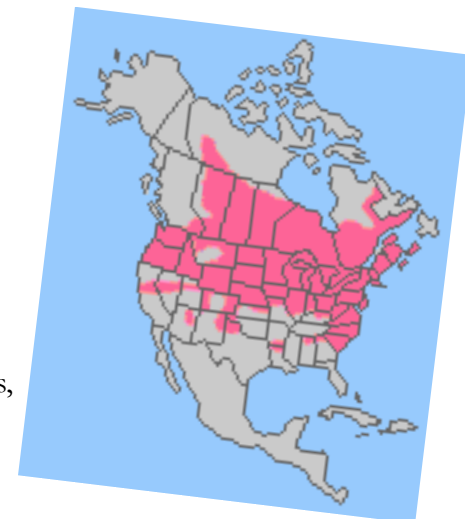


# Yellow Perch

*Perca flavescens*



Yellow Perch are bottom feeders that will eat almost anything, from underwater insect larvae to small fish. Growing up to 18 inches long, they have green-yellow backs and white-yellow bellies, 6-8 dark vertical bands, and orange-red fins. Adults prefer to live in slow-moving waters with lots of vegetation to protect them from predators. Females lay their eggs in long, jelly-like strands (see photo below). The fish can live as long as 13 years!

Yellow Perch can live as long as 13 years!

From left to right: Yellow Perch swim near vegetation to protect themselves from predators (courtesy of [www.midatlanticstocking.com](http://www.midatlanticstocking.com)); a gelatinous strand of Yellow Perch eggs (courtesy of Nick Caloyianis/National Geographic Image Collection); Range of Yellow Perch (Courtesy of [www.fishinglines.com](http://www.fishinglines.com)).



Yellow Perch live throughout the northern half of the US and into Canada; on the east coast, the species ranges from Nova Scotia to South Carolina. They are generally freshwater fish but some have adapted to live in estuarine waters, such as in the Chesapeake Bay. Yellow Perch is the prized target for ice fishermen in many of the frozen bays of Lake Champlain.



## A Lake Champlain Land Trust Nature Snapshot

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