New Jersey
Freshwater Fishing Digest
January 2020

Season Dates, Size & Creel Limits
page 26

A Summary of Regulations and Freshwater Fisheries Management Information
NJFishandWildlife.com
Bosses of the Bass

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License Information & Fees 2020
Licenses and fishing-related permits are valid from date of purchase to Dec. 31 of each year.

LICENSES
Resident Fishing
  Ages 16–64 yrs. ................................................................. $22.50
  Senior Resident Fishing
  Ages 65–69 yrs. ................................................................. $12.50
  70 & over ........................................................................ Free
Resident Trout Stamp
  Ages 16–69 yrs. ................................................................. $10.50
Non-resident Fishing
  Age 16 yrs. and older ........................................................ $314
  (Buddy License* $17.50)
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
  (Buddy License* $62.50)

*See page 17 for details about the money-saving Buddy Fishing License!

PERMITS
Boat Ramp Permit .................................................................................. $15
  Available online or through license agents
Water Lowering, Fish Stocking,
Baitfish Collecting, Fish Tagging Permits ............................................. $2
Scientific Collecting Permits ...................................................................... $22
  Available through the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries
  (908) 236-2118
Commercial Snapping Turtles and Frog Permits
  Available through the Trenton Office
  (609) 984-0530

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

2020 Trout Stocking Schedule
Scan this QR code with your mobile device to view New Jersey’s 2020 trout stocking schedule or go to
NJFishandWildlife.com/trtinfo.htm

Scan this QR code with your mobile device for a direct link to NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife’s website or visit:
NJFishandWildlife.com

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Facebook.com/NJFishandWildlife

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 08625-0420. 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.
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 (NJSSRRP).

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

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Fish and Wildlife 2020 Calendar of Events

- **Fisheries Forums**
  - north, January 18; page 9
  - south, February 22; page 9

- **Trout Meeting**
  - February 29; page 9

- **Opening Day of Trout Season**
  - April 11; page 18

- **FREE Fishing Days**
  - June 6, Oct. 17; page 14

- **Fall trout stocking**
  - begins Oct. 6

- **Winter Trout Stocking**
  - November 23 and 24

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Law Enforcement Offices

- **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)

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State of New Jersey
Philip D. Murphy, Governor
Sheila Y. Oliver, Lieutenant Governor

Department of Environmental Protection
Catherine R. McCabe, Commissioner

Office of Natural and Historic Resources
Ray Bukowski, Assistant Commissioner

Division of Fish and Wildlife
Dave Golden, Director
Paulette Nelson, Assistant Director
Joe Cimino, Administrator, Marine Fisheries

John Hefferty, Chief, Endangered and Nongame Species
Lisa Barro, Chief, Freshwater Fisheries

Al Ivory, Chief, Information and Education

Jason Hearon, Chief, Land Management

J. Sean Cianciulli, Chief, Law Enforcement

Jeff Brust, Chief, Marine Fisheries

Russell Babb, Chief, Shellfisheries

Carole Stanko, Chief, Wildlife Management

Cindy Kuenstner, Editor

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife is a professional, environmental organization dedicated to the protection, management and wise use of the state’s fish and wildlife resources.

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New Jersey Fish and Wildlife Councils

- **Fish and Game Council**
  - Frank Virgilio, Acting Chair
  - Phillip Brodhecker
  - Joe DeMartino
  - Jim DeStefhan
  - August Gudmundsson
  - Dr. Rick Lathrop
  - Jeffrey A. Link
  - Robert Pollock
  - Loren Robinson
  - Ken Wildlin

- **FREE Fishing Days**
  - June 6, Oct. 17; page 14

- **Waterfowl Stamp Advisory Committee**
  - Robert VonSuskil, Chair
  - Scott Barnes
  - Joseph DeMartino
  - Mike Kantor
  - Scott Paterson
  - Mike Shanahan
  - Jim A. Shissias
  - Dr. Lenore Tedesco
  - Ken Wildlin

- **Endangered and Nongame Species Advisory Committee**
  - Dr. Rick Lathrop, Chair
  - Dr. James Applegate
  - Dr. Barbara Brummer
  - Dr. Joanna Burger
  - Dr. Emie DeVito
  - Howard Geduldig
  - Dr. Erica Miller
  - Dr. David Mizrahi
  - Jane Morton-Galletto
  - Dr. Howard Reintert
  - James Shissias

- **Wildlife Rehabilitators Advisory Committee**
  - Diane Nickerson, Chair
  - Phillip Brodhecker
  - Giselle Chazotte-Smisko
  - Lisa DeLambert
  - Carol Dragnad
  - Heather Freeman
  - Tracy Leaver
  - Dr. Erica Miller
  - Dr. Jennifer Norton

Atlantic Coast Shellfish Council
John J. Maxwell, Chair
Walter L. Johnson, III, Vice Chair

Delaware Bay Shellfish Council
Warren Hollinger, Chair
Stephen J. Fleetwood, Vice Chair
Richard Malinowski

Marine Fisheries Council
Richard N. Herb, Acting Chair
Dr. Eleanor Ann Boothen
Warren Hollinger
John J. Maxwell
Sergio Radossi
Joe Rizzo

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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.
Your License Dollars Make a Difference!
Angler-funded partnership improves New Jersey fishing

When you purchase fishing equipment in New Jersey, excise tax dollars – paid by manufacturers of fishing equipment – come back to New Jersey to support freshwater fisheries! This is the federal Sport Fish Restoration Program.

*Your* license fees and federal Sport Fish Restoration dollars produce the following benefits:
- Management of public waters
- Production of the sport fish stocked in public waters
- Development and management of public fishing areas
- Creation of aquatic education programs
- Development and maintenance of boating-associated access facilities throughout the state.
With so much happening around freshwater fishing in New Jersey, it’s hard to capture all the highlights in a single Digest edition. The Division of Fish and Wildlife staff continues to work throughout the state to stock fish, enhance aquatic habitats and improve fishing access. Last year our hatchery staff stocked more than 6.2 million fish in New Jersey’s public waterbodies. Anglers can expect the same opportunities in 2020.

No matter where you live in the Garden State, there are places to fish close to home. Will you fish today for wild brookies or for hatchery-raised, stocked trout? For largemouth bass or muskies? Who will you join you fishing? Are you that person looking for solitude or a respite from work by fishing alone? Will you take the kids? Or are you heading out with friends to see who can catch the biggest keeper? Your opportunities are limited only by the kind of fishing experience you want to have.

People approach fishing in many ways. The smiles on the faces of the storytellers on page 6 of this Digest are proof that it’s enjoyable no matter how it’s done. Big fish or small fish, adult or child — it’s all about getting outside and having fun!

The pages of this Digest are packed with information to enhance your fishing experience including a guide to help you identify your catch, detailed regulations and stocking information that describe the what, when and where that surround fishing opportunities in New Jersey. To help sort out all this good information, check out the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on page 10. Maybe one of your pressing questions is answered. I’m certain you’ll find the information to be useful.

Increasing participation in fishing is a major priority for the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife and several programs are in place to attract new anglers. Kids under the age of 16 are not required to get a fishing license in New Jersey, so be sure to encourage them to come fishing with you. While making great memories, you’ll also be developing our future sportsmen and sportswomen.

For those over 16-years old who might want to give fishing a try before buying a license, New Jersey offers two Free Fishing Days: June 6 and Oct. 17, 2020. No license is required to fish on these two dates. When it’s time to buy a license, our Buddy License Program offers big discounts for anglers (resident or non-resident) who have not purchased a fishing license since 2010 (see page 17). Finally, our new electronic licensing system allows for easy, online purchasing of fishing licenses and trout stamps. If you have never used our online system to purchase your license, our new system makes it easier than ever so this is the year to give it a try.

Among the many things to do outdoors in New Jersey, fishing has been my longtime favorite. Sharing time with friends afield and sharing the fish tales that come afterward all begin with making that initial decision to get outside. Rain or shine, spring or fall, those fish are out there waiting for you. Now go outside and get ‘em! .

Dave Golden is the Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife.
Oswego County
NEW YORK
WHERE THERE’S NO NEED TO EXAGGERATE YOUR FISHING STORIES
YOUR TRIP STARTS AT
VISITOSWEGOCOUNTY.COM
CLAIMING 12 NYS and WORLD RECORDS
We can relate! In the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries, although we may serve as a conservation biologist, a habitat specialist, a stocking coordinator or a fishing educator, we never lose sight of what initially inspired us to pursue our career: a deep appreciation of being outdoors enjoying the woods and waters. Whether it is camping and hiking, birdwatching, hunting or fishing, we all have our favorite memories.

Anglers were invited to share a memorable day while fishing in the Garden State.

Can you relate to their excitement?

The best part about living and fishing in New Jersey is the opportunity to target so many different species. I purposely use techniques and strategies that target multiple species, depending on the lake and season.

This fish is a great example. We were targeting lake trout — and catching many nice ones — when I caught this smallmouth bass. The anticipation of nice-sized bass joining the party was in the back of our minds, adding to the excitement of the great lake trout fishing.

The variety of species and high potential for a surprise trophy catch is my single, favorite aspect of New Jersey fishing.

I do love to travel to fish for the species that New Jersey doesn’t have, but as a multi-species angler, I can’t think of a better fishing “home base” than the northern half of New Jersey!

Chris P.
In early April I was fishing with my buddy, Capt. Dave V, on a small northern lake. While most fishermen were trout fishing, Dave was casting for muskies. Due to a work-related injury, I set my sights on a nice, pre-spawn bass.

When the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife trout stocking truck arrived, a few boats made a bee-line towards it. Instead, we headed for deeper water where I made my first cast with a 3/4 oz. XR-50 Rattle bait. Letting it sink for a count of four, I tightened the line and made a sharp pull, yo-yoing the bait. On the second pull the rod bounced, then it felt like I was snagged... in 18 feet of open water? No, I was hooked into a pre-spawn muskie — and a big one at that!

Playing her to the boat, I loosened the drag slightly and led her towards the net. After a quick netting we were jumping and high-fiving! The unexpected female was huge: 46 inches and between 28–30 pounds. The kicker was that four months later, I caught another, smaller muskie using the same, exact set up!

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For his third birthday in January of 2019, my youngest son Tyler received his first fishing pole. When warmer weather arrived, he was very excited to use it for the first time. He practiced — both indoors and out — casting and reeling. I took him out early one April morning when he quickly caught his first fish on the new pole.

By his smile you can see how proud he is. This photo is one of my favorites as it shows the joy we can have by simply getting outdoors and enjoying what New Jersey has to offer. I take pride in passing down fishing and hunting to my children, just as my father did for my brothers and me.

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On Mother’s Day 2019, I took my 86-year-old mother fishing at my childhood pond. She had never been fishing and caught 15 bluegills! I will never forget it. My dad, who is deceased, taught me how to fish at this same pond.

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This is my daughter Lily’s first fish. She came out on a very cold morning (Her Disney Frozen attire was appropriate) for Opening Day of Trout Season. She was determined, stayed focused and eventually was able to land this beauty.

It’s special to experience, with my children, the outdoor recreation New Jersey provides, the same way my father did with me. She was so proud of this catch and still is today. The framed photo is still proudly displayed next to her bed.

Jeff S.

When my 4-year-old grandson Vinny caught his first fish on June 23, 2019, a bluegill sunfish, he became a fifth-generation sport fisherman in our family, a tradition now spanning three centuries. My two grandfathers, both born in the 1890s, were avid New Jersey fishermen since their early years. My dad’s father taught him to fish; both grandfathers, along with my dad, taught my brother and me.

Like Vinny, I was 4 when I caught my first fish — with my grandfather’s help. When I had twin boys of my own (and a daughter), born in the 1990s, I taught them. I was thrilled to help Vinny catch his first fish! Our family fishing tradition continues. I hope to be around to see a sixth generation New Jersey fisherman in our family.

James W.

I want to thank the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife for the outstanding job you are all doing to establish and maintain the pike fishing in the Passaic River. I’m 43 years old and have been fishing in New Jersey since I was 6. I’m an avid fisherman and have fished all over North America, Canada and the Caribbean. I travel often to the Adirondacks for smallmouth and pike fishing.

I can’t believe how incredible the pike fishing is here in my own backyard. I started fishing the Passaic River just this summer and I am completely blown away by this amazing pike fishery. I’m literally in disbelief at the numbers and size of fish I’m catching. Ever since I was a kid, I dreamed of catching pike like this. When I travel to the Adirondacks, I’m lucky if I catch a few of these beautiful fish over the course of several days.

This is absolutely a world class fishery that the Division of Fish and Wildlife has established, and I (as well as all New Jersey anglers) am so grateful for the work you are doing. I can only hope that your pike stocking program continues like this for years to come as I plan to introduce my son to the thrill of catching one of these incredible fish.

Leonard Parra
Freshwater Fisheries Forums and Trout Meeting

North Jersey Fisheries Forum
January 18, 2020; 10 a.m., Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery

South Jersey Fisheries Forum
February 22, 2020; 10 a.m., Batsto Village Visitor’s Center in Wharton State Forest

Trout Meeting
February 29, 2020; 10 a.m., Pequest Trout Hatchery

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 (helpful, but not required) please call (908) 236-2118 or send an email to njfwfish@dep.nj.gov. Emails should include name, address, phone number and number of people attending.

Presented by NJ Department of Environmental Protection’s Division of Fish and Wildlife. Go to www.njfishandwildlife.com/bfwf_forums.htm for updates.

Nick Ruberto, Senior Wildlife Worker, stocked landlocked salmon like this beauty from our Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery.
When will Fish and Wildlife restore stocking of Brown (and/or Brook) Trout?

This may be the most frequently asked question in recent years. Brown trout will be reintroduced to the Pequest Hatchery once the raceways are covered. Although there are select strains of brown trout that are resistant to furunculosis — the disease that necessitated euthanizing nearly 230,000 trout at Pequest — it’s important to know that other pathogens also pose a potential fish health threat. Covering the raceways is the best protection we can provide for the hatchery’s valuable fish stock. Covers prevent pathogens from being introduced by birds that regularly prey on raceway trout despite the numerous deterrent devices already in place. There are no plans to bring back brook trout. However, in the future, Fish and Wildlife may investigate other trout strains to provide a diverse fishing experience for our coldwater anglers.

Is a license needed to fish private waters? Or in tidal waters?

Yes, a fishing license required to fish all fresh waters of the state, including private and tidal waters. However, when fishing below or downstream of the designated freshwater license boundary line (designated locations where a river changes from freshwater to saltwater) a fishing license is not required. See page 32 for the fishing license boundary line for designated waters.

Do I need a trout stamp if I don’t keep the trout I catch?

Yes, a valid fishing license and trout stamp are both required to fish for or possess trout and salmon for all anglers (resident and non-resident) age 16 and over plus residents under age 70. No license or trout stamp is required for residents age 70 years and over.

May I stock bass or other fish in my local pond or other water?

In most cases, stocking of fish is not necessary and can be detrimental to the fishery. Since largemouth bass and sunfish reproduce naturally in most waterbodies, stocking is usually not necessary. Stocking fish on top of an existing fishery can cause it to become unbalanced and overpopulated, resulting in lots of small, stunted fish. A stocking permit is required before any fish may be introduced into a waterway and will only be approved if fisheries biologists determine that stocking is beneficial to the fishery. The Division of Fish and Wildlife typically handles stocking of waters open to the public for fishing after biologists complete an assessment of the existing fish population and it is determined stocking would be beneficial such as to bolster a weak year class, to re-establish a population or to create new fisheries.

Is a permit needed to stock fish in my pond? Or in a local lake?

Yes and yes. The stocking of any fish species (or their eggs) into any water, requires a permit from the Division of Fish and Wildlife, regardless of ownership. That includes waters owned by the state, a municipality, private property, a lake owner association and all other waterbodies. If you belong to a private lake association, please check that your organization has received the proper state permit. The permit protects against stocking exotic fish species, assures that healthy fish are purchased only from an approved source and that the quantity and species are appropriate for the waterbody. A Fish Stocking Permit application only costs $2.
Do I need a license to help a child to fish?

That depends on the level of assistance. For baiting a hook or netting and unhooking a fish, a license is not required. If you cast, retrieve or fight the fish for a child, a license is required.

I have a fishing license. May I fish anywhere in a stream or lake?

A fishing license does not include the right to trespass. In New Jersey, property rights are assigned to the landowner — the key part being land. When wading in a stream or standing along a shoreline to fish, you may do so only from property that is open to the public; if not, you must have permission from the landowner. The same applies for launching a boat or kayak. However, while in a boat or kayak, and not standing on the bottom (land) of the stream or lake, you are allowed to fish and navigate anywhere in the water. Remember, getting out of a boat or kayak must be at a location open to the public unless you have previous permission from the landowner. Fish and Wildlife urges all anglers and boaters to be respectful of private property and to be courteous to landowners.

Where can I find information about places to go fishing?

To find places to fish in New Jersey, visit our website at https://www.NJFishandWildlife.com/fishplic.htm to find a list of waterbodies, by county, open to the public. Information includes the acreage, type of boat access and whether the use of an outboard is allowed. For trout fishing, visit https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/accesswater.htm. Specific driving directions are included for several access points on trout-stocked waters.

I caught a snakehead/flathead catfish/invasive species. May I release it?

No. The northern snakehead and flathead catfish are two of the 10 fish species listed as Potentially Dangerous Fish. (See Digest page 17). The possession or release of live potentially dangerous fish is prohibited. Anglers must destroy these species if encountered while fishing and are directed to submit a specimen or email a photo to NJFWFISH@dep.nj.gov or call the Lebanon Field Office at (908) 236-2118.

I found many dead fish along the bank of my favorite pond. What should I do?

For large numbers of dead fish (at least 50 or more), immediately call (877) WARN-DEP. Next, call any Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries field office: (908) 236-2118 for north Jersey, (609) 259-6964 for central Jersey and (856) 629-4950 for south Jersey. Report the estimated number of fish, location, fish species and general size (all small, all large or a mix), plus the location within the waterway (as specific as possible) as well as any odd coloration or odor of the water.

What should I do if I catch a fish that looks diseased?

Do NOT release a fish that looks ill or diseased! Please keep the fish and report it to our fish pathologist at (908) 637-4173 ext. 120 or to any of the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries offices at (908) 236-2118 for north Jersey, (609) 259-6964 for central Jersey and (856) 629-4950 for south Jersey.
I purchased my license online but it would not print. How do I get my license?

For difficulty printing in the new license system, FIRST ensure that your version of Adobe Acrobat Reader is current. Otherwise, log out then log in again to the system and choose “Reprint Documents.” Look for pop-up PDF. If that fails to print your license, call Aspira at (888) 773-8450 for additional assistance.

Are fish safe to eat?

Fish are an excellent source of protein and other essential nutrients, are low in fat and cholesterol and can play a role in maintaining a healthy diet. However, some species of fish, or species in certain waters, may contain high levels of environmental contaminants. The NJDEP provides guidance on limitations to consumption. Moderation is important. Be aware that certain waterbodies may have different advisories than the general advisories. Refer to https://www.state.nj.us/dep/dsr/njmainfish.htm for the most current information on consumption advisory for the waterbodies you fish.

What should be done when I see people fishing without a license? Keeping short fish? Keeping fish over the limit?

Never confront a suspected violator. Instead, contact the appropriate Fish and Wildlife regional Law Enforcement Office, (908) 735-8240 for north Jersey, (609) 259-2120 for central Jersey, and (856) 629-0555 for south Jersey. Weekdays after 4 p.m., or on weekends, call (877) WARNDEP to report the violation. Be sure to include your name and phone number so a conservation police officer can contact you directly if more information is needed.

What are the regulations for crayfish?

Crayfish are currently not regulated or protected under the state Fish and Game Code except within the Delaware Water Gap Natural Recreation Area where the use of crayfish, clams, mussels, reptiles or amphibians as bait when fishing is prohibited unless it is a commercially produced, preserved and packaged product.
Can I use as bait the sunfish I caught when fishing for a muskie/pike/walleye?

Once in your possession, the sunfish you catch may be used as bait. Sunfish used as bait still count towards an angler’s daily possession limit. If you caught 25 sunfish and use two as bait, you are still considered to have possessed 25 sunfish. Since sunfish are not considered baitfish, they may only be harvested by hook-and-line, not by other bait-collecting methods like a seine or minnow trap. Additionally, sunfish used as bait may only be used in the waterbody in which they were harvested. As it is illegal to transfer fish from one waterbody to another.

Where can I get a map of the lake I fish?

A list of lake maps can be found by visiting our website at https://NJFishandWildlife.com/lakemaps.htm. Click on the lake name to view a printable topographical map of the lake.

I need to change the name on my license due to marriage/divorce/etc. How is that handled?

For assistance in changing your name in our licensing system please call the Division’s General Information line in Trenton (609) 292-2963 and you will be forwarded to the appropriate staff to assist you.

What are the license requirements for the Delaware River?

License requirements for the Delaware River varies depending on the section of the river you fish and whether it is saltwater. See the rules governing the Delaware River on page 29 of this Digest.
New Jersey’s FREE Freshwater Fishing Days

June 6 and Oct. 17, 2020

NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife has split the Free Fishing Days. The first will be held on June 6, 2020 during the summer as is traditional. This day is part of the National Fishing and Boating Week which highlights the importance of recreational boating and fishing to enhance peoples’ quality of life and to preserve our country’s natural beauty. The second Free Fishing Day will occur after fall trout stocking on October 17, 2020 to bring attention to this great fishing opportunity. On these two days, only residents may fish New Jersey’s public fresh waters without a license or trout stamp. All other regulations, including size and daily catch limits, remain in effect.

Trout in the Classroom (TIC)

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) is a science-based program that teaches children the importance of coldwater conservation through a hands-on learning approach. More than 40,000 New Jersey students participate in the TIC program annually. Schools receive trout eggs in October from our Pequest Trout Hatchery. Students hatch and raise the trout, monitor water quality, learn fish biology, anatomy and much more as part of this cross-curricular, hands-on format. At the end of the school year students release their fish into approved streams. Trout in the Classroom is an exciting, inexpensive program enlivening year-round curricula nationwide. For more information about the TIC program, visit NJFishandWildlife.com/tic.htm.

Display Your License: It’s the Law!

Show your support of Fish and Wildlife activities and programs.

Call (856) 629-0552
Leave your name and address to receive an application.
Or visit our website: NJFishandWildlife.com

Hunter Education Program

Continue the Tradition!
Become an instructor with Fish and Wildlife’s Hunter Education Program.
Our Hunter Education Unit is looking for New Jersey’s best sportsmen and sportswomen to become instructors at locations where students take the test and field course after first having completed the home study portion. A minimum of six weekend days each year are required.
ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY
Where the PROS GO TO FISH
Not quite Canada, but pretty close!

VOTED #1 BASS FISHERY

June 26–July 1, 2020
MAJOR LEAGUE FISHING
Ogdensburg

July 23–26, 2020
BASSMASTER ELITE
Waddington

July 30–August 1, 2020
ST. LAWRENCE INTERNATIONAL
JR. CARP TOURNAMENT

August 20–22, 2020
FISHING LEAGUE WORLDWIDE
Massena

August 29–30, 2020
BASS FISHING LEAGUE
Massena

Plan your next fishing trip at:
www.VisitSTLC.com • 1-877-228-7810
visit: www.fishcap.net for full schedule of events

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**New Jersey National Guard**

Only New Jersey National Guard personnel in good standing are entitled to free sporting licenses, permits and stamps. These privileges are not available using Fish and Wildlife’s website. However, the NJ Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs can issue fishing licenses through their DMV website at www.nj.gov/military/iasd/fishing.html. For all other free sporting licenses, call (609) 530-6866, email robert.greco@dmv.nj.gov, or write to: MSG (Ret.) Robert Greco, NJ DMV, 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648.

**Disabled Veterans Licenses, Stamps and Permits**

Free hunting and fishing licenses, stamps and permits are available for resident veterans with a service-connected disability.

For the purposes of this program, legislation defines disabled veterans as “…any resident of New Jersey who has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active service from any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and who has been declared by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, or its successor, to have a service-connected disability of any degree…”

New applicant disabled veterans may obtain their hunting and fishing licenses and stamps at the following Fish and Wildlife field offices:

- Southern Region Office, Sicklerville, Camden Co., (856) 629-0552

Applications for disabled veteran certification may be made via mail by sending the application and all required documentation to: NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, Attn: Disabled Veteran Licensing, MC 501-03, PO Box 420 Trenton, NJ 08625-0420. All licenses, stamps and permits for which the veteran is eligible will be free of charge. This does not give preferential treatment in any lottery. For questions call (609) 984-6213.

**Disabled Veteran Applicants:**

1. 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 disabled veteran certification.

2. Applicant must provide a hunter education course certificate applicable to the license for which he or she is applying or a previously issued resident archery or firearm license or rifle permit. Resident licenses from other states will be accepted if the license indicates the sporting arm for which it was valid. Non-resident licenses from other states are not acceptable.

3. To obtain the free disabled veteran deer/turkey permits one must first have a free disabled veteran hunting license.

**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 (except on the Delaware River. There is no rod limit when fishing from a boat except for the Delaware River.) For the Delaware River the three rod limit applies both to boat and shoreline anglers (see page 28).

- 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.

**New Jersey Fishing License**

A valid New Jersey fishing license is required for residents at least 16 years and less than 70 years of age (plus all non-residents 16 years and older) to fish the fresh waters of New Jersey, including privately owned waters. See page 17 for information on the money-saving Buddy Fishing License, coming to Internet sales in 2020.

For fishing-related license and permit fees, see page 1.

- Resident anglers age 70 and over do not require a fishing license. A driver license or other acceptable proof of age containing date of birth and physical description will serve as the actual fishing license. Non-residents 70 and over must purchase a 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 at least the previous six months to obtain a resident fishing 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.

- Anyone convicted of a second fish or wildlife violation in this or another state within a period of five years will have his or her New Jersey sporting licenses revoked for a minimum of two years.

**Trout Stamps**

A valid fishing license and trout stamp are both required to fish for or possess trout and salmon for all anglers (residents and non-residents) 16 and over, and residents under the age of 70. No trout stamp is required for residents age 70 years and over.

**Purchasing a License**

Licenses may be purchased by phone at (888) 773-8450, online at www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com or at license agents such as sporting goods stores plus bait and tackle shops. Call first to be sure the agent’s system is active. Visit NJFishandWildlife.com 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.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com or by phone at (888) 773-8450.

**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 fishing license.

**For the Blind**

Residents afflicted with total blindness may obtain a free license. Call (609) 292-2965 for an application.

**Bow and Arrow Fishing**

Carp (including bighead, common and grass), eels, flathead catfish, American shad (Delaware River only), gizzard shad, snakeheads and suckers or hybrids of these species—may be taken at any time by use of a bow and arrow (with a line attached to the arrow) when in possession of a valid fishing license. Crossbows may be used when bowfishing except for Greenwood Lake. Crossbows must have a stock length of at least 25 inches, a minimum draw pull weight of 75 pounds and a working safety. Crossbows must be uncocked during transport or when not actively fishing. They may not be permanently mounted. Anglers should be aware that some municipalities have banned the discharge of bow and arrow, tethered arrow or not. As such, anglers are strongly urged to check with the waterbody owner and/or individual municipality prior to engaging in bowfishing. See regulations for the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, pages 28–30.

**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 when fishing through the ice. 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 ½-inch from point to shaft;
2. An artificial jigging lure with not more than one burr of three hooks that measure not more than ½-inch from point to shaft;
3. An artificial jigging lure with not more than three single hooks measuring not more than ½-inch from point to shaft;
4. An artificial jigging 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 jigging lures. All devices that are not hand-held cannot be left unattended.

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

Potentially Dangerous Fish
The possession or release of five, potentially dangerous fish is prohibited. These species (see page 44) include Asian swamp eel, bighead, grass (diploid) and silver carp, brook stickleback, green sunfish, flathead catfish, oriental weatherfish, snakehead and warmouth. Anglers MUST destroy these species if encountered while fishing and should submit specimen(s) or photos to a Fish and Wildlife Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries biologist for verification. To reach a biologist, call (908) 236-2118 for north Jersey or (609) 259-6964 for central Jersey or (856) 629-4950 for south Jersey. These non-native species are likely to cause environmental harm to the state’s fisheries resources by outcompeting preferred game fish species. Common carp are an invasive species but are NOT classified as a potentially dangerous fish and do not have to be destroyed.

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

Stocking Fish
A permit is required to stock fish or fish eggs into any waters of the state, public or private, at any time. An application may be obtained by contacting the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries 908-236-2118. It is ILLEGAL to stock carp or koi into any waters. No trout may be used as bait or stocked within the PEQUEST RIVER DRAINAGE except by the Pequest Trout Hatchery.

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 Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries 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.

Summary of Fishing Regulations

Water Supply Reservoirs Open To Fishing By Permit Only
Permits must be obtained from the specific reservoir owner listed below. A valid fishing license is also required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waterbody</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Type of Fishing</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Permit Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newark-Pequannock Watershed Reservoirs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Echo Lake</td>
<td>Passaic</td>
<td>Boat &amp; Shoreline</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Newark Watershed reservoir permits available in person only at these locations: City of Newark 223 Echo Lake Road, Newfoundland, NJ 07435 (873) 697-1724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinton Reservoir</td>
<td>Morris</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Ridge Reservoir</td>
<td>Morris</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canistear Reservoir</td>
<td>Sussex</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oradell Reservoir</td>
<td>Bergen</td>
<td>Shoreline only</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>United Water Company 461 From Rd. Paramus, NJ 07652 Suez Watershed Application (201) 767-9300 x3208 <a href="http://www.suezwatershed.com">www.suezwatershed.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodcliff Lake</td>
<td>Bergen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Tappan Reservoir</td>
<td>Bergen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake DeForest</td>
<td>Bergen</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Buddy Fishing License*
Now, saving almost 50% on your fishing license is easier than ever!

$ave Close to 50%
• Discount price is offered to both license buyers in the buddy team.
• BOTH anglers must be present at the time of purchase.
• Disabled veterans, National Guard personnel, senior license buyers (age 65 and over) and residents over 70 (licensed not required) are not eligible for the “Fishing Buddy” license as they already receive special discount pricing.

Pass on the tradition and we will pass on the Savings!

Buddy Licenses coming to Internet sales in 2020. Our new license system simplifies the buddy license purchase. Fishing Buddy price is only $11.75, saving more than $10 off the regular license fee! For eligibility requirements and more information, visit www.NJFishandWildlife.com/fishbuddy.htm

* License fees page 1; license info page 16.
2020 General Trout Fishing Information

- Opening day of trout season: Saturday, April 11, 2020 at 8 a.m.
- To fish for trout or salmon, a valid New Jersey 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.
- All Brook Trout caught within the “Brook Trout Conservation Zone” must be immediately released unharmed. The zone consists of all waters within the northwest region of the state, where most remaining wild Brook Trout populations occur. The Conservation Zone includes all waters west of I-287 and north of Rt 202, extending to, but not including the Delaware River. See map on page 23.
- Waters stocked with trout in the spring are listed below (those with no in-season closures) AND on page 20 (those with in-season closures).

Note: Special regulations may apply on some of these waters, or sections thereof.

- During the three weeks prior to opening day, all ponds, lakes or sections of streams listed are stocked with trout, except Trophy Trout Lakes. These waters are closed to fishing for all species from March 23 to April 11 at 8 a.m. Exceptions: Lake Hopatcong, Mountain Lake, Lake Shenandoah, Lawrence Brook (section from Davidson’s Mill Rd. to Flemington Lake dam), Prosperstown Lake and Swartswood Lake are open year round to fishing. However, all trout caught during this period (above) must be released immediately. Seasonal and Year-round Trout Conservation Areas and designated Holdover Trout Lakes (see pages 21–23) 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 11, 2020. Round Valley and Merrill Creek Reservoirs (Trophy Trout Lakes) are open to year-round fishing; trout may be harvested within the regulations as shown on page 23.
- After opening day, trout stocked waters are open to fishing, including the days they are stocked, unless specifically listed with in-season closures (page 20). In-season closures also apply to designated Seasonal Trout Conservation Areas (page 21).
- 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 caught trout are immediately returned to the water unharmed.
- When fishing from the shoreline, no more than three fishing rods, hand lines or combination thereof may be used. 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 With No In-Season Fishing Closures

After opening day, these waters may be fished on the day they are stocked.

Note: All waters listed are stocked with trout pre-season (three-week period preceding opening day) except Round Valley and Merrill Creek reservoirs. The number in parentheses shows the anticipated number of in-season stockings (April 13 through May 29). A zero indicates the water will be stocked only during pre-season. For weekly updates on stocking details, call the Trout Hotline’s recorded message at (609) 633-6765. (Spring stocking: April–May; Fall stocking: October; Winter stocking: November.) Or visit NJFishandWildlife.com where you will also find directions to public-access portions of trout-stocked waters.

Atlantic County
Birch Grove Park Ponds — Northfield (3)
Hammonton Lake — Town of Hammonton (3)
Heritage Pond — Absecon (3)

Bergen County
Dahner’s Lake — Garfield (4)
Hackensack River — Lake Tappan to Harriet Ave., Harrington Park Borough (4)
Hohokus Brook — Parsons Pond Rd., Franklin Lakes Borough to Saddle River (4)
Indian Lake — Little Ferry Borough (4)
Mill Pond (aka Silver Lake) — Park Ridge Borough (3)
Pascack Brook — Woodcliff Lake dam to Emerson Rd., Harrington Park Borough (4)
Potash Lake — Oakland (3)

Saddle River — Lake St. Upper Saddle River to West Century Rd., Fair Lawn (5)
Tenakill Brook — Closter Borough, entire length (3)
Whites Pond — Waldwick Borough (4)

Burlington County
Crystal Lake — Willingboro Twp. (4)
Laurel Pond — Mt. Laurel Twp. (3)
Pemberton Lake — Pemberton Twp. (3)
Rancocas Creek, Southwest Br. — Mill St. Park to Rt. 70, Medford Twp. (4)
Sylvan Lake — Burlington Township (3)

Camden County
Gloucester City Pond — Gloucester (4)
Grenloch Lake (see Gloucester County)
Haddon Lake — Audubon Borough (0)
Oak Pond — Sickleville, Winslow Twp. (3)
Rowards Lake — Clementon Borough (3)

Cape May County
Ponderlodge Pond — Villas, Lower Twp. (4)
Tuckahoe Lake — Tuckahoe, Upper Twp. (4)

Cumberland County
Cohansey River — Dam at Seeleys Pond to powerline above Sunset Lake, Upper Deerfield Twp. (4)
Giapietro Park Lake — Vineland (0)
Mary Elmer Lake — Bridgeton (3)
Maurice River — Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherwood Ave., Vineland (4)
Shaws Mill Pond — Down/Lawrence Twp. (3)
South Vineland Park Pond — Vineland (3)

Essex County
Branch Brook Park Lake — Newark (4)
Diamond Mill Pond — Millburn Twp. (3)
Railway River, W/B. — Campbells Pond to Essex St., Millburn Twp. (3)
Verona Lake — Verona Twp. (4)

Gloucester County
Greenwich Lake — Greenwich Twp. (3)
Grenloch Lake — Washington Twp. (3)
Harrisonville Lake — Pilesgrove/South Harrison Twp. (3)
Iona Lake — Franklin Twp. (3)
Swedesboro Lake (aka Narraticon Lake) — Borough of Swedesboro (3)
Westville Lake — Westville (0)

Hudson County
North Hudson Park Lake — (aka) J Braddock Park Lake, North Bergen Twp. (4)
West Hudson County Park Pond — Harrison (0)

Hunterdon County
Alexaueken Creek — West Amwell Twp., entire length (2)
Amwell Lake — East Amwell Twp. (3)
Capoolong Creek (aka Cakepoulin Creek) — Franklin Twp., entire length (5)
Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal — source to Willburtha Rd., Ewing Twp. (Mercer) (6)
Hakihokake Creek — Little York-Mount Pleasant Rd, Little York, Alexandria Twp. to Delaware River (2)
Lockatong Creek — Route 12, Kingwood Twp. to Delaware-Raritan Feeder Canal (5)
Mannys Pond — Union Twp. (3)
Mountain Farm Pond — Lebanon Twp. (3)
Mulhockaway Creek — Pattenburg, source to Spruce Run Reservoir, Clinton/Union Twp. (5)
Neshanic River — confluence of First and Second Neshanic Rivers to Rt. 514, Raritan Twp. (2)
Nishkawick Creek — Frenchtown Alexandria Twp., entire length (2)
Rockaway Creek — Readington Twp., entire length (4)
Round Valley Reservoir — Clinton Twp. (1)
Sidney Brook — Franklin/Union Twp., entire length (1)
Spruce Run — Glen Gardner Borough/Lebanon Twp., entire length (5)

OPENING DAY of TROUT SEASON

April 11, 2020
April 10, 2021
### General Trout Information

**2020 REGULATIONS**

### Stony Brook — (See Mercer Co.)
### Wickecheoke Creek — Covered Bridge, Rt. 604, Sergeanteville to Delaware River (2)

### Mercer County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assunpink Creek</td>
<td>Assunpink Site 5 dam upstream of Rt. 130 to Carnegie Rd., Hamilton (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonial Lake</td>
<td>Lawrence Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware—Raritan Canal</td>
<td>Mulberry St., Trenton to Alexander St., Princeton (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware—Raritan Feeder Canal</td>
<td>(See Hunterdon Co.) (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosedale Lake</td>
<td>Hopewell Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stony Brook</td>
<td>Hopewell Twp., entire length (4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Middlesex County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ireland Brook</td>
<td>500 ft. upstream of Riva Ave to Farrington Lake, North Brunswick (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Papapianni—Edison Twp.</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Brook</td>
<td>Dam at Davidsonia Mill Pond to 2nd RR bridge (Raritan Railroad) below Main St., Milltown Borough, excluding Farrington Lake from Church Lane to Farrington Dam (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manalapan Lake</td>
<td>Monroe Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roosevelt Park Pond</td>
<td>Edison Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Monmouth County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Echo Lake</td>
<td>Howell Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Englishtown Mill Pond (aka Weamaconk Lake)</td>
<td>Englishtown Borough (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Lake</td>
<td>West Long Branch Borough (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garvey's Pond</td>
<td>Middletown Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hockhockson Brook</td>
<td>Rt. 18, Colts Neck Twp. to Garden State Parkway bridge (northbound), Trenton Falls Borough (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holmdel Park Pond</td>
<td>Holmdel Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mac's Pond</td>
<td>Manasquan Borough (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mingamahone Brook</td>
<td>Birdsell Rd. to Manasquan River, Howell Twp. (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohawk Pond</td>
<td>Red Bank Borough (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shark River</td>
<td>Rt. 33, Wall Twp. to Rensselaer Mill Rd., Neptune/Wall Twp. (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Lake</td>
<td>Spring Lake Borough (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topanemus Lake</td>
<td>Freehold Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Brook</td>
<td>Heyers Mill Rd. to Muhlenbrink Rd., Colts Neck Twp. (2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Morris County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beaver Brook</td>
<td>Rockaway Twp./Borough, entire length (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black River</td>
<td>Route 206 Chester, to the posted Black River Fish and Game club property at the lower end of Hacklebarney State Park (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnham Park Ponds (Upper and Lower)</td>
<td>Town of Morristown (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drake's Brook</td>
<td>Mt. Olive/Roxbury Twp.s., entire length (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hibernia Brook</td>
<td>Rockaway Twp., entire length (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India Brook</td>
<td>Mountainside Ave. to Rt. 24, Mendham Borough (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Hopatcong</td>
<td>Hopatcong/Jefferson/Mt. Arlington/Roxbury (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Musconetong</td>
<td>Netcong Borough/Roxbury Twp./Stanhope Borough (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Hope Pond</td>
<td>Rockaway Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pasaic River</td>
<td>Black Brook confluence to Rt. 24, Chatham Borough (4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Pequannock River — (see Passaic Co.)
### Pompton River — (see Passaic Co.)
### Russia Brook                  | Ridge Rd. to Lake Swannanoa, Jefferson Twp. (2)                     |
### Speedwell Lake                 | Town of Morristown (4)                                               |
### Whippany River                 | Tingley Rd., Morris Twp. to Ridgedale Ave., Town of Morristown (2)    |

### Ocean County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake Shenandoah</td>
<td>Ocean Co. Park, Lakewood Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pohatcong Lake</td>
<td>Borough of Tuckerton (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prospretown Lake</td>
<td>—Jackson Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Passaic County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barbour Pond</td>
<td>Woodland Park Borough (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinton Reservoir</td>
<td>Newark Watershed, West Milford Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Turtle Lake</td>
<td>Long Pond Ironworks State Park, West Milford Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oldham Pond</td>
<td>North Haleden Borough (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pequannock River</td>
<td>Rt. 23, Smith Mills to Paterson-Hamburg Turnpike, Pompton Lakes/Riverdale Boroughs (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pompton River</td>
<td>confluence with Ramapo River to NY Susquehanna R.R. bridge, Wayne Twp. (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramapo River</td>
<td>Pompton Lake dam to confluence with Pompton River (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringwood Brook</td>
<td>State line to Sally's Pond, Ringwood State Park, Ringwood Borough (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheppard Lake</td>
<td>Ringwood State Park, Ringwood Borough (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Salem County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harrisonville Lake</td>
<td>Pikesgrove/South Harrison Twps. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maurice River</td>
<td>Willow Grove Lake dam to Sherman Ave., Vineland (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schadler's Sand Wash Pond</td>
<td>Carneys Point Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Somerset County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lamington River</td>
<td>Rt. 523 (Lamington Rd.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Brook, E/Br.</td>
<td>Bridgewater/Warren Twps., entire length (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passaic Brook</td>
<td>(See Morris Co.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peapack Brook</td>
<td>Peapack-Gladstone Borough, entire length (5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sussex County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alm's House Pond</td>
<td>Franklin Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andover Junction Brook</td>
<td>Andover Borough, entire length (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Flat Brook, Upper</td>
<td>Sawmill Pond, High Point Park, Montague Twp. to 100 ft. above Crippier Rd., Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Mountain Lake</td>
<td>Delaware Water Gap Narl Recreation Area, Walpack Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clove Brook</td>
<td>source to Clove Acres Lake, Wantage Twp. (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culver's Creek</td>
<td>Franklin Twp., entire length (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry Brook</td>
<td>Branchville Borough/ Franklin Twp., entire length (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Pond Creek</td>
<td>Hamburg Mt., WMA, Hardyston Twp/Frankford Borough, entire length (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenwood Brook</td>
<td>Glenwood Lake dam to state line (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Aeroflex</td>
<td>Andover Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Hopatcong</td>
<td>Hopatcong/Mt. Arlington Boroughs, Jefferson/Roxbury Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Musconetcong</td>
<td>Netcong/Stanhope Boroughs/ Roxbury Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Oquintuck</td>
<td>Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Flat Brook</td>
<td>Sandyston Twp., entire length (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Swartswood Lake</td>
<td>Hampton Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lubbers Run</td>
<td>Byram Twp., entire length (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neldon Brook</td>
<td>Stillwater Twp., entire length (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papakating Creek</td>
<td>George Hill Rd., Frankford Twp. to Rt. 565, Lewisburg (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papakating Creek, W/Br.</td>
<td>Wantage Twp., entire length (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pond Brook</td>
<td>Stillwater Twp., entire length (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawmmill Pond</td>
<td>High Point State Park, Montague Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver Lake</td>
<td>—Hamburg Mountain WMA, Hardyston Twp. (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stony Lake</td>
<td>—Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swartswood Lake</td>
<td>—Stillwater Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallkill Lake</td>
<td>—Lake Mohawk Dam to Route 23, Hardyston Twp. (4-5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wawayanda Creek</td>
<td>Vernon Twp., entire length (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wawayanda Lake</td>
<td>—Vernon Twp., (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Union County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green Brook</td>
<td>Rt. 527, Berkeley Heights Twp. to Rt. 22, Scotch Plains Twp. (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Echo Lake</td>
<td>—Mountainside Borough (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milton Lake</td>
<td>—Railway (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nomahaga Lake Park Twp.</td>
<td>—Cranford Twp. (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passaic River</td>
<td>(See Morris Co.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rahway River</td>
<td>—Rt. 178 bridge, Springfield to Lawrence St. (Route 514), Railway (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeleys Pond</td>
<td>—Berkeley Heights Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrinanco Park Lake</td>
<td>—Roselle Borough (0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Warren County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beaver Brook</td>
<td>Silver Lake Dam to Pequest River, White Twp. (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blair Creek</td>
<td>Bass Lake dam, Hardwick Twp. to Blair Lake, Blairstown Twp. (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blair Lake</td>
<td>Blairstown Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brookaloa Swamp</td>
<td>Hope Twp., entire length (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckhorn Creek</td>
<td>Harmony Twp., entire length (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furnace Brook</td>
<td>Oxford Twp., entire length (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furnace Lake</td>
<td>—Oxford Twp. (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honey Run</td>
<td>—Knowlton-Hope township line to Beaver Brook, Hope Twp. (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacksonburg Creek</td>
<td>Blairstown Twp., entire length (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lopatcong Creek</td>
<td>—Rt. 519 Harmony Twp., to South Main St., Phillipsburg (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merrill Creek Reservoir</td>
<td>—Harmony Twp., (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Lake</td>
<td>—Liberty Twp. (0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Digest | | 19 | 2020 Freshwater Issue | NJFishandWildlife.com |
Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring In-season Stocking Dates

*All Brook Trout caught within the BROOK TROUT CONSERVATION ZONE must be immediately released unharmed. The Conservation Zone includes all waters west of I-287 and north of Rt 202, extending to, but not including the Delaware River.

**These streams are wholly or partially located within the Brook Trout Conservation Zone.

### General Trout Fishing Regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
<th>Exceptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1–March 22</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>1. Trout-stocked waters with spring in-season closures are closed to fishing 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on days listed for stocking (See listing below).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Special regulation areas (Catch and Release Areas, Year-Round and Seasonal Trout Conservation Areas, Trophy and Holdover Trout Lakes and Wild Trout Streams).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3. On lakes Hopatcong, Mountain, Pisperspont, Shennandoah, Swartswood and the section of Lawrence Brook from Davidson’s Mill Road bridge to the Church Lane bridge, fishing is permitted during the period March 23-April 11 at 8 a.m. All trout caught during this period must immediately be released.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23-April 11 at 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Fishing prohibited on trout stocked waters. Catch and release for trout in all other waters.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11 at 8 a.m.–May 31</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>6*</td>
<td>4. Greenwood Lake and Delaware River—see separate regulations for boundary waters, pages 28–30.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Trout Stocking Hotline: (609) 633-6765.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stocking Dates</th>
<th>Waterbody</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAYS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13, 20, 27 May 4, 11, 18, 25</td>
<td>Manasquan River</td>
<td>Monmouth</td>
<td>Rt. 9 bridge, Howell Twp. downstream to Allenwood-Lakewood Rd. (Rt. 21), Wall Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Metedeconk River, N/Br.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aldrich Rd. to Ridge Ave., Howell/Lakewood Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Metedeconk River, S/Br.</td>
<td>Ocean</td>
<td>Bennetts Mills dam to twin wooden foot bridge, opposite Lake Park Blvd. on South Lake Br., Lakewood Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rockaway River**</td>
<td>Morris</td>
<td>Longwood Lake dam, Jefferson Twp. to Boonton Reservoir (aka Jersey City Res.), Boonton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toms River</td>
<td>Ocean</td>
<td>Rt. 528, Jackson Twp., to confluence with Maple Root Branch, and Rt. 70 to Rt. 571, Toms River/Manchester Twp. (Exception: the section regulated as a Year Round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAYS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14, 21, 28 May 5, 12, 19, 26</td>
<td>Pohatcong Creek**</td>
<td>Warren</td>
<td>Rt. 31, Washington Twp. to Delaware River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Raritan River, S/Br.**</td>
<td>Morris, Somerset, Hunterdon</td>
<td>Mill dam located 200 feet upstream from Schooleys Mountain Rd. (Rt. 517), Long Valley to junction with Raritan River N. Br. (Exception: the section regulated as Catch and Release.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAYS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15, 22, 29 May 6, 13, 20, 27</td>
<td>Raritan River, N/Br.**</td>
<td>Somerset</td>
<td>Peapack Rd. bridge in Far Hills Borough/Bedminster Twp. to junction with Raritan River S. Br.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAYS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ramapo River**</td>
<td>Bergen</td>
<td>State line to Pompton Lake, Oakland (excluding Potash Lake)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Big Flat/Flat Brook**</td>
<td>Sussex</td>
<td>100 ft. above Crigger Rd., Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp. to Delaware River (Exception: the section regulated as Catch and Release.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Musconetcong River**</td>
<td>Sussex, Warren,</td>
<td>Lake Hopatcong dam to Delaware River including all main stem impoundments except for Lake Musconetcong (Exception: the section regulated as a Year Round Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pequest River**</td>
<td>Warren and Sussex</td>
<td>Pequest Rd., Green Twp. to Delaware River (Exception: the section regulated as a Seasonal Trout Conservation Area; see separate regulation.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wanaque River**</td>
<td>Passaic</td>
<td>Greenwood Lake dam, West Milford, Twp. to Wanaque Reservoir dam, Wanaque Borough and from Wanaque Ave., Pompton Lakes Borough to Pequannock River, excluding the Wanaque and Monksville reservoirs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Boundary Waters (see page 28)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locations</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delaware River</td>
<td>All trout species</td>
<td>April 18 at 8 a.m.—Oct. 15 (Trot caught at other times must be released immediately.)</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trout Conservation Areas (TCAs)

*ALL BROOK TROUT CAUGHT WITHIN BROOK TROUT CONSERVATION ZONE MUST BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED UNHARMED.

### YEAR ROUND TCAs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
<th>Restrictions (in effect year round)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1–March 22</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1. Only artificial lures and flies may be used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23–April 11 at 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11 at 8 a.m.–Dec. 31</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>1 (see #3 at right)</td>
<td>3. Fishing is allowed during the spring in-season closures which apply to the river. All trout caught during these periods must be released immediately.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Year Round TCA Waterbody (County)

- Musconetcong River**—Point Mountain Stretch (Hunterdon/Warren)
  Penwell Rd. bridge downstream to Point Mountain Rd. bridge (approx. 1.2 miles)
  Rt. 31 to Rt. 57 E. Upper boundary: turn right on Penwell Rd. Lower boundary: turn right on Point Mountain Rd. Parking areas located near each bridge.

- Toms River (Ocean)
  End of Riverwood Park (Tom’s River 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
<th>Restrictions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1–March 22</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1. Only artificial lures may be used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23–April 10</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Possession or use of bait (live or preserved) or any substance (natural or synthetic) that contains a concentration of bait scent is prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11 (12:01 a.m. to 8 a.m.)</td>
<td>Fishing prohibited</td>
<td></td>
<td>3. Pequest River—fishing is not permitted during the first six in-season stocking closure dates. (See Trout Stocked Waters Closed to Fishing on Spring Stocking Dates, page 20). Fishing is permitted during the last in-season stocking closure date (May 29), but all trout caught between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. must immediately be released.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11 at 8 a.m.–May 24</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gear restrictions do not apply</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 26–Dec. 31</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Seasonal TCA Waterbody (County)

- Pequannock River**—Morris/Passaic
  Railroad trestle below Appelt Park, Bloomingdale, downstream to Hamburg Turnpike bridge, Pompton Lakes (approx. 1.3 miles)
  I-287 (Exit 53). Proceed west on (Paterson) Hamburg Turnpike .34 miles. Right on Brant Ln. Railroad trestle below Appelt Park is the upstream boundary.

- Pequest River**—Warren
  Corriail Railroad bridge, located upstream of the Pequest Trout Hatchery Access Road, downstream to Rt. 625 (Pequest Furnace Rd.) bridge (approx. 1.4 miles)
  Rt. 31 to Rt. 46 E, approx. 4 mi. to Pequest Trout Hatchery; paved parking lot.

** These streams are wholly or partially located within the Brook Trout Conservation Zone.
2020 REGULATIONS

Wild Trout Streams

REGULATIONS IN RED ARE NEW THIS YEAR.

2020 REGULATIONS

Wild Trout Streams

**NATIVE BROOK TROUT STREAMS (Brook Trout Dominant)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
<th>Gear</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brook Trout</td>
<td>Catch &amp; Release</td>
<td>April 11 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15</td>
<td>2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined</td>
<td>Fishing allowed year-round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Trout</td>
<td>No min. size</td>
<td>Catch and Release at all</td>
<td>2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined</td>
<td>fishing allowed year-round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Trout</td>
<td>No min. size</td>
<td>other times, year-round</td>
<td>2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined</td>
<td>Artificially only, with no more than 3 hook points in total, all barbless</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Beatty’s Brook** (Lebanon Twp.)
- **Bear Swamp Brook** (Mahwah Twp.)
- **Hickory Run** (Lebanon Twp.)
- **Lake Ames Tributary** (Picatinny Arsenal boundary to Lake Ames, Rockaway Twp.)
- **Primrose Brook** (Harding Twp.)
- **Raritan River S. Br.** (Budd Lake dam to dam approx. 400 feet above Flanders-Drakestown Rd., Mt Olive Twp.)
- **Rinehart Brook** (Hacklebarney State Park, Chester Twp.)
- **Rocky Run** (Lebanon Twp.)
- **Stephensburg Brook** (Washington Twp.)
- **Stony Brook** (Stokes State Forest, Sandyston Twp.)
- **Tout Brook** (Hacklebarney State Park, Chester Twp.)

**WILD TROUT STREAMS (Multiple wild trout species present)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
<th>Gear</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brook Trout</td>
<td>Catch &amp; Release</td>
<td>April 11 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15</td>
<td>2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined</td>
<td>Fishing allowed year-round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Trout</td>
<td>9&quot;</td>
<td>Catch and Release at all</td>
<td>2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined</td>
<td>Fishing allowed year-round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Trout</td>
<td>9&quot;</td>
<td>other times, year-round</td>
<td>2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined</td>
<td>Fishing allowed year-round</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Brass Castle Creek** (Washington Twp.)
- **Dismal Brook** (Mendham Twp.)
- **Dunnfield Creek** (Worthington State Forest)
- **Flanders Brook** (Mt. Olive Twp.)
- **India Brook** (source to Mountainside Rd., Mendham Twp.)
- **Indian Grove Brook** (Bernardsville Twp.)
- **Ledgebrook Brook** (Rockbury Twp.)
- **Lomerson Brook** (also known as Herzig Brook) (Tewksbury Twp.)
- **Merrill Creek** (Merrill Creek Reservoir Dam to Pohatcong Ck., Stewartsville)
- **Raritan River S. Br.** [dam approx. 400 feet above Flanders-Drakestown Rd. to dam 200 ft. above Scholesley Mtn. Rd. (Rt. 517), Long Valley]
- **Stony Brook** (Washington Twp./Morris)
- **Teetertown Brook** (Washington Twp./Lebanon Twp.)
- **Turkey Brook** (Mt. Olive Twp.)
- **Van Campens Brook** (source to upper waterfall in Van Campens Glen, Del. Water Gap Nat. Rec. Area)
- **West Brook** (source downstream to Windbeam Club property, Ringwood Twp.)
- **Whippany River** (source to Tingley Rd., Mendham Twp.)
- **Willoughby Brook** (also known as Buffalo Hollow Bk.) (Lebanon Twp.)

**WILD BROWN TROUT ENHANCEMENT STREAMS (Brown Trout dominant, other wild trout species may be present)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
<th>Gear</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brook Trout</td>
<td>Catch &amp; Release</td>
<td>April 11 at 8 a.m. to Sept. 15</td>
<td>2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined</td>
<td>Fishing allowed year-round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Trout</td>
<td>9&quot;</td>
<td>Catch and Release at all</td>
<td>2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined</td>
<td>Fishing allowed year-round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Trout</td>
<td>12&quot;</td>
<td>other times, year-round</td>
<td>2 Brown or Rainbow Trout combined</td>
<td>Fishing allowed year-round</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Beaver Brook** (Town of Clinton/Clinton Twp.)
- **Burnett Brook** (Chester/Mendham Twp.)
- **Cold Brook** (Tewksbury Twp.)
- **Hakihokake Creek** (also known as Little York Bk. — source to Little York-Mount Pleasant Rd, Little York)
- **Jackson Brook** (source to Hidden Park Lake Mine Hill Twp.)
- **Mill Brook** (Randolph Twp.)
- **Passaic River** (source to Rt. 202, Bernardsville Twp.)
- **Pequannock River** (Oak Ridge Rd., Newark Watershed to railroad bridge immediately upstream of Charleston)
- **Rockaway Creek N. Br.** (Tewksbury Twp.)
- **Ridgewood Creek** (Tewksbury Twp.)
- **Rinehart Brook** (Hacklebarney State Park, Chester Twp.)
- **Rocky Run** (Lebanon Twp.)
- **Stephensburg Brook** (Washington Twp.)
- **Spring Mills Brook** (Holland Twp.)

- **Van Campens Brook** (upper waterfall in Van Campens Glen, located approx. 0.8 miles upstream of Old Mine Road, to Delaware River, Del. Water Gap Nat. Rec. Area)
- **Wanaque River** (Wanaque Reservoir dam downstream to Wanaque Ave., Pompton Lakes Borough)

* Saddle River is outside the Brook Trout Conservation Zone therefore a 9 inch limit for brook trout applies. and a daily limit of 2 trout in total (Brown, Brook, and Rainbow Trout combined).
### Trout Lakes

#### TROPHY TROUT LAKES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waterbody (County)</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merrill Creek Reservoir (Warren)</td>
<td>Brown &amp; Rainbow Trout (and their hybrids) and Landlocked Atlantic Salmon</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>2 combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lake Trout</td>
<td>Jan. 1–Sept. 15</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Sept. 16–Nov. 30</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
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<td>Dec. 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Round Valley Reservoir (Hunterdon)</td>
<td>Brown &amp; Rainbow Trout (and their hybrids)</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>2 combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lake Trout</td>
<td>Jan. 1–Sept. 15</td>
<td>15 to less than 24 inches AND greater than or equal to 24 inches</td>
<td>6 AND 1</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Sept. 16–Nov. 30</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>15 to less than 24 inches AND greater than or equal to 24 inches</td>
<td>6 AND 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### HOLDOVER TROUT LAKES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waterbody (County)</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinton Reservoir (Passaic)</td>
<td>Brown &amp; Rainbow Trout and their hybrids</td>
<td>Jan. 1–March 22</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Aeroflex* (Sussex)</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 23–April 11 at 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Wawayanda* (Sussex)</td>
<td></td>
<td>April 11 at 8 a.m.–May 31</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheppard Lake (Passaic)</td>
<td></td>
<td>June 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tilcon Lake* (Morris)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 1–March 22</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>White Lake (Warren)</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 23–April 11 at 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Waterbodies stocked with salmon</td>
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<td>April 11 at 8 a.m.–Dec. 31</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Herring

**Alewife**
- Large mouth
- Upper jaw close to rear edge of eye
- Eye diameter greater than snout length
- No teeth on roof of mouth
- Dorsal fin forward of midlength
- May have a line of spots

**Atlantic Herring**
- Eye diameter less than snout length
- No teeth on roof of mouth
- Dorsal fin forward of midlength

**Blueback Herring**
- Eye diameter greater than snout length
- No teeth on roof of mouth
- Dorsal fin forward of midlength

**Gizzard Shad**
- Round snout overhangs closed mouth
- Narrow body
- Dorsal fin at midlength

**Hickory Shad**
- Lower jaw projects well beyond upper jaw when mouth closed
- Long, filamentous projection from last ray of dorsal fin

**American Shad**
- Largest in the herring family
- Upper jaw close to rear edge of eye
- Largest in the herring family
- May have a line of spots

**Alewife, American Shad, Blueback Herring and Hickory Shad illustrations ©Duane Raver; Atlantic Herring illustration ©Victor Young/NH. Fish and Game Department; Gizzard Shad illustration courtesy of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department ©2012.**
Certain waters are closed to fishing for all species from March 23 to April 11, 2020 at 8 a.m. because of trout stocking. Refer to pages 18–20 for complete lists and exceptions. Regulations in red are new this year. For Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, see regulations on pages 28–30.

### Fishing Regulations

**SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS**

#### LARGEMOUTH & SMALLMOUTH BASS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1–April 14</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>5 combined</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 15–June 15</td>
<td>Smallmouth Bass</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>3 combined</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 16–Dec. 31</td>
<td>Conservation Regulations:</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>2 combined</td>
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<td>Ryker Lake</td>
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#### NORTHERN PIKE, TIGER MUSKY, MUSKELLUNGE*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>Northern Pike</td>
<td>24 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20–May 20</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>(exceptions below)</td>
<td>Tiger Musky &amp; Muskellunge: 40 inches</td>
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<td>1 combined</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| | | | | **important:** trout may not be used as bait in the Pequest River drainage.

#### CHAIN PICKEREL AND REDFIN PICKEREL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>5 combined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### WALLEYE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1–Feb. 28</td>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>18 inches</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### STRIPED BASS (freshwater only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>Striped Bass</td>
<td>One @ 28” to &lt; 43” AND one ≥ 43”</td>
<td>1 AND 1*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### HYBRID STRIPED BASS (freshwater only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>Hybrid Striped Bass</td>
<td>16 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>Raritan River (downstream of Duke Island Park dam)</td>
<td>One @ 28” to &lt; 43” AND one ≥ 43”</td>
<td>1 AND 1*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Regulations for Striped Bass may change in 2020. Check our website for updates.
## Fishing Regulations

**SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS**

Regulations in red are new this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMERICAN SHAD</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Shad</td>
<td>Delaware River Mainstem (see regulations on page 28)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHANNEL CATFISH</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Channel Catfish</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRAPPIE (BLACK AND WHITE)</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crappie</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>8 inches</td>
<td>10 combined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNFISH AND ALL OTHER SPECIES WITH NO SPECIFIED CREEL LIMITS</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rock Bass, White Perch, Yellow Perch, Sunfish (see below for sunfish exceptions), Bullheads, White Catfish, Suckers, Carp, Bowfin, Pumpkinseed and all other species with no specified creel limit.</td>
<td>Statewide (exceptions below)</td>
<td>No minimum size</td>
<td>25 combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Regulation Ryker Lake</td>
<td>Sunfish: 7 inches</td>
<td>10 combined</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Regulation Rainbow Lake (Salem Co.)</td>
<td>Sunfish: 7 inches</td>
<td>10 combined</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BANDED, BLACKBANDED, BLUESPOTTED AND MUD SUNFISH</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banded Sunfish*</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Protected</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackbanded Sunfish*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluespotted Sunfish*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mud Sunfish*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Illustrations by Ted Walke, PA Fish and Boat Commission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FRESHWATER BAITFISH (See page 31 for complete description of gear types and restrictions)</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Eel, Banded Killifish, Creek Chub, Fallfish, Fathead Minnow, Gizzard Shad, Golden Shiner, Margined Madtom, Mummichog, and Tadpole Madtom. For Herring, Alewife and Blueback—see Baitfish Regulations (page 31).</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
<td>35 combined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exceptions in trout stocked waters baitfish may only be taken with hook and line: from April 11 to June 15, or in waters open to fishing during the pre-season closure, from March 23 to June 15.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Open Seasons</th>
<th>Minimum Length</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Largemouth &amp; Smallmouth</td>
<td>Jan. 1–April 17</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>5 combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>April 18–June 12</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>June 13–Dec. 31</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>5 combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eel, American</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herring, Alewife and Blueback</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muskelunge &amp; Hybrids</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>40 inches</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickerel, Chain</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike, Northern</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>24 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shad, American*</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shad, Hickory</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped Bass &amp; Hybrids** (upstream of Calhoun St. Bridge)</td>
<td>March 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>One @ 28&quot; to &lt; 43&quot; AND one ≥43&quot;</td>
<td>1 AND 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped Bass &amp; Hybrids** (downstream of Calhoun St. Bridge)</td>
<td>March 1–30</td>
<td>One @ 28&quot; to &lt; 43&quot; AND one ≥43&quot;</td>
<td>1 AND 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sturgeon, Atlantic and Shortnose</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout</td>
<td>April 18 at 8 a.m.–Oct. 15</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>18 inches</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel Catfish</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Freshwater Species</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baitfish</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regulations in red are new this year.

* Due to serious declines in American Shad numbers, the taking of American Shad, except for the Delaware River, is prohibited.

** Pennsylvania allows anglers to harvest a daily limit of two striped bass measuring 21 to 25 inches for a two month period from April 1 through May 31 from the Calhoun St. Bridge in Trenton downstream to the Pennsylvania state line. New Jersey still has a closed season. Anglers fishing the Delaware River from the New Jersey shoreline, or returning to New Jersey by boat and/or car in April and May must abide by New Jersey’s striped bass regulations. Possession of striped bass in New Jersey is illegal during this time period. Anglers should be aware that there are differing size limits and seasons for striped bass for each of the three states bordering the Delaware River. Anglers must obey the regulations for the particular state where they land (catch) striped bass. Regulations for Striped Bass may change in 2020. Check our website for updates.
Fishing The Delaware River

Regulation Notices

The Delaware River is a boundary water shared by Pennsylvania and New Jersey with each state’s border generally following the centerline of the river. Although the majority of the fishing regulations enacted by both states are identical, there are some distinct differences. Anglers fishing this river must be aware of each state’s fishing regulations.

Regardless of an angler’s residency or point of boat launching, all are required to comply with the regulations of the state in which they are fishing. An angler fishing—or in possession of fish—between the centerline of the river and the New Jersey shoreline must comply with the New Jersey fishing regulations. An angler fishing—or in possession of fish—between the centerline of the river and the Pennsylvania shoreline must comply with the Pennsylvania fishing regulations.

The reciprocal agreement regarding fishing licenses remains in effect and anglers may continue to fish from shoreline to shoreline in the Delaware River between Pennsylvania and New Jersey using either state’s fishing license. New Jersey and Pennsylvania fishing licenses are both recognized when angling for or catching anadromous species such as striped bass, alewife or Blueback Herring may not be taken at any time.

No more than three 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.

The use of crayfish, clams, mussels, reptiles or amphibians as bait is prohibited within the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, unless it is a commercially produced, preserved and packaged product.

Spears (not mechanically propelled) and bow and arrows may be used to take carp, catfish, shad and suckers 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. Alewife or Blueback Herring may not be taken at any time.

A Delaware fishing license is required for anglers aged 16 and over fishing the Delaware Bay and Delaware River between the upstream tip of Artificial Island and the Delaware-Pennsylvania state line. In that section of the river, the Delaware state boundary extends to the New Jersey shoreline. However, when fishing from shore in New Jersey along that section of the river, a Delaware fishing license is not required. Delaware fishing license information can be found at www.dnrec.delaware.gov/fw/fisheries/pages/fishinginfo.aspx.

A listing of fishing access locations along the Delaware River is available at Fish and Wildlife’s website, NJFishandWildlife.com, under Freshwater Fishing.

Delaware River Basin Commission recreation maps are available for $10.70. For online ordering information visit www.state.nj.us/drbc/basin/recreation/.

Information for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is available online at www.nps.gov/dewa.

Visit www.fishandboat.com and www.NJFishandWildlife.com. It is incumbent upon anglers to determine in which state they are currently fishing, taking into account that in areas where the river splits, such as around islands, the boundary is clearly and legally defined to one side of the island or another.

All anglers are reminded to comply with each state’s marine registry requirements when angling for or catching anadromous species such as striped bass, river herring or shad in the tidal portions of the 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.

The reciprocal agreement regarding fishing licenses remains in effect

A listing of fishing access locations along the Delaware River is available at Fish and Wildlife’s website, NJFishandWildlife.com, under Freshwater Fishing.

Delaware River Basin Commission recreation maps are available for $10.70. For online ordering information visit www.state.nj.us/drbc/basin/recreation/.

Information for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is available online at www.nps.gov/dewa.

The most up-to-date regulations online.

eRegulations.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Open Seasons</th>
<th>Minimum Length</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Largemouth &amp; Smallmouth</td>
<td>Jan. 1–June 15</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>June 16–Dec. 1</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>5 combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catfish, Channel</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crappie, Black &amp; White</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>8 inches</td>
<td>10 combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muskellunge &amp; Hybrids</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>44 inches</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perch, Yellow</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickerel, Chain</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunfish</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
<td>50 combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>Jan. 1–Feb. 28</td>
<td>18 inches</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>March 1–April 30</td>
<td>Catch and release only</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May 1–Dec. 31</td>
<td>18 inches</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herring, Alewife (landlocked) and blueback</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>6 inches maximum</td>
<td>35 Any unused herring must be returned to Greenwood Lake upon conclusion of the angler’s fishing trip. Herring may not be transported away from the lake’s shoreline by any mechanism and may not be sold.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Species</td>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
<td>No limit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regulations in red are new this year.

- 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. Crossbows are NOT allowed at Greenwood Lake. 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.

---

**2020 New Jersey Musky School**

**You don’t want to miss the annual Musky School on Lake Hopatcong offered by Muskies Inc!**

Learn how to catch these elusive fish. This course offers informative tips and techniques to help any musky angler—beginner to experienced angler—catch more muskies.

Learn from our seasoned veteran anglers. In the morning, classroom-style sessions will orient anglers on locations to fish, forage base, lure presentations, fishing tactics and more. Later in the day, participants will be on the water in a fully-equipped boat to pursue muskies with a personal instructor. This 6-hour course includes a shore lunch. This is a catch and release event. Muskies Inc. is a non-profit organization. This is a fundraising event. All proceeds benefit the New Jersey musky fishery.

**May 16, 2020 on Lake Hopatcong**

Fee: $385 includes one-year membership to Muskies Inc. Contact Ralph C. via e-mail at muskyschool@gmail.com. For more information, visit [www.MuskiesInc.org](http://www.MuskiesInc.org) and [www.mi22.com](http://www.mi22.com). Like us on Facebook at Muskies Inc Chapter 22-New Jersey.
Baitfish Regulations

### BAITFISH SPECIES

| Baitfish species: American Eel, Banded Killifish, Creek Chub, Fallfish, Fathead Minnow, Gizzard Shad, Golden Shiner, Margined Madtom, Mummichog, and Tadpole Madtom. For Herring, Alewife and Blueback—see below. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open year round</td>
<td>Statewide (fresh waters)</td>
<td>No minimum size</td>
<td>35 per day, species combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exception: In trout stocked waters baitfish may be taken only with hook and line: from April 11 to June 15, or in waters open to fishing during the pre-season closure, from March 23 to June 15.</td>
<td>All freshwater streams, rivers and marine waters</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Possession, take or attempt to take herring PROHIBITED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herring, Alewife and Blueback</td>
<td>Freshwater lakes in Morris, Passaic, Sussex, and Warren counties and Spruce Run Reservoir (Hunterdon)</td>
<td>6 inches maximum</td>
<td>35 Any unused herring must be returned to the water upon conclusion of the angler’s fishing trip. Herring may not be transported away from the shoreline of these lakes by any mechanism. They may not be sold.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other freshwater lakes (regardless of ownership)</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Only purchased herring, no greater than 6 inches, may be possessed. Receipt of purchase, dated within 7 days, must be in possession.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:** Any person with a valid fishing license (or those under 16 and residents 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 DESCRIPTION

- **Seine:** Not over 50 feet long in ponds and lakes over 100 acres; in all other waters not over 30 feet in length.
  - **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 inches in length with a funnel mouth no greater than 2 inches in diameter.
- **Umbrella Net:** No greater than 3.5 feet square.
- **Dip Net:** Not more than 24 inches 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 barbs per contrivance on all waters except the Delaware River where only three single hooks are permitted.

**Turtle and Frog Regulations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MINIMUM SIZE</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Snapping Turtle</td>
<td>April 1–May 14 July 1–October 31</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>1 per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bull Frog and Green Frog</td>
<td>January 1–March 31 July 1–December 31</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
<td>15 per day, combined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEANS OF TAKE**

Snapping turtles may only be taken in fresh waters of the state. See page 32 for established fishing license boundary lines that designate fresh and marine waters. 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, traps, hook and line, dip nets (not more than 24 inches in diameter), or by hand. They may NOT be sold unless taken under a Commercial Harvest Permit. Bull frogs, and green frogs may be taken in numbers greater than the daily limit under a Commercial Harvest Permit issued by Fish and Wildlife at its discretion. The commercial harvest of snapping turtles is closed to new harvesters. Existing harvesters may contact (609) 984-0530 for application information.

**Motor Boat Registration and Title Requirements**

### NJ Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC)

#### 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 (incl. electric motors), 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 that are operating under a federally-approved numbering system from another state
- Ship’s lifeboats
- 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.

**Boat Operator License (MVC)**

An operator license is required to operate power vessels on fresh, non-tidal waters such as lakes, creeks and rivers. (Minimum age 16 years; with certain exceptions.)

For More Information:

- New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (888) 486-3339 toll free in NJ or (609) 292-6500 from out-of-state
- https://www.nj.gov/mvc/vehicles/boating.htm

**Boat Safety Certificate (NJSP)**

A boat safety certificate (from an approved boat safety course; see NJSP website, below) is required to operate a personal watercraft or power vessel, including electric motors, in NJ waters (tidal and non-tidal).

**New Jersey State Police (NJSP)**

(609) 882-2000

www.njsp.org/marine-services/
Fishing License Boundary Lines

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. Snapping turtles may only be taken from fresh waters of the state.

**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 Rt. 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**
- Assiscunk Creek—Required whole length
- Bass River State—Fire Bridge on Stage Rd. 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
- Pompton Creek—Required whole length
- Rancocas Creek—Required whole length
- Swedes Run—Required whole length
- Wading River—Charcoal Landing, Chips Ferry 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
- Cohansay River—Rt. 49 bridge at Bridgeport
- Dividing Creek—Rt. 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—Tribohony of Cohansay—Rt. 553 bridge, Fairton
- Muskeee Creek—S. side of bridge on Weathersby Rd.
- Nantuxent Creek (Pages Run)—Rt. 553 north of Frames Corner
- Oranoken Creek—Whitecar Mill, North of Beaver dam
- Oyster Creek—None—all saline water

**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—Rt. 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 Lake bridge, New Brunswick
- South River—Rt. 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
- Hackenson (Pine) Brook—Garden State Parkway northbound bridge
- Little Silver Creek—Little Silver Creek Brook
- Monasquan River—Bennetts bridge, Monasquan 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 Rd.
- Swimming River—Swimming River Rd. bridge
- Wreck Pond Creek—Rt. 71 bridge

**Morris County**
- License required on all waters

**Ocean County**
- Beaver Dam Creek—Rt. 88 bridge
- Cedar Creek—Rt. 9 bridge
- Cedar Run—Rt. 9 bridge
- Dinner Point Creek—None—all saline water
- Double Creek—None—all saline water
- Forked River—All branches Rt. 9
- Gunning River—None—all saline water
- Jakes Branch—Above Atlantic City Blvd.
- Jeffreys Creek—Ocean Gate Rd. to Ocean Gate
- Kettle Creek—Rt. 549 bridge
- Lake of the Lilies—Entire lake
- Long Swamp Creek—Washington St. bridge, Toms River
- Manahawkin Creek—Dams for Manahawkin WMA 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—Rt. 9 bridge
- 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 Rt. 9 bridge
- Waretown Creek—Rt. 9 bridge
- West Creek—Rt. 9 bridge

**Passaic County**
- License required on all waters

**Salem County**
- Alloway Creek—Rt. 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—Rt. 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.

Dog Training and Exercising

Dogs may be exercised or trained on any WMA from Sept. 1 to April 30. All dogs must be properly licensed. Select WMAs with designated dog training areas also permit dogs to be exercised or trained from May 1 to Aug. 31. For more information, see the New Jersey Hunting and Trapping Digest or call (609) 984-0547.

Outboard Motors

Only electric motors are allowed on freshwater lakes and ponds owned by New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife with the exception of Union Lake, where outboard motors not exceeding 10 hp. may be used. On Prospertown Lake, only manually operated boats and canoes are allowed.

Horseback Riding

Horseback riding is allowed on designated WMAs only by permit from the Division of Fish and Wildlife approved activities.

Fishing Tournament

Any club or organization that would like to use a New Jersey wildlife management area for fishing tournaments must apply for and secure a permit from Fish and Wildlife. No fee is required. Applications will be accepted in January at Fish and Wildlife’s Central Region Office, One Eldridge Rd., Robbinsville, NJ 08691 at (609) 259-6964.

Boat Ramp Maintenance Permit

Any vehicle used to transport or launch a vessel or water conveyance on the following WMAs must have affixed to the lower corner of the driver’s side rear window a boat ramp maintenance permit, or a photocopy of a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license. Be sure your Conservation ID number is clearly displayed; all other personal information may be blacked out for reasons of privacy. The boat ramp maintenance permit fee is $15, available from a license agent or at Fish and Wildlife’s Internet sales site, www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com.

Accessible Fishing Sites

For people with disabilities, visit: NJFishandWildlife.com/sites.htm. An Accessible Fishing Sites list is available to assist anglers whose mobility is impaired. All sites are wheelchair-accessible except for the Musconetcong River in Morris County, where vehicle access is to the shoreline.
Harmful Algal Blooms
Each year algae growths are seen on many New Jersey lakes. Most algae are harmless and serve as an important part of the food web. Although unsightly, even large blooms of algae are not necessarily harmful. However, cyanobacteria, a type of bacteria capable of photosynthesis, produce toxins that can be harmful to people and animals. Although not true algae, cyanobacteria are often referred to as bluegreen algae. An excessive growth or “bloom” of cyanobacteria is referred to as a Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB).

What you should know about cyanobacteria

Cyanobacteria are, and have always been, naturally present in lakes, streams and occur in both freshwater and marine environments. Some, but not all, cyanobacteria can produce toxins. Even blooms that contain known toxin-producing species may not produce toxins at detectable levels. Even when toxins are not present, the cyanobacteria cells can still cause irritative effects.

It is unknown what triggers toxin production in the cyanobacteria. These toxins remain contained while the cells are alive, but are released into the water when the cells die and break down. Visual inspection cannot reveal if toxins are present; laboratory testing is required.

Cyanobacteria blooms are likely triggered by a combination of environmental conditions that may include: excess nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen), lots of sunlight, low-water or low-flow conditions, calm water and warm temperatures. They may last only a few hours or for several weeks or more.

Cyanobacteria blooms are likely triggered by a combination of environmental conditions that may include: excess nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen), lots of sunlight, low-water or low-flow conditions, calm water and warm temperatures. They may last only a few hours or for several weeks or more.

Only rarely have fish kills been documented to be associated with toxins produced by cyanobacteria. Similar to large algal blooms, fish kills associated with cyanobacteria correlate with oxygen depletion caused as a result of algal bloom die-off.

What are the risks?
Keep pets and livestock away from waters that you suspect may have a Harmful Algal Bloom. These toxins have been known to kill cattle, dogs and other animals that drink affected water.

Cyanobacteria and their toxins may result in health problems that include: skin rashes, hives and blisters; irritation of the eyes, nose and throat; possible breathing problems and/or abdominal pain, diarrhea and vomiting.

An elevated Danger/High Risk Advisory is issued when cyanobacterial cell counts exceed 20,000 cells/ml or when specific cyanotoxins reach certain levels. The World Health Organization (2003 guidance) considers cell counts of > 20,000 – 100,000 of moderate risk.

Do not eat fish or shellfish from a waterbody experiencing a HAB. Cyanobacteria can also cause an off-flavor in the fillet.

Avoid direct contact with the water when a suspected HAB is present.

How to identify a Harmful Algal Bloom:

A Harmful Algal Bloom often looks like a layer of bright, bluish-green paint on the water surface. Other evidence of a potential Harmful Algal Bloom could be discolored or pea-green colored water, parallel streaks or green dots and globs in the water.

What you can do

1. Avoid areas of stagnant, scummy, foamy water or areas where algal mats are present.
2. Check before you go. A list of Harmful Algal Bloom events are found at https://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bfbbm/cyanoHABevents.html.
3. If contact with suspect or contaminated water occurs, wash off immediately and thoroughly with clean water and soap. Do the same for pets.
4. If you observe what appears to be a Harmful Algal Bloom in a pond, lake or stream, call the DEP Hotline at 1(877) WARNDEP. Please note the exact location of the suspected Harmful Algal Bloom along with any details (date, time, bloom appearance and color, whether a swimming beach is nearby). In addition to contacting the DEP Hotline, please complete the Harmful Algal Bloom Reporting Form at: http://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bfbbm/cyanohabreporting.html.

Additional information is available at: https://www.nj.gov/dep/hab/
Fishing Tournament

GOV. SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT

DEP Action Line, 24 Hrs.
The Department has a toll-free telephone hotline number you can use to report environmental incidents, abuses, and complaints in New Jersey or impacting it.
(877) WARN-DEP
(877) 927-6337

Join us for the 29th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament!

May 17, 2020
Island Beach State Park, Seaside Park, NJ

Spend a day of family fishing fun on the beaches at Island Beach State Park. Prizes are awarded in different species and age categories. For more information and to register, visit www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/gsft.htm

Congratuations John Kolacy of Flanders, NJ who took the grand prize and NJ Governor's Cup by catching a 37 ½-inch striped bass at the 28th Annual Tournament.

Also, congratulations to Toms River High School South for winning first place in the High School Team Category with a 26 ¼-inch bluefish.

A special thanks to our 2019 donators:
- American Angler
- Betty and Nick’s Bait and Tackle
- Chestnut Neck Boat Yard
- Friends of Island Beach State Park
- Grumpy’s Bait and Tackle

A special thanks to our 2019 High School Team Category donors:
- The Fisherman
- The Reel Seat

A special thanks to our 2019 donors:
- Jersey Coast Surfcasters
- Legal Limits
- NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife’s Hooked on Fishing — Not on Drugs Program
- World Jeep

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Missed the printed edition?
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If you care about:
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- Protection and enhancement of natural lands and waters
- Preservation of traditional outdoor sports

Then get involved!
- Stay informed on issues affecting NJ sportsmen and sportswomen
- Make an impact on outdoor issues
- Meet others who share similar sporting interests
- Have fun and participate in Federation-sponsored activities: jamborees, clay target shoots, tournaments, dinners, conventions,

Membership:
- $40 Includes monthly e-newsletter and $1 million excess liability insurance covering your sporting activities throughout the U.S. and Canada.
- $25 Monthly e-newsletter only

Join online at www.njsfsc.org
Eating Fish And Crabs Caught In New Jersey Waters

Fishing provides enjoyable and relaxing recreation. Fish are an excellent source of protein and other nutrients and play a role in maintaining a healthy, well-balanced diet. Many anglers enjoy cooking and eating their own catch. However, elevated levels of potentially harmful chemical contaminants such as dioxin, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides and mercury and PFOS (perfluorooctane sulfonate) have been found in certain fish and crabs in some New Jersey waters. Fish consumption advisories have been adopted to guide citizens on safe consumption practices.

To reduce exposure to harmful chemical contaminants when preparing and eating the fish species taken from the identified waters, it is essential to follow the guidelines provided. The DEP encourages you to consult the Fish Smart-Eat Smart Fish Advisory Guide or www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org when making decisions about eating recreationally caught fish and crabs.

The current list of fish consumption advisories consists of statewide, regional and water body-specific warnings for a variety of fish species and fish consumers. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Health and Senior Services have prepared "how to" electronic pamphlets on cleaning and cooking your catch to reduce your exposure to these harmful chemicals. These e-pamphlets are downloadable in multiple languages.

For a complete list of state and federal marine fish consumption advisories visit: www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org

The fish consumption advisories and Fish Smart-Eat Smart website are updated periodically and are available online or from the Division of Science and Research at (609) 984-6070 and through the Department of Health's Food and Drug Safety Program at (609) 826-4935.

Check online for fish consumption advisories on the local water body in which you fish! Go to www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org

NEW Interactive Map!

One click on the waterbody where you fish takes you to any current health advisories.

www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org

The Lowcountry Awaits

PROFESSIONAL FISHING GUIDE
FLY AND CONVENTIONAL

INSHORE × NEARSHORE × OFFSHORE
Charleston, SC
(843)860-4231 × john@flyrightcharters.com
www.flyrightcharters.com

This 33-pound muskie from Lake Hopatcong was caught on 8-lb. test by Mike Carroll of Bloomsbury.
**WARMWATER STOCKING**

Raised with pride at New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife’s Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery

**Muskellunge: 9–11” (9,425)**
- Cooper River Park Lake (830)
- Furnace Lake (225)
- Greenwood Lake (3,755)
- Manasquan Reservoir (1,200)
- Mercer Lake (520)
- Monksville Reservoir (760)
- Mountain Lake (225)

**Northern Pike: 6” (20,225)**
- Budd Lake (1,880)
- Farrington Lake (2,941)
- Passaic River (3,425)
- Pompton Lake (3,060)
- Pompton River (2,460)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (6,459)

**Walleye: 2” (334,897); 4” (22,895)**
- Canistear Reservoir (7,450)
- Delaware River (239,458 - 2”)
- Greenwood Lake (37,852)
- Lake Hopatcong (52,649)
- Monksville Reservoir (9,973)
- Swartswood Lake (10,410)

**Surplus stocked in:**
- Cranberry Lake
- Deal Lake

**Landlocked Salmon: 10–14” (5,949)**
- Lake Aeroflex (1,330)
- Merrill Creek Reservoir (700)
- Ticon Lake (958)
- Wawayanda Lake (2,961)

**Channel Catfish: 6” (14,304)**
- Eleven waters

**Channel Catfish: 14”**
- Thirty-four waters (6,211)

**Hybrid Striped Bass: 4” (52,002)**
- Lake Hopatcong (22,195)
- Manasquan Reservoir (7,270)
- Spruce Run Reservoir (12,986)

**Surplus stocked in:**
- Delaware River

Plus thousands of black crappie, bluegill sunfish and brown bullheads stocked in more than 100 waterbodies throughout the state!

The Hackettstown Hatchery is located in the heart of Hackettstown. It encompasses over 230 acres, consisting of over 65 extensive culture ponds, and a large intensive culture building. The hatchery raises and distributes over 3.8 million fish each year, representing 15 species.
TROUT STOCKING
Raised with pride at New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Pequest Trout Hatchery

Spring
- Over 570,000 rainbow trout
- Spring stocking begins March 23, 2020
- Average size: 10.5 inches and ½ pound
- An additional 6,000 breeders 15–21 inches (3–6 pounds)
- Most waterbodies stocked at least three times
- 85 streams and 87 lakes stocked statewide
- All 21 counties stocked
- 180,000 trout released for Opening Day—April 11, 2020
- Stocking continues for seven weeks following Opening Day

Winter
- All large two year olds, measuring 15–16 inches
- Over 4,000 trout
- 18 lakes and ponds
- Great fishing all winter long!

Fall
- Second and third weeks in October
  (fall stocking begins October 6, 2020)
- All large, two year old trout, measuring 14–16 inches
- 21,000 trout stocked
- 36 streams, lakes & ponds
- 1,000 rainbow trout breeders, averaging 20 inches
- Best chance to catch big trout

FREE Fishing Days
— June 6 and Oct. 17, 2020—
No License Needed!
(see page 14)
The Skillful Angler Program is designed both to supplement the New Jersey Record Fish Program and to acknowledge that many anglers catch freshwater and marine fish that are not record size but are still worthy of recognition because the size and weight of the fish sufficiently tested the angler’s skill. Open to resident and non-resident anglers. All fish must be caught in New Jersey waters using a hook and line during legally open seasons.

Saltwater species taken from a boat must have been caught from a boat that left from, and returned to, a New Jersey port during the same trip.

Anglers can now submit their application and photo(s) electronically! Program rules and steps to enter are found here NJFishandWildlife.com/skflang.htm. Anglers qualifying for a Skillful Angler award receive a certificate along with a Skillful Angler patch as a testament to their achievement. The Program has three main divisions: Adult (for anglers age 16 and older), Junior (under age 16) and Catch and Release (based on length). A clear, side-view photo that allows accurate species identification must be included with each application. Additional good quality (and high resolution) photos with the angler are welcome and appreciated.

The Skillful Angler Program recognizes different levels of fishing expertise. An angler who submits five applications of qualifying size for the same species will receive a Specialist Certificate and patch.

A clear, side-view photo that allows accurate species identification must be included with each application. Additional good quality (and high resolution) photos with the angler are welcome and appreciated.

The Skillful Angler Program recognizes different levels of fishing expertise. An angler who submits five applications of qualifying size for the same species will receive a Specialist Certificate and patch.

An angler who submits five applications of qualifying size for the same species will receive a Master Certificate and patch. Catch 10 or more qualifying fish within the year, and the angler will earn an Elite Angler Certificate and patch.

For new anglers, the Program also recognizes qualifications for the first fish of different species. The angler who submits the first qualifying application for a species will receive a First Fish certificate.

For new anglers, the Program also recognizes qualifications for the first fish of different species. The angler who submits the first qualifying application for a species will receive a First Fish certificate.

For new anglers, the Program also recognizes qualifications for the first fish of different species. The angler who submits the first qualifying application for a species will receive a First Fish certificate.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH FRESHWATER SPECIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Adult Weight (lbs., oz.)</th>
<th>Junior Weight (lbs., oz.)</th>
<th>Catch &amp; Release (inches)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smallmouth Bass</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped Bass Hybrid</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped Bass</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowfin</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullhead</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 lb., 8 oz.</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carp</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel Catfish</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crappie</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 lb., 8 oz.</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muskie</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiger Muskie</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Perch</td>
<td>1 lb., 8 oz.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Perch</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chain Pickerel</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Pike</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Shad</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brook Trout</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Trout</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Trout</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rainbow Trout</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3 lbs., 8 oz.</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmon, Atlantic Landlocked</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunfish</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12 oz.</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WALLEYE</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4 lbs., 8 oz.</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The New Jersey State Record Fish Program requires a separate application from this Skillful Angler Program and is based on weight alone. Scale certification documentation and a weighmaster’s signature are necessary. Other rules apply. Visit Fish and Wildlife’s website at NJFishandWildlife.com for a complete list of current state records.

**New!**

*Email your Skillful Angler entry and photo from any device!*

---

From Schadler’s Sand Wash Pond, Salem Co., Frank Ruczyński caught this beautiful, 23-inch rainbow on a Thomas Double Spin lure.
The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Record Fish Program honors anglers who catch the largest of select species of freshwater and saltwater fish. Record size is based on weight alone; there are no line classes. Currently there are 31 freshwater species eligible for entry into the program.

Anglers are reminded that the objective of the Record Fish Program is to increase the awareness of fishing opportunities for species that are regularly sought and routinely found in the freshwaters or off the coast of New Jersey.

Anglers should also be aware that several procedural changes are now in effect for the Record Fish Program. First, there are different applications for freshwater and saltwater species. Second, for freshwater species, it is now mandatory that a freshwater biologist confirm the identification and weight of any potential record fish within three days of it being caught. Anglers must call Fish and Wildlife's Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries (north-central) 908-236-2118; (south) 609-259-6964, or the Hackettstown Hatchery at (908) 852-3676 (Warren County) to make arrangements. Hours are Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. These offices have a certified scale on site, so an entry can be weighed and identified. Depending on the time and location of your catch, you may elect to have the fish weighed on a local certified scale, but you must still have a freshwater biologist personally confirm the identification and weight at one of the above offices. Please note that all scale certification requirements still apply, including a valid Certificate of Inspection/Test Report and current Registration Certificate issued by the county Office of Weights and Measures.

**Entry deadline:** Applications must now be submitted no later than one month after the date of catch. All other program rules still apply.

For a complete list of state record fish or to print an application with complete program rules, visit the Division of Fish and Wildlife's website at NJFishandWildlife.com/recfish.htm.
New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife needs volunteers at the Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center to teach youths about fishing.

Teaching experience is helpful—but not required—to become a fishing education instructor. However, enthusiasm, energy and the desire to teach children proper fishing techniques and ethics is a must!

Fishing classes run from April through October. Interested applicants must become a Wildlife Conservation Corps (WCC) volunteer. Download a WCC application from our website at: NJFishandWildlife.com/wcchome.htm.

Share the pleasures of fishing and pass on a conservation ethic to the next generation. Become a fishing education instructor today!

For more information on Fish and Wildlife’s fishing education programs, call Jessica Griglak at (908) 637-4125 ext. 115, or e-mail Jessica.Griglak@dep.nj.gov.

Beat The Fall Rush! Take Your Hunter Education Class This Spring!

The best time to take your Hunter Education class is spring!

Last year over 6,000 students completed the course but more than 4,000 waited until the fall.

Register for a class this March or April and enjoy the following:

- Smaller class size
- Greater student to teacher ratio
- Shorter lines
- Greater selection of classes
- Good weather

With classes in the fall averaging over 100 students, you may not find a class if you wait. Classes in April and May seldom exceed 50 students.

So Beat The Fall Rush—Register Now!

For class information and to register, go to: NJFishandWildlife.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Source</th>
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<td>Commercial (fee-based) Fishing Preserves in NJ</td>
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<td>Delaware River Boat Access</td>
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<td>Manasquan River Fishing Access Areas</td>
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<td>Visually Impaired—Free Fishing License application</td>
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<td>Visually Impaired—Large Format Freshwater Fishing Digest (Enlarged photocopy of this Digest)</td>
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<td>Wildlife Management Area Maps (specify name of WMA)</td>
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</table>

Sources:
Be sure to write the name of the item being requested on the outside of the envelope.

1. Available online only at www.NJFishandWildlife.com
2. NJ Geological Survey, Maps & Publications, Sales Office, MC401-07A, P.O. Box 402, Trenton, NJ 08625-0402, (609) 777-1038
3. DEP, Div. Parks & Forestry, MC501-04, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420, (800) 843-6420 (Specify name of park.)
4. NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420. Make check payable to Conserve Wildlife Foundation for items with a fee.

**“Hook a Winner” Program**

The Division of Fish and Wildlife will be jaw-tagging more than 1,000 rainbow trout for release into New Jersey waters. These tagged trout will be stocked preseason to be available for opening day fishing. If you are a lucky angler who lands one of these fish, send your name, address, fish tag number (do **not** send the actual tag) and location of catch to:

Pequest Trout Hatchery
605 Pequest Road, Oxford, NJ 07863
Attn: Hook a Winner Program

In recognition of your catch, a certificate and award patch will be mailed.

**Sedge Island Field Experience Programs — Summer 2020**

Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center is offering a variety of overnight programs in the summer of 2020 for students, adults and families. Come spend a day/night at the Sedge House and learn about fishing, clamming, salt marsh ecology and what’s edible in and around the Barnegat Bay!

Visit [NJFishandWildlife.com/sedge_summer.htm](http://NJFishandWildlife.com/sedge_summer.htm) for details, date and cost or contact Karen Byrne at Karen.Byrne@dep.nj.gov.
Invasive Fish

Fish identification can be easy for species caught frequently, but tricky for species new to New Jersey waters. An untrained eye can mistake species that look similar.

Snakeheads are invasive and should be destroyed. They have been found in the lower Delaware River and some of its tributaries.

Bowfins, once believed to be native, are now considered to be an introduced species. Their impact, if any, on the state’s fisheries resources has yet to be determined.

American eels are a diadromous native species, using both fresh and marine waters during their lifecycle. These eels are found in nearly every waterbody in New Jersey. American brook lamprey are a harmless native species that serves as an indicator of clean substrate. The Asian swamp eel is an invasive species with documented presence in Silver Lake, a 10-acre waterbody located in Gibbsboro.

American eel—Native

No pectoral fins; gill slits present.

American brook lamprey—Native

No pectoral fins; gill slits present.

Asian swamp eel—Invasive

No pectoral fins; no gill slits.

Although not a native species, channel catfish are stocked by Fish and Wildlife in select locations as a recreational and food species. The flathead catfish is considered an invasive species capable of causing ecological damage by out-competing other recreationally important species for food and habitat. Flatheads have been confirmed in the middle section of the Delaware River.

Channel catfish—stocked

Upper jaw protrudes past lower jaw; tail deeply forked.

Flathead catfish—Invasive

Lower jaw protrudes past upper jaw; tail not deeply forked.

Keep on Reporting

The most effective way to succeed in containing aquatic invasive species is to report each encounter. Anglers are reminded that possession or release of flathead catfish, snakehead, Asian swamp eel, brook stickleback, oriental weatherfish, green sunfish and warmouth, bighead carp, silver carp and grass carp (diploid) is prohibited. Anglers must destroy these species if encountered and submit specimen(s) to the Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries at (908) 236-2118 for north Jersey and at (609) 259-6964 for south Jersey. For photo I.D. confirmation, write us at njfwfish@dep.nj.gov.
New Jersey is Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs

The HOFNOD program will:

- Teach kids fishing and create opportunities to expose them to aquatic ecology, freshwater and marine careers
- Build self-esteem and confidence
- Develop problem-solving skills about their local environment
- Nurture outdoor recreation skills to avoid the pitfalls of drug and alcohol use

New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Digest

Internet Address .......................................................... NJFishandWildlife.com
General Information ...................................................... (609) 292-2965
Automated Harvest Report System .............................. (855) 448-6865 — (855) 1-HUNT-NJ
Commercial Preserves and Semi-Wild Preserves .......... (908) 735-7040
Endangered and Nongame Species .............................. (908) 638-4127
Exotic & Nongame Captivity Permits ......................... (908) 735-5450
Falconry Permits ......................................................... (908) 735-8793
Field Trial Permits ....................................................... (609) 259-2132
Freshwater Fisheries
Lebanon Field Office (North)
P.O. Box 394, 1255 County Rte. 629, Lebanon, NJ 08833 .... (908) 236-2118
Central Regional Office (Central)
1 Eldridge Rd., Robbinsville, NJ 08691 ......................... (609) 259-6964
Southern Region Office
220 Blue Anchor Rd., Sicklerville ................... (609) 259-2132

Hunting and Trapping Permit Hotline ......................... (609) 292-9192
Hunting, Fishing and Duplicate Licenses .................... (609) 292-2965
Hunter Education ...................................................... (877) 2-HUNT-NJ — (877) 248-6865

Trout Stocking Hotline ................................................ (609) 259-6964
Horseback Riding Group Permits ............................... (908) 735-8793
Wildlife Control ........................................................ (908) 735-6765
Wildlife Management Areas .................................... (908) 735-8793

General Information .................................................. (609) 292-2965

Delaware Bay Office
26 Route 173 W., Hampton, NJ 08827

Land Management ..................................................... (856) 629-5006
Marine Fisheries ......................................................... (609) 748-2020
Shellfisheries ............................................................... (609) 748-2040

Law Enforcement ....................................................... (856) 629-2132

Northern Region Office
26 Route 173 W., Hampton, NJ 08827

Wildlife Management ................................................ (908) 735-6765
Endangered and Nongame Species (1 Van Syckel Rd.) .. (908) 363-4153
Hunter Education ...................................................... (877) 2-HUNT-NJ
Wildlife Control ....................................................... (908) 735-8793
Land Management .................................................... (973) 338-0918
Wildlife Conservation Corps ................................... (908) 735-7040
Wildlife Permits ....................................................... (908) 735-8793

Southern Region Office
220 Blue Anchor Rd., Sicklerville, NJ 08081

Freshwater Fisheries .................................................. (908) 259-6964
Land Management .................................................... (908) 259-2132
Hunter Education ...................................................... (877) 2-HUNT-NJ
Wildlife Management .............................................. (908) 259-2132
Endangered and Nongame Species ......................... (908) 363-4127
Wildlife Control ....................................................... (908) 735-8793

Freshwater Fisheries .................................................. (856) 629-4950
Hunter Education ...................................................... (877) 2-HUNT-NJ
Land Management .................................................... (856) 629-5006
Pequest Natural Resource Education Center ............. (908) 637-4125

Pequest Trout Hatchery............................................. (908) 637-4173
605 Pequest Rd., Oxford, NJ 07863

For questions concerning state stocking programs or comments call (908) 236-2118

Hackettstown Fish Hatchery (15 Warmwater/Coolwater Species) (908) 852-3676
23 Reese Ave., Hackettstown, NJ 07840

For questions concerning state stocking programs or comments call (908) 236-2118

Nacote Creek Research Station
P.O. Box 418, 360 Rte. 9 N. Milepost 51 Port Republic, NJ 08241

Marine Fisheries ......................................................... (609) 748-2020
Marine Fisheries “Listen Only” regulation information line (609) 292-2083
Shellfisheries ............................................................. (609) 748-2040
Marine Education ...................................................... (609) 748-4347
Marine Law Enforcement ......................................... (609) 748-2050

Delaware Bay Office
1672 E. Buckshutem Rd. Millville, NJ 08332 ................ (856) 785-0730

Freshwater Fisheries
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P.O. Box 394, 1255 County Rte. 629, Lebanon, NJ 08833
Central Regional Office (Central)
1 Eldridge Rd., Robbinville, NJ 08691
Southern Region Office
220 Blue Anchor Rd., Sicklerville
Horseback Riding Group Permits
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Marine Law Enforcement

Delaware Bay Office
1672 E. Buckshutem Rd. Millville, NJ 08332

For information call (908) 637-4125 x122
or e-mail Liz.jackson@dep.nj.gov
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