

Numerous freshwater fishing regulations changes are effective January 1, 2008. These changes appear in **red text** in their respective sections throughout the *Digest*. The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Fish and Game Council greatly appreciate the input of the state's angling community in alerting us to issues of concern and providing suggestions for regulatory changes.

Each year Fish and Wildlife holds two public forums offering anglers the best opportunity to share their views and ideas on freshwater fishing in the Garden State. Join us at one of this year's forums, both starting at 10 a.m.:

March 1, 2008, Batsto Village Visitor's Center in Wharton State Forest

Dec. 6, 2008, Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery.

Anglers are encouraged to attend these informative sessions. Your input is valuable for directing future stocking, regulatory and management decisions.

General Regulation Changes

Three rod limit for shoreline fishing

When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, hand lines, or combination thereof may be used. A rod limit prevents the shoreline of a lake from being monopolized by only a few anglers fishing with numerous rods. A three-rod limit, from either boat or shore, has been in effect on the Delaware River for some time. The rod limit, originally proposed as two, is increased to three by the Fish and Game Council based on public comment.

Size limit on muskellunge and tiger muskie increased

The minimum size limit for muskellunge and tiger muskie is increased from 30 inches to 36 inches, and the possession limit reduced from two to one fish, species combined. Previously, six of the 14 waters stocked with pure strain muskellunge were regulated under a 36-inch or 40-inch minimum size and a one fish creel. The remaining eight waters were originally stocked with tiger muskie and had a lower minimum size (30-inch) and creel (two fish) limit. Since New Jersey phased out the tiger muskie program and now stocks only pure strain muskellunge, these fisheries are now managed with more restrictive regulations.

Size limit set for pickerel

The chain pickerel, a major game fish species found throughout New Jersey, previously was protected with a 15-inch minimum size limit in only a few designated lakes. This 15-inch minimum is expanded to include all waters statewide and now applies both to chain and redbfin pickerel as these two species can be difficult to tell apart. The five-fish creel limit now applies both to chain and redbfin pickerel, species combined.

Protection for small, native sunfish

The possession of the following sunfish is prohibited: mud, blackbanded, bluespotted, and banded sunfish. Found primarily in the Pinelands, these valued native species are not typically targeted by anglers, however, anglers may catch these species. Previously there were no creel or size limit restrictions. If caught, these sunfish species must be released immediately unharmed.

Trout Regulation Changes

Minimum size on trout increased

The statewide minimum size limit for brook, brown and rainbow trout has been increased from 7 to 9 inches. Most trout anglers target stocked trout, which average 10.5 inches in the spring, and 14 – 16 inches when stocked in the fall and winter. Consequently, this regulation will not noticeably affect angler harvest of stocked trout. The minimum size is adjusted to afford naturally reproducing trout populations in small streams with a greater level of protection. Many of these trout populations have small numbers of spawning adults that seldom exceed nine inches. A 9-inch minimum size limit will limit the harvest of these sexually mature trout and help ensure that enough remain to reproduce every year. The new size limit also applies to designated wild trout streams and holdover trout lakes.

Lake trout regulations liberalized for Round Valley Reservoir

The minimum size and possession limit for lake trout in Round Valley Reservoir is now **three fish measuring at least 15 inches up to and including 20 inches. One additional large lake trout, measuring at least 24 inches in length, is also allowed for a total daily limit of four fish. Previously only one laker measuring at least 20 inches could be taken each day.**

The lake trout regulation is liberalized because annual fall netting data collected by Fish and Wildlife revealed a significant shift in the size structure of the lake trout population in the reservoir. Fewer fish over 20 inches have been captured in recent years, and the number of small lakers has increased. Lakers between 15 and 20 inches have "stockpiled" due to a slow-down in growth caused by a decline in alewives (also known as herring) in the reservoir, the laker's preferred food.

To rebuild a desirable population size structure, the number of small lake trout must be reduced. Anglers can help improve the quality of the trout fishery by harvesting three lakers between 15 and 20 inches. A plus for anglers is lakers in this size range are excellent table fare. To further assist in the rebuilding process, lake trout between 20 and 24 inches may not be harvested. For more information concerning recent management activities, read the article *Spotlight on Round Valley Reservoir* found on Fish and Wildlife's Web site www.NJFishandWildlife.com.

Holdover Trout regulation on Swartswood Lake dropped

Swartswood Lake is no longer regulated as a Holdover Trout Lake because suitable summer trout habitat (a layer of cold, well-oxygenated water) is lacking. The lake will continue to be stocked with trout in the spring to provide a seasonal trout fishery. Though less trout will be stocked in the spring, large broodstock are to be mixed in with the early season stockings, and the weekly in-season stockings will be earlier so the trout can be better utilized before the water becomes too warm. As in the past, Swartswood Lake remains open to fishing during the three weeks prior to opening day, and all trout caught during this period must be released immediately.

New wild trout stream in Passaic County

A four-mile stretch of the Wanaque River, from the Wanaque Reservoir dam downstream to the Wanaque Avenue bridge, is now designated as a Wild Trout Stream. A 12-inch minimum size is in effect for brown trout within this stretch. This section of the Wanaque has proven ability to produce large wild brown trout, in excess of 12 inches, with some fish reaching 25 inches in length. For brook trout and rainbow trout, the 9-inch size limit applies. This stretch is no longer stocked with trout.

Two new trout-stocked waters in Hunterdon County

Manny's Pond and Mountain Farm Pond are the newest additions to Fish and Wildlife's trout stocking program. Although Hunterdon County offers numerous opportunities for trout fishing, opportunities in small ponds, targeted by younger anglers and their families, are quite limited. These two county park ponds are good places for young anglers and their families to experience fishing.

Trout stocking extended in Hohokus Brook and Rahway River

The trout-stocked section of Hohokus Brook (Bergen County) is extended from Whites Pond to the confluence of the Saddle River. The trout stocked section of the Rahway River is extended into Essex County, from Campbells Pond to Glen Avenue. These extensions will increase trout fishing opportunities on these streams by 1½ miles and the number of trout stocked in these streams is increased accordingly.

Two waters dropped from the stocking program

Bostwick Lake (Cumberland) and Barker's Mill Brook (Warren) were removed from Fish and Wildlife's trout program. Bostwick Lake has not been stocked since the dam failed in 2000. Barker's Mill Brook (Warren) is dropped due to concern over the impacts of cultured trout on native brook trout populations, particularly on small streams.

Using purchased trout for bait

The possession of brown and rainbow trout less than the 9-inch minimum size limit is allowed when purchased for use as bait. A receipt, dated within 14 days of purchase, is required as proof of purchase. Small trout are used as bait by some anglers targeting large gamefish such as muskellunge and striped bass. Originally proposed for all trout species, the Fish and Game council voted to exempt brook trout based on public comment.

Boundary Water Changes

Minimum size increased on Delaware River muskies

The minimum size limit for muskellunge and their hybrids in the Delaware River is increased from 30 inches to 40 inches; the creel reduced from two fish per day to one.

The change protects the existing trophy muskellunge fishery in the river.

Catch and release season for bass on Greenwood Lake extended


Beginning December 2008, the catch and release season for bass on Greenwood Lake will be extended from December 1 to the third Saturday in June. In recent years, biologists and anglers have noticed a decline in the bass population in the lake and the fishery should improve over time as a result of this change.

New York's baitfish regulation on Greenwood Lake

Anglers should be aware that now only certified, virus-free baitfish may be transported to – or used on – the portion of Greenwood Lake owned by the State of New York. Anglers are urged to use only certified, virus-free baitfish when fishing *any* portion of the lake. For more information visit New York's Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources Web site at www.dec.ny.gov.

Ice Fishing Changes

Automatic hook-setting devices allowed

Devices with automatic hook-setting capabilities are now allowed for ice fishing. A new type of ice fishing device with automatic hook-setting capabilities is now available to anglers. Unlike older models, this device may reduce hooking mortality as it diminishes the probability of fish ingesting the hook. 

FREE Fishing Days

June 7 & 8, 2008

No License needed!

See page 51



Take a Friend Fishing!

Freshwater Fisheries Forums

Presented by NJ Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife

1st Forum: March 1, 2008; 10 a.m.
Batsto Village Visitor's Center in Wharton State Forest

2nd Forum: December 6, 2008; 10 a.m.
Hackettstown Hatchery, Warren County

Come and share your views and recommendations for the future of freshwater fisheries in New Jersey and learn about current research, management and fish culture activities!

The forum at Hackettstown will include a tour of the fish production facilities.

For more information or to pre-register (not required) please call (908) 236-2118 or send an e-mail to njfwfish@earthlink.net. E-mails should include name, address, phone number, and number of people attending.



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.

Licenses

- For anglers 16 and over, a license is required to fish the fresh waters of the New Jersey, including privately owned waters.
- Resident anglers, age 70 and over, do not require a license. A driver's license or other acceptable proof of age containing date of birth and physical description will serve as the actual license.
- License must be visibly displayed on outer clothing.
- License and trout stamp are both valid from date of purchase through Dec. 31.
- A person must reside in New Jersey for six months to obtain a resident license.
- Farmers and immediate family members who live on the farm do not need a license to fish on their own farm, but must obey all fishing regulations.

Trout Stamps

For anglers 16 and over, and residents under the age of 70, a valid fishing license and trout stamp are required to fish for or possess trout. No trout stamp is required for residents 70 years and over.

Purchasing a License

Licenses may be purchased through the mail, online at www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ/ or at license agents such as sporting goods stores plus bait and tackle shops. Visit our Web site for details, or call (609) 292-2965.

Replacement – Lost License or Stamp

A license, permit or stamp can be replaced at any license agent or online at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site, www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ/. The Trenton Fish and Wildlife office is no longer open to the public for license or permit sales.

Special Licenses

Servicemen and Servicewomen

A person who is on active duty in the armed services of the United States is entitled to fish with a resident license.

National Guard Members

Eligible National Guard personnel are entitled to free licenses, permits, and stamps. Further information can be obtained by writing to: NJ Department of Military/Veteran Affairs, 101 Eggerts Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648. Or call (609) 530-6866 for 1st Sgt. Turrian.

Disabled Veteran Applicants:

Documentation of current benefits for a service-connected disability and proof of honorable discharge (such as a copy of your DD-214, VA card or monthly check stub) must be presented to obtain a free disabled veteran license.

For the Blind

Residents afflicted with total blindness may obtain a free license from Fish and Wildlife's Trenton office. Call (609) 292-2965 for an application.

Summary of General Fishing Regulations

The season, size and creel limits for freshwater species apply to all waters of the state, including tidal waters.

- Fish may be taken only in the manner known as angling with handline or with rod and line, or as otherwise allowed by law.
- **When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, handlines or combination thereof may be used.**

- Only one daily creel of any fish species may be in possession. Additional fish may be caught once the creel is reached if immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- Separate stringers or buckets must be used for each angler's catch.
- Boats may contain only the combined daily creel limit for each legal angler on board.

A fishing license does not authorize trespass on private property. Permission first must be obtained from the landowner.

It Is Unlawful To:

- Fish within 100 feet (or as posted) of any fish ladder entrance or exit from March 1 through June 30.
- Spear fish in fresh waters. See exception for Delaware River, page 24.
- Possess a fishing device with more than nine hooks in total, or more than three treble hooks.
- Use set lines.
- Use cast nets in freshwater lakes or trout stocked waters. See *Baitfish Regulations*, page 25 for other exclusions.
- Foul hook any species other than yellow perch and white perch. This does not apply to fish taken through the ice.
- Snag any species of fish in Swartswood Lake and its tributaries, including Neldon Brook, plus Monksville Reservoir and its tributaries, including the Wanaque River.

LICENSE AND FEES

2008 License Information & Fees

(Licenses are valid from date of purchase to Dec. 31 of each year.)

Licenses

Resident Fishing (16 yrs. and over).....	\$22.50
Senior Resident Fishing (Ages 65–69 yrs.; 70 & over—Free).....	\$12.50
Resident Trout Stamp.....	\$10.50
Non-resident Fishing.....	\$34
Non-resident Trout Stamp.....	\$20
Non-resident 2-Day Vacation Fishing.....	\$9
Non-resident 7-Day Vacation Fishing.....	\$19.50
All-Around Sportsman (includes resident fishing, firearm hunting and bow/arrow hunting licenses).....	\$72.25

Permits

- Available online or through license agents: Boat Ramp Permit.....	\$15
- Available through the Lebanon Field Office..... (908) 236-2118	
Water Lowering, Fish Stocking, Baitfish Collecting, Tripliod, Grass Carp, Fish Tagging.....	\$2
Turtle & Frog Collecting.....	\$2
Scientific Collecting.....	\$22

Bow and Arrow Fishing

Any species of fish, except brook, brown, lake or rainbow trout, landlocked Atlantic salmon, largemouth or smallmouth bass, striped bass or any of its hybrids, pickerel, northern pike, walleye, muskellunge or any of its hybrids, may be taken at any time by use of a bow and arrow with line attached by the holder of a valid fishing license. See regulations for the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, page 24.

Emergency Closures

It is illegal to fish or attempt to catch or kill fish by any manner or means in any waters for which the Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, upon approval by the Fish and Game Council, issues an emergency closure notice. Such notification is effective and/or rescinded immediately upon public notification. Emergency closures shall be based upon imminent threat to the well-being of the fishery resources, and/or its users, and may include any exceptions to the total ban of fishing that the Director deems practical.

Ice Fishing

No more than five devices may be used for taking fish when ice is present. The devices that may be used are:

1. Ice supported tip-ups or lines with one single pointed hook attached, or one burr of three hooks that measure not more than 1/2-inch from point to shaft;
2. An artificial jiggling lure with not more than one burr of three hooks that measure not more than 1/2-inch from point to point;
3. An artificial jiggling lure with not more than three single hooks measuring not more than 1/2-inch from point to shaft;
4. An artificial jiggling lure with a combination of the hook limitations described in 2 and 3 above.

Natural bait may be used on the hooks of the artificial jiggling lures. All devices that are not hand-held must bear the name and address of the user and cannot be left unattended.

Carp and suckers may be taken with net under the ice. Suckers may be taken through the ice by means of hooks, no more than three, directly attached to a rigid handle between December 1 and March 1.

See separate regulations for trout-stocked waters and Greenwood Lake.

Sale of Fish

It is illegal to sell any freshwater fish species except under commercial permits as prescribed in the Fish and Game Code. Artificially-propagated trout, if properly tagged, may be sold for food purposes.

Water Supply Reservoirs Open To Fishing By Permit Only

Note: Permits must be obtained from specific reservoir owner listed below. A valid fishing license is also required.

Waterbody	County	Type of Fishing	Fee	Permit Source
Newark's Pequannock Watershed Reservoirs: Echo Lake, Clinton, Oak Ridge & Canistear	Morris Passaic Sussex	Boat & Shoreline	Yes	Newark Watershed Conserv. & Dev. Corp 223 Echo Lake Road Newfoundland, NJ 07435 (973) 697-2850. Permits available in person only Also available at: 40 Clinton Street, 4th Floor Newark, NJ 07102 (973) 622-4521 Permits available in person only
Point View Reservoir	Passaic	Shoreline only Sat. & Sun 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.	No	Passaic Valley Water Commission 1525 Main Avenue, Clifton, NJ 07015 (973) 340-4309 Send stamped, self-addressed envelope. A daily permit will be mailed. Permit allows two people to fish.
Oradell Reservoir Woodcliff Lake Lake Tappan Reservoir	Bergen Bergen Bergen	Shoreline only Shoreline only Shoreline only	Yes	United Water Company 200 Old Hook Road Harrington Park, NJ 07640 (201) 767-9300 x3208


Stocking Fish

A permit is required to stock fish or fish eggs into any water of the state, public or private. It is ILLEGAL to stock carp or koi into any such waters at any time. An application may be obtained by contacting the Lebanon Field Office at (908) 236-2118.

Tagging Fish

No person may tag or mark and then release a fish without first obtaining a fish stocking permit or by special permit issued by Fish and Wildlife. Contact the Lebanon Field Office at (908) 236-2118 for application information.

Waste of Fish

Fish of any species which are purposely killed become part of the angler's daily limit and must be removed from the waters from which they were taken, then either used or otherwise disposed of properly. 

Places to Fish

For a great reference on New Jersey places to fish, including ponds, lakes, reservoirs, rivers and streams, visit our Web site at www.NJFishandWildlife.com/fishplc.htm or call (609) 292-2965.

Display Your License!



Show your support of Fish and Wildlife activities and programs . . .

**Display your license!
It's the Law!**

General Trout Information

2008 REGULATIONS

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. Red text indicates a regulation change.

2008 General Trout Fishing Information

- Opening day of trout season: April 5, 2008 at 8 a.m.
- When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, hand lines or combination thereof may be used.
- A valid fishing license and trout stamp are both required for residents at least 16 years and less than 70 years of age plus all non-residents 16 years and older.
- Ponds, lake or sections of streams which are stocked with trout are **closed to fishing for all species** from March 17 to April 5 at 8 a.m.

Exceptions: Lake Farrington, Lake Hopatcong, Lake Shenandoah, Prospertown Lake and Swartswood Lake and are open year round to fishing. However, all trout caught during this period (above) must

be released immediately. Seasonal or Year-round Trout Conservation Areas and designated Holdover Trout Lakes (see pages 19-20) are also open to fishing but are catch-and-release only for trout. Fishing is not permitted on seasonal trout conservation areas from 12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m. on April 5, 2008.

- Only one daily creel limit of trout may be in possession. Once the creel limit is reached, an angler may continue to fish provided any additional trout caught are immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- Separate stringers or buckets must be used for each angler's catch.
- Containers in boats may hold only the combined daily creel limit for each legal angler on board.
- Fish and Wildlife reserves the right to suspend stocking when emergency conditions prevail.

Spring Trout Stocked Waters In-Season Without Fishing Closures

After opening day these waters may be fished on the day they are stocked. Note: The number in parentheses indicates the anticipated number of in-season stockings (from April 5 through May 23). A zero indicates the water will only be stocked pre-season (the three-week period preceding opening day). For details on what's being stocked and when, call the Trout Hotline at (609) 633-6765. This recorded message is updated weekly. (Spring stocking: April - May; Fall stocking: October; Winter stocking: November.) Or visit our Web site at www.NJFishandWildlife.com.

Atlantic County

- Birch Grove Park Pond—Northfield (4)
- Hammonton Lake—Hammonton (4)
- Heritage Pond—Absecon (3)

Bergen County

- Dahnert's Lake—Garfield (3)
- Hackensack River—Lake Tappan to Harriot Avenue, Harrington Park (4)
- Hohokus Brook—Forest Rd. to confluence of Saddle River (4)
- Indian Lake—Little Ferry (4)
- Mill Pond—Park Ridge (3)
- Pascack Creek—Orchard Street, Hillsdale, to Lake Street, Westwood (4)
- Potash Lake—Oakland (3)
- Saddle River—Lake St. to Dunkerhook Rd., Fair Lawn (5)9
- Scarlet Oak Pond—Mahwah (0)
- Tenakill Creek—Closter, entire length (3)
- Whites Pond—Waldwick (4)

Burlington County

- Crystal Lake—Willingboro (4)
- Laurel Pond—Mt. Laurel (3)
- Pemberton Lake—Pemberton (3)
- Rancocas Creek, Southwest Br.—Medford, Mill Street Park to Branch St. Bridge (4)
- Sylvan Lake—Burlington (3)

Camden County

- Gloucester City Pond—Gloucester (4)
- Haddon Lake—Audubon (0)
- Oak Pond—Sicklerville (4)
- Rowands Pond—Clementon (3)

Cape May County

- Dennisville Lake—Dennisville (3)
- West Pond—Cape May Court House (4)

Cumberland County

- Cohansey River—Dam at Seeleys Pond to powerline above Sunset Lake, Bridgeton (4)
- Giampietro Park Lake—Vineland (3)
- Mary Elmer Lake—Bridgeton (3)
- Maurice River—Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherman Ave, Vineland (4)
- Shaws Mill Pond—Newport (3)

Essex County

- Branch Brook Park Lake—Newark (4)
- Clarks Pond—Bloomfield (0)
- Diamond Mill Pond—Millburn (3)
- Rahway River (W/Br) - **Campbell's Pond to Glen Ave. (Milburn)** (4)
- Verona Park Lake—Verona (4)

Gloucester County

- Greenwich Lake—Gibbstown (3)
- Grenloch Lake—Turnersville (3)
- Harrisonville Lake—Harrisonville (3)
- Iona Lake—Iona (3)
- Mullica Hill Pond—Mullica Hill (3)
- Swedesboro Lake—Swedesboro (3)
- Westville Lake—Westville (0)

Hudson County

- West Hudson County Park Pond—Harrison (0)
- Woodcliff Lake—James J. Braddock Park, North Bergen (4)

Hunterdon County

- Amwell Lake—East Amwell (3)
- Beaver Brook—Clinton Twp., entire length (2)
- Capoolong Creek—Pittstown, entire length (5)
- Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal—Bulls Island to Hunterdon/Mercer County line (6)
- Hakihokake Creek—Holland Twp., entire length (2)

- Lockatong Creek—Kingwood Twp., entire length (5)
- Manny's Pond—Union Twp. (3)**
- Mountain Farm Pond—Lebanon Twp.(3)**
- Mulhockaway Creek—Pattenburg, source to Spruce Run Reservoir (5)
- Neshanic River—Kuhl Road to Rt. 514 (2)
- Nishisakawick Creek—Frenchtown-Everittstown Rd., entire length (2)
- Rockaway Creek—Readington Twp., entire length (4)
- Rockaway Creek, S. Br.—Lebanon to Whitehouse, entire length (5)
- Round Valley Reservoir—Clinton Twp. (1)
- Sidney Brook—Grandin, entire length (1)
- Spring Mills Brook—Spring Mills, entire length (2)
- Spruce Run—Glen Gardner and Lebanon Twp., entire length (5)
- Wickecheoke Creek—Covered Bridge, Rt. 604, Sergeantsville to Delaware River (2)

Mercer County

- Assumpink Creek—Assumpink Site dam upstream of Rt. 130 bridge to Carnegie Rd., Hamilton Twp. (4)
- Colonial Lake—Lawrence Twp. (3)
- Delaware-Raritan Canal—Mulberry St, Trenton to Alexander St, Princeton (4)
- Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal—Hunterdon/Mercer County line to Upper Ferry Rd. bridge (6)

Middlesex County

- Rosedale Lake—Rosedale (3)
- Stony Brook—Woodsville to Port Mercer (4)
- Farrington Lake—North Brunswick (3)
- Hooks Creek Lake—Cheesequake State Park (4)
- Ireland Brook—Farrington Lake to point 500 ft. upstream of Riva Ave. (2)
- Lake Papaiani—Edison (0)

Lawrence Brook—Dam at Farrington Lake to 2nd RR Bridge (Raritan Railroad) below Main St, Milltown (4)

Roosevelt Park Pond—Edison Twp. (3)

Monmouth County

Echo Lake—Southard (3)

Englishtown Mill Pond—Englishtown (3)

Garvey's Pond—Navesink (3)

Hamilton Fire Pond—Neptune (3)

Hockhockson Brook—Hockhockson Rd. to Garden

State Parkway bridge (northbound) (5)

Holmdel Park Pond—Holmdel (3)

Mac's Pond—Manasquan (0)

Mingamahone Brook—Farmingdale, Hurley Pond

Rd. to Manasquan River (5)

Mohawk Pond—Red Bank (4)

Shadow Lake—Red Bank (3)

Shark River—Hamilton, Rt. 33 to Remsen Mill Road (5)

Spring Lake—Spring Lake (3)

Takanassee Lake—Long Branch (4)

Topenemus Lake—Freehold (3)

Yellow Brook—Heyers Mill Rd. to Muhlenbrink Rd, Colts Neck Twp. (2)

Morris County

Beaver Brook—Rockaway, entire length (3)

Burnham Park Pond—Morristown (4)

Drakes Brook—Flanders, entire length (3)

Hibernia Brook—Hibernia, entire length (5)

India Brook—Mountainside Ave. to Rt. 24, Ralston (5)

Lake Hopatcong—Lake Hopatcong (3)

Lake Musconetcong—Netcong (3)

Mt. Hope Pond—Mt. Hope (3)

Passaic River—White Bridge to Rt. 24, Chatham Borough (4)

Pequannock River—(See Passaic Co.)

Pompton River—Pequannock Twp. (see Passaic Co.) (4)

Russia Brook—Jefferson Twp., Ridge Rd. to Lake Swannanoa (2)

Speedwell Lake—Morristown (4)

Whippany River—Tingley Road, Morris Twp. to Ridgedale Ave., Morristown (2)

Ocean County

Lake Shenandoah—Lakewood, Ocean County Park (3)

Pohatcong Lake—Tuckerton (4)

Prosperstown Lake—Prosperstown (3)

Passiac County

Barbours Pond—West Paterson (3)

Clinton Reservoir—Newark Watershed (3)

Green Turtle Pond—Wanaque Wildlife Mgt. Area, Hewitt (3)

Oldham Pond—North Haledon (3)

Pequannock River—Route 23, Smoke Rise to

Paterson-Hamburg Turnpike,

Pompton Lakes (6)

Pompton River—Pompton Lake to Newark Pompton Turnpike (4)

Ringwood Brook—State line to Sally's Pond,

Ringwood Park (5)

Sheppard Lake—Ringwood State Park (3)

Salem County

Harrisonville Lake—Harrisonville (3)

Maurice River—Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherman Ave., Vineland (4)

Riverview Beach Pond—Pennsville Twp. (4)

Schadlers Sand Wash Pond—Penns Grove (3)

Somerset County

Lamington River—Rt. 523 (Lamington Road) at

Burnt Mills to jct. with the N/Br. of Raritan River (4)

Middle Brook, E/Br.—Martinsville, entire length (2)

Passaic River—(See Morris Co.)

Peapack Brook—Peapack-Gladstone, entire length (5)

Raritan River—Jct. of Raritan River N/Br. and S/Br., to Rt. 206 bridge (4)

Rock Brook—Zion, entire length (1)

Spooky Brook Park Pond—Franklin (0)

Sussex County

Alms House Pond—Myrtle Grove, Hampton Twp. (3)

Andover Junction Brook—Andover, entire length (2)

Big Flat Brook, Upper—Saw Mill Pond, High Point State Park to 100 ft. above Steam Mill Bridge on

Crigger Rd, Stokes St. Forest (4)

Blue Mountain Lake—Delaware Water Gap Nat'l

Recreation Area (3)

Clove River—Mt. Salem Rd. to Jct. of Rt. 23 and Mt.

Salem Rd. to Rt. 565 bridge (5)

Culver's Creek—Frankford Twp., entire length (5)

Dry Brook—Branchville, entire length (3)

Franklin Pond Creek—Hamburg Mtn. W.M.A., entire length (5)

Glenwood Brook—Lake Glenwood to state line (2)

Lake Aeroflex—Andover (3)

Lake Hopatcong—Lake Hopatcong (3)

Lake Musconetcong—Netcong (3)

Lake Ocquittunk—Stokes State Forest (3)

Little Flat Brook—Sandyston Twp., entire length (5)

Little Swartswood Lake—Swartswood (3)

Lubbers Run—Byram Twp., entire length (5)

Neldon Brook—Swartswood, entire length (2)

Papakating Creek—Plains Rd. bridge to Rt. 565, Lewisburg (2)

Papakating Creek, W/ Br.—Libertyville, entire length (2)

Pond Brook—Middleville, entire length (5)

Saw Mill Pond—High Point State Park (3)

Silver Lake—Hamburg Mountain WMA (0)

Stony Lake—Stokes State Forest (3)

Swartswood Lake—Swartswood (3)

Trout Brook—Middleville, entire length (2)

Wawayanda Creek—Vernon, entire length (5)

Wawayanda Lake—Vernon (3)

Union County

Green Brook—Rt. 527, Berkeley Heights to Rt. 22, Scotch Plains (2)

Lower Echo Park Pond—Mountainside (3)

Milton Lake—Madison Hill Rd. Bridge to Milton

Lake dam, Rahway (4)

Passaic River—(See Morris Co.)

Rahway River—I-78 bridge, Springfield to St. George Ave. (Route 27), Rahway (4)

Seeleys Pond—Berkeley Heights (3)

Warinanco Park Pond (0)

Warren County

Beaver Brook—Silver Lake Dam to Pequest River (4)

Blair Creek—Hardwick Center to Blair Lake (2)

Blair Lake—Blairtown (3)

Buckhorn Creek—Roxburg, entire length (2)

Columbia Lake and Gatehole—Knowlton Twp. (3)

Furnace Brook—Oxford, entire length (2)

Furnace Lake—Oxford (3)

Honey Run—Swayze's Mill Rd. to Rt. 519, Hope Twp. (2)

Jacksonburg Creek—Jacksonburg, entire length (2)

Lopatcong Creek—Rt. 519 to South Main St, Phillipsburg (5)

Merrill Creek Reservoir—Stewartsville (1)

Pohatcong Creek—Mt. Bethel to Rt. 31 (2)

Pophandusing Creek—Oxford Road, Hazen to Delaware River (2)

Roaring Rock Brook—Brass Castle, entire length (2)

Trout Brook—Hackettstown, entire length (2)

Trout Brook—Hope, entire length (2)

White Lake—Hardwick (1)



Sea Run Brown Trout

The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has stocked brown trout in the lower Manasquan River, Monmouth County. Anglers are asked to report all catches of brown trout that exhibit characteristics of a sea run. These fish tend to develop a more silvery coloration, masking most of the body spots after an extended time in salt water.



The future of this program depends on these fish being reported.

Call Pequest State Fish Hatchery (908) 637-4173 or Lebanon Field Office (908) 236-2118.

WE NEED YOUR COOPERATION!



General Trout Fishing Regulations (For Brook, Brown & Rainbow Trout and Hybrids)

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	EXCEPTIONS
January 1 – March 16	9 inches	4	1) Waters with in-season stocking closures are closed to fishing 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on days listed for stocking (see listing below). 2) Special regulation areas (wild trout streams, year round and seasonal trout conservation areas, trophy and holdover trout lakes). 3) On lakes Farrington, Hopatcong, Prospertown, Shenandoah and Swartswood fishing is permitted during the period March 17 – April 5 at 8 a.m. All trout caught during this period must immediately be released. 4) Greenwood Lake and Delaware River—see separate regulations for boundary waters, p. 24.
March 17 – April 5 at 8 a.m.	Fishing prohibited on all waters listed for trout stocking; all other waters—catch and release only (See exceptions at right)		
April 5 at 8 a.m. – May 31	9 inches	6	
June 1 – Dec. 31	9 inches	4	

Lake Trout Regulations

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	EXCEPTIONS
Jan. 1 — Dec. 31	15 inches	2	Trophy Trout Lakes (see below)—Round Valley Reservoir, Merrill Creek Reservoir

Trout Stocked Waters

General trout regulations apply; see above. Consult pages 16 and 17 for a complete list of trout stocked waters that can be fished beginning 8 a.m. April 5 including the days the waters are stocked. See below for a list of waters closed to fishing (5 a.m. to 5 p.m.) on dates listed for stocking.

Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing (5 a.m. to 5 p.m.) on Spring Stocking Dates General trout regulations apply; see above. In addition, waters listed below are closed to fishing 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on dates listed for stocking, including all tributaries, for a distance of 100 ft. from the main channel. **There are no closures for fall stocking.**

MONDAYS April 7, 14, 21, 28 May 5, 12, 19	Manasquan River — Rt. 9 bridge downstream to Bennetts bridge, Manasquan WMA Metedeconk River, N/Br. — Aldrich Rd. bridge to Ridge Ave. Metedeconk River, S/Br. — Bennetts Mill dam to twin wooden foot bridge, opposite Lake Park Blvd. on South Lake Drive, Lakewood Rockaway River — Longwood Lake dam (Jefferson Twp.) to Jersey City Reservoir in Boonton Toms River — Rt. 528, Holmansville, to confluence with Maple Root Branch, and Rt. 70 bridge to Rt. 571 bridge (Exception: the section regulated as a Year-round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.) Walkkill River — Lake Mohawk dam to Rt. 23, Hamburg
TUESDAYS April 8, 15, 22, 29 May 6, 13, 20	Pohatcong Creek — Rt. 31 to Delaware River Raritan River, S/Br — Budd Lake dam to junction with N/Br. Raritan River (Exception: the section regulated as a Year-Round Trout Conservation Areas; see separate regulation.)
WEDNESDAYS April 9, 16, 23, 30 May 7, 14, 21	Raritan River, N/Br. — Peapack Rd. bridge in Far Hills to junction with S/Br. Raritan River
THURSDAYS April 10, 17, 24 May 1, 8, 15, 22	Black River — Rt. 206, Chester to the posted Black River Fish & Game Club property at the lower end of Hacklebarney State Park Paulskill River, and E/Br. and W/Br. — Limecrest RR spur bridge on E/Br., Sparta Twp., and Warbasse Jct. Rd. (Rt. 663) on W./Br, Lafayette Twp., to Columbia Lake (Exception: the section of the E/Br. regulated as a Year Round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.) Ramapo River — State line to Pompton Lake (excluding Potash Lake)
FRIDAYS April 11, 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16, 23	Big Flat Brook — 100 ft. above Steam Mill bridge on Crigger Rd. in Stokes State Forest to Delaware River Musconetcong River — Lake Hopatcong dam to Delaware River including all mainstream impoundments except for Lake Musconetcong (Exception: the section regulated as a Seasonal Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.) Pequest River — source downstream to Delaware River (Exception: the section regulated as a Seasonal Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.) Wanaque River — Greenwood Lake dam to Wanaque Reservoir dam then from Wanaque Ave., Pompton Lakes to jct. with Pequannock River, excluding the Wanaque and Monksville reservoirs.

Boundary Waters (see page 24)

LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Delaware River	all trout species	April 12 – Oct. 15 (trout caught at other times must be released immediately)	no min. size	5

Year Round Trout Conservation Areas

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS (in effect year round)
Jan. 1—March 16	15 inches	1	1) Only artificial lures may be used. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3) Fishing is permitted during the in-season closures which apply to the river. All trout caught during these periods must be released immediately.
March 17 — April 5 at 8 a.m.	Catch and Release Only		
April 5 at 8 a.m. — Dec. 31	15 inches	1 (see #3 at right)	

Paulinskill River, E/Br. (Sussex County)—from the Limecrest railroad spur bridge downstream to its confluence with the W/Br. Paulinskill at Warbasse Jct. (approx. 2.25 miles)
Raritan River, S/Br. (Hunterdon County)—the stretch of water known as the Ken Lockwood Gorge, a distance of approximately 2.5 miles
Raritan River, S/Br. (Morris County)—a section of river, known locally as the Claremont Stretch, extending from the downstream end of the posted Anglers Anonymous property downstream to its junction with Electric Brook (approx. 1.1 miles)
Toms River (Ocean County)—the downstream end of Riverwood Pk. in Dover Twp., defined by markers, downstream to the Rt. 571 bridge (approx. 1 mile)

Seasonal Trout Conservation Areas

SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS
Jan. 1—March 16	15 inches	1	1) Only artificial lures may be used. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3) Pequest and Musconetcong Rivers—fishing is not permitted during the first six in-season stocking closure dates. (See Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates, p. 18). Fishing is permitted during the last in-season stocking closure date (May 23), but all trout caught between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. must immediately be released.
March 17 — April 4	Catch and Release Only		
April 5 (12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m.)	Fishing Prohibited		
April 5 at 8 a.m. — May 18 Gear restrictions do not apply	9 inches	6	
May 19 — Dec. 31	15 inches	1	

Pequannock River (Morris/Passaic counties) — Rt. 23 bridge at Smoke Rise downstream to the Rt. 23 bridge at Smith Mills (approx. 1.2 miles)
Pequest River (Warren County) — from the Conrail Railroad bridge located upstream of the Pequest Trout Hatchery access road downstream to Rt. 625 (Pequest Furnace Rd.) bridge, a distance of approx. 1.6 miles
Musconetcong River (Hunterdon/Warren counties) — Penwell Road bridge downstream to the Point Mtn. Road bridge, a distance of approx. 1.2 miles

Trout Conservation Areas (TCAs): Driving Directions

	WATERBODIES	DIRECTIONS
Year Round TCAs	Paulinskill, E/Br (<i>Sussex County</i>) Limecrest railroad spur bridge downstream to its confluence with W/Br Paulinskill at Warbasse Jct. (approx. 2.25 miles)	Rt. 94/206 N., north of Newton, to Rt. 94 (Morris Farm Rd.) to Warbasse Junction Rd. (Rt. 663) to Garrison Rd. to bridge. Pull-off parking. Or Rt. 206 to Limecrest Rd. (Rt. 669), for approx. 6 mi. to Rt. 648 to bridge; pull-off parking.
	Raritan S/Br. - Ken Lockwood Gorge (<i>Hunterdon County</i>) Section of S/Br within the Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area (approx. 2.5 miles)	Rt. 31 to Rt. 513. Turn onto Hoffman's Crossing Rd. Take first right after bridge. Follow into Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area. Park in pull-off areas along dirt access road. PROCEED WITH CAUTION - deep ruts.
	Raritan S/Br - Claremont Stretch (<i>Morris County</i>) End of Angler's Anonymous property (private) downstream to confluence with Electric Brook (approx. 1.1 miles)	From Rt. 24 at light in Long Valley, go north on Schooley's Mt. Rd. Take immediate right after bridge onto Fairview Rd. Parking area approximately 1 mile on right. Follow path to river.
	Toms River (<i>Ocean County</i>) End of Riverview Park (Dover Twp.) downstream to Rt. 571 bridge (approx. 1 mile)	Rt. 195 (Exit 21) to Rts. 527/528 S. (Cedar Swamp Rd./ Veterans Hwy.) to Rt. 527 S. (Whitesville Rd.) to Riverwood Dr. to entrance of Riverview Park.
Seasonal TCAs	Pequannock River (<i>Morris/Passaic counties</i>) Rt. 23 bridge, at Smoke Rise, downstream to the Rt. 23 bridge at Smith Mills (approx. 1.2 miles)	Under Rt. 23 overpass; small dirt parking lot (downstream boundary of conservation area).
	Pequest River (<i>Warren County</i>) Conrail Railroad bridge, located upstream of the Pequest Trout Hatchery Access Road, downstream to Rt. 625 (Pequest Furnace Rd.) bridge (app 1.6 miles)	Rt. 31 to Rt. 46 E, approx. 4 mi. to Pequest Trout Hatchery; paved parking lot.
	Musconetcong River (<i>Warren County</i>) Penwell Road bridge downstream to Point Mountain Road bridge (approx. 1.2 miles)	Rt. 31 to Rt. 57 W. to Point Mt. Rd. to bridge; small parking lot on left over bridge (downstream boundary).

Trophy Trout Lakes				
LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Merrill Creek Reservoir	brown & rainbow trout	open year round	15 inches	2
	lake trout	Jan. 1 – Sept. 15 & Dec. 1 – Dec. 31	15 inches	2
Round Valley Reservoir	brown & rainbow trout	open year round	15 inches	2
	lake trout	Jan. 1 – Sept. 15 AND Dec. 1 – Dec. 31	15 – 20 inches AND ≥ 24 inches	3 AND 1

Holdover Trout Lakes				
LOCATIONS	SPECIES	SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Clinton Reservoir Lake Aeroflex Lake Wawayanda Shepherd Lake White Lake (Warren Co.)	brook, brown, rainbow trout, and hybrids	Jan. 1— March 18	9 inches	2
		March 17 — April 5 at 8 a.m.	Catch and Release Only	
		April 5 at 8 a.m. — May 31	9 inches	4
	landlocked Atlantic salmon	Jan. 1— Dec. 31	12 inches	2

Fly Fishing Areas				
SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	RESTRICTIONS	
Jan. 1—March 16	9 inches	4	1) Only artificial flies are allowed, which are expressly limited to dry flies, wet flies, bucktails, nymphs and streamers. Expressly prohibited are metal, plastic, or wooden lures, plugs, spinners, and flies with spinners attached or any multiple-hooked device. Spinning reels or any type of angling whereby a fly is cast directly from the reel are expressly prohibited. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited. 3) After opening day and through May, fishing is prohibited from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on dates listed for stocking. (See Trout Water Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates, page 18.)	
March 17 — April 5 at 8 a.m.	Fishing Prohibited			
April 5 at 8 a.m.— April 14 at 5 a.m. Gear restrictions do not apply except on Blewett Tract	9 inches	6		
April 14 at 5 a.m.—May 31	9 inches	6		
June 1—Dec. 31	9 inches	4		

Big Flat Brook (Sussex County)—Rt. 206 bridge downstream to the Roy Bridge on Mountain Rd., a distance of approx. 4 miles, except that portion known as the Blewett Tract









Blewett Tract (Sussex County)—a 0.5 mile portion on the **Big Flat Brook** clearly defined by markers, which extends from the Three Bridges Rd. to a point upstream of the jct. of the Big Flat Brook and Little Flat Brook.

Wild Trout Streams				
SEASON	MIN. SIZE	DAILY LIMIT	LOCATION	RESTRICTIONS
April 5 at 8 a.m. – Sept. 15	9 inches	2	Statewide except for brown trout in waterbodies listed in next line, below	1) Only artificial lures may be used. 2) Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited.
April 5 at 8 a.m. – Sept. 15	12 inches	2 brown trout	Pequannock River, Van Campens Brook and Wanaque River (Wanaque Reservoir Dam downstream to Wanaque Ave. bridge (Pompton Lakes))	
	9 inches	2 brook or rainbow		
Jan. 1 – April 5 at 8 a.m. and Sept. 16 – Dec. 31	Catch and Release Only		Statewide	
Bear Creek (Southtown) Bear Swamp Brook (Mahwah) Black Brook (Clinton WMA) Burnett Brook (Ralston) Cold Brook (Oldwick) Dark Moon Brook (also known as Bear Brook) (Johnsonburg) Dunfield Creek (Del. Water Gap) Flanders Brook (Flanders) Hance's Brook (Penwell) Hickory Run (Califon) India Brook (source to Mountainside Ave., Mendham)	Indian Grove Brook (Bernardsville) Jackson Brook (source to Hedden Park Lake, Mine Hill Twp.) Ledgewood Brook (Ledgewood) Little York Brook (Little York) Lomerson Brook (also known as Herzog Brook) (Pottersville) Merrill Creek (Stewartsville) Mill Brook (Montague) N/Br. Rockaway Creek (Mountainville) Parker Brook (Stokes S.F.) Passaic River (source to Rt. 202, Bernardsville)	Pequannock River (Oak Ridge Rd. bridge in Newark Watershed, downstream to railroad bridge immediately upstream of Charlottesville Res.) Rhineharts Brook (Hacklebarney S.P.) Rocky Run (Clinton Twp.) Saddle River (state line to Lake St., Upper Saddle River) Stephensburg Creek (Stephensburg) Stony Brook (Stokes S.F.) Stony Brook (Washington Twp., Morris Co.)	Tetertown Brook (Tetertown) Trout Brook (Hacklebarney S.P.) Turkey Brook (Mt. Olive) Van Campens Brook (Del. Water Gap; see Dunfield Ck.) Wanaque River (Wanaque Reservoir Dam downstream to Wanaque Ave. bridge – Pompton Lakes) West Brook (source downstream to Windbeam Club property) Whippany River (source to Tingley Rd., Mendham Twp.) Willoughby Brook (also known as Buffalo Hollow Brook) (Clinton Twp.)	

Fishing Regulations







SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS

Certain waters are closed to fishing for all species from March 17 to April 5, 2008 at 8 a.m. because of trout stocking. Refer to pages 16-18 for complete lists and exceptions. **For Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, see regulations on page 24.**

	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass				
 Largemouth Bass	Jan. 1 — April 14	Statewide (exceptions below)	12"	5 combined
	April 15 — June 15 Catch & Release Only (all waters)	Lunker Bass Lakes: Assunpink, Parvin, Delaware Lakes, Splitrock Reservoir, Boonton Reservoir	15"	3 combined
 Smallmouth Bass	June 16 — Dec. 31	Conservation Regulations: Ryker Lake	15"	2 combined
Northern Pike, Tiger Musky, Muskellunge				
 Northern Pike	March 20 — May 20 Catch & Release only for Echo Lake Reservoir, Mercer Lake, Mountain Lake, Monksville Reservoir	Statewide	24" Northern Pike	2
		Statewide	36" Tiger Musky & Muskellunge	1 combined
 Muskellunge	Open Year Round	Trophy Musky Waters: Mountain & Echo Lake Reservoirs	40" Tiger Musky & Muskellunge	
Chain Pickerel and Redfin Pickerel				
 Chain Pickerel	Open Year Round	Statewide	15"	5 combined
Walleye				
 Walleye	Jan. 1 — Feb 29 March 1 — April 30 Catch & Release Only May 1 — Dec. 31	Statewide	18"	3
Striped Bass (freshwater only) Striped bass regulations are subject to change. Consult our Web site www.NJFishandWildlife.com and the news media for updates.				
 Striped Bass	March 1 — Dec. 31	Statewide	28"	2
Hybrid Striped Bass (freshwater only) Striped bass regulations are subject to change. Consult our Web site www.NJFishandWildlife.com and the news media for updates.				
 Hybrid Striped Bass	Open Year Round	Statewide (exceptions below)	16"	2
	March 1 — Dec. 31	Raritan River downstream of Duke Island Park dam	28"	2

Fishing Regulations

SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS

	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
American Shad				
 American Shad	Open Year Round	Statewide	No minimum size	6
Channel Catfish				
 Channel Catfish	Open Year Round	Statewide	12"	5
Crappie (Black and White)				
 Crappie	Open Year Round	Statewide	8"	10 combined
Banded, Black-banded, Blue Spotted and Mud Sunfish				
 Mud Sunfish	Closed	Statewide	Protected	0
Other Species				
 rock bass, white bass, white perch, yellow perch, sunfish, (see above for sunfish exceptions) bullheads, white catfish, suckers, carp, bowfin See page 10 for protection of small native sunfish.	Open Year Round	Statewide (exceptions below)	No minimum size	25 combined
		Conservation Regulation Ryker Lake	Sunfish 7"	10 combined
			Yellow Perch No minimum size	10
		Conservation Regulation Rainbow Lake (Salem Co.)	Sunfish 7"	10 combined
Freshwater Baitfish (See page 25 for complete description of gear types and restrictions)				
alewife (anadromous and land-locked forms), blueback herring, golden shiner, banded killifish, mummichog, spotfin killifish, rainwater killifish, American brook lamprey, fathead minnow, bluntnose minnow, stonecat, tadpole madtom, margined madtom, all shiners, daces, minnows, gizzard shad and American eel	Open Year Round Exceptions: Baitfish may not be taken in trout stocked waters from March 17 to June 15	Statewide	No minimum except 6" for American eel	35 combined

Warning: Wildlife Hazard!

Please properly dispose of your fishing line.

Plastic debris can endanger aquatic life and snare propellers.



Fishing Regulations

DELAWARE RIVER AND GREENWOOD LAKE

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.

Delaware River

- New Jersey and Pennsylvania fishing licenses are both recognized when fishing the Delaware River from a boat or either shoreline. This applies to the main stem of the river only.
- Anglers may launch a boat from either shore and on return, may have in possession any fish which may be legally taken according to the regulations of the state where the landing is made.
- No more than two rods, each with one line, or two hand lines – or one of each – may be used. No more than three single hooks or three treble hooks per line.
- To protect spawning striped bass, from the Calhoun Street bridge near Trenton downstream to the Commodore Barry Bridge at Bridgeport, non-offset circle hooks must be used when using bait with a #2 sized hook or larger, from April 1 to May 30.
- Spears (not mechanically propelled) and bow and arrows may be used to take shad, eel, carp, sucker, herring and bullhead except within 825 feet of an eel weir. A valid fishing license is required.
- Baitfish may be taken and possessed for personal use and are not to be bartered or sold.

SPECIES	OPEN SEASONS	MINIMUM LENGTH	DAILY LIMIT
Bass, Largemouth & Smallmouth	Jan. 1 - April 11 June 14 - Dec. 31	12"	5 combined
	April 12 - June 13	Catch & Release Only	Catch & Release Only
Eel, American*	open year round	Pennsylvania: 8" (but 6" - 8" for baitfish) New Jersey: 6"	50
Herring, Alewife and Blueback	open year round	no minimum	35 combined
Muskellunge & hybrids	open year round	40"	1
Pickerel, Chain	open year round	12"	5
Pike, Northern	open year round	24"	2
Shad, American	open year round	no minimum	6
Shad, Hickory	closed	—	—
Striped bass & hybrids upstream of Calhoun St. Bridge	March 1– Dec. 31	28"	2
Striped bass & hybrids downstream of Calhoun St. Bridge	March 1– 30 June 1– Dec. 31	28"	2
Sturgeon, Atlantic and Shortnose	closed	—	—
Trout	April 12–Sept. 30	no minimum	5
Walleye	open year round	18"	3
All other freshwater species	open year round	no minimum	No limit
Baitfish*	open year round	no minimum	50

- A listing of fishing access locations along the Delaware River is available at Fish and Wildlife's Web site www.NJfishandWildlife.com, under Freshwater Fishing.
- The newly updated Delaware River Basin Commission recreation maps are available for \$25. An order form is available online at www.state.nj.us/drbc/recreation.htm.
- Information for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is available online at www.nps.gov/dewa/.
- Pennsylvania also enforces an 8-inch minimum on American eel. Eel used as bait must be at least 6 inches and no greater than 8 inches in length.

* Regulations for American eel are different for Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In Pennsylvania, American eel must be 6 to 8 inches in length when harvested as baitfish; otherwise, the minimum size for Pennsylvania is 8 inches, with a limit of 50 for both uses. In New Jersey, American eel must be at least 6 inches in length, with a limit of 50. American eels brought to shore must conform to the regulations of the state (NJ or PA) in which they are landed.

Greenwood Lake

- New York and New Jersey fishing licenses are both recognized anywhere on the lake or along the shoreline.
- Fishing is permitted 24 hours a day.
- In compliance with New York regulations, only certified virus-free baitfish may be transported to, or used on, the portion of Greenwood Lake owned by the State of New York. Anglers are urged to use only certified virus-free baitfish when fishing any portion of Greenwood Lake.
- Bow and arrow fishing for all carp, sucker, herring, catfish and eel is permitted. A valid fishing license is required.
- No more than five tip-ups and two hand-held devices may be used when ice fishing. All devices that are not hand held must be plainly marked with the name and address of the angler.

SPECIES	OPEN SEASONS	MINIMUM LENGTH	DAILY LIMIT
Bass, Largemouth & Smallmouth	Jan 1 - April 14, 2008 June 15 - Nov. 30, 2008	12"	5 combined
	April 15 - June 15, 2008 Dec. 1 - Dec. 31, 2008	Catch & Release Only	Catch & Release Only
Seasons dates reflect a change in bass regulations effective Dec. 1, 2008*			
Catfish, Channel	Open Year Round	12"	5
Crappie, Black & White	Open Year Round	8"	10 combined
Muskellunge & Hybrids	Open Year Round	36"	1
Perch, Yellow	Open Year Round	No minimum	50
Pickerel, Chain	Open Year Round	15"	5
Sunfish	Open Year Round	No minimum	50 combined
Walleye	Jan. 1 - Feb. 28 May 1 - Dec. 31	18"	3
	Open Year Round	No minimum	No limit

* Beginning December 1, 2008 the catch and release season for largemouth and smallmouth bass on Greenwood Lake has been extended from Dec. 1 until the third Saturday in June.

Additional information is available at the New York DEC's Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources Web site at www.dec.ny.gov.

2008 BAITFISH REGULATIONS

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. See separate regulations for Delaware River (p. 24). For marine waters, see Marine Issue of *New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Digest*.

Baitfish Species

Baitfish species: alewife (anadromous and landlocked forms), blueback herring, golden shiner, banded killifish, mummichog, spotfin killifish, rainwater killifish, American brook lamprey, fathead minnow, bluntnose minnow, stonecat, tadpole madtom, margined madtom, all shiners, daces, minnows, chubs and the American eel. **In the Delaware River between New Jersey and Pennsylvania, alewife and blueback herring (anadromous and land-locked forms) are regulated as food fish with a one-day possession limit of 35 in aggregate. (See separate regulations for boundary waters, p. 24)**

Season	Location	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Open Year Round Exception: season closed March 17 through June 15 on trout stocked waters and special regulation trout areas	Statewide (freshwaters)	No minimum size except 6" for American eel	35 per day, species combined

Notes: Any person with a valid fishing license (or those under 16 and those 70 years or older) may take baitfish in fresh waters. Possession limit is one day's limit, regardless of the intent to use these fish. Baitfish may be taken from the fresh waters of the state in numbers greater than 35 per day, in lakes over 250 acres, under a special permit issued by Fish and Wildlife at its discretion. Contact (908) 236-2118 for application information.

Gear	Gear Description
Seine	Not over 50 feet long in ponds & lakes over 100 acres; in all other waters not over 30 feet in length, or half the width of the stream at point of use, whichever is less. Exception: In trout-stocked waters and special regulation trout areas a seine may not be more than 10 feet in length and 4 feet in depth.
Minnow trap	Not larger than 24" in length with a funnel mouth no greater than 2" in diameter.
Umbrella net	No greater than 3.5 feet square.
Dip net	Not more than 24" in diameter; may be used only for alewife or blueback herring.
Cast net	No greater than 8 feet in diameter; may be used only in streams that are not trout-stocked or special regulation trout areas (may not be used in lakes).
Hook and line	Maximum of nine single hooks or three hooks with three burrs per contrivance on all waters except the Delaware River where only three single hooks are permitted.

2008 TURTLE AND FROG REGULATIONS

Species	Season	Location	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Snapping turtle	January 1 – April 30 and June 16 – December 31	statewide	No min. size	3 per day
Bull frog and Green frog	January 1 – March 31 and July 1 – December 31	statewide	No min. size	15 per day combined

Means of Take

Any person with a valid fishing license or those entitled to fish without a license may take snapping turtles, bull frogs, and green frogs by means of spears, hooks, dip nets (not more than 24" in diameter), traps or by hand. Snapping turtles may not be taken with a gun or bow and arrow. Snapping turtles, bull frogs, and green frogs may be taken in numbers greater than the daily limit under a special permit issued by Fish and Wildlife at its discretion. Contact (908) 236-2118 for application information.

State Police Marine Law Enforcement Stations

Bivalve.....	(856) 785-1330
North Wildwood.....	(609) 522-0393
Atlantic City.....	(609) 441-3586
Burlington.....	(609) 387-1221
Ocean.....	(609) 296-5807
Point Pleasant.....	(732) 899-5050
Monmouth Station.....	(732) 842-5171
Lake Hopatcong.....	(973) 663-3400
Newark Bay.....	(973) 578-8173

Motor Boat Title and Boating Operator Requirements

Registration

Most boats must be registered to operate on New Jersey waterways. All titled boats must be registered also. Any boat (including jet skis and non-titled watercraft), mechanically propelled (motorized), regardless of length, must be registered. Boats greater than 12 feet in length, regardless of propulsion means, must be titled and registered at an MVC office.

Boats and marine equipment which **need not** be registered:

- Those not based in New Jersey or operating here less than 180 consecutive days
- Ship's lifeboats
- Non-motorized vessels used exclusively on small lakes and ponds on private property
- Racing vessels with New Jersey State Marine Police permit
- Non-motorized inflatable device, surfboard, racing shell, dinghy, canoe or kayak
- Non-motorized vessel less than 12 feet in length

Title

For use on New Jersey waterways, all boats more than 12 feet in length must be titled, with the exception of ship's lifeboat, canoe, kayak, inflatable, surfboard, rowing scull, racing shell, tender/dinghy used for direct transportation between a vessel and shore for no other purposes.

For more information, visit the MVC Web site at www.nj.gov and click on the Motor Vehicle Commission link, or stop by an MVC office or call (609) 292-6500.

Motor Boat and Jet Ski Operator License

A motorboat/jet ski operator license is required to operate these on fresh, non-tidal waters such as lakes, creeks and rivers for those 16 years or older. Visit the Motor Vehicle Commission Web site or call to verify if you must take a boating safety course.

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission Boat Operators License (888) 486-3339 toll free in NJ or (609) 292-6500 from out-of-state www.nj.gov/mvc/

Boating safety courses: (800) 336-2628 BoatUS Foundation www.BoatUS.com/courseline

For New Jersey State Police, boating laws clarification, call (609) 882-2000, or visit their Marine Services Bureau online at: www.nj.gov/lps/njsp/maritime/index.html

MOTOR BOAT REGISTRATION

OPERATOR REQUIREMENTS

POLICE STATIONS

Fishing License Lines

2008 REGULATIONS

A fishing license is required to fish the fresh waters of the state. Locations listed below mark the change from salt water (license not required) to fresh water. A fishing license is required at and upstream of these locations.

ATLANTIC COUNTY

Absecon Creek—Dam at Lower Atlantic City Reservoir
Great Egg Harbor River—Power lines at confluence of Gravelly Run
Middle River—None—all saline water
Mullica River—Line between Seventh Ave., Sweetwater, and ramp at Crowleys Landing
Nacote Creek—Port Republic dam
Patcong Creek—Bargaintown Lake dam
South River—Power lines immediately below Route 50
Tuckahoe River—First northerly tributary downstream of Rt. 49 bridge (McNeals Branch)

BERGEN COUNTY

Hackensack River—Cedar Lane Bridge between Hackensack and Teaneck
Hudson River—None—all saline water
Passaic River—Required whole length

BURLINGTON COUNTY

Assisunk Creek—Required whole length
Bass River State—Fir Bridge on Stage Road in Bass River State Forest
Batsto River—Required whole length
Blacks Creek—Required whole length
Crosswicks Creek—Required whole length
Delaware River—Required whole length
Mullica River—Line between Seventh Ave., Sweetwater, and ramp at Crowleys Landing
Pennsauken Creek—Required whole length
Pompeston Creek—Required whole length
Rancocas Creek—Required whole length
Swedes Run—Required whole length
Wading River—Charcoal Landing, Chips Folly Campground

CAMDEN COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

CAPE MAY COUNTY

Bidwells Creek—None—all saline water
Cedar Swamp Creek—None—all saline water
Dennis Creek—None—all saline water
East Creek—100 ft. below East Creek Lake dam, Eldora
Tuckahoe River—First northerly tributary downstream of lower Rt. 49 bridge (McNeals Br.)
West Creek—100 feet below West Creek Lake dam (Pickle Factory Pond)

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Andrews Creek—None—all saline water
Back Creek—None—all saline water
Cedar Creek—100 ft. downstream of Cedar Lake dam
Cohansey River—Rt. 49 bridge at Bridgeton
Dividing Creek—Route 555 bridge
Fishing Creek—None—all saline water
Fortescue Cr./Branch of Oranoken Cr.—None—all saline water
Manumuskin Creek—Required whole length
Maurice River—Mouth of Manumuskin Creek near Port Elizabeth
Menantico Creek—Required whole length
Mill Creek—Tributary of Cohansey—Route 553 bridge, Fairton
Muskee Creek—S. side of bridge on Weathersby Road
Nantuxent Creek (Pages Run)—Route 553 north of Frames Corner
Oranoken Creek—Whitecar Mill, North of Beaver dam
Oyster Creek—None—all saline water

Riggins Ditch—Route 47
Sow and Pigs Branch Nantuxent—None—all saline water
Stow Creek—Buckhorn Rd. bridge, Jericho
Straight Creek—None—all saline water
West Creek—100 ft. below West Creek Lake dam (Pickle Factory Pond)

ESSEX COUNTY

Passaic River—Erie Railroad bridge between Newark (at Verona Ave.) and Kearny
Peddie Ditch—None—all saline water

GLOUCESTER COUNTY

Big Timber Creek—Required whole length
Delaware River—Commodore Barry bridge at Bridgeport
Mantua Creek—Required whole length
Oldmans Creek—Route I-295 bridge
Raccoon Creek—Required whole length
Woodbury Creek—Required whole length

HUDSON COUNTY

Hackensack River—None—all saline water
Hudson River—None—all saline water
Passaic River—Railroad bridge between Newark (at Verona Ave.) and Kearny

HUNTERDON COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

MERCER COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Cheesequake Creek—Dam at Cheesequake Lake, Cheesequake State Park
Lawrence Brook—N.J. Turnpike bridge, East Brunswick
Raritan River—Landing Lane bridge, New Brunswick
South River—Route 527 bridge (New Brunswick Old Bridge Tpk.)
Woodbridge River—N.J. Turnpike bridge

MONMOUTH COUNTY

Black Creek—Spillway at Ocean Rd.
Branchport Creek—Mouth of Turtle Mill Brook
Deal Lake—Top of dam
Hockhockson (Pine) Brook—Garden State Parkway Northbound bridge
Little Silver Creek—Little Silver Creek Brook
Manasquan River—Bennetts bridge, Manasquan Wildlife Management Area
Matawan Creek—Lefferts Lake dam
Oceanport Creek—Mouth of Husky Brook
Parkers Creek—Mouth of Parkers Creek Brook
Shark River—Remsen Mills Road
Swimming River—Swimming River Road bridge
Wreck Pond Creek—Rt. 71 bridge

MORRIS COUNTY

License required on all waters

OCEAN COUNTY

Beaver Dam Creek—Route 88
Cedar Creek—Route 9
Cedar Run—Route 9
Dinner Point Creek—None—all saline water
Double Creek—None—all saline water
Forked River—All branches Route 9
Gunning River—None—all saline water

Jakes Branch—Above Atlantic City Blvd.
Jeffreys Creek—Ocean Gate Road to Ocean Gate
Kettle Creek—Route 549
Lake of the Lilies—Entire lake
Long Swamp Creek—Washington Street Bridge, Toms River
Manahawkin Creek—Dams for Manahawkin W.M.A. impoundments bayside
Metedeconk River—Rt. 70 Bridge, Laurelton
Mill Creek—Mouth of Creek at lagoons in Beach Haven West
Mill Creek—Pine Beach—Ocean Gate Road
Oyster Creek—Route 9
Parkers Run—None—all saline water
Potters Creek—None—all saline water
Stouts Creek—None—all saline water
Stouts Creek S. Br.—Bayside East Parkway
Toms River—Garden State Parkway, Northbound bridge
Tuckerton Creek—Dam at Route 9
Waretown Creek—Route 9
West Creek—Route 9

PASSAIC COUNTY

License required on all waters

SALEM COUNTY

Alloway Creek—Route 540 bridge at Alloway
Black Ditch—None—all saline water
Delaware River—None—all saline water
Fishing Creek—None—all saline water
Hope Creek—None—all saline water
Mad Horse Creek—None—all saline water
Mill Creek—None—all saline water
Oldmans Creek—Route I-295 Southbound bridge
Salem River—Dupont dam near Cedar Crest Manor
Salem Canal—Dam at Deepwater
Stow Creek—Buckhorn Rd. bridge, Jericho
Straight Ditch—None—all saline water

SOMERSET COUNTY

License required on all waters

SUSSEX COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

UNION COUNTY

Elizabeth River—West Grand St., Elizabeth
Great Ditch—None—all saline water
Morses Creek—Old Morses Mill Rd.
Oyster Creek—None—all saline water
Peddie Ditch—None—all saline water
Piles Creek—None—all saline water
Rahway River—Lawrence St. (Rt. 514), Rahway

WARREN COUNTY

License required on Delaware River and all other waters

IMPORTANT FOOTNOTES:

1. Absence of a river, creek, brook or other waterway from this list does not make it exempt from requiring a license to fish the fresh waters.
2. Names of waters conform to those given on the United States Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Topographic Series Maps.