation is given to multipurpose park areas, such as state parks, metropolitan parks, community parks or neighborhood parks. Recreational sites may feature a combination of both active use and passive use amenities, including, but not limited to, field and court sport facilities, picnic areas, trails, playground equipment, boat ramps, marinas, beaches, fishing access and paddling access.

## Natural

Public access sites designated as “Natural” are protected areas, such as nature preserves, that display high quality natural, and sometimes rare or endangered plant life, animal life, ecosystems, or geologic landscapes and features. These sites may also include parks that encourage and promote ecosystem preservation and stewardship. Nature preserves are managed to protect the biodiversity of the natural environment, ensure the long-term sustainability of plant and animal populations and preserve ecosystems and landscapes. Nature preserves offer passive use amenities, including, but not limited to, trails, observation platforms and interpretive signage. These sites also provide opportunities for bird watching, wildlife viewing and nature photography.

## Outdoors

Public access sites designated “Outdoors” are protected areas, such as wildlife areas or wildlife refuges, and are managed to protect aquatic and terrestrial animal populations, and to protect, control and restore wildlife habitat. Wildlife areas are public spaces with high potential for wildlife production and allow activities such as fishing, controlled hunting and trapping. Wildlife refuges prohibit or strictly control these activities. Wildlife areas and wildlife refuges generally offer additional passive activities, including hiking and wildlife viewing.

## Scenic

Public access sites designated as “Scenic” are parks or overlook areas that afford visual access to the lake. Scenic sites are generally passive use spaces that offer amenities for rest, relaxation and scenic viewing of the lake, such as benches, gazebos or observation platforms. Scenic sites generally do not provide direct, physical access to the water. Many scenic parks and overlook areas are pocket parks, nodal parks or road rights-of-way.

## Educational

“Educational” sites are parks or protected areas that feature educational amenities, such as a visitor center, nature center, research center, informational kiosks and/or trails with interpretive signage.

## Cultural

Public access sites denoted as “Cultural” are parks, green spaces or protected areas that are culturally or historically important and include landmarks or amenities, such as lighthouses, monuments and historic markers. Many cultural sites are pocket parks or cemeteries.

# Shore Access

All public access sites include a “Shore Access” listing. “Shore Access” is the ability to physically enter the water, access a beach or access the water. Many sites provide shore access by way of staircases and/or walking paths that traverse a bluff. Sites with no staircase or designated path may still afford shore access via the natural terrain or a re-graded slope. Sites that are primarily impervious-surfaced may provide fishing access via a shore structure, such as a pier or seawall.

Conversely, several public access sites do not afford shore access. Restricting shore access is often a safety precaution. Physical barriers inhibiting direct shore access may include an impassible natural bluff or a fence.

The “Shore Access” listing includes the means of accessibility. Physical barriers are specified where access is restricted.

## **Stairs to Shore**

Direct beach/shore access via staircase

## **Path to Shore**

Direct beach/shore access via a designated path

## **Terrain**

Direct beach/shore access via a natural or re-graded slope (no staircase or designated path available)

## **Shore Structure**

Fishing access via a shore structure

## **Boat Ramp**

Direct water access for boaters

## **Edge of Bluff**

No beach/shore access due to an impassable bluff

## **Fence**

No beach/shore access due to a fence-lined bluff

## **Vegetation**

No beach/shore access due to an impassable, vegetated bluff



*Nokomis Park (ER36),  
Vermilion, Erie County*

# Beaches

Many of Ohio's Lake Erie public access sites feature a beach and offer a number of active and passive beach-related activities. Beaches provide easy water access for swimming, wading, fishing and paddling. Swimming is permitted at many public access sites. Many swimming beaches have seasonal lifeguards on duty (schedules vary per site). Swimmers are advised to take caution when swimming at an unguarded beach and to observe signs denoting designated swimming areas. Recreational beaches may also include seasonal volleyball courts, beach-level boardwalks, playground equipment and designated areas for dogs.

While Ohio boasts numerous recreational swimming beaches, many publicly accessible beaches are managed to preserve the natural characteristics of the lakeshore, promote habitat conservation and support low-impact activities, such as nature-walking and wildlife viewing. Observe posted signs where swimming is prohibited.

A few Lake Erie public access sites feature dunes and dune communities. Dunes form as the result of accumulated, wind-blown sand. A dune community is a unique habitat type that can support highly specialized plant and animal species. Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve in Painesville Township is one of the last remaining and finest Lake Erie dune communities in Ohio. Smaller dune formations are located at Walnut Beach Park in Ashtabula and at Conneaut Township Park in Conneaut.

Ohio also features the 7,300-foot barrier beach at Sheldon Marsh State Nature Preserve in Huron Township. A barrier beach is a narrow strip of beach separated from the mainland by a marsh, bay or tributary. The barrier beach at Sheldon Marsh separates the waters of Lake Erie from the wetland areas of East Sandusky Bay. Smaller natural barrier beaches are also present at North Pond State Nature Preserve on Kelleys Island, Old Woman Creek State Nature Preserve in Berlin Township and Arcola Creek Park in Madison Township.

Many Lake Erie beaches are composed of fine sand, while others may be composed of coarser materials, like cobble. A beach's composition may also include finely worn to coarse shell fragments.



# Beach Safety

Rip currents are powerful, dangerous currents of water that can occur at any beach with breaking waves. Rip currents form when a surplus of water collects between breaking waves and the beach. When this happens, excess water converges into a narrow, swiftly-moving channel (the rip current) and returns to open water, away from the shore. Rip currents often flow perpendicular to the beach and can pull even the strongest swimmer out to open water. Rip currents do not pull people underwater. If caught in a rip current, conserve energy and do not fight the current. Swim across the current in a direction parallel to the shore. When free of the rip current, swim and angle away from the current toward the shore. If unable to escape, calmly tread water. A rip current's strength will eventually subside offshore. Drowning deaths occur due to fear, panic, exhaustion or lack of swimming skills. Never swim alone.

Lake Erie is a dynamic body of water. Lake conditions can change quickly. The water quality at many public beaches is sampled seasonally by state and county agencies for E. coli bacteria and/or harmful algal blooms (HAB). When bacteria levels present potential health risks to those engaged in water activities, appropriate advisories are issued and posted on site.

## **Learn more:**

**NOAA National Weather Service, Rip Current Safety**  
[www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov](http://www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov)

**Ohio Department of Health, Beach Guard**  
[publicapps.odh.ohio.gov/BeachGuardPublic](http://publicapps.odh.ohio.gov/BeachGuardPublic)

**Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Algae Information for Recreational Waters**  
[epa.ohio.gov/habalgae.aspx](http://epa.ohio.gov/habalgae.aspx)



*Huntington Reservation (CU2),  
Bay Village, Cuyahoga County*

# Boating

Boat access along Ohio's shore ranges from unpaved canoe and kayak access points to concrete ramps intended for motorized watercraft. The ramps, docks and carry-in paddling launches identified in this guidebook do not include commercial or private facilities. Many commercially and privately owned and managed boating facilities provide public amenities, such as boat ramps, fuel and waste pump-outs. For a complete inventory of these additional resources refer to the ODNR Division of Watercraft website.

Boating conditions on Lake Erie can change hourly. Dark, fast-moving clouds and severe weather fronts can quickly roll over the horizon. Changing weather patterns can increase wave height, wave intensity and abruptly shift currents. Prior to launching personal watercraft, check for small craft advisories or weather warnings; check the boat's fuel system, oil levels and electronic gear (GPS, weather radio); ensure that all necessary safety equipment is on board, including life jackets, flares, fire extinguishers and first-aid kits; and take maps, charts and registration. Ohio law requires life jackets to be worn while riding personal watercraft, while waterskiing, or while being towed on a similar device, and by children younger than 10 years of age on any vessel less than 18 feet long.

Registrations are required for every recreational boat in Ohio, excluding paddle boards, sail boards, kite boards and belly boats. Boats can be registered online, through the mail, at a Division of Watercraft office or through an independent registration agent. Field offices in the Lake Erie Watershed are located in Akron, Ashtabula, Cleveland, Oregon (Maumee Bay), Sandusky and Wapakoneta.

## Boat Registrations by Coastal County (2010-2013)

COUNTY	2010	2011	2012	2013
Ashtabula	5,258	5,195	5,451	5,608
Cuyahoga	24,161	24,394	24,800	24,957
Erie	6,286	6,343	6,414	6,359
Lake	9,406	9,550	9,846	10,023
Lorain	10,988	11,134	11,535	11,755
Lucas	13,582	13,556	13,814	13,740
Ottawa	6,660	6,657	6,795	6,851
Sandusky	3,006	3,114	3,191	3,230
<b>Total</b>	<b>79,347</b>	<b>79,943</b>	<b>81,846</b>	<b>82,523</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>9,918.4</b>	<b>9,992.9</b>	<b>10,230.8</b>	<b>10,315.4</b>

Learn more:

[watercraft.ohiodnr.gov](http://watercraft.ohiodnr.gov)

# Ohio Water Trails

Recognizing the rising popularity of canoeing and kayaking, various ODNR divisions collaborated to initiate the Ohio Water Trails Program. The program addresses the need for increased paddling access points and helps educate paddlers about hand-powered boating safety on Ohio's waterways.

Over the past few years, the Ohio Water Trails Program has evolved into a cooperative partnership between ODNR, various levels of government and non-profit conservation groups. The program promotes paddling routes that combine recreation with low-impact use. This is accomplished by designating waterways as State Water Trails and by providing funding for site/launch improvements and development; purchasing and installing access and hazard signage; and producing and distributing educational maps and brochures. Ohio has designated nine water trails, including the East Sandusky Bay Water Trail and the Vermilion-Lorain Water Trail.

## East Sandusky Bay Water Trail

The 15.3-mile East Sandusky Bay Water Trail was designated in 2007. It is a circular route with two access points located on the East Sandusky Bay shore (Big Island Preserve and Canoe Launch in Sandusky and East Sandusky Bay MetroPark in Huron Township).

## Vermilion-Lorain Water Trail

The 27-mile Vermilion-Lorain Water Trail was designated in 2009. It connects the Lorain County Metro Parks' Vermilion River and Black River reservations via the Vermilion River, Lake Erie and Black River. Four of the nine trail access sites on the Vermilion-Lorain Water Trail are found along Lake Erie in Erie and Lorain counties and listed in this guidebook. Those sites include: Main Street Beach in Vermilion, Showse Park in Vermilion, Lakeview Park in Lorain and Lakeside Landing in Lorain. The trail's other five access sites are located along the Vermilion and Black rivers and are listed in *Ohio's Lake Erie Public Access Guidebook – Rivers Edition*.

### Learn more:

[watercraft.ohiodnr.gov](http://watercraft.ohiodnr.gov)



Lakeside Landing (LO7),  
Lorain, Lorain County

# Fishing

Lake Erie's public access sites offer a range of fishing opportunities. Anglers can cast a line from one of many manmade piers and structures, launch a boat and navigate to an open water destination or enjoy a favorite spot along the water's edge. Lake Erie offers a diverse fishing experience and yields a mix of seasonally-available species, including walleye, yellow perch, smallmouth bass, rainbow (steelhead) trout and white bass.

Lake Erie is nationally-renowned for its walleye fishing and fittingly known as the "Walleye Capital of the World." Each spring, thousands of walleye run up the Maumee and Sandusky rivers to spawn, which attracts anglers from across the nation. Spawning walleye are abundant in Lake Erie's Western Basin, especially over reefs, shoals of gravel, bedrock and other firm bottoms. During the rest of the year, walleye are prevalent throughout the Western and Central basins.

Lake Erie is also noted for yellow perch fishing. Yellow perch are often found in Ohio's slow-moving tributaries, lakes and reservoirs but are particularly common in Lake Erie. Like walleye, yellow perch are abundant in the Western Basin and Central Basin to the Pennsylvania line. They are often found in large schools following baitfish.

From fall through spring, steelhead trout fishing is common in Lake Erie's Central Basin between Vermilion and the Pennsylvania line, especially within gravel/cobble-bottomed tributaries. The Vermilion, Rocky, Cuyahoga, Chagrin, Grand and Ashtabula rivers and Conneaut Creek, when free of ice, are great destinations for steelhead fishing.

Lake Erie's bays, harbors and areas along the shore also offer excellent bluegill, crappie and largemouth bass fishing. Anglers may also catch the occasional northern pike or muskellunge in vegetated areas. During winter months, river mouths and harbor areas may yield bluegill, crappie, yellow perch and walleye. Public access sites at or near warm water discharges attract a number of fish species year round.

Fishing conditions on Lake Erie can change hourly. Adjustments are often necessary to improve success. Water temperature, cloud cover, water clarity, boat traffic, shore structures, wave action and currents are all factors to take into account.

Most Ohio residents and visitors older than 16 years of age will need an appropriate fishing license to fish in Ohio. Certain exemptions may apply. Anglers can find regulations and purchase and print licenses online or at a license agency. Anglers may also request a mail order license form by calling 1-800-WILDLIFE. Anglers wishing to purchase a 1- or 3-day fishing license may do so by telephone by dialing 1-866-703-1928 (live operator) or 1-855-764-3474 (interactive voice response system/special convenience fees apply).

To report fishing, hunting, trapping or other wildlife violations, call: 1-800-POACHER.

**Learn more:**  
[wildlife.ohiodnr.gov](http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov)

*Right: Cullen Park (LU1),  
Toledo, Lucas County*

# Geocaching and EarthCaching

Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunting activity enjoyed throughout the world by outdoor adventure seekers equipped with GPS devices. Geocaching involves navigating to a specific set of GPS coordinates, locating a hidden geocache container and sharing the experience online. Geocaching is permitted at many public access sites featured in this guidebook, including in Ohio's state parks. Establishing a geocache site on public property may require the permission of the facility manager and/or registration. Geocaching is not permitted in Ohio's state nature preserves or state wildlife areas.

EarthCaching also requires navigating to a specific set of GPS coordinates. An "EarthCache" is a type of virtual cache that does not involve leaving behind a hidden container. Rather, EarthCaching offers a unique educational experience where participants locate a physical feature (cache) at a site and learn about its biological and geologic significance. EarthCaching helps explain how the natural environment and planet were shaped by geologic and natural processes. Participants who successfully locate an EarthCache are also challenged to answer a series of questions about the site. EarthCaching is permitted at Ohio's state nature preserves.

The "Geocaching Permitted" amenity icon pertains to geocaching, not EarthCaching. Public access sites that allow geocaching have been confirmed by a local or managing authority.

## **Learn more:**

[www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com)

[www.earthcache.org](http://www.earthcache.org)



# Winter Activities

Winter in Ohio is ideal for peaceful excursions and remarkable snow-filled views along the Lake Erie shore. Many of Lake Erie's public access sites allow a variety of winter-related activities and sports, including ice skating, ice fishing, ice boating, sledding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. The winter months are also perfect for strolling on the beach, hiking, hunting, birding, wildlife viewing and tracking wildlife prints through the snow.

## Ice Fishing

During the winter season, many anglers enjoy ice fishing on Lake Erie. Ice fishing is an activity that requires traversing the frozen lake to a desired location, drilling a hole in the ice and catching fish through the opening. Many anglers set up portable shelters, called ice shanties, which are placed over the fishing hole for warmth and protection. For a variety of reasons, including safety, licensed ice fishing guides often assist anglers on Lake Erie. Guides help anglers navigate to safe ice, set up ice shanties and locate fish. The area between Green and Rattlesnake islands, just west of South Bass Island, typically offers some of the safest ice on the lake. Walleye, white perch and yellow perch are common ice fishing catches in Lake Erie.

## Ice Boating

Ice boats are wind-powered, cross-framed crafts designed to travel over frozen water surfaces. An ice boat consists of a sail and a narrow hull that is attached to a perpendicular cross piece called a runner plank. The boat frame sits on three steel, knife-like skates, called runners, two of which are attached at either end of the runner plank and the third at the fore (front) of the hull. Steering is controlled by pivoting the hull runner. The sharp edges of the runners create a near frictionless interaction with the ice. Ice boats are very aerodynamic. Wind against the sail and low friction allow for ice boats to travel at extremely fast speeds. Ice boats are typically raced and designed for one or two people. Ice sailing is common on Maumee and Sandusky bays.

The amenity icon listing in this guidebook includes the following winter activities: ice skating, sledding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. To determine if an access site allows additional winter activities, please contact the managing authority.



# Winter Safety

To ensure a safe visit, be mindful of these cold weather and ice safety tips.

## Dress Accordingly

Dress warmly in layers. Wear an inner layer of insulating fabric to trap body heat. Wear an outer layer of protective fabrics that retain heat, even when wet, such as wool or synthetic fleece. Avoid garments that are 100 percent cotton; they draw heat away from the body. Keep your head, neck and hands covered, and wear waterproof boots.

## Hypothermia

Symptoms for hypothermia include uncontrollable shivering, drowsiness, slow or slurred speech, memory lapses and clumsiness.

## Ice Safety

Frozen bodies of water are never 100 percent safe to walk on. It is important to test the ice thickness before venturing onto a frozen lake. A minimum of five inches is recommended for safe enjoyment of ice skating, ice fishing, ice boating and snowmobiling. Use a chisel, ice auger or cordless drill (¼-inch bit) to determine whether the ice is thick enough or not.

Ice thickness is not the only factor that affects the strength and safety of ice.

- Thawing and refreezing can weaken ice
- Ice seldom freezes uniformly
- The insulating effect of snow slows down the freezing process
- Ice near the shore tends to be weaker due to expansion and warming
- Schools of fish moving warm water up can open holes in the ice

Never venture onto the ice alone and prepare for the unexpected. Wear life jackets or float coats. Carry a pair of ice picks or large nails in the event of falling through the ice. These tools can be used to help climb out of the water.



# Lake Erie Birding Trail

Lake Erie and the Lake Erie Watershed offer many bird and wildlife viewing opportunities. Developed by the ODNR Division of Wildlife in partnership with the Ohio Sea Grant College Program, the *Ohio Lake Erie Birding Trail Guidebook* and website are intended to provide information on the best birding locations along the Lake Erie shore and in the Lake Erie Watershed. The Lake Erie Birding Trail highlights 84 publicly accessible sites, many of which are included in this guidebook and in *Ohio's Lake Erie Public Access Guidebook – Rivers Edition*. Collectively, nearly 400 species of birds, ranging from migrant songbirds to marsh-loving waterbirds to majestic raptors, have been spotted in the featured areas.

**Learn more:**

ODNR Division of Wildlife, Lake Erie Birding Trail  
[lakeeriebirding.ohiodnr.gov](http://lakeeriebirding.ohiodnr.gov)



**The Lake Erie Birding Trail is divided into seven loops, each exhibiting similar habitat types and landscapes:**

- **Oak Openings Loop**

Total Species List: 300

Featuring 9 sites in Fulton, Lucas and Wood counties, including 1 Lake Erie public access site

- **Western Lake Erie Marshes Loop**

Total Species List: 350

Featuring 9 sites in Lucas and Ottawa counties, including 6 Lake Erie public access sites

- **Lake Erie Islands Loop**

Total Species List: 294

Featuring 10 sites on South Bass, Middle Bass and Kelleys islands. All 10 sites are listed in this guidebook.

- **Sandusky Bay Loop**

Total Species List: 313

Featuring 13 sites in Ottawa, Sandusky and Erie counties, including 7 Lake Erie public access sites

- **Huron & Lorain Loop**

Total Species List: 325

Featuring 15 sites in Erie and Lorain counties, including 8 Lake Erie public access sites

- **Cleveland Area Loop**

Total Species List: 356

Featuring 24 sites in Cuyahoga and Lake counties, including 11 Lake Erie public access sites

- **Ashtabula Loop**

Total Species List: 313

Featuring 5 sites in Lake and Ashtabula counties, including 4 Lake Erie public access sites

# Trails and Scenic Byways

Many of Lake Erie's public access sites feature networks of hiking, biking, walking and fitness trails. The trails included in this guidebook range from dirt-surfaced and grass-mowed nature trails through woods, wetland areas and meadows, to paved multi-purpose trails and lakefront boardwalks that are handicapped-accessible. In addition to the trails found at each site, there are also many statewide, regional and local trails, bike lanes and scenic byways that connect coastal communities and link Lake Erie's public access sites, including:

## **Back Roads & Beaches Bike Trail**

The Back Roads & Beaches Bike Trail parallels the Lake Erie shore in Lorain County. The bike trail follows a 60-mile network of roads through the county, including the length of US Route 6. It connects many public access sites and beaches in Vermilion, Lorain, Sheffield Lake and Avon Lake. South of Vermilion, the bike route follows rural back roads to Kipton, Oberlin and Wellington. The trail consists of bike lanes and on-road routes.

## **Bayshore Road Bike Path**

The 1.2-mile Bayshore Road Bike Path is a paved, multi-use trail that follows Bayshore Road in Oregon. The trail connects South Shore Veterans Park and the Stadium Road Bike Path (west) with the network of trails at Maumee Bay State Park (east). Both the Bayshore and Stadium road bike paths are part of the larger Oregon Bike Network.

## **Cleveland Lakefront Bikeway**

The 17-mile Cleveland Lakefront Bikeway follows the Lake Erie shore through Cleveland and Bratenahl in Cuyahoga County. The bikeway's western and eastern extents are Cleveland's corporation limits with Lakewood in the west and Euclid in the east. The bikeway consists of off-road paved trails, bike lanes and road routes. It connects and passes through many public access sites in Cleveland.

## **Lake Erie Circle Tour**

The 680-mile Lake Erie Circle Tour is a binational scenic route around Lake Erie and is part of the 6,500-mile Great Lakes Circle Tour. It follows major state and provincial highways, including Interstate Highways, through Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Ontario. The Great Lakes Circle Tour and the U.S. portion of the Lake Erie Circle Tour were both dedicated in Sandusky on August 23, 1990.

## **Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail**

The 293-mile Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail is one of 27 designated scenic byways in Ohio. The Ohio Scenic Byways program recognizes and promotes the importance of preserving and protecting the natural and cultural resources along Ohio's historic and scenic roadways. The Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail, also recognized as one of America's Byways®, follows a route along the Lake Erie shore between Toledo and Conneaut. The trail links commercial and recreational harbors, lighthouses, historic attractions, tourist destinations and many public access sites featured in this guidebook.

## **Sandusky Bay Pathway**

The 2.7-mile Sandusky Bay Pathway is a paved, multi-use trail that connects many public access sites in downtown Sandusky. The pathway consists of off-road paved trails, bike lanes and road routes. The pathway's western terminus is at Mills Street and its eastern terminus is at Washington Street Pier (see ER5 for detailed information).

# Non-Accessible Protected Lands

The following Lake Erie-adjacent protected lands either offer limited access or no access to the general public:

## **Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge (Lucas County)**

Public access to Lake Erie is not permitted. The 2,445-acre refuge offers selected activities from June 1 through August 31, including inland fishing, wildlife viewing and nature photography. Parking is available off Yondota Road.

## **West Sister Island National Wildlife Refuge (Lucas County)**

All public access to West Sister Island is restricted. The refuge is managed as a wilderness area, as provided under the Wilderness Act, and specifically designated to protect the largest wading bird nesting colony on the U.S. Great Lakes. West Sister is an important breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife. The West Sister Island Lighthouse can be viewed from Magee Marsh Wildlife Area.

## **Green Island Wildlife Area (Ottawa County)**

All public access to Green Island is restricted. The wildlife area is managed by the ODNR Division of Wildlife.

## **Jones Preserve (Erie County)**

The 21.5-acre Jones Preserve on Kelleys Island's Long Point is managed by the Cleveland Museum of Nature History as an educational and scientific resource. Public access to the preserve requires written permission.



*Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge,  
Jerusalem Township, Lucas County*

# Lake Erie Public Access Sites – Map Identification Key

## Lucas County

- LU1 Cullen Park
- LU2 Bayview Park
- LU3 Bayshore Fishing Access and Oregon Boat Ramp
- LU4 South Shore Veterans Park
- LU5 Ashcroft Drive Basin Access
- LU6 Lake Erie Center Basin Access
- LU7 Maumee Bay State Park
- LU8 Mallard Club Marsh Wildlife Area
- LU9 Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area

## Ottawa County

- OT1 Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge
- OT2 Magee Marsh Wildlife Area
- OT3 Camp Perry Beach
- OT4 Waterworks Park
- OT5 Port Clinton Lakefront Preserve
- OT6 Port Clinton City Beach
- OT7 Catawba Island State Park
- OT8 East Harbor State Park
- OT9 Mazurik Access Area
- OT10 Marblehead Lighthouse State Park
- OT11 Lake Point Park
- OT12 Johnson's Island Confederate Soldier Cemetery
- OT13 Dempsey Fishing Access
- OT14 Sandusky Bay Bridge Access – North

## Lake Erie Islands

- LEI1 South Bass Island Lighthouse
- LEI2 South Bass Island State Park
- LEI3 Alfred Parker Park
- LEI4 West Shore Ice Ramp South
- LEI5 West Shore Ice Ramp North
- LEI6 Stone Laboratory Peach Point Campus
- LEI7 Oak Point State Park
- LEI8 DeRivera Park
- LEI9 Put-in-Bay Village Marina
- LEI10 Put-in-Bay Public Boat Launch
- LEI11 Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial
- LEI12 Scheeff East Point Nature Preserve
- LEI13 Put-in-Bay Village Beach
- LEI14 Middle Bass Island State Park
- LEI15 Petersen Woods
- LEI16 Kuehnle Wildlife Area

- LEI17 Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve
- LEI18 Honey Point Wildlife Area
- LEI19 North Bass Island State Park
- LEI20 Fox's Marsh Wildlife Area
- LEI21 North Shore Alvar State Nature Preserve
- LEI22 Kelleys Island State Park
- LEI23 North Pond State Nature Preserve
- LEI24 Scheele Preserve
- LEI25 Inscription Rock State Memorial
- LEI26 Hancock-Wood Electric Scenic Overlook

## Sandusky County

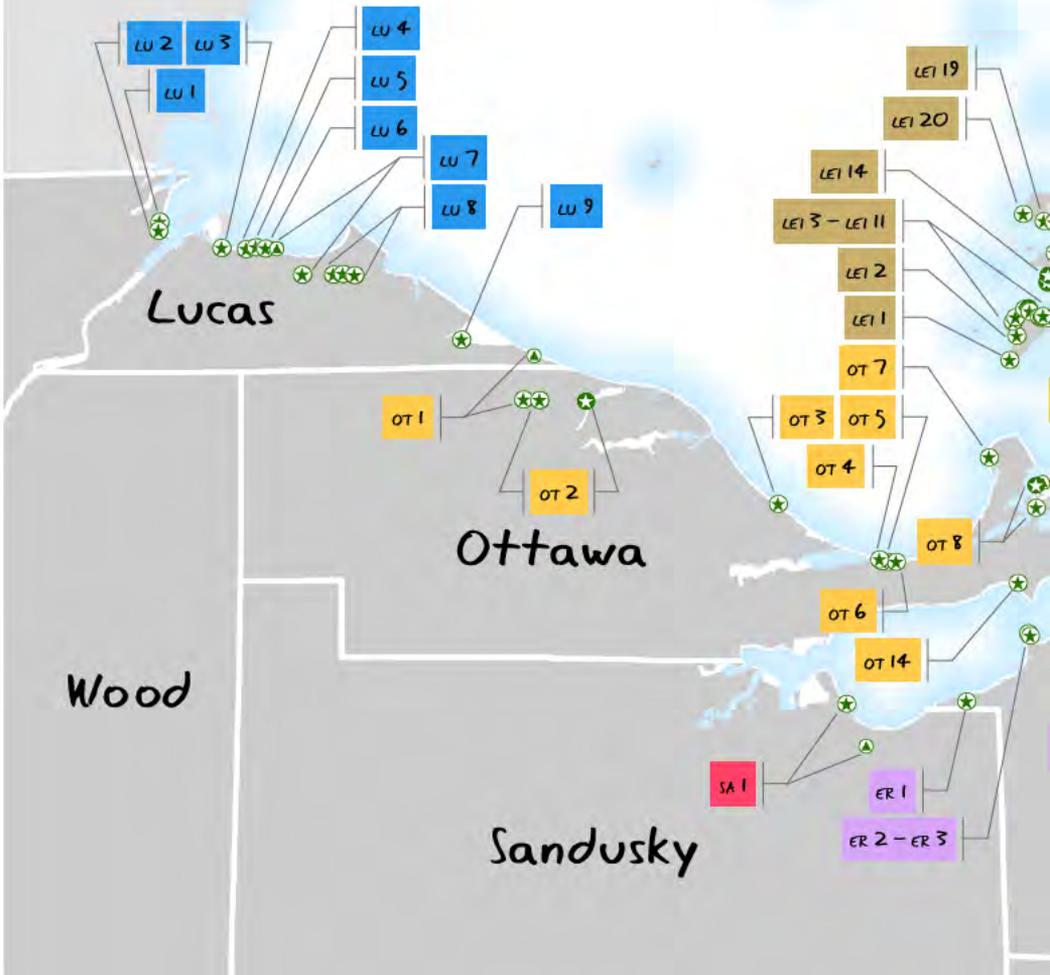
- SA1 Pickering Creek Wildlife Area

## Erie County

- ER1 Willow Point Wildlife Area
- ER2 Sandusky Bay Bridge Access – South
- ER3 Bayview Drive Scenic Access
- ER4 Lions Park
- ER5 Sandusky Bay Pathway – Mills Street Turnaround
- ER6 Amvets Park
- ER7 Shelby Street Public Boat Launch
- ER8 Paper District Marina
- ER9 Chesapeake Walkway
- ER10 Jackson Street Pier
- ER11 Schade-Mylander Plaza
- ER12 Wayne Street Access
- ER13 Facer Park
- ER14 Shoreline Park
- ER15 Sandusky Bay Pavilion
- ER16 Meigs Street Pier
- ER17 Battery Park
- ER18 Springer's Wharf
- ER19 Washington Street Pier
- ER20 Pipe Creek Wildlife Area
- ER21 Big Island Preserve and Canoe Launch
- ER22 East Sandusky Bay MetroPark
- ER23 Sheldon Marsh State Nature Preserve
- ER24 Waterplant Beach
- ER25 Lake Front Park
- ER26 Huron Rotary Centennial Park
- ER27 Lighthouse Pier
- ER28 Nickel Plate Beach
- ER29 Old Woman Creek State Nature Preserve and National Estuarine Research Reserve

20 Miles

- ★ Public Access Entrance
- ▲ Alternate Entrance
- ☆ Interior Access Site



1

LUCAS COUNTY

2

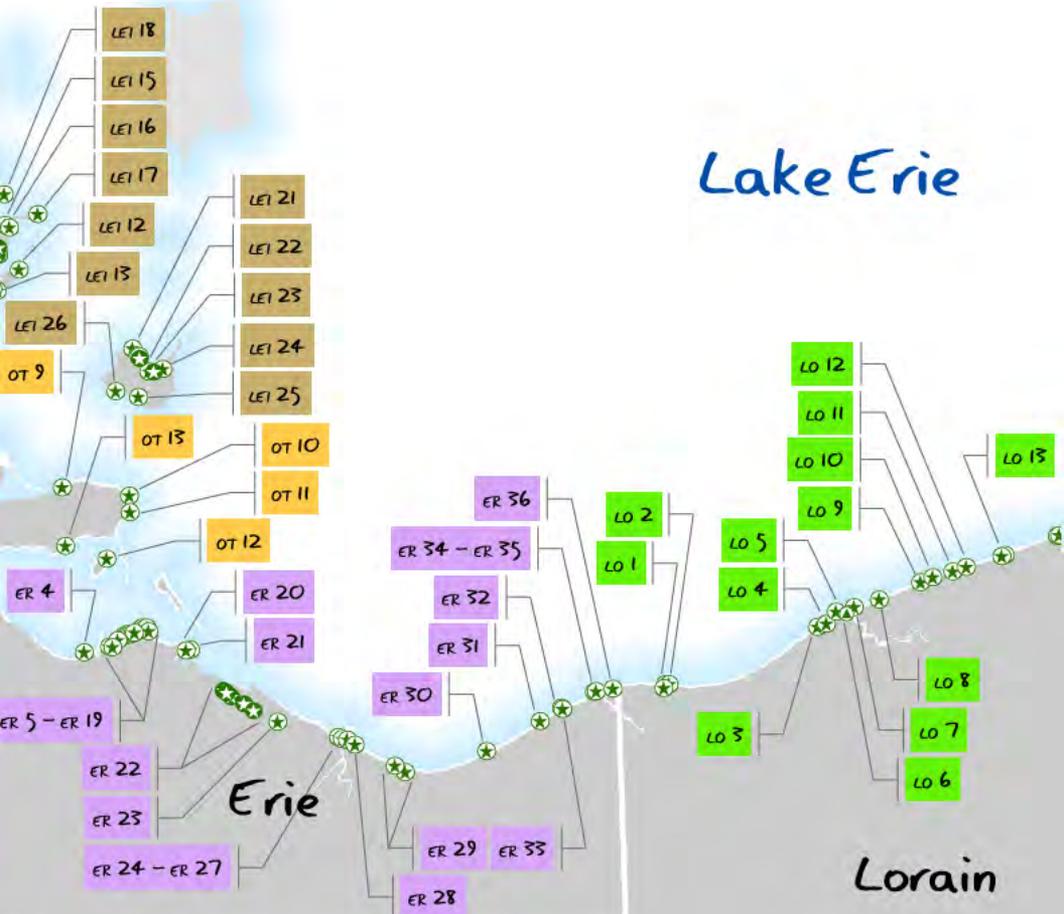
OTTAWA COUNTY

3

LAKE ERIE ISLANDS

4

SANDUSKY COUNTY



5

ERIE  
COUNTY

6

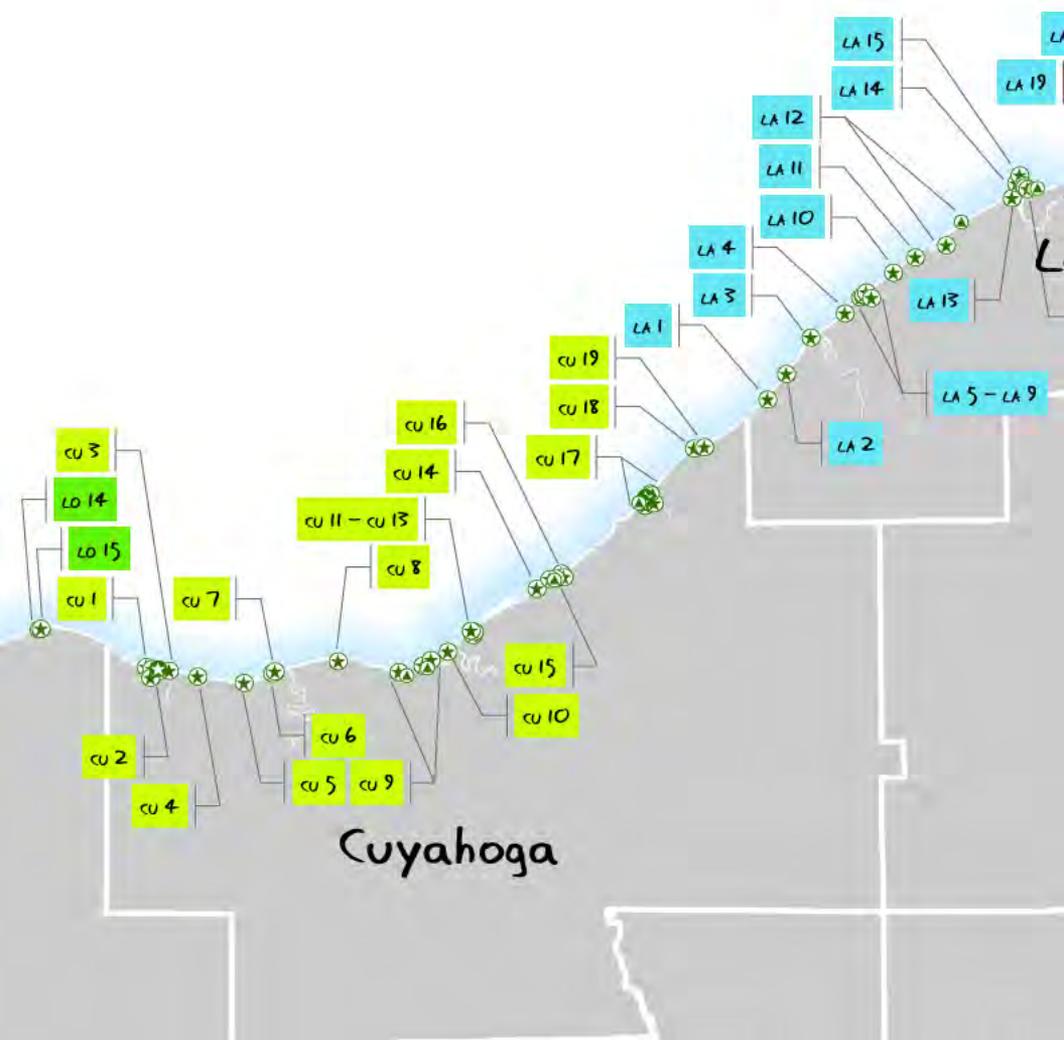
LORAIN  
COUNTY

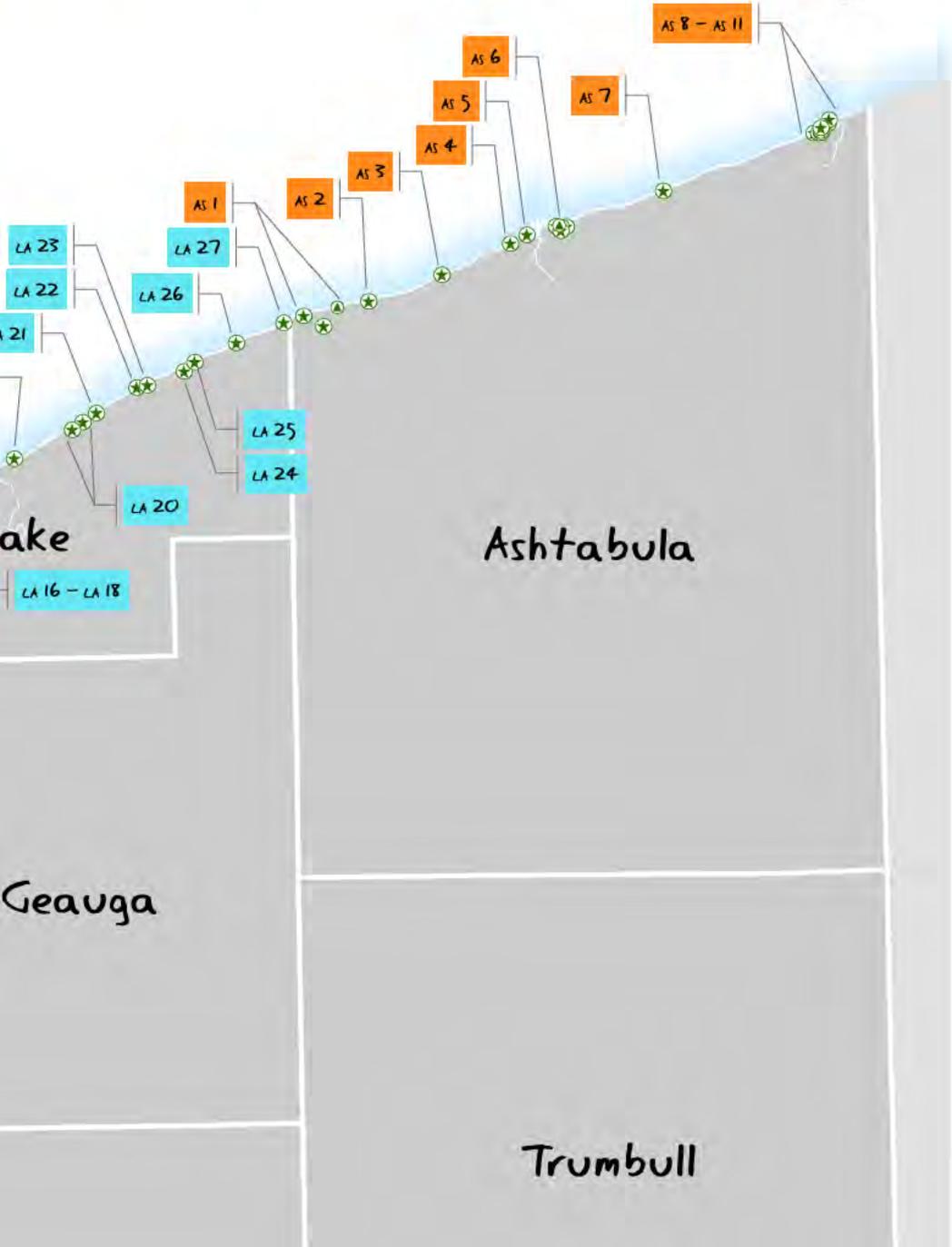
7

CUYAHOGA  
COUNTY

8

LAKE  
COUNTY





- ER30 Joppa Road Access
- ER31 Risdén Road Access
- ER32 Coen Road Access
- ER33 Sherod Park
- ER34 Main Street Beach
- ER35 Wakefield MetroPark
- ER36 Nokomis Park

## **Lorain County**

- LO1 Showse Park
- LO2 Brownhelm Township Lakefront Park
- LO3 Waverly Place Park
- LO4 Lakeview Park
- LO5 Lorain Public Boat Ramp
- LO6 Lorain Public Fishing Pier
- LO7 Lakeside Landing
- LO8 Century Park
- LO9 Lakewood Beach Park
- LO10 Sheffield Lake Community Park
- LO11 West Shore Park
- LO12 Shell Cove Park
- LO13 Miller Road Park
- LO14 Lake Shore Cemetery
- LO15 Veterans Memorial Park

## **Cuyahoga County**

- CU1 Lakeside Cemetery
- CU2 Huntington Reservation
- CU3 Cahoon Memorial Park
- CU4 Columbia Park
- CU5 Bradstreet's Landing
- CU6 Rocky River Park
- CU7 Rose Point
- CU8 Lakewood Park
- CU9 Lakefront Reservation – Edgewater Park
- CU10 Wendy Park
- CU11 North Coast Harbor
- CU12 East Ninth Street Pier
- CU13 Voinovich Bicentennial Park
- CU14 Lakefront Reservation – East 55th Street Marina
- CU15 Lakefront Reservation – Gordon Park
- CU16 Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve
- CU17 Euclid Creek Reservation
- CU18 Euclid Park
- CU19 Sims Park

## **Lake County**

- LA1 Lakefront Lodge
- LA2 Quentin Road Park
- LA3 Eastlake Fishing Pier
- LA4 Willoway Beach Park
- LA5 Sunset Park
- LA6 Beachview Road Scenic Access A
- LA7 Beachview Road Scenic Access B
- LA8 Beachview Road Scenic Access C
- LA9 Osborne Park
- LA10 Overlook Beach Park
- LA11 Mentor Beach Park
- LA12 Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve
- LA13 Headlands Beach State Park
- LA14 Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve
- LA15 Fairport Harbor West Breakwater
- LA16 Fairport Harbor Short Pier
- LA17 Fairport Harbor Port Authority Boat Access
- LA18 Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park
- LA19 Painesville Township Park
- LA20 Lake Erie Bluffs
- LA21 Perry Township Park
- LA22 North Perry Village Park
- LA23 Lakeshore Reservation
- LA24 Bill Stanton Community Park
- LA25 Tuttle Park
- LA26 Madison Township Park
- LA27 Arcola Creek Park

## **Ashtabula County**

- AS1 Geneva State Park
- AS2 Geneva Township Park
- AS3 Saybrook Township Park
- AS4 Highland Beach
- AS5 Walnut Beach Park
- AS6 Lakeshore Park
- AS7 Al Cummings Sunset Park
- AS8 Conneaut Township Park
- AS9 Lakeview Park
- AS10 Conneaut Port Authority Access
- AS11 Broad Street Extension

A complete listing of managing and local authorities is listed on pages 239-241 in the Appendices.



## Right-Of-Way Access Sites

Right-of-way sites are public spaces within the confines of a recognized road right-of-way. These access spaces extend from the roadway's terminus toward the lake. Road right-of-way access sites provide scenic access and/or direct shore access to Lake Erie for fishing, swimming or paddling. These sites are generally local assets with a minimal number of amenities and limited street parking.

The road right-of-way sites listed in this guidebook have been confirmed as publicly accessible by local authorities. Right-of-way access sites that have been converted into pocket parks are listed in their respective chapters and not included in this section.

ROW1

### 146th Street

**Location:** End of 146th Street

**Jurisdiction:** Toledo

**County:** Lucas

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:**  

ROW2

### 137th Street

**Location:** Lakeside Avenue at 137th Street

**Jurisdiction:** Toledo

**County:** Lucas

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:** 

ROW3

### 129th Street

**Location:** 129th Street at Edgewater Drive

**Jurisdiction:** Toledo

**County:** Lucas

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:** None

ROW4

### 128th Street

**Location:** Edgewater Drive at 128th Street

**Jurisdiction:** Toledo

**County:** Lucas

**Shore Access:** No (Fence)

**Amenities:** None



ROW5

## 126th Street

**Location:** Edgewater Drive at 126th Street  
**Jurisdiction:** Toledo  
**County:** Lucas  
**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)  
**Amenities:** 

ROW6

## 125th Street

*Pictured on page 38*  
**Location:** End of 125th Street  
**Jurisdiction:** Toledo  
**County:** Lucas  
**Shore Access:** Yes (Stairs to Shore)  
**Amenities:** 

ROW7

## 119th Street

**Location:** End of 119th Street  
**Jurisdiction:** Toledo  
**County:** Lucas  
**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)  
**Amenities:**  

ROW8

## 117th Street

**Location:** End of 117th Street  
**Jurisdiction:** Toledo  
**County:** Lucas  
**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)  
**Amenities:**  

ROW9

## 116th Street

**Location:** End of 116th Street  
**Jurisdiction:** Toledo  
**County:** Lucas  
**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)  
**Amenities:** 

ROW10

## 115th Street

**Location:** End of 115th Street  
**Jurisdiction:** Toledo  
**County:** Lucas  
**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)  
**Amenities:**  

ROW11

## 113th Street

**Location:** End of 113th Street  
**Jurisdiction:** Toledo  
**County:** Lucas  
**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)  
**Amenities:** 

ROW12

## 111th Street

**Location:** End of 111th Street, east of 305th Street  
**Jurisdiction:** Toledo  
**Shore Access:** Yes (Path to Shore/Terrain)  
**County:** Lucas  
**Amenities:**  



ROW13

## Caldwell Drive

**Location:** End of Caldwell Drive

**Jurisdiction:** Oregon

**County:** Lucas

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:** 

ROW14

## Duchesse Drive

**Location:** End of Duchesse Drive

**Jurisdiction:** Oregon

**County:** Lucas

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:** 

ROW15

## Lakeview Avenue

**Location:** End of Lakeview Avenue

**Jurisdiction:** Oregon

**County:** Lucas

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:** 

ROW16

## Verdun Street

**Location:** End of Verdun Street

**Jurisdiction:** Oregon

**County:** Lucas

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:** 

ROW17

## Grange Street

**Location:** End of Grange Street

**Jurisdiction:** Oregon

**County:** Lucas

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:** 

ROW18

## Blanche Drive

**Location:** End of Blanche Drive

**Jurisdiction:** Oregon

**County:** Lucas

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:** 

ROW19

## Lilias Drive

**Location:** End of Lilias Drive

**Jurisdiction:** Oregon

**County:** Lucas

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:**  

ROW20

## NE Catawba Road

**Location:** At East Sloan St. (SR 53)

**Jurisdiction:** Catawba Island Twp.

**County:** Ottawa

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:**   

*Pictured on  
page 39*



ROW21

## East Point

**Location:** End of Columbus Avenue (SR 357)

**Jurisdiction:** Put-in-Bay Township

**County:** Ottawa

**Shore Access:** Yes (Terrain)

**Amenities:**  

ROW22

## Washington Street

**Location:** End of Washington Street, north of Lake Street

**Jurisdiction:** Vermilion

**County:** Erie

**Shore Access:** No (Edge of Bluff)

**Amenities:** 

ROW23

## Webb Road

**Location:** End of Webb Road

**Jurisdiction:** Lakewood

**County:** Cuyahoga

**Shore Access:** No (Fence)

**Amenities:**  

ROW24

## Summit Avenue

**Location:** End of Summit Street

**Jurisdiction:** Lakewood

**County:** Cuyahoga

**Shore Access:** No (Fence)

**Amenities:** 

ROW25

## Cliff Drive

**Location:** End of Cliff Drive, west of Wilbert Road

**Jurisdiction:** Lakewood

**County:** Cuyahoga

**Shore Access:** No (Fence)

**Amenities:** None

ROW26

## Bratenahl Road

**Location:** End of Bratenahl Road

**Jurisdiction:** Bratenahl

**County:** Cuyahoga

**Shore Access:** No (Fence)

**Amenities:** None

ROW27

## Wheeler Creek Rd.

**Location:** End of Wheeler Creek Road, north of Lake Road

**Jurisdiction:** Geneva Township

**County:** Ashtabula

**Shore Access:** Yes (Path to Shore)

**Amenities:**     