

**From:** [Jan Eckert](#)  
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**Subject:** Fishing Tourney Benefits Make-A-Wish  
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Included below is a press release regarding the Catch-A-Fish, Grant-A-Wish Fishing Tournament on June 10 to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Helping coordinate the fund-raiser were students from the Ferris State University Outdoor Club and Ferris Stars for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan.

For Immediate Release  
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### **Outdoor Club, Ferris Stars get involved in Make-A-Wish Foundation fund-raiser**

BIG RAPIDS – The first annual Catch-A-Fish, Grant-A-Wish Fishing Tournament to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation, as well as promote the Big Rapids Riverwalk, is being held June 10. This catch and release tournament is being brought to Big Rapids during the DNR’s free fishing weekend, so no licenses are required. Just bring a pole and tackle.

Prizes will be awarded to the winner in each of the following categories: 0 to 6 years, 7 to 11 years, 12 to 17 years and 18+ years. The entry fee is \$8 per person for pre-registered anglers and \$10 per person the day of the event.

“The original idea was inspired by the Riverwalk itself”, said Connie Koepke, executive director of the Greater Big Rapids Convention and Visitors Bureau. “This wonderful facility is a tremendous asset to our local community. The handicap accessible fishing platforms provide a unique opportunity to hold a fishing tournament in support of the Make-A-Wish Foundation. We look forward to showcasing the Riverwalk to our local community and visitors.”

The Greater Big Rapids CVB, along with the Ferris Outdoor Club and Ferris Stars for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan, have joined forces to make this great idea a reality. The tournament is set to be held in Hemlock Park with the first casts starting at 10 a.m. and the final casts ending at 1 p.m.

Other activities planned for the tournament are a clown with balloon animals, an appearance by the Mecosta County DNR to answer any questions regarding fishing and other outdoor recreational opportunities, food vendors, and live musical entertainment.

Further information on how to support the event is available by contacting the Greater Big Rapids CVB at (231) 796-7640.

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