

S.O.N.S. Adopt-A-Parks

The S.O.N.S. have adopted two parks on the East and West ends of the Bayfront Parkway, offering visitors a pleasant welcome to Erie's waterfront. S.O.N.S. maintains these beautiful places.



West entrance to Erie's Bayfront Park



East entrance to Erie's Bayfront Park

The S.O.N.S. Biggest Project

A partnership between the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, The Erie Western Pennsylvania Port Authority, PA DCNR, Coastal Zone Management and the Friends of Fish Foundation was created in order to construct a public access fishing area on Liberty Pier located on Presque Isle Bay. The \$747,000.00 project was completed during the Summer of 2012 thanks to this great partnership. The fishing access area offers opportunities for fishing, walking and just a comfortable and safe area for the public to enjoy the beautiful view of Presque Isle Bay.

Other Accomplishments of the S.O.N.S include contributions to research projects at the T.R.E.C. center, water safety equipment for the PFBC, sponsoring Spring Clean-up at Presque Isle State Park, sponsoring disabled veteran's fishing trips, contributing funds for and acquisition on Pennsylvania Lake Erie tributaries, sponsoring fishing clinics for handicapped and elderly individuals and many others since 1981.

We have fun too!

We fish, have informative friendly meetings, picnics, fish fries, and fishing events.



Liberty Pier fishing access area as seen from the water



S.O.N.S. volunteers teach kids to fish at the Liberty Pier fishing access area.



Erie County Named Fishing Capital of Pennsylvania

Erie County Pennsylvania was named "The Freshwater Fishing Capital of Pennsylvania" by a resolution passed by the Pennsylvania State Legislature in 2012

Visit the S.O.N.S Tower Camera at our web site sonsoflakeerie.org. Learn more about what we do and check out our web cam which is located on top of the Bicentennial Tower located on Dobbins Landing on Presque Isle Bay. The camera provides a beautiful view of the bay and surrounding area. There are detailed instructions on how to access and operate this web camera.



The Bicentennial tower on Presque Isle Bay

Why Join the S.O.N.S.?

As you can see, the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie has been busy and involved trying to improve our fishery and access to it. We have come a long way, but still have far to go and we need **YOUR** help to get there. With your help and support we pledge to continue our efforts towards the improvement of our Pennsylvania fishery.

What Do I Get by Joining?

You get the satisfaction of being a part of a group of dedicated individuals who are committed to preserving the Lake Erie fishery for our kids and grandkids.

We meet on the 4th Monday of the month from September through May at 7:30 pm at the Polish Falcon's Club, 431 E. 3rd St. Erie, PA.

More info call: 814-453-2270
On the web at: sonsoflakeerie.org
Or Email: sonslakeri@aol.com

Join today!

Mail the application to:
S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie
PO Box 3605
Erie, PA 16508

MEMBERSHIP FEE PER YEAR

Adult-\$5 Seniors-\$4 Junior under 16-\$3

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____



FISHING CLUB

JOIN NOW!

With the over 3000 sportsmen and women who are dedicated to the enhancement of fishing and the fishery of Lake Erie

**PO Box 3605
Erie, PA 16508**

Ph/Fax 814-453-2270

**Sonsoflakeerie.org
Email sonslakeri@aol.com**

501 c(3) not for profit organization



Who are the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie?

We are an organization of over 3000 sportsmen and women who are united to improve fishing and the fishery of Lake Erie. The S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie fishing club was founded in 1981, by a group of friends who were unhappy with fishing and the fishery of Lake Erie.

S.O.N.S. is an acronym for "Save Our Native Species". The founders of the S.O.N.S. were concerned with the introduction of non-native fish species into the waters of Lake Erie. They chose to name the club "S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie" to reflect one of the goals of the organization, to protect the native species.

For over 30 years we have worked towards this goal in many ways, such as hatching and stocking fish, building fish habitat, providing handicapped accessible fishing opportunities, promoting public access, promoting water safety, building boating access, improving stream quality, maintaining public parks and our most important activity, providing hands-on experience to kids and families in the skills and fun of fishing.

Our accomplishments are well known and have earned the S.O.N.S. great respect.

Please look through this brochure to learn more about the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie and the things that we do and maybe you will decide to join us.

The S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie Fish Hatchery

Built in 1985 with money raised by a grant from the Pennsylvania State Legislature to the Erie Western Pennsylvania Port Authority, the S.O.N.S. were designated as the operators of the facility under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.



The S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie Fish Hatchery is located at the foot of Chestnut Street in Erie, PA

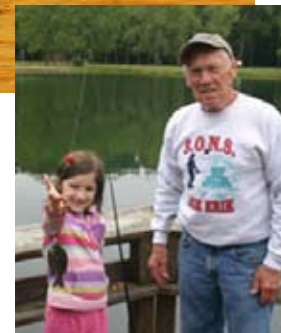
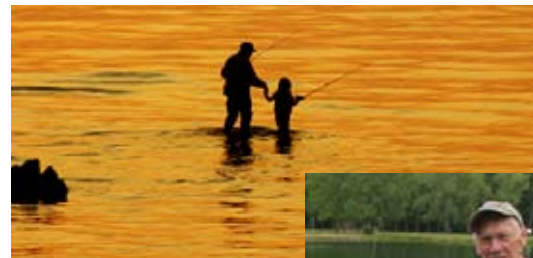
Millions of Walleye, Yellow Perch, Brown Trout, and Steelhead have been produced in the S.O.N.S. hatchery since 1985.



A young visitor studies the Walleye Eggs in the hatching jars at the S.O.N.S. hatchery

The hatchery is run by an all-volunteer staff which stock Walleye and Perch in Presque Isle Bay. Steelhead and Brown Trout are raised to larger size by the 3CU cooperative nursery.

Education



The S.O.N.S. provide a hands-on fishing experience to over 600 kids and their families at over 20 events each year. Our volunteers take great joy in passing on their skills and knowledge to the participants in these events. Equipment and bait and in some cases refreshments are furnished at the fishing clinics.

The S.O.N.S. also provides the use of fishing equipment as part of a lending program through the Erie County Library.

Education is the best legacy to pass on to our future generations. You, too, can feel the joy that we receive by working with kids. Join our ranks today!

Volunteers are the key to the success of any service organization. The S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie is blessed with a group of individuals who donate their time and resources generously to the activities of the club. They willingly roll up their sleeves and tackle any challenge put before them. What a great bunch!



Each year the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie volunteers are invited to a picnic for a little fun and friendship.

Public Access is absolutely the most important factor to a successful fishery. The S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie has been the champions of public access. Today a great portion of the land bordering Presque Isle Bay in Erie is open to the public to enjoy fishing, walking and just experiencing the magnificent view.



Public access to the waters adjacent to Presque Isle Bay has been assured due to the cooperation of the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie, Port Authority, and Convention Center Authorities, as well as private developers.

Adopt-A-Stream is a program developed by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to allow groups and individuals to help improve habitat and water quality in Pennsylvania streams. The S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie joined the program over 25 years ago by adopting Cascade Creek which runs through the City of Erie. Years of work has produced great success. The once polluted stream is now stocked with Trout each year affording the opportunity for fishing to inner city youths.



Cascade Creek on the 1st day of Trout Season

Building fish habitat structures was an early S.O.N.S. project. In cooperation with the PA Fish & Boat Commission S.O.N.S. volunteers constructed over 200 fish habitat structures and placed them in Presque Isle Bay.



S.O.N.S. volunteers building fish habitat structures

Handicapped accessible fishing opportunities have been provided for our less fortunate neighbors at the North and South Piers at the entrance to Presque Isle Bay by the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie.



S.O.N.S. volunteers put the finishing touches on a handicapped accessible ramp on the South pier just in time for its first user.



Handicapped access ramp North Pier