

### **The straight goods on Crooked Lake.**

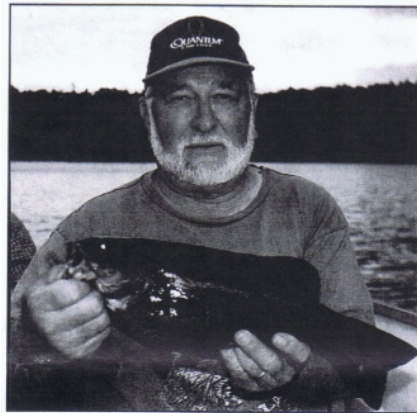
Located amidst an unspoiled tract of wilderness, Crooked Lake is a small, pristine lake measuring about a mile in overall length. Access to the lake is accomplished by a series of short boat rides and portages over the course of four small lakes – an easy trip which takes approximately 40 minutes. Portages are short and well-groomed and boats and motors await at each end. The final leg will welcome lodge guests with a panoramic view of the lake and the sudden appearance of the imposing lodge sitting atop a rocky point and overlooking the lake.

Crooked Lake is a warm, clear-water lake featuring fast-breaking rocky shortlines, abundant shoreline weed-cover and fallen timber and mid-lake depths reaching 40 feet.

Crooked Lake offers exceptional two-species bass fishing (largemouth and smallmouth) – both in terms of numbers and trophy bass. A semi-remote lake, Crooked is seldom fished and there has been a strong live-release ethic by visiting anglers.

Largemouths can exceed 22 inches/six pounds and smallmouths over five pounds have been caught in recent seasons. There are few course or panfish in the lake. Every bite is a bass!

Most traditional bass fishing tactics work well at Crooked Lake. Early and late in the day or under gray or cloudy skies, the bass are active and out from cover – along fast-breaking shorelines and weedline – and in deeper water (eight to 14 feet). Deep-diving, perch-patterned crankbaits, slow-rolled spinnerbaits and plastic worms all work well under these conditions. Under bright, sunny skies, bass will be tight to the heaviest available cover or retreat to deeper sections of the lake but still near key structural features and/or the plentiful cover. Dragging a Carolina-rigged soft-plastic bait along the bottom, the base of the weedline or breakline is an effective presentation for these reluctant biters and vertical jibbing a small spoon or tube jig can also tempt otherwise neutral bass.



In cover, few things are as effective as a slowly presented plastic worm, but sometimes a faster moving topwater or weedless spoon (tipped with a pork frog) can get those bass buried deep in the lake's many weedy sections. With plenty of heavy weedgrowth and scattered shoreline cover, pitchin' and flippin' tactics can also turn up some dandy fish. Oftentimes, a topwater plug, twitchbait or jerkbait can produce outstanding action and excitign bassin'. There's nothing quite like the commotion created by bass busting surface baits.

**For more information** contact Crooked Lake Wilderness Lodge, P.O. Box 863, Lindsay, Ontario, K9V-5N3; Phone: (705) 953-9844; Email: [info@crookedlakewildernesslodge.com](mailto:info@crookedlakewildernesslodge.com); Website: [www.crookedlakewildernesslodge.com](http://www.crookedlakewildernesslodge.com)

- Bill Rivers