

Largest Veteran Fishing Event in the Nation Returns to Lake Erie with 450 Veterans and over 200 Volunteer Boat Captains

VETS WITH NETS to Host Heroes from Across the Country for a Weekend of Healing, Camaraderie, and Community Support

Monroe, Michigan May 25, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - The nation's largest veteran fishing event is returning to Lake Erie this summer as VETS WITH NETS welcomes 450 registered veterans and more than 200 volunteer boat captains to the Detroit Beach Boat Club for an unforgettable weekend honoring America's heroes.

The 2026 event will take place Friday, June 5, through Saturday, June 6, 2026, at the Detroit Beach Boat Club located at 3028 Harborview, Monroe, Michigan.

Since its founding in 2019, VETS WITH NETS has taken more than 2,000 veterans from 30 states fishing on Lake Erie, creating a powerful tradition centered around healing, fellowship, and giving back to those who served.

What began as a grassroots effort has grown into a nationally significant veteran outreach event — yet remarkably, it has still never received major mainstream national media coverage.

The weekend brings together veterans, charter captains, volunteers, sponsors, and community members from across the Midwest and beyond. Organizers say the event is about far more than fishing — it is about restoring camaraderie, supporting mental wellness, and reminding veterans they are not alone.

2026 Event Agenda

Friday, June 5, 2026

- 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM: Veteran and Captain Check-In
- 5:30 PM – 11:00 PM: Meet & Greet Party and Pig Roast (Open to all attendees)
- 7:30 PM: Captain & Safety Briefing

Saturday, June 6, 2026

- 5:00 AM – 11:00 AM: Fishing Event
- 6:00 AM: Official Blastoff
- 11:00 AM: Boat Return & Parade
- 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM: Event Banquet Party (Open to all attendees)

The event provides extensive opportunities for compelling media coverage, including:

- Hundreds of veterans are boarding boats before sunrise
- A dramatic Lake Erie blastoff and return parade
- Emotional veteran reunions and testimonials
- Community volunteers and captains are donating their time and resources
- Patriotic ceremonies and celebrations

Media Invitation

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover the event throughout the weekend. Interviews with veterans, organizers, volunteer captains, and sponsors will be available upon request. High-resolution photos, drone footage opportunities, and B-roll access are available for television and digital media outlets.

About VETS WITH NETS

VETS WITH NETS is a nonprofit veteran outreach initiative dedicated to supporting U.S. military veterans through the therapeutic experience of fishing and outdoor fellowship. Since 2019, the organization has served over 2,000 veterans representing 30 states, making it the largest veteran fishing event in the United States.

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