

# Web site caters to outdoor sports

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There's a new Internet resource for Ohioans who want to enjoy fishing along the Lake Erie shore and the state's other outdoor attractions.

The site, [www.thenaturalresource.com](http://www.thenaturalresource.com), offers a guide to hunting, fishing, camping, boating, biking and golf.

Click "Fishing," for example, and the site lists license vendors, bait shops, fish taxidermists and other services.

A click on "Map It" for one of the listed services, "Public Water Access, Lake Erie," produces a Google Maps graphic showing the locations of various places fishermen can reach the lake shoreline. For each location, such as Monroeville Marina, Sandusky Municipal Ramp or Cold Creek Trout Camp, the fisherman can zero in on the exact location of the fishing spot.

Similar mapping services provide the location for other activities, although the biking and golf mapping will not be ready until next year.

Contact numbers are given for vendors, such as the Fisherman's Trading Post in Port Clinton.

Eric Kraus, a Toledo native, founded the Web site.

The directory provides information about nearly 4,000 Ohio businesses, services and public access areas.

"We've filtered and cross-referenced hundreds of public directories and outdoor-related databases to help create a one-stop, information-rich tool focused on a state that's rich in outdoor recreational offerings," Kraus said in a news release discussing the site.

"So often, it's difficult for outdoorsmen and women to identify and locate the businesses and other resources needed to enjoy their outdoor pursuits," Kraus said. "With typical online search tools or telephone books, it's too easy to miss the neighborhood archery specialist, outboard engine repair shop or local taxidermist. And while 'word of mouth' is an invaluable resource, it never fills in all the blanks, particularly for out-of-town excursions."



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