

Anglers Fined After Canine Unit Uncovers Hidden Fish

NEWS

December 2, 2009

A party of seven anglers paid a total of \$1,170 in fines related to possessing an over-limit of walleye and skinning fish so that they could not be easily identified.

Six Wisconsin residents were fined \$175 each for taking an over-limit of fish, and a Thunder Bay resident was also fined \$120 for skinning fish so that the species and number could not be readily identified or counted.

While on routine patrol on October 9, 2009, the Ministry of Natural Resources canine unit uncovered a stash of walleye in coolers hidden behind a temporary camp set up on Hoof Lake in Thunder Bay District. When contacted by a conservation officer, the group did not declare the hidden fillets. The six non-residents possessed a total of 17 walleye, five over their collective limit. The illegal fish were seized and forfeited to the Crown.

The ministry reminds the public that it is illegal to stockpile quantities of fish. An individual may not possess more fish than the possession limit of that species. You are considered to possess fish if you are storing them at home, in freezers, on stringers or at other locations, or eating them as part of a day's meal. As well, non-residents camping on Crown land in Fisheries Management Zone 6 are restricted to conservation limits.

For further information on fishing regulations, please consult the [2008-2009 Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary](#), available at [ServiceOntario/Government Information Centres](#), from licence issuers and at ontario.ca/fishing.

To report a natural resource violation, call 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) toll-free any time or contact your ministry office during regular business hours. You can also call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).