

Hello fellow anglers, I am sure you have all had the chance to get out and wet your line by now. If not, what are you waiting for? I actually apologize for being late with this report, been spending a lot of the time on the water myself. The fishing has just been too good to pass up. Walleye and Northern Pike have both been excellent on the Winnebago, Shell Rock, and Cedar Rivers. Both have been biting well on jigs tipped with minnows and for the northerns-Mepps spinners. Fishing has been best in traditional early season hotspots bellow dams and at the mouths of feeder streams. A few of the walleye caught have been pushing the 10 lb range so these are definitely some quality fish. Make sure you have changed your line from last year. You don't want to lose that fish of a lifetime, plus it will just make your fishing much more enjoyable. Moving further east, I just got back from a trip to Decorah and the Upper Iowa river. I fished Trout Run and caught a ton of brook and rainbow trout, the biggest a 14 1/2 inch rainbow. Caught these on black 1/4 oz jigs and panther martin spinners. In the Upper Iowa River both trout and bass were feeding well below the Upper Dam. Nightcrawlers were the key to getting them to hit. I tried for sturgeon but they hadn't made their way up the river yet, just the suckers. These too are a very fun fish to catch, overlooked by a lot of anglers. Whatever you fish for you should find them biting now, just get out there and have some fun! Good Luck, Mike.