

Fishing enforcement blitz finds most anglers are in compliance

A weekend fishing enforcement blitz in south central Ontario earlier this month found most anglers were abiding by the rules.

Ministry of Natural Resources conservation officers from Midhurst, Aurora and Upper Great Lakes along with the ministry's canine unit checked 1,985 anglers on lakes Simcoe, Couchiching and St. John for compliance with the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act and the Ontario Fisheries Regulations.

The ministry laid 98 charges and issued 32 warnings during the blitz.

Charges and warnings included:

- ? fishing without a licence
- ? fishing without a licence on the person
- ? angling with more than the permitted number of lines
- ? over-limit of fish
- ? unlawfully catching and retaining lake herring

Officers also laid charges under the Motorized Snow Vehicle and Off-Roads Vehicle Acts for safety infractions and issued warnings under the Liquor Licence Act for open liquor.

Anglers are reminded they must have their fishing licence with them when fishing.

For further information on fishing regulations, please consult the 2014 Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary available at ontario.ca/fishing.

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