

Lead-free alternatives: Manufacturers and retailers

Non-lead fishing tackle is not a novelty product. Ask for it at retailers and shops. In addition, you can go straight to these web sites of tackle manufacturers.

Ambush Lures | www.ambushlures.com

"Scented Polymer Matrix" non-toxic weights are made from densified plastic.

BassBoys.net | www.bassboys.net (724-349-2260)

Tungsten worm and drop weights, and jigs in a variety of colors.

Bass Pro Shops | www.basspro-shops.com (1-800-976-6344.)

Search their web site for "XPS" and "Excalibur" weights (tungsten), "Ultra Steel 2000," and "Sticky Weight" tungsten putty. New for 2004 are the "Lake Fork" tungsten jigs, Gremlin Green "bismuth worm sinkers," and "Safe-Sink" densified plastic worm weights.

Big Ten Tackle | www.bigtentackle.com (1-800-480-4216)

Ceramic and steel sinkers.

Bullet Weights | www.bulletweights.com (308-382-7436)

Alternative terminal tackle products including "Ultra Steel" sinkers and interchangeable jigs, and tin split shot.

Cabela's | www.cabelas.com (1-800-237-4444)

This retailer carries many brands of "non-toxic fishing weights" in their online catalog.

Dr. Drop tungsten composite sinkers | <http://drdropsinkers.com> (612-270-3105)

Tungsten composite sinkers use exclusive "friction grip" allowing for fast attachment and retrieval. Available in two styles and six different weights/sizes.

Envio-Weights | www.envio-weights.com (email: gbyless@envio-weights.com)

Nontoxic tackle made from reprocessed landfill steel and resin: Spinnerbaits, buzzbaits, jigs, lures, and weights of all kinds.

Flambeau | (800-232-3474)

New "Safe-Sink" weights, made from a proprietary plastic material with tungsten, in bullet and egg sinker designs.

GlowOptics | www.glowoptics.com (763-689-4809)

Luminescent jig heads made from hand-blown glass. Available for purchase through Internet and at stores throughout Minnesota and in other states. Call for location nearest you.

Gravity Fishing | www.gravityfishing.com (email: kheikkila@wildriverconsulting.com)

Heikkila sinker and jigs made from Tundra, a tungsten composite material. Available exclusively at Gander Mountain stores.

Hildebrandt Company | www.hildebrandt.net (574-722-4455)
Spinnerbaits, lures, and jigs made from pure tin or bismuth.

Jackfish Lures | www.jackfishlures.com (780-424-2876)
Jigs and sinkers made of bismuth.

Lake Fork Tackle | www.lakeforktackle.com/weights.htm (1-866-213-9211)
The "Mega-Weights" line features worm weights and barrel weights made from a tungsten-nickel alloy.

Lead Free Jig Heads | www.leadfreejigheads.com (email: hawnjigs@yahoo.com)
On-line retailer of tin-bismuth alloy sinkers and jigs in a variety of styles.

Lead Masters | www.theoriginalstickyweight.com (1-888-800-8935)
The "Sticky Weight" is a nontoxic, moldable tungsten putty.

Loon Outdoors | www.loonoutdoors.com/sinkets.html (208-362-4437)
The "Deep Soft Weight" (1 oz.) is made from tungsten.

Lucky Strike Bait Works Ltd. | www.luckystrikebaitworks.com (705-743-3849)
Jigs, jig heads, sinkers, and split-shot made from non-toxic bismuth and tin.

Magnum Weight Systems | www.magnumweightsystems.com (866-746-3330)
Versatile, precision-crafted brass weight system for use in carolina or texas rigging, dropshot fishing, or rock hopping.

Northland Fishing Tackle | www.northlandtackle.com (1-800-786-3474)
The "Nature Jig" is cast from a nontoxic bismuth/tin alloy.

Outkast Tackle | <http://outkasttackle.com> (612-869-8539)
Bass jigs made of bismuth. Sold at several Twin Cities Gander Mountains stores and Pro-Tackle Imports (Burnsville), or purchase online.

PRADCO Outdoor Brands | www.lurenet.com (479-782-8971)
"Excalibur" series of barrel and line weights made from tungsten. Available at Gander Mountain, Joe's Sporting Goods, Mills Fleet Farm, Cabela's and other Minnesota tackle retailers: "[find a dealer](#)".

Rocky Ledge Bass Tackle | www.rockyledge.com (603-435-6387)
Spinnerbaits, buzzbaits, and jigs made from pewter.

Unleaded Fishing Products | www.unleadedtackle.com (978-475-6363)
Products marketed as environmentally safe using a bismuth-tin alloy.

Water Gremlin | 800-328-1440
Since the early 1990s, this Minnesota tackle manufacturer has been marketing "Gremlin



Green" tin split shot. A new line of bismuth tackle is now available in the teardrop-shaped Dipsy Swivel, egg, and bullet-shaped slip sinker styles.

Suppliers to tackle manufacturers

Du-Co Ceramics | www.ceramics.com/duco/

Jigs and sinkers made from ceramic. Call Nick Norante, 724-352-1511, for product information or becoming a distributor.

Ecomass | www.ecomass.com (1-877-326-6277)

Ecomass is a non-toxic polymer-metal composite with the same density as lead which can be molded into fishing weights and lures.

RTP Company | www.rtpcompany.com (1-800-433-4787)

Manufactures lead-free high gravity thermoplastics for terminal tackle and ammunition manufacturers.

For more information

In Minnesota

- **Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance** — 800-657-3843
- **Minnesota Department of Natural Resources** — 888-MINNDNR
- **Minnesota Pollution Control Agency** — 800-657-3864
- **The University of Minnesota Raptor Center** — 612-624-4745