

## Time to get your Fishing Gear Ready for Summer!

Summer's here! Are you ready to go fishing? If you haven't already dropped a line, or think you need to get your tackle and fishing life more ready, here are nine tasks you should consider doing now:

1. **Take an inventory of your lures, hooks and everything you use on your excursions.** Check for signs of wear and tear, including older lures that are tried and true but might need some work. (In some cases, you may just want to buy a new lure that matches that well-worn favorite.)
2. **Even if you think you are well-organized, go through your equipment and storage boxes to be sure.** There's nothing more frustrating than being out on the water and wasting time looking for your favorite lure or other equipment you need. Make sure everything is well marked, so you don't have to remember where every item is.
3. **Show your rods and reels some love.** Check the spools and if needed, replace the line. In particular, monofilament has a relatively short life span, so think about replacing that type of line every year.
4. **Don't be afraid to enlist the help of an expert.** If your rods and reels need more than basic upkeep, consider having the work done by an experienced technician, which can save you hours of time.
5. **Make sure you have everything you'll need to be safe.** Double-check that you have such items as personal flotation devices, rain gear and sunscreen available on the boat.
6. **You need to be legal.** Some outdoors enthusiasts lose track of their boating registrations and fishing licenses. Think about this before you get out on the water.
7. **In checking your fishing poles, make sure the eyes are in good shape.** This can be easily skipped over, but a defective eye can be disastrous if you have a fish on the line.
8. **Sharpen your hooks if they need it.** Hooks should be razor sharp; there are a number of hook sharpeners on the market that you can use if needed.
9. **Do your research to widen your world.** Check out resources like your state's Department of Natural Resources site to find potential new fishing spots. Take the time now to check them out. This will help you have a wide range of choices this summer, ensuring that you won't get bored.



*Charlie Chernak, Minnesota Preferred Broker, reeling in the big one.*

Many of the recreational properties sold by Potlatch are near excellent fishing spots or have them right on the property, and owning your own piece of property for a cabin or campsite could save you loads of time in getting back and forth to the water.

A good place to start in your search is with an email or call to one of the experts in [Potlatch's Preferred Broker Network](#).

"The brokers in the Potlatch network are highly experienced in matching up a piece of property to someone's interests, whether it's fishing, hunting, hiking, or just relaxing," says Charlie Chernak of [Bear Island Land Co.](#), which sells Potlatch recreational property in northern Minnesota.

Contact us and get the process started. There's still plenty of time to have a place to call your own this summer, close to great fishing or most anything you like to do outdoors.