

Laudato Si', Care for Earth

July 19, 2024

Water Quality for Fish and for Us State and Federal Agencies Work to *Care for Earth*



Sisters Monica Justinger, Julie Ann Krahl, and Clare Lawlor fish on Marble Lake, Michigan. They caught blue gill and bass in a location of good water quality. Inland spring-fed lakes are clean and stocked.



The Department of Natural Resources performs on-site checks for appropriate fishing licenses and approved catches of specific species. The State Department of Natural Resources protects the natural environment against pollution and misuse. True fishers and hunters appreciate DNR efforts advocating for the environment and protecting the outdoors.

How does the water quality of fish impact care for Earth?

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, climate change impacts hunting and fishing in many ways. Changing weather patterns cause species to shift the timing and location of migrations and where they choose to live. Droughts, wildfire, and harsher storms alter

habitat and affect the availability of food, water and shelter animals need to survive. Warmer temperatures increase the threats of disease and spread invasive species. Hunters and anglers may need to change what, where, when, and how they hunt and fish.

<https://www.fws.gov/story/hunting-fishing-and-climate-change>

Water quality requires a sustained effort to eliminate single-use plastics as much as possible. Pope Francis told Nora O'Donnell during an interview, "It is a lack of conscience to use a plastic bottle and then throw it to the sea. This makes the sea unhealthy. We have to be conscientious about repurifying nature." (*National Catholic Reporter*, June 7-20, 2024, page 4)

***Have you had a conversation about how to use less plastic?
How to protect our waterways from
hazardous waste?***

S. Mary Ann Czaja toured the National Fish Hatchery and Aquarium in Edenton, NC. Americans like fish. America's fish are in trouble. Aquatic habitat is declining because of erosion and sedimentation, altered stream flows, dams and obstructions, pollution, and invasive species. The Fisheries Program conserves species at risk for extinction and raises native fish and other species.

(<http://fisheries.fws.gov>).



***Are you looking for a way to teach children
about creation care and the Catholic faith?***

Download "God's Creation Waits," a free, downloadable PDF, for kids grades 2-5 and their adults, on noticing, appreciating, and protecting God's Creation. [View the free booklet here](#)

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Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes,
www.csasisters.org/our-values/creation.cfm