

New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Digest

January 2016



NEW

**Buddy License –
Take a Friend
and \$ave!**

page 7

**Highlights
of Regulation
Changes**

page 4

A Summary of Regulations and
Freshwater Fisheries Management Information
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hotlines

Trout Stocking Spring / Fall / Winter (609) 633-6765

The computerized message is available 24 hours per day, seven days a week seasonally, or visit our website: NJFishandWildlife.com.

Shad Run (610) 954-0577 or (610) 954-0578


In April, the Delaware River Shad Fishermen's Association provides a message on the shad run in the Delaware 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Information on river conditions and the status of the shad run is offered. Call in late evening or early morning to avoid a busy signal.

Environmental Alert (877) WARNDP

Contact this 24-hour hotline to report a fish kill, illegal waterbody drawdown, pollution or other environmental offense.

Operation Game Thief (855) OGT-TIPS

Call this number to anonymously report a fish or wildlife violation.

 **For 2016 License Fees and Information, see page 16.**

This DIGEST is available photocopied in an **enlarged format** for the visually impaired.

Write to: New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, Large Format Freshwater Digest, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. All persons are reminded that the statutes, code and regulations are the legal authorities. New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife receives federal assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and thus prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age and sex pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or service, contact New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08626-0420. The telephone number is (609) 292-9410. You may also write to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Civil Rights Coordinator for Public Access, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: WSFR-4020, Arlington, VA, 22203.



8 Fish Stocking Permit Required



12 Turtles of New Jersey



14 Waterbody Highlights



2016 Trout Stocking Schedule
Scan this QR code with your mobile device to view New Jersey's 2016 trout stocking schedule or go to NJFishandWildlife.com/trtinfo.htm

Attention: New Jersey Saltwater Anglers

Register. You make a difference! It's free, easy and required.

Before heading out to catch your favorite marine fish this year, be sure to join the hundreds of thousands of anglers who have already registered with the New Jersey Saltwater Recreational Registry Program (NJSRRP).

For more information on the NJ Saltwater Recreational Registry Program and to register, visit www.saltwaterregistry.nj.gov

After registering, become part of the fishery management process!

Submit fishing reports after each saltwater trip to the NJ Volunteer Angler Survey. Your fishing reports can help improve saltwater fishing opportunities in New Jersey.

Submit online reports at www.NJFishandWildlife.com/marinesurvey.htm

Fish and Wildlife 2016 Calendar of Events

- **Fisheries Forums,** north, January 30; south, February 20; page 29
- **Trout Meeting,** February 27; page 29
- **Pequest Open House and Flea Market,** April 2–3; page 34
- **Opening Day of Trout Season,** April 9; page 18
- **FREE Fishing Days,** June 11, Oct. 15; page 34
- **NJ Coldwater Conservation School,** July 24 and Aug. 20; page 35
- **Teen Angler Youth Day,** July 23, page 34
- **Wild Outdoor Expo,** Sept. 10–11; page 35
- **Fall trout stocking,** begins the week of Oct. 11, 2016.
- **Winter Trout Stocking** November 21 and 22

Law Enforcement and Regulation Information

- **Northern Region — (908) 735-8240**
 (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren counties)
- **Central Region — (609) 259-2120**
 (Burlington, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean counties)
- **Southern Region — (856) 629-0555**
 (Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem counties)
- **Marine Region — (609) 748-2050**
 (coastal and bay areas)
- **To report violations anonymously call Operation Game Thief — (855) OGT-TIPS**

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New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife

Our Mission

To protect and manage the state's fish and wildlife to maximize their long-term biological, recreational and economic value for all New Jerseyans.

Our Goals

- To maintain New Jersey's rich variety of fish and wildlife species at stable, healthy levels and to protect and enhance the many habitats on which they depend.
- To educate New Jerseyans on the values and needs of our fish and wildlife and to foster a positive human/wildlife co-existence.
- To maximize the recreational and commercial use of New Jersey's fish and wildlife for both present and future generations.

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Director's Message

DAVE CHANDA




This year brings two new remarkable license opportunities for New Jersey hunters and anglers to share their experiences afield and to help pass on to friends and family their passion for New Jersey's outdoors.

Beginning in 2016, the Division is excited to offer a Fishing Buddy License. The Buddy License provides a real financial incentive for existing anglers to recruit new anglers. Both qualifying anglers who purchase their licenses together will receive nearly half-off the cost of a regular fishing license! The process is simple. Two anglers must purchase their license at the same time at a New Jersey license agent. The special pricing is available to residents between the ages of 16 and 65 (or non-residents over age 16) who purchase an annual New Jersey Freshwater Fishing License with a buddy. Eligibility requires *at least one new angler*. A "new angler" is considered a resident or non-resident who has never purchased a fishing license or has not purchased an annual fishing license since 2010.

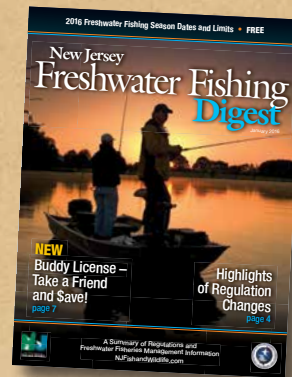
Also approved but with a later starting date is the Apprentice Hunting License. Once implemented, the new Apprentice Hunting License will provide an opportunity for seasoned sportsmen and sportswomen to share their field knowledge and love of the outdoors with a potential hunter who is at least 14 years old.

An apprentice hunter will be able to "try out" hunting while under the supervision of a mentor prior to taking the state Hunter Education course. Apprentice hunter programs have proven successful in 38 other states where, since 2006, nearly 1.5 million apprentice hunting licenses have been sold demonstrating the value and safety of mentoring newcomers in the field. The specific details for purchasing an apprentice hunting license are anticipated later this year as Division staff develop the program features.

These new license offerings make it easier than ever to keep New Jersey's outdoor sporting traditions alive. They also offer seasoned hunters and anglers an excellent opportunity to share with others their appreciation and active enjoyment of the outdoors.

Most hunters and anglers learned to hunt and fish from a family member or friend. I hope you will take advantage of these new licenses and introduce a friend or family member to a wonderful field experience. I know that if you do, you will create special memories that last a lifetime. After all, Life's Better Outdoors! 

Dave Chanda is the Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife.



About this Guide

This high-quality regulation guide is offered to you by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

J.F. Griffin is an award winning publishing house that specializes in producing state fish & wildlife regulation books. J.F. Griffin supports the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's staff in the design, layout and editing of the guides. They also manage the marketing and sales of advertising to appropriate businesses within the book.

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Take a friend fishing!



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FREE Fishing Days

— June 11 and Oct. 15, 2016 —

No License Needed!

(see page 34)