

# GO NE FISHING!

**SAFETY**

Fishing is a great Scouting activity that youth of all ages can enjoy year-round. Check out the tips below to learn how you can stay safe the next time you head out to land a big one!

**CAST CAREFULLY.** When casting, you are responsible for the hooks on the end of your line. Always look around before casting, and communicate with others.

**DRESS FOR THE WEATHER.**

Whether ice fishing in the Winter, or fishing along the river in the summer, be prepared! Wearing a hat and sunscreen is always a good idea.

**REMEMBER – FISHING IS A WATER-BASED ACTIVITY.** Even though fishing is not a swimming activity, it is an activity that takes place on or near water. Always fish with a buddy and use best water safety practices.



**CRIMP YOUR BARBS.** Fish hooks come in a variety of styles and sizes. Hooks with barbs set firmly in a fish when it strikes, but the same is true if you catch a fellow Scout. Consider using a barbless hook.

**WEAR CLOSED-TOE FOOTWEAR.** Closed-toe footwear offers important protection from knives and fish hooks.

**BE CAREFUL WHEN HANDLING FISH.** Fish have sharp teeth, fins and scales – they can cut you in a variety of ways. Be sure to wear gloves & use tools like fishing nets and pliers.



**BEWARE THE BLOOD ZONE!** Knives can be used to cut a tangled line, or to kill a landed fish that you plan to eat. Remember all the safe practices you would follow in the kitchen and stay clear of other Scouts who are handling knives!

Find the full article on Fishing Safety at [Scoutinglife.ca/safescouting](https://scoutinglife.ca/safescouting).